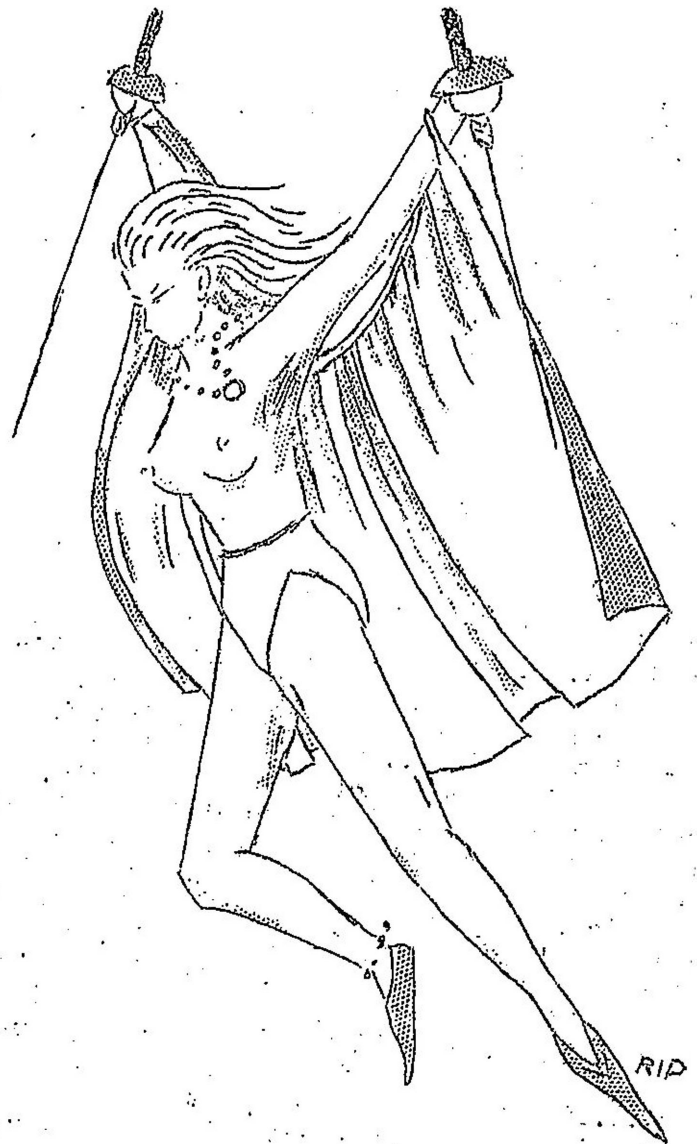


H A V E

A T

Y O U !



It's lucky for me that Dick Schultz is such a prolific artist, otherwise I don't know what I'd do for illos like the "leapin' Lady" over there...have you ever thought of the trouble it is to get an illo to fit that title...a different one each time?.

But, as I said, I'm lucky, Haveing Dick supplying me with as many illos as I want.

Which reminds me about that remark. The one that said, more or less, "if there is writing in a zine, it gets commented on. If there is an illo, unless it is really exceptional, it is very lucky indeed to get even a passing remark. Even Atomillos tend to be taken for granted after you've seen a dozen of them". Which, of course, is all very true.

Illos, unless they qualify as exceptional, are just taken more or less as things you have in a zine instead of writing or a blank space...more as decoration than as something in their own right. The difficult thing of course is to know when, where, how etc., to take note of the Ordinary Interior Illo...or not. Like, there are people like Dick here who have stuff in every other fanzine you pick up...weell, practically...and unless they happen to run across one of their fellow illustrators at a con...or the people they send their illos to make comment, they haven't the foggiest idea how their stuff is being recieved. The legendary constructive (?) criticism

which fanwriters get - or are supposed to get - is denied them. That bit in last ENVOY (part of the con-recp) that Dick wrote, about this subject of non-acknowledgement sounded like the wail of a lost sheep in the wilderness...at least that's the way I felt when I tried to imagine myself in Dick and his mates position. Like, you shovel piles of illos, representing hours of sweated brows and strained stylo fingers, into a gaping maw...whence comes no report.

Fie and shame. And that's what this is all about. How about saying a few words about the illos the next time you comment on, uh?.

SOUFFLE 3 J M Baxter. is first on the list. Hi JB. I have that "THE BONE IS POINTED". I look out for all the "Boney" books now...tho' it never got quite home to me that they were "'tecs'" until that remark of yours...I mean, here I was reading "Boney" and without being quite aware of it I was reading detectives again. It's Boney and the background I go for, it would be all the same to me if all the stories were set on some sheep station with Boney a local type resident, not at all connected with the Police Department...if the character of Boney - and the Abo' Australia - feeling came thru'.

The character that intrigued me in this book was the chap who de-points the bone..the statement that men of his ..er.. fraternity were forbidden to practise harmful magic. This fundamental idea of theirs - call them the Aboriginal Magicians Association - could be followed with credit by members of other organisations, not the least by the body which shares their initials.

I picked up a book with a frontpiece by Arthur Rackham, in colour, but I don't know what happened to it. It was priced 2d at a local about 6 months ago....Ghod, I hope it wasn't one of the valuable ones.

Is this Norman Lindsay the bloke who did/oes (?) the real, genuine type, Australian uninfluenced by European lads, type art?. I seem to remember reading/hearing something about him a year or so ago....if it's the same person then, from what I recall, he seems to have birthed a native-Australian art practically single handed. (not abo' type...aw, if I go on explaining my explanations I'll be sitting here next March).

About your comments on Rackham's piece in ERG. I won't say anything like "I disagree with you there" but it is a fact that people still have little idea what SF is all about. I don't say that they go around muttering wildeyed about not trusting 'lables, or that they sit around having deep thinks and trying to puzzle out the Significance of Science Fiction. I think tho' that something similar to what Rackham describes does happen...although the people involved have no idea of their motivations, and although Rackham's point does not loom as such an important factor. I figure that the disappointment is that they expect to pick up a SF mag/book and read thrilling type adventures all interlaced with rocketships. (there is still a proportion about..ture) Mostly they are disappointed. The sort of person who picks up a SF mag as an alternative to his normal fare of juvenile western is very likely not to be interested in modern SF. There is the reason stated, and that for such a mentality the stories are too weird...and then, the jargon of SF might be a factor....I mean the FTLs, and other conventions we all accept as normal, they're deeply mystifying to him, I'd guess.

SOUFFLE 3 BAXTER.

uhu.I collect for the story too.But of course,if I can afford it,I'd sooner have a 1st, or a more interesting,edition. Besides,some volumes cannot be available in anything but decrepit condition. I'd like a microfilmed library.(plus files,scanner and the whole shoot of course) and hide my books away safe somewhere.

Mikado.I saw a sort of a traveloge of Japanese methods of stageing plays..different traditions in dramatic presentation.I can't recall the names of the different "schools" now but there was one very interesting (more interesting than the others even) "school" which reminded me very forcibly of a cross between ballad and mumming.The actors all wear magnificent reresentational costume,and bags of makeup,and really put verve into their playing. I'd like to see one of those plays"in the flesh". Nutmeg eh?.hmmm...hmmm...

Sallyport cover.Oh?oh.Thats interesting...(it was rather decent) But I wonder just what it was that happened to strike your funny-bone.. You-know,caption,figures,setting,one figure,combination...from what angle did you see the situation...hum...

The same jumble sale where that,er, rather lumpy 1/6d 3-piece suite went, they sold a 1937 Rolls Royce for £700.....

There is a G-R E A T new book out here about Richard III,which I intend to read as soon as I can...then we'll see if we can dig up something pro or con the Jetstream article.(which was pretty good I thought).Methinks that Shakespeare cannot be relied upon as a factual source,not when he was writing in the days of supremacy of Richards rivals/sucessors of rivals.It could have lost him his head if he had preferred fact to drama.

ParaFANalia 10 & Sizar 8 Burn.

I don't know if I should try to comment on the fiction herein,for one thing I couldn't judge its ..um..quality...and for another,well,I'm more in the mood to just accept the material than try to talk about it.And the CND type thing,well,to comment you really need something controversial to hook onto...I don't consider there's anything like that here,(sounds like Galloping Me-Tooism?)..



PARAFANALIA & SIZAR continued.

I have an idea tho' -- maybe it is
a little impractical - but if the
CND people really want to underline

their protest....how about 10 of them jumping from the dome of
St Pauls every day,until the tests are stopped?.

Viva Berry....now all it needs is for someone to submit this to
Saint Magazine ...or Ellery Queens Mag...it would be snapped up,
I'll be bound. A pity to run 2 Berry yarns in one issue tho'--
they should be eked out,jealously.

AH! now we come to it..probably the most interesting item in the
whole mailing.Gods,Like Grass. (if you can get me a copy I'll
willingly reimburse - or tell me,if you can,of firms/places to try
for it..must get this one).(of course,1904 ... but perhaps you
might know how to find a copy..or maybe JOHN ROLES does?). I must
also get a copy of THE GOLDEN BOUGH.

If that commercial traveller fella' wants to join OMPA bags I
first chance to inspect his credentials. er...miniac type,that is.

What breed of cat deliberately goes to an environment that is not
suitable for it tho' ?. I reckon that there are only two sorts of
cats, dead ones,and the rest.Talking about cats..you should see
Little Brother stalking his enemy, the vacuum cleaner.Hilarious.

The main point of that Jury System parable was the advocacy
of all evidence being given under influence of "truth drugs"
and/or lie detectors. Those "singing defeats aliens" stories.
Darned if I can remember one title.But there were at least THREE
variations on that theme - I remember now I think about it - one
was a plot very like THE DARK DESTROYERS,another was of brittle,
glasslike aliens who landed in some US desert,they were shattered
by sound,a la wineglass.And another one of fantastic structure,
in which the hero (and gurrul) had to move from A to B via
various perilous paths...the singing type ruse was one of a series
of encounters. But,I can't remember the titles.Sorry.(bye the bye,
you know those 1" high soldiers Tony and I use for one of our war
games? - if you didn't see them last time,remind me to show you
them next time you're up here) well,we now have cavalry too...
these are from the same firm but were COWBOYS,heh heh,until we
painted uniforms on them...we have about 200 men each now.

The Welsh drinking hours are even more "heathenish" than those
in Scotland...tho' I hear that in Ireland the pubs are open darn
near all day...and there is always ONE pub at least,open at any time
in any town.

Your debunking of "arguments" for a god were better thought out
than mine..I just got fed up anyway.

I'm not a non-smoker, but if your Clean Lungs lot have a scheme
to stop smoking in food shops.....

You want to watch those zebra crossings mate,its little comfort
to be legally in the right....and dead.Not every driver will - or
in some circumstances,can - pull up at a zebra.

ENVOY 10 & WHATSIT 2. Cheslin. Just thought I'd mention that the
"Olaf" covers are intended as ..well,part
of a series,you might say.He could develop
into a fair character if I don't "type" him too much;preserve his
character in any situation.

VAGARY 17. Bobbie.

Wal, it did puzzle me that the homo early had possession - or access to - of a saw, but I didn't guess that that was it, as I figured that the saw marks were the results of artistic licence and the real oddity was concealed elsewhere.

Oh, "THE WOODEN HORSE OF TRY" and your remark aound having "half the Yugoslav army in it" I take it you did mean - by "it" - the film, and NOT the Horse?

Theorising. About your remarks re;- African and other ex-colonies not being given independance until they can manage to live - for want of a better expression - in a civilised manner.

Possibly this is something that the people/nation must work out for itself, it may mean oppression and bloody war for

them, but they'll have to find their own way. I say this bearing in mind the present state of India. Now the British had hold of India for a good long while...and they owe us for things like having one language now - English - and several concepts in the democratic line.... but India cannot be seriously classed as a democracy in the same sense as USA, UK, Canada, New Zealand and Australia. In spite of a couple of hundred years of British rule they still have their caste system, and their collection of gads, their basic attitudes towards life. The only way they can change is by their own efforts and in time. OR, if someone - the Chinese for instance - conquers them and feally rips their whole life structure apart, Starting by killing all the die-hard traditionalists and then educateing all the children to a new sort of life. India could have been Britishized if the English had been more oppressive.

So, if you were to take the African nations and murder all the prominent or strong traditionalists, and then educate, forcibly, all the children, you might instill "civilised ethios" or whatever you call that socil awareness/conformity-te-public-opinion-pressure. Failing that, they will just have to figure out their own destiny.



VAGARY 17 continued.

...and of course it's during this time that these nations will do awful things, and be so susceptible to manipulation by, say, the Russians. It is very well to warn these people that "he who sups with the devil needs a long spoon", but are they going to heed their old masters when they are obviously "feeling their oats"? Out of sheer perversity, probably not. Then again, the proportion of Africans who can now conceive of a democratic way of life is small compared to the ignorant (not stupid, ignorant) tribalised, tradition bound masses.

The situation is such that we cannot morally aggress against these peoples and force them into our idea of civilisation... the fact that Russia may not share the same compunctions is the awful weakness, so we have no other choice except to give them what aid they will accept, (not money to let all the government officials buy Rolls), and to do our best to keep the wolf bear at bay until they have a chance to grow up. This could well take a hundred years and more, as things stand now.

YOU could, justly, have made more of my sweeping statements regarding reincarnation. If I'd have thought it out more I would not have been so all-encompassing. As a penance I'll think of a supporting idea for re-In... hmm, lets see... ah,

When there were fewer people around there must have been fewer "souls" around too, so some people born today must have brand-new souls, and never have reincarnated.

Oh, no! There are only a limited number of souls. But a great many all the same. You see, what happens is this. The universe is so arranged that no sooner does a soul leave its host than it is allocated a new one. But all the hosts are not on our Earth, in fact the Earth represents only a minute number of all the souls in the Universe. When Earth had few people/souls some other planet - to put it simply - had achieved high population figures, and by the time Earth's population had risen a planet or two had been destroyed thus releasing many souls for a new tour of duty. If you see what I mean?.

(I'm still very much unconvinced, Bobbie). The female with the mace is merely the Protector of the Commenteer.

I found, as usual, Vagary very enjoyable/interesting. Thanks.

PACKRAT 5 Groves. Atom covers excite the envy of all fanzine editors... ditto for the pros that know him, I'll be bound. Remember the NEBULA bacovers and the strip he used to do?.

Fan-shaped destiny I think I did include, tho' not in quite those words... I still think that there cannot be, when you get down to it, anything but a single and unalterable "destiny". Although, as I said, this "worlds side by side" idea is great for SF plotting.

Must get this Testimony of the Spade thing, (rather a pity about the Mamoths, what? that death-ray idea was rather romantic, in an uneasy sort of way...). Natural background radiation, very interesting. Tch, Tch, Jimmy, don't you know that ALL American doctors are Noble and Self Sacrificing, a la Kildare? And that Socialised Medicine is The Ruination of A Mans Incentive, a plot of The Dirty Commies, and in all probability An Invention of the Devil?.

PACKRAT 5 continued. Finding out. Excellent. Something to have
at ones fingertips.

Nothing in Steam I would argue about. Don't
think I didn't read it absorbedly like tho'.

By that "inate goodness" remark I mean't to convey that I
thought, man for man, lifeway for lifeway, the Amerinds and the
Europeans couldn't claim superiority over each other, in a
moral sense, but that the white-mans way of life had led him
to a technology far superior than the Indians. But for a trick
of fate - as it were - Europe might have been discovered by
a technologically superior Amerind civilisation. Had the
two races swapped enviromental pressures the Amerinds living
in Europe and vice versa, the same pressures would probably
have led them along the same paths as the "our world"
Europeans.

Not disputing, (?) Calders article, but if the
Angolans manage to survive now, on the rations they have (I
know, they are dying like flies, but some live, even on starvation
diet) then it stands to reason that if their food supply was
increased by the amount of surplus food in the world, then
more of them must be able to live.

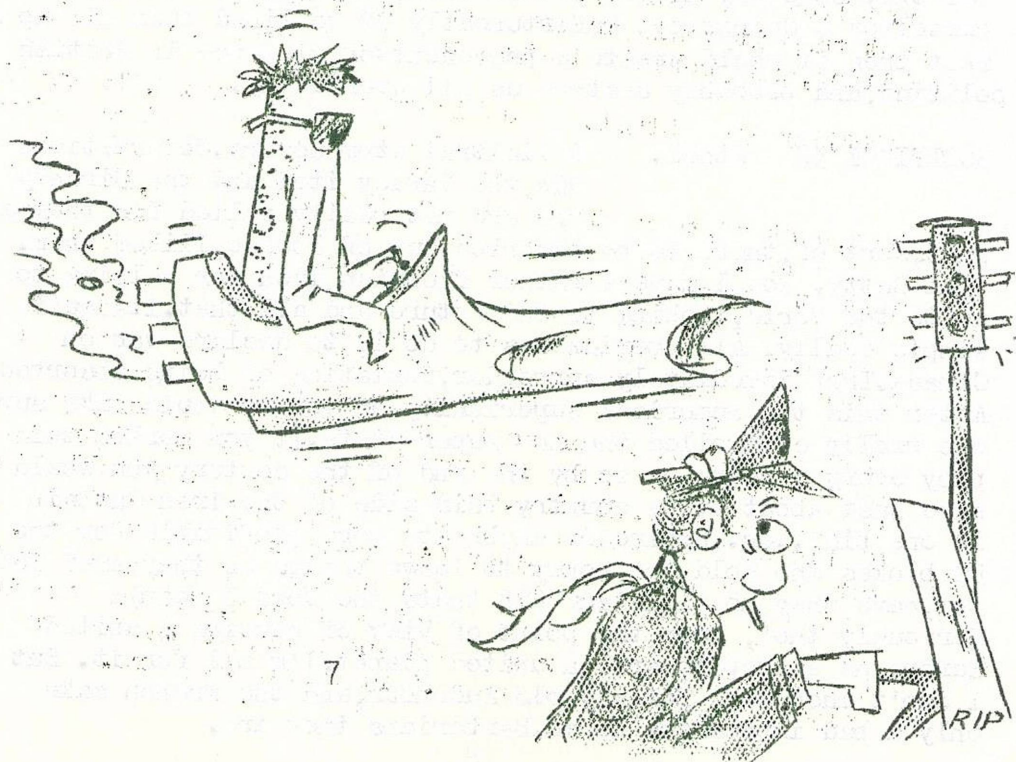
Population control discussions can go on for ages. It all
boils down to this. If we don't do something about it, then
sooner or later nature will take care of it, probably in a
way we will not like.

Very, (here's that word again) interesting remarks re;-
the god thing. But I'm not going into all that again thank you.

Conversations 19 & 20. Hickman. replete with illos from Ugh!
to excellent. Well, fais's fair, maybe

not
quite
Ugh!

I think
that
there
is too
little
space
here to
write
more
comments
on the
two
zines,
so
pto..



Conversations 19 & 20 continued. Perhaps there is some truth,
accuracy rather, in what
Willick says about prodrom,
not that I've noticed myself, not coming into contact with
many pros, for very long anyway, I wouldn't like to say. Willick
sounds a little violent eh?. 20. I've read worse, but this isn't
all that .. inspiring. all.

ERG 14 Jeeves. Dear me! No ERG in your bundle eh?, either I
made a boo-boo or possibly I didn't
have enough ERGs to go around. Like, if
I send you one short you won't mind, because you probably have a
spare... Now THAT would be a fine idea Terry, if you have 150
children available to paint covers, why, make them paint covers!
AND interior illos too! I have to do my own colouring, tho' I did
have some help from my younger sister last time, and niece mk 2
did 3/17th of a cover before she got bored... RIP (backbone of
Cringe-binder Publications artwise) didn't actually sign his
name back to front. What happened was that I wanted the illo
facing the other way, to fit in with my idea of a heading, so I
stuck it on (with stencil adhesive) inside out, as it were, and
got him facing back to front... if you follow me.?.

Dick and his Germanic ..er, interests. I rather think you
haven't had a straight look at his words on this subject. His,
for want of a better word, obsession, is not with nazism, war,
famine, blood and all that, it is his fear that such things can
all too easily happen again. Lest We Forget.

Nazism and all its related evils could happen again, is happening
now under the name of communism, and possibly always will happen,
the thing we must do is, not look with hate, so much as be on the
alert to nip any further outbreaks in the bud. The British
Nazis, and Moseleys' shower have got off very lightly. If there
was only some way to get rid of them, and still justifiably call
ourselves a democracy. Unfortunately if we lined them all up and
shot them it would create a precedent of violence in British
politics, and probably destroy us all eventually. all.

SCOTTISHE 30 Ethel. delightful atom covers. Observations on
WAW, the Varley item and the Birchby
one are not really called for, they are
just, sort of, there to be absorbed. But, of course, I liked them.

Hi Betty. Now I have a rather fiendish idea for helping to
unite the world, looking to the future and all that. Its quite
simple really. All America has to do is to declare war on
Canada. Then immediately surrender, insisting on being absorbed.
After this the numerical superiority of voters would make sure
who really controlled the new super-state. If you worked this
ploy every 5 years or so by the end of the century you would
have just about every country this side of the Iron Curtain
in one big ..er.. Empire. Or maybe its more profitable for the
US blokes who hold the money to leave things as they are? Tut,
tut, have they no altruism? (if that's the word I mean).
Seriously tho', from the point of view of having a united
Europe, as a step towards a united planet, I'm all for it. But
I don't much care for sly old Audenour, and the French make
only a bad impression on me. Barbarians they are.

SCOTTISHE 30. Ethel.

as a matter of fact I rather think that Britain, (I don't coun't Southern Ireland, and am leery of parts of Wales tho') is just about the most civilised country on Earth, followed perhaps by Norway and Denmark. I mean. In how many countries do the cops go around without guns?. Admitted, such is human nature, we have a share of barbarians, these fox-murdering/baiting people for instance. But all in all we are just about the most level headed and kindly disposed people around. (Now that should stir something up, I hope).

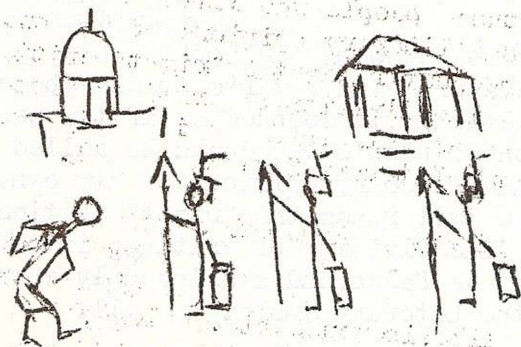
You forget. America shares a common language and a common heritage. Europe does not.

and just a word of appreciation, Ethel, for you hospital life memoirs. It is difficult to say much, commentwise, so I'll just say, "great! great! great!"

More! more! more!"
please?.

Afterthought. you should collect all your memoirs, so far written, and send them off to one of the more sensible womens mags. This way you might well make yourself a few extra coppers. Honest. You write with a sincerity and sympathy that is, at the very least, refreshing.

AMBLE 12 Mercer. G&S is obviously just there to be enjoyed, not to be analysed. The Mikado was repeated on BBC over Christmass. You realise that this reference to a "Stonehenge Pelican" might make life hellish for some poor future archeologist, if he hasn't any other info to go on. I mean, just where did the builders on Stonhenge get this pelican from?. As you picture yourself reading it, it must be something solid, not the mummy of a once living bird, but an image in stone (perhaps) inscribed with runes...or worse.
thats about all Archie.



"Ho, ho, ho,
ho, ho, ho,
very funny Soipo,
Elephants in the Alps,
Ho. ho. ho.
ho, ho, ho, ho, ho, "

UL 9 Metcalf. well, there are only two pages, official, this time, I'll give it a scan while awaiting another item of Man Enters a New World stature. Books and Bookmen had, in the lettercol I think, a few disparaging remarks to say about Haggard and similar writers. Actually, it sounded as if the person's writing was one of those people who could be called a Literary Snob. If only he had literary opinions of his own....and I suspect he hasn't, he just reads the "right" critics and accepts their definition. The division of writings into Literature and "other" strikes me as false, and amusing only when you regard the antics of the Literary Snobs. all.

Binary 3 Patrizio. in view of the recent F&SF Article by the Good Doctor fannish ignorance of the binary method of numbering is, officially like, inexcuseable. Unless, like me, you claim you have forgotten just how it works, but anyway, I can look it up if I want to.. Sorry, thats about all this time.

BIXEL 2 Rogers. A typically Ellaish response to Haryy Warners plot. I can visualise the conversation now...The Gospel etc., gives one the impression of standing on a mountain, like a god, and looking down on fannish history. Its a shame I haven't anything more to say, I'd like to assure you of my appreciation of Bixel.

MORPH 29 Roles. Another of those damn zines, to be read with a fascinated delight, but almost impossible to remark upon.

Yeah, I read that Wheatley thing, "Whispering Steel" because I liked the title and thought it might be fair SF. was not very good. Tho' it could have been, properly handled. I like many of his other books - the Forbidden Territory etc., by the way, have you read much of Bernard Newmans' stuff,?, it isn't too bad. His semi-SF is better than Wheatleys' anyway. all.

ENVOY 11 Schultz. You flea bitten nit! gone and done it again eh?. How do expect me to find a beggining spot in this, this, Monstrosity!

Blimey mate, you haven't written a con-report, you've gone and written a blasted novel! mumble mumble. This is the sort of thing I dread, The sort of thing that, if you pick on one or two points, leaves the author miffed because the commentator hasn't - perhaps - remarked upon the particular thing you wanted him to remark on. Or, if a full sized job is done it is 1, inadequate, or, 2, as long as the original, at least. Oh well, Once more into the breach, dear friends, and like that.

(Thinks;- "should I treat this in the same way I would treat a generalzine?...or as an OMPazine, ..hmm...Generalzine means going on about repro, illos, style of writing, paper texture, and so on...OMPazine means looking for something to start a conversation about. - boy, have you got me worried....- sigh press on regardless - OMPA Expects and all that)

ENVOY 11 continued.,

sweet li'l ol' AE will have a few words with Ethel next Easter.Sweet! My ghod,my ghod, what's she trying to do? Ruin my Public Image or something?.

"Remember girls...MINGLE" heh heh,heh,haw. etc., None of the British cons - the ones I've been to any way,have ever shared a con hotel with another convention...not that I urge the idea at all, I'm just remarking. Maybe we just haven't coincided,or maybe cons aren't so many in this country..or maybe...hmm,well I can't think of a hotel we've had that could really have managed two cons...

At the Gloucester con the committee had a rather good idea. Because of the shortage of femmes they invited some of the nurses from a local hospital to the fancy dress dance.They came.But thru' some sort of misunderstanding they brought their own escorts. Damnation.

It was at this con that Alan Rispin borrowed a blanket,or overlay,all highly colourful,from off one of the beds,and,complete with a red beret pulled into a weird shape,succeeded in looking admirably like one of the prophets of old.The management noticed this,er, somewhat unorthodox treatment of their property however,and made him put it back.

I'm disappointed in that all I can find to say about this immense con-rep of yours is,something like,"enjoyed every page,got a real 'I was there' feeling". Hope you won't be too disappointed at this megre comment.

Also there was a PM,and Eney's zine which came in too late to make the mailings. Comments on these will be on the next page as I haven't the room here to do them. Probably pms from Dave Hale and possible Brian Jordan.



"I know old
Blondel means
well, but he
has the most
ghodawful voice"



SAVOYARD 8 Pelz. Fantastic cover. Probably cost millions...well, it must be electronic or a phototype or like that. Of course it may be a waste to send it to OMPA - rather than a generalzine - because, even tho' I like a good cover, the main thing about an APA is the conversations between members. Of course, you not only have a good cover, you also carry on a... (searching for the right word isn't easy) ..worthy?, enjoyable? interesting? conversation.

Personally I have a high regard for THE ONCE AND FUTURE KING. Your disliking it I view, I guess, with the same feeling of bafflement that you would feel - do feel - when someone says that they found TLoTRings was dull. Anyway, it's a matter of who reads the books that counts, that is, a matter of attitude.

As for what was done to Merlin, why I felt much more outraged upon reading the Yankee at the Court of King Arthur version of him. Mayhap it belittles(?) him. But on the other hand the interpretation is valid enough. Besides, I find it quite easy to picture this version of Merlin, while reading the book, and only revert to my more usual view of him - a la Gandalf/Radagast - when I've finished. Suspension of disbelief?.

Oh, for another version of Merlin read "THE PAGAN KING" a rather excellent book in my opinion.

MORDOR IN '64 !

GRIST v4 n1 Mills which was mailed, but not listed, in the 34th. Nothing I particularly want to comment on.

I did have a wild idea of challenging someone to a game of APA chess. That is, -after we decide who moves first- the white prints his move, on a drawing of a chess board, in one mailing, the next mailing black print the same board but with the addition of his move. This sort of game could go on for years. And if the OMPA chess fiens started to comment and argue over what move is best for the next mailing... A bit too complicated mayhap. But you don't have to have a board lying around for 3 months, that might get disturbed by relatives etc., while house cleaning etc.,

PHENOTYPE OC CCXV111 Eney. 1. Hero of THE MAN WHO COULD WORK MIRICLES, Wells, in the bar just after he gets the Power and just as he is about to perform his first miricle. Everyone should get that one, I did. 2 3 dunno. 4. LADY OF THE SHROUD, Bram Stoker, the Drac has bitten Lucy, now Lucy is after kids. That's all I remember. 5. old testament I think, but damned if I can remember who and where. I have a vague recollection that the bones get re-animated and go to war for the Isralites..but I am probably thinking of something else. 6. Alice. In Wonderland, Carrol, the Eat Me cake.

Why was it called MONITOR? any relation to monitor lizard? So, lie detectors (this I had heard of) and truth drugs are not relyabe eh? pity. Would hypnotism work?

Always worth reading an Eneyzine.