

DOWN WITH! 3

Trivia and miscellany about the Derelicts and friends for the Derelicts and friends, for the month of March 1978. This issue produced by Victoria Vayne by default; anyone is welcome to do an issue of DOWN WITH! whenever the urge or muse hits them--and they don't even have to be in numerical order. Please send YOUR news & gossip today!

WOMEN'S APA SPLIT. In a vote apparently open only to the women in the apa, the Women's Apa now exists in two parts, one open only to women, and the other open to both men and women in a form much like the original apa. Subset, the original women-only part of the apa, still exists as well, as the confidential part of the apa. If SpinOff is added to the list of apas resulting from the primordial Women's Apa as first proposed by Susan Wood in 1976, this probably sets the record for most apas resulting from one beginning one.

PHIL PAINE BECOMES PRINTER after landing a job as an offset press operator at the Metro library. No longer hekto, ditto, or mimeo! The press, however, is apparently of a size too small to print offset art or covers for fanzines; although postcard zines remain a possibility.

MUSICAL MIMES. A couple additional mimeos have been added to the Toronto fan scene and some shuffling of properties has resulted. Upon the acquisition by Victoria Vayne of a Gestetner 6, a similar Gestetner 26 already owned by her was transferred to the collection of Taral Wayne MacDonald. A Rex Rotary M-2 was also located by Victoria and was pronounced "cute" after its diminutive size was noted upon its storage next to a G-300. The Rex was offered to Bob Webber, who threatened, "If you persist in calling it 'cute' I won't buy it off you." However, the M-2 will be given to Bob in return for his repairing the G-6, a repair that has at present not yet been made. These shenanigans bring the total number of Derelict and near-Derelict owned mimeos to eleven. Anyone wanna do a typewriter count while we're at it?

TRONNA FAN LOSES FIGHT AGAINST CITY HALL in the closure of a basement apartment because "the ceiling is too low" but really because they want to get back at the landlord and don't care what happens to single people in the meantime. Victoria Vayne thus loses the reasonably-priced apartment she has occupied for over two years now after taking it over from Jim

Allan in 1976, and has to pound the pavement looking for a new place at a decent price and in a decent location, preferably over a store where she can make a lot of noise.

WHITE WITH BLUE HIGHLIGHTS. Taral painted himself white again, this time with proper blue Kjola coloration at the extremities, recently upon finding himself with leftover paint. The effect was examined critically and may be repeated at an upcoming costume party, but on this occasion he took a bath before anybody saw him in this state.

PRUNECON CANCELLED, HALLELUIA!!! On March 9, 1978, the PRUNECON committee, finally finding themselves all lacking in enthusiasm at the same time (after long stretches of see-sawing peaks and valleys of enthusiasm among members but never a consensus), voted with one abstention to kill the con. With that albatross out of the way, the scene is now set for the faanish relaxacon hinted at in previous issues of DOWN WITH!, with no non-Derelict interference allowed. This time it ought to work.

HAILSTORMS IN THE HEAD. On Saturday March 11 after the Chips and Coffee meeting, most of the Derelicts lined up in a nearby drugstore to purchase and sample for the first time that long-renowned delicacy known as Pop Rocks. These candies, which crackle already just sitting in their envelopes in the store, set forth a symphony of sound effects in a moist palm or in the mouth with the mouth open. Try them in a quiet library or church some time.

DEVIL DOG UPDATE. As of six weeks following BOSKONE, one Devil Dog still resides in Victoria Vayne's refrigerator, along with leftover hamburger crud and onions and nothing else. It was suggested that Bob Webber take it to school and attempt to sinter it in his ceramics class; upon this Bob remarked that it was already sintered. No volunteers have come forward to attempt to eat the stuff.

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SAARA MAR'S PARTURITION DAY PARTY on March 18 at Taral's was less than a total success, Taral reports, because of the large number of people who did not show up at all, and because of the large number of those showing up who either went home early or disappeared to watch TV. Towards the end of the party two separate groups were watching two different programs on two separate TV sets; but the final end of the party did not come until after noon the following day when diehards Taral, Bob Hadji and Victoria Vayne dispersed homewards. One feature late in that party was a discussion of what alternatives there were for use in Holy Communion when the real thing was not available; it appears that in an emergency, consecrated Devil Dogs would do. (But not consecrated potato chips.)

ZINE REVIEW MONOPOLY? Now that almost all the regular fanzine reviewers have either ceased to review or have had their vehicles for review pulled out from under them, it appears that Taral's zine reviews in FILE 770 and review column "Index Expurgatorius" in SIMULACRUM and a few other places have the review market cornered. He's frank and fair, and maybe a few long overdue emperors' nakednesses and home truths will be uncovered.

BUSY WEEKEND FOR VISITORS. The middle of March saw two fannish guests at World's End, Ann Weiser and Gina Clarke, both members in good standing of the Women's Apa and all-round good folk to have around. Various Toronto fans showed both visitors interesting and event-filled times during their stays, which were really too short. Coming back again?

LARGEST TORONTO FANZINE EVER? ORCA 2, at 108 pages, is a giant, and all 300 copies were assembled and stapled at Jennifer Bankier's place on March 22 in a concerted and concentrated work session. Copies were put in the mail just in time to beat the latest increase in rates, probably to anyone who is getting this DOWN WITH!. Further fanaccing for the year 1978 in Toronto continues: Bill Brümmer is now thinking about ELEUTHERIA 4; apazines continue to be published; the FANTHOLOGY 76 is going into a second printing of 200 copies; and further projects from various other people are contemplated. And the OSFiC newsletter in Taral's hands continues to improve.

THE BALTICON 12 TRIP was not terribly event-filled but featured a few bizarre doings. The whole car-load of people took a two hour nap at breakfast time in the parking lot of a Perkins Pancake House in plain view of the diners there, something guaranteed to spoil their appetites. Civil War relics were viewed at Gettysburg, and these included a slimy plastic hand designed to simulate ghouls. Taral acquired some old bullets, and Bill Brümmer came into possession of a Nazi 25-years good service medal, which he would have found useful a few years earlier to wear at the much despised UCC.

SLOW FOOD. The answer to McDonalds and other fast food places was discovered in Baltimore at Lum's Restaurant. Whether this was characteristic of the Lum's chain or of Maryland was not immediately evident, but further investigation during the convention weekend seemed to point to the latter as being the case. In the tradition set up in the previous two BALTICON trips, five more hideous restaurant possibilities in the fast food row near the con hotel were sampled and discarded, with one kept as a possibility, a Ponderosa.

KAZOO-CON. During the course of BALTICON 12, a total of forty-two kazoos were handed out to various fans by Sue-Rae Rosenfeld, with more to come at DISCLAVE. The aim is to create a faanish kazoo orchestra; and rehearsals were noted at several parties on Saturday night. Of the Toronto delegation, only Phil Paine has as yet been initiated into the orchestra.

ANOTHER FANZINE-MIMEO PANEL. Along with Linda Bushyager, Moshe Feder and Gary Farber, Taral and Victoria Vayne were on another fanzine panel. During the panel, Gary Farber threatened to throw the Gestetner 466 that was on display at Moshe if he talked about "David Gestetner and his goddam kites" one more time. But apart from a long straying off the topic to talk about the whys and wherefores of writing amateur fiction in someone else's pre-set universe towards the end of the panel, it went reasonably well. The mimeo room continues to be a popular attraction at BALTICON, although the flurry of enthusiasm and one-shots of the first year this was offered is gone.

COMING NEXT MONTH...slime! CHROMECON! long walks! Don't miss it--send YOUR news today!