





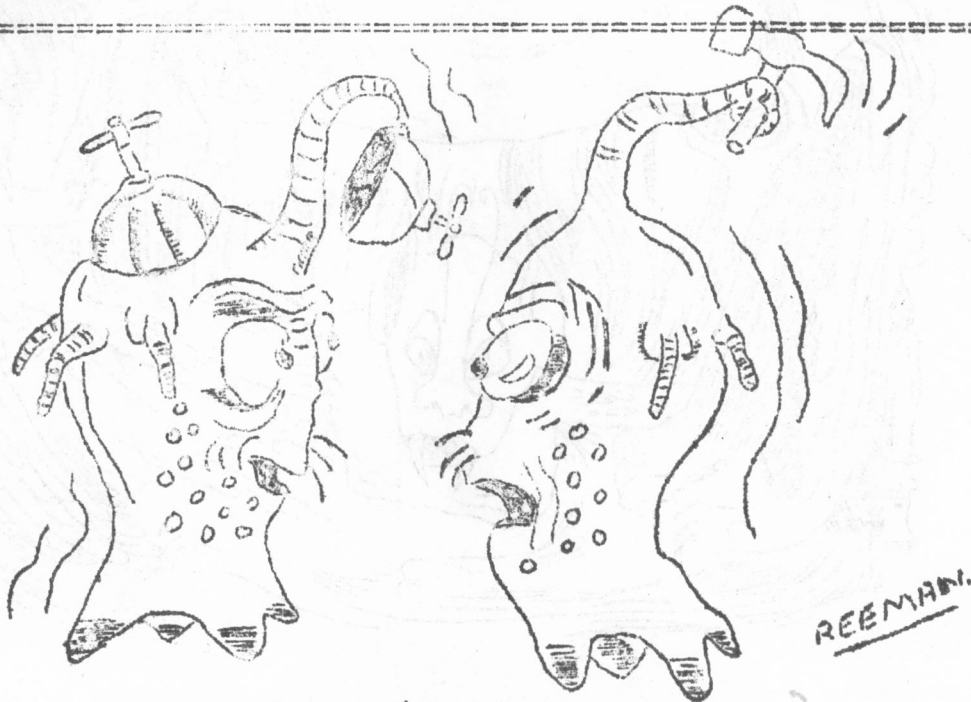
Gerry
Reeman.

"There goes that Stinker Ashworth - he reads S-F you know!"

GOSSETT Number 2.

Published for The Off-Trail Magazine Publishers Association by Tom White, 3, Vine Street, Cutler Heights, Bradford 4, Yorks. The cartoon above is by Gerry Reeman; all illos, including 'The Dance of the Seven Veils' by Charles Wildman. Any material not actually blamed upon others is my responsibility.

If things work out as they should the cover also will be by Charles Wildman; but this is in the lap of the Gods and dependent upon his remaining sober for a long enough period.



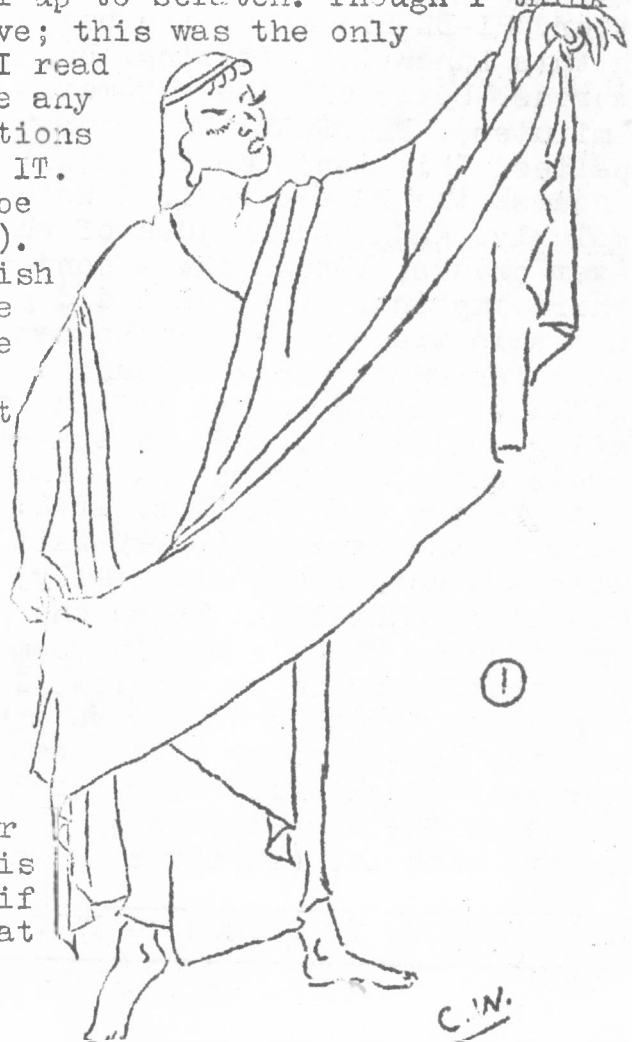
REEMAN.

I'LL FETCH YOU SUCH A CRACK IF
YOU DON'T GIVE ME MY BEANIE BACK!!

So as not to impose too much upon Derek's Gestetner I have printed the whole of this issue on an Emphas semi-rotary duplicator. Whilst not to be construed as an apology this fact at least will be self-explanatory when you see one or two of the pages (the first attempts). But we can't all be little geniuses, can we?

Being an untidy-minded individual the 'rating' of each fmz appearing in the first OMPA mailing is something I do not intend to attempt. However, since some form of criticism - constructive or destructive - appears to be expected, I call 'Seconds Out - clear the ring for Round One'.....

CAPRICE: If, as Marie Louise tells us, this issue is a mere fore-taste of things to come, then I plunge here for one of the best of future OMPazines. The meat of the zine - describing the Share relations - is all the more funny because it could happen to anyone; mine are a damn sight worse; although I couldn't say so in such an entertaining manner. Very Good indeed. **HOW:** Paul showed up with a later mailing which, instead of bearing the imprint of hasty workman ship appears to hold a hell of a lot of thought. I enjoyed this. **DYSTELEOLOGY:** The cover would have been sufficient to make this a top class effort, but inside material also comes well up to scratch. Though I think Ken was a bit hard on Geoff Wingrove; this was the only article i (sorry - no connection) I read in Fission. **IB TENEBO:** I don't see any need to apologise for the illustrations which are quite the best things in IT. If I could sketch like this you'd be getting nothing else(OK Ken-I know). One thing though - **IB TENEBO** - I wish you'd include an explanation for we poor Northerners who have had to be satisfied with the usual Borstal education?? **TWIN SET:** Very neat but I think we can expect better from Ken in the future. **IO:** a talent for cutting stencils put to no very good use. **ZYMIC:** Whilst not being pure Clarke - by which I mean 'original' Clarke wit, this is an interesting zine. The reproduction of the Panic twin is almost as good as the original. **INCANTATIONS:** Who's going to make comments on comments? Not me! **GALANTY:** I am indebted to DEREK for the idea for my last editorial. This is admitted a 'hurry' project and if you think that this is the best that will issue from 197 you're crazy. As it stands it is pretty good.



AAAH! Despite the format I found very ha-ha. The material as good as anything in the whole mailing. Not so VIGNETTE, I would prefer twice as much AAAH . MY FEATHERED FRIENDS: Also top-class humour; although I would like to see Nigel running riot with a more ziney type of zine, editorials and all. MY First rEal Convention, by.....er..... you know...whatsisname. I refuse to make him any more big-headed. Oh, go on, be a devil....'twas only the best item --even including the illos - in the whole mailing. Especially taking into consideration the length. And I know for a fact that he only took three weeks off work to write it. NOV & THEN: Harry Turner and NO illustrations?? Though this shortened version of 'Darwin and the Bible - False' was good without them. MORPH; I had some difficulty in finding just who was responsible for this fz. Mixed up in the 'Want Lists' however I finally came across the information that John Roles was the shy editor. Personal natterings are always interesting, and this pub. looks as though it could develop into something special. NEEDLE: There isn't much one can say about this....except things will get better. HI-DE-HI: After the busted gut crack I'd dearly love to pan this Lancaster offering. But it's typical Potter, insane and humorous. Bears all the ear-marks of tremendous preparation (viz - 10 minutes). PLATFORM: Unfortunately spent a lot of space on possible consites. This isn't an important point anyway, just so we have one. Of course the FS are real. I know three disomaniacs who are visited regularly. ARCHIVE: My idea of what an OMPA zine should be. Full of clever cracks, though the second page would have looked better with a third imprint. BURP: What did you say his name was?? Mau--rice?? Ron's main trouble is that he can't seem to understand the art of fixing ink on to paper in such a manner as to render the result legible (I should talk). It's a shame too, as his material is worth reading - I'll bet. UGH: If the standard of number one is continued there's one ejaculation that Pan will never hear. I rate this way up at the top with Caprice. ITTA: Good, though I'm afraid that the prayer to the ghulard (sorry-Walt) may raise complaints as well as eyebrows - not mine incidentally; I always claimed the subject was over-rated. MEDI-EVAL: These one page efforts are difficult to comment upon. There's hardly room for more than the opening remarks. Well, that seems to be the lot, I've been very careful to keep all the mailing together as I have a nasty habit of losing things in the murky depths of my filing cabinet. Oh no - I forgot the most important! Chuck will never forgive me....his zine 'SLOBBERINGS' was one of the high-lights of the mailing, unfortunately Betty lit the fire with it. (In the bedroom of course).

NO, I NEVER GO TO CHURCH -- IT'S AGAINST MY RELIGION.

"Walt Willis of Course! - No idea?"
 "Oh - Walt Willis. How silly of me not to have realised it. WHAT DOES THAT MAKE ME? A FOX-DOCTOR'S CLERK?"
 "No sir...I..er.."
 "NEXT OF KIN?"
 "Chuck..."
 "Oh, Old Chuckie? Well, why didn't you say so? He's a boy is old Chuck; why. I remember once at an exhibish in Alex....."

(four hours later.)

"...and she turns round and says to him, 'Wot? Again' Cor. You should have seen his face. Anyway, I suppose we'd better get on with this business. Religion?"
 "Ghuism."
 "Home address...huh?"
 "Ghuism - I believe in the Divine Ghu!"
 "That's a new 'un on me."
 "Ignoramus!"
 "Who's that? 'Is High Priest?"
 ==++++==



Her Majesty's ship SLOPS, which, for all its salty name is really a collection of Nisser Huts.

"Welcome to the wardroom Lt. Commander. Have a gin? I'll show you to your cabin. I hope you'll enjoy your stay with us here."



"Attention Lt. Commander: Off caps. Really, old chap this IS rather a bad show you know. I mean we're supposed to set an example and all that sort of rot. Sorry about this but I'll have to dip you a rank. Perhaps then you'll remember to remove the Wrens from your cabin before rounds. Dismiss Lieutenant."
 ==++++==

"Now look here Potter. We don't want to seem too hard on you, but what may seem such a little thing to you is of vital interest to the Navy. I'm afraid that you'll have to remove that er...screw from your cap. Now be a good chap and promise me you'll buck up."

← ==++++==
 If the face is gruesome, blame me, it looks OK in the original!

"Attention Lieutenant Potter.
We are a regular customer,
aren't we? What's the charge
this time, Number One?"

"Tut tut, Potter. It should
be obvious to anyone with
intelligence. Hear me, you
really must understand that
the correct definition of a
Liberty Boat is NOT a vessel
in which one may take liberties.
Dismiss - Sub-Lt. Potter"

==+==+==+==

"So you picked up a
Flying Saucer on the
Radar did you? How
interesting! Let me know
of any further developments
- Midshipman Potter."

==+==+==+==

" Well, well, what now? Sea Serpents? Little green men from Mars in
the cookhouse? You've discovered a mutant in the next bunk? No? I
am disappointed. Oh - just drunk? We're improving Potter, are we
not? You thought what? That the U.A. on your card stood for
'Unlimited Alcohol'? For your information, Leading Seaman, the
initials stand for 'Under Age'.

==+==+==+==+==+==

"I don't believe it. One man can't get into so much trouble in so
short a time. He does WHAT? Wears a cap ribbon to which he is not
entitled? HMS POGO? Ah, yes - must be one of the new 'Utensil'
type destroyers. Well, we are seeing all the phases of Naval Life
if nothing else, Able Seaman!"

==+==+==+==+==

W.T. Signal from Admiralty to Commanding Officer HMS SLOPS :-

== ALL SEEMS QUIET ON THE POTTER FRONT. HOPE THE LIEUTENANT IS NOT
GIVING YOU CAUSE FOR REGRET. REMEMBER TRAFALGAR AND ALL THAT. ==

W.T. FROM C/O TO ADMIRALTY :-

== MESSAGE RECEIVED. CAN YOU SUPPLY ME WITH INFORMATION OF ANY
RANK LOWER THAN THAT OF ORDINARY SEAMAN?

==+==+==+==+==

when I win 75,000 on the pools I'll have ham sandwiches every day.

IF YOU FULFIL ALL DETAILS
 BUT HAVE NO
 WHISKERS and DIFFERENT
 TROUSERS - YOU'RE
 A FEMME-FAN.
 (HEBBE.)

UNSHAVEN
 (caused by sitting at all
 night cutting stencils)

OUTLINE OF FIRM'S
 STATIONERY IN
 INSIDE POCKET.

KINSEY REPORT.

TYPING FINGER →

ZA² CUN

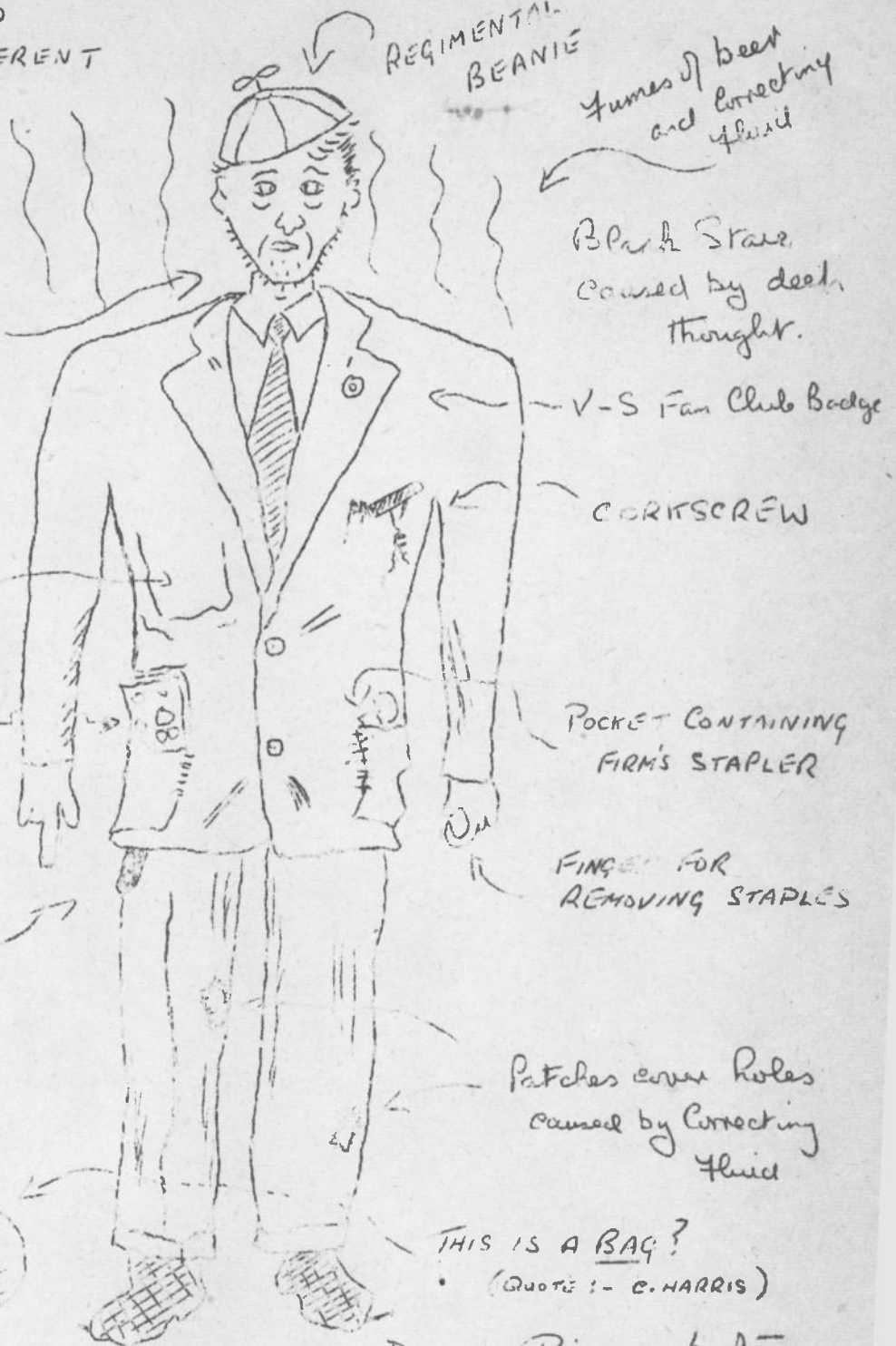
BAG CONTAINING
 PROFITS FROM
 FMZ PUBLISHING



~~THIS IS A FAN~~
~~THIS IS A FAN?~~
~~THIS IS A FAN?~~

A FAN.

By DON ALLEN



REGIMENTAL
 BEANIE

Yumes of beer
 and correcting
 fluid

Bark Stare
 caused by death
 thought.

V-S Fan Club Badge

CORNSCREW

POCKET CONTAINING
 FIRM'S STAPLER

FINGER FOR
 REMOVING STAPLES

Patches cover holes
 caused by Correcting
 fluid

THIS IS A BAG?
 • (QUOTE :- C. HARRIS)

Pins on boots
 to pick-up
 lag-ends

= This and That =

o x o
x

I'll admit the last double page is pretty damned awful ; under other circumstances I'd alter that - and to hell with the expense! Unfortunately time will not allow; I have these remaining pages to cut and print - not to mention the unimportant detail of thinking up something to put on them.

COVER... I have mentioned otherwheres that this is the work of a starving artist, reduced to working for a living. Charles David Wildman (No - his folks do not hail from Borneo) is the product of five years study at the Leeds College of Art, at least his talent is. This cover, which I am delighted with, is his first attempt at cutting a stencil. He insisted upon doing the actual cutting himself, and despite my protests he finally had his own way. I am not sorry. His address can be had from me at 7/6 a time.

WHO SAYS THAT MODERN PARENTS DON'T HELP TO EDUCATE THEIR CHILDREN? I know differently. I was sitting on the bus the other day (I think I was going somewhere) and a couple of seats in front of me were a small boy - a genuine BRAT; obviously destined one day to become a pro-editor - and his long-suffering father. You could tell it was his father as he wasn't a bit polite to the little boulder. At first Alfie was content to zoom around the bus opening the windows, in order to, as he quaintly put it, 'Let in a bit of fresh air'. No one seemed to think this very thoughtful of him, as it was at least 30 below outside, and cold with it, too. Finally repeated blows upon the head quietened him enough to sit with his parent and keep more-or-less still. Suddenly he noticed a partly dismantled hut in a piece of waste ground, 'Cor, look dad!' he yelled, 'Look dad - e 'ut!' The Old Man (well - wouldn't you be?) breathed heavily down his nostrils, 'Don't be higgerant, Alfie.' He admonished, 'that's not 'a 'ut' - it's 'an 'ut!'

True.

- DOSTOIEVSKY COME FROM IRELAND?

This is not only fractured Latin - why pick on the Romans?
A bon chat, bon rat. - - - Chuck Harris is a good conversation
(- alist.

Aut Caesar aut nullus - - Get hold of her or you'll get nothing.

Carpe diem - - Fish on Friday.

En Dieu est ma fiancee - - Ghod! - Here comes my fiancee.

In loco parentis - - My father was an engine-driver.

Mal a tete - - He has a head like Mal Ashworth.

Nous avons change tout cela - - we took all our celery back.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Now I'm wondering whether we (bemed) are to be the victims of a hoax. This morning arrived a printed letter, ostensibly from the Copyright Receipt Office, British Museum, London, W.C.1. As follows:- Sir, I am directed to inform you that the Publication (the capital is theirs) entitled "BEM" (so are the inverted commas) does not appear to have been delivered here by you under the Copyright

Act of 1911 (1 & 2 Geo. V., cap. 46), and I am to request you to forward it as soon as possible, I am, Your obedient servant, for the Principal Keeper of Printed Books.

If this is a hoax it's fool-proof; no fool could penetrate it. The letter, with the exception of 'BEM' and the signature is printed, the envelope is printed, an official museum franked label is used - and the post mark is London, not Belfast or Leeds.

But what a hell of a lot of explaining this little lot requires. Apart from the fact that I don't know where to get a Copyright Act of 1911 to send BEM under; I should have thought that ordinary green paper would have sufficed.

But how did the Principal Keeper of Printed Books find out about our small, 120-150 an-issue BEM? Have we a viper clutched to our bosoms? And if the P.K.P.B. doesn't intend to publish his own fanzine and review bem - who's going to pay for them?

Of course the possibility exists that the P.K.P.B. has become addicted to Hyphen and has decided that he'd like to see a fmz with such an excellent model; or maybe he's seen certain other fmz and wonders whether all retain such a constant low level of reproduction.

And content. Or maybe it's a russian plot. One thing tho' BEM is going down to posterior. We are behind ourselves with pride.



'The children tell me there are fairies at the bottom of the garden.'

HOW CAN YOU BE CLEAN-SHAVEN WITH AIR ALL OVER YOUR FACE?

I was talking to the Mad Artist at work the other day. One of the girls was so damned busy listening to our conversation that she couldn't get on with the washing-up.

I've seen some weird things in my time (Mal Ashworth, Derek Pickles etc) but it's the first time I've ever known anyone put a saucer up the wringer in order to dry it. It was slightly bent.

I NEVER GO TO CHURCH - IT'S AGAINST MY RELIGION.

AND NEXT ISSUE I'LL GET CHARLES TO CUT ME A CARTOON OF THAT 'Lightning Cartoonist' thing.

No body yet seen it.

PAX

VOBI-SCUM.