



ALTAEGO⁶

-Volume II, Number 1

STAFF

Editor - Randy Thomas
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Assistant Editor - Bill Gemmill

SPRING ISSUE

50¢

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ART CREDIT

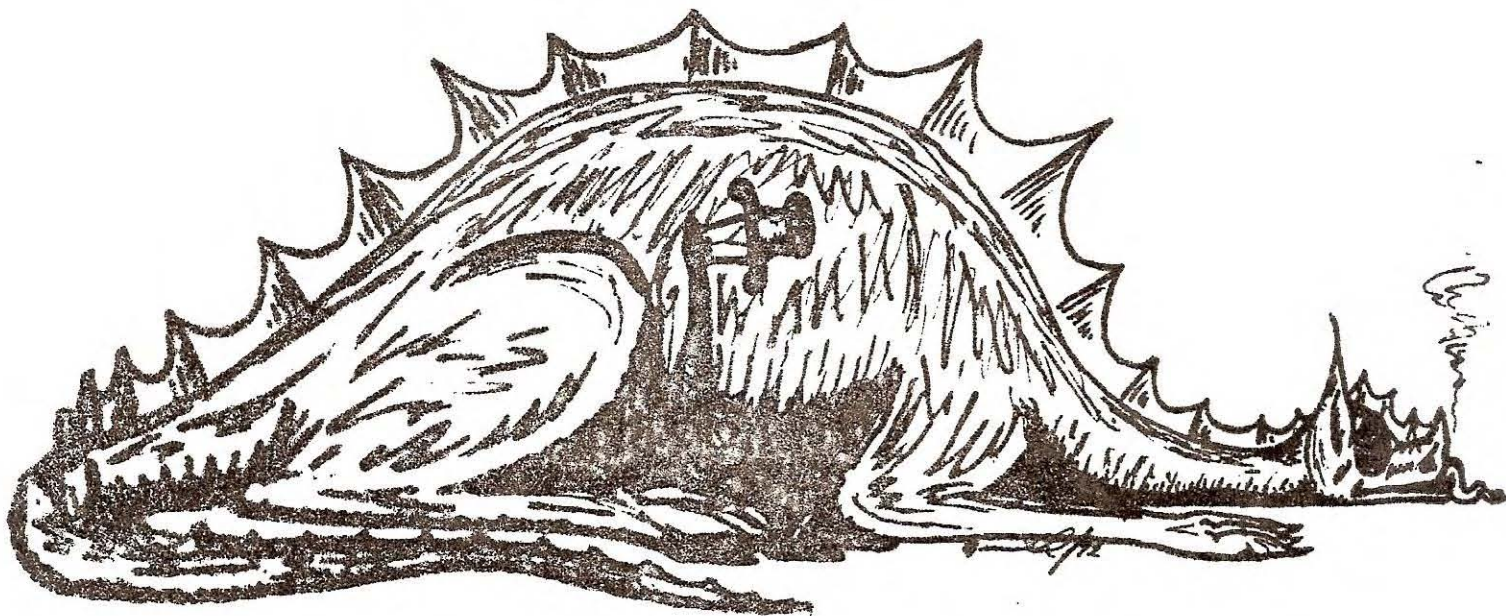
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I would like to take this space to ask all you reader out there if you would please contribute articles. After all, you do get a free fanzine even if you aren't a paid member. Or, if you'd rather pay cash, then either give me 50¢ at some future meeting, or pay up your club dues (\$3/student, \$5/adult, and \$7.50/family), in which case you get each year's issues free.

I'll accept any of the following types of contributions: columns on anything from hypnosis to Martian meteorology, poetry pertaining to SF, reviews (books or films), fiction (preferably short stories or satires), artwork (drawings of almost any shape that will fit on an 8½ x 11 sheet of paper, or anything else your mind can dream up.

Send all contributions to: 4911-43 st. S.W., Calgary 8, Alberta.
OR, bring them to the next meeting and hand them to me in person.

-The Editor.



IN BRADON'S BLOOD

-by Randy Thomas

Greetings and salutations, all you SF fans, or should I say all you fen?

You may think this is an editorial, and you are correct, but only because I, the Editor, am writing it. I really wish I knew what to write about in an aditorial; but since I don't have a clue, I'm going to spend the next page talking about this fanzine, its contents, and other such trivia pertaining to SF.

First, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to three ASFS members for so kindly contributing articles or artwork to this effort. Part of my thanks goes to Mr. Bob Gibson, whom I consider to be an excellent artist, with a style all his own, and who contributed this and next issue's cover, plus an inside illustration for the club's own story, which I shall go into later on.

The second part of my sincere thanks goes to Brian Hval, the ASFS Treasurer, who donated two literary works. One of them, the poem in this issue, is very good; so good, in fact, that even I, who hates and detests poetry, liked it. The other article he wrote was a 20-page story; I will not disclose its theme yet, but the title is THE VALLEY OF THE GODS. It will appear next issue either complete or as a serial, whichever Bill and I decide.

The last, but not least, part of my thanks goes to John Mansfield, the club's former program chairman. While I was over at John's dwelling,



I asked John (at knifepoint) if he would kindly write a column for the fanzine. He declined, and instead gave me an issue of ATLANTIS (an Outsight fanzine by the Base Gagetown Science Fiction Club) and told me it was all right to liberate his interview with Hal Clement. So, I did.

As far as I know, the above title will be around permanently as the heading for my editorials, and I am quite pleased with it.

I have also changed a few other titles, hoping they will also stick permanently. The former Questions & Answers, now called The Black Enigmas And The Simple Solutions, will this time have a fairly difficult set of questions that only a person with quite a number of years of SF behind him/her will get a perfect score.

And now! A new thing!

At one of the past meetings, Brian Moore, the club's assistant program chairman, jokingly suggested that at some future meeting, all the members should bring a typewriter and each person type up a sentence and pass it along to the next person. No one bothered to take Brian seriously (as usual), and it was soon forgotten by most. I remembered it, and, after making a few alterations, presented the idea to Bob Schell, the ASFS Vice-President.

And so, after it was decided who would begin, each person in turn said a few words, while Bob Schell wrote them down, and the story on page 9 is the unabridged result.

There will, I hope, be a few more of the "ASFS Shaggy Dog Stories" coming up in future issues of ALTAEGO.

Now that the Assistant Editor and I have decided to publish the fanzine quarterly, (one for each season) this gives us more time to throw together more articles and artwork. We hope to have the Summer and Winter issues containing at least 50 pages, while the Spring and Fall issues are a small 15 to 25 pages. Also, quite possibly, in addition to the quarterly issues, an ASFS annual issue will be put out sometime in June-July.

I mentioned earlier the former program chairman, John Mansfield. During the past year, John had faithfully served the club by working up a good sweat every week, just to dig up some form of entertainment for each meeting. But now that he may have to leave, John has resigned from his position, and now comes to the meeting as a regular member. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest appreciation towards John and his work (sniff!). For if he hadn't come along when he did, I am pretty sure the club would be dispersed a long time ago.

If you have any contributions to make, or letters of comment to thrust in my face, then either hand them to me at some meeting, or send them to:

Randy M. Thomas
4911-43 St. S. W.
Calgary 8, Alberta
re: ALTAEGO

Until next time, Pax Vobiscum, and Arrivederci!!!



-by Bill Gemmill

Hello again SF lovers, as you probably know, this is the second in a series of mind-boggling, thought-provoking garbage (Now where have I heard that before?) that will, I hope, inform those who wander around clueless and educate those with a severe case of cranium leakage.

Before I cascade you with the first chapter of my column, I wish to bring one small, but important item to the foreground. And that is the small article on DISPLAYS, at the bottom of page 6. This, I feel, needs correction in that it mentions the myth that my dice-rolling ability is but common suck-luck. To this I would like to say that my psionic control over the dice is not something to be taken lightly. And also that the muddling done by Jack Witcher, oops!, I mean Jack Laycraft is just uncontrolled brain (that's a laugh) waves. Thank you.

Now, to continue with the column. This fanzine is now going to come to you seasonally, this being the spring edition. The size of this fanzine will enlarge with the summer and winter issues. As you have noticed, there is more in the way of participation, with the front cover created by Bob Gibson, a column done by John Mansfield, the poem by Brian Hval, and various quarterpages which were contributed.

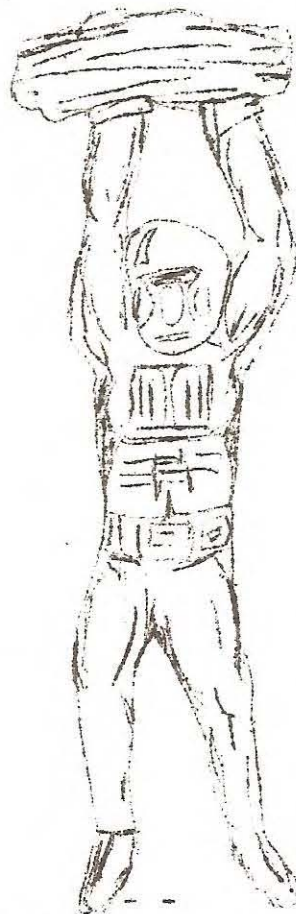
Due to the arguments, discussions, and conclusions delivered from the brawls ensued during the January 7 (that long ago?) meeting, it was decided that the meetings will be held on a regular basis.

On every first and third week of the month (on Fridays). The meetings will be held at the U of C campus, in MacEwan Hall with the proceedings starting at eight o'clock P.M. All these dates are subject to change, and if so you will then be notified either by a phone call or a notice in the mail.

While on the subject of programs, John Mansfield has respectfully resigned from the position of program chairman to have Wes Dehnason fill the position (sucker!) So let's give Wes all the assistance he needs and in this way the upcoming meetings will be a success. By the way, if you know about films, tapes, or anything you can get your hands on that will be of interest to the club, they will be gladly accepted. As for John, I think that he has done the club a great service by donating his time and energy to the entertainment of the members.

Well, It's that time of year again! A few members of the club and I are getting the planning and co-ordinating of this years convention together. It will be the second annual ASFS Open House (enthusiastic clapping and ecstatic cheering ensues). As far as I am aware right now, the format will be similar to that of last year's; with such popular items as the panels, the art show, huckster tables, talks, and an auction; and maybe this year more people will be in the mood for a banquet. As for the Professional Guest of Honour, nothing can really be said yet on that subject, as there are several people that we are in contact with. The date will be the 27th of August at the Calgary Inn. Further information will be supplied to you through the first progress report, which will come out some time in April. If you want to help or have any questions to ask, please get in touch with any of the executive members who will supply you either with information or a phone number of someone with information.

Now, I would like to talk on the subject of meetings. In the last few gatherings, we have been doing things which were pushed to the background in former meetings. Some of the things were discussions, writing sessions, debates, and various talks on the club and it's future. In the discussions, any subject is raised and discussed (not too complex, is it); the writing sessions have produced our first piece of experimental literature which is published in this issue; debates have proven interesting, with the group figuratively ripping apart certain topics; and talks on club business so as to let the members know where they stand, (If they don't know that yet, they'll have worse trouble walking) and where the club is heading. All in all, the meetings are getting more entertaining and to those who love a good bull session, I would suggest that you attend. CIAU!



PREMONITIONS

In future issues, we hope to have even more contributions by club members. We've finally managed to get all the pictures on the outer edges of the pages, and this gives the fanzine a neater appearance. It also saves you the trouble of tearing off the staples in rage, just to see the whol picture.

Next issue, there will be, as the main feature, Brian Hval's short story, THE VALLEY OF THE GODS. In addition to this, there will also be the usual editorial columns, the books reviews, the puzzle page, and hopefully, another ASFS Shaggy Dog Story. Oh, and also, to most of our reader's delights, another A.S.S. and TheM story will be included. (If you would rather the story not be published, then send \$10 to the address mentioned elsewhere in the fanzine.)

Next issue's cover will be by Mr. Bob Gibson again, and I think it is exceptionally good.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings of the Alberta Science Fiction Society are as follows:

For the month of April - Apr. 7 & 21

For the merry month of May - May 5 & 19

For the month of June - June 2, 16 & 30

All meetings are held at MacEwan Hall at the University of Calgary, at 8 o'clock P.M.

CONVENTIONS

There are two conventions planned for this year. The first is the Military 3/'72 convention to be held May 21 & 22 at the Calgary Inn. The convention will contain program items such as panels, game demonstrations, discussions, and an auction. The last Military con held in November of last year was very successful, and so should this upcoming one be.

The second upcoming convention is the ASFS's Calgarcon I, to be held sometime during the last week in August. Ideas are still fluttering around about program, and a few names have been mentioned regarding the Guest of Honor; among them are Gordon R. Dickson and Ursula K. LeGuin, but nothing has as yet been made definite.

DISPLAY

An amazing display of suck-luck was presented before the eyes of seven members of the ASFS, on the meeting of March 17. After the meeting was adjourned, a Risk game was played, and it started off quite well. But then Jack Laycraft began muddling up every one else's rolling, and after he was defeated, Bill Gemmill managed to continually roll 5s and 6s, until he eventually won.



JUMPSUIT/MODIFIED

"THE BLACK ENIGMAS AND THE SIMPLE SOLUTIONS"

-by Randy Thomas

The Simple Solutions (TSS)

Here are the answers to last issue's ANALOG quiz. I hope you all did well.

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Christopher Anvil | 11. The Alien Rulers |
| 2. Walter Bupp | 12. Second Seeded |
| 3. Mack Reynolds | 13. To Love Another |
| 4. Stanley Schmidt | 14. The Horse Barbarians |
| 5. W. Macfarlane | 15. The Custodians |
| 6. David McDaniel | 16. The Yngling |
| 7. Poul Anderson | 17. Per Stratagem |
| 8. John T. Phillifent | 18. Trouble Tide |
| 9. Rick Raphael | 19. Strangers To Paradise |
| 10. Bruce Daniels | 20. And Silently Vanish Away |

The Black Enigmas (TBE)

A. From which of the books do the quotations come from?

1. Moreover, like the earth, it had two polar regions and an equatorial belt, interspersed with southern and northern temperate zones.

(a) Tanar of Pellucidar (c) Tarnsman of Gor
(b) A Princess of Mars (d) Conan

2. It was "courage", and it was written in the letters of Marentina. Courage!

(a) Outlaw of Gor (c) The Wizard Of Lemuria
(b) The Warlord of Mars (d) Wolfbane

3. It was not until long after that the derivation of Grubitten occurred to me. Unquestionably, it is a corruption of Great Britain...

(a) Nomads of Gor (c) Greylorn
(b) The Lost Continent (d) Dragonquest

4. "For every beast and for every man there is a trap he will not escape," quoth Ghaznavi.

(a) Conan the Wanderer (c) Conan the Conqueror
(b) Conan the Buccaneer (d) Conan the Freebooter

5. "This comes of carrying the thing with you! I warned you! Quick, Brule Kelkor--Delgor; foul treason is afoot! Haste to the king's chamber."

(a) Conan the Usurper (c) Phoenix Prime
(b) King Kull (d) The Gods of Mars

B. Name the following characters' creators:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 6. King Kull | 11. Tama |
| 7. Conan | 12. Cal Truant |
| 8. Tarl Cabot | 13. Dondragmer |
| 9. Thongor | 14. Vaughan Roberts |
| 10. Nat Cemp | 15. Barlennan |

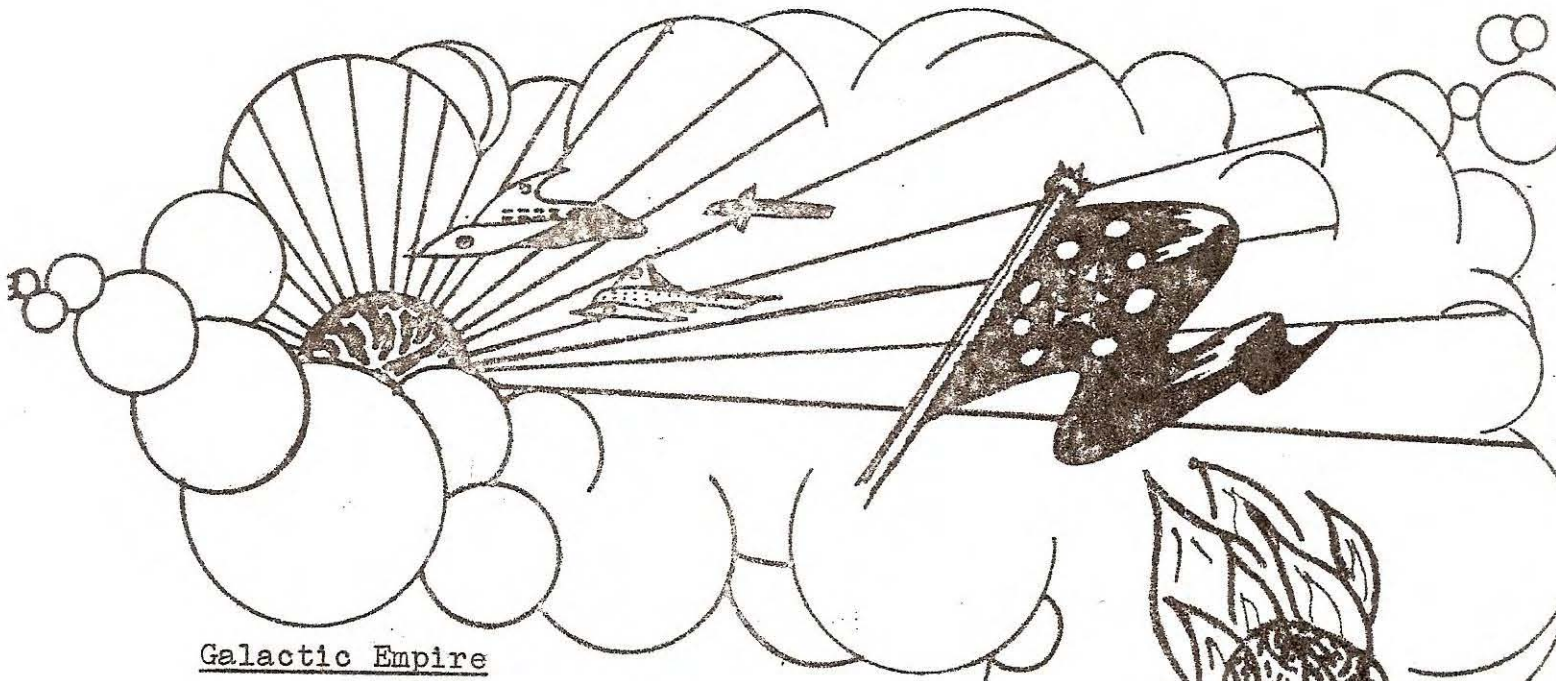
C. Define the following terms:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 16. Lemuria | 21. Gor |
| 17. Cimmeria | 22. Energumen |
| 18. Psi | 23. Telzey |
| 19. Mnementh | 24. P.I.G. |
| 20. Ptarth | 25. Aquilonia |

D. Expand these abbreviations.

- | | |
|----------------|---------|
| 26. U.P. | 29. LOC |
| 27. R.O.B.O.T. | 30. TOC |
| 28. BNF | |





Galactic Empire

Dawn of Authority:

The thunder of a million starships,
Galactic-bound by stellar ellipse.
Countless worlds there to be won,
By sword, flame, an eager gun!

Ad Infinitum:

Invincible our great Imperial fleets,
Conquering all with glorious feats.
Tribute to the masters of Space,
Resistance crushed by atom's mace.

Iron of Iskander:

Stars joined in Immortal Empire,
Aliens welded by Imperial fire.
Race, religion, and nations defied,
Chaos sees unity, difference denied.

Eternal Summer:

Pax Imperia from sun to sun,
Commerce and trade by the trillion ton!
Borders defended, freedom from fear,
But wolf stars gather beyond the frontier....

Ragaarok:

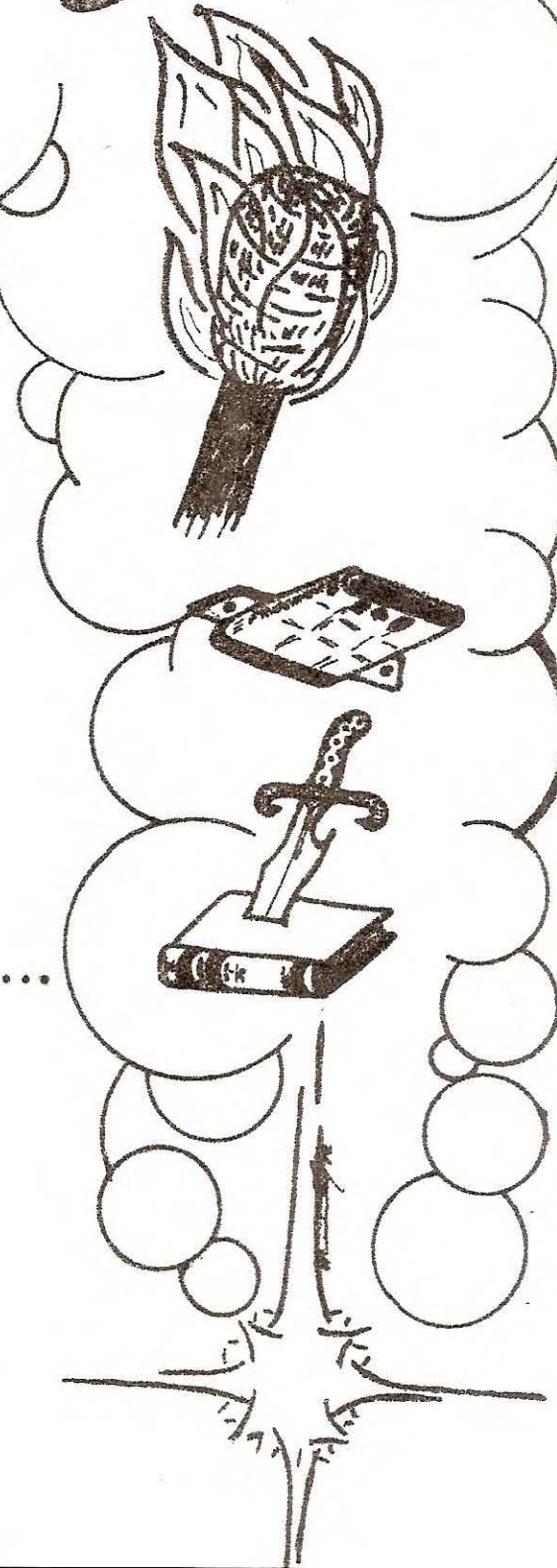
The greed of men grind Empires low,
Division within our relentless foe.
Ruling Emperors be more than one,
Allegiance to all, perhaps to none?

The Barbarians:

Invaders leaving knowledge behind,
Destroying ideals not their kind.
From them civilization has fled,
Midnight has come, the trumpets are dead.

...stardust.

--Brian Hval



TARZOTA AND THE DESTRUCTION OF ZIRCON

-by the members of ASFS who
attended the March 13 meeting.

Out of the early morning mist loomed the vague shadow of a throbbing, pulsating interstellar vehicle approximately three miles square.

The last hope of the hounded race of Tracheon seemed hopeless. Suddenly the early morning dawn was split asunder by a crashing sound; the hammering of the big brake bundle locking on.

This action destroyed the ship, and the lone survivor turned his back on the ship, muttering:

"Good riddance.....Back to the drawing board!"

The problem now facing Tarzota was this: how could he possibly return to his home star of Paprika to his girlfriend Carlotta, who was expecting.

II

Ten years had passed on the barbaric world, and Tarzota had managed to establish diplomatic relations with the ancient Observer, whose single mind was greater than the combined forces of the entire solar system (entirely inhabited by savages).

He stood to lose almost everything he had gained because of the Observer's daughter, Selina.

Carlotta, meanwhile, was halfway through her pregnancy, so Tarzota thought it best to hop into his spaceship and leave for greener fields. (That's what he thought, but he didn't have a spaceship.)

And then the last action was essential. Neither Black Widow nor Preying Mantis was half so threatening as the thought of this second woman, Selina, whose psychic presence threatened to destroy his ability to control his own will.

III

While deep in thought, a hideous looking Zarri had crept up on him and just as it was about to attack, Tarzota turned right into the perpendicular dimension. Firmly grasping the magnetic lines of force, he quickly found himself on the other side of the planet holding two sticks of wood.

Tarzota sat down and began to concentrate on the mental force emanating from Selina. As he absorbed it, he grew in power, gaining The Strength to throw off the shackles of his useless body. But it was all that protected him from the force of Selina's mind. With an effort, he summoned all of his powers to see if he could enlist the help of the ancient Observer to transmit his thought waves towards his home planet.

Tarzota transmitted his artificial body into the mind of Carlotta's child! Immediately, he placed himself in a state of mental rapport until the time when the co-operation and intelligence of the child could be employed to get even with the rat who was his real father. (Who at the moment was residing on the planet Zircon, building an invasion force bound for Earth.)

Meanwhile, the last remaining earthmen were out scouting for the last remaining earthwomen, already stolen by the Zirconites.

The Earth-attack on Zircon was short and decisive. The planet dissolved. The inhabitants and their fleet were completely obliterated except for one ship.

THE END.....?

"A MIDEOUS
LOOKING TARRAR
CREPT UP ON
HIM..."



INTERVIEW WITH HARRY STUBBS/HAL CLEMENT
-by John Mansfield Nov/67

JM: You are known by two names. Why?

HC: When I sold my first science fiction story, I had a couple of articles coming out at about the same time, in SKY AND TELESCOPE MAGAZINE. I was an undergraduate at college at the time. I was a little bit afraid that the observatory authorities would take a dim view of the same name in SKY & TELESCOPE and on a pulp magazine. By the time I found out they wouldn't have cared--Dr. Shapley and Dr. Menzel both tried writing science fiction themselves, once upon a time--the name had a commercial value, so I stayed with it.

JM: What was the name of your first story?

HC: It was a 5,000 word short story called "Proof". It appeared in the June, 1942, ASTOUNDING. That was the first one I had ever sold--I wrote one earlier, but that never did get sold.

JM: What was the name of that one?

HC: I don't even remember, I'm afraid. It was hand-written when I was about 18 years old. My mother finally typed it up for me and issued an ultimatum that no more handwriting would be handled by that department. I don't know what's become of that story. I have a vague feeling that I may have donated the manuscript to an auction



at a conference sometime or other.

JM: What do you do now--you're a teacher?

HC: I teach in a place called Milton Academy, a prep school near Boston. I teach astronomy, chemistry, general science and sometimes physics.

JM: You write the whole range---short stories, novels, etc?

HC: I generally don't know how long something's going to be when it starts. If it seems to come out all right, I try to sell it, and that's that. If it sells, fine.

JM: Where do you get your ideas?

HC: That's a little difficult to say. At least one class of ideas comes from my nasty contrary nature. When someone uses a sentence containing the phrase "of course", I tend to start thinking what it would be like if this particular "of course" weren't so.

JM: How many stories have you written?

HC: I couldn't tell you offhand. It's not very many - I'm no Isaac Asimov. There are six or seven books, but a couple of the books are short story collections, and I suppose something like two dozen magazine stories, in the last twenty-five years or so. It's not a high-rate output.

JM: What was your favorite story?

HC: I liked "Mission of Gravity" best, by quite a wide margin.

JM: How did that one come into being?

HC: That was one of the "of course's". Of course on an ordinary planet, there is no noticeable difference in gravity from one place to another, and I had to cook up some situation in which that particular "of course" wouldn't work. Sixty-one Cygni Three, with a little bit of trimming, seemed to fit the bill.



JM: In you stories, do you like to follow certain trends, or do you just go along as they come to you?

HC: It's a matter of how they come to me. I have basic ideas I like, obviously. I like building planets, trying to figure out how they would be, and I'd be the first to admit that I'm not really good at setting up plots, portraying characters, and that sort of thing. I get the most fun out of the scientific background and the sliderule work.

JM: So you're more science than fiction.

HC: Very much more, I'm afraid.

JM: What other authors do you read?

HC: Well, I like Poul Anderson very much. He tends to go along rather the same sort of lines I do. I still re-read Doc Smith very frequently, and Sprague de Camp, both his fantasy and his science fiction. I don't know whether this is psychoanalytical material or not, but Keith Laumer's Retief story, "Retief's War", I got about four weeks ago, and I'm on the fourth reading. It's funny as all get out! It isn't a high-class intellectual exercise, but I enjoy it enormously.

JM: You read science fiction for enjoyment?

HC: Sure, sure.

JM: What else do you read?

HC: Sometimes mystery stories. That's really about it, beyond the technical stuff I have to keep up on. Scientific American, Science, Sky & Telescope, and where necessary, following up on stuff that I see there so that I get a little deeper information on it.

JM: The basis of this convention has been space travel, and you have been saying several things on the platform and elsewhere. Can you give up a rough idea of what you think the U.S. space program plans will be now?

HC: The only thing I know in detail is the Apollo program. I've had to make a lot of speeches on that because I belong to an Air Force Reserve unit, whose business is public information. But beyond the Apollo program, I really don't know. One of the newspapers in Boston has been grouching because there didn't seem to be any really definite plans beyond that.

JM: Saturn just lifted, taking the Apollo with it. What are the next logical steps in the Apollo program?

HC: I wish I'd bought the last issue of the Marshall Star with me. It carried a published list of the Apollo missions from

1967-1969. I'm afraid I didn't memorize it, but I believe there are 5 or 6 shots for 1968, 4 or 5 for 1969, and either 4 or 5 more in the whole program. The '68 and '69 ones include several more unmanned ones of various types, similar to the re-entry ones of last week. They culminate sometime in 1969 with a couple of manned local flights not actually moon ones. I believe the article mentioned just as a possibility that if everything went well, the last of the '69 ones might be the actual moon shot, but my memory may be tricking me here.

JM: Science seems to be catching up with science fiction. Is this narrowing your field or expanding it?

HC: It's expanding it. Every time the scientists do something, you can always extrapolate, think of something more they could have done, or some way different they might have done it.

JM: What is your favorite work by other authors?

HC: I mentioned the people I read most often - I really can't think of a specific book of those particular people. Of the Poul Anderson stories, I like just about everything I've read. I tend to prefer his interstellar ones, in which there is some sort of scientific gimmick that I can spot if I'm lucky or good. Such as his "Sun Invisible" in Analog a year or two ago, in which the gimmick was to realize that Beta Centauri, which obviously couldn't have any planets, was nevertheless the sun for the planets of the--"villains", to put it crudely. And one of his Van Wyck stories, the interstellar trader gang, in which there was a problem - they over-hauled a ship, and the people in the ship had hidden. It was a zoo contractor's ship, apparently, and they had hidden themselves in a cage and left it up to Van Rijn and his friends to decide which was really the operators of the ship. That was a rather nice mystery, and I was quite pleased with myself for picking up the major points in the clues. For example, the copper oxide rectifiers which couldn't have worked in a hydrogen atmosphere, and that sort of thing.

JM: You've just finished one, "Ocean on Top"?

HC: That was Fred Pohl's title for it. He always changes titles on me.

JM: When you start to write a story, how long does it take?

HC: There's no general answer that can be given on that, because my writing is strictly spare time. "Ocean on Top" was done very quickly, and I suspect people will say "obviously", because I'd promised it to Fred some time before. I finally buckled down in a spring vacation, trying to finish it in the 2½ weeks I had off, and I almost made it. It ran over by a week or ten days. That is the quickest thing I've ever written, and I'm afraid the fact shows when you read it.

JM: What was your original title?

HC: "No Words For It."

JM: You mean there's no words for the title, or that was it?

HC: That was the title. Fred didn't like it. He never likes any of my titles. What he called "Raindrop" I called "Taste For Weight", what he called "Hot Planet" I had called "Small Change" - and that's the other one I sold him in the last few years - "The Foundling Stars". Can't remember what I called that now, but I'm sure it was something different. He always changes on me. All of those were the result of Fred's buying cover paintings and sending photostats of them to me, asking if I could write a story to fit them.

JM: The story follows the cover, not the cover following the story?

HC: Well, all I can say is, that has been true on four occasions that I know of, with Fred Pohl, and I understand that Vaughan Bode has sold Fred several covers - whether Fred has stories for them yet I don't know. It's not the way it ever worked before - at least when I sold to John Campbell and Analog, it's always been a case of the story, and if he decided it was a cover story, the cover came later.

JM: That would seem to be the natural thing to do.

HC: Well, if you can make it work the other way, there's no obvious reason why you shouldn't do it.

JM: Do you have any other problems with editors?

HC: I don't have problems, at all! Fred's the customer - if he likes a different title, that is his business.

JM: What about changes, or things that you can't discuss in science fiction?



HC: I don't have ant particular urge to write the so-called "you can't discuss it" stuff, and I never faced that problem at all. For me, science fiction is sort of a fun game. I try to set up a scientific situation the way I think it would be. Somebody feels that I'm wrong in my science, he's at liberty to criticize. And if he can't criticize successfully, I win the game.

JM: Why did you get started in science fiction?

HC: I started out reading it - well, I suppose I count Buck Rogers - when I was about 8 years old. That's what got me interested in astronomy. I ran into a couple of science fiction magazines in the next year or two, in the house of a friend. I seem to remember that yesterday people were reminiscing about what was the first science fiction magazine they'd ever bought. I can remember that. I was twelve years old, and it was the December 1934 Amazing. It contained Neil R. Jones' "The Sunless World" and Leslie F. Stone's "Rape of the Solar System". I remember the Neil R. Jones one because I was a Professor Jameson fan from way back, and I remember the other because it was the cover story.

JM: Did you ever have anything to do with fandom before you became a pro?

HC: No. I didn't even know there was such a thing. Shortly after I sold my first couple of stories, and they came out in Astounding, a fellow named Dr. Robert Swisher, who was a friend of John Campbell's and lived near boston, got in touch with me. An outfit called the Stranger Club had been meeting at his home, and I met with them for two or three years, and then the club sort of vanished. I think Swisher was transferred somewhere else, and Art Winder, who was one of the moving lights of it, moved to California, and most of the Survivors didn't really feel like running a club. But I never really got to major conventions until 1953, the Worldcon in Philadelphia.

JM: Do you think fandom is helping science fiction?

HC: It can - it frequently does - it sort of depends on the fan.

JM: Do you write anything besides science fiction?

HC: I occasionally write science articles. I've never sold any other kind of fiction. I've tried once or twice.

JM: In what area?

HC: I tried a mystery story once.

JM: What do you have in the works now.

HC: There's been one possible novel which has been simmering for about 8 years. Heaven



knows when I'll be able to get around to it. As I mentioned, writing is strictly spare time with me. In a conversation at the World-con a couple of months ago, a fan came up with a suggestion which may, with a little proper nursing, turn into a sequel to "Mission of Gravity", but I don't know whether that will happen or not. I've never tried sequels before. I've always been a little afraid of them. But if this thing works out as it looks as though it might, then it will be an idea worth writing a sequel around. If I ever get the time, I'll do it.

* * * * *

You've probably already guessed that the sequel Mr. Clement was referring to was "Star Light", which was serialized in Analog (June-September '70), and was nominated for a Nebula and a Hugo.

-The Editor

BOOK REVIEW-by Bill Gemmill

PIRATES OF ZAN, by Murray Leinster,
Ace Books Double. 441-66525-095.
95¢, 161 pp.

Due to my capitalistic nature and my fondness of money, I sold "Pirates Blood" for a ridiculously high price and made a fair profit. I hope that this review will compensate for the loss of "Pirate's Blood".

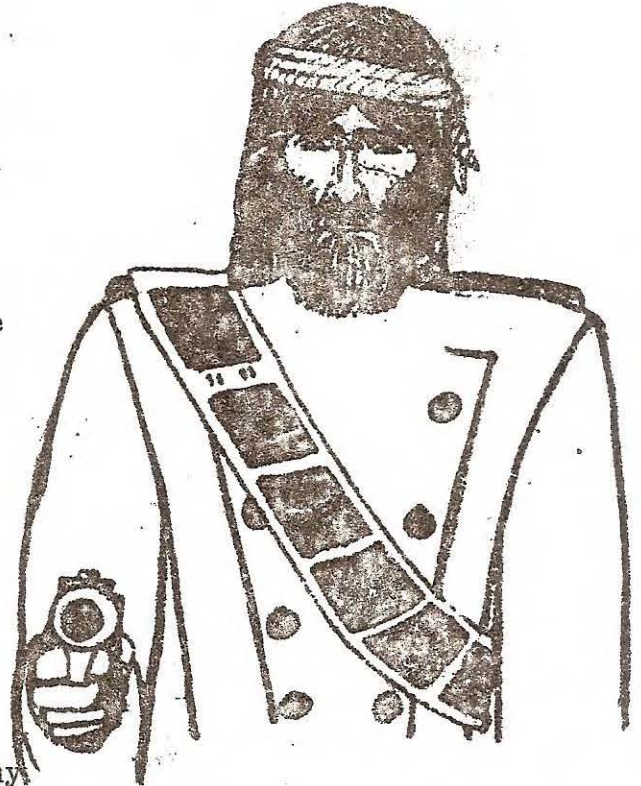
During several meetings there has been one book that has been talked about quite alot. The book's title is "The Pirates Of Zan". This space adventure is written by Murray Leinster, whose real name is Will F. Jenkins.

The story revolves around a character whom the reader immediately likes; his name is Bron Hoddan.

Bron is from the distant world of Zan, and Zan's only occupation is space piracy. Not wanting to follow the footsteps of his grandfather, who was the leader of the most ruthless gang of pirates on Zan, Bron went to the most civilized part of the universe. The planet Walden. There he hoped to achieve splendid things as an electronic engineer; to grow satisfyingly rich; to marry a delightful girl; and to end his life with the reputation of being a great man.

This was not quite established, since when he attempted to save the government millions of dollars on a new invention, he killed a man. His best friend went to the fuzz and told them that it was Bron's invention that killed the man, and also said that the man had died from death rays produced from the machine. Since Walden was a civilian planet, they couldn't have a man alive on it who knew something about the production of death rays. His trial was short and not particularly sweet. He was jailed but by now the reader is expecting the grandson of a great pirate to attempt some daring escape; which he did. Within twenty three pages he had run from the police, gained amnesty with the Interstellar Ambassador,

THE Pirates of Zan



and landed on the feudal planet, Darth.

From here on in adventure is on every page. Bron manages to rescue the daughter of the main chieftain, become a hero, maintain great wealth; but he still hasn't found a delightful girl to marry.

By this time Bron decides to pay Walden back for making him an outlaw, and the only way he knows how is by piracy.

This story is one of the best space adventures I have ever read, and by all means buy it, it's worth the money.

Review of NAKED TO THE STARS by Gordon R. Dickson, Lancer Books. 74667-075, 75¢. 173 pp.

By Randy Thomas.

I too must confess that I am money-hungry by nature, and so, before I could copy down the statistics for THREE HEARTS AND THREE LIONS, I had sold the book. So, now, instead of reviewing the book the illustration represents, I will review NAKED TO THE STARS, by Gordon R. Dickson.

This book is not Gordon Dickson's best book, but it is certainly one of his better ones. The cover blurb says "Gordon R. Dickson's powerful novel of war in the future". I can't fully agree with this, because the book does not exactly center around the theme of war in the future. There are sections of the book, large section, that deal with the actual wars, but for the most part, the plot centers about one Cal Truant, and his adventures in the army of the future.

Cal is introduced into the book as "Section Leader Calvin Truant, of the 4th Assault Wing, 91st Combat Engineers, Human Expedition Against

the Lehuans." He is under command of some eighty men who are outside an enemy town who believes there is a truce on. Cal decides to attack the town, rather than wait until the next morning, when the Lehuans forces could have him and his men surrounded and destroyed.

After a brief and descriptive battle, Cal awakens to find that he had blacked out during the fighting. He is discharged from the Army because of a memory loss, and manages to get back into the services as a Contacts Service man. Most of the text of the novel deals with Cal's re-training, and his promotion to a high rank. As you would expect, Cal does not only do what he is supposed to do - drag wounded men out of the line of fire and establish diplomatic relations with the enemy - but also manages to do a little bit of fighting when a Wing Commander gets killed, in which he takes command.

If you enjoy a very good adventure yarn about army life in the not-to-distant future, then by all means buy **NAKED TO THE STARS**.

Robert A. Heinlein's works are
Communisticly oriented!!

