

IPZIK! #65 is written and published by Len Bailes of Box 14 Rieber Hall-UCLA, Los Angeles, Calif., 90024 for the 65th distribution of APA L. It is Bailesania #112, written on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 1966. Len Bailes is getting older and tireder than ever, presently having a *job* which is taking up all his free time. He also has a SAPSzine, TAPSzine, large genzine, and STOBCLERzine to get out before long, and SFPA looms darkly ahead next month... I've got those hyperactivity blues again. Nonessential things like studying for finals have been temporarily pushed aside. I was seriously tempted to Miss A Mailing this week, but then there would be a maniacal rasping laugh emanating from Santa Monica and a quiet smirk in West LA. (or two quiet smirks actually). Besides, we must keep our sense of proportion, right, Tom Gilbert?

THE 'L' YOU SAY

--comments on disty 64

EXPLEIVE--(Bjo) "It's no use when you can't grumble you know."

RABANOS RADIOACTIVOS--(Patten) It's not so much that amateur comics are a waste of time for the publisher as that they waste a reader's time. Professional stuff by people like Charlatan (and at times DC) is unreadable; so how can you expect an amateur strip to be any good? The ones I've seen (mostly browsed at out of your collection at odd moments) are characterized by extremely poor artwork and lousy dialog. I'll admit that they sometimes show imagination not present in pro stuff, and clever use of a cliffhanger situation, but they still look like crud to me. (reference material includes Star Studded Comics and several others which titles I don't remember). As for satire strips, to my mind the best ones don't concentrate on satirizing the actual comic book, but use the comicbook as a vehicle for some other satire. God Comics was an illustration of this as was Tower Comics and my own SFPA-Fen (with art by Staton). Help's Wonder Warthog is an example of a pro satire strip which is fairly successful. Bill's strip is moderately amusing, but suffers from lack of depth, being a satire on Thor alone. Even the great EC-Mad comic satires rang in outside topics to make fun of, although they stand as the best example of comic satire for its own sake. Other enjoyable comic-strip satires which come easily to mind are Bjo's Actifan Comics, Supersquirrel, "T.C" and the ones Tew, Reiss and Stewart did in Void, all of which have fannish motifs. Frankly, I can't think of one serious amateur comicstrip which approaches any of the above as far as its ability to entertain is concerned... you'll have to take me on a deeper tour of the comic fmz to find the excellent ones.

PANORAMA OF THE EMPIRE OF LINN--(Paulus Edwardum) Frankly, this sort of thing is the kind of Coventry material I'd like to see more of, along with actual fiction. I don't have much interest in the vendettas conducted by fans against each other and the other neurotic aspects of Coventry, but I'm fascinated with the idea of the islands on a Spindizzy replete with Krell city, and the various S&S stories Bruce, Ted, Ruth Berman and others have written around it. Which is a damn dangerous thing to say in LA these days I guess, but what the hell. Too bad the emotional entanglements associated with the thing prevent republication of worthwhile elements of Coventry. (Not that this brief fragment is All That Good, but similar histories of other Coventrian nations told in an entertaining manner would probably make an enjoyable anthology, if combined with action type stories. Which is our fantasy world enthusiast comment for this issue.

--Len