



A monthly Thing, published by Eric Bentcliffe, from 47, Alldis Street, Great Moor, Stockport, Cheshire.

During the time since the last issueI've had a great deal of trouble with the ribbon mech on my typer, derved ribbons keep trying to escape into another dimension! Received a postcard from The Kittatinny Mountain Tunnel - from Dick Ellington - and would like to know what Kittatinny derives from? And I've met a girl who actually owns a vary-type bureau - just what I've been looking for all my life!

MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE PLOTTING SHED

Some fans seem to be able to write an excellent article or story at the drop of a beanie - John Berry, Harry Warner, et al - without seemingly having to stop to think. With me it's different, at least as regards stories and articles - on titles I'm good. I have several dozen unused titles here if anyone wants one! I'm one of those backwards-about writers who thinks of a title, is bemused by the brilliance (!) of it, and then gets stuck trying to think of a yarn to match the title. One of the titles I'm most proud of was for an article John Berry wrote after I'd visited him in Northern Ireland (and we'd gone on a minor smuggling operation across an estuary into Eire, cigarettes were our aim, they're cheaper there) and which was published in OOPSLA, "One More Reefer To Cross". As you'll see from this instance my mind works on horribly devious, and punning, channels when titles are in thought. That, (says he proudly) was One Of My Published Titles; I've a long list here though (he admits shamefacedly), to which I've been unable to match stories.

THE CHOCOLATE COVERED GOON, for instance. Which, naturally, was to be a Goon story, and which would involve The Biscuit Works as a means of getting the Goon the necessary colour - from then on, unfortunately, my mind ceased to boggle in the right direction. THE SENILE DECOY, was to be a story involving George Charters and Gilgamesh. I've vague memories of actually having started to write that one, but there's nothing in the file so I must have never got beyond the vague plotting stage. And then there's.... But, no...I don't think I'll reveal any of the other ones just now. I've just had an idea; I think I'll write an article about all my unused titles. Now, if I can only think of a title for it!!

THINGS THAT GO THUD IN THE MORNING

One of the things I'll be able to do with mi is to keep on top of the fanzine review's - I've felt extremely guilty at times about the skimpy fmz comments in TRIODE, but there's always seemed to be something else that must go in. There have been some exceptionally good zines in these past few weeks, too, so without further ado turn over the page and read on.....

And this page is very much in the nature of an experiment - a forced experiment - for I've just discovered that there are no unused stencils in the file, and I've a deadline to meet. The illo which you should see (faintly) in the background is a Rotsler which was originally intended for T. IODE, hence the subliminal advertisement! The stencil, is a Brush Stencil which don't take very kindly to type-faces being pounded on away - so with fingers crossed, I'll start the Fmz Reviews.

CRY of the nameless No. 135. This is the tenth issue of what is probably the most fabulous of the current fanzines - fabulous in the number of issues it has achieved and in its consistently high level of material. Ahem, Tenth ANNIVERSARY issue, that is! There's 104 pages of fascinating type stuff, interesting letters, Wally Weber's MINUTES (which I refuse to believe in but thoroughly enjoy), excellent s-f reviews by Renfrow Pemberton, material by Larry Warner, Dean Grennell, Terry Carr, Bob Leman, Len Moffat et al. PLUS John Berry's very fine account of the Detroit Convention in his THE GOON GOON TEST series. This takes up some thirty odd closely typed pages and makes very fine reading - it's certainly the best piece of reporting in fandom since THE HARP STATESIDE, and I'm not sure that it doesn't even top that. CRY costs 25cents a copy from Box 92, 920 3rd Ave, SEATTLE 4, Wash. U. 1/9 per from John Berry, 31 Campbell park Ave, Belmont, Belfast. Rating, 10.

SHAGGY - L'APPARES No. 47. After this current issue of CRY almost anything would be an anti-climax, but this issue of SHAGGY together with MERETRICIOUS (AND HAPPY NEW YEAR - a horribly wonderful pun) which came with it, is also full of very good stuff. Like CRY, too, it seems full of the fannish X'mas spirit. There are some fifty pages of SHAGGY and here again, I think the best item is the combined report on the Detention, by Jack Harness, Al Lewis, and John Trimble. As you've probably gathered I'm a sucker for good fannish reporting. Bjo Wells, Terry Carr, Ted Johnstone and Robert Bloch are a few of the other contributors, and all seem to be pretty well on top form. SHAGGY RATING 9. MERETRICIOUS is a 'ne-sht' full of X'massy illos and bits, and damned amusing. RATING 9. SHAGGY, like CRY comes out sort of monthly and 1/2. It costs 20cents from 980 White Knoll Drive, Los Angeles 12, California. It doesn't say here who the U.S. rep is - either John Berry or Len Bennett, I think?

SATA Comics No. 11. This is a photolithed take off on Tarzan-type comics, most excellently drawn and reproduced. Bill Pearson (4516 East Glenrosa Ave, Phoenix, Arizona,) did most of the illos and is Responsible - Larry Ivie contributed some equally fine illos. 27cents is the price. Rating 9.

And that seems to be all there's room for this month.

B4B

Best

ROSSLER