



**M** VOL. 3. No. 3. Is a sort of Blazon-substitute from ERIC BENTCLIFFE, 17 Riverside Crescent, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, CW4 7NR. Aided and abetted this issue by DON ALLEN - Guest Artist!

RETURN OF THE MASTER AGAIN.

Beryl and I recently attended a little soiree held by LiG members Stan and Marge Nuttall to welcome back to these shores that well known saviour-of-the-western-hemisphere Sir. William Makepeace Harrison. The Great Man made little of His recent adventures but a rather nasty scar on His kingly probocis hinted that, as usual, his exploits had not been entirely without incident; as did his obvious exhaustion after mixing the cocktails before dinner! Whilst he was unable, for reasons of National Security, to regale us with details of His recent journeyings, he was able to let me have an expurgated account of a

recent exploit for publication in BLAZON. Written, as always (Curse it!), in a remote Hindi dialect by His able (?) leutenants Hurstmonceaux and Faversham.

- " He comes here, cats all the caviar, scoffs all the smoked salmon, trifles with me trout, and then complains about the service! " - " Well, you said you wanted proof that I wasn't just a figment of your tortured imagination, didn't you! "

Also present at the gathering were Norman and Ina Shorrock and a very pleasant evening rapidly became a very pleasant morning. Highlight of the varied entertainments offered was probably Norman Shorrock's fine interpretation of the Princess Tango Rock, which went down very well - as did Norman. And perhaps an indication of the excellence of the Nuttall hospitality can be gathered from the rumour that after the Bobington-bound Shorrock taxi had passed through the Mersey Tunnel, the tunnel had to be closed briefly for the air to be recycled.....

GOLDEN AGE LP TO BE RELEASED;

With the current wave of nostalgia comes glad tidings to all fan. A spokesman for E.M. Adio said that the much publicised Golden Age LP would be in the shops by Feb'73. (( Reports our Disco-correspondent, Don Allen)) Tracks feature many BNF's, originally 70's, but later became 45's and now are 33's. Ving Clarke presents his evergreen "Tears" with duplicator accompaniment. Norman & Ina Shorrock perform their famous Blog Dance ( excellent in stereo) and Archie Mercer & his Fish sing "Caravan". Other tracks include; a harp recital from Walt Willis, "The Laughing Policeman" by John Berry. The brothers Eric Bentcliffe and Terry Jeeves try-odes to various things while the Don Allen trio set-a-lite musical accompaniment. Ethel Lindsay does her fantastic fan dance on roller-skates with the Birmingham Go-Go Dancers lead by Pete Weston. Excellent value for money, and worth the price alone is Ron Bennett's school-dinner protest song "Veal Meat Again".....

A POLL NAMED FRED

It's fan-traditional at this time of year to look back on the things that have thudded through the letter-box in the past months and, attempt, to assess their value. This, I would stress, is a purely personal type poll and obviously prejudiced by the writers previous incarnation in a pto...

much more active Fannish ( I'll define that word on another occasion, for it obviously does not have the same meaning now that it had a decade ago ) Fandom. The 'poll' is also not intended to be any kind of exact survey of U.K. fan-publishing, for not every current publishing-giant has addressed his fanzine this way. However, I think I've received a large enough cross-section of what is now being published in the U.K. to jump at conclusions and offer unsolicited testimonials! BEST U.K. FANZINE - No Award, for I haven't received anything I consider worthy of this title. I'm going to hedge the issue instead and name MAYA as top for repro! and layout, and EGG as Most Enjoyable. THE FANZINE MOST LIKELY TO - LURK, which, though not technically a gon-zine is better than most that are, and if Pat & Mike drop their ompa-mailing comments from the copies circulated generally, could become quite a good fnz. BEST FANZINE ARTICLE ( Fan-written ) Ella Parker's account of her Apollo-trip in SCOTTISHE. BEST FANZINE ARTICLE ( pro-written ) Anne McCaffrey's revised Worcester speech in LURK. BEST ARTIST - Harry Bell. BEST UNPUBLISHED FANZINE - BLAZON! BEST NEWSZINE - CHECKPOINT.

### LAST WORD ON PAGE TWENTY EIGHT...

And since no poll would be complete without a WORST OF I'm going to make a collective award to all those who find it necessary to garbish their writings with graffitic terminology - no, their usage doesn't shock me, just disapoints me. Good fannish writing has always been characterised by the use of witty, descriptive and inventive language, and I don't find the use of four-letter words either witty, inventive, or descriptive of anything other than the writers paucity of wit. I'll even suggest an award for the BEST NEW FANNISH WORD of 1973, if it will help! And before anyone rears up and says 'but these words are in contemporary usage' or, that T\*E\*D W\*I\*T\*E defends their use as being necessary to convey the modern idiom when writing s-f...might I say that science-fiction is (generally) set in the future and there's no guarantee that the inhabitants of the future are going to be possessed of a limited (and limiting) vocabulary - after all, everyone will be university-educated and literate in the future, won't they? And surely, they are in general usage, they have been (in and form or another) for centuries, but I don't recall many lasting works of literature that have found the need to use them.

### THIRTY YEARS BACK

I was editing a thing called SPACE TIMES for the Manchester based Nor'west Science Fantasy Club and just for the hell of it I've just unearthed the combined December '52 - Jan'53 issue; which, I note cost 6d a copy to produce! Terry Jeeves, that issue, was furthering his spoof-science of 'Thermomagnetism' which, is no longer as spurious as it was then...Vin Clarke had a picco therein on 'The Saga of Hector Q. Drainingboard' which I must reprint one of these days. ST itself, wasn't a particularly good fnz, but it was published in somewhat happier times both for fandom and civilisation. Mayhap with the start of a new fannish year U.K. fandom can seek to regain some of the mad faanishness that was, and enjoy itself a little more...all it takes is imagination!



And now, for our Asian viewers, we present 'Journey Hindu Space'

more...all it takes is imagination!