

N I D D H O G G R 7

NIDDHOGGR 7 is, as usual, written and stencilled by Dave Hulan, 19018 Bryant St., Northridge, California, 91325, Ph. 349-6922, for the 16th Distribution of Apa-L. It will be LASFSRexed again, since the Rex is again operating (or was as of last night, if no one has done anything to it since then), thank Ghu. And it is, of course, J8tun Publication #63. Illo by Joe Staton.

Comments on the Last Several

Since I haven't done any DCs (except on Tom's zine) since the 11th Distribution, there is a lot of catching up to be done. That being the case, with my typical lazy attitude I won't do it, unless I see something especially worth commenting on - like a comment to me. Except for the last two, that is...



Gallant Gallstone 12 - Harness: While the quality of reproduction attainable from a Tower closed-drum mimeo is not as high as the quality obtainable from a Rex or Gestetner, I will match most of what I turned out on my Tower against most of what I've seen turned out on Owen's Rex without the least fear of unfavorable comment. Someone who really works at getting the most out of a silk-screen machine can get outstanding results, granted, but someone who cares about his repro can also get excellent results from the Sears product. And, as I said before, I used Sears ink (which is Vari-Color Kontrol-Flo in a clever plastic disguise - the whole Sears duplicator line is Vari-Color, for that matter) the whole time I had my Tower and never had any trouble with it. It doesn't mix with any other kind of ink, though; that's probably what happened to Bailes. If there was any other kind of ink in his machine when he put the Sears ink in it would have made the latter congeal.

MaLaise 10 - Van Arnam: I have no objection to the use of wd, shd, etc. in writing; however, Walter does use abbreviations in his writing (whether those particular ones or not I'm not sure), and whenever I see them I am reminded of him - and that's someone I'd just as soon not be reminded of, although as he is getting less and less active and you're getting more active maybe I'll come to associate them with you - which would be Better.

Actually I'm not sure if I've ever read the magazine version of COSMIC ENGINEERS, and if I did it was probably at 3 AM some morning when my critical facilities (such as they are) were dulled. I first read it in the hardcover edition, from a library, and I liked it then. I still liked it when I reread it from another library later on, and if I read the mag version I must have liked it then because I still remember it with pleasure. If the mag version is that different I guess I will pick up the PB, after it's been out long enough I can pick it up used at a lower price.

I could catch up to you easily if I put all my apa stuff, past and present, into apa-L. I had 50-odd pages in the last SAPS mailing alone. But I don't think it's worth it, personally. I reprint a good bit of stuff from one apa into another, but everything?

Deception 12 - Mann: A free-wheel button is the little button on the left-hand end of a typer platen which, when depressed, disengages the rotating portion of the platen from the ratchet-type arrangement which gives the click-type line spacing. I made up the name for it because I don't know what it's properly called. It's what lets you type between lines (there is another way you can do that, too, on some typers - there's a lever which disengages the stud that positions the platen at the click stops, too. If you use this, the platen returns to its original line when you release it; if you use the button, it remains where it is when the button is released and starts a new spacing setup). Boy that was clear. I guess you know what I mean, though. If not I'll draw you a picture - I can't draw either.

Ipzik! 15 - Bailes: We have plenty of bombers that can fly higher than the Chinese anti-aircraft weapons can shoot. That's no sweat. As for what the rest of the world will think, I agree they would probably think ill of us, but that's only because they, like John Boardman, think things we do are bad whatever they are, and things Red China does are good, whatever they are, because we're white and they aren't ("white" isn't a good term, because the Arabs and Indians, while Caucasian, are Good Guys - "Europeans" would be better if you understand natives of other continents to be Europeans if they derived from Europe within the last 2000 years.). But considered logically, it looks to me like we're at least taking a step in the direction the Ban-the-Bombers want - like, banning the Chinese bomb (which, pace World Opinion, is certainly more likely to cause a nuclear war than the American-Russian-British-French bombs, because the Chinese have so much less to lose). Why would it be right for us to do away with our bombs, but wrong to do away with other people's? Or rather, why is it wrong for us to have a bomb, and right for the Chinese? And if it's wrong for them to have it, what's wrong with our taking it away? I always like liberals to make sense, seldom as they do... (referring to the Boardman-types, and others when they're making like Boardman.)

Poltroon Babble 14 - Blackbeard: Deliver unto me C.L. Moore's current name and address and as soon as I can get a copy of the club letterhead from the Secretary or whoever has it (I don't) I'll send her the written invite. Nowt would please me more; I'm a #1 Moore fan from a long way back - ever since I read "Promised Land" and "Paradise Street" in ASF back when I was first getting interested in mag stf. Those were O'Donnell stories, but they read much more like the independent Moore than the independent Kuttner. They're still among my favorites.

Random Thoughts - Stine: "Freedom is merely the slavery we happen to enjoy" is not necessarily Determinist propaganda - consider that there are all kinds of freedom, some of which are mutually incompatible. A slave has, to a considerable extent, freedom from responsibility to look after himself - which, if it is the freedom that he is most concerned with, is the freedom he wants. Freedom is always limited by one factor or another, since 100% true freedom would be possible only to a genuine monotheistic God who was wholly omnipotent. Therefore at most one individual in the Universe possesses complete freedom - and beyond that, freedom is relative, with a necessity for swapping one kind of freedom for another. Rand wants to have freedom from force, essentially - which I consider absolutely unworkable. However, I am, like Dian in reverse, a practicing, not a preaching non-Objectivist - I consider the philosophy silly, but not dangerous. If a majority of people were convinced of its rightness it might even work, but they won't be and it won't. But go your Angry way, ol' buddy, and seefficare.

Jerboa 1 - Thorne: If the Bounce-o-Graph is what I think it is, it's the same thing Joe Staton uses for his SFPA stuff. Have you seen it? If you have, you'd know why it is Not A Good Thing.

Rabanos Radiactivos - Patten: Well, Tom didn't blackmail me exactly like that - I had just recently finished typing up 12 pages of Lee Jacobs' Quebec report for SAPS & FAPA, and was somewhat Under The Influence - which is to say that I made most of the scene up, after the manner of LeeJ. However, Tom did withdraw a proffered *complete* distribution when I said I wouldn't be making the next one; after I explained why he very kindly offered to get Don to run Niddh off for me, an offer which I accepted. I hope no one thought I was being serious in that little canard!

- Gold: The philosophy in STRANGER is essential to it, yes. That was my point. The construction of STRANGER is such that you must consider the philosophy in order to make any sense out of the story. Since I don't agree with the philosophy, I found little value in the book. By contrast, STARSHIP TROOPERS also has a great deal of philosophy in it, but the story is there without the philosophy, and one can enjoy the story without agreeing with the philosophy.

I admit that I am somewhat prejudiced against STRANGER; purely because of the author's Big Name and some half-baked sexual philosophy, it won a Hugo over the best SF novel of recent years, DARK UNIVERSE. I'll never forgive fandom for that...

Grimalkin 6 - Ellie Turner: Didn't you get the Newsletters announcing the Christmas and New Years' parties? I did. Maybe they didn't have your address or something; there was certainly a Newsletter published on the subject. Then there was a post-card Newsletter announcing the changed election date. There will be one next week, announcing several items of business. But Newsletters are somewhat expensive to bring out - they average around \$7.50 each. If they bring in people to meetings, it pays for itself, but as long as there are no programs newsletters announcing that fact aren't going to get anyone to come.

Does anyone want to volunteer to secure us a program? I'm working on it, but I'm a relative newcomer in town and my local contacts are limited. Anyone with a program idea need only mention it to me - if they're willing to do the legwork.

Hey, is the name of this "Grimalkin" or "Gremlinkin"? I thought it was the latter, but the title heading on this is the former, and then I notice that throughout the text you refer to it as the latter. Did someone else do the title lettering, did you forget the name of your own zine, or is there some Esoteric Significance?

Looky here - all finished with comments and about 1/3 page to go. What shall I do with so much space? Well, I could write an article - like "What I know about Ayn Rand". It should fit nicely on 1/3 of a page. But then I'd be revealing that I know more about her than most of the people who write about her in Apa-L...

So I won't do that. Instead, I'll say something nasty about John Boardman. John Boardman thinks like John Boardman. There - that's the worst sort of insult I can think of.

Ten more lines. Somewhere I have to fill them. I could fill them with an illo, except that I can't draw and I have no illos a full page wide and one inch high in my art file. I would think that there would be a great demand for "Squinch-man" type artwork from fans - after all, what is more common than to find yourself down near the bottom of a page and all written out, so you have to engage in pointless natter like this.

Speaking of "Squinch-man" reminds me - all you comix fen out there - does anyone, besides me, remember Wonder Worm? He was a real genuine costumed comic hero type who said a certain word and was transformed from plain Willie Worm into *N*O*N*D*E*R*V*O*R*M*. Hitting him on the head turned him back, and he forgot all about Wonder-worm, even how to change, until he accidentally hit upon the Word again. Anyone else remember him? He appeared at least once in around 1945, maybe late '44.