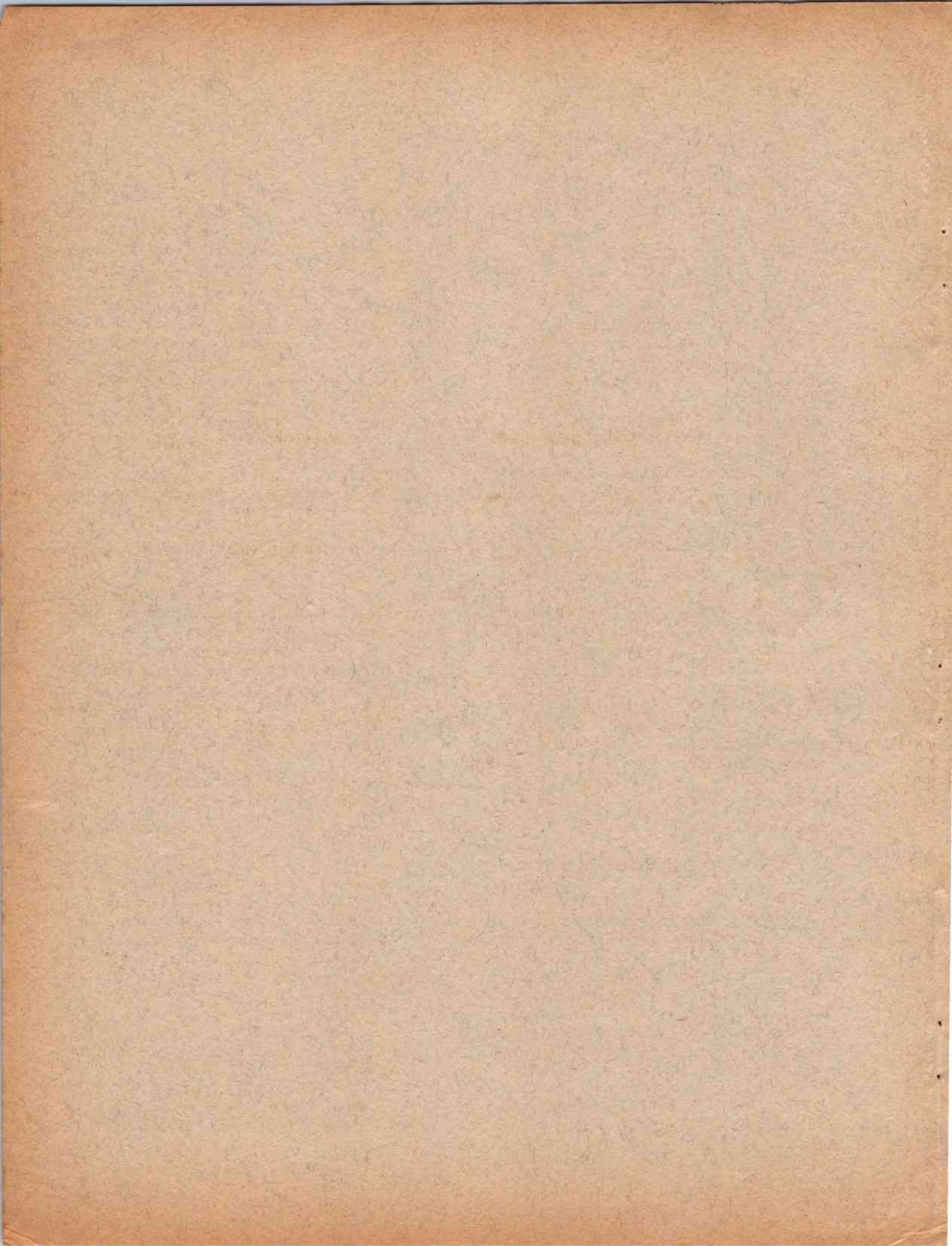


PHOENIX 7





# PHOENIX 7

june '63

Er, this is the fanzine that once upon a time you used to receive quite regularly. The last issue came out in December '61, but you can read your calendar all you want to because I'll resent the implication that I'm a year and a half behind schedule. I won't deny it, but I'll resent it, mainly since the last issue was number 5 and this one is number 7. Somewhere in there both you and I have missed an issue, but I miss it more than you do because I spent more time on it. I have no idea what Ted White has been doing with number 6 for the last half-year, and I'll ask him again to send me some word about it. Better than half of it isn't going to be worth reading if it doesn't get published soon, and I want someone else to run it off if White hasn't got the time to do it now. I don't know what his troubles are, but it doesn't take six months to rewrap a couple dozen stencils and a check and leave them at the post office. If White doesn't get around to it for another few months it won't be worth the powder needed to blow it to hell, which is sort of deflation all the way around.

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Hey, Gang = science fiction!

I just finished reading two Eric Frank Russell-ish type novels, the better of which was written by Russell himself, naturally. Bill Temple's *BATTLE ON VENUS* is improved by the occasional segments where he imitated Russell-ish characters, dialog, and situations, but when you follow-up B.O.V. with Russell's latest book, *THE GREAT EXPLOSION*, it's obvious that Temple can't beat EFR at his own game = or even come close. Russell's characters are ridiculous, his dialog is insane, and his plot situations are outrageous. These are his good points. Too bad the Torquil hardcover edition of *THE GREAT EXPLOSION* wasn't well distributed; I think it's the best sf novel of '62 (which isn't saying much, considering the competition).

Next-issue PHOENIX will have another non-funny science fiction interlino. Never let it be said that I don't bow down to the tribal Gods.

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What's newt about Television?

I don't want to be unjustly accused of riding around on my pushcart too much, but I recently heard someone say something amusing about Newton Minow's general health and mental capacity. James Dean remarked, on the *TONIGHT* show, that Minow must be vastly under-rating the intelligence of people if he doesn't feel that they know enuf to change channels when they tune in a program that they don't like. Of course, Minow may not think that we're all fruit in the same basket, but he does think that most of us aren't competent when it comes to judging quality or the lack of it. Judging is the job of the FCC, in his opinion, but whothell watches tv, anyway? The networks know what their viewers like and set up their programming schedules on something of a ratio basis. So who does all the grotching = the minorities, who aren't satisfied with their just proportion. The largest voice gets back most of the echo, but the small voice, however much it bitches, still gets its percentage. Dean remarked that when you can't find a program that suits you, it might be worthwhile to turn the damned set off and re-discover reading.

I don't know whether television has gotten better than it used to be, or Neut Minow is wrong. This last winter I've had time to expand my tv-habit from a small circle of regular shows to some that I hadn't seen before, and I've discovered a number of 'oasis' of quality in this vast wasteland. Well, maybe I can't un-qualifyingly call them quality, but I can leave the back door open by saying that I like them = and anything which entertains me moves me to think that it must have some good points. Quality, I would suppose, is subjective almost by definition. Anyhow = I'm starting to talk like Buck Coulson = last winter I was looking at the box more. I found a number of worthwhile programs, among which are the Johnny Carson TONIGHT show, SAM BENEDICT, THE DAKOTAS, THE DEFENDERS, the new hour-long TWILIGHT ZONE, the new GUNSMOKE, and the BOZO SHOW. I'll tell you about the BOZO show later, if you remind me.

Censorship and atheism have been handled on the two lawyer programs, SAM and DEFENDERS. Both shows have had an episode on censorship, and both of these scripts have been quite similar. In both, a small-town ordinance prohibiting 'dirty books' has been abolished, after much propaganda about the evils of censorship. In one show, a teacher was arrested for having his students read books which were banned by the local 'Pure Books League,' and in the other an author, who was on a book-shop tour autographing copies of his novel, was jailed for having written a 'dirty book'. I can't help feeling that these shows will discourage towns and cities from passing similar ordinances, since these shows make it clear that such laws are definitely un-constitutional = not to mention that they're wrong, and stupid. Since there are towns which have employed even more ridiculous forms of censorship (banning the Tarzan books, banning films which show Russian children playing happily, banning a children's book which has a scene where a white rabbit and a black rabbit are frolicking together, etc.), television can be a help in stopping such

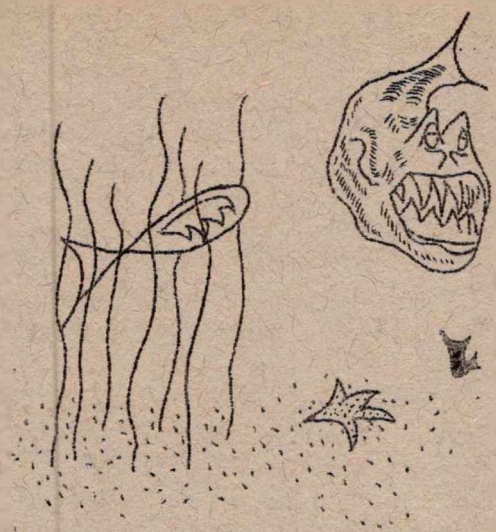
nonsense. These two excellently written and acted shows perhaps indicate just how useful a medium television can be. If the quality of the script, and of the acting, is really outstanding, the viewer is impressed. If the show carries a blunt message as well, then television can be used as a vehicle to influence public opinion. I only hope that it's used correctly.



Listen - you steal one of Coulson's ragweed cigarettes and light it. I'll take it upstairs and set it in Breen's room while he's sleeping.

which could possibly be blamed on a religious casting director, mainly because the actor who played the atheist was not suited for the lines which he had. Also, atheism had to be partly rationalized. The climax of the show, where it had been decided that the teacher could not be expelled for his beliefs, ended with a quote from some ancient philosopher: "Conscience is a God to every mortal". The religious people could not accept, as right and just, the decision that the atheist could stay on at the school, and this piece of philosophy was an attempt to sooth them by pointing out that even heathens have some sort of guiding hand. Perhaps it was an attempt to say that ethics and morals can survive without religion, I don't know. I found many places for comment hooks in this show, perhaps the most prominent of which was a piece of tinker-toy thinking by some religious head, who had nothing against atheism because "There is no such thing as an atheist, only people who think they are atheists." This point has come up in most every religious discussion which I've ever been in, and I find it has its parallels in most every discussion.

I mentioned a show which concerned atheism. This was an episode of the DEFENDERS. There were many good points put across to show that atheism is not a dirty and evil thing, but the show wasn't as good as either of the two on censorship. First of all, the actor (playing the atheist schoolteacher, who was to be expelled because of his beliefs or opinions) was sort of a Casper Milktoast-ish character = a fault



When two people hold dissimilar opinions, and have a disagreement, it's not uncommon to find that each feels that the other knows that he is wrong and that the other fellow is right. The bigger, the more important, the disagreement, the more you'll find instances of this type of thinking. Sometimes it's true = a person knows or suspects that he's wrong, and won't admit it = but such blanket statements as "There is no such thing as an atheist, only people who think they are atheists", and all similar statements, are stupid almost beyond belief. I expect any day now to hear someone say "There is no such thing as a Communist, only people who think they are Communists", or, "There is no such thing as racial prejudice, only people who think they hate negroes, or jews, or italians, or---". Any day now.

I've been very impressed with the new, expanded, TWISLIGHT ZONE, and sorry to hear that it's going back to its half-hour format. But if TZ doesn't win a Hugo for the quality of its new show, perhaps that'll make up for the times when it did.

GUNSMOKE isn't always a good show. Maybe it isn't usually a good show, but I enjoy watching it strictly for the unusual atmosphere which it generates. I suppose you either like the show or you don't. I do. DAKOTAS is a show which stars two of my favorite actors, Larry Ward and Jack Elam. The scripts are above average, and there seems to be more money spent for scenery, location, and camera work than there is for the average western. All these things make the show interesting to me, tho it doesn't even approach the quality of the shows which the last year of WANTED - DEAD OR ALIVE produced. In fact, it isn't even as good as the short-lived THE WESTERNER, but it's probably the second-best western extant (in my opinion, GUNSMOKE holds that dubious distinction). Of course, it's understood that these opinions are just that = opinions. If you want to go by ratings = which seem to be getting the axe = WAGON TRAIN has been #1 for some years now (altho BONANZA, a good show and one of my 'regulars', may now hold that position). I never particularly cared for the show, tho when Ward Bond was with it I occassionally enjoyed an episode. When he died, it went to hell in an eggbasket, becoming more soap-operaish every week.

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"Cross your legs = we've only got one nail left!"

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I imagine most every fan has seen the new TONIGHT show, under Johnny Carson. Of all the ones who've had this show, mainly Allen and Paar, none seem to have been as good as Carson has to date; and it looks like he'll be getting even better. He's both a comic and a comedian, in that he not only says funny things, but he's also a funny person. He's extremely witty, and I wish there were more of him on the show and less 'guests'. That is, unless these guests are such flaky characters like author-comedian Jack Douglas ("My Brother Was An Only Child") or Shel Silverstein. Silverstein sings these nutty songs (he's got two albums out: "Inside Folk Songs" and "Hairy Jazz"), some of which they even allow him to do on tv. This show gets more damned letters than any other = mostly complaints launching for a stricter form of censorship. Like the time Little Egypt did the belly-dance in little more than a number of graceful movements and a few bits of silk (her act was followed by a minister who called himself a "christian

agnostic"). Mostly the people who write in watch the show all the way thru; they never seem to turn the show off if it offends them... I think this program would be better if Carson read some of these letters on the air.

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I bought a pack of Imperial cigarettes, whose extra length is said to act as a filter. They weren't any good, tho. I kept losing the filter everytime I smoked one of them down to normal size.

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I think I promised to tell you about the BOZO show. Besides the numerous Sunday morning religious programs, this is something every mother's child should watch. I don't always get to see it, but I try to catch the show at least once or twice a week. The setup for this program is similar to many of those slanted for pre-teen children = a man (in this case Bozo the Clown) talks to some of the kids in his small audience, and shows a few cartoons. The entire show runs only twenty minutes. I'd like to point out, tho, that there are different BOZO shows all over the country, with different men in the 'starring role'. I don't know the name of the guy I'm talking about, and you might not be able to get the same BOZO show which I get, but it doesn't matter because you probably won't watch it anyway even if you have managed to get this far into my review of the show. Where was I... I was going to tell you why I like to watch this crummy thing. It's really a scream. This guy is always saying something funny. Like the time when the five-year old with the five baby-sitters came onto the show, and he asked why the kid needed so many sitters. Immediately upon saying this the kid starts bawling like hell, and when the storm had subsided he said "Well, now we know, don't we?". This only made the kid worse, and in order to cut this racket down he had to use a hand-mike and do away with the boom, or whatever the hell it's called. With his crazy and cumbersome costume he keeps spilling the chocolate drink they're sponsoring, and sometimes he comes in with what looks to me like a hangover and displays exaggerated patience towards both the kids and the entire show. I really don't think it's worth your time to watch it, but I thought I'd tell you about it anyway = even if it isn't newtonminow approved. That's quite enuf about the BOZO show, I think.

I heard somewhere that Newton Minow is resigning from the FCC. It must be rough to feel so discouraged and rejected, and I only hope that wherever Newton Minow goes peace will go with him. Peace on you, Newt.

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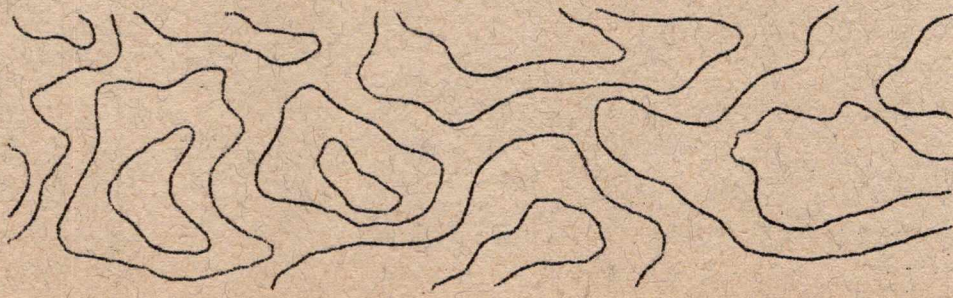
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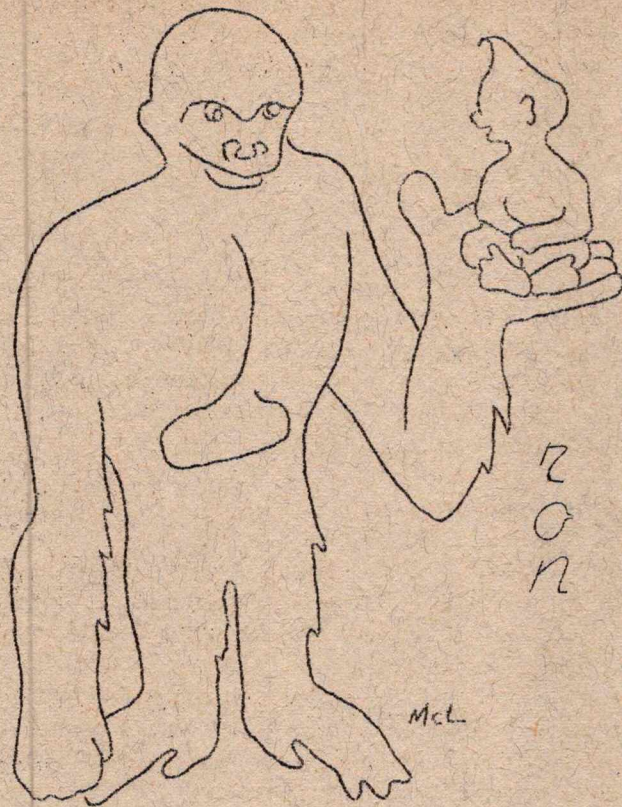
"Who are you attacking now, Dave Locke?" +  
"God, that's a stupid question." +  
++  
blame everything on my lousy memory. + Credit goes to Lewis Grant, who gave me this interlino at the Chicon. He didn't use my name, and this isn't his exact wording =

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enuf about television, too. In fact, that's quite





# THE 'Beasts' OF TARZAN

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It was in 1918, 6 years after Edgar Rice Burroughs wrote and published the first of the Tarzan books, when the apeman made his screen debut in an 8 chapter serial which was appropriately entitled **TARZAN OF THE APES**. This film starred the former strong man Elmo Lincoln and for the first time in motion picture history audiences everywhere thrilled to the celluloid combats between the white-ape Tarzan and the beasts of the jungle. This fantastic hit that for the past 45 ventures have been shown on thousands of theaters all over the world.

gle. The film proved to be such a years the stories of Tarzan's adventures of theater screens all over

Gene Pollar succeeded Lincoln after Elmo's **ROMANCE OF TARZAN** with the 1920 production of **THE RETURN OF TARZAN**, but his jungle career was short-lived and in the same year P. Dempsey Tabler took over the role for **THE SON OF TARZAN**. Following Tabler was Jim Pierce in **TARZAN AND THE GOLDEN LION** in 1927. It's interesting to note that this particular flicker also starred an actor who was at that time a comparative unknown but who was to shock the world 5 years later when he became the menacing monster in the electrifying film **FRANKENSTEIN** = William Henry Pratt, better known to the monster audience as Boris Karloff.

Jim Pierce lasted only 1 jungle adventure, though, and then Frank Merrill, who had once won "the world's most perfect man" title was cast in **TARZAN THE MIGHTY** and **TARZAN THE TIGER**, both Universal serials.

By the time a new apeman film was in preparation again, the "talkies" were the thing of the day and MGM decided to produce the first Tarzan film with full sound. Now the audiences could hear the ferocious roaring of Numa the lion, the weird trumpeting of Tantor the elephant, the savage victory cry of the jungle-bred white man; and Johnny Weissmuller in **TARZAN THE APE MAN** scored an astounding success with the public. In that film he introduced the call of the apes and it was to be the cry heard 'round the world'.

The motion picture was packed with adventure from beginning to end. The theatre-goers gasped in amazement when Tarzan Weissmuller dropped into the gorilla pit to make battle with Zugor, the giant ape; and they held their breath excitedly as Tarzan swang from tree to tree at perilous heights.

Out of all the Tarzans, both preceding and following him, Johnny Weissmuller encountered more lost lands and forgotten races than any of the others. In *TARZAN AND THE LEOPARD WOMAN* he was captured by the fanatical leopard-goddess Acquanetta while in *TARZAN AND HIS MATE* the apeman and his jungle bride Jane journeyed to the Lost Burial Grounds of the Elephants.

He fought the monstrous vampire bats in *TARZAN ESCAPES* and *TARZAN AND THE AMAZONS* saw him protecting an entire valley of women from villainous traders.

Along with Johnny Sheffield, who portrayed Tarzan's son 'Boy,' he passed thru the land of prehistoric animals in *TARZAN'S DESERT MYSTERY*. Two other "monsters" presented themselves to Tarzan in this film. Tarzan was nearly squeezed to death by man-eating plants, but he was rescued in time by his faithful jungle friend Tantor the elephant. In yet another scene he was pitted against a giant spider when Boy accidentally happened upon the beast's lair.\*

Tarzan tangled with perhaps the most fiendish of all monsters in *TARZAN TRIUMPHS* when he opposed a group of Nazis. Then there was *TARZAN AND THE MERMAIDS* which saw him wage war against a sinister sea-god. Many has been the time that the apeman fought to the death with lions and crocodiles and other denizens of the jungle. The underwater battle in *TARZAN AND HIS MATE* depicted one of the largest crocs ever filmed.

Herman Brix, known today as Bruce Bennett, played Tarzan in *THE NEW ADVENTURES OF TARZAN* and followed that film up with *TARZAN AND THE GREEN GODDESS*. In the former film Brix tangled with natives who were worshippers of a sacred Mayan idol.

Even Flash Gordon got into the act. Buster Crabbe portrayed the legendary jungle hero in *TARZAN THE FEARLESS* in which he had fallen into the evil hands of the people of Zar, God of the Emerald Fingers.

In 1938 Sol Lesser released *TARZAN'S REVENGE*, starring Glenn Morris. No monsters this time, but plenty of good old jungle thrills as Tarzan heads a safari into the wilds of the African forest in search of game.

Lex Barker, the 10th actor to be Tarzan, succeeded Weissmuller in the title role with *TARZAN'S MAGIC FOUNTAIN* in 1949. Here we see Tarzan journey to the lost land of a race of people who have discovered the Elixir of Youth. Barker roamed the jungle for 4 more films and then Gordon Scott took the role over in *TARZAN'S HIDDEN JUNGLE*. By this time the movies contained less of the "amazing adventure" and more of the "human danger", but Gordon still battled for his life with a giant boa constrictor in *TARZAN'S FIGHT FOR LIFE*.

After Scott's *TARZAN'S GREATEST ADVENTURE*, MGM remade Weissmuller's 1932 *TARZAN THE APE MAN*, this time with the youthful Denny Miller as Tarzan. Here we are again transported back to the Lost Burial Grounds of the Elephants, but no monsters are on hand to stalk the apeman.

Film heroes may come and film heroes may go, but there can only be one Tarzan of the Apes. Future plans for additional jungle thrillers are now underway, even plans for a Tarzan TV series. No doubt we'll be seeing the white-ape's adventures in our theaters for a good many more years to come. And, who knows? Our great-great grandchildren, in the year 2061, may also have the thrill to rocket down to their local cinema-in-the-sky for the latest exploits of the one, the only, *TARZAN!*

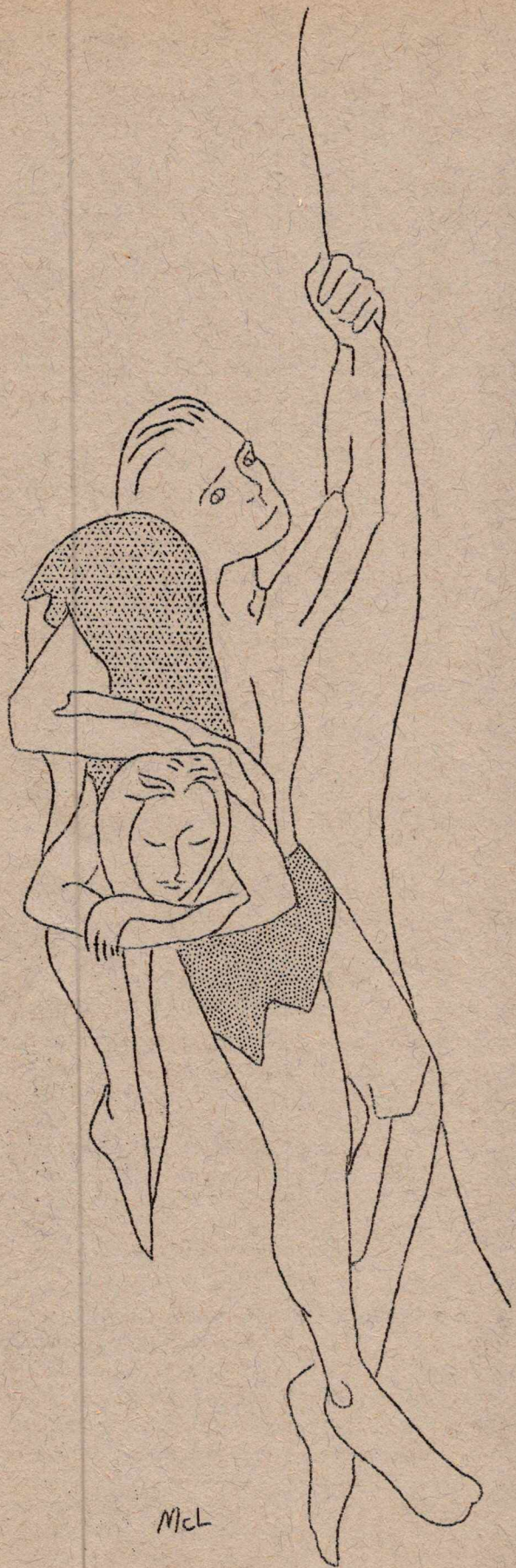
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\* Instead of battling the spider, Tarzan threw the villain at it = and led all the good people out while it was busy eating... DL

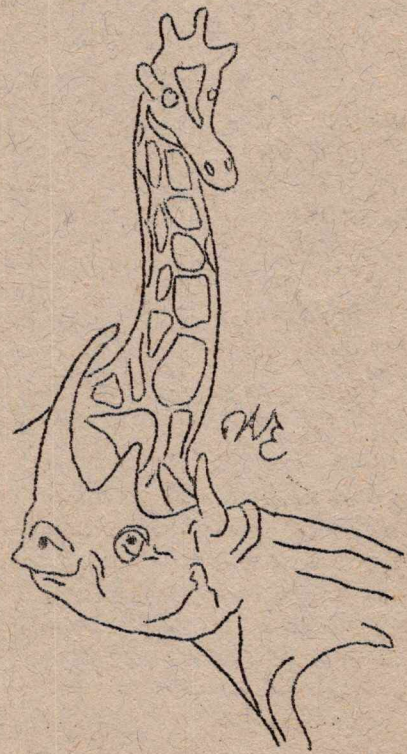
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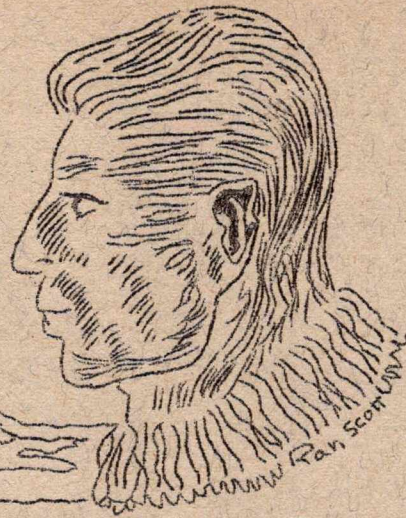
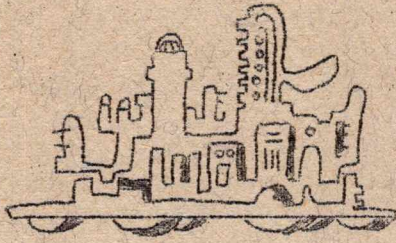


First native to second native: "Have you killed the white bananas?"  
Second native to first: "Yes, we have no bananas."

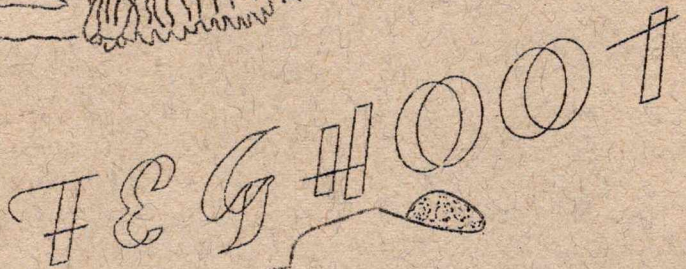


MCL





## The Last



"I've lived a marvelous life, and had many adventures," Ferdinand remarked to his wife one morning over the breakfast force-table. This was the first time Yhilldegard-bup had heard him sound so old and tired, but she'd only been married to him a week and didn't know but what he'd had these same moods with his 33 ex-wives.

Yhilldegard-bup didn't say anything to him. She couldn't. She looked like an earthwoman, but she came from the planet Verrie which circled the star Sirius, and thus was different in many ways. For one thing she could not talk, or 'stanponz' (as the Verriens called it). She did not know that this was why Ferdinand Feghoot had married her, and he felt he could talk enough for the both of them.

Ferdinand smiled warmly at his wife. "I've never told you of any of my adventures, have I, Yhilldegard-bup?" She shook her head. "I'll bet you didn't know it was I who civilized the Mayans," he told her, while buttering another piece of toast. "I traveled back to them before they had founded a sensible government, when their

only law was that the strongest would survive. When I arrived there they had no ruler. Two young men, whose names I forget, were going to fight to the death in order to decide which of them would replace their old ruler who had died of some strange disease called 'lettuse' by the Mayans. Anyway," he said, his eyes aglow, "with my language translator and my ability to talk a mile a minute I finally convinced them to do things the democratic way." A sip of coffee took a pulse-pounding few seconds, and then he was off again. "I gave these people the basic principles of a good government. I showed them the right way, by persuading them to vote one of these strong young men into office. This way, the loser would still be alive and able to help his people in some other way." Ferdinand looked into Yhilldegard-bup's eyes and grinned old man-ishly. "Instead of wasting paper, they voted by a show of hands. And this, my dear, is how we got Mayan-eyes and Mayan-nays."

Abruptly,

jim williams

Yhilldegard-bup leaned across the force-table and stuck a kitchen knife between Ferdinand's ribs. He fell off his force-chair and crashed heavily to the floor. Almost out of his head because of the terrible pain, he was aware that he would die in a few seconds. With a great show of strength he spoke thickly to Yhilldegard-bup, who was standing over him.

"I...I...can't understand. How could...you....do this....  
to...me?"

Yhilldegard-bup whipped a slate out of her purse and wrote furiously. There wasn't much time left for Ferdinand, but with dimming eyesight he read what she had written:

"It was easy," the message on the slate said. "I cannot stanponz."

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from a letter by Bob Jennings, written a year before ATTH:

"It's amazing how these fads seem to come and go. Just a while ago the latest fan-nish fad was disagreeing violently with Redd Boggs, a fad I threw myself into with eagerness and attention as befits a trufan. Now the trend is bitching at Walter Breen, which I shall also throw myself whole heartedly into. Unfortunately if I read the signs right, it's time for everybody to gang up on Bob Jennings (just my persecution complex making itself known), and I don't think I'm going to enjoy that fad much."

part of an LoC from Roy Tackett to CINDER #9:

"By Roscoe, there has been a metamorphosis in CINDER = from a comic fandom fanzine to personal opinion on current events. I must admit that I like the latter form much better so long as you don't go overboard on current events also. You'll be getting the zine classified as "new trend" if you're not careful and then you'll have to go back to comic books."

Join United Lechers = = "Lecher Self Go." .....Dean Latimer

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### CREWTS

cover illo	Pat McLean
1st Tarzan illo	"
last Tarzan illo (on left side of page)	"
" " " (upper right side of page)	VNFrank
Feghoot illo	Randy Scott
All else = lettering & illos = by yho's	

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This issue is run off on the Wabash Cannonball Press, by the Coulsons

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- SOME INFORMAL + + + + +  
 + + + + + RESEARCH CONCERNING + +  
 THE PROBABILITY OF LIFE ON OTHER PLANETS

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The Science Service  
 Grand Jury  
 survey reports that, of  
 all the prominent astron-

omers in the world, 3% believe there is no humanoid life elsewhere in the universe, 62% believe there is, and 35% are non-committal. It is popularly thought that the vast majority of astronomers spend the bulk of their time thinking about the possibilities of life in outer space. This is not the case. A few devote their entire talents and energies to this task, but many are completely unconcerned. With reference to the reports on unidentified flying objects early in the century, one scientist said: "Those people have seen something. What they saw I do not know and I am not curious to know." He was Albert Einstein.

+++++ THE FACTS OF LIFE +++++  
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Before considering the possibilities of life in outer space, we should know something about what

life is.

Life is hard to define. No one really knows what life is, or what living means. Because all living things are made up of elements forming simple compounds, it may be assumed that life came from the simple chemicals of inorganic matter. How this could have come about staggers the imagination of man. Probably the simple molecules became more complex until finally they formed the complex organic molecules that compose living things today.

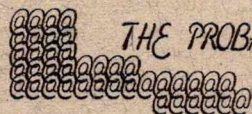
Although science can't say what life is, it can say quite a lot about what it does. We know that life can reduplicate into more life, and carry on its own metabolism. The most complex molecule in the living structure is the protein. It is composed of twenty nucleic acids, and functions as an organic enzyme, an antibody, and a structural element. Nucleic acids control heredity and the synthesis of more protein. Note that all proteins are made up of exactly twenty nucleic acids. It would seem that this is a universal characteristic of life. We might ask: if life exists on other worlds, is it made up of proteins with twenty nucleic acids each? And if life does exist, does it carry out reduplication and metabolism? (We have already designated these as universal processes of the living) If this so called life is not composed of protein and does not carry out living processes, we can hardly consider it life as we know it. It is possible however, that some form of life may have counterparts to proteins which in some way coordinate the activities which we associate with living.

Admitting that life could exist elsewhere in the universe is a far cry from admitting that life like us exists. It took a billion years for man to evolve on earth. A similar species would require a like amount of time, under similar circumstances.

The evolution of life parallels stellar evolution. The energy from the sun formed the complex molecules of living organisms on Earth. For the entire phase of evolution to proceed it is required that a constant outflow of energy be supplied by a star. Also, this outflow of energy may not vary in intensity. All life forms require a constant temperature in order to evolve.

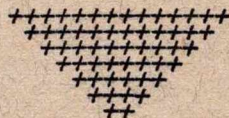
On Earth, life has never been known to exist at a temperature exceeding 175 degrees F. or less than -90 degrees F. We may state that an organism might normally perish at temperatures beyond these extremes. The occasion when the energy output of a star varies widely is when it advances a stage in its evolution. The temperature extremes resulting would end all life and cease evolution at that point.

We have another important point to consider. Man and tree evolved from a common ancestor under similar conditions on the same planet. On a different planet, and under different conditions, how could so random a process as evolution produce a creature even remotely similar to man?



### THE PROBABILITY OF LIFE ON OTHER PLANETS

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We will assume that any life must exist on a planet because we can't conceive of another body or place in which evolution and all the life processes could occur. In other words, we eliminate the possibility of life existing freely in space. Now, we can base our first consideration on the probability of outside life on the probability of stars having planets. Science favors the theory of star and planet formation through the condensation of dust and gas clouds; considerable evidence builds its validity. This process is not a local phenomenon but the basic first step in the evolution of all stars. According to this theory the probability of stars having planets is extremely high. On the other hand, if the planets in our solar system were formed from a stellar accident, such as the passing of two stars so closely that their gravitational pulls crumbled particles from one or both, then the probability of planet formation throughout the universe in this way would be very low. In this case the probability of stars having planets is very low.

Stars have spheres of habitability, called ecospheres, in which life may occur. (We have already stated that life must be provided with an unvariable climate.) Think of a planetary orbit as a circle with the sun as its center. If its radius falls inside the ecosphere, or stretches beyond it, then the planet can not sustain life. It should now be obvious that an ecosphere is not a perfect sphere, but one hollowed out. Of all the planets revolving around star systems only a certain percentage lie within their particular star's ecosphere. Only three planets lie within our sun's ecosphere: Earth, Mars, and Venus. In order for a planet to sustain life it must remain within its star's ecosphere at any point in its revolution. The percentage of stars with ecospheres large enough to envelop one or more planets is quite small. A Polish scientist, Dr. Jan Gadowski, believes that, of the several thousand stars relatively close to us, only three, Epsilon, Eridani, Epsilon Indi, and Tau Ceti, have ecospheres large enough to contain life bearing planets.

There are a number of star systems which are not composed of just one star, but two, and sometimes three. These star systems account for 3 to 5% of the total number of stars in the known universe. The planets revolving about a binary (two star) system must revolve about two centers of gravity. In order for the planets to sustain life, the ecospheres of the two stars must overlap. This is a physical impossibility; therefore, it is an impossibility for life to evolve on these planets.

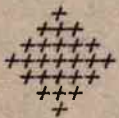
Another condition that is required for a life sustaining planet is a moderately fast rotation. If a planet does not rotate, then it shows only one face to the star for a period long enough to result in temperature extremes. A planet may have its rotation halted by the gravitational pull of its star if its orbit is too small. If the entire ecosphere should lie within this range, no life could possibly occur in the whole system. We can see how each of these instances decreases the probability of outside life greatly.

Keeping the requirements for life in mind, we can now examine the possibilities of life in our own solar system.

To begin with, the sun's ecosphere is approximately one-hundred and fifteen million miles in radius. It includes only the planets Earth, Mars, and Venus. Therefore, only those planets can support life. In addition, Mercury's rotation has been arrested by the sun's gravitational attraction.

On Earth, carbon is an important ingredient of life. One scientist performed an infrared reflection spectrum experiment on Mars and the results indicated a presence of carbonaceous materials. It is believed that organisms on Mars synthesized these compounds. Approximately three eighths of the surface of Mars is covered with what is believed to be vegetation of a sort. Also, over several hundred unnatural looking canals are present on the surface of the planet. Mars is the most likely life bearing planet.

Venus is generally considered to be too hot to support life. It lies on the very inner edge of the ecosphere. It would take a hardy organism to exist and carry out evolution.



### SOME OF THE MORE COLORFUL THEORIES

From the meager amount of scientific data available, astronomers suggest infinite numbers of theories and predictions of life on other planets. Some of these severely test one's imagination. All of them are quite interesting and sometimes even comical.

Dr. Drake of Project Ozma believes that twenty stars within radio telescopic range have planets capable of supporting humanoid life. He says they are probably using television to get in touch with us.

One scientist of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, claims that other civilizations may have hidden their suns by busting up planets and making a hollow ball out of them to catch the sun's heat and light... Shades of Ed Hamilton.

Dr. Carl Sagan of the University of California says that Jupiter can support life. He explains that ultraviolet light from the sun penetrates the atmosphere, then can't escape. The temperature at the surface increases to about 70 degrees F. He calls this process "the greenhouse effect".

Dr. Frederick D. Sisler says that bacteria have invaded the earth from meteorites.

The Panspermia Theory says that spores of living creatures may have traveled through space and germinated on our planet. This theory is unacceptable because it can't be tested.

One newspaper editor spent a day watching a bridge being built on the moon. Two astronomers also noted the phenomenon!

Dr. William Howells, Anthropologist at Harvard, predicts that spacemen will have two hands, four feet, two sexes, one head, and numerous fingers. He claims that two heads would create confusion, many fingers would result in a big brain, and even numbers of limbs provide for symmetrical body structures. I haven't noticed any of our spacemen starting to look like that lately.

There are so many conditions to be considered that it would seem the probability of alien life is very low. There is an important factor missing. (Can you guess what it is? Remember that mankind is hard put to assign percentages and values to a field still in its infant stage.

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Bob Broderick is sort of a 'fringe-fringe' fan. To date his only fanac has been this article and browsing thru my fanzine collection. Bob lives here in Indian Lake, just finished his Fresh year at St. Bonaventure, is 19, has read sf and fantasy for several years, plays a mean game of table tennis, has written some good humorous material, and would appreciate sample copies of fanzines. The only thing I can say against him is that his fiction stinks (and he'd tell you the same thing, but would express it differently).

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THE EDITORIAL EVISITED

This is sort of a throw-together issue; something to let you know that a Phoenix didn't finally die-for-good-and-always after all. What there is of the material I think is good and interesting and such, except maybe for the unpublished 50,000 word Tarzan novella by Edgar Rice Burroughs which I edited down to a two-page article by Ron Haydock. I've had this in my files since April 1961 when I got down on my typewriter and begged Ron to write me something for my gala first issue. Now that Ron is a Dirty Pro he'll probably beat me over the head with a wet gorilla, but I'm publishing the article anyway. My backlog is completely wiped out now, except for a couple of short Williams' pieces (one of which is a Feghoot re-incarnation story....), but I've got lots of promises for the nextish. Always promises. Dave Hulan will wind up his column on UNKNOWN (and may start work on a more detailed, and complete, review/critique of its entire history. Plus index. Plus which I might publish the whole thing as a one-shot. This is assuming that he gets the ambition to turn out such a large piece of work. We all know he's got the ambition, it's just that he's too lazy to do much about it.). Alan Dodd will probably give us an insane account of his latest vacation. Buck Coulson has promised me something = probably on science fiction art (merely a vehicle he'll use in order to demolish Paul....). Bill Plott may come thru with an article. And maybe some others will show up, too. I'll probably find something to bitch about, and, hopefully, my Friendly Lettercol will be back in all its glory. Flood me with those LoCs & trades.

