

DLEN

S O N O F T H E W S F A J O U R N A L

SF/Fantasy News/Review 'Zine - - - - - 1st January, 1973 Issue (#77)
Editor & Publisher: Don Miller - - - - - 20¢ per copy

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In Brief --

Still urgently need new Australian and U.K. Agents.

No artwork back from Gilliland yet (and Chalker still hasn't found missing offset/electrostencilled work), so TWJ #80 is still waiting in the wings. We are still hoping to get the 'zine out by end of Jan.... And #81 should follow within 1-1½ months (probably reduced in size, sans most of the artwork). After that, we hope to get TWJ back on some kind of schedule, if our equipment and eyes survive the running-off of #'s 80 (around 130 pages) and 81.

Still waiting for questionnaires from overseas readers and traders, so we'll hold off on publication of results a bit longer.

If time permits, we'll run off the form to be sent out to all TWJ and TG subbers re the changeover in subs from TWJ to SOTWJ, and send it out with this and #76 to all TWJ subbers who also receive SOTWJ (TWJ subbers who don't get SOTWJ will get it with TWJ #80). This form must be returned for proper crediting of the remaining issues on your TWJ subs.

Addendum to "The Amateur Press" in this: In comments for IS #6, add "rec'd in FAPA #141".

Mystery fans, "weird menace"/horror fans, S&S/adventure fans, comics fans -- this is your magazine, too; just send us some material and we'll get an occasional section going devoted to your particular phase of the hobby.

SOTWJ is approx. bi-weekly. Subs are 20¢ ea., 12/2, with deposits for automatic extensions accepted in increments of 2. All subs to SOTWJ include and issue(s) of TWJ pubbed during sub (counting as 2 or more issues of SOTWJ sub, depending on length). For info on ads, Overseas Agents, air-mail rates, see #73 or 78, or write ed. Address Code: A, Overseas Agent; C, Contributor; E, Club Exchange; H, Honorary WSFA Member; K, Something of yours is mentioned/reviewed herein; L, WSFA Life Member; M, WSFA Regular Member; N, You are mentioned herein; R, For Review; S, Sample; T, Trade; W, Subber via 1st-class mail (thru # shown*; X, Last issue, unless....; Y, Subber via 3rd-class mail (12/2, sent 2 at time in env.)

-- DLM

TWJ/SOTWJ

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... TO:

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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Radio Notes -- American University's WAMU-FM (which can be received throughout the D.C. area) will broadcast a cross-section of drama, comedy, music of the big bands, mystery, and old-time variety shows from the "golden age" of radio on the weekend of January 19-21. Hosted by John Hickman ("Recollections" and "The American Musical Theatre"), "The Big Broadcast" will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Fri. Jan. 19, with the original version of "The Lone Ranger", followed by: 7:30, "The Great Gildersleeve"; 8:00, "Lux Radio Theatre" ("The African Queen", w/Bogart & Garson); 9:00, "Fibber McGee and Molly"; 9:30, Bing Crosby's variety show; 10:00, "Can You Top This?"; 10:30, "The Life of Father"; 11:00, Guy Lombardo (from N.Y. World's Fair); 11:30, "Three Skeleton Key", starring Vincent Price ("the horror tale of a lighthouse that becomes infested with thousands of rats from a mysterious ship"); 12:00-1 a.m., Ray Kinney's and Leon Kelner's Orchestras. On Sat., Jan. 20, program is: 7:00 p.m., "One Man's Family"; 7:15, "Vic 'n' Sade"; 7:30 "The Contented Hour" (Buddy Clark & Percy Faith); 7:45, The Cities Service Concert; 8:00, "The Edgar Bergen-Charlie McCarthy Show"; 8:30, "The FBI in War and Peace" ("Paid in Full"); 9:30, "Gunsmoke" (with William Conrad); 10:00, Eddie Cantor subs for Bob Hope; 10:30, "Dragnet"; 11:00, Ted Lewis & his orch; 11:30, "Inner Sanctum" ("Terror by Night", starring Agnes Moorhead); 12-1 a.m., Vincent Lopez & his orch, & Jonah Jones & his quartet. On Sun., Jan. 21, program is: 7:00, "The Jack Benny Program"; 7:30, "The Fitch Bandwagon"; 8:00, "Town Hall Tonight"; 9:00, "Manhattan Marry-Go-Round"; 9:30, "Escape" (H.G. Wells' "The Time Machine"); 10:00, "Amos 'n' Andy"; 10:30, "The Odyssey of Runyon Jones" (by the Columbia Workshop); 11:00, Glenn Miller & his orch; 11:30, "X Minus One" ("There Shall Come Soft Rains", by Ray Bradbury, and "Zero Hour", also by Bradbury; narration by Norman Rose); 12:00, "Adventures by Morse" ("A Coffin for the Lady"); 12:30, Buddy Baer & his orch. (The times of shows of probable interest to SF/Fantasy fans are underlined; 12:00 starting times of last features on Jan. 19 & 20 are assumed (actual time not given).)

WETA-FM (PBS Network) has revised and expanded its airing of old-time radio. On Mondays, at 8 p.m., it will broadcast "The Shadow"; on Tues., at 8 p.m., it will air "Fibber McGee & Molly", and on Wed., at 8 p.m., it will present "The Lone Ranger". (All are 1/2-hour rebroadcasts of original network radio programs.) On Thurs. at 8 during Jan. & Feb. it will broadcast a new series of contemporary radio drama, "Earplay", on an experimental basis.

Baltimore FM station WBJC's "Nostalgia Radio Productions" team (Phil Fister, Big Bands; Owens Pomeroy, Old Time Radio; Kevin Lysghett, Music of the 40's, Marty Cohen, Profile of a Program) is the moving force behind "Sounds Like Yesterday" (Mon.-Fri., 7-8 p.m. January schedule: 1, "Treasure of Sierra Madre" (Lux Radio Theatre); 2, "Big Band Remote"; 3, "Suspense" (1946); 4, "X Minus One" (1950); 5, "Shadow of Fu Manchu" (Ch. 18); 8, "Shadow of Fu Manchu" (Conclusion); 9, "Amos 'n' Andy" (1945); 10, "The Shadow" ("The Shadow's Revenge", 1947); 11, "Red Ryder" (Mid-40's); 12, "Frankenstein" (Ch. 1; 1931); 15, "Frankenstein" (Ch. 2); 16, Not listed; 17, "Grand Ole Opry" (1947); 18, "Lights Out" ("Drop Dead", 1947); 19, "Frankenstein" (Ch. 3); 22, "Frankenstein" (Ch. 4); 23, Bob Hope Show (1945); 24, "Lone Ranger" (1947); 25, "Mr. President" (1944); 26, "Frankenstein" (Ch. 5); 29, "Frankenstein" (Ch. 6); 30, "Baby Snooks" (1946); 31, "The Falcon" (1943).

Baltimore FM station WBAL will present Shakespeare's "Richard II" on the 28th of Jan., at 4 p.m.

TV Notes -- Did anyone see the late movie, A Severed Head (1970; based on Iris Murdoch novel; screenplay by Frederic Raphael, dir. by Dick Clement; starring Ian Holm, Lee Remick, Richard Attenborough, Claire Bloom, & Jennie Linden), a couple of weeks back? It drew good reviews, but we missed it, and would like to know if it's worth staying up for next time around.... ## Wilkie Collins' "The Moonstone" (the first full-length detective story ever written) is showing on NET's "Masterpiece Theater". ## Michael Crichton's Binary was recently shown as a made-for-TV movie, Pursuit. Starring E.G. Marshall and Ben Gazzara, it had plenty of suspense, but seemed to move much too slowly (to fill up 90 minutes).

Operational Procedures
Supervised by
Richard Delap

Once more F&SF displays the best cross-section of types of material and quality of product, despite the problems with a shoddy printer which has not helped the magazine's appearance. GALAXY places a reasonable second, but AMAZING and ANALOG continue to offer an extremely weak lineup of stories. Features and articles continue much the same as always, with Avram Davidson making a welcome appearance in F&SF's book column with a long, very well done discussion of Ellison's 8th wonder of the sf world, Again, Dangerous Visions. And while I don't often discuss the artwork in the magazines (ice cream is nice, but the cake is the heart), I would like to stick my neck out to praise Brian Boyle's beautiful illustration for GALAXY's cover--until I hear from Jakobsson that nice art frightens audiences (or, according to Donald Wollheim, dealers) and sales droop. Jakobsson? Are you out there? What's the scoop? C'mon, tell "Louella" all about it....

AMAZING STORIES -- September:

Serial:

Jupiter Project (part one) -- Gregory Benford.

Short Stories:

Fat City -- Ross Rocklynne.

Rocklynne's symbolic and obviously political farce tries to clarify the unpleasant situation of a world of haves and have-nots, using strongarm methods to get the reader to make comparisons in both national and international greed masked by the hypocrisy of "charity". But the simplistic fantasy of Thins vs. Fats is very much like discussing Vietnam in a fairy tale format--misinformative to the unaware and naive to the rest.

Lifeboat -- Karl T. Pflock.

A man and woman aboard a rocket seeking rendezvous with an orbiting space station are forced to make an emergency evacuation when a bomb--apparently planted by forces hostile to the space program--explodes aboard ship. Although Pflock writes with economy and an obvious awareness of the technical matters involved, he has unfortunately chosen to pass off an incident for a story and leaves the reader holding a tantalizing scrap that will not stand alone. *sigh*
Earth to Earth -- Betsy Curtis.

I think I was one of the few who did not like Curtis' Hugo-nominated story, "The Steiger Effect", and I wonder if once more I'll be in the minority by liking this one. The sf-intelligentsia will probably think this quasi-satire of the "death-industry" funeral parlors a pale descendant of Evelyn Waugh, while the sense-of-wonder adventure lovers will find it murky and punchless. It may take some effort but working readers will discover a sly and slightly bitter taste that lingers...like maggots in decaying flesh. Brrr!

Deflation 2001 -- Bob Shaw.

The inflationist policy of America is already so absurd that to spoof it, as Shaw does in this look to a future where a three-million-dollar yearly salary is insufficient living expense, is to run a terrible risk of overkill. Shaw has foolishly run it and lost, and his story is merely reactionary and childish drivel. Poor.

Proof -- F.M. Busby.

And the Time Machine Story strikes again! Here we have an inventor who explains the apparatus to a reporter, whom he then leaves alone with the untested machine and...guess what happens? Yeah, he does, off to the past, a curious cat who succumbs to a prescribed fate...yawn....

Art Portfolio [reprint]:

Islands of Space by John W. Campbell, Jr. -- Wesso.

ANALOG -- September:Serial:The Pritcher Mass (part two) -- Gordon R. Dickson.Novelettes:The Symbiotes -- James H. Schmitz.

This latest addition to the Telzey series features Telzey's friend, Trigger, as the heroine in distress, but there is so little difference in the characterization of the two that it doesn't even amount to a noticeable change. Trigger gets into trouble with the villains--here a trio of psychic vampires--and is imprisoned on a satellite-world crammed with the colorful technological marvels we now expect to turn up regularly in these stories. (If you ain't got much plot, distract 'em with gadgets, right, Schmitz?) There are also some miniaturized humans who serve as focus to the story's initiative, then become troublesome to handle and get shifted quickly to the background. Trigger confesses at the end that she's going to get her training to be a "functioning psi"--so in the future she can wriggle out of tight spots with an ease equal to Telzey's? Aw, no....

Ideological Defeat -- Christopher Anvil.

America has lost the war with the Soviets and lost her complicated technology as well in the radioactive rubble. So now she fights the Russians--who have settled into her homeland armed with radios, helicopters, and other machines they have managed to preserve--armed with more primitive weapons but a remarkably insightful use of strategy. Even discounting the dated plot, which would have gladdened the hearts of all McCarthyites, Anvil writes nothing here of interest. His characters are the tired stereotypes of a thousand similar tales and his final "profundities" re the ideology of the title are insultingly silly, like stating "The sun is warm...if you're close enough to it." Vapid.

Short Stories:The Hated Dreams -- John Strausbaugh.

Bluebeard the pirate and Christopher Robin camp in a forest and over a small fire bring the ambiguity of their co-existence into partial clarity for the reader. They are the hunted, pursued by the people of the warless future who use them as outlets for their ineradicable and increasingly perverse aggressions. Strausbaugh suggests the prey are members of what he predicts as the coming minority group, and though his explanations are incomplete his story will make the reader's mind whirl with conjectures. Interesting.

Generation Gaps -- Clancy O'Brien.

The "Establishment" begins retiring to a colony on the moon when the drugged, so-called peace-loving counterculture gains control and society starts a fast deterioration. But the sudden need for technicians and trained professionals cannot be filled by the counterculturists and they cry for help from the retired, shaking in fear as their own children turn out to be irresponsible, soulless monsters. If O'Brien hadn't been so deafeningly loud with his message, the story might have worked; as it is, it blows its chance for satire or true meaning with a dulling heavyhandedness.

The War of the Words -- Rick Conley.

Conley has been drugged by reading too much Goulart (or simply drugged with who-knows-what awful Commie-pinko secret degenerative?), I suppose, for little else could explain the ineptitude of this wheezing man vs. alien exercise in low comedy. The alien is stupid, the Earthman is even more stupid, and the battle for supremacy between them a verbal play that is dull and, what else?, stupid. Horrible.

Personality Profile:-Buckminster Fuller: The Synergetic Man -- Norman Spinrad.Science:The Iron Pillar of Delhi -- L. Sprague de Camp.How to Design a Flying Saucer -- Dr. Richard J. Rosa.

FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION -- September:

Novelettes:

What Good Is a Glass Dagger? -- Larry Niven.

Here's a followup to Niven's delightful fantasy of three years ago, "Not Long Before the End", and while it is quite readable and more heavily plotted it never quite manages to equal the sharp bite that made the first tale so memorable. Niven's pre-history world, where magic is a natural resource being slowly depleted by magicians without foresight, is given more depth this time, however, as the Warlock plunges a glass dagger into the heart of Aran, a thieving werewolf out to steal the powerful Warlock's Wheel. By the time thirty years have elapsed the Warlock and Aran find the disintegration of the world as they know it forcing them to form an uneasy but necessary alliance, Aran hoping to rid himself of the still-embedded dagger, the Warlock impelled to play the desperate conservationist. A relatively minor but entertaining tale, it shows once more that Niven is really a quite versatile writer who should get away from his "hard science" more often.

The Voices -- James E. Gunn.

Here is the last--to be published, but not chronologically final--story in Gunn's memorable "Listener's" series. In this one the Project to listen for messages from other worlds in space is 50 years old, still unsuccessful, and sure to be hastened to dismantling by a visiting magazine reporter whose own failure to come to fruition as an artist has left him bound in tightening ropes of skepticism. As ever, Gunn shows a good deal of interest in developing his characters as people rather than stick-figures, which does much to sustain interest in this otherwise bridgegap episode. Worth reading.

Short Stories:

A Sweet Little Pool of Low Cost Labor -- Gene Kearny.

A philosophic horror story, Kearny's subtle and sensitive sf tale tells of a professional exploiter searching out a tribe of South American primitives to provide the labor pool of the title in a near-future world trapped in its own decay. There is an intense and logical and very bloody end for the exploiter, but Kearny's horror comes not so much from one man's demise as from his helplessness against the inevitable. He is a despicable man, but not entirely because he chooses to be so--he is the victim of thoroughly despicable conditioning. Kearny's pen is acid. He wields it with cutting strokes and piercing jabs, exposing a sickness we try very hard to ignore even as it dictates our very thought patterns. Excellent.

A Short Religious Novel -- Barry N. Malzberg.

The Answerer is an eternal machine at "the other end of the Universe", and while programmed to answer any question, the one it eternally hears from questioning races is the equally eternal one: "Is there a God?" Such a question really has no final answer, as Malzberg realizes. He tries instead to map as simply as possible the ambiguities of both the question and the need to ask it, and makes this short-short story a disturbing and notable puzzle.

Broot Force by *s**c *s**v -- John Sladek.

Sladek spoofs again! His parodies of famed sf authors continue with this funny (but perhaps a triple vicious) jab at the Good Doctor, in which Idjit Carlson makes his eleventh try at creating a robot which will abide by the Three Laws of Robish. Again Sladek succeeds in cramming the many facets of one writer into a single story concept, here including Asimov's broad, sometimes corny humor with the "explanatory" footnotes familiar from the science column. Amusing.

The Wish -- J.W. Schutz.

Playing a game of intellect and beauty, three aliens seek to resolve a tie game by granting three wishes to an Earthman and speculating on the results of his actions. As might be expected, the results are a mixture of insight and error, interesting to contemplate (as in any good "wish" story) but difficult to accept in this case because the Earthman's actions seem minor and improbable

in relation to the omnipotent wish-granters. Light, relaxing reading, mildly entertaining in spite of its contrivance and pseudo-profundity.

Thus Love Betrays Us -- Phyllis MacLennan.

Stranded in a mist-shrouded, fungus-infected planet, a man struggles to stave off increasing boredom and madness as he waits for rescue. His descent to insanity is halted as he discovers a protoplasmic and intelligent creature with whom he forms a friendship that lasts only so long as he truly does not understand the alien's way of life. Somehow the story never quite jells--the boredom of the alien world is too pervasive and the Earthman's reactions, even in their final violence, seem empty, a total stranger's movements seen at an uninvolved distance. Fair.

Verse:

The Marriage of Art and Science -- Sonya Dorman.

Science:

The World, Ceres -- Isaac Asimov.

* * * *

GALAXY -- September-October:

Serial:

Dying Inside (conclusion) -- Robert Silverberg.

Novelette:

Power Complex -- Joe Haldeman.

The alien-disguised-as-human story is very familiar to sf readers, yet it seems to be an almost infinitely adaptable theme ranging from the chase-adventure to the less easily handled but often more rewarding psychological study. Haldeman takes a rather intriguing notion of a young alien working towards maturity by trying to adapt to an alien (i.e., human) society, and builds to a suspenseful climax that wriggles its way out of probable dead ends with clever jumps. The alien disguises himself as the President of the U.S. and spends most of his time trying to organize his actions to benefit both himself and his human responsibilities; and while power-politics and deception may share a common bed, keeping it neat for public view is a full-time job. If the alien's powers seem too conveniently grand, Haldeman does well in keeping them from totally dictating the plot twists. Good.

Short Stories:

Changing Woman -- W. Macfarlane.

The thing I like best about Macfarlane is his ability to surprise me--one moment he's doing boring prepubescent lectures and the next he's spinning wheels-within-wheels subtleties that are amazingly intricate. This story is a smooth merging of sf and fantasy, with the legendary (of the Navaho Indians) woman of the title going about her business, "partly practical and partly magical", in the modern world of booming technology. A bit scattershot at times, the humor sometimes reaches delightful high points nonetheless, including one of the funniest love scenes I can ever remember reading. Recommended.

True School of Modesty -- Ernest Taves.

As usual Taves uses a lot of technical jargon (a little closer to known fact this time, however, than in past works) to lend an aura of reality to this tale of future moon landings. But the puzzle of the lunar "Magnetic Anomaly 2" turns out to be a lot of bricabrac around a romantic social statement that Taves wishes to make, though he doesn't make it with clear intent or with much discernable enthusiasm. A confusing little story, more interesting than most of Taves' work but still not very successful.

The Years -- Robert F. Young.

Hardly more than two pages long, Young's story of an old man who travels in time back to the school of his youth still seems an overextended effort, in view of the fact that the story's point is obvious immediately and the final line of acerbic dialogue muffles the sentiment in an interpretive obscurity. Fair.

The Soul Music of Duckworth's DIBS -- Larry Eisenberg.

I'm still uninterested in Duckworth's crazy experiments, primarily because Eisenberg continues to make them all incredibly silly without being funny. DIBS, "Duckworth's Instrument Body Synthesizer", creates music from each person's body rhythms and pulses and supposedly reveals the person's true worth; but the invention offers no insight into human nature that isn't already discernable and the humor limps across with lines like: "DIBS may solve Mao's problems on self-criticism." Tiresome.

Medical Practices Among the Immortals -- Kris Neville.

A minor but readable exercise in human illogic, Neville envisions a future in which even M.D.'s have to scrounge to make a decent living in a mechanical world. The same questions (about inflation, family planning, etc.) that plague us now still apply to long-lived future citizens, and in a rather abruptly savage conclusion Neville presumes, probably rightly, that human stupidity also lingers on. Ok of kind.

 THE STEADY STREAM: Books Received 16-31 Dec. 1972

((Reviewers--both local & out-of-town--please check titles below & let us know, ASAP, which you'd like to review. Reviewers urgently needed! --ed.))

HARDBOUND --

Orbit 11, ed. Damon Knight (G.P. Putnam's Sons, NY; 1972; SFBook Club Ed.; 216 pp.; d.j. by Paul Lehr) -- An Anthology of New Science Fiction Stories. Contents: "Alien Stones", by Gene Wolfe; "Spectra", by Vonda N. McIntyre; "I Remember a Winter", by Frederik Pohl; "Doucement, S'il Vous Plait", by James Sallis; "The Summer of the Irish Sea", by C.L. Grant; "Good-bye, Shelley, Shirley, Charlotte, Charlene", by Robert Thurston; "Father's in the Basement", by Philip José Farmer; "Down by the Old Maelstrom", by Edward Wellen; "Things Go Better", by Geo. Alec Effinger; "Dissolve", by Gary K. Wolf; "Dune's Edge", by Edward Bryant; "The Drum Lollipop", by Jack M. Dann; "Machines of Loving Grace", by Gardner R. Dozois; "They Cope", by Dave Skal; "Counterpoint", by Joe W. Haldeman; "Old Soul", by Steve Herbst; "New York Times", by Charles Platt; "The Crystallization of the Myth", by John Barfoot; "To Plant a Seed", by Hank Davis; "On the Road to Honeyville", by Kate Wilhelm.

PAPERBACK --

Macroscope, by Piers Anthony (Avon, NY; 11/72 (3rd prtnng.; 1st Avon prtnng, 10/69); #W166; 480 pp.; \$1.25; cover not credited) -- "Near the end of the 20th century occurred the most epochal scientific breakthrough in the history of man: the discovery of the macroscope. In resolving and making coherent the information carried on macrons, it brought the entire universe within man's range of vision, revealing levels of technology vastly beyond anything dreamed of by man. ## "But there was peril--when man attempted to unlock the secrets of the macroscope, it destroyed the minds of the best of them...."

Orbit Unlimited, by Poul Anderson (Pyramid Books, NY; #T2870; 12/72 (3rd prtnng.; 1st Pyramid ed. 5/61; 158 pp.; 75¢) -- "Once, Earth's space fleets had spanned the gulf between the worlds--the explorers and the adventurers had journeyed to the farthest reaches of the Universe. But...Earth changed. Her people, packed together on the home planet, exchanged their venturesome spirit and their freedoms for an autocratic government which promised them comfort and order. And the space fleets rusted in idleness.... ## "Then one small band of people--and a dedicated, fanatic spaceman--saw there was one more chance for Man to make his place in the wide Universe. And to take that chance, they had to fight the powers that ruled all of Earth!"

DYNATRON 50 (Roy Tackett, 915 Green Valley Rd., N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87107; 12th Annish; 25¢; mimeo (offset cover); rec'd thru FAPA Mailing #141) -- 34 pp. / cover; cover by Harry Morris; illos by René Tackett, Doug Lovenstein; "What Am I Doing Here?", by Len Moffatt (Westercon XXV Fan GoH speech); "A Fan-Annish Carol", by Bob Vardeman; Japanese SF News, by Takumi Shibano (repr. from UCHUJIN #'s 161-163); "E.E. Smith's Literary Offenses", by Mike Glycer; "The Arisian Connection", by Alexis Gilliland; Aljo Svoboda on Elevator Fandom; lettercolumn; editorial notes; brief book reviews. Quarterly. ### One of the best issues of this always-enter-taining 'zine we've seen in a long time. (Oops! Dated September, 1972.)

FANTHOLOGY 64 (Nov., '72) (Mike Domina & Terry Carr; avail. from Terry Carr at 11037 Broadway Terrace, Oakland, CA 94611; \$1; ditto; one-shot?; rec'd thru FAPA #141) -- 61 pp., incl. covers (i.e., 61 sheets of paper, ea. printed on one side only for better legibility); covers by Hannes Bok; illos by Lee Hoffman, Joe Pilati, Bill Rotsler, George Metzger, Trina, & Alex Eisenstein; Foreward, by Terry Carr; "Needed: New Blood, Spilled", by Bob Tucker (on Worldcon programming; repr. from ENCLAVE #6); "Hornbook for Would-be Pros", by Ted White (from YANDRO #'s 135 & 137); "Fans Make the Strangest Characters", by Harry Warner, Jr. (from DOUBLE: BILL #11); "Sexual Symbolism in Two Stories of W.H. Hodgson", by Sid Birchby (from RIVERSIDE QUARTERLY I:2); "Letter Found in a Bottle", by George Metzger (from JESUS BUG #12); "An Important Message for All Loyal Americans!", by Emerson Duerr (from STEFANTASY #54); "Log Goes to a Party With Jan", by Jan Sadler Samuels (from LOGORRHEA #6); "Panicdotes--1", by Si Stricklen (from DOUBLE:BILL #8); "I Don't Write Fanzine Reviews Any More", by Dick Lupoff (from YANDRO #138); "Bad Day", by Carol Carr (from LIGHTHOUSE #11); "Less Than Human?", by Walter Breen (from WARHOON #19); "The Sad Saga of Baby Glynnis", by Grania Kaiman Davidson (from JESUS BUG #11); "Her Sensitive Fannish Face", by Len Moffatt (from FRAP #3). ### An anthology of the "best" fannish writings of 1964, published eight years late because of the gaffiation of Mike. (How were these "bests" chosen, Terry? By you and Mike? By a poll? Or how?) Would like to see this series renewed; far too many excellent writings are buried in fanzines with relatively small distribution. Perhaps the "bests" for the year could be chosen by a combination of fan poll and editorial panel? Comments? (We'd be glad to help with such a project; we'll do the editing, compilation, typing, and most of the "legwork" if someone else will do the publishing, collating, addressing and mailing.)

IS #6 (September, 1972) (Tom Collins, Fan Press, Lakemont, GA 30552; \$1.50 ea., 4/5¢, from 4305 Balcones Dr., Austin, TX 78731; no schedule given; offset; "the fanzine of connoisseurs") -- 84 pp., incl. covers; Front cover by Richard Corten; bacover by Mark Gelotte; interior illos by Dan Steffan, Bill Rotsler, Tim Kirk, Dany Frolich, Ariel Parkinson, Mark Gelotte, Mike Gilbert, Terry Jeeves, John Swanson, Stephen Fabian, Richard Corten, Dan Ventry; Editorial; "The Dalton Effect", by Isaac Asimov (Univ. of Bridgeport lecture given 3 Nov. '71); "Liftoff", by Poul Anderson (on rocket launchings); "The Nit-Picker's Digest" (column: thish, "Cosmology and Ringworld", by Flieg Hollander & Jay Freeman); report on 1971 Tulane SF Writers' Workshop, by Grant Carrington; "Jason, Annabella, and Harold Travel Into the Future", by Thomas Parkinson; "Doctor Pleasuregain Explains", by Thomas Parkinson; "Memories of August", by Carl Jacobi (Derleth, i.e.); "Lovecraft and the Stars", by E. Hoffman Price; "A Clairvoyant Looks at Drugs", by Allan Y. Cohen & Frances Sakoian (Part I; from "Public Interview" held on U. of Cal. Berkeley campus, Aug. '71); "The Dangers of Wandering Into Strange Beds While Drunk", by John Harlee; "Me and the White Rabbit", by "Colin Salamander" ("A Message from Beyond Sanity"); "A Family Fable", by Carl Helbing ("the trippy hippy back to nature trip in manifesto form"); "Letters to Derleth", by Robert E. Howard; verse: "Yankee Doodle", by Ewan MacColl. ### This handsomely-produced monster should contain something for anyone--so send \$1.50 for a sample and give it a try.

LOCUS #129 (15 Dec '72) (Dena & Charlie Brown, 3400 Ulloa St., San Francisco, CA 94116; bi-weekly "newspaper covering the science fiction field"; mimeo; 12/\$3, 26/\$6 N.America; 12/\$4, 26/\$7 Central & S.America; 10/\$3.50, 26/\$8 Europe; 10/R3.50, 26/R8 S.Africa; 10/A\$3.50, 26/A\$8 Australia & Asia (all but N.America sent via airmail)) -- 10 pp.; spot illos by Tim Kirk, Jim McLeod, ATom; general news (major items: San Francisco withdraws bid for '75 Worldcon; Soviet SF writer Ivan Yefremov dies at age 65 of heart attack); Chamananon 2 report; sections on: People, Books, News from Fantasy House, SF Book Club Selections for Jun '73; Magazines (contents); listing of fanzines received; short book reviews; "A Tribute to Weird Tales", by Harry Warner, Jr. ## The #1 SF newszine.

THE PASSING PARADE #2 (Nov '72) (Milton F. Stevens, 9849 Tabor St. #3, Los Angeles, mimeo; no schedule given; offset cover; 25¢ ea., 4/\$1; rec'd thru FAPA #141) -- 20 pp. / cover; cover by Bea Barrio; editorial page; report on 1972 Worldcon; short fanzine reviews. ## Worth getting for the detailed Worldcon report.

RICHARD E. GEIS #3 (undated) (Richard E. Geis, POBox 11408, Portland, OR 97211; mimeo (offset cover); irregular; \$1; rec'd thru FAPA #141) -- 56 pp. / cover; cover by Tim Kirk; fiction: "Tomb It May Concern", by Geis; Geis' day-by-day calender/diary of events, thoughts, ideas, book reviews, fanzine reviews, letters received, etc., covering period from 21 Jul '72 thru 12 Sep '72. ## If you have the desire to see day-by-day events unfold thru the eyes of another, REG is for you. A most unusual fanzine, carrying the "personalzine" concept to its ultimate conclusion. Give it a try--you'll either love it or detest it.

 THE CLUB CIRCUIT: Clubzines Received 16-31 Dec '72

DE PROFUNDIS (Newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (LASFS); ed., Mike Glycer; approx. monthly; mimeo; free to members, 4/\$1 to others, from: LASFS, Box 3004, Santa Monica, CA 90403) -- #57 (Dec '72) -- 6 pp.; spot illos by Freff, Richard Bergeron; TAFT News; report on Directors' Dinner; misc. club news and calendar of coming events; Halloween Party notes; on the Senda affair; list of Building Fund Donors; brief fanzine reviews. #### #58 (18 Dec '72) -- 2 pp.; spot illos by Bill Rotsler; LASFS Election results (Len & June Moffatt, Procedural Director; Milton F. Stevens, Senior Committeeman; Tom Digby Junior Committeeman-Elect; Secretary, Jack Harness; Treasurer, Bruce Pelz); club news/coming events.

INSTANT MESSAGE #116 (Newsletter of the New England Science Fiction Assoc., Inc. (NESFA); POBox G, MIT Branch Post Office, Cambridge, MA 02139; free to members, not avail. to others; mimeo; bi-weekly) -- 8 pp.; report of 10 Dec. '72 Business Meeting; CoA; Library Book listing; club business, announcements, info on coming events. Dated 10 Dec '72.

THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN, Dec. '72 (Official Organ of the National Fantasy Fan Federation (NFF); ed., Joanne Burger, 55 Blue Bonnet Ct., Lake Jackson, TX 77566; bi-monthly; mimeo; free to members (\$2/yr., from Janie Lamb, Rt.1, Box 364, Heiskell, TN 37754) not avail. to others) -- 10 pp., incl. cover (by Sheryl Birkhead); listing of Officers/Activities; Reports from: Welcommittee, N'APA, Manuscript Bureau, Secretary-Treasurer, Idea Robin, Round Robbins, Overseas Bureau, Birthday Card Project, Tape Bureau, Election Teller (1973 officers: Stan Woolston, Pres.; Directors: Joanne Burger, Joe Siclari; K. Martin Carlson, Janie Lamb, Gary Mattingly); new member info.

SFWA BULLETIN #44 (VIII:5) (Official organ of the Science Fiction Writers of America (SFWA), ed. George Zebrowski; subs \$8/yr., to "professionals other than writers eligible for membership", from Bob Coulson, Rt#3, Hartford City, IN 47348;

offset; 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; bi-monthly; free to SFWA members) -- 12 pp.; report on 3rd annual SFWA Editorial Gathering; President's page; "Market Report"; contents of Vol. II of SFWA Hall of Fame anthology; "SF in France", by François Bordes; "Published by Members" (14 Nov '72 Report of the Monitoring Committee on paperback titles issues, reissued, or announced for publication); "People and Places".

 THE FOREIGN SCENE: Fanzines Received 16-31 Dec '72

S F COMMENTARY (Bruce Gillespie, GPO Box 5195AA, Melbourne, Victoria 3001, Australia; offset(?); no schedule given; 9/\$3 Australia; 9/\$4 U.S. surface mail, 9/\$10 airmail (US Agents: Dena & Charlie Brown, 3400 Ulloa St., San Francisco, CA 94116); 9/£1.50 surface, 9/£4 airmail UK (UK Agent: Malcolm Edwards, 75A Harrow View, Harrow, Middlesex, UK)) -- #28 (July '72) -- 50 pp., incl. cover; cover photo by Glen O'Malley; bacover illo by Stephen Campbell; "Leigh Edmonds' 1971" (incl. "Prologue: 1969", from THE MECHANISM 7, "A Ball-Bearing Mein Leben"); "Bill Wright's 1971"; "Harry Warner, Jr.'s 1971" ("How I Became Half as Old as My Grandmother", repr. from HORIZONS 129); "Bruce Gillespie's 1971" (incl. section "S F COMMENTARY Award Oct 1970 - Sept 1971", in which he lists his top 10 favorites in many categories (and top 20 favorites in "best new pieces of short fiction"); his #1 choice in ea. category: Best new piece of short fiction, "The View from this Window", by Joanna Russ (QUARK/1, 11/70); Best novel of '71, The Man Without Qualities (Der Mann Ohne Eigenschaften), by Robert Musil (3 vol., 1st pub. in 1930, '33, & '53); Best film of '71, The Arrangement, by Elia Kazan (dir.); plus Addendum (his lists of "bests" in various categories (top 10) for years 1965 thru 1970). #### #29 (Aug. '72) -- 48 pp., incl. cover; cover by Geoff Mauger; Hugo results; Editorial and lettercolumn; "A Letter to Mr. Farmer", by Stanislaw Lem; "William Atheling Jr: A Critic of Science Fiction", by John Foyster (repr. from COR SERPENTIS #1); "Clockwork Kubrick", by Barry Gillam (review of film A Clockwork Orange); "The S F Novels of Brian W. Aldiss" (Part II: "Poor Little Warriors"), by Bruce Gillespie. ## After a strange and uncharacteristic #27, SFC has returned to the ranks of our favorite fanzines. Welcome back!

SOME STUFF FOR FAPA (John Bangsund, POBox 357, Kingston, ACT 2604, Australia; rec'd thru FAPA Mailing #141; consists of bound-together collection of misc. 'zines: SCYTHROP 26, PHILOSOPHICAL GAS 12, PHILOSOPHICAL GAS 13, BUNDALOHN QUARTERLY 3, SCYTHROP 27; all but SCYTHROP are APA-'zines, so we will cover only the two issues of SCYTHROP here) -- SCYTHROP (6/A\$3; US: 6/\$3.60 from US Agent Andy Porter, Box 4175, New York, NY 10017; UK: 6/90p from UK Agent Ethel Lindsay, Courage House, 6 Langley Ave., Surbiton, Surrey; Germany: DM10.00 from GerAgent Hans Joachim Alpers, 285 Bremerhaven 1, Weissenburgerstr. 6, W.Germany; Scandinavia: 4/Kr10.00 from Ulf Westblom, Studentbacken 25C/103, S-11540, Stockholm, Sweden; no schedule given; offset) -- #26 (undated) -- 23 pp. / covers; both covers & interior illos by Lindsay Cox; S F COMMENTARY ~~take off~~ tribute issue; Editorial; selection from works of Thomas Love Peacock; George Turner examines Bruce Gillespie and S F COMMENTARY; editorial comments on same; "Mushrooms in the Basket", by Stanislaw Lem (interview by anonymous Russian); Fake review section (Mervyn Barrett on Books, Robin Johnson on Films, Gary Deindorfer on Music). #### #27 (Spring, 1972) -- 20 pp. / flyer; editorial commentary; Dick Geis LoC; "Notes for a Poem"; Mailing Comments on ANZAPA 24; LODBROG #6 (Oct. '72) (OMFA Mailing Comments, etc.). Flyer describes "forthcoming" (Oct. '72) book: John W. Campbell: An Australian Tribute, by Ronald E. Graham & John Bangsund (limited edition; from: Space Age Books, GPO Box 1267L, Melbourne 3001, Australia; A\$2/US\$2.50/£1.00). ((Does anyone know whether this book ever came out?--ed.)) ## A very difficult magazine to review (SCYTHROP, i.e.), since each issue is so completely different than the one which preceded it. All we can say is, look at the contents listed above, and if you think they sound interesting, take out a sub.
