It Trends HE STAR-VAULT TURNING WITH MAJESTIC PACE; CLOUDED SUNS IN COSMIC HARMONY -SPECKS THAT GLITTER THROUGH THE VOIDS OF SPACE HERE ARE THRUST UPON A PRINTED CARD. A CHEAP BRONZE BUST OF THAT REMEMBERED BARD WHO, BLIND, TO LIGHT OF PURPOSE TURNED HIS FACE, AND CAPTURED TRUTHS OF HEAVEN'S MINSTRELSY, BRINGING THEM TO LIFE WITH HUMAN GRACE. LIVING NAMES COLD PRINTED ON A CARD -

AND COLD THIS DIE-SET TRIBUTE TO A BARD.

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Issue #11

Feb. 1953



STF TRENDS FOR FEBRUARY 1953 issue #11

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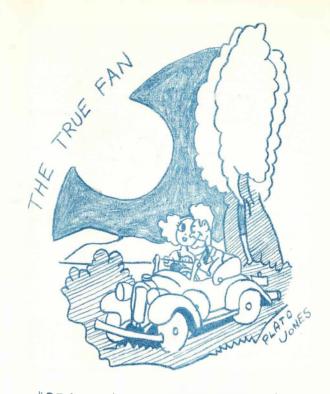
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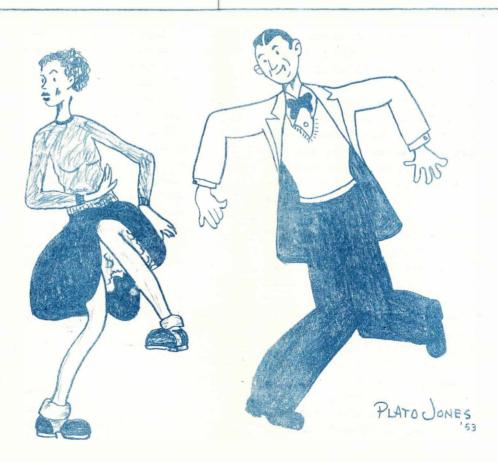
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"READ ANY HEINLEIN LATELY?"



THE SUPREME ACHIEVEMENT OF THE HUMAN RACE AFTER 50,000 YEARS OF EXISTENCE



Manly Banister sent this Korner a fullcolor photograph of himself and Walt Willis made at the convention in Chicago. If STF TRENDS production facilities could accomodate Kodachrome, I would reproduce it here. But since it is improbable, if not impossible, you will have to take my word for it that it is a beautiful photo---and neither of the conventioneers had a bottle. Willis was holding a cigarette---probably the first capitalistic tobacco he ever enjoyed. (Aside to femme fans: Willis is quite handsome-)

This Christmas will be a science fiction Christmas. A visit to toy stores shows Space Cadet suits, games, pistols, rocket ships, space ports, and lots and lots of other science fiction gadgets.

My boy, however, is not interested in any of the gadgets for sale in a TOY store. No sirree- HE insists that I buy him a couple of pounds of uranium so he can construct his own a-bomb- And my little daughter wants a guided missile- There's a little girl down the street who always pulls her hair and runs home to mother. With a guided missile, my daughter figures she can catch her. Yesserree, the youngster of to-day is a far cry from the days when I was growing up. Back then, you had to be content with TOYS.

Another baby that was predicted by science fiction has been born. First, the a-bomb, then television(though television came first, more people heard of the a-bomb first than had heard of television) and now, Cinerama. Cinerama, in case you didn't see LIFE for October 22, 1952, is a new development in motion pictures. Using a screen that

that measures 64x23 feet, and three projectors that run simultaneously, a synchronized so as to produce one solid picture on the giant, curved screen. This causes a three dimensional effect that is "fearsomely realistic" as LIFE terms it. For instance, an audience watching a roller coaster would actually seem to be on a roller coaster. Sound effects are realistic too. In ordinary movies, all the sound comes from one place. Your ears fool you when the conversation seems to jump from one place to another on the screen when a different character speaks. ... and Hoppy's gun and horse-hoof sounds come from exactly the same place behind the screen. Not so with Cinerama. The sounds come from the exact spot on the screen where they would in real life.

The Cinerama camera uses three film strips that are exposed at the same time. The camera has three 27mm lenses set at 48° angles to each other. These expose the three film strips covering a field of vision 146° wide and 55° high, just under what the human eye sees. When these films are projected on the special screens, they are terrific. The device was invented by Fred Waller---who spent fifteen years and millions of dollars on the project. The first film in the new medium is a travelogue called, "This is Cinerama." It is showing to record audiences in N.Y.C.

Just imagine what DESTINATION MOON or WHEN WORLD'S COLLIDE would have looked like in Cinerama- And just imagine too, what other great science fiction stories WILL look like when this new entertainment medium catches on- Movies will once more be the best entertainment. I am anxiously awaiting the appearence of a new stf novel by one of fandom's greats that should be in the hands of a top flight agent by the time this gets in print. Nope I can't disclose his name---or maybe her name ---but some time before too long when you are reading a sensational new book by a sensational new name---to stf---remember---you saw it first here. (And just as soon as it isn't top secret, this column will bring you the title of the book and the name of the author. So keep tuned to this space for what will doubtless be the hottest literary news of the foreseeable future---say late '53 or early '54-)

I wonder if any of the older readers of this stuff remembers those old time dime store thrillers for boys, The JOE STRONG books? They were available in hard-backed books about the size of pocket books, cost 10¢ and were published during the depression by the Whitman Publishing Company. I used to have seven or so of them, but they have long been lost. If I remember correctly, some of the titles were, "Joe Strong on the Trapese" "Joe Strong the Boy Magician", "---BoyFish" , "On the High Wire", etc. The author's name, was Vance Barnum, Obviously a pen-name. I'd like to have these books and I would appreciate it if anyone who reads this and who knows anyone who might have them, would please send me that person's name and address.

With the coming of a new administration in Washington, there are some who believe the US will be plunged into a new depression. Whether these people are right is not for me to say, since this isn't a political column. However if these pessimistic prognosticators should happen to be right, I wonder what effect it would have on the pulp-paper magazine industry? During the 1929-1939 depression, the pulp mags flourished. Would such a thing happen again? The 25¢ reprints of novels have all but pushed the pulp magazines off the stands. Who wants to pay 25¢ for a common magazine when he can buy a \$3.00 novel for the same two-bits- Yet without benifit of advertising, I don, t see how the reprint novel can compete with the pulps if a depression would force them back to the old 10¢ price. I believe that in event we have another depression, we would once more find the newsstands crowded with pulps. And a great percent of them would be stf mags,

selling for 10c. But then, who would have a dime?

Come depression, prosperity, war, peace, hell or high water, science fiction and its first cousin, fantasy, will go on. It is here to stay and will one day completely replace the other well known "specialized" fictions, i.e. detective, western, etc. Who will be the science fiction Zane Grey and Earle Stanley Gardner? For the best answer to this question, in 25,000 easy words or less, Konner's Korner will award a free ticket to the 1952 World Series---if one can be found some place. Be sure to accompany your entry with one hard-cover book in mint condition. On second thought, you may send the book without the entry. But don't send the entry without the book. Fair enough?

LONGHAMMER'S HAMMERINGS: Fanzines on toilet tissue have been produced in Russia. At least these will go to the right place.



"I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO THE SCIENCE EDITOR"

Halo--

Migawd, Lynn, I thought I told you that MidWestCon Report of mine needed editing, not emasculation. I suppose I should waited a few days for my convolutions to get back into their proper channels, but I figured you could use a little discernment and do a bit of judicious editing. Now I'll have to apologise to Ellison again, Please publich an apology from me to Harlan, will ya? Also, I must protest that editing a zine does not give the editor a prerogative to diametrically change the context of sentences. The sentence which, in TLMA, read, "Everyone lost their senses and picked BEATLEY's unanimously for next year's MidWestCon. ", in the original mss read, "Everyone REGAINED their senses. . . " I trust you will take care of this situation.

Now, I'll tell you about the rest of TLMA. Cover was good, but I wish to hell that Bergeron would get some other ideas. A cover similar to this, you know, was used on Tucker's News Letter and at least one of Coswal's zines.

what the hell's Hirschhorn blowing his stack about? Too much fan in fandom? What the hell! There can't be TOO much fan in fandom! What is fandom anyway but a conglomeration of readers and writers of stf and fsy! ? So, naturally, fanzines will concern themselves with fans, primarily, and fiction, only secondarily, Most fan fiction, you must admit, IS crud. After all, why should a good writer who can sell, give away his stuff? Most of them won't. And the N3F while not, perhaps, a "dying giant" is still as putrid as most corpses which ve been dead awhile. Every once in a while a new group gets in and works things up so that NFFF is a good organization. GMCarr is trying now, but she doesn't seem to be doing much good. The last time a good administration, willing to work, and able to work effectively was in power was when Art Rapp and cohorts were in office. Maybe those days will return. I doubt it.

Which is all for TLMA. Now on to the bloody fanzine.

Cover good; get some more Nelson cartoons.

I always like Konner's stuff, but he never says anything with which I agree or disagree violently enough to say anything. He came close with his talk on the sex element in stf, but didn't quite make it. Of course, his treatment of Tuckers CITY IN THE SEA makes me want to read one of Pong's books. I will, too, one of these days. Oh yeah, let it be known that what I stated anent fan fiction in regards to Hirschhorn's yapping does not apply to Konner's stuff. Why her doesn't sell, I don't know. Still eagerly awaiting that TALE OF TWO CUTIES.

The Key. Was that for a lock in a chastity belt, perchance?

And that little four-liner of Loomis' on page 18 puts me in mind of something done not too many years ago by a fellow named Howard Shaaron. Use it if you want. It goes:

> Curious fly; Vinegar Jug; Slippery edge; Pickled bug!

Like yer wife's drawing on the title page of Harmon's ChiCon report, but am not sure whether to send Harmon a bomb or a coral snake. Oh, not that I dislike him, or think he dislikes me. But something like that first paragraph from a writer the calibre of Jim Harmon is. . . Contrary to the opinion he seems to hold, I did not run around the Morrison as if I were in a nudist camp.

Thus endeth a disection of the bundle of two zines. Will repeat the same operation when I get STF TRENDS. Don't recall too much from that copy you showed me in St. Louis.

> Hal Shapiro Kirksville, Mo.

Dear Lynn.

A few brief comments on TLMA #6 and the LC #3: Liked both very much as usual, although the litheoing on my copy of TLC was rather poor. (The contents page being almost impossible to read.) Nevertheless, most of the reproduction was very good which is typical. I especially liked the way you sprinkled colour throughout the mags. Format was fairly good, but not up to the high quality of this issues predeccessors. Both covers were fine examples of clear-cut illos, although Bergeron's reminded me very much of two he did previously for fanzine covers; one appearing, by the way, on a SFNL, was almost identical to the one on TLMA.

Materially speaking both issues were fairly well-rounded. Enjoyed Konner's Korner in both mags and thot them the best items in the zines. Liked Wilkie's bits on Loomis, and pornography in stf prozines. Shapiro's bit on the Midwestcon was enjoyable, but a little dated, don't you think? Hirschhorn's guest editorial: noted. Personally, I think Venable's editorial (in #5, I believe) was the best one you've printed to date. Both pieces of fiction were very good, and as someone aptly expressed, the best being written in fandom today is printed in TLMA. The nod probably goes to Chappell for THE KEY; although Keye's bit wasn't too bad either.

Ian T. Macauley Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Lynn,

Ish #6 was a reasonably good one with one exceptionally good article -"It Happened in Ohio", the always interesting "Konner's Korner", and a completely boring thing by Basil Wells. The Guest Editorial was thoughtful and sober. The poetry was generally good, but please lengthen the letter column. In case this gets published would Donald Cantin write, I've lost his address. Thanks

Larry Shannon San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Lynn,

TLMA #6 and The Little Corpuscle #3 arrived today. One little item in Konner's Korner has me laughing. Wilkie, boy, you're a bit behind the times. Babias under a cabbage leaf indeed. Tsk, someone tell this lad the facts of life. Look Wilkie, whatcha think all these flying saucers are flapping around for? Huh? The stork is old stuff. No modern baby would adnit to being brought by one the flying saucer is the thing t hese days. Thanks a lot, Lynn, for plugging my club and fanzine. We have close to 50 members now, and that figure will be incorrect by the time you get this. THE FEMZINE #2 is already out, and #3 is due out the first part of Jan. Thanks for sending THE LITTLE CORPUSCLE to our members.

Marian Cox Sioux City, Iowa

Dear Lynn,

Received TLMA and TLC together, along with the notice that my membership had lasped. Thanks for reminding me. I'm sending back the form and the dues along with this letter.

In TLC, "The Key" was the best of the fiction, the ending, though, was enough to get under one's skin. Methuselah's Lament was--- oh heck, what can I say except that haven't read anything so fine in a long time. I'm glad you had a report on the ChiCon done. For those of us who can't get to cons and want to know what happens at them, the reports you print are a great help. I'm going to the con in Phillie, though.

The cover for TLMA was beautifully done, but then TLMA covers usually are, aren't they? Krakoa was a bit of horribly revolting writing. Not the poem itself, that was wonderful. What I mean is the topic. Ugh, what a creature! Dear Lynn,

Having received my copies of TLMA #6 and TLC #3 just thought I'd drop you a small-type line Liked both mags, but why have so much poetry in a fanzine? Only hunk o' poetry I really liked was "Ode to Planet Stories" in TLC.

> Norman Hane Oak Park, Ill.

Dear Lynn,

Very many thanks for TLMA #4 - Tlma #5 and your letter. Please forgive me for not acknowledging sooner, but I have been very busy. Also, you did say that TLMA #6 would be ready in a week. Well, my correspondence has reached such proportions that the chance of killing three TLMAs with one letter was too good to resist - but TLMA has still not arrived si I shall have to comment in this letter on 4 and 5 only.

It was very good of you to send me another copy of TLMA #4. I cannot think what happened to the first copy, for it never reached me. But I have visions of some unfortunate postman being laid quietly to rest with my first copy of TLMA 4 still clutched in both hands - particularly after seeing the cover drawing by Ronald Clyne. That drawing even raised doubts in my own mind about my ancestry. A wonderful picture!

The cover to TLMA 5 was a real surprise. I did not expect my drawing to look as well as that, considering that the original was only postcard size. Guess I have to thank you for seeing the possibilities there.

Of the two issues, I preferred #5 - the fiction was better and the paper was better. Assumption and Draftee were both good stories. If D had been spread out a little more (it was rather abrupt in construction) and A condensed a little, they would both have probably sold to a prozine. Plot in both cases was good.

It was in #5, also, that I learned you were actually now married. Congradulations, and best wishes to Carole and yourself. My wife, Joyce, also sends her best wishes - she never reads s-f and is in no way a fan, but she does take a womanly interest in all my correspondents and encourages me in all my activities.

> Alan Hunter Bournemouth, England

(continued on page 15)

pat Scholz Brooklyn, N.Y.

-LACH-

BY HAL SHAPIRO

Halcyon

Today, as this is being written, it is November 10, the day prior to Armistice Day. I've just returned from St. Louis where an armistice was signed between halcyon's writer and STF TRENDS' do-editor, on the dat-staff side. It seems that the ed was in Missouri for a trade conference and he met with Keasler, Van Splawn, Larry Toonzinsky (the guiding light of the newly formed Missouri SF League) and myself. Well, the conversation veered around to various writers, plans for STF TRENDS' zines, writers who write too much and, before the night grew old, this halcyon of thought was formed and, for some asinine reason or other, this is being writ for your perusal and approval, 'tis hoped.

Lynn left St. Louis early Sunday morning, so Van Splawn and I ran over to see Keasler and look over a lot of stuff. Now, that city has some interesting things happening on its public vehicles before noon on Sunday, for instance one gentleman, a trifle stewed was singing long and loud, much to the obvious discomforture of the driver. So that worthy asked the gentleman which street he wanted. The rider said, "Any shtreet." "What do you mean, any street?" queried the driver "Any shtreet. I'm on the wrong bush anyway-"

Just finished an excellant book. THE MARRIAGE OF CUPID AND PSYCHE "Retold by Walter Pater from 'THE GOLDEN ASS' of Lucius Apuleius." The edition obtained was from The Heritage Club (505 Madison Ave., New York 22, N.Y.) and is a very fine volume, illustrated by Edmund Dulac. While told, one might say, in ARABIAN NIGHTS fashion, this time-proven classic is a must in the library of any fantasy fan, collector or not, who appreciates good books.

Also received from that organization was an excellent edition of THE STRANGE CASE OF DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE. If you are interested in good books, excellently bound and printed, we sincerely recommend The Heritage Club.

NOT RECOMMENDED: - Only completists would be interested in THE LOVERS, a new triology of sex-fantasy yarns from the prolific pen of Kathleen (FOREVER AMBER) Winsor. As a treatise on sex, it's in a class with her first work. As fantasy, it was best before it was first drafted.

The book consists of three separate stories. ON ROARING MOUNTAIN BY LEMONADE LAKE concerns an adultress who, killed by her husband, goes to Hell. She meets the Devil who is "The man every woman hopes she'll be raped by." Whenever old Mephisto fulfills these hopes it causes a thunder storm in Hell, and most of the story concerns itself with weather reports. THE SILENT LAND concerns Our Hero who, behind the Iron Curtain, enlists the aid of sex and the supernatural to battle the Kremlin's version of black magic in order to perform some much-needed sabotage. IN ANOTHER COUNTRY tells the story of the Villian who seduces a virgin who is a were-panther. Her mother is not a virgin, but a weretiger. They rip said seducer apart. I dunno: Winsor can't seem to utilize fantasy. She was much better when she stuck to sex. A jacket blurb sez that she "has unearthed the roots of conflict between the sexes with candor and rare understanding " I agree with the TIME reviewer who said, "THE LOVERS has candor, all right, and its understanding is as rare as a steak cut from a live cow."

LAFF DEPARTMENT: - Recently received was a circular, advertising a book, using adjectives like "sensational; shocking, exotic." Chapter headings like, "Bachelor Bait" were also prevelant and, enclosed with the circular, was a picture of a near maked babe, in the best Bergey tradition. A buddy ordered a copy of the thing while 1 waited to see what it was. It was a cook book-

NORTH OF MISSOURI: - Speaking of traveling (which I was to St Louis at the start of this column), was in Iowa a couple times ago. And it's kind of touching to read the little pamphlets they give you at all Iowa liquor stores, urging you to use wine in cooking meats, or with cheese, or in double-strength lemonade. Could this be a noble attempt to drive out the harsher, more sinful beverages? Or does the man really care for weiners and sherry?

I was always enchanted by pictures of the Italian and Spanish women barefootly tromping out the juice of the grape for wine Later I was very perplexed because non-alcobolic grape juice, squeezed by barefoot machinery, tasted better than alcobolic wine, squashed by barefoot gals. Oh well, wine and beer I loathe; bourbon, rum and whiskey, I prefer. Who cares?

?? SHOPPING DAYS TO XMAS: - A new york correspondent sent an ad of Macy's headed "You can't start basic Space Training too early-" For \$5.95 that store offered a space academy, complete with BEMs, disintegrat crs, flying saucers, etc.

And it seems to be spreading. In a drug store in St Louis we (Van Splawn and I) noted plastic toy space ships, rockets "that soar 75 feet," various Buck Rogerish guns, flying disks and more. Also seen was an ad for a chemistry set which included an "atomic spinthariscope in which disintergration of atomic particles can be viewed racing at speeds of more than 10,000miles per second."

Maybe science isn't so crazy. After all, scientists (as well as science-fictionists) got the idea of going to the moon BEFORE they started talking about things which could destroy the earth.

PLAGIARIZATIONS: - This from a letter from Michifem, Alice Douglas. "I knoe of nothing that looks more lonely and lost than a big city's office buildings early on a Sunday morning. There they stand, those hulking, high-shouldered monuments of man's industry, and aspirations, and greed, with their windows blankly reflecting the slanting sun, waiting, waiting, waiting. What are they without their humans? Nothing but brick and stone and concrete and steel and glass, rearing up from pavements that, somehow, seem impatient to feel the hurried footsteps that, on the morrow, will bustle about at a million and one busy-nesses. Yes, there they loom, echoing, hollowly, the passing of a single automobile; standing there in a sort of suspended animation, like towering rocks, when the tide is at the ebb.

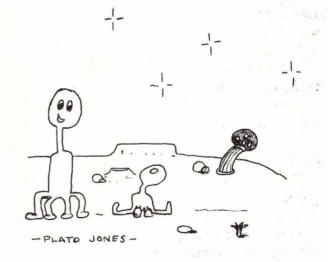
Or to change the mood a bit, try this previously unpublished Ogden Nash-like thing by Bill Venable. 'Tis called, ODE TO A MIMEOGRAPHER.

Whither with falling due As comes the deadline and the first light of day Far thru the dreary night dost thou persue They solitary way?

Vainly, the reader's eye May seek to make something of the blotched mess of ink, While the weary editor gets high From too much to drink.

Well, MERRY CHRISTMAS ALL.

bs



ACROSS THE EDITORS DESK

As those of you with whom I correspond know, in my line of work I have to do a lot of traveling. While this of course cuts into the time I have at home to work on STF TRENDS, it does have its advantages as far as fanning is concerned. I'm able to stop in and chat with a lot of fans in other sections of the country. While in St. Louis a few weeks ago, I spent a very enjoyable evening with Van Splawn, Hal Shapiro, Max Keasler and Larry Tonzinsky. However as Hal covers most of that in his column, I'd like to give you a few of the highlights of one of the mosty enjoyable visits I ever made. The place-Oak Ridge, Tenn. - The fan- One of fandom's nicest gals, Janie Lamb. (p.s. to Janie: WARNING; I told Hal Shapiro that you have a beautiful daughter.)

Well as it happened, I was in Knoxville, Tenn. over a week-end so naturally I asked directions and drove out to see Janie. I had met her previously at the Cinvention and the Nolacon and she had promised to take me on a tour of Oak Ridge and The Atomic Museum whenever I was in that vicinity. I was especially happy at this opportunity as Janie worked there for several years and could explain a lot of things to me that I might otherwise miss.

As we went through Oak Ridge, I found it to be one of the most modern towns in the country. They have one of the most modern High Schools in the entire south. The permanent type homes replacing the prefabricated ones are the latest word in Modernism. They have every sport from checkers to skiing, street car service, libraries, churches, both protestant and Catholic, in fact anything you could expect to find in a large city can be found there, only on a smaller scale.

The high light of the afterboon was, of course, my tour through the Atomic Museum. This is something every fan should attempt to see. Of course that is not possible in many cases, so I will endeavor to remember the high lights of my tour and describe them to you here.

As I entered the door the first thing to catch my eye was, the side of the room plastered with comics, and called "Dagwood splits the ATOM". This was the splitting of the atom in terms the dumbest of fans could understand, but alas, not remember.

I'd like to state here and now, I have never seen a place so filled with thingamajigs and whatchacallems, they were all over the place and gieger counters were scattered throughout the building. Guess they thought I was planning to steal a pound or two of their uranium. One counter was so sensitive it set up a clamor when a man passed wearing a wrist watch with radium dial. When I entered there was a tour just starting.

We were first shown pictures of the various plants at Oak Ridge. These peculiarly are called: Y-12, X-10, K-25, K-27, K-31, and so on Next we see a reactor, here you could feed it a dime and there it came out, radioactive - not enough to be dangerous - but enough to ring the gieger counter. I fed it two - one for myself and one for my little boy - as it ended though, my wife has one, one went to my lil chile, and I have mone. Ah, weel, thas the way of life.

We were then shown the "Mechanical Hands". I understand these are used by operators in hot areas where they cannot go. They are operated by remote control, vision is by an arrangement of mirrors, much like that used in periscopes. It is fantastic what these hands can do. The guide demonstrated the working of them by unscrewing a bottle of liquid (not liquor, he wasn't a true fan) and pouring it through a funnel into a container. Then he had them use scissors to cut paper, used a pen and ink to write, then he finished by borrowing a cigarette lighter from a young man in the group and proceeded to have it light the lighter.

From there we were taken to the agricultural part to see how radiation can even cause corn to mutate. We were shown a picture of a hen being injected with a dose of irradiated phosphorous, it seems science is trying to find out just what chemicals the hen uses in producing her eggs. They will then retire the hen and will have to use factory built eggs. Our guide also informed us that they would soon have beef steak coming along on rollers in the assembly line, to be cut in various cuts, all factory made, but he says not to expect it to happen before Christmas. It won't.

It seems even the human being has not been forgotten by science, we were told that atomic energy would do as much to evolutionize man, as did fire centuries ago. And by the time we have space travel, man will have properly managed mutation to stand those rigors.

Somewhere along the line I was introduced to "Calutron" or something to symbolize the way it works. It seems this is "The Thing" used to separate U235 from U238 by the electro-magnetic process. As you know 238 is what is used to make Plutonium which maintains chain reaction just as 235 and is much easier to separate. U235 was used for the first bomb to be dropped on Japan. But to me the Calutron was just some lights working in a queer way.

Then there was a small model of the pile in operation at Oak Ridge. This seems to be a small building made of concrete outside, and graphite inside. Our guide explained some of this to us. In a "Reactor" uranium rods are separated by graphite to slow down the neutrons (Bullets) and adjustable control rods in the reactor absorb neutron bullets, more rods, less fission. Asking a few questions I was told "heavy water" could be used as could a common household item...parrifin, to replace graphite. Next they will be telling us we can get gamma radiation from coffee, and I do love coffee!

I'm sure several will remember the incident when several persons were poisoned by painting clock dials with radium. The museum has several pictures of how this radiation sickness worked on them. There are the bones from these people which show just how radiation effects the bones. Science has learned much from this tradgedy. Hre you can see just how the "Atomic Cocktail" is traced through the human body, making it easier to learn more about such dreaded diseases as cancer, and lukemia. Mnay of the uses of isotopes were explained to us.

After seeing all this, I'm still wondering how they can separate things they cannot see, take the ones they want, crack it and get the goodie out, and make 'em go BOOM.

Now I've seen uranium in the raw and discovered it is three times as heavy as steel, I've seen replicas of uranium mines, I've been told how the pile 'Reactor'' makes isotopes, and how they are used in treating diseases. I've been shown the wonders of Atomic Energy, and the damage it can do. Specimens of the common housefly are on display, showing how serious mutation can be in a few generations. White rats were also on display, these had been given doses of radiation, and as they breed fast the effect of radiation could be seen, but nowhere among the mutations, plant or animal, did I find a perfect specimen. They are all freaks, you cannot expect radiation to bring into civilization a more intelligent being. After seeing the mutations..... I'll take Homo Sapiena as they are. Thus endeth a much tajoved P. M.

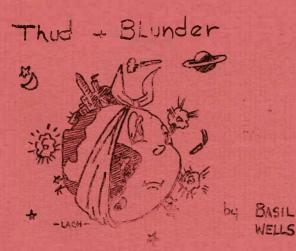
The Dec. 1952 increase CHILD LIFE, restures a new cerial by Paul Gilbert, "Bertram's Trup to the Moon" I can vived y recall not own oblighted days when I would much to the Street to need the latent Bestream every. Then I graduated to the JEERN TODD books. How many of you comempose "Jerry Todd and the Enchanted Ege"? A for that came the JOM SWIFT and DOM HARDY sected. Remembering good --- I worde to the how will every reading these same books? He'll have the chance. The sected to the storage at my mother is along side my ARCOST. ALL-STORY, CALALTER and STF collection. By the way, I have some 400 on to emplicate copies in my ALGOSY and ALL SEFORY collection. What am I more is Some date back not the 1880's.

The above moniformal source OFILD LIFE a consideration and end man is "Rocket to March". My boy intil getting this copy is the end man is through with it. This Contained will certainly be a STT Christman at our house. So for live bought the boy a space and appendix of the organization tooket ships, and about morariting also play have to us of STF line. He'll be a fan or bast. In case anyone wonders, he is for 5 years old.

Received an advance copy of the AVON SCIENCE FIG TION AND FANTASY READER from Sequence Levine, promotion Director of Avon Publishing Co., Inc., the other day. It is the state of a new series (Vo). 1. No. 1) and it a vast improvement in format over the 2 previous carles. By the time this reaches you, ASFFR will have been on the stands for about a month. If you haven; thought it yet ... do no. You'll like it. The call regretable thing I are about it, is that all the startes will be originals. Avon the hard done a memorable job to bringing to the readers, some of the short "gems" of the past.

The Tank issue features stocies by Asihur C. Clarke, Frenk Owens and Milles Lenser along others. GOOD LUCK with your sum magazine Seympur, I think it will click.





So the firl Monstahs are no more. Gone to join Sarge Salura presume. SFandom's clubs and organizations seem to have a high mortality rate. Ditto with most of the correspondence between fes. It's a rare friendship via airmail that endures for five years.

My moaning about sfandom getting too big and impersonal is as echo in how I feel about the consolidation of local schools into one super circus. Hi school kids are hauled ten or fifteen miles from their homes and dumped isto overgrowdclassrooms. Their social life after school hoursis practically sit +r= bow many parents can afford to drive ion miles and then park for four or five hours waiting? The boys are beat out of basketball baseball and track. And, despite the million dollar rooms and empensive equipment, the little stinkers carit spell, read or multiply as well as their pore reglected fore fathers and mothers. Centralipation is the nuts --- for the small percentage of ral superior brain guys (seorglass.) I'd like to see the old amaller high achools retained as they were, for social benifits and more intimate contact with teachers, and the gifted few in each achool bring caulad away to the centralized temple of la sia'.

This, however, is wishful thicking. I realize the huge appendixed is here to stay. But a million dollar school is worse than useless if the teachers are inferior. A good instructor is a simple scaled dome on mars is superior to a pompous jackess in an earthly classroom. When we get out there let's try using our heads...

Politics and ideologies are usually good things to shy away from. Even stf, liberal as it is, usually toys rather delicately with any mention of present-day conflicts. Just what is your idea of the reasons for the East-West split? Its something fundamental --- not money-hungry industrial of warmongers, or power-hungry dictators, that -= must consider. My own crude imagery in words pres it this way: every man a king, or every man insect. In the west we want to think our own thoughts, choose our jobs, and keep our individuality. The other concept is that of the anthill state --- the individual submarged, mentally and physically, for the good of the group. (In actual practice this appears to mean the topflight leaders, with insecure heads on their easily strangled necks.) This slave versus freeman struggle has existed for centuries and will cortinue as long as certain men are psychotic enough to desire absolute power over their fellows.

In the future such ataviatic throwbacks should arouse only pity, instead of terror, in the minds of their fellows. They are sick, dangerous, and aptisocial, despite their prattle about social ism...

This's getting away from our main idea, stf in mags and books and how it ties in with life todayor is it? The social problems of today will carry over into space and to other planets, or other continuums.

I haven't been reading much af in hard covers lately, Did pick up a fise first edition of TRILBY a pseudo-fantasy if I ever read one. Like THE MARTIAN it is profusely illustrated by the author and makes our modern editions look sheddy. Ilinstrations and fine bindings seem to have gone with prohibition, Of course expense entern the picture, SPECTACLES OF CAGLIOSTRO by H. S. Keeler 1929, is a fake as far as fastasy goes, but it does take a stiff, not overly friendly poke at paychistry, mental hospitals and pesny-pinching statesmen. You'll find the 1952 BEST. Dikty and Bleiler. is the best yet. I get a kick out of it because a searby neighbor and writer, Betsy Custin, has a yars in it: A PECULIAR PEOPLE Ed Noble has given up the explorer for IEPCC after two years of fine editing Wonder if the rumor about Gold taking over WEIRD is unfounded --- it has needed a change for years --- and BLOCH for editor. Maybe Gold has the touch too Margaret and I stayed overnight at the Kellers of Strongaburg, in Oct., The Doctor has a fine library of his appublished tales, published books and mags, and his favorite authors.





fiendetta ?

of course 1 read It!

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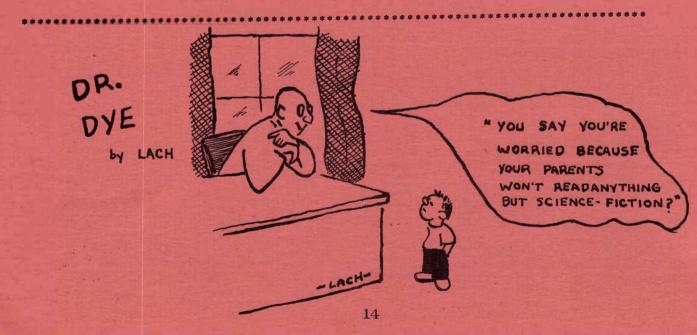
Charles Wells 405 East 62 nd St. Savannah, Ga.



THE JET CHAMBER

A new feature will begin in next month's Stf Trends....The Jet Chamber will attempt to answer your questions on fandom. All questions must be in this office within two (2) weeks after publication of each issue. This feature is intended mainly for the new fan that wants to know the why and wherefore of fandom, but all questions will be given consideration. Questions will be answered by a member of a fan panel.

The continuation of this feature, will depend, of course, on your response. So get those questions in here. They may be on any subject as long as it is of a fannish nature. You can find out about other fanzines, fans, best places to buy back issues, conventions, etc... Anything of a fannish nature.....



LETTERS cont.

Dear Lynn,

I've just finished reading STF TRENDS and thought perhaps you'd like to know my reactions. Mostly it is very good. The front and rear cover illos were great. Your covers are always the best in the fan field. Conner was good as usual as was wells. Dr. Carpenters: guest editorial made good sense. But Catania's short story wasn't too good. Practically every fanzine has printed the same thing.

For the first time I must find fault with my favorite fan writer, Rich Elsberry. He must have been in an awful mood when he wrote that column. Don't misunderstand me, he might have been right in what he said, however I think if he was going to blast something in one-half of the column he should have found something nicer to talk about in the other half. As it was, the whole thing left me with a bad taste in my mouth.

Here are my answers to your questions on page 18. 1. I like a long letter column. 2. One story per ish is enough fiction. 3. More articles. 4. Format is ok. 5. I love the covers and the interior artwork. 6. Dr. Carpenter is a fan of distinction. Why not ask him for a few articles? 7. I like it mailed in envelopes. I realize it costs more, of course. Yet folding the mags would ruin those wonderful covers.

I hope you can make STF TRENDS a bimonthly at least.

> Richard Billings N. Wilkesboro, N.C.

P.S. I became a member of NFFF today. I joined last April!

The Average of the

Dear Lynn,

I enjoyed issue #10 of STF TRENDS, especially THE CHILD. Very well done, althqugh I have my usual objection to fiction in fanzines the stories are always too short for really adequate development. Oh well, I guess that can't be helped. The reat of the issue was good too. In fact I can't find anything important to complain about.

Jean Doriocourt Houston, Texas

Dear Lynn,

I am very angry with you. Why dgya havta change the name of TLMA? Now what can I boast to the local yokels? I can't say anymore, that I'm a real, true, little monster. I'm really gusdusted. I think I'll have you exiled to Gopher Gulch, Mont. That is one building in 800 square miles territory. Small building too.

> Larry Anderson Billings, Mont.

Dear Lynn,

STF TRENDS arrived, and I was reading merrily through it until I came to the last page.

I got addenda for you on THE BLACK LOTUS

Foistly, it isn't, or wasn't supposed to be, "Lovecraftian". It was my first, last and only venture into the Dunsanian and Clark Afton Smithsonian style.

Secondly, it isn't "anybodys guess" as to when I wrote it. THE BLACK LOTUS was perpetrated in 1933, appeared in 1934 in Bill Crawford's semi-pro magazine, MARVEL TALES. In 1933, which is almost twenty years ago (whatever HAPPENED to all those years, anyway?) I was all of 16 years old. whatever the quality of the yarn, you must admit that was pretty precocious of me to be taking hasheesh at this time.

Thirdly, your commentator says something about "every author it seems manages to have at least one pot-boiler published in his time." This does not apply to me. pefinitely not! I have managed to have MANY potboilers published in my time.

Hope this obscures the issue sufficiently...and thanks and good luck on the new venture.

> Robert Bloch Milwaukee, Wisc.

David English

Dear Lynn,

STF TRENDS received, read and enjoyed, for the most part. Conner turned out another nice Korner. I'd like to state my approval of John Magnus' statements about Ray palmer --- I agree 100%. I'm rather sorry I never said this before.

Dunkirk, N.Y.

Dear Lynn,

I can no longer walk up to a casual stf reader, draw myself up to my full five foot eleven inches height, stare them in the face and say: "I am a LITTLE MONSTER!" Oh terrible fate. Sob, sigh. But at least I have STF TRENDS to keep me company in this hour of Monster lonliness. But these things happen, and they must be taken in (shudder) stride.

Ah, but to get down to brass tacks...now isn't that astounding. (OUCH!) wilkie Conner, as usual, wacky but good. Cliches and Comics was very good. The Child was good, but somehow I don't go much for fiction in fanzines. I prefer articles. But then if everyone wants fiction, I can take it. BOY CAN THAT MAGNUS TALK A LOT! whew! The letters after Mr. Magnus' novelette were all good. And then Thud and Blunder was again good. I like Basil any how. Death of an Editor was...well if it had... don't you think it was...well anyhow The voice of Fandom was good. I like Elsberry's style of writing. About FANTASTIC SCIENCE FICTION, I bouhgt the first ish just for kicks. Gad, ugh...gaaa... Ah yes, good old Probert Bloch, the gibbering ghost writer. He does good stuff on poe. Like the FFM story THE MAN WHO COLLECTED POE. And of course the latest ish of FANTASTIC had Robert Bloch's finish to poe's THE LIGHTHOUSE. Yes, yes, they are both very good. I like the back covers you run, especially the Jan. 1953 cover. Well Lynn, you're doing good, and I hope you keep STF TRENDS as good as it is now (save for improvements, if any can be made) and I'll always be a subscriber.

v. paul Nowell No. Hollywood, Calif.

Dear Lynn,

congradulate Hal Shapiro on his conreport in TLMA #6. Also as usual, I enjoyed the (capsule size) letter section. An yes, A History of Thrane was interesting too. So enticing in fact that I've enclosed a money order for 2 issues of Sons of Thrane. Hoping for a bigger letter column.

Robert Gonzales Chicago, Illinois

Dear Lynn,

Excellent, Excellent, Excellent. I must say I have never seen anything like it in my entire STF life. The drawings were the most inpiring thing I have ever seen and the contents were just as wonderful.

Robert Haun Chippawa, Ont.

Dear Lynn,

I enjoyed the first issue, or rather the tenth, issue of STF TRENDS very much. It was quite an attractive, as well as being highly interesting issue. Both of the covers were extremely good, with the nod going to the one by Alan Hunter. Elsberry's and conner's columns were almost identically the same in rating first place in the issue your editorial, the letter column, and Thud and Blunder were all enjoyable and quite good. The fiction was O.K., although I thought catania's bit was fairly provocative. Neat. Be sure to keep up the good work.

Ian T. Macauley Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Lynn,

Got STF TRENDS a while ago. Too bad you had to fold up the club but maybe its just as well Now you:ll probably have more of your flitting time to devote to putting out a magazine. All you have to do is improve this one a little and you'll have a top notcher. Especially like was the Carpenter editorial. The back cover was a beauty.. do you have anymore Clynes on hand? The contents page was well laid out this time too. The cartoon there was particularly witty,

Rich Bergeron Newport, Vt.

"Whither trending, my pretty maid?" "I'm trending toward motherhood, sir" she said "Then that's no melon you're smuggling home?" "No, kind sir, 'tis a little gaome."

Battell Loomis

REQUIEM

Ring out the old, ring in the new, The little monsters' day is through. Their path now to Valhalla wends They've been replaced by Steffish Trends.

We mourn your passing little Bems, Your zine had many fannish gems. But pappy took to him a wife, And banished monsters from his life.

Ghu guide your footsteps, little ghouls, And grant you many happy yules. In that far place you've come to know, Where banished Little Monsters go-

P. H. Economou

Editorial addeada ...

I had hoped to have this issue out by the first of Jan. because of the Christmas story, but due to moving and being without my Multilith machine until Jan. 10th, it was impossible. However I hope you will bear with me on this If you don't wish to read the Christman story out of season, save it until next year. My wife wrote it and I thought it was pretty good. Attended the Pittsburgh Science Fiction Societies Christmas party. Really had a swell time. Met Don Susan, Bea and Bill Venable. P. Schyler Miller, and many other swell fans. They really have a good club. Next issue will show a trend of change in TRENDS Watch for it. I think you'll like it.

The Editors

THE VOICE OF FANDOM

by RICH ELSBERRY

In the past there have been reports of varying accuracy about a fannish underground supposedly doing one thing or another to destroy fandom or to "organize" it. They've received little or no comment, but not many people doubted that there could be such an organization, or that its existance might be someday desirable. However, I doubt if anybody ever believed that the pro's might someday form an underground; no credited them with that much initiative. Therefore, it may come as a shock to some people to find out that there is such an organization functioning right now in the greatest secrecy.

La presidente de la companya de la c

The purpose of the pro-underground is to get itself elected as a governing body of mational conventions, and to decide where the convention shall be held from year to year. And it isn't finmy, the pro's are much better organized to carry off such a coup than the vast majority of fans will ever be. The organisation is far flung, ranging from Pete Finigan of the Little Men is Ban Prancisco to Marty Greenburg og Geome Press in New York. The fact that there are few communications between fans and pros has kept it a virtual secret until now. The Philoen Committee, naturally, is in on it. As eastern correspadent at the Philly conference in November, says that it is already an actuality, and that Jim Williams, PhilCon Cheirman, is working to expand the PhilCon Committee. Already, pro's Bob Tucker, Walt Gibson, and pave Kyle are listed as committee men, and none of them are from Philadelphia. The one point is fandom's favor is that the majority of the underground are in favor of slow growth, a factor which gives fandom time to become aware of its activities and to form an opposition.

Philadelphia, right now, is the nominal organizational head of this underground. The first stop against fandom has already been taken by the PhilCon Committee, of which L. Sprague De Camp is Chairman. De Camp has been set up as a demi-god to rule on the credentials of bidding cities. At the time of this writing, nearly size months until convention time, the Rules Committee has already ruled out (1) the South, (2) Washington, D.C., and (3) Detroit. The former two because of "race discrimination" and the latter because of its "foods" and the fact that it is continually "split". The Committee is determined to give the next convention to Prisco. a point I have no argument with, but I cannot approve of their methods of going about it. The nomination and voting for the convention site are part of the fun of the convention, to circumvent them would take away part of the enjoyment and purpose of the convention. And, to my knowledge, the bidding has always been to determine the best equipped and most reasonable site for the convention. I probably wouldn't vote for Atlanta, Washington or Detroit, but I firmly believe that they have the right to place their city in momination and to let the convention attendees, not the PhilCon Rules Committee, decide which city is best qualified. De Camp's committee right now, is dictatorial in nature. The convention host city should not try to high pressure fans into accepting a city that is unacceptable to them, and that they have not had a chance to vote for. Philadelphia is attempting to do just that, and if fandom retains its usual apathy we will find that the annual mational convention will be taken out of our hands and governed by a group of pro's. If you want this sort of hierarchy just sit back and forget you read this.

DEPT. OF KEEPING IN THE DARK

"Ihave just read 'Prisoner in the Skull' by Charles Dye.... This is one of the most active books I have read recently. It is very well done and most interesting. I would call it a detective, science fiction story. If you like your stories with lots of corpses and rocket ships named for two of our greats and beautiful women and plenty of action, this is it. A man wakens to find he has lost his memory. He is in the woods and returns to town to find out about himself from the people he hopes to find through identification he carries. What happens from the time he appears in town is one big battle after another. The chase travels from one part of New York to another, to Jersey, Long Island, and finally to the Moon. I will not tell you the ending as it should be kept in the dark until you come upon it naturally. I reccomend it highly to anyone. ---Jean Carrol, "S-F Journal. PANTASY-TIMES, 2nd Oct. 1952.

ARE YOU SURE HE'S THE ONLY ONE LOST IN THE WOODS?

YOU'D BETTER WEAR SUSPENDERS

A columnist can perform at least one service to fandom, if nothing else, and that is in the viewing of those pseudo-science fiction movies that have been appearing lately. So last week I went downtown with the

Deriver in the state of a state of a

or fame of the same stands of

intention of seeing something called "Captive Women", or "Love is **3000** A.D.". Although my intentions were good I never did get inside the theatre -- the stills outside were enough to scare all but the most calloused movie-goers away. However, I did return a couple of days later to see "Invasios, USA", a shocker-type film that Hedda Hopper said, "It will acare your pants off -". Ingenious use of newsreels, both from the last war and the Korean 'policeaction' comprise most of the footage and add a tist of authenticity to this film, but that's about all. The cutting and splicing job wasn't the best, and it was mothing to see groups of jets meet for 'dog-fights' and have old Japanese zeros and bombers being shot down. One moment you'd be seeing new US bombers with the engines on the back side of the wing taking off and in flight they woeld miracelously change into trite old B-29's. An atttack on Boulder Dam was also quite quaint. Five jets are sees flying, supposedly towatd the dam. Then we see the dam and the shadows of ten or fifteen two engine bombers slowly cruising overhead. This then cuts back to a shot of a jet diving and cutting loose with rockets --- the shot dissolvem is to a splice of the Bikini 'mushroom'. In the bombing of New York, newsreel shots of London fire-eaters in World War 1 style helmets are incongruously interspaced with new makes od a strecher crew with the new army belmet.

The movie opens in a bar where a group of fairly congenial people are gathered -- a congressman, cattle raiser, tractor manufacturer, tv commentator, an ingenue, etc. The commentator is asking questions for his tv program and the gist of the matter is that everyone feels they're paying too much taxes and that America is too strong, etc. to be attacked by a fors an power. Everyone that is except a Mr. Omen. Mr. Omen hypotizes everyone and gives them a glimpse of what the fiture could be like, an attack on America by a foreign power, generally alluded to be Russia. First, Alaska, he Pacific Northwest, and California, fall before the atom bombs and paratroopers of the invader. An A-bomb hits New York, and although the President assures everyone that the enemy is getting three for everyone that is dropped on us, he isn't able to do much when exemp paratroopers are dropped in Washington and manage to wipe out a goodly part of Congress. It seems the exemp is vearing American ubiforms, speaks English, and is quite easily able to infiltrate. During the course of the film, everyone in the bar is killed in one way or another, and with the final death everyone teturns more or less to their senses. Suddenly, they all realize that America's defense is everybody's business, etc. It is a fine piece of propaganda. As I left the movie I suddenly noticed that I still had my pants on. It doesn't speak very well for Miss Hopper's capabilities as a soothsaver --

MOST OF THEM FANZINES

"A batch of about twenty pubs - most of them families, will join into ONE big monthly that almost promises to hit the number One Spot on the familie hit tune parade. The first issue will be out in March (1952?). Rom Friedman will take over the editorialship. He should be better qualified now since he recently accepted a post of associate-editor of a proffessional trade newspaper knows as the WASHING NEWS, and located on 42nd Street and and Times Square in New York City." -- Ron Freidman in Pendulum 92.

In The other standard

Probably Just a prelude to more soft soap-----

THE 'UNKNOWN' IMITATORS

In TLMA #6, Wilkie Conner said, "Weird Tales might become a companion fantasy mag to Galaxy. Rumor has it that Gold has been dickering with Short Stories Publishing Company, who owns WT, for the rights to use the title of this famous old book. This would doubtless cause John W. Campbell, Jr. to start things moving toward a reissuing of UNKNOWN. . and then we would have some truly magnificent literatyre once again."

Conner's rumor did bear some fruit, for FANTAST-TIMES has just assounced that Gold's version of 'Unknown', BEYOND, will reach the newstands this spring. And, almost simultaneously, Lester Del Rey released the fact that he too will publish an 'Unknown' inspired magazine to be called FANTAST. Both are digest sized, bimonthly, and 85¢. And neither will induce JWC to revive UNENOWN.

Campbell doesn't want to revive UNKOWN. He has been trying to avoid the issue for some time, but it isn,t any secret. UNKNOWN wasn't a financial success. Despite its obvious quality it never obtained a circulation that would support it, but it was Campbell's brain child and he didn,t want to desert it until he absolutely had to. In the last years of UN- (continued on the following page.)

Next issue----published in 3 weeks. Contains -- Geo. O. Smith, Harlas Ellison, Wilkie Conner, Fred Chappell, Hal Shapiro, Plato Jones and many others. Single copy -- 356. One year subscription (ten issues), \$1.00

STF TRENDS 584 HIGH STREET, NAPOLEON, OHIO

KNOWN, only Campbell's individual brilliance kept the magazine going. The majority of the stories he was getting were weird and supernatural, not at all the type he wanted. In those waning years Campbell did everything but write the stories: he furnished a majority of the plot ideas to the authors, ordered rewrites, and generally worked himself to a frazzle. He is afraid that if he revives UN-KNOWN that will happen again. I don't think there is any doubt that a revived UNKNOWN could pay its way---45,000-50,000 copies could turn the trick, but Campbell has enough to do just with ASTOUNDING.

BEYOND should be a good magazine for a year or two. After that the authors will run out of steam, Godd will be played out, and the magazine will began a slow decline. The same problems that harassed Campbell ten years ago will began to bother Gold. The UNKNOWN type of fantasy is the hardest kind to write, and seemingly only appeals to a small group. That is the problem that stymied Campbell, and it is the same one that Gold will have to cope with. If Campbell should revive UNKNOWN it would only be at the insistence of the front office at Street and Smith, and Campbell's heart wouldn't be in it.

Gold, you may remember, lost his temper over the theft of his cover format. The wholesale robbery involved in the stealing of a magazine could, then, in Gold's eyes, be provocation enough for murder. I hope he doesn't cut his own throat.

THE TRUE FAN





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