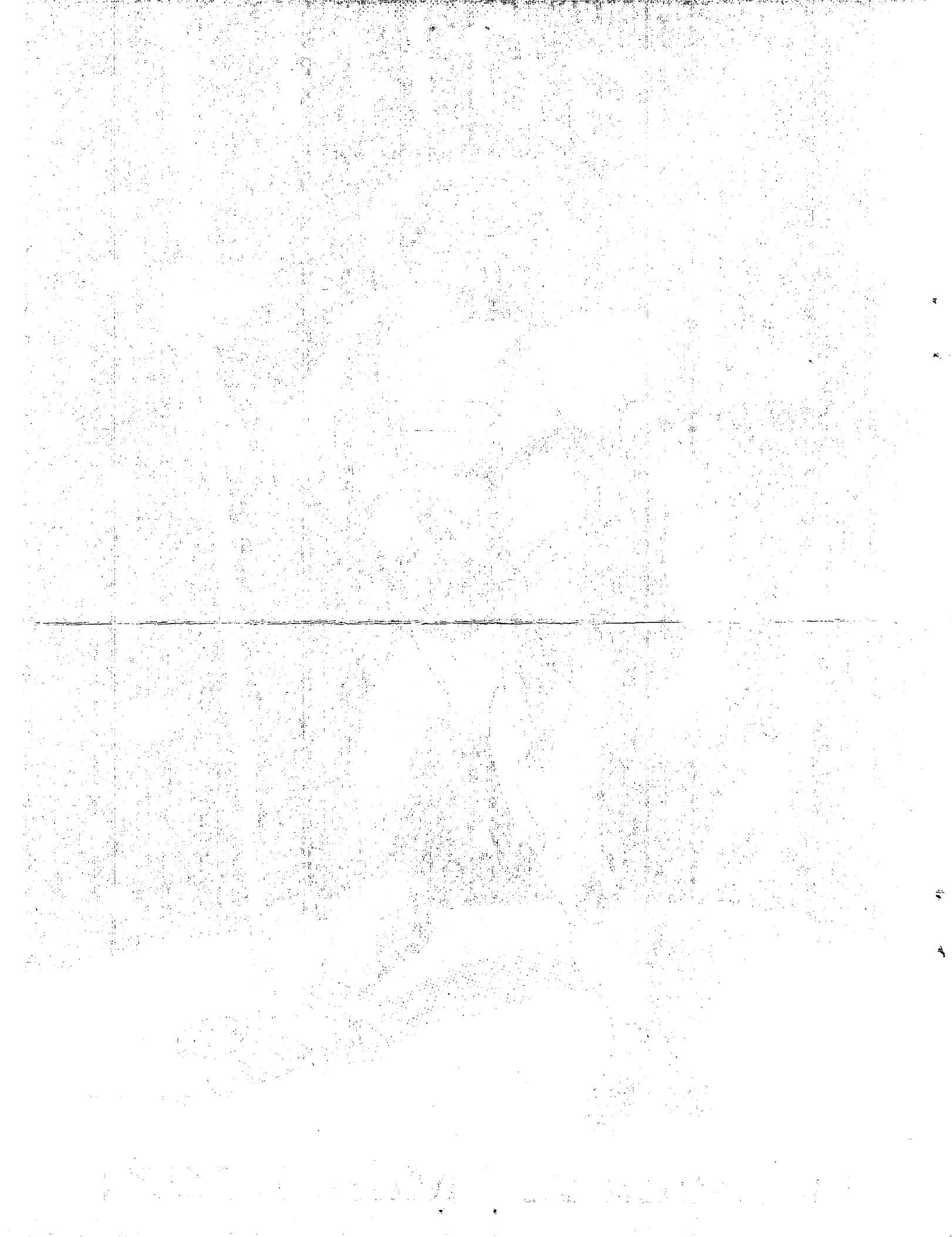




D. BRUCE BERRY

Number 21 March 1971



RUNE 21, March 1971

RUNE 21, March 1971, is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Science Fiction Society. It is thoughtfully edited by Lynn Torline and Chuck Holst. Ken Fletcher is consulting editor and mailing.

RUNE is available free to all attending members of Minn-stf and to whomever we damn well feel like sending it to. Others can get 10 issues for \$1.00 or in trade or contributions.

MINN-STF OFFICERS

Frank Stodolka, President (3755 Pillsbury Ave. S., Mpls., Minn. 55409) 825-6355.
Jim Young, Vice-President (1948 Ulysses St. NE, Mpls., Minn. 55418) 781-3278.
Lynn Torline, Secretary (1350 Queen Ave., No., Mpls., Minn. 55411) 529-5458.
Margie Lessinger, Treasurer (1350 Queen Ave. No., Mpls., Minn. 55411) 529-5458.

NEW POLICY

Starting with this issue, all out of town and non-attending members of Minn-stf are asked to fill out the reply cards enclosed within (except those who receive RUNE as a gift. Those people will find a "C" on the corner of their card, but are asked to return them anyhow). Due to Bulk Mailing Regulations, all copies must be identical--hence, cards in all zines.

The fen are asked to fill out the cards and return them by April 23rd--no later. RUNE 22 will be the last issue mailed to you unless we receive a reply, as all no-response names will be dropped from the mailing list, for they will be considered the same as a cancellation. If you know of a friend who also receives RUNE, but for some reason cannot reply, please notify us so we can put it in our records. Thank you for your co-operation.

The Editors

Seen on the way to a Minn-stf meeting: a black maria with a "Fly the Flag" sticker on one back door and a "No Vacancy" sign on the other.

ERRATUM

Sorry. It was supposed to be "Would you Belive Minneapolis in... '77", not 73.

We forgot to give Redd Boggs a by-line for "Giants in Those Days" and erroneously mentioned there would be future installments of the article. There are no more written as of this point, but we hope to have an addendum to finish everything very soon.

It

The second recipients of the RUNATIC Award were Marge Lessinger, Ken Fletcher, Frank Stodolka, and Jim Young. Anyone can receive this handsome addition to their scrap-book by contributing something to the RUNE--money, material, or supplies. Anyone able to donate a filing cabinet.....

FANZINES ARE...
by Ken Fletcher

"Fanzines" are amateur publications published by soem science fiction fans. (There are fanzines produced by comicfans and gamefans. Perhaps more about these later.) Fanzines are usually one-man operations, and nearly all are non-profit to a greater or lesser degree. Printing is very occasionally done on a ditto machine, usually on a mimeo machine, depending upon which an editor owns or has access to. There are some fanzines done professionally with offset presses, and many faneditors use offset printing for covers and art sections of their fanzines. Ditto (spirit duplication) is typified by the purple/blue type on white paper that your teacher used for tests in grade school. The interior of this RUNE has been run off on a mimeo machine. The cover has been printed by offset (just like your issue of Life magazine, only less so.)

Fanzine publishing is like a hobby within a hobby (or a way-of-life within a way-of-life, as some of you may prefer). For some reason, may SF fans have an affinity towards amateur publications--ending up as editors, contributors, or subscribers. Currently, there are easily 200 fanzine publishers in fandom, most of whose publications are less than spectacular in content or appearance. However, these fanzines are the communication lines of fandom, and their presence has shaped SF fandom and given it the uniqueness that it has.

The content of fanzines tends to reflect the communications role. It is somewhat a true bit of fannish humor that there's very little about SF in SF fanzines. An interest in science fiction is assumed in the background of the fanzine reviewer, a common interest--and most fanzines go on from that, more interested in communicating people-to-people. Editorials are often about what's been happening lately in the editor's life, letter columns are about any topic mutually interesting to writer and editor, and articles and discussion are often fan and fandom oriented. Reviewing of SF is fairly common, and amateur-written stories do appear, but the latter is critically discouraged, whether good or not. Humerous writing and fiction about SF fans (faanfiction) is encouraged. SF, fantasy and fannish themes dominate the art and cartooning in fanzines. Much of the fannish art is better than pro art. (Don't let them hear you say that, Ken!)

Fanzine sizes and types vary with the editor's orientation. Genzines (general interest zines) are usually large and well-balanced with features. A smaller fanzine usually reflects the editor's personality more, often becoming a "personalzine" or "selfzine". Fanzines done for special occasions (one-shot) and for special purposes (clubzines, newszines, apazines) are also quite common. Apazines are done for amateur press associations, several of which exist to act as short-cuts for distribution among fanzine editors--rather like "fanzine pools". Blue's Apa is a local example.

Most fanzines become more irregularly scheduled as the more experienced the editor becomes. Or so it seems. Distribution is usually by mail--3rd or 1st class, depending on the size. Mailing list are compiled most often from fanzine reviews and lettercolumns. Occassionally, fanzines are sold and exchanged at SF conventions.

Fanzines have been around since the 1930's when some SF fen discovered one didn't have to have a printing press to become a focal point and publishing empire... you could make due with a typer and a mimeo machine. Fanzines are fun.

Coming up next issue: The second installment of Ken's article, plus an example of fanzine rating. Watch for it.

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UPCOMING CONS

TOLKIEN SOCIETY CONFERENCE 4 (April 2-4): Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH. Papers, panels, exhibits and a play. For info: Jan Howard Finder, 23951 Lake Shore Blvd., #204-B, Euclid, OH 44123.

EASTERCON 22 (April 9-11): Giffard Hotel, Worcester, England. Brian Aldiss GoH, Ethel Lindsay Fan GoH, Peter Weston--Chairman. The annual British convention. Registration is 10/-(\$1.50) from Andy Porter, 55 Pineapple St., Brooklyn, NY 11201 or Pete Weston, 31 Pinewall Ave., Birmingham 30, U.K.

PECON 2 (April 9-11): Sands Motel, Peoria, Ill. Gordon Dickson is GoH. Philip Jose Farmer and Bob Tucker will also appear. Larry Propp and Don Blyly are Chairmen. Registration is \$2.00 in advance, \$3.00 at the door. For info: Don Blyly, 158 Hopkins, URH, Champaign Ill. 61820.

LUNACON (April 16-18): Commodore Hotel, New York, NY. John W. Campbell, GoH, Howard Devore, Fan GoH. The largest of the regional conventions. Advance registration is \$2.50 from Devra Langsam, 250 Crown St., Brooklyn, NY. 11225.

GOTHCON 71 (May 20-23): Gothenburg, Sweden. Combination Tolkien/SF program. For info: Soren Cardflet, Dan Bregstromsgaten 8, S-68100 Kristineham, Sweden.

DISCLAVE (May 28-31): Shoreham Hotel, Washington DC. For info: Jay Haldeman, 405 Southway, Baltimore MD 21218.

NORWESTCON (May 29-30?) Portland Ore. No information.

SYMPOSIUM 1971 (May 28-31) Edgewater Hyatt House, Long Beach CA. Larry Niven-Guest speaker, Dave McDaniel - Toastmaster. Membership is \$1.00 till April 1, \$1.50 to May 27, \$2.00 at the door. For info: Barry Gold 11969 Iowa Ave. #6, L.A. CA 90025.

GNOMOCLAVE (June 11-13): Hotel Andrew Jackson, Knoxville TN. Frank Kelly Frease is GoH, Andy Offutt - MC. Costume Ball, etc. Registration is \$2,50 to Irvin Koch, 614 Hill Avenue SW, Knoxville, Tenn. 37902.

SPECULATION 2 (June 12): Birmingham & Midland Institute, Birmingham, England. For info: Pete Weston, 31 Pinewall Ave., Birmingham 30, U.K.

MINICON 4 (June 18-20): Curtis Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Registration is \$2,00 in advance, \$3.00 at the door. For more info: Jim Young, 1948 Ulysses St, NE, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418.

MIDWESCON 22 (June 25-27): Quality Courts Motel, Cincinnati, OH. For info: Lou Tabakow, 3953 St. Johns Terrace, Cincinnati OH 45236.

WESTERCON 24 (July 3-5): Hilton Airport Inn, San Francisco CA. Avram Davidson, GoH, Don Simpson, Fan GoH. Membership is \$4.00 up to June 1, \$5.00 after. For info: Astrid Anderson, 3 Las Palamos, Orinda CA 94563.

D-CON (July 8-9): Statler Hilton Hotel, Dallas TX. Robert Bloch is GoH. registration is \$5.00 in advance, \$6.00 at the door. For info: Larry Herndon, 1830 Highland Dr. Carrollton Texas 75006.

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Cons, con't.

PgHLANGE 3 (August 7-9): Chatham Center Motor Inn, Pittsburgh PA. Lester del Rey is GoH. For info: Ginjer Buchanan, 5830 Bartlett St., Pittsburgh PA 15217.

MYTHCON 2: No information.

NEW MEXICON 3 (August 27-28): Ramada Inn East. Albuquerque NM. For info: Bob Vardex Box 11352, Albuquerque NM 87112.

NOREASCON: 29th WORLD SF CONVENTION (Sept. 3-6): Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boston Mass. Clifford Simak is GoH, Harry Warner Jr. is Fan GoH. Regis. is \$6.00 attending, \$4.00 supporting before 10 August, \$10.00 at the con. Noreascon, Box 547, Cambridge MA 021

SECONDARY UNIVERSE 4 (Oct. 9-11): Toronto Ontario, Canada. For info: Madeleine Mor-ton, Sec. Univ. 4, 566 Palmerston Ave., Toronto 174, Ontario, Canada.

OCTACON (Oct. 30-31) Sandusky ohio - No information.

PHILCON (November 13-14?): Philadelphia, PA. - No information.

NOVACON 1 (Nov. 13-14): Imperial Hotel, Birmingham, England. Membership 10/- to Vernon Brown, Room 623, Pharmacy, Univ. of Aston, Birmingham, U.K.

Don't sail too near the edge of the Galaxy--you'll fall off! P.W.

OPEN MEETING 2

On February 13th, Minn-stf had its second Open Meeting in the Men's Lounge at Coffman Memorial Union in the U of M. As most members know, the Open Meeting is to let other SF Fans see what Minn-stf is all about. We showed them, However, I still think that a few will join in spite of the meeting. The other reason for having the meeting is raise lots of money, whcih we did fairly well in--about \$60 plus or minus ten. So gang, this is what actually happened.

The program started off with a lecture from some members of the Minnesota Futurists Society. They explained the beginning, the structure, and mission of their club. They also told of their interest in Minn-stf, because of the close relationshi between Science Fiction and the future. If anyone is interested in the Futurists, contact Frank Stodolka, as he has all the information.

After a small comedy interlude, (very small) we had a panel discussion on comic books and their eventual downfall. The faults and good points were talked on for some time covering the entire subject from Buck Rogers to Blackbolt.

The next panel was just about us--the Minnesota Science Fiction Society. We talked about the upcoming Minicon and the Society's other undertakings, including the Writer's Workshop, the Minn-stf Library, and the Talking Book project for the blind.

Then, the big event, the spectacular event that everybody paid out their hard earned bread for, Ruth Berman's STAR TREK blooper film, was the funniest things I have ever seen.

Except for the art auction, that was about it. I think everybody involved should be given about a thousand lashes and a warning. But seriously, folks, it was a good job, so let's give a round of applause to Jim Young, Ruth and the rest for their hard work.

Pat Worthington

FAFNIR MEETS AGAIN

The Fafnir Chapter of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Dragons met February 2nd at Rudy Pravo's house in Hastings. Present were Rudy Pravo, Lucius Throcktwittle, Morty Arthur, Lynn Dale, Janice Saipus, and Gil Thoniel. Pennyfeather Frisk of Mini-Minn-stf and ENUR, and Art Roberts showed up halfway through the main topic of discussion, "The Virgin Problem". Hot cider was served, and fudge that the girls had made at the last meeting. Brownies were also served, with much sniggering and racy puns.

Monty led off the discussion with a brief description of dragon habits--the gist of which is that, while dragons are omnivorous, well-armored, and adaptable, like humans they prefer roast meat and trophy-lined dens, and avoid fighting whenever possible. Also, like human males, they have a decided preference for virgin females of the human variety. Just what they do with these virgins is not clear, but that dragons have a liking for them is a well-attested fact in historical records going back thousands of years.

It is Morty's theory that the recent decline in the number of dragons is somehow related to the recent decline in the number of virgins. At last month's meeting, he therefore suggested that the Fafnirs study this problem. The thing to do, he said, was to put a virgin and a dragon together and see what happened. Lucius thought this a hare-brained idea. "First of all," he said, "where do you think we're going to find a dragon? And secondly, does anyone here know any virgins?" At this, Pennyfeather raised her hand. "I'm a virgin," she said, blushing. "What? After an ENUR meeting," said Lucius. After that, things degenerated. The evening ended as usual with the group singing "Puff, the Magic Dragon".

Gil Thoniel

Capt. Kirk is on a mission of PIECE.

RUTH BERMAN TURNS PRO

Ruth Berman, a long time BNF and head Trekkie, has sold a story to Galaxy Publications. It will be published in IF under the title of "Ptolemaic Hijack", a short story of about 6700 words. She also sold poems to Saturday Review, one of which is entitled "Computative Oak".

We join all the fen in wishing her the best of success in her position and also hope she will still have time to put out a few more issues of T-Negative, her Star Trek zine.

lt

Behemoth--or be he worm?

DICTIONARY OF FANNISH TERMINOLOGY

I wish to thank everybody for their help with my dictionary. However, time being what it is and new words constantly coming into usage, I've decided to put it off--for a while at least. I'm really not sure when I'll pick it up again, but it won't be for at least a year. Again, thank you for your assistance.

lt

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NORTH CAROLINA FAN TO VISIT

Michael Dobson, a BNF from NC will be in the twin cities during Passover/Easter weekend, April 7-12.

Michael, who has been a faned since his early teens, is the editor of AVERNUS and Random Jottings, and belongs to Apa '45. (Those of you at Midwescon may remember him as the one who tried to balance a waterpitcher on his head during the banquet to distract the attention of the group from the Minneapolis fen. /It was the fannish thing to do!/))

There will be a party held in his honour at the Lessinger/Torline's, 1350 Queen Ave. No. either Friday or Saturday nite. Final plans will be announced later. All fen are invited.

lt

Faneds tipple correction fluid.

CREDITS: Cover--D. Bruce Berry
Illo this page--Ken Fletcher (For all those requesting more of his work.)

A lot of running around trying to get everything electrostenciled and offset, plus bearing up under my bitching--Chuck Holst.

Typing (Ghod!)--Lynn Torline

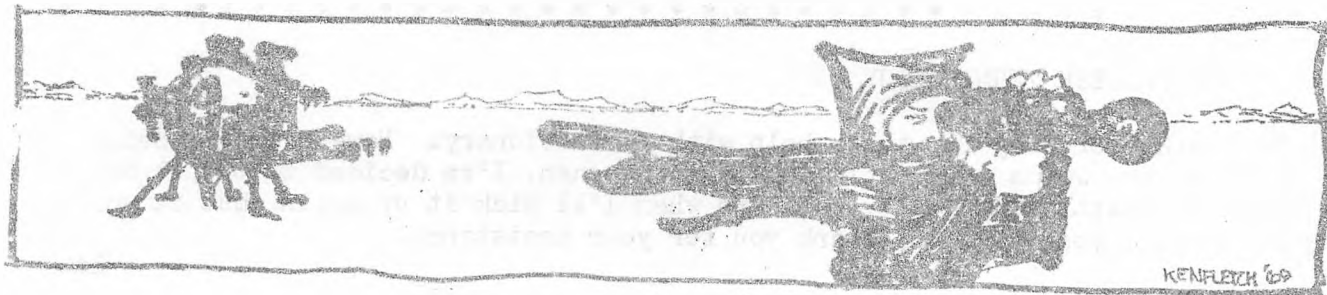
LoC's

Due to the lack of space, time, and inclination, we are not going to reprint the LoC's we've received during the ensuing weeks, as all of them were excellant, but lengthly. We will, however reprint some of them in part in the April edition and wish to extend our sincere thanks to Redd Boggs, Terry Carr, Ed Cox, Ned Brooks, and numerous others for their fantastic letters.

lt

If anyone is going to PECON and wishes to pick a few bucks on the side, contact Jim Odbert, as he has a portfolio collection that he wishes to sell there and does not think that he can make it.

For Sale: 24" or 48" black light tubes--cheap. Contact Jim Garrity--484-8139.



IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU ADVISE THE BUREAU OF THE RESULTS OF YOUR VISIT TO THE ABOVE NAMED PERSONS. (If somewhat delayed) TO: Special Agent in Charge, New York Office, New York City. FROM: Special Agent in Charge, New York Office, New York City.

It is requested that you advise the Bureau of the results of your visit to the above named persons. (If somewhat delayed) TO: Special Agent in Charge, New York Office, New York City. FROM: Special Agent in Charge, New York Office, New York City.

Very young man in a black suit, dark hair, height 5'10", weight 150 lbs., eyes blue, nose straight, lips thin, hair slicked back, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He was seen in the vicinity of the New York City Police Station on the morning of 1/15/50. He was seen in the vicinity of the New York City Police Station on the morning of 1/15/50.

END

Very young man in a black suit, dark hair, height 5'10", weight 150 lbs., eyes blue, nose straight, lips thin, hair slicked back, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He was seen in the vicinity of the New York City Police Station on the morning of 1/15/50. He was seen in the vicinity of the New York City Police Station on the morning of 1/15/50.

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BIRTHDAY GREETINGS (If somewhat belated) TO: Margie Lessinger--March 10
Sherri Lessinger--March 2
Anthony Tollin--February 20
Benjy Lessinger--March 14
Mark Riley-- March 10

Any more? We'll be glad to print them. Either send it in for a friend as a nice gesture, or if you're the greedy type and want to be given a lot of attention, send it in yourself to Lynn Torline at least a month in advance.

We're sorry about the quality and size of this month's RUNE, but many unforeseen tragedies have really transpired during the time of March's regular production schedule. Lynn Torline has taken quite ill with complications after her operation and is not fully recovered as yet, and Chuck Holst's new job has him working overtime in the general area of 3 hours per night, plus his moving. We will, however, be back to the regular, if not slightly better issue in April. Watch for it.

CH, lt

Every young man is a dirty old man in training.

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