

A few matters should be discussed from Quandry #2. First, Quandry has been used as a title for a previous fanzine. I read about it in Science Fiction Review #24 (published by Richard Geis, P.O. Box 11408, Portland, Ore., 97211) in which the fanzine Quandry was mentioned in an ad for Warhoon. Oh well, I could have picked something like News from 317, but I just didn't like it at all. I've decided that I'll keep the title the same unless there is a major conflict. The other Quandry was mentioned as being published sometime between 1951 and 1969, so there is a good chance there won't be two of them.

About the book reviews, I believe that they were pretty badly written. I did not take the time to write them and therefore they ended up being confused and not fleshed out. The other thing that I messed up was that the title for the Bob Shaw book should be Who Goes Here?, not Who Goes There?. The latter is a Campbell novellette. My apologies both to Ace and to the author. The best thing I did with the book reviews was mention the cover. I've bought a lot of books because of the cover and since it is a part of the book it should be mentioned also. It also gives credit to the artist. The book reviews in this issue and the upcoming ones, if they are written by me, will be ones in which I've taken some time to do it.

The following reports are taken from the October 18th meeting. Our first film will be Yellow Submarine and the first episode of Flash Gordon Conquers the Universe. It will be in Wollman Auditorium on November 27th. The radio show is still silent mostly because the station is. The TV show is moving in bits and pieces as we slowly complete the filming for the first episode. We hoped for a date of October 24th, but that seems to be impossible since we can't finish filming this week. The growth of the library has accelerated to the point where it will reach the 2000 mark before the semester is completed. There is a good chance it could do this before the end of November. The convention proceeds. We have received a letter from Isaac Asimov saying that he will try to make the convention if he can. We should not say that he will absolutely be coming. The third issue of SOL III will be out by November 15th. Much of the issue will be from material gathered last year, with some material, like a review of The White Dragon by Anne McCaffrey, added. We will have an ad in the Columbia College Today, which is the alumni magazine. It asks for contributions from the alumni of books, records, games, etc. I have no idea what response we will receive, since it will depend on how many people actually read it and how many are SF fans.

I've received a flyer on Boskone XVI. The dates are from the 16th to the 18th of February at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel. Registration rates are \$8 in advance of January 15, 1979 and after that and at the door \$10. The guest of honor is Frank Herbert, the science speaker is Mark Chartrand of the Hayden Planetarium and the official artist is Mike Symes. The address for the convention is New England Science Fiction Association, Inc., Box G, Mit Branch PO, Cambridge, MA, 02139.



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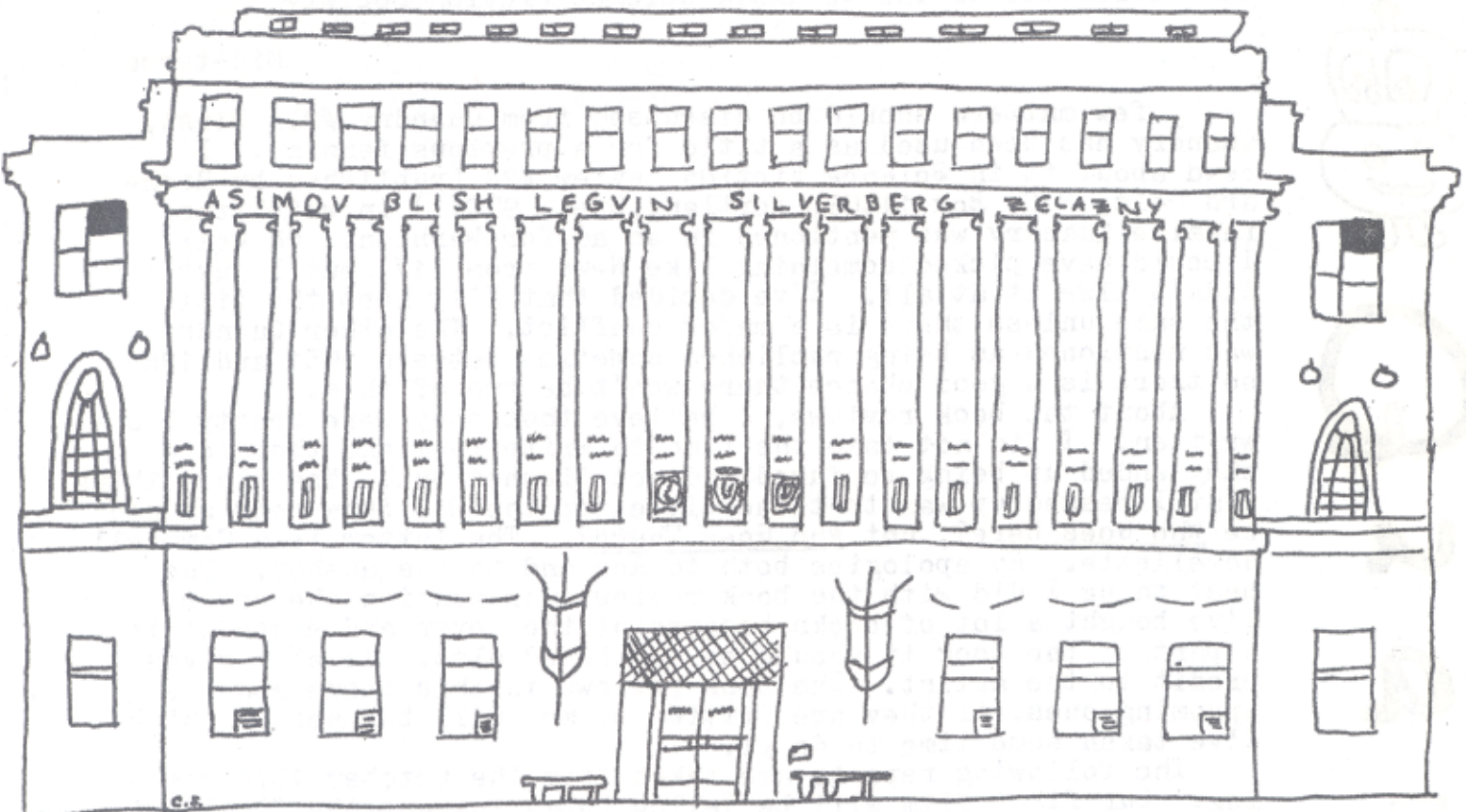
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More News, Titles, and Correspondence

I have read two more notices about the old Quandry in the last few weeks. One in the December 1976 issue of Amazing Stories was in the fanzine review column by Rich Brown. "She is (Lee Hoffman) best known in fandom as having been the editor of Quandry, which is regarded by many, this reviewer among them, as one of the finest fanzines ever published."

There are few fanzines being published today which can be compared to Quandry. I would even so far as to say that they can be counted on the fingers of one thumb."

And then we received a postcard from Robert Silverberg asking if we had known that there was another fanzine from the early fifties called Quandry and that this had been the most famous fanzine of that era.

I get the distinct feeling that someone is trying to tell me something. So I do have a few choices; one I could keep the same name and hope that no one minds, or change the title. We have had a couple of suggestions, including 'Ion Down and CUSFuSSing. We would like some more and also comments on what we should do.

In news about the convention, we have sent out most of the letters to proposed speakers and are completing a list of films for showing. When we get these projects completed we will be able to speed up the rest of the projects. The radio show should start on WKCR-AM in the next few weeks. The date and time have not been determined yet. The Society is scheduling a party on November 21st from 7pm until Ferris Booth Hall closes, celebrating the acquisition of our 2001st item for our library. Admission is limited to the Society and their guests and the price is \$1.50 to cover the refreshment costs. This is only payable in advance and you should see Dani Eder for more information.

Book Reviews

The Dosadi Experiment by Frank Herbert, Berkley, \$2.25, pp. 343

This is another fine book by Frank Herbert. The universe and some of the characters are the same as in Whipping Star, but it's not necessary to have read the latter to enjoy the former. The plot concerns Jorj X. Mckie, the protagonist of Whipping Star. This time he is sent by Aritch, High Magister of the Running Phylum to Dosadi to investigate why a group of humans and gowachin have been completely separated from the rest of the Consistent peoples and who has placed them on that planet.

The characters in the book all are excellent. Aliens are aliens, and different cultures are truly different. Herbert also manages to paint that large background picture of Consistent society and the peoples within. He does use the same devices as in his Dune books, the brief quotes from various sources, the changing viewpoints of characters, and the final conclusion where all the characters come together for the final decision.

That in fact might be the only thing wrong with the book. After a diet of sonatas a fugue is refreshing to the ears. But if this is a fault, it's a picky one. The cover is quite fascinating, with a two-theme representation, but there is no mention of the artist.

The Far Call by Gordon R. Dickson, Dell, \$1.95, pp. 414

This is an expansion and significantly changed novel from what was published in Analog a few years ago. The plot concerns the first manned voyage to Mars. The voyage is funded by six nations, the U.S., the U.S.S.R., Japan, Pan-Europe, the United Kingdom, and India. The U.S. economy has greatly improved because of new economic methods and is funding a major portion of the project. All six nations however have an equal number of scientific experiments to conduct during the trip and all six want to a large number during the early part of the voyage. This could and does create difficulties during the flight, until it is partially responsible for a near-disaster, only part way through the mission.

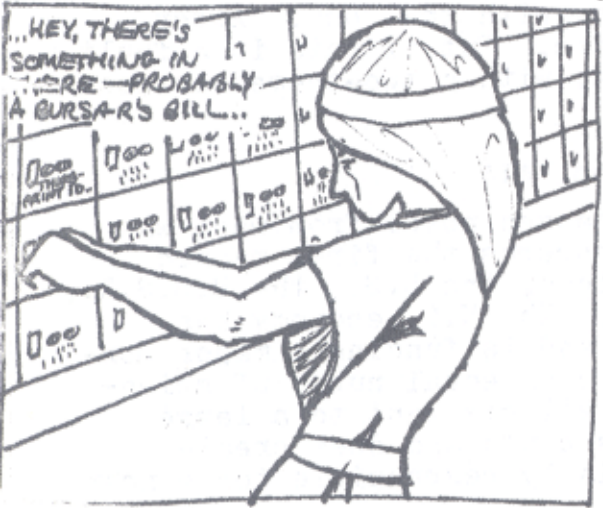
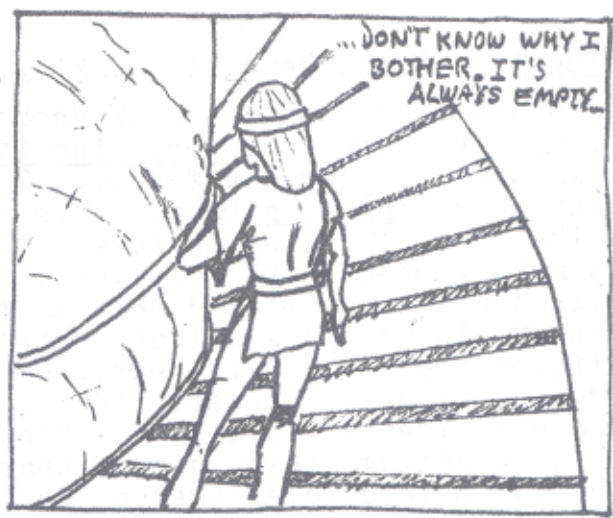
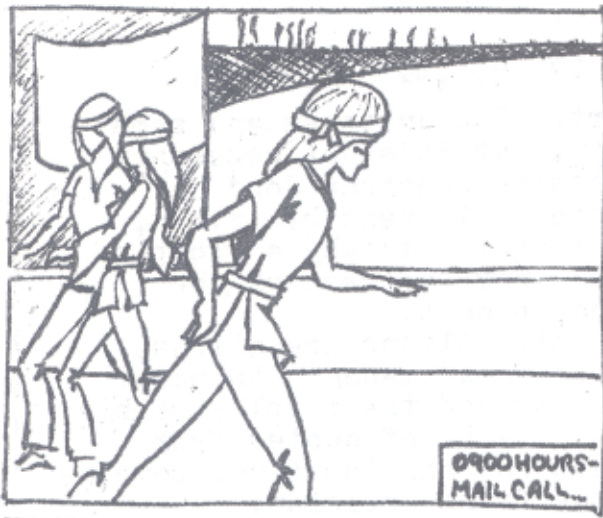
Much of the book is concerned with drawing the characters and in developing the conflicts between them. The characters themselves seem to come directly from the 1970's, but the thing is how much would have people changed by the 1990's?

You can make comparisons between this novel and Allen Drury's The Throne of Saturn, but the largest difference would be in the author's bias. Drury is unsubtle in getting his rightist viewpoint across to the reader, while Dickson gives message positive towards the space program. And the characters are not stereotypes in Dickson's novel and the America painted in the background seems more real than Drury's.

I didn't like the cover much. It looks like it was painted for a mainstream novel and the one woman-two men cover has been used so many times I wish it was outlawed. Other Dell covers have been better, I would have hoped they could have done a good job on this one. Though the artist's signature is on the cover, I can't read it and there is no mention of him on the copyright page.

I don't have enough room for another full book review, but I would like to mention a book I bought off the remainders at Barnes & Noble. Superfolks by Robert Mayer is a novel concerning the last Superhero on the Earth, Indigo. His secret identity is David Brinkley and he has stopped his crime-fighting and become part of the mundane world. In New York though, the police force has resigned and the looting and rioting has begun. It is up to Indigo to stop this. But can he do it? The book is filled with characters past, and present, some fictional and some real-life. But the book is more than a simple comicbook, the protagonist is real and we, probably for the first time, get to see all the sides of a superhero. The book is published by Dial Press and is regularly \$3.95, but I got it off the remainders for 59¢.

Charles Selig



a couple of brief messages. the next issue will come out about Thanksgiving. and starting next issue Columbia students should pick up their copy on the bulletin board outside 317 FBH. anyone outside the University will still get their copy free. if commuters would like us to send copies to their home address, you should send us a few 15¢ stamps for the next few issues.

the artwork to the left of this is by Carol Downing Yale '81. and keep those cards and letters coming.

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