

OPUNTIA

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THE MANY LOST WORLDS

by Dale Speirs

Mount Roraima is a table mountain on the border of Guyana, Venezuela, and Brazil. Most of it is in Guyana and the triple-contact of the three countries is on its plateau, which is 2,500 metres high. Its sides are vertical sheer cliffs. The plateau is bedrock two billion years old, and stands above the surrounding jungle. It was the setting for Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's 1912 novel THE LOST WORLD, since made into several movies.



As a science fiction fan and as the son of a palaeontologist, this dinosaur-filled fantasy world was one of my favourite books. Secondly, in my capacity as a professional horticulturist, I knew that this mountain was famous for its unusual flora, particularly its carnivorous plants.

About one-third of the plant species on the plateau are endemic to the mountain top, meaning they are found nowhere else. The surface is sandstone bedrock whose nutrients have long since been washed away by the daily rains. The constant flow of water washes off the edge of the plateau, which is lined with numerous waterfalls. Plants have difficulty growing there, and as a consequence many evolved the carnivorous habit as a means of gaining nutrients. An example is the pitcher plant *Heliamphora nutans*, capable of trapping small mammals.

There is only one hiking trail up the mountain, and any other access requires advanced rope-climbing skills. The first ascent by a European was in 1884 and the route used today is still the same. It takes five days to make the round trip up and back, and a full day just to hike up the natural ramp that forms the only trail. The mountain was a sensation to the Victorians and the inspiration for Doyle when he wrote his novel.



Professor Challenger.

Professor George Edward Challenger was Doyle's second-most popular fictional character, after Sherlock Holmes. Challenger is a hot-headed blowhard, and a fighting man who doesn't hesitate to settle his arguments with his fists. In consequence, he is constantly butting heads against the established scientific community. He does not suffer fools gladly and his ego is highly inflated.

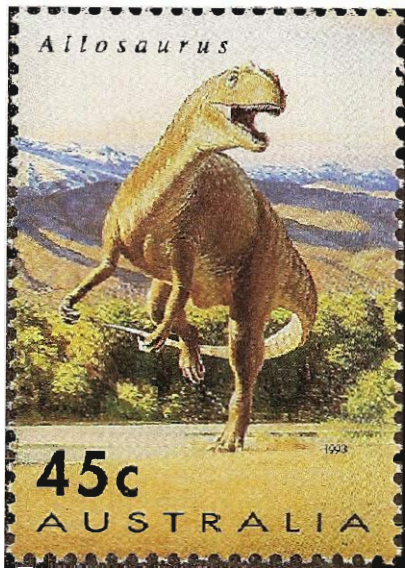
As Doyle writes of him in *THE LOST WORLD*: "*Challenger said that he never cared to walk on the Thames Embankment and look up the river, as it was always sad to see one's own eventual goal. He is convinced, of course, that he is destined for Westminster Abbey.*"

The Lost World.

Doyle's description of the Lost World is that of Mount Roraima, excepting that he populated its plateau with dinosaurs. It is easy to understand how it might be possible for the beasts to exist in isolation where there was no way down the vertical giant cliffs. What does stick out is the presence of pterodactyls flying about the plateau and swooping down into the jungle. This would mean that they would long ago have found their way to populated areas. It would have been better not to have had any flying species.

Doyle also describes Mount Roraima as a dormant volcano, which it is not. It is the dead remains of a plutonic deposit, originally molten rock that cooled below the surface and was later lifted vertically by tectonic forces. This created a table mountain with vertical cliffs.

History Of The Films.



The subject matter of the novel *THE LOST WORLD* was tailor-made for the spectacle of a Hollywood movie. The first film version was produced in 1925, a black-and-white silent film, using stop-motion to create the monsters and men in blackface for the natives.

The stop-motion effects were good for their time, although there was some sloppy editing. As an example, a scene with dinosaurs fleeing an erupting volcano shows a sauropod with an Allosaurus riding piggyback on it, trying to kill it and oblivious to the flames and lava. Suddenly the scene jumps to another shot where the Allosaurus jumps on the back of the sauropod and then repeats the original shot.

In 1960, Irwin Allen produced and directed a colour version, based more on the 1925 film than the book. Allen's version was moved to the present day, with the expedition flying in by jet and helicopter. He cut corners on costs by substituting iguanas and baby alligators with prosthetics as the dinosaurs. The iguanas and alligators were photographed on separate film stock and superimposed on other film where humans did their scenes. This made the creatures look like giants, the actors did their emoting by imagining the dinosaurs, and the two negatives were superimposed to make a process shot that looked as if the animals and humans were together. Today the use of iguanas as dinosaurs is considered hokey, but to be fair to Allen the procedure was state of the art fifty years ago in that pre-computer era, and far cheaper than stop-motion.

Allen produced many spectacular films and television series in his lifetime, but he had one bad habit, that of re-using stock film endlessly. Any special effects in his movies were certain to re-

appear later in his television series. The dinosaur iguanas showed up in many of his later shows. In particular, the lost world theme and the iguanas were transplanted into a 1964 episode of his television series VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA titled "Turn Back The Clock". The episode was black-and-white, from Season 1. Stock shots of giant iguanas were not only repeated from the movie, they were repeated several times within the episode, to the point where an alert viewer can recognize the same tree the iguana keeps passing and re-passing. Allen also re-used entire scenes from the movie with the same actors. At a guess, about half of this episode is lifted directly from the movie, with the only new scenes being used to rationalize the new plot and add in the Seaview submarine.

Good production values were not a forte of Allen, and he obviously assumed his audience would never notice the constant re-use of scenery and stock shots.

Plot comparisons follow as below.



Novel (1912)

Ed Malone, English journalist, is rebuffed in love by Gladys Hungerton. She will not consent to him unless he proves himself a hero in some exotic adventure.

He hears that Professor George Edward Challenger has been ridiculed for a story about a lost world of fantastic creatures. Malone interviews him. Challenger tells him he had visited a high flat-topped mountain in the Amazon jungle, took photographs, and collected dinosaur specimens. Unfortunately he lost almost everything on the return trip, so he is going to try again.

Silent Movie (1925)

Ed Malone, English journalist, is rebuffed in love by Gladys Hungerton. She will not consent to him unless he proves himself a hero in some exotic adventure.

Instead of interviewing Challenger first, Malone goes straight to a scientific meeting where the Professor will announce his discoveries.

Colour Movie (1960)

Ed Malone, wire service reporter, falls in love with the boss's daughter, Jennifer Holmes.

Malone is part of a press scrum meeting Challenger at the airport. The professor decks Malone for being impertinent, then heads off to the scientific meeting.

VOYAGE Episode (1964)

No Ed Malone in the story.

Jason Kemp, of a 4-man team of explorers, escapes from a tropical oasis in the Antarctica via an underwater passage. He returns home more dead than alive, and is hospitalized. His physician notifies Admiral Harriman Nelson and Captain Lee Crane of the research submarine Seaview.

Novel (1912)

There is a scientific meeting that night where Challenger is one of the dais. He is not the main speaker but afterwards propounds his views and not surprisingly is jeered. A new expedition is proposed, to be made of Challenger, Malone, big-game hunter Lord John Roxton, and sceptical Professor Summerlee. Malone's newspaper agrees to pay the cost in exchange for exclusive rights to the story.

Silent Movie (1925)

Challenger is the main, and only, speaker. An expedition is proposed. Sir John Roxton (no longer a peer) and Professor Summerlee are named. Challenger refuses to have Malone in the team but later relents, and Malone's newspaper sponsors the expedition.

A new character, Paula White, is introduced. She is the daughter of a missing explorer who first tipped off Challenger to the Lost World. She joins the expedition. Roxton tries to court White, who is young enough to be his daughter.

Colour Movie (1960)

Challenger is the main speaker at the meeting, and is jeered at for claiming to have seen dinosaurs, yet not bringing any photos or specimens. He says he lost them all when his boat capsized on the way back. A new expedition is proposed, to be made of Challenger, Malone, Lord John Roxton (he got his peerage back), and sceptical Professor Summerlee. Malone's wire service agrees to pay the cost in exchange for exclusive rights to the story.

Holmes is trying to marry Roxton but he will not take the bait. He feels, correctly so, that she is mainly interested in marrying into a title.

VOYAGE (1964)

They hear Kemp's story and decide to investigate. They take Kemp along, who is the only one who knows the way.

They also take along Carol Denning, who is Kemp's fiancé and the daughter of one of the missing three men. She is a professional photographer and will go along to document the trip.

Challenger refuses to travel with the others for no real reason, gives them an envelope, and says they are to open the envelope at Manoa on July 15th at noon exactly. When they do so, they find the enclosed letter is a blank sheet of paper. Just then Challenger appears, tells them he is the only one who knows the way, and demands they acknowledge him as the leader of the expedition, not just as an equal.

The expedition makes its way upriver. Much description of the lush vegetation. It is obvious that Doyle was no botanist, as he mentions giant cedars and redwoods in the jungle. They reach the base of the great plateau, and see a pterodactyl.

Challenger refuses to travel with the others after an argument with Summerlee, gives them an envelope, and says they are to open the envelope at Branco River on December 12th at 06h00 exactly. They open it and find the enclosed letter is a blank sheet of paper. Just then Challenger appears, tells them he is the only one who knows the way, and demands they acknowledge him as the leader of the expedition, not Summerlee.

The expedition makes its way upriver. Various jungle scenes with jaguars and sloths. At their base camp, they see pterodactyls and, more amazingly, chimpanzees somehow transplanted from Africa.

Expedition arrives at the jumping-off point in upriver Amazonia. Much to their disgust, they find Jennifer Holmes and her brother David waiting for them. Since her father is funding the trip, they have no choice but to accept them. She also brings along her poodle Frosty, evidently intended to be cute, a la Disney, but whom the audience hopes will soon be eaten by a dinosaur. Unfortunately it survives the trip.

The expedition flies by helicopter to the plateau. Various aerial shots of the Amazon River and the spectacular waterfalls of Mount Roraima are shown. They land on the plateau and set up a base camp by the helicopter.

Seaview finds anomalously warm water on approaching Antarctica, and lowers a bathysphere to investigate. It contains Nelson, Crane, Kemp, and Denning.

Novel (1912)

The only route up to the plateau is an isolated pinnacle with an easy trail up it. There is a single tree on the top, which they fell to make a bridge over to the plateau. Once across, they are stranded when one of their native bearers drops the tree over the cliff in revenge for a slight that Roxton had done him.

The expedition team make camp and begin exploring. They observe a family of iguanodons browsing, and are attacked by pterodactyls when they disturb a rookery. Doyle continues to describe the trees as non-South American species, such as birch, oak, ginkgo, and beech. On returning to their camp, the

Silent Movie (1925)

The only route up to the plateau is an isolated pinnacle with an easy trail up it. There is a single tree on the top, which they fell to make a bridge over to the plateau. Once across, they are stranded when a sauropod ambles over to munch on the fallen tree's leaves. In doing so, it yanks on the tree and causes it to fall over the cliff.

Unbeknownst to the team, they are being watched by an apeman. The next few scenes are of dinosaurs. An Allosaurus brings down a hadrosaur for dinner, then tries unsuccessfully to take on a mother Triceratops and her baby before going after the explorers. The expedition drives it off with rifles and

Colour Movie (1960)

During their first night, they hear roaring and crashing sounds, and flee the camp in terror. They see a giant iguana in the distance, which Challenger identifies as a sauropod. When they return to the camp, the sauropod has pushed the helicopter over the cliff, stranding them and leaving them without a radio to call for help.

The next day, the team goes exploring. They tangle with giant carnivorous plants and meet up with another iguana. Malone and Holmes huddle together and are saved by the arrival of a baby alligator with prosthetics, who distracts the iguana. The two dinosaurs fight and both fall over a cliff while tumbling about.

VOYAGE (1964)

At 4,000 feet, the bathysphere is sucked into a strong current, its cable snaps, and is pulled into the underwater passage, surfacing in the tropical lagoon kept warm by a volcano and stranding them. The current is said to be heated by the volcano, which seems strange, since in that case the water would be flowing out of the passage, not inward.

On the shore of the lagoon they find footprints of a dinosaur, go exploring, and are chased around by a giant iguana in prosthetics. Crane and Denning huddle together and are saved by the arrival of a baby alligator with prosthetics, who distracts the iguana. The two dinosaurs fight and both fall over a cliff while tumbling

explorers discover that an apeman has looted their supplies.

torches, then immediately have to do the same with the apeman. Meanwhile, the Allosaurus tries another Triceratops, successfully this time, and for dessert, swats a pterodactyl out of the sky. The team make camp in a cave for safety.

The team continue to explore, and see all kinds of marvellous beasts and plants. Malone climbs up a tall tree to get a view of the plateau and determines it is bowl-shaped, with a lake in the centre. Later he leaves the camp on his own to go exploring, gets in and out of trouble, and finds evidence that primitive humans are living on the plateau. He also determines that the bowl is a dormant volcanic caldera, still bubbling with lava.

Roxton explores further back into the cave and finds an egress back into the lowlands. He also finds the remains of Paula's father. Returning to the camp at the mouth of the cave, he finds her being romanced by Malone and realizes he can never have her. He informs her of her father's death. There are more dinosaur scenes. The plateau is not a bowl but has a volcanic peak in the centre.

about. Denning screams at the slightest provocation and huddles in Crane's arms, instead of taking photos of the monsters.

Everyone regroups, and as they go down a jungle trail, they see all kinds of exotic plants, most of them obviously potted and placed on a sound stage. One individual palm can be seen several times as they make their way down the trail.

Novel (1912)

Malone returns to find the camp vandalized and the others gone. Roxton re-appears in a dishevelled condition, and tells him the others have been taken prisoner by the apemen. The apemen control one side of the plateau and the primitive humans the other, and they are in a state of perpetual war. The two men take their rifles and shoot their way through the apemen, rescuing Challenger and Summerlee.

The expedition allies with the primitives. There is a great battle and the apemen are vanquished forever. The team now search for a way off the plateau and back home again. They find a cave that leads out of the plateau and make their escape back to civilization.

Silent Movie (1925)

The volcano erupts and there is mass panic among the dinosaurs and humans alike. It finally shuts down, and the menfolk make their way back to the cave, from whence they escape to the lowlands. En route, the apeman and his chimpanzee friend show up again. There is a brief fight but the humans have rifles and the apeman does not.

Colour Movie (1960)

Malone spots a dusky jungle maiden. He chases her, stopping briefly along the way to shoot dead a giant spider, and brings her back to the group. She has friends and family, however, and the rest of the tribe capture the group. They break out of their prison by convincing the maiden to help them.

They escape through a volcanic lava tube, with the tribe in hot pursuit. Along the way, they cross paths with another iguana, who eats a sidekick. The rest of the team finds its way out the cave to the lowlands. The volcano blows and destroys the plateau.

VOYAGE (1964)

Crane spots a dusky jungle maiden. He chases her, stopping briefly along the way to shoot dead a giant spider, and brings her back to the group. She has friends and family, however, and the rest of the tribe capture the group. Denning is reunited with her father while in their prison. They break out of their prison by convincing the maiden to help them.

They escape through a volcanic lava tube, with the tribe in hot pursuit. Along the way, they cross paths with another iguana, who eats Kemp. They make their way out to the ice, where the Seaview rescues them. The volcano blows and destroys the oasis.

There is a triumphant return to London, and another riotous scientific meeting. Challenger presents as proof a live pterodactyl, which escapes out an open window and is never seen again.

There is a triumphant return to London, and another riotous scientific meeting. Challenger presents as proof a live sauropod. It escapes its cage and rampages through the streets. While trying to cross Tower Bridge, it collapses the bridge from its weight and falls into the Thames. It swims out to sea and is never seen again.

As the survivors re-group in the lowlands jungle, Challenger shows them a baby Tyrannosaurus rex he collected, which is an actual-size iguana with prosthetics. Movie ends while they are still in the Amazon.

Since Carol Denning was too busy screaming at the sight of dinosaurs or restless natives, she never took any photos. The ship heads home without any proof that there were living dinosaurs in an oasis.

Malone visits his fiancé Gladys, only to find that during his absence she married a solicitor's clerk and is now Mrs. Potts. With nothing better to do, he accepts Roxton's offer of going out on another expedition.

Malone visits his fiancé Gladys, only to find that during his absence she married a store clerk and is now Mrs. Bumberry. Malone doesn't grieve for more than a few seconds, and marries Paula White, although it breaks Roxton's heart.

Malone and Jennifer Holmes cuddle and Roxton lets her go. Her brother David will get the dusky maiden.

Crane, who had been friendly with Carol, presumably becomes friendlier still now that her fiancé is dead.

There are other versions of THE LOST WORLD which I have not seen. A 1992 American version moved the Lost World to Africa circa the Edwardian era. A 1998 American version, intended to cash in on JURASSIC PARK, moved the Lost World to Mongolia and took considerable liberties with the plot. In 2001, the BBC produced a two-episode version for television, locating it in Brazil and with the addition of a female lead to serve as a love interest. Warner Brothers produced a television series that ran from 1999 to 2002 based on the novel but with the addition of a love interest. Its full title was SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S THE LOST WORLD.



Stop Motion Stops Magicians.

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Sir Arthur became a spiritualist in later life, convinced that psychic powers were real. He was gullible and once was taken in by fake photographs of fairies cavorting in a garden. He took a lot of criticism from Harry Houdini and other stage magicians. On June 2, 1922, he went along to a dinner of the Society of American Magicians. At that time, the silent movie of THE LOST WORLD was in production, and some of the stop-motion dinosaurs sequences had just been completed. Sir Arthur brought along a reel of the special effects sans titles or other identification. He showed the film while refusing to answer questions about it. It was a sensation, and made the front page of the NEW YORK TIMES the following day. It looked very realistic and baffled the magicians as to how it was done.

We who are used to computer graphics today may scorn the stop-motion dinosaurs as primitive and obvious, but to the world of 1922, the movie was incredibly realistic. The newspaper headline "Dinosaurs Cavort In Film For Doyle" was subtitled "Spiritist Mystifies World-Famed Magicians With Pictures Of Prehistoric Beasts". The article remarked "*If fakes, they were masterpieces.*".

Alas, today there are no Lost Worlds left, only lost opportunities.

BOOK REVIEWS

by Dale Speirs

A lost world of another kind is the Old West. An example is *ROUGHING IT* (1872, still in print) by Mark Twain, real name Samuel Langhorne Clemens. It is a humorous autobiographical account of the Old West. Mostly true, but Clemens did not allow the facts to get in the way of a good story. The book still reads well today. It does not suffer a common affliction of books from that era where the text is overly verbose and a chore to read. It is written in a conversational style, and one can easily imagine Clemens telling the anecdotes as an after-dinner story while everyone helps themselves to dessert and coffee.

His brother Orion was appointed Secretary of Nevada Territory, and took Samuel along as his private secretary. Clemens stayed out west from 1861 to 1867 and the book documents his many adventures. The railroads had not reached out west yet, so Orion and Samuel traveled by stagecoach from St. Joseph, Missouri. The fare was \$150 each (big money in those days), luggage was limited to 25 pounds, and they had to buy their own meals en route. Travel was not for the faint-hearted, and the Clemens brothers definitely had to rough it. There were three men as passengers. Half the passenger compartment was filled with mail bags, so the men had to take it in turn for one of them to sit on top of the coach with the driver and conductor. At night, the mailbags

were redistributed evenly and served as a mattress. The stopping houses were unsanitary primitive adobes, and the food was even worse. The stagecoach driver was a celebrity, held in awe by the ostlers at the stopping houses, although the conductor was actually the man with full authority over the passengers, mail, and baggage. Everyone bowed and scraped before the driver, while the passengers were treated as a necessary evil, and the freight made the money. (Much like airlines operate today.)

Along the way, Clemens introduces the reader to what were, in his day, unusual animals to the easterners such as pronghorns, bison, and lizards. He writes of the jackass rabbit, today called a jackrabbit because we are a politer society, but originally so-called because of its tall ears like a mule. He mentions the kayote, now coyote, one of the few animals that has expanded its range after human settlement. Its name comes from the Aztec word for it, *cóyotl*, and is correctly pronounced "ky-yoh-tee", not "ky-yote". Other natural marvels that we take for granted today, but were considered gross exaggeration back then by easterners who heard the stories from returned cowboys, were alkali flats, vast saltbed lakes, and mountains that still had snow on them in summer. Easterners had no idea what a real mountain looked like; the Rockies have foothills higher than the Appalachians and Laurentians.

Clemens made a stop in Salt Lake City, and the Mormons provide several chapters for him. He discovered that by and large they are people like everyone else. Polygamy was prominent then, but he noticed that men with several wives tended to be harassed by their women, each jealous of the other and constantly nagging their husband. As the saying goes today, bigamy is its own punishment. He read through the Mormon bible and quotes from its prohibition against polygamy. He notes that it is boring reading, as Joseph Smith wrote it in a mixture of current vernacular peppered with King James phraseology to make it sound more ancient.

From there they resumed their travels to Nevada. The passage of the stagecoach across the great alkali lakebed was a full day of travel under a blazing sun, with alkali dust in the lungs and making the lips bleed. Finally the Clemens brothers arrived in Carson City, the capital of Nevada Territory. They took rooms with a lady friend of the Governor who *"had known him in his prosperity as Commander-in-Chief of the Metropolitan Police of New York, and she would not desert him in his adversity as Governor of Nevada"*. The other boarders were also sycophants of the Governor. Keeping pet tarantulas was a popular hobby among the men, until the night when a windstorm shook them loose out of their cages. The men, including Clemens, spent a terrifying night standing on top of dressers and tables in fear, but the tarantulas disappeared and were never seen again, at least not

in the boarding house.

Clemens spent much time idling about Nevada, doing little work for less pay. Activities included camping out at Lake Tahoe, starting a forest fire (not on purpose though), buying a horse (which turned out to be a bronco no one could ride), prospecting for silver (hard physical labour getting it out), and becoming lost in a blizzard (not a humorous anecdote).

There being too much heavy lifting required in the mining business, Clemens eventually went into the newspaper business, which didn't pay as well but a man didn't have to shovel ore all day. He began with the Virginia City DAILY TERRITORIAL ENTERPRISE, reporting on wagon-loads of hay sold, mine claims staked, and who got shot in what tavern. It was here that Clemens first used his pen name "Mark Twain" in his writings. Virginia sat on top of the Comstock lode, and the silver boom ramped up to full speed shortly after Clemens arrived. The population was about 15,000 in Clemens's time; today it is about 1,000. Everyone had a silver mine, stock certificates were handed out as tips, and two of the mines even produced a bit of silver.

Eventually Clemens became tired of Nevada and moved on to California. In San Francisco, Clemens enjoyed the easy life in a luxury hotel, living off his Nevada mining stocks. The stock market crashed as it usually does, and Clemens had to move into

a boarding house and get a job as a newspaper reporter. He drifted back and forth about California, alternating between the gold mines and the press. Bullion dust and ink were in his veins in about equal proportion. He finally drifted clear out to sea, convincing a newspaper to accept him as their Hawai'i correspondent.

On arrival in the Sandwich Islands, as they were then known, Clemens remarks on the abundant insect life that plagued him, particularly mosquitoes, scorpions, and centipedes. He did the grand tour of the islands, but experienced trouble with the horses he rented. The natives always made frequent stops along any route they traveled to gossip with the neighbours. When they rented out their horses, the animals would habitually turn into every gate they passed or stop in front of every house along the road. This made for a lengthy journey, and Clemens was reminded of a milkman's horse who knew the route and would not deviate from it. He spends several chapters on the sights of Hawai'i and remarks that every white man was either a missionary or a sea captain.

Clemens returned to San Francisco and took up a career as a lecturer, working his way around California and Nevada. Eventually he took homesick and finally returned Back East, and so the book trickles to a close.

WORLD WIDE PARTY #16 IN 2009

Founded by Benoit Girard (Quebec) and Franz Miklis (Austria), the World Wide Party is held on June 21st every year. At 21h00 local time, everyone is invited to raise a glass and toast fellow members of the Papernet around the world. The idea is to get a wave of fellowship circling the planet. Face to the east first and toast those who have already done the WWP, then north and south for your time zone, and finally to the west for those yet to celebrate. If you are a zinester, it is a reminder that you are not alone, but a node on the Papernet.

ZINE LISTINGS

by Dale Speirs

[The Usual means \$3 cash (\$5 overseas), trade for your zine, or letter of comment on a previous issue. Americans: please don't send cheques for small amounts to Canada or overseas (the bank fee to cash them is usually more than the amount) or mint USA stamps (which are not valid for postage outside USA). US banknotes are acceptable around the world. SF means science fiction. An apazine is a zine for an amateur press association distro, a perzine is a personal zine, sercon is serious-constructive, a genzine is a general zine]

Media Junky #8 (The Usual from Jason Rodgers, Box 1683, Nashua, New Hampshire 03060) Reviewzine of underground and art zines.

Karma Lapel V2#3 (The Usual from Heath Row, 101 Russell Street, #4-R, Brooklyn, New York 11222) Apazines with comments. The lead article is about department store model train displays. One of them was sponsored for 21 years by Citigroup Bank but they will not be doing it in the future. They have to make \$50 billion in cost cutting, and every penny counts.

The Ken Chronicles #10 (The Usual from Ken Bausert, 2140 Erma Drive, East Meadow, New York 11554-1120) Perzine with articles about coincidences in his life, genealogy, tracing buildings his ancestors lived in, and finding a lost sword in his closet.

Rigor Mortis #1 (US\$3 from Davida Gypsy Breier, Box 11064, Baltimore, Maryland 21212) A specialized zine devoted to the topic of zombie horror movies and books, with many reviews of same. It seems to cover the field quite extensively.

Snow Poster City #1 (The Usual from Heath Row, 101 Russell Street, #4-R, Brooklyn, New York 11222) Single-sheet apazine with reviews and comments. The Star Trek Welccommittee disbanded a few years ago but just for the fun of it, Heath sent a letter to its last mailing address. The posties not surprisingly retoured it, but with a handwritten comment "Deceased".

The Knarley Knews #130 and #131 (The Usual from Henry Welch, 18345 Skyline Blvd, Los Gatos, California 95033) A busy

man Henry is, what with moving from Wisconsin to California, changing careers from engineering to law, passing the bar exam, raising a family, and playing in a hockey league. Also articles by others on ethics, money, visiting Africa, style in writing, and lots of letters of comment. -16-

MarkTime #91 (The Usual from Mark Strickert, Box 1051, Orange, California 92856) Perzine of how is life is going (an impending marriage), transit fanning, and letters of comment.

Psionic Plastic Joy #13 (The Usual from Jason Rodgers, Box 1683, Nashua, New Hampshire 03060) Genzine, starting off with an interview with the editor of PARANOIA zine, which specializes in conspiracy theory. From there to thoughts about what the latest trend in art may be, the art of memory, and some reviews. There is an account about a police raid on a bookshop who let various groups use their computers, one of whom sent threatening e-mails to a university. Hint: be careful how you chose your friends.

Jungle Radio #1 (The Usual from Heath Row, 101 Russell Street, #4-R, Brooklyn, New York 11222) Single-sheet apazine for ERBAPA, which specializes in Edgar Rice Burroughs' works. This issue includes a discussion of the 1933 movie TARZAN THE FEARLESS, and a 1969 song "Me Tarzan, You Jane" recorded by a Philadelphia soul group.