

NOTICES

In accordance with the policy outlined in Vol. 3 No.1, the second instalment of what we hope will be a continuing series of notices included as an adjunct to the review section of LiNQ: as was stated in the last issue, we're looking for material for this section-space permitting, any contributions/ideas received will be used. So, for the second time....

One of the steadily increasing number of paperback series catering for material a little out of the ordinary range of the medium is Quartet, an English imprint which, on its recent showing promises much for the future. Among their recent publications are: Jim Hughes A True and Barbaric History of the Benighted States of America, a cartoon version of U.S. history that would be hilarious if it were not so close to the truth-factually accurate, but put in just the right way to bring a smile, even in some of the more unpleasant sections. It's big in format and scope, and the drawings are good, though a little rough (but since the story itself is rough I suppose that doesn't matter). Well worth the money if you've got interest and \$3.90.

Well-known English science-fiction writer Michael Moorcock continues the saga of one of his best known characters, Jerry Cornelius in The English Assassin, a novel far removed from the main stream of S-F writing, and subtitled "A Novel of Entropy." Moorcock has quite a complex cosmology, and his novels all fit into it, though they are quite capable of standing on their own two feet. The novel itself is just that: novel-but for the reader with adventurous tastes, or for those who still believe that S.F. means outer space, worthwhile reading.

In the same field there's Phillip Jose Farmer's The Wind Whales of Ishmael (\$1.20). Those acquainted with the notorious Moby Dick could find the idea of a S.F. sequel to Melville's classic an interesting idea.

The last pair of Quartets come from the halcyon days of the avant garde of the Beat Generation and the early sixties. The Beats and the Angry Young Men are represented by the anthology Protest (Eds. Gene Feldman and Max Gartenberg) which has pieces by Kerouac, "Lee", (Alias William Burroughs), Ginsberg, John Wain, Amis, Colin Wilson, Braine, Donleavy, Osbourne, Mailer and other lesser names. Originally published in 1959, it has at least historical relevance, and as an anthology of the period could be considered reasonable value at \$1.80. From the early sixties Alexander Trocchi's Cain's Book, set in New York, is another of those drug confessional novels; you can make your own judgement on the genre qua genre, but as a sample this is above average. Very much a matter of personal taste.

While moving recently, I unearthed my copy of Lawrence Ferlinghetti's Tyrannus Nix? (New Directions, 1969), a long prose poem in the author's own ink penning about none other than the rather tricky U.S. President. It makes an interesting piece of social commentary of seemingly increasing relevance. Well worth looking into.

For the feminists and other interested bodies, a bonus. First for those unacquainted with it there's Refractory Girl, a "women's studies journal." The price is \$1.00 for single issues, \$3.50 for four from 25 Alberta St., Sydney, N.S.W. 2000. Number Four has articles on Soviet sexism, Rosa

Luxemburg, women in Queensland politics and in China, women teachers in Queensland, Sylvia Plath-the late Anglo American poetess, the sexual bias of Ivan Southall's children's fiction, David Williamson's Jugglers Three, as well as poetry and a short story. Some of the drawings aren't bad either. Regardless of sex, its interesting reading, though possibly outside my personal realm of competence to comment on at any length.

In a similar vein there's A Guide to Flinders Women's Studies, a course outline as the title suggests. I don't know much about the details, but the booklet at least provides a rationale for the concept-something that seems long overdue. No details as to availability, but anyone interested could try the Flinders Univ. Philosophy Department.

Finally, for those who want to know what happened in the Society of Women Writers, there's the Annual Report 1972-73, which has a list of functions held and, more importantly, of achievements of members for the period-an interesting bibliographic source. Copies of the report are presumably available through the Society.

In the meantime, between LiNQ's send ideas, comments, news to the Editorial Committee... We will try to include anything received, if only in passing.

IAN HUGHES