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NUMBER 115

DECEMBER 1967



"Good manners are what one man shows to another man's wife!" —Alfred E. Neuman

WILLIAM M. GAINES publisher

ALBERT B. FELDSTEIN, editor

JOHN PUTNAM art director LEONARD BRENNER production JERRY DE FUCCIO, NICK MEGLIN associate editors JACK ALBERT lawsuits GLORIA ORLANDO, CELIA MORELLI, JOAN ZECCA, CURTIS ANDERSON subscriptions CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS the usual gang of idiots

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MAD-Dec. 1967 Vol. 1, Number 115, is published monthly except February, May, August and November, by E. C. Publications, Inc., 485 MADison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022. Second Class Postage pold at New York, N. Y. Subscriptions: In the U.S.A., 19 insues \$5.00, Outlide U.S.A., 19 insues \$6.25. Allow 10 weeks for change of address to become effective. Entire contents copyright © 1967 by E. C. Publications, Inc. The Publisher and Editors will not be responsible for unsolicited manuscripts and request all manuscripts be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed return envelope. The names of characters used in all MAD fiction and semi-fiction are fictitievs. A similarity without soliric purpose to a living person is a coincidence.

VITAL FEATURES



LETTERS DEPT.



THROW-UP

Bravo! Your satire, "Throw-Up" was great, to say nothing of being true. As one of the unfortunates who wasted a small fortune and two hours on it, I can only say I should have waited till MAD printed its version. I got more out of it. D. Eshleman Lancaster. Pa.

Your satire of "Blow-Up" was terrible. This was a truly great movie, and you should never have attempted to degrade it

Dan Silver

Los Angeles, California

"Throw-Up" captured every nauseating meaningless detail of the original movie, and made me wonder why I hadn't done just that ... throw up!

Rubette Cowan Bronx, N.Y.

FINALLY FED UP

I'm finally fed up with letters from people who condemn MAD for satirizing a favorite TV show or a favorite movie. These people obviously are not reading your fine magazine with the correct attitude. I, myself, have laughed many times at satires of what I believed to be great shows. The more I enjoyed the show, the more I enjoyed MAD's satire of it. I'm sure that most MAD readers agree with me. Those who see MAD as only a collection of vicious, mud-slinging articles are certainly reading the wrong magazine. Henry Vorus Atlanta, Ga.

VIETNAM NEWSPAPER STORY

CS.

Your "Do-It-Yourself Vietnam Newspaper Story" was so disgustingly true that it was unfortunately funny. My congratulations on a clever, beautiful article. Randi Solomon

Flushing, New York

In order to read your article in every possible way, one would be forced to wade through it 479,001,600 times. Other than that, it was one of the best articles I've ever read.

> Norma Pincus Brookline, Mass.

Regarding your "Do-It-Yourself Vietnam Newspaper Story," I have found that I could write a total of 8,916,099,247,256 different news stories about the war in Vietnam.

Fred Ware Omaha, Nebraska

AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL-REVISITED (Here We Go Again!)

I think your "America, the Beautiful-Revisited" was your best article ever. You have said things about water pollution, slums, etc. before, but never as effective as this

> Andrew Bergstein Mecersberg, Pa.

"America, the Beautiful – Revisited" was one of the best satires ever published in MAD. Never have I laughed so hard. I think it's wonderful that we can face up to our faults. My congratulations. Edward Endicott Danville, California

In your usual masterful and brilliant manner, with graphic clarity, you have demonstrated once again that somewhere along the line, we have forgotten the lofty ideals set forth for us by our forefathers. Congratulations on a superb masterpiece.

Mitchell Moore Alliance, Ohio

It disgusted me to read your satire of "America, the Beautiful-Revisited." You must be pretty hard up for ideas to stoop so low as to ridicule a beautiful song and some of our depressed areas. Your concept of combining the two was grotesque. Mrs. D. S. Murano Azusa, California

"America, the Beautiful – Revisited" belongs in the trash heap! You guys don't appreciate your own country, do you!

Bart Bradberry Athens, Ga.

The pictorial "America, the Beautiful-Revisited" was an excellent expression of a lamentable point of view. Perhaps these few new lyric lines will sum up the situation:

O literal, unto each word,

Thy meager brain doth seem.

Hast thou no broad, impassioned scope,

No visionary dream? MAD Editor, MAD Editor,

Can thou not understand?

The song's beauty is an ideal

For our imperfect land.

Aileen Kirk

Wheeling, West Va.

IMMORTALIZED IN MAD

At last! My fondest wish has been realized. I have been immortalized in MAD Magazine, thanks to Mort Drucker and Dick DeBartolo and MAD's satire of "The Iron Horse" in which I appear.

Van Nuys, California

One of the most poignant photo-essays I have ever seen. "A Hymn To Disgrace" was an accurate classification of this article, for it presented realistically some of the incongruities of America, and some of the atrocities Americans commit against themselves and their fellow citizens. At a time when apathy increases with each injustice, it is important that Americans be shaken from their lethargy by articles such as this.

> Joel M. Lee San Antonio, Texas

"A Hymn To Disgrace" certainly labeled the article correctly. It was definitely a hymn to disgrace on your part! It was not only sick humor in bad taste, but it also presented a tight-sighted look at America. Why not try knocking something else instead of this great country we are all privileged to live in.

Dolores Jean Randazzo Moodus, Connecticut

I object to "America, the Beautiful-Revisited" and to other such "satires" that I've seen in MAD. While we cannot pretend that certain deplorable situations do not exist in the United States, your pointing them out in blunt and painful sarcasm tinged with half-truths is of dubious constructive value and, needless to say, in no way laughable.

Andy Rangell Denver, Colorado

Too many of us tend to forget or close our eyes to scenes such as you portrayed, and see only the beauty that abounds in our country. Thank you for reminding us

> Greg Mahler Glendale, California

Please stick to humor in your future issues. "America, the Beautiful – Revisited" was a humorless poke at our great nation

> R. Travis Barness II De Leon, Texas

"America, the Beautiful-Revisited" delivers a message that will make people think about the need for beautification more than any speech by any politician (or his wife) ever will.

W. William Jones McKeesport, Pa.

EVERYDAY GUTS

In "Everyday Guts Magazine" you failed to include the most terrifying experience of all-namely "I Fought Nausea Through A Whole Issue Of MAD Magazine."

> Brian Richardson Park Ridge, Ill.

Roger Torrey

"MOTHER GOOSE" BY FAMOUS POETS

"If Famous Poets Had Written 'Mother Goose'" was one of the most brilliant pieces I have ever read in your magazine. Larry Pomeroy Des Moines, Iowa

"If Famous Poets Had Written 'Mother Goose'" was entertaining and interesting. In most cases, you were fairly accurate in your portrayal of the various poets' styles. However, when I came to "Humpty-Dumpty" by Walt Whitman, I was shocked to see that writer Frank Jacobs had based his parody on one of Whitman's worst, "O Captain, My Captain," the only rhyming poem produced by him. Here is my idea of how Walt Whitman would have written "Humpty Dumpty":

O fragile ovum in front of wall upon which once you sat,

Now ever broken and strewn about such that no being can ever re-build you,

Not royal equine beasts, nor servants of empiric majesties,

Not men in high places, not possessors of the Word of God, nor the very fowl that begot you.

You-whom God has let fall upon unclean surface.

You are not fit for human consumption.

Bill Beatty Livonia, Michigan

A CHIP OFF THE OLD BOCK

I have been reading your magazine for several years. I was an English major in college (Big deal!) and a Journalism minor (Bigger deal!). I am an avid reader of everything from Shakespeare to bathroom walls, a full-time senior-clerk-typist (Barf!), a part-time fashion model (Bigger barf!) and a hopeless poet. I sincerely believe that your magazine is the most original and broadly intellectual one in the United States. Your satire, which is the highest form of humor, is unequaled by any other newspaper or magazine. On various incredibly bad days of my incredibly bad life, I have been cheered by reading your mag. Please continue. If I had an income, I would subscribe.

Linsley Fleur Bock Berkeley, California

MAD AUTO SAFETY FEATURES

"Some MAD Auto Safety Features" was one of your better satirical masterpieces. It's too bad more people don't think this way instead of being hypocritical and blaming the auto industry entirely for the deaths on our highways. Automobiles are like guns. They don't kill, people do.

> Mike Shatto Professional Hunter Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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Origami by Baggi

Photograph by Irving Schild

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Yep, we're looking for a soft shoulder to cry onmainly because nobody's ordering these full-color portraits of Alfred E. Neuman, MAD's "What-Me Worry?" kid . . . which are suitable for framing, or wrapping fish. So help get us back on the road to riches! Mail 25c for 1 (or 50c for 3, or \$1.00 for 9) to MAD, 485 MADison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022





"THESE ARE THE VOYAGES OF THE STAR-SHIP 'BOOBY-PRIZE'! ITS MISSION, TO EXPLORE STRANGE





NEW WORLDS, TO SEEK OUT NEW LIFE, AND TO BOLDLY GO WHERE NO MAN HAS EVER GONE BEFORE!"









"2" AGAINST "1" DEPT.

For many months now, the American people have been subjected to one of the most expensive battles in our nation's history. And we're not referring to Vietnam, or to Labor Strife, or to Civil Rights. We're talking about the bitter advertising battle that's currently being waged by "Hertz" and "Avis".

AVIS STARTED THE BATTLE BY RUNNING THIS AD:

AFTER A WHILE, HERTZ RESPONDED WITH THIS AD: No. 2 says he tries harder. Than who?

We wouldn't, for a monte, argue with No. 2. The says betries handler, we'll take him at his ward. Threeonly thing is, a lot of people assume it's us he's trying handler than. That's handly the case. And we're user that No. 2 would be the first to agree. Especially in light of the following.

A car where you need it.

The first step in renting a car is getting to the car. Hence makes that easier for you to do than any-

hidy else.

We have a direct-lie botels and motels in the U.S. It's marked HERTZ and it's in the Jobley, Pick it up, ask for a car, and we'll deliver one to the door. You often car't get a extraction

> What kind of car would you like? When you rent from Hertz, you're less likely to get shick with a beige sedan when you want a red ensivertible. We have over twice as many cars

Can't come to us? We'll come to you.

Hertz We're at every major airport in the United States. And at some airports that are not so major. Ever ifly to Whitefish, Montana? Some people do. And have a Hertz car waiting. No matter how small 4 - - - +1 you fly to, if

a. No. 2.

What kind of service will you get? When you rent a new car from us or anybody else, you expect it to be sitting there waiting, ready to go, looking like new. ---- claim no superiority over On that'

When you're only No.2, you try harder.



Little fish have to keep moving all of the time. The big ones never stop picking on them.

Avis knows all about the problems of little fish.

We're only No.2 in rent a cars.We'd be swallowed up if we didn't try harder. There's no rest for us.

AND AVIS QUICKLY RETALIATED WITH THIS AD:

Why No.1 has to do something about Avis:



You've probably noticed the big change in No.1's advertising lately. No more jolly man flying into the driver's seat.

Instead, they've come out with a get-tough-with-Avis campaign. Why?

Because No. I's share of the rent a car business is getting smaller.

And Avis'share is getting bigger. (Based on the latest figures from 26 major airports.)

THIS

LIKE

SIDEWAYS

4

9

In Tynam, No. To share of car remain dropped from \$6.5 to \$505. As in these pumped from \$955 to \$555

Trying harder is paying off.

As you can see, both sides are beginning to play rough. And when "Big Business" plays rough, there's no telling how nasty and vicious things can get. Which is why we here at MAD can't wait to see the sparks fly

WHEN THE HERTZ-AVIS RIVALRY **REALLY GETS** OUT OF HAND FOR MAD'S IDEA OF WHAT MAY BE IN STORE, TURN MAGAZIN

a avis will continue fighting dirty with this ad:

Is No.I revealing his true self?



Some car renters weknowliketocompare No. 1 with a Pig. They point out that No. 1 has all of the Pig traits. That he is greedy and overfed. That he lets out a loud squeal whenever he thinks any-

body is moving in on his territory. That he has a distinctive air about him.

In short, that he is swinelike.

Avis feels such a comparison is unfair.

True, No. 1 is trying to hog the entire car-rental market for himself. He loves making hammy statements about himself. And he's always snorting about how big and fat he is.

Still, Avis would never wish to compare No. 1 with a Pig.

It would be unfair.

To the Dia

To the Pig.

AND HERTZ WILL ANSWER IN KIND WITH THIS CORKER:

Won't somebody change No.2's diapers?



Poor, unhappy, underprivileged No. 2. All he can do is complain that big, mean, old Hertz is picking on him. And moan that he tries harder. One thing's for sure: No. 2 cries harder!

Who would ever think that an American corporation could behave like a two-yearold. But the crying can't go on forever. One day No. 2 will have to grow up. One day he'll have to mature.

two-year-old any longer. He'll be a sniveling, whining *three-year*-

Which would be an improvement.

At least he'd have experience in something.

UNDAUNTED, AVIS WILL FIRE BACK THIS BOMBSHELL:

Who shall

smite the

tyrant?



The Good Book tells of many despicable tyrants. What decent, God-fearing American is not deeply stirred by the story of little David standing up to the cruel and wicked Goliath?

Today, America is witnessing a similar struggle: Avis is rising up in righteous wrath against the awful tyranny of No. 1. Like little David, Avis is

trying to bring down an immoral, unholy giant. Avis knows that this dreaded colossus will attempt to crush him through terrible brute force.

But Avis will not flinch. Avis will not forsake this Holy Crusade.

Armed with the Gospel of Truth, Avis will bring

down the pagan beast.

So help us God!

BUT HERTZ WILL LAUNCH THIS MISSILE IN RESPONSE:

Does No. 2 Cause Cancer?



probably deny that his cars bring on Cancer. He has that right.

But Hertz has been busy the past few

months digging up evidence to the contrary. We're not alarmists, but we think people should know that a recent survey shows that more doctors use Hertz than No. 2.

Now why would a doctor pick one rent-acar company over another? Obviously, because one is less dangerous to his health.

And what's the worst health danger in the country today? Cancer, that's what! Just put two and two together, and one awful, horrible staggering fact emerges: No. 2 is a National Menace. No. 2 will probably not like this ad. He'll scream that he doesn't cause Cancer.

Well, all Hertz can say is: If No. 2 doesn't cause Cancer, let him prove it!

No. I vs. Democracy



Avis cheered the Hungarianfreedomfighters when they challenged the Sovietmurderers in 1956. Avis is proud of all the brave East

Berliners who have crossed the Wall in the face of Communist guns.

Avis knows how it is to be victimized by a Ruthless, Deadly Big Power.

For years, we've been fighting off a Big Power equally as oppressive, twice as vicious. We've been defending our American liberty against No. 1. Sometimes we wonder: Is freedom worth the awful fight? But then we think of Hungary and the Berlin Wall. And of George Washington and Bunker Hill and Sergeant York and Pearl Harbor and the Star Spangled Banner.

And we know.

Better No. 2 than Red!

FINALLY, AFTER A FEW YEARS, THIS AD WILL APPEAR:

Armistice Day



Hertz and Avis are pleased to announce a truce. No more angry advertising. No more dirty accusations. No more hitting below the belt. Avis and Hertz have kissed and made up. Actually, we were never mad at all. By each of us knocking the other in his advertising, we were able to get twice the attention we

normally would have gotten. In fact, we've ended up doing twice as much business as we did when our so-called feud started. And now we're a lot closer to our main goal. Which is to merge companies and then squeeze out No 3, No. 4 and No. 5.

That will leave the entire car-rental market to us alone.

Then watch our rates zoom.

IN A SUPER MARKET



















POLL-BEARERS DEPT.

Television does things in a big way. Coverage of the 1964 Presidential election was extensive, and many hours of regular programming were pre-empted to bring you the returns. In 1965 and 1966, many more hours of viewing were pre-empted to cover these less-important elections. But now it's 1967, a real "off-year" as far as elections go. Will television find enough material to again pre-empt many hours of normal viewing? Oh, they will! They will! Let's take a look at:

TV COVERAGE OF AN OFF-YEAR ELECTION











PHRASING A COIN DEPT.

In the old days, kids used to collect worthless things like "gum cards" and "bottle caps". Today, the big hobby among members of our modern younger generation is "coin collecting". (No fools, you modern kids!). And so, after diligent searching (and some sneaky counterfeiting), we are now able to present a collection of rare coins and bills that aren't (but should be) in the catalogues. So feast your beady little mercenary eyes on these



ARTIST: BOB CLARKE WRITER: WILLIAM GARVIN

The ONE RED CENT



... every door-to-door salesman promises his product won't cost you unless you're 100% satisfied.

The PLUGGED NICKEL



... your chances of getting that raise aren't worth.

The PENNY



... your wife is always accusing you of being a pincher of.

The

DIME

... used car dealers always assure you their cars will stop on.



The



... someone is always putting into your private conversations.

The DOLLAR



... your doctor is always telling you you're sound as, even though you feel awful.

The THREE DOLLAR BILL



... most of your friends are as phony as.

LABOR OF LOVE DEPT.

From generation to generation, relationships between males and females have wound up in one of two ways: Moderate Misery . . . or Complete Misery! That's never changed! What has changed, however, are the attitudes and techniques in the area of "Dating", MAD now examines three generations of these attitudes and techniques in order to trace . . .



1890-1910

1930-1950

TODAY







THE ARRANGEMENTS

1890-1910 In this period, people were very mature in their attitudes toward arranging dates. Mainly because the people who did the arranging were the Parents.



1930-1950 In this period, arranging dates was taken out of the hands of parents and handled by young people themselves. But because of their Victorian upbringing, young people were confused about the opposite sex and didn't start dating until they were old enough to be Parents.





1930-1950 During this period, boys often met and got to know girls while doing something called a "Fox Trot". This was an activity in which the boy and girl moved slowly around a Dance Floor in time to music, holding each other closely. This will never happen again in our life-time.



TODAV Nowadays, the first meeting between a boy and girl is not as cut and dried, but instead is fraught with suspense and intrigue. Mainly because neither of them is at all sure that it is a meeting.



THE DATING

1890-1910 The dating period before marriage for a young couple of this generation was understandably short. Like about twenty minutes.



THE MARRIAGE

1890-1910 A good percentage of marriages made during this period didn't work out . . . for obvious reasons.

Your father was wrong! You're NOT cute when you're angry! You're ugly! And that's NOT a cleft in your chin! It's a wart! And you DON'T like to walk in the rain because you're romantic! You do it because you're too stupid to come out of it!

freckle you were supposed to have on the tip of your nose is really an acne scar. And if you're a good listener, so is the wall! I get more of a response from it!

Oh, you've got some wonderful

disposition, all right! And that



1930-1950 Many marriages that took place during this period didn't work out either . . . but for slightly different reasons.



TODAN With the modern generation totally involved in kicks and causes, and totally <u>uninvolved</u> with people, young marrieds today can't possibly know they're incompatible until it's too late.



To repeat what we said in the beginning: While dating methods may have changed through the years, the results were often, unfortunately the same. Up to now, there has been no sure-fire way for young people to know how suited they are for each other until after marriage—when it's too late.





PHYSICAL INFORMATION

MY HEIGHT IS (CHECK ONE): Under 5' () 5'-5'5" () 5'5"-6' () Over 6' () None of these ()

I WANT TO MEET SOMEONE (CHECK ONE): Under 5' () 5'-5'5" () 5'5"-6' () Over 6' () None of these ()

MY EYES ARE (CHECK ONE): Blue () Brown () Hazel () Crossed ()

MY DATE'S EYES SHOULD BE (CHECK ONE): Blue () Brown () Hazel () Closed ()

MY HAIR IS (CHECK ONE): Black () Brown () Red () Blonde ()

MY DATE'S HAIR SHOULD BE (CHECK ONE): Black () Brown () Red () Combed ()

Dating By C No more selfish Parents arranging dates! No more desperate trips

No more selfish Parents arranging dates! No more desperate trips to dances and discotheques in search of the ideal mate. For a modest fee, you simply fill out the detailed questionnaire . . .

EMOTIONAL INFORMATION

 I like girls more than boys
 ()

 I like boys and girls equally
 ()

 I hate boys more than girls
 ()

 I hate girls more than boys
 ()

 I hate girls more than boys
 ()

 I hate girls more than boys
 ()

 I hate boys and girls equally
 ()

 I am very affectionate
 ()

 I am not very affectionate
 ()

 I laugh when I'm happy
 ()

 I cry when I'm happy
 ()

 I have many bad habits
 ()

 I have no bad habits
 ()

 I checked *all* of the above items
 ()

 I am very confused about myself
 ()

MORAL INFORMATION

I WILL NOT OBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ON MY FIRST DATE:

Holding hands	
Hugging and squeezing(
Kissing(
Ear-blowing	
Going a little further(
Going even further	
Going still further	
Going the furthest possible from	
"still further"	
I will not object to meeting a nice writer of	
computer information forms if I checked	
everything up to here(

THE DATING Once the dating begins, all the anguish ends. No more psyche-probing, no more suspense about compatibility of interests. You know exactly what you both have in common, and you do nothing but share all of these things together.



However, today there are people who claim that all this will be changed by a revolutionary new system which will cut through the uncertainty and deliver the goods scientifically. And so, in the same step-by-step process we've just used, let us examine the new phenonenon called ...

omputers



THE MEETING

Once questionnaire is filled out and processed, a meeting is set up for you with a person of the opposite sex who most closely conforms to what you desire in a mate, and who shares the same interests with you. From the very beginning, you two speak the same language ...



THE MARRIAGE Thanks to computers, we may soon see marriages in which both partners are perfectly matched, share everything in common . . . and wish to heck their Parents could have arranged a wedding for them with people they had nothing in common with.



PINS AND NEEDLES DEPT.

Wearing those sick, shocking, and sometimes downright pornographic "Protest Buttons" seems to be the current craze among the members of the "IN" crowd. Well, we've got

"PROTEST BUTTONS"

ZEUS IS DEAD

Michelangelo

Can't Draw A

Straight Line

LEARN A LESSON FROM CONFUCIUS AND AN HOUR LATER YOU'RE STUPID AGAIN

oedipus

IS a

mama's

BOY

Billy

The Kid

Rides Side-

Saddle

METHUSELA IS A DIRTY OLD MAN

EUCLID

15 A

SQUARE

MAKE A GRAVEN IMAGE TODAY!

> Rasputiņ Is Aņ Uņkempt Slob

Any Emperor Can Have Cleopatra

Napoleon WEARS LIFTS news for them. Wearing "Protest Buttons" isn't a new craze at all! In fact, it's a very old idea! And here's the proof . . . as MAD presents some rare examples of . . .

THROUGH HISTORY

MERLIN USES MIRRORS

WHAT'S

SO Great

ABOUT

Alexander?

MAKE

ORGIES

-NOT

WAR!

OPW

Psalms Are For Psissies Attila The Hun Has Bad Breath

Louis XIV Wears A Garter Belt

HANNIBAL'S ELEPHANTS ARE MESSING UP THE ALPS

The Marquis De Sade Really Knows How To Hurt A Guy

Haydn Is A

HACK

Ponce De Leon Uses Face Cream

Past

HERCULES WEARS A TRUSS FLOWERY LANGUAGE DEPT.



e a constante a co



Vanity



Frustration



Dependency



Motherhood

I.nn : 🖳 " ° " IDIOSYNCRASIES

ANTONIO PROHIAS



Shyness



Exhibitionism



Self-Preservation



Youth and Old Age

29



Introversion

Indecision

Non-Conformity

RAPPING THE GIFTED DEPT.

Since the "Clods" of the world have their own magazine (MAD), there oughta be a magazine for the "Geniuses" of the world. Something like



ARE YOU ASHAMED OF YOUR PARENTS?

Next time you bring your "GIFTED CHILD" friends home for an informal gathering, why suffer the embarrassment of having to introduce them to your typical, dull, normal parents? Now you can say goodbye to their ridiculous questions and idiotic remarks! Play it smart: before your next social affair, call

"RENT-A-PARENT"



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PERSONALS

TO MY GIFTED SON, RAYMOND: Since you ran away, I have seen the light. I realize now that our family can live happily. There will be no more bickering, no more tension, and no more competing between us for Mommy's attention. All you have to do is STAY AWAY!!-Dad.





Send your Gifted Child Problems to "Ask Smart Alec," c/o this magazine All letters will be treated in strict confidence, unless they're dirty ... in which case, I'll show them to my friends so they can giggle, loo!

Dear Smart Alec:

I am a six-year-old college sophomore. This semester, I joined a fraternity, but I am very disappointed. At the frat parties, the only things the girls want to do are dance and make out. I've tried-Lord knows, I've tried to find a young lady who wants to talk about Integral Calculus or Classical Greek Literature. But I've been unsuccessful. Do you have the telephone numbers of some girls who AREN'T interested in kissing and making out all the time?

Dear Frustrated:

Signed: Frustrated

No, thank God! Do you have the telephone numbers of some girls who ARE?

Dear Smart Alec:

My home life is just awful. All day long, it's questions, questions, questions. Every time I say something, I hear this voice asking, "Will you explain that?" or "I don't understand! What do you mean?" It's becoming unbearable. Will you please advise me on how I should handle my father and his endless questions?

Signed: Upset Son

Dear Upset Son:

Next time your father questions one of your statements, just answer, "Because!" Naturally, he will reply, "Because why?" To which you can rejoin, "Because I said so, that's why!" To which he will counter with "Why, just because you said so, that's why?" to which you can offer, "Why not just because I said so, that's why?" At this point, your father will either stop asking questions or kill himself. In either case, you're the winner.

Dear Smart Alec:

Something very strange happened to me last week in our Special Gifted Child Class. I was called upon to give a talk on Current Events, and so I delivered a ten-minute speech explaining President Johnson's Foreign Policy. Immediately thereafter, I was dropped out of the Gifted Child Class. Can you tell me why?

Signed: Wounded

Dear Wounded:

Anyone who understands President Johnson's Foreign Policy has to be an idiot, and doesn't belong in a Gifted Child Class.

Dear Smart Alec:

I am deeply disturbed. Recently, I wrote my Congressman suggesting legislation on monetary reform. Although I am only 7, I offered a revolutionary plan for curbing the wage-price inflationary spiral, avoiding recession, and reducing our gold out-flow. My Congressman never even answered me. I have enclosed a copy of my letter to him for you to see. Why didn't he answer me?

Signed: Disillusioned

Dear Disillusioned:

I have read your letter and I agree that it has some remarkable ideas. However, I think the reason your Congressman did not answer you is contained in your last sentence, which I quote: "I believe that this multifaceted approach to monetary reform is both viable and imaginative, and I hope that you will incorporate its several approaches into a bill for introduction upon the floor of Congress this session, and if you don't, you're a rotten doody."

Dear Smart Alec:

Perhaps you can help me. I am having a very difficult time with my parents. Although they both have Ph.D. degrees, they are quite stupid. They claim they cannot understand me, that they cannot reach me, and that they cannot handle me. As a result, communication between us has broken down, and our mutual contempt is growing day by day. How can a Gifted Daughter handle this problem?

Signed: Distraught

Dear Distraught:

From the symptoms you describe, I question whether you are a Gifted Daughter. You sound like a perfectly normal teenage girl to me.

PRODIGY MAGAZINE is edited by and for Gifted Children, although some parts of it may be enjoyed by the less fortunate who who might only have 1,Q.'s of 150 or so. The Magazine has been designed as a forum and common meeting ground for youngsters who are so far above the ordinary that the usual types of magazines do not satisfy them. This, is an élite publication for élite children, and we made ya look, made ya look, made ya buy a guarter book! Ha-hal

LIFE WITH MARVIN

The Joys and Sorrows of Living with a Gifted Child, as Told by His Father, Herman Gardens.



HOW HAPPY I WAS ON THAT FATEFUL DAY when I rushed my wife to the hospital to have our second child. How thrilled I was when the nurse came to me a few hours later with a tiny baby in her arms. And how amazed I was when the kid looked up at me and said, "Hello, there, Mr. Gardens! I'm your new son!" Right there and then, I had the feeling this child was different.

We named him Marvin (after our favorite piece of property in "Monopoly") and brought him home. What joy filled my heart as 1 sat on the floor that first day amid all the nuts and bolts and parts, assembling his crib, while Marvin read the instructions and told me what to do.

For a while, life with the infant Marvin went along just fine . . . except for an occasional incident, such as Marvin's disputing the Pediatrician's diagnosis. But Marvin soon came to understand that, unlike himself, the Doctor did not have the time to read all the current Medical Journals.

At eight months, I bought Marvin his first Chemistry Set. It was the best \$5.98 I ever spent, because it kept Marvin occupied. Within three days, he had created "life in a test tube." I do believe that Marvin would have won the Nobel Prize and traveled to Stockholm if he'd been toilet trained at the time. Of course, life with a Gifted Child in the family is not without its problems. For example, there's Marvin's older sister-a ten-year-old with an I.Q. of 148. Recently, we've begun calling her "Big Stupid." And there's Marvin's proud Grandmother who carries wallet-size brain X-rays of him around with her. She's currently making plans for his first birthday party-to be catered by the Princeton Institute For Advanced Studies. And then there's my wife, who is knocking her brains out taking Advanced Adult Education Courses just so she can understand what Marvin is talking about.

As for Marvin, things can be difficult, too. All of his faculties are so highly developed that it is hard for a one-year-old to cope with them. For example, he has the sexual knowledge of a twenty-year-old, but there's nothing he can do about it for another 15 years or so. Which gives me a chance to get even with the little stinker for all his abuse. I leave copies of "Plavboy" around the house, and it drives him erazy.

Actually, since Marvin came into our lives, we've all become terribly neurotic. But I am proud to say that we are doing something about it. We are all in "Group Therapy." The family sits around and tries to work out its problems together. However, I have my doubts about the success of this venture. Marvin is conducting the Group Sessions.

THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

QUESTION:

What was your most difficult problem?

Asked of Gifted Children in the Reference Room of The Public Library

Jane Retch, Six-Years-Old Floral Park, N. Y.

I remember once I entered an I.B.M. Contest, I was given a problem that would take a computer two days to answer, and then I was put into a



room for an entire day to solve it. My most difficult problem was that I didn't know what to do with the rest of my afternoon.

Harvey Brut, Nine-Years-Old Secaucus, N. J.



My most difficult problem is in the field of music. I have the darndest time humming the main theme from Haydn's 102nd Symphony. I keep

getting it confused with his 101st and his 103rd. But it doesn't really bother me. I suppose everyone has the same problem.

Phyllis Potts, Seven-Years-Old Pismo Beach, Calif.

As you know, I am famous for memorizing facts and figures faster than anyone in the Free World. My one problem is that I also forget facts and



figures faster than anyone in the Free World, Er-what was that question again?

Peter Bilge, Ten-Years-Old Scranton, Pa.



In as much as I have never had a difficult problem in my whole life, I would be obliged to say that answering your question about my most

difficult problem is my most difficult problem.

Goings On In The Top Two Percentile

By Bernard "Brainy" Bernbaum

Hi, Gifted Gals and Guys . . . here's "Brainy" Bernhaum again, with news and gossip about the "Smart Set". And by the way, if you're really a Gifted Gal or Guy, you should be finished reading this entire column by now!

Our condolences to poor Eli Tashman, who had a brilliant medical career ruined last week. Eli was all set for his Medical Board Examinations, but couldn't get to school. Seems his Mother was seriously ill, and there was no one else to watch Eli cross the street . . . Ain't It A Shame Dept.: Nick Liola, the four-year-old whiz-kid can name every Secretary Of State from George Washington's administration to the present one. Too bad nobody's ever asked him to do it! . . . Send a "Get Well" card to Speed-Reading Champ, Gregg Pitman, who is in the hospital with a dislocated jaw. Gregg, as you know, can speed-read through five text books in one hour. Unfortunately, he moves his mouth while he reads.



This is Don Franklin, the Gifted Child Artist, whose copy of "THE BLUE BOY" was so authentic, few experts could tell it from the famous original. Unfortunately, the Art Dealer to whom Don sold it for a record breaking \$500,000, turned out to be one of those few experts. That's "The Last Supper" Don is painting on the wall of his prison cell.

Which Gifted Child-Dean of which Eastern University was all upset when hie trunk from home arrived last week and he discovered that his parents had forgotten to include his rubber sheet? ... Tch-Tch Dept.: Even though seven-year-old Leslie Gruder is setting a torrid fashion pace creating award-winning hairdoes, Mr. and Mrs. Gruder are sick about it. After all, Leslie is a boy! ... Hats off to Lance Alott, the eight-month-old "vunderkind" who already has a vocabulary of 5000 (count 'em-5000) words. Unfortunately, Lance can't put any of them into a single coherent sentence.



Rock Samish, son of Movie Queen, Jill Samish, shows why he is known as Hollywood's most Gifted Child by reeling off the exact names and dates of all his mother's marriages.

Pity poor Larry Draper, the young genius who never made a single mistake or gave a wrong answer in his eleven years. Well, it appears that the pressure of somewhere, sometime making a boo-boo was too much for Larry, so he decided to break the streak himself, on purpose. Last week, for the first time in his life, he gave a wrong answer. However, everyone accepted it as the right answer, since they all knew Larry never makes a mistake. Drop him a line c/o Mattawan State Mental Hospital . . . Don't Invite To The Same Party Dept.: Norm Nitzwitz and Roy Cohnman. All they do all night is argue about quadratic equations . . . Too bad about Ken Furtwanger! Seems the brilliant five-year-old Pathologist developed a cure for Cancer, but he left it on the floor of his room and his mother threw it out.
The Gifted Child Of The Month

Each month, Prodigy Magazine selects one of its own for special commendation. This month, we salute nine-year-old Melvin Arista of San Francisco, California.



Mclvin starts his day bright and carly at 5:30. This gives him some free hours in which to play. Here he is, having his morning fun-translating Tolstoi from the original Russian into Swedish.



Before going off to school, Melvin plays his usual joke on his Dad. He asks Dad to check his Differential Calculus homework for errors. Melvin has difficulty communicating with his Dad, who only has an LQ. of 165, but Dad's getting the message that Melvin hates him.



Now it's off to school for Melvin. In the morning, he takes 16 points at UCLA. Then he comes home for lunch. In the afternoon, he takes another 16 points at Stanford. Melvin loves the ten minute rides between his home and the campuses, since it gives him time to do all his homework assignments.



Melvin has time for hobbies, too. Here we see an exact replica of a Boeing 707 Jet which Melvin built with materials found around his home. Unfortunately, the Civil Aeronautics Board will not let him fly his model, and it lies unused. "I had the same problem with my Hydrogen Bomb replica!" complains Melvin.



Melvin also finds time for relaxation. A devout music-lover, he is shown going to the San Francisco Symphony, where he'll conduct—and also be soloist in *Beethoven's Violin Concerto*.



Like any other child, Melvin ends his day with a prayer. Here we see him finishing off his prayer with the usual touching ending as he asks God if He has any questions.









GLOSSARY PRINTS DEPT.

So that you may fully understand the language of our times, here's

MAD'S Pictorial

STATE OF THE UNION



WATER CONSERVATION



AUTOMATION



AIR POLLUTION



BRAINWASHING



Political Dictionary

ESCALATION



PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE



POPULATION EXPLOSION

WRITER: MAX BRANDEL PHOTOS BY: U.P.I. & WORLD WIDE

BRINKMANSHIP





CREDIBILITY GAP





Hi, gang! Here we go with the opening sequence . . . the first race of the Grand Prix, here in Monaco. Before this MAD version of the motion picture about this series of races is over, we'll have seen the world's best racing drivers, the world's best racing cars, the world's best racing courses . . . and the world's worst racing gags. So now let's switch to some introductory close-ups of the drivers themselves, and let's hear what they're thinking . . .















WHAT IS ONE OF THE REALLY EXCITING POSSIBILITIES OF A PSYCHEDELIC "TRIP"?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS

Hippies who have taken psychedelic "trips" claim that it is not possible to describe the wonders of it all. This could be very frustrating for most of you squares who are "too chicken" to try one. To find out what you may be missing, fold page in as shown.



FOLD THIS SECTION OVER LEFT

◄B FOLD BACK SO "A" MEETS "B"



Written & Drawn by AL JAFFEE A REALLY FANTASTIC VOYAGE IS IN STORE FOR ANYONE WHO TAKES A "MIND-BLOWING LSD TRIP". IT'S A GAY TINGLING RIDE ON A WILD, SPARKLING, COLORFUL ROCKET



"THE KINC AND I were talking the other day, and he told me he had the same problem...severe eye strain!"



"THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN-point check-up my opthalmologist gave me confirmed it: Prescription sun glasses for me from now on!"



"TARAS BULBA had it easy in his time. When the sun was bright, he had slaves hold an awning over him!"



"ANASTASIA is still a mystery! Was she real, or was she a fraud? The same goes for sunglass lenses. Are they real, or a fraud? The difference can avoid eye damage!"



"THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV was quite a novel. 1 read it in one sitting. Only if I hadn't been wearing these cheap sunglasses all the while, I wouldn't be half-blind now!"

Isn't that Yul Brynner behind those Finster Glints?

(No, it's a cheap imitation of Yul Brynner behind those cheap imitations of good sunglasses!)

THERE are many kinds of sunglasses. Some are made optically perfect, and are quite expensive, while others just look like the real thing, but are actually cheap imitations. Like our double. He may look like the real thing, but he's not. We couldn't afford the real Yul Brynner. So we got a cheap imitation. Which is okay for an idiotic ad satire, but not when it comes to your eyes!

"ONCE MORE WITH FEELING, I say, 'Buy a good pair of sunglasses! It pays!""

