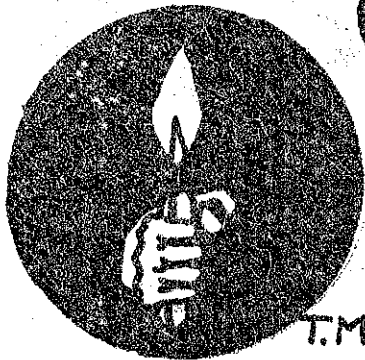


BIG INC PRESENTS.

HOBbit HEROES[®] T.M.



T.M.

DEC
1975

5P.

SECOND ISSUE.

M.E.H.

Hello Heroes,

First, my sincerest congratulations to M.E.H. (whoever he or she may be -ha! ha! on the new form of presentation for the D.U.A. magazine. The title though, believe me, caused a slight blush of embarrassment, and that doesn't happen very often these days.

A wide readership, enormously enjoyed the Weekly Whisper, which was essentially literary in content, unlike the H.H. which is strikingly visual. We shall never forget your hard work Gustav, but I expect your pen is already flooding sheets of A4 with the most delightful puns - intentional and otherwise. I never did work out whether the bad spelling was accidental, deliberate or just a malfunctioning typewriter? I look forward to reading your essays for the Oxford Training Course though it would be advisable before tutor Barry Cunliffe.

The H.H. magazine will on viewing the first issue be modelled on the best traditions of American comics M.E.H. really is in the wrong job - he could earn a fortune working for Beano or Dandy. Anyway, a highly professional piece of work and it was with great pride a copy was sent to the DOE with the monthly despatches for the other Brians Attention.

I was also very pleased to see the

theme on newspaper was team spirit. I now believe in our first two years we have now created a finely integrated team which is a good omen for the future. Further, the worst is now behind us with the DUA.HQ. (not basement, please) at 71 Basinghall Street due to open its refurbished doors early next year. The indoor staff at least will then be all under one roof. (nonpolythene) and this will help to further the integrated team spirit, so essential to the job satisfaction, we have to achieve if we are going to work well together.

The next major problem to be solved is that of permanent posts for the temporary staff which is at last not too far from being decided. I am pleased to say that the best that can be achieved is now being worked for, so the long delay will have been worthwhile.

In a year or so we shall look back on these first two years and wonder how we achieved so much. There will, though, always be major problems to solve which will become less administrative and hopefully more archaeological and that after all is why we are here.

Finally, one serious error has to be corrected which crept into the first issue, i.e. Penthouse, not Playboy, please.

Brian Hobley. CUA.

CONTENTS.

Contributions From:-

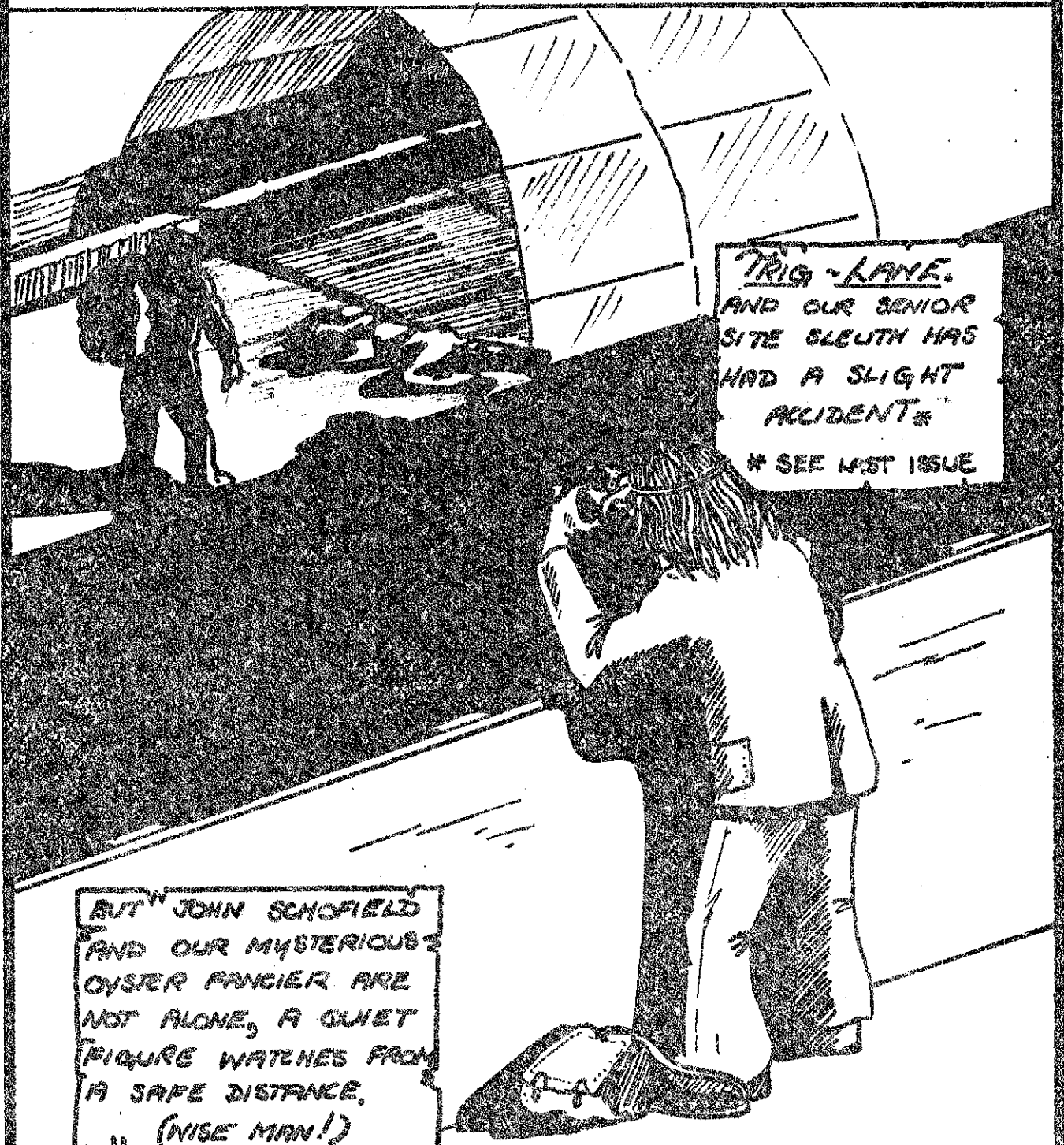
Alan Thompson.
Mark Harrison.
Brian Hobley.
Charles Hill.
John Maloney.
Hilary Kent.
Des Woods.

We would also like to thank Miss. Caroline Grace for her invaluable assistance with the printing.

+
Contributions for H.H. can be left in the "Trig Lane" tray at the Museum offices if convenient.

+
"WE NEED YOU!"

WELCOME TO PART TWO O PATIENT ONES.



TRIG-LANE.
AND OUR SENIOR
SITE SLEUTH HAS
HAD A SLIGHT
ACCIDENT*
* SEE LAST ISSUE

BUT JOHN SCHOFIELD
AND OUR MYSTERIOUS
OYSTER FANCIER ARE
NOT ALONE, A QUIET
FIGURE WATCHES FROM
A SAFE DISTANCE.
(WISE MAN!)

TO CATCH A WOLF.....

BUT APPEARANCES CAN BE
DECEIVING, FRIEND SO JUST SIT
BACK AND FOLLOW THE FLAMING ARROW TO

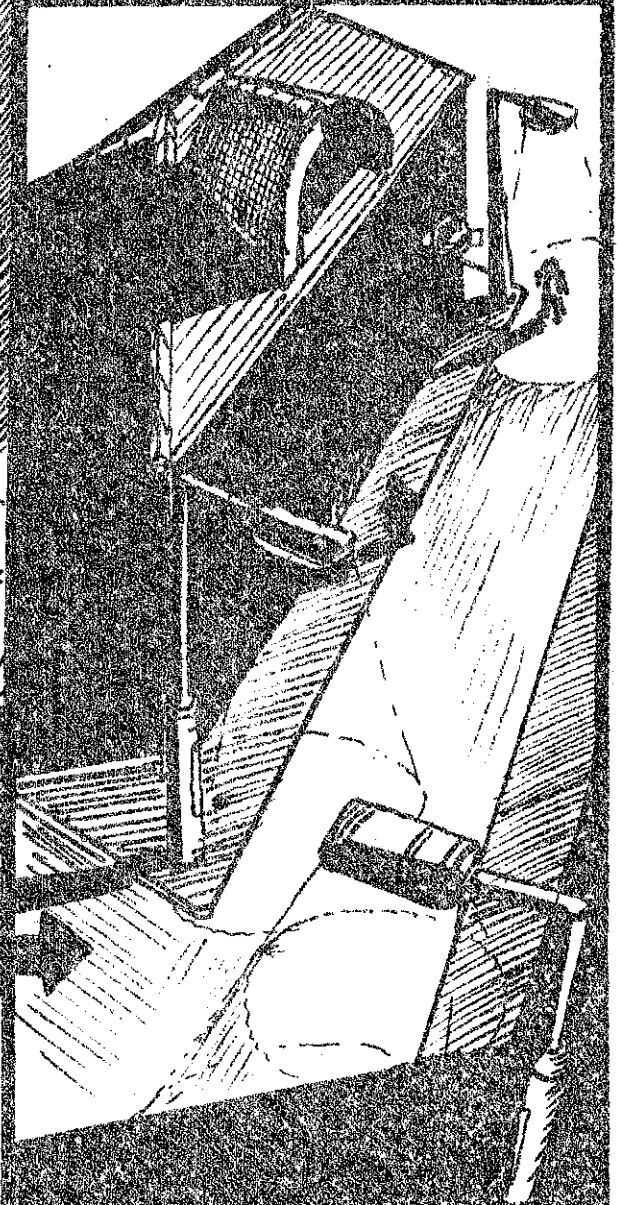


THAT QUIET
FIGURE....



IS JOHN-BURKE-
EASTON
(SAY AINT HE?)

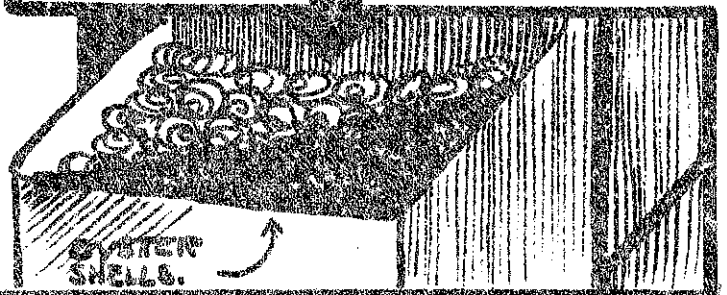
THE WALK THROUGH LONDON'S
BACKSTREETS ENDS AT A
DESERTED TUBE STATION....



WELCOME!



OUR ANTI-SOCIAL THIEF
ENTERS, WITH JON-JON
RIGHT BEHIND HIM. !!!

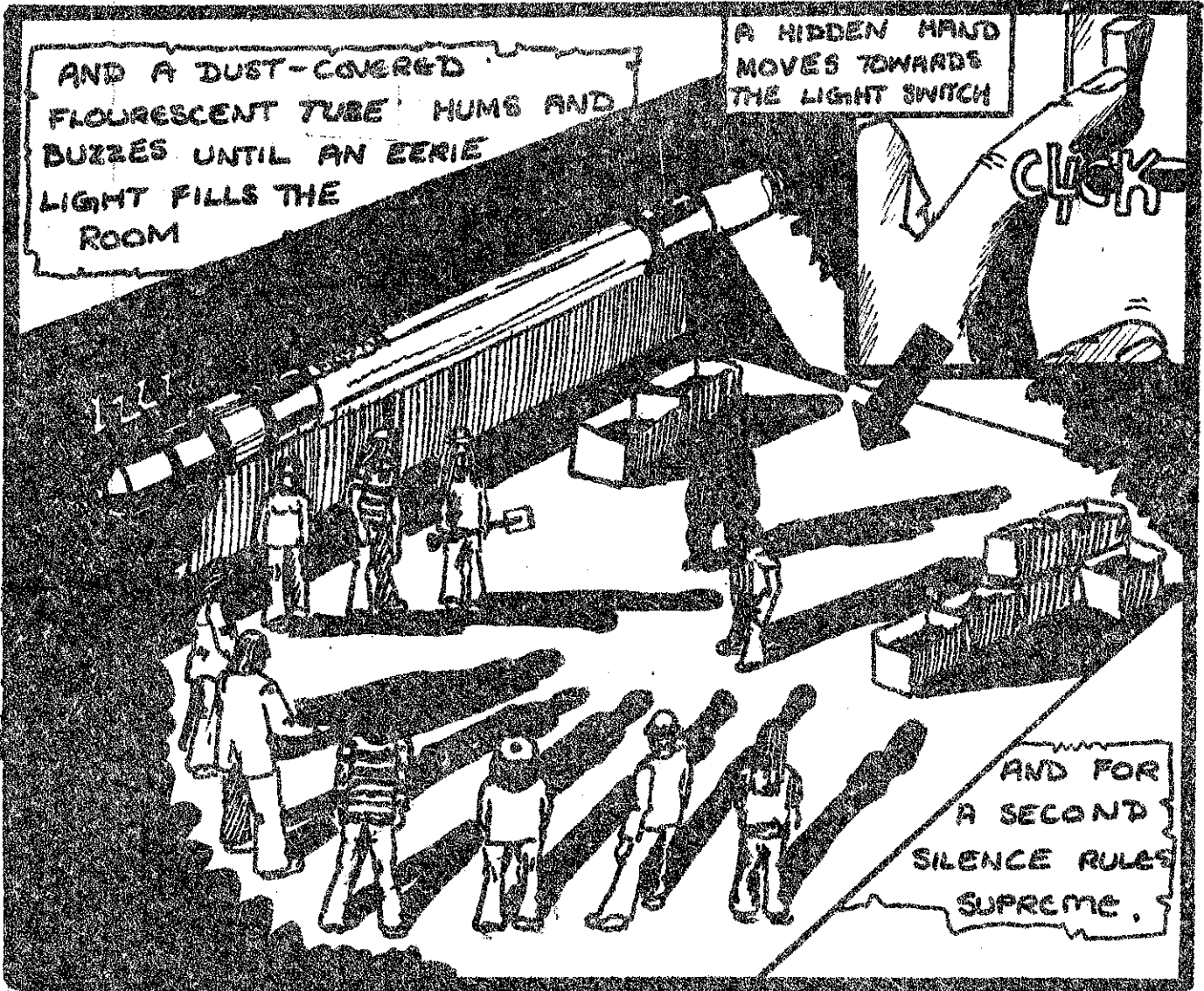


EATEN
SHELLS.

AND A DUST-COVERED
FLOURESCENT TUBE HUMS AND
BUZZES UNTIL AN EERIE
LIGHT FILLS THE
ROOM

A HIDDEN HAND
MOVES TOWARDS
THE LIGHT SWITCH

CLICK



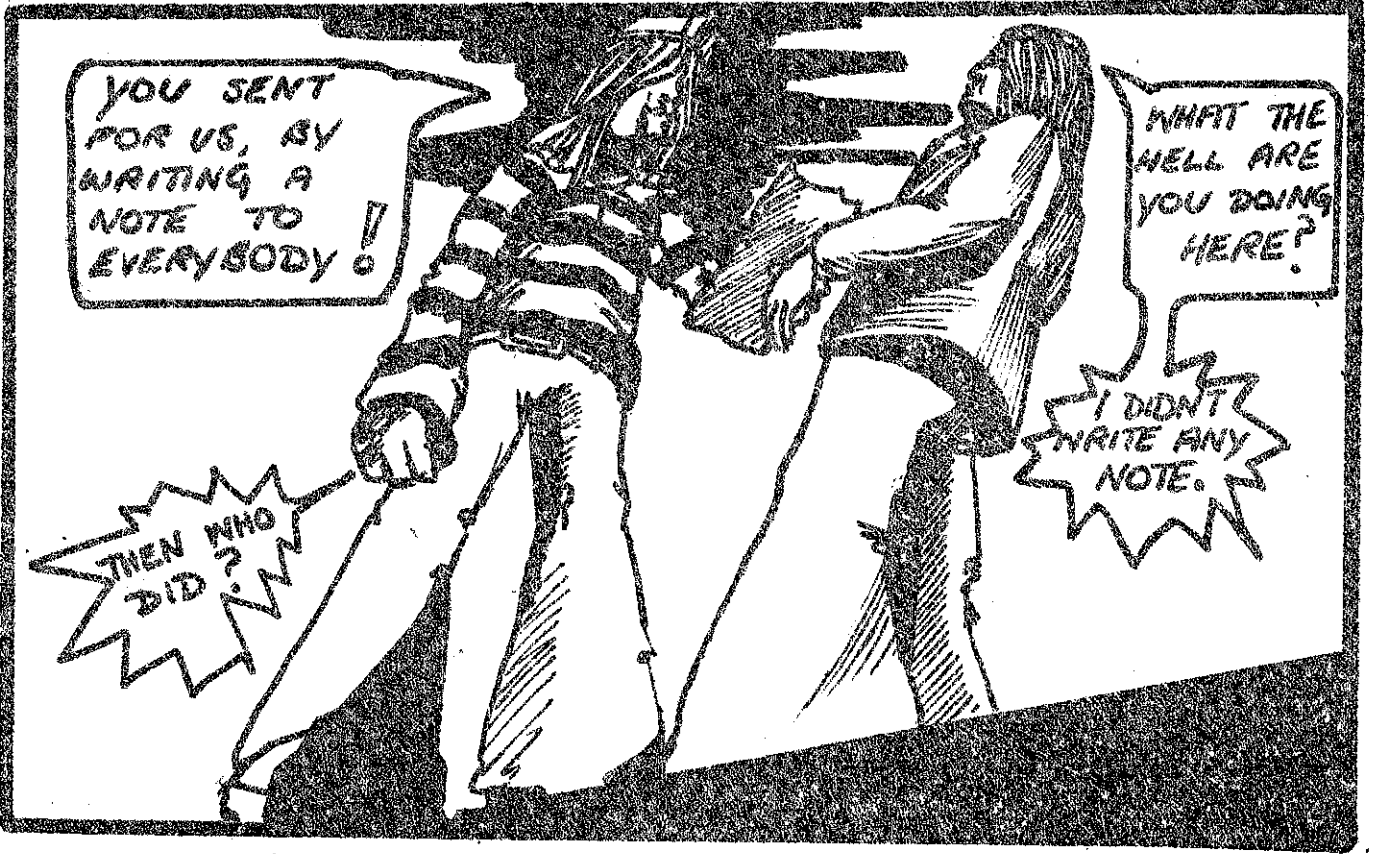
AND FOR
A SECOND
SILENCE RULES
SUPREME.

YOU SENT
FOR US, BY
WRITING A
NOTE TO
EVERYBODY!

WHAT THE
HELL ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?

THEN WHO
DID?

I DIDN'T
WRITE ANY
NOTE.



CONSIDER HER POLYSPANS AND OTHERS

IT is with some trepidation that I recall the events of Monday 17th November, 1975. The massed hordes of the G.P.O. staff were assembled on site to try and outfox the dreaded monsters from outer-DUA - the Polyspans.

Rain fell in torrents, and the wind howled around the buildings of the G.P.O., finally concentrating all its energy in knocking hell out of the diggers. This sort of punishment the diggers were used to, but what held them in a state of trance was the large gross frames of the Polyspans sitting across the excavations with their polythene skins cracking in the wind and metal clips flying in all directions.

Nobody could think where these strange and fearful creatures could possibly have come from, but the opinion was voiced that it must be from some anti-archaeological organisation trying to scare the welly-boots off of us.

At this point in time the main hero burst onto the scene. This was your ever-so-slightly-balding, but-nevertheless-extremely-handsome Site Supervisor Alan (back on site) Thompson. He was immediately followed and completely trodden underfoot by the not-so-bald-and-one-time-good-looking Des (star of stage, screen and Hyde Park Corner) Woods. It was only Alan's muffled cries for help which eventually made Des realise upon whose personage he had been standing, as up until that time he had thought it was a COLAS volunteer. With words of comfort like "Get up you silly sod, and stop lying down on the job", the Site Supervisor was yanked to his feet. Before he could regain his full senses a voice from the mess-hut shouted "tea up" and Alan was immediately trodden underfoot again by Des and the rest of the diggers as they rushed to get their tea.

It was a full 15 minutes before anybody asked where the Site Supervisor was and it was with wide eyed horror that they realised he was still outside and in great danger from the aliens.

To the rescue came Wellington-booted, but-very-fetching Hiliary (don't tread on that skelly) Kent, and that all-American girl Merry (shut that bloody door) Meier. These two were followed by short, but-very-lovable Barbie (Kiss-Kiss) Scammell and equally-lovable-but-far-longer John (weak, but getting stronger) Morrish. With the help of Des they succeeded in straightening out Alan's predicament (which by this time was very bent and painful), and together the six of them confronted the perils before them.

With shouts of "If in doubt hack it out" the fabulous six, under the inspiring leadership of their bedraggled and frequently stepped upon boss, rushed into battle with the now hysterical Polyspans.

Luck was on the six's side, the Polyspans were momentarily immobilised by their laughter over the diggers' antics. Within seconds the Polyspans were covered with a seething mass of arms, legs and Sals, not to mention hands, knees and booms-a-daisyes. In the thick of the fight Alan could be seen directing his diggers in the cause of victory; a quick twist of the polythene here, a calculated hit with the hammer there. Finally, as the Polyspans weakened, ropes were used to tie them down, and we find that in their dead and stiffened state they make quite good covers for the excavation.

A. THOMPSON.

Trig Lane by Mark Harrison.

The site has now been divided into three major areas, thus making the best of the labour shortage. Also, it allows people to be responsible for their own particular area, and enable them to follow its progress "step by Step."

The largest and northern most area concentrates on the excavation of the early fourteenth century house where we have already uncovered three major floor surfaces, two of which post date the insertion of a large "vaulted" chalk drain, running into the contemporary waterfront, and the third surface represents the floor in use prior to the drain. Responsible for this area are:-

Chrissie Milne, Jackie Harrison and Katherine Robinson.

A central area, situated behind the fourteenth century timber waterfront is also being excavated and additions to the structure, in the form of timber main braces are being examined. Saddle braces similar to the ones situated on the main waterfront have been uncovered, and it is thought that they relate to an earlier waterfront, which has since been replaced by the one visible now. It seems that the replacement had an additional second storey added to it, and secondary braces were inserted alongside the original ones to compensate for the increase in height. Responsible for this area are:-

Gustav Milne, Charlotte Harding, Dick Robinson and Trevor Dennis.

Trevor is temporarily at the Cannon Street site.

Last but not least, the north-west corner of the site is being excavated, and here the beginnings of possible steps have been uncovered. It is hoped that these steps may well signify the position of Boss Alley formerly Kings Lane, which preserved the memory of a "boss of water" placed there by the executors of Whittington, and beside it was the house belonging to the Abbots of

Chertsey, later called Sandie House used as an Inn when they were visiting town.

Responsible for this area are:-
John. B. Easton and Caroline Grace.

*
"London City" by Sir. W. Besant (1910)
p. 218.

Pub'd by Alan and Charles Black.

+ + +
"Building in England"
by L. F. Salzman.

Down to 1540 - a documentary history
1389. London, Tower Wharf. p169.

The King bargains with 3 masons to build a wharf, with two side walls. They are to dig out foundations 3 or 4 feet deep, and if necessary the ground shall be firmed with piles at the Kings expense. The walls shall be 8 feet thick at their base diminishing to 5 feet at the top, and 16½ feet in height; the facing to be of Ashlar of Kentish stone, the backing of 3 feet of rag and the remainder of chalk at every 10 feet a long "end-stone" shall be inserted; and the King shall provide for the filling of earth and RUBBLE as the work proceeds. The work shall be under the control of the treasurer, the Clerk of the Works, and Henry Yevele, and shall be completed within two years unless payment is interrupted. For this they shall have 29-13s-4d for each Perch of 16½ feet square; but if the walls are more or less than 16½ feet in height, payment shall be proportionate.

Exch. K. R. Accts. 502. No 10. MEH.






+ + +

"Archaeology is at the same time a science and an art".

Encyclopaedia Britannica. 1950.

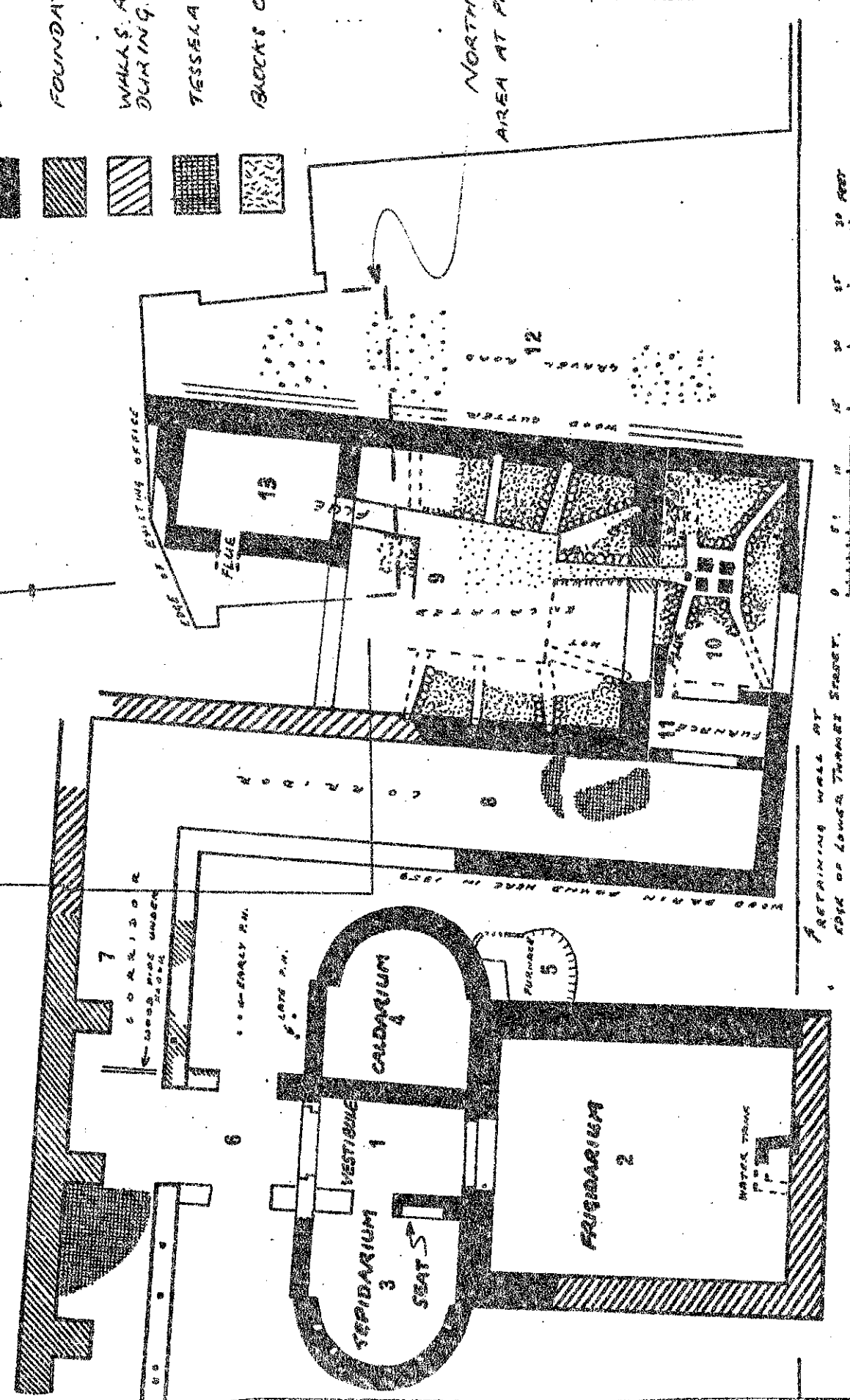
+ + +

LIVING ROOMS DESTROYED HERE

- KEY:
-  WALLS VISIBLE 1975
 -  FOUNDATIONS RECORDED 1970
 -  WALLS RECORDED DURING 19th CENTURY
 -  TESSELLATED FLOORS
 -  BACKS OF MASONRY

WALLS VISIBLE 1975
 FOUNDATIONS RECORDED 1970
 WALLS RECORDED DURING 19th CENTURY
 TESSELLATED FLOORS
 BACKS OF MASONRY

NORTH OF THIS LINE
 AREA AT PRESENT BEING
 EXCAVATED



0 5 10 15 20 25 30 FEET

RETAINING WALL AT
 CORNER OF LOWER THAMES STREET.

BILLINGSGATE ROMAN TOWN HOUSE AND BATHS, 1975.

Billingsgate Roman Town and Baths
by John Maloney.
Part One.

The site is located in the basement of a building still under construction, on the opposite side of the road to, and just east of, Billingsgate Fish Market. In 1848, construction work revealed the tepidarium (see plan 5) which was subsequently preserved in the basement of the Coal Exchange. Ironically, it was the demolition of the Coal Exchange (bitterly opposed by the Victorian Society et al. on the grounds of architectural merit and historical importance) and adjacent buildings in 1968, which gave Peter Marsden and members of COLAG (now COLAS) the chance to excavate, revealing the remainder of the bath-house and an associated domestic building.

The bath-house has survived in a remarkable state of preservation: for instance, the walls of the tepidarium stand intact above the level of the upper floor, the pilae (tile stacks) are all in position and those to the north and east support part of the upper floor (the actual floor level). The surface (see plan, 5) and the tile arch connecting it to the caldarium are virtually complete, whilst in the frigidarium there is a substantial tessellated floor, and a quarter inch round moulding (a poor equivalent is the modern skirting board) between the floor and the wall plaster gives a good idea of the care taken in the construction of the bath-house.

Transactions of LAMAS. (1916)
"Some London Street Names: Their Antiquity and Origin" II. - Western City. by Arther Bonner, F.S.A.

Roman Bath Street (Newgate St) p314

This is first found in 1280 and 1281 as Pentecostlane, and in 1290 as Pentecoste lane; other wills and P.R.O. deeds carry on this name through the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries - with a variation to "Pestcostlane" in 1361 (W) - and Stow also has it as Pentecost- and Pentecost- and with the remark "containing diverse slaughter houses for the butchers" (i, 316).....

During the seventeenth century.. "Pentecost" becomes "Pincock," as we learn from Ogilby and Hatton. The

A Concise Dictionary of COLAS.
by Des Woods.
Part One.

Practical archaeology in the City was under something of a cloud between the great German excavations of 1939-45 and the arrival of the Gig H. (Perhaps I should be more specific, people's minds being what they are. I refer of course to the gentleman who did such good work in setting up the DUA. Max Hebditch). The mid-sixties, though, saw a slow resurgence following a highly successful call for volunteer help on one emergency site, somebody realised the benefits of having an experienced team on permanent standby ready to take advantage of any hole displaying something of interest. So the volunteers got together and formed a collection of Ladies' and Gentlemen (COLEG for short) After a couple of happenings in the Roman Palace a stone urinal under the "Dyer's Arms," the baths at Huggin Hill, the East ditch of the Roman fort (in which a crowbar held a prominent role,) and a Chinese restaurant in St. Giles Circus, they decided to formalise their relationship.

So, after two years, COLEG, like elephants, gave birth to the City's Only Obvious Libellous Abuse Research Society. However, this was found to be rather unwieldy. The two teams then contending within the Society suggested various names for each other, and finally settled for the original title, with two words struck out.

+

latter mentions Pincock Lane as "Leading to the Bagnio," and he later describes the "Royal Bagnio" here, as first opened in 1679 and "a very spacious and commodious place for sweating, Hotbathing and Cupping; they tell me it is the only true Bagnio built after the Turkish Model, and hath 18 degrees of heat"

By 1755 the lane has been renamed Bagnio Lane (Stryps Stow), and this becomes Anglicised to Bath Street by 1838 (Pigott), the prefix "Roman" being a recent addition.

Dr. H. B. Wheatley, F.S.A. ... tells us that there was a bath (cold) here "The Royal Baths," as late as 1876.

JBE.

+

Extracts from Charles Hills
EXCAVATIONS OF THE ROMAN RIVERSIDE
WALL AT UPPER THAMES STREET,
JANUARY TO JULY, 1975.

A Brief Interim Report.

The discovery of the Roman Riverside wall (henceforward just wall) came as part of a watching brief for the north wall and north gateway of Baynards Castle. Indeed, that much of the wall survived must be accredited to the medieval builders of Baynards Castle, who reused much of the wall, (which they deliberately levelled down to the second tile course of the wall) for the foundations of their own wall and gateway. Further west the Roman and Medieval walls diverge.

During the January excavations some 28 metres of standing wall were uncovered, as well as a further 10.5 metres of the timber piles and chalk footings, giving an overall length of just under 40 metres. At its highest the wall stood at 2.30 metres above the chalk footings. The north (landward) face of the wall was well preserved, having two major offsets, which coincide with the tile courses of which three survived. The south (or riverside) face however, had been destroyed by river action, whose sand and gravel deposits were clearly seen to have undermined the wall and caused it to collapse.

Approximately half the wall's thickness had been destroyed in this way.

The Site.

The site lies in the north-west angle of the Roman city and is bounded on the north by Queen Victoria Street, to the west by the Mermaid Theatre, and the east and south by the new flyover and slip road. Upper Thames Street itself, whose removal occasioned the watching brief, runs obliquely east-west across the site.

The geology of the site is, of crucial importance to our understanding of the Roman Riverside Wall. The level of the blue London clay (Tertiary) gradually drops from west to east across the site, and on the eastern half of the site is overlain by the fine gravel of the Flood Plain Terrace (Quaternary). This important geological difference between the western and eastern halves of the site is reflected in and accounts for the marked difference in the structure of the the Roman Riverside Wall.....

To be continued in the next issue.

+ + +

Wed-day, Birth-day and Die-day.

+

A rather belated congratulations to Dick Robinson at Trig Lane, for the birth of his son James on the morning (4.49am) of 28th. August.

+

And premature congratulations for Chrissie and Gustav for birthdays on the 17th. & 18th. December.

+

By amazing coincidence it happens to be Cathy Maloney's mum's birthday on the same day as Chrissie's.

+ + +

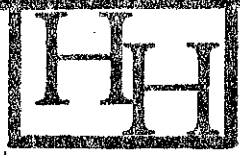
Do you have any spare time? if so why not join the H.H. money raising committee? We need ideas, and people with the ability to carry them out. Because the way things are going Museum funds are going to get pretty low soon. So just think about this proverb; Too many cocks wont spoil the broth, if you live in a glass house.

JBE.

*

We need a better name, if anyone can come up with one, let us know.

+ + +



A Personal Message from Me.

The diary of the liaison officer is a staff-studded lively itinerary. My Friday mornings every week are spent trudging around the city with the pay cheques, welcomed at every site by all and sundry-though I haven't quite worked out whether it's me or the money that draws out the smile. Any questions that are worrying the field staff can be asked and answered if it is immediately possible. Some of them go forward to the monthly staff meetings (1st Tues of every month) and some are sorted out between times. I'm also of course available at most times of the day at 01-606-8-666 - thanks to Mr. Alan Thompson!! to take on questions.

The immediate questions of contracts, xmas holidays, and Tax are being acted on, within the Museum structure in the following ways.

i. We have been advised by Brian Hobley to withhold any payment of tax demands that we may receive until we hear from the DOE and the Inland Revenue together. The idea is that we should be absolved all the tax that we have recently been told that we owe on our so called "tax free subsistence" earned prior to April 5th. 1975. Incidentally our ex-fellow digger Geoff Parnell has individually been absolved his tax payment owing on subsistence through a Devon Office.

ii. Our contracts when they arrive, will be based on the CBA contract with liaison from Oxford & Lincoln. They will be available as soon as the establishment officers agree officially in a committee meeting. An application for a supplementary grant has been made to the DOE in order to raise our salaries to NALGO standards. There is also a move to include a superannuation scheme in our contracts.

iii. There is still no news of paid xmas hols but we do have the 24th-29th inclusive off and additionally January 1st. 1976.

On the 13th Nov members of the L.E.P. sports and social club-headed by Mr. Dereck Cook-presented Mark Harrison a cheque for £5. This was donated to the DUA in gratitude for the sit tours given by Mark to the LEP staff. The presentation was photographed by the LEP for their club magazine. Also in the photograph were Cathy and Chrissie. When asked for comments, Cathy replied, "I got a window in my hut today".



Harriet Geddes, Anne Jones. BA, Chris Seager and Jenny King are joining the DUA temporarily (two months in each dept) as part of their Curatorial training. They are all graduates on a three year course, organised by the Museum Association. Apart from the DUA work they are having to study in their "spare time" for the examinations.

So if you see between one & four people standing in shiny "wellies" clutching a new trowel, and have matchsticks holding up their eyelids, on the site, you'll know who they are.



"Why is it?" Column.

Contributions needed!!!!!!

+ Why is it, that towel machines are always put high enough on the wall so the water on your hands runs down your sleeve when you reach up to dry them.

+ Why is it, Des won't tell us what "C" in C.D. Woods stands for?



An anonymous anomaly we feel obliged to print.

+
Inside Leg.

A curious document passed over my desk this week. It purports to be the telephone numbers of the entire staff of the Museum of London, collected and printed for the first time by a computer in St. Paul's Churchyard.

The DUA, minus the fee-paid staff, stars on the first page as part of the department of Prehistoric and Roman-Studies - medievalists and post-medievalists please note, you are not subject to Brain Holbein but to Brian Spencer and Colin Sorenson respectively. This document is a great defeat for Bryn Holdsworth and the full time (for want of a better word) staff, who spent more than two days closeted in great secret in the windowless room - at what cost to the DUA, we know not - debating their status, and have all, apart from Brown Loldall, come out as Assistant Archaeologists. Trevor Hurst has dropped even further to the technical section. This has come as no surprise but as a source of irritation to Tony Dyson who is only glad when the room is empty of any kind of Archaeologist. I think I shall occupy an office midway between the two parts of the Museum - according to my A to Z, Oxford Circus tube station is the geographical centre of the Museum at present - and observe going on by squinting down the tunnels of the Central, Bakerloo & Victoria Lines.

+
Who loves ya, babe? Certainly not the Establishment Officers who merely flinched under a rain of threats from the DHSS and continue dragging not only their feet but their entire anatomies with regard to the employment situation. I shall be sending no Christmas cards this year, except to statuesque blondes and underground defaulters, but I propose a Christmas party on board HMS Belfast. When the staff is suitably Merry (Hilarious!) I suggest we

take over the battleship and shell the uglier buildings of the City, which include the Guildhall offices and the Inland Revenue. My colleague John Schofield informs me that this will be quite in keeping with European Architectural Heritage Year, as only 15 pre-fire buildings exist in the City, and 14 of them are churches.

The announcement of Christmas Holidays was issued by the Director's Office last week, and quickly withdrawn. Apparently there was a directorial red face when it was pointed out the possible double entente of staff taking holidays "at their convenience." A revised version has been issued.

Signed, Charles Roach-Smith

+ + +
EDITORS SCAFFBOX.

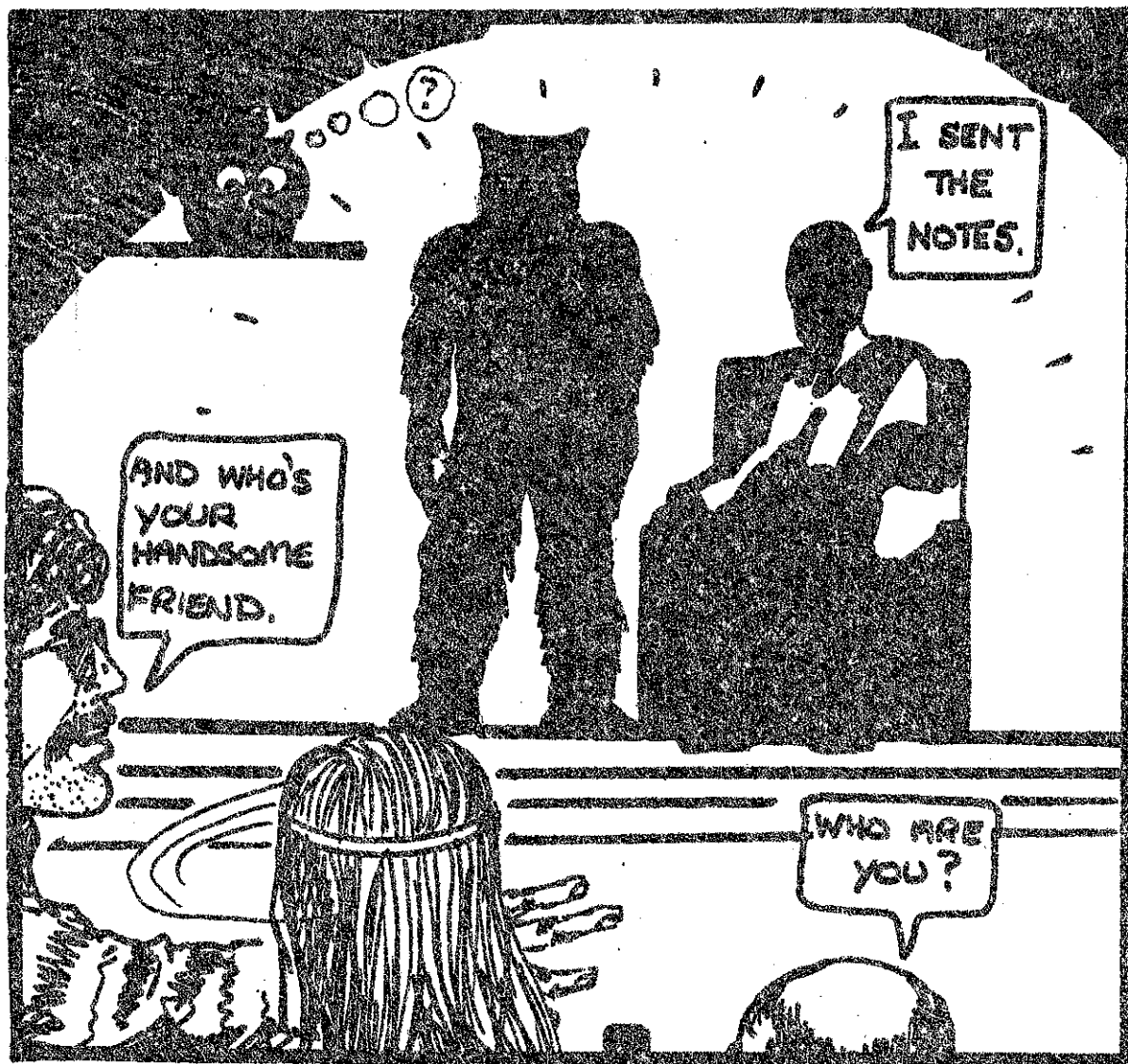
I would like to thank everybody for the kind response to "Hobley's -Heroes," and hope that you will continue to gain as much enjoyment in following the stories and characters as I do in drawing them. Now that the origin of the "Heroes" has been established we shall be following them in their various adventures Month by Month, next issue for instance in "All Rhodes lead to Rome" the Heroes encounter "The Controller" one of the many nasty Villains waiting to do battle with our fearless friends; and watch out for the "Matrix Man" who is destined to appear in issue seven. So keep those trusty trowels at the ready 'O' stalwart ones, because the action has truly only just begun. MEH.

+ + +
PLEASE NOTE!!!!

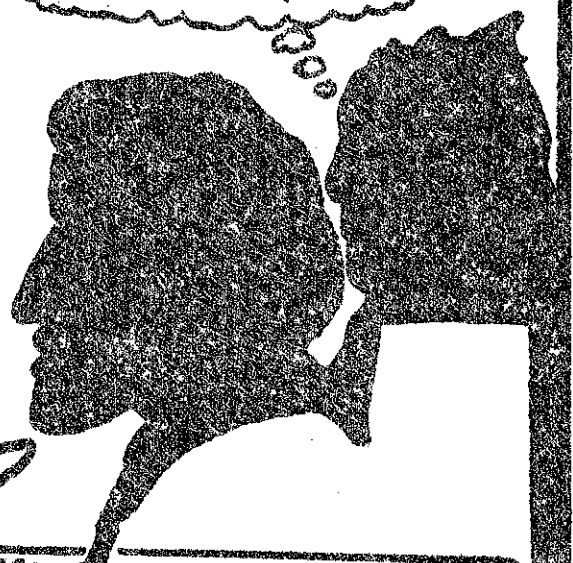
Though the H.H. is a monthly mag' there will be a special Christmas issue - coming out a few days before the holidays - that will include an H.H. calendar, designed by MEH.

A gift from us, to you.

+ + +



MY NAME IS NOT IMPORTANT, BUT MY MISSION HERE IS. FOR SOME TIME NOW THERE HAS BEEN GROWING CONCERN FOR THE NEED OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CRIME-FIGHTING FORCE. I HAVE SEARCHED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY FOR A SUITABLE TEAM, AND WITH THE HELP OF BORIS HERE, HAVE CARRIED OUT EXPERIMENTS OR TESTS. IN YOUR CASE I ORGANISED THE VARIOUS THEFTS OF OYSIER SHELLS, (ALL OF WHICH WILL BE RETURNED); THE FORCE I HAVE IN MIND MUST BE ABLE TO FALL INTO ACTION AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.





AND YOU WANT
US TO BE
THAT TEAM?

YES I
DO!

YOU MUST
BE
DESPERATE
.....



BUT

I SHALL SEE THAT
YOU ARE PROVIDED WITH
ALL NECESSARY
EQUIPMENT, & CLOTHING,
YOUR CODE NAME WILL
BE HOBLEY'S HEROES, &
FOR EVERY SUCCESSFUL
MISSION UNDERTAKEN
£1,000 WILL BE DEPOSITED
INTO THE TRUST FUND.
YOU SHALL HEAR
FROM ME SOON.



BUT

THE MYSTERIOUS VISITOR LEFT AS SILENTLY AS HE CAME, ALONG WITH HIS TALKATIVE PARTNER.

HE DOESN'T MESS AROUND WITH WORDS! DO YOU THINK HE IS GENUINE JON JON?

HE'S GONE TO ALOT OF TROUBLE FOR NOTHING IF HE ISNT. IN ANY CASE WE SHALL SOON FIND OUT.

THE FOLLOWING DAY IN HOSPITAL, AND OUR S.S.S. IS WRITING HIS WEEKLY SUMMARY.

AND SUDDENLY FROM OUT OF NOWHERE SIX ROBBERS JUMPED ON ME, THE FIGHT WAS HARD BUT I MANAGED TO...

'OH MY GOD'S SCHOFIELD, HE'S STILL OUT COLD ON TRIG.....

AND SO DEAR READER, HOBLEY'S HEROES ARE BORN! JOIN THEM NEXT MONTH IN A NAIL-BITING NEW SAGA ENTITLED....

ALL RHODES LEAD TO ROME