

LIGHT - published every so often by Leslie A. Croutch, Box 121, Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada, for the Fantasy Amateur Press Association and a motley crowd of hangerson, all of whom get the magazine gratis. No payment beyond a free copy in which material appears, but as everybody gets his/her copy free who gives a damn? The editor is abetted now and then by the able help of the disabled Robert, W. Gibson, Samuel Welcome-to-my-house McCoy and ex-sergeant Norman Vee Lamb.

shall be start off with LIGHT FLASHES

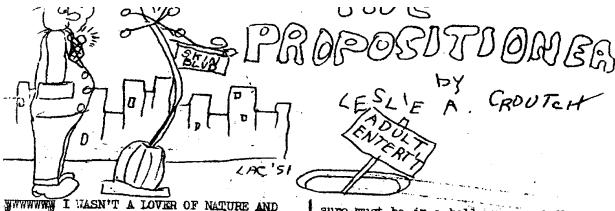
we shall? good then.

Regardless of what the manufacturers said, or what the retailers said, or what the hi-fi hounds said, cactus needles never were any good. When tested in research labs it was four that pactus needles were actually detrumental to the life of the record. The walls of the groves aren't perfectly smooth - they are roughed by countless microscopic pits, scratches, and so on. The newer vinilyte materials are smoother. When the eactus needle rushed over these walls at sonsiderable speed, wear took place. Every user knew this wear was quite rapid. In fact, there were sold little gadgets by which the owner could sharpen his needle, restoring it to "use". Where did all this material go when it was ground from the needle? The labs found it was astually ground into the grove walls, resulting in gradual obliteration of the music in some instances, and in a great increase in "hiss" in almost every oase.

What is wanted is a needle that will not wear to such an extent that material will be ground into the walls. Yet is is patently much better to have the wear take place on the neeldo than on the record, if moar has to be present.

Mixed in with the raw material that went into the old hard rubber and later on shallac discs was a compound that was an

(continued on page 7)



LIKED TO GET OUT IN THE FRESH AIR NOW AND THEN THIS MICHEN'T HAVE HAPPENED TO ME. But it was such a wwwwww nice night, the moon shining, and fleeoy clouds sailing in the blue wault of a heavenly sea, that I left the car in the garage and walked to the theatre. So what happens? You guessd it. It clouded over and when I got out it was raining to beat hell.

I'm about half way home from the car stop when this little jerk stops me. He comes waltzing out from this dark house, about half way between two street lamps, and he says, "Wet out tonight, ain't it?"

I gives him a quick look. There's been more than a modicum of stickups in this burg lately. But I sees he's just a plain little twerp about half my size, with a pimply, ratty-looking phiz, so I says, "What about it?"

He grabs me by the sleeve and says, "It's dry inside."

"It's dry at home, too, " I informs "And it's no far."

"But I have something inside you haven't got at home," he says. "And it's cheap, too."

"Yeah, I betcha it's cheap. And how d'ya know I'm not a married man? G'wan, with ya before I slug ya ono."

I expects him to go backing off but he hangs right on like a leach. "But this one's different. And it don't cost you a thing. Think of that -- it's free. And this one's different -- you never saw her like before."

"If she's free I den't want to," I tells him. "Hell, bub, if she's free she

sure must be in a holluva moss. Now scram, pimp, before I hangs one on that kisser of yours."

He sees I'm not a good prospect so he drops back into the shadows. As I walk on he calls out that if I want to, he'll be there all night.

I shrugs and ramming my hands deeper into my pants ponkets, I starts to make up lost time. It ain't any fun gotting doused on a chilly spring night.

Then I meets Alf and he starts to argue with mo. "Hell," says Alf, "whatcha got to lose? He's small; can bop him like nobody's business and walk out if we don't like the looks of the bim."

... "But she's free," I argues back. "Hell, chum, you know what that means. She's likely dosed higher'n a kite and covered with running sores it makes me shudder just to contemplate."

"Ain't ya even curious," Asks Alf from his little nook way back in my noggin. "He says she's different. I say let's have a look and then walk out." . So finally I gives in to my bump of curisoity and we goes waltzing back to this house and sure enough little? Pimple Puss pops outta the shadows and

leads the way up the front stops and in through the door and up another flight of setps and raps on a door. There ain the answer that I can

hear but he opens it and walks in and I follow.

It's dark inside. I sniff and can't

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The second secon

smell nothing. Then there's a wlick and on comes a ceiling light. I looks around, muttering, "Ok, sucker, now The state of the s

YOU'Re here, so what?"

Pimple Puss sticks his fingers in his kisser and lets loose a shrill blast. Then I notices curtains across a doorway across the room. These do a bit of shivering and shaking and then through 'em steps. . .

. . . just about the swellest looka hunka feminity it's been my good fortune ever to see. Her coloring is all right and she den't look like she's got one foot in the grave. I looks roal hard and she grins invitingly and bookens with her trigger finger.

Pimple Puss eases himself out of the room, saying he'll keep watch outside.

"Well," say Alf, "now we got our look, let's get outta here."

"Ta hell with you, chum, "says I.

"You got me in here, now I'm staying." To
which I follows her through the curtains
into a little nock with a table, two
chairs, and a nice big wide held."

I expects this babe to start the rieng blather but hell, sheas as quiet as the proverbial grave. Maybe she's dumb, I think, and am happy, as I don't like my women yak yakking all the time. It's all right to talk, but shucks, there's atimes when you don't want a blooming radio announcer hanging over your shoulder.

Without any preliminaries she undoes the little clasp at her threat and down comes the filmy garment she's wearing. Up above she's the real mccoy and I don't mean sam. But down below I gets the shock of my life. Pimple Puss sure was right. She's different all right. She's got the lovliest skin, like alabaster or ivory or something, with the smallest, neatest, tightest built-up little breasts I ever saw. She's got the flattest, cutest little belly ever, but from there on things just ain't ham kosher, as the Hebrew would say.

Alf ain't talking now and neither am
I. In fact are both trying to get outta
the door without no tarrying, and when we
gets it open we just about tample old
Pimple Puss into the boards on the way
over him. He just lets one squawk outta
him and that's all.

We pounds down the stairs and alams the front door so hard the glass comes out all over us in a shower. Then we went galloping up the street tight as we could go.

At the corner I wakes up to the famt that I am alone. All has gone back to where he should have stayed. Next time I won't listen to that twerp.

I'm uncomfortable as the devil. Both mentally and physically. To think of that swell looking babe with so much promise and then to see. . . maybe she's a freak from a carcus or something. I dumino. Maybe she wasn't even from this earth. Reading those damned science figition mags gives a guy screwy ideas like that once in awhile. But it sure ain't fair, to treat a galk that way. my mind's eyo I could still soo the smooth countours of her hips- the smooth impry columns of her logs- the soft silkiness. . . well, never you mind. . . then there was that which spailed it all.

I'm assking you— I'm telling you—
she sure was different— but who wants
to make lows to a girl with three logs?
All perfectly formed in every way,
covered with soft outly hair from the
thighs down, and where there should have
been— there wasn't— just a flat porly
smoothness.

But that''s enough— I gotta got home and get comfc rtable— it ain't no fun scaked to the hide from the rain.

I sure feed sorry for that girl.

THE END

Well, bleass my soul," said the ram, as be plunged heighdlong over the cliff, I didn't see that ewe turn."

A business tych con called in his first vice president one div.

"Bill," he sa id, "I want the truth. Have you ever flirrt, ad with my secretary?"
"Well, er, yea,," the other confessed, ?"
"I have."

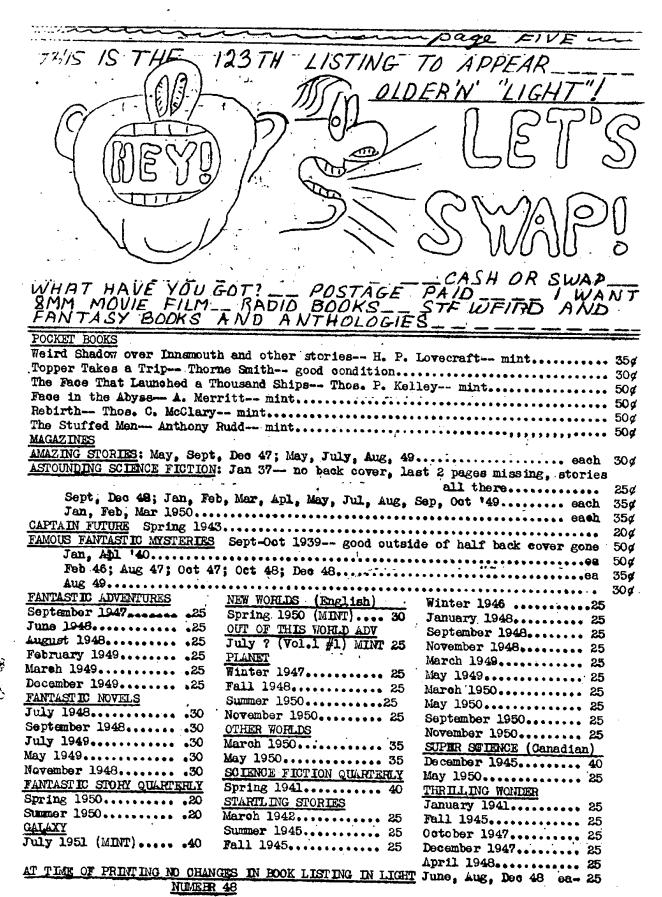
The second vio.:) president answered the question the same way. So did the third vice president.

Finally the dome tany a treasurer came in. When asked the question, he replied. "Hell, no, I don't even think she's attractive."

"You're my man, " the tycoon beamed."You fire her."

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CROSS-WORD PUZZLE DESIGNED BY ROBERT W.

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(solution on page :elaven) (definitions on page seven)

PUZZLE

Horizontal

1 Quattrocohi -- Astounding, Fall 1951. Where are Atlantis and Mu? They named it "uncuttable". 11 Our neighbor's satellite. 12- Mack Reynolds wrote it, also "Futurian War Digest". Del Rey ". . . That Wears ... " Highly advertised byproduct of modern living. One of the Jones boys git it into Marvel. Dryfoos on relative density, Fantasy Story. Universal solvent. 23 Homo semi-sepiens erectus, plural. 24 Degree. His Restless Tide arose in Marvel. All the local sters. 28 Just this side of Planet X. 31 A rare earth, cut for formulae. At less than five light years, a terget for tomorrow. 33 Cartier put this into F.F.M. 326 Once was full of ships. Karlier said to be falling. Has got the girl on many a past magazine cover. Jones quotes Einstein in Galaxy. 42 Used in non-hydroponic agriculture. Ashby wrote this in Imagination. Old lad who suppurated patiently. 48 Burks in New Worlds last summer. Hercules killed one. Some- to live, others live to-In Worlds Beyond; by Greene. 58 Fyfe in Planet, last March. Alexander 61 Manganese, not magnesium. 62 Basis for a stem. 64 Forms trio with myself and I. Group having direction but not disci-187 E. A. F pline. Microorganiam (obselete). 68 Prefix referring to divinity. Part of man's name. Rocklynne and Walton cooperated in .. Future/Science Fiction. British. Ushally cartographical. Often brought by atomic tape or playing 4 margins.

73 St. Clair in Planet, last fall.

DEFINITIONS

- 74 What you does with any checks you gets.
- 76 Heraldic gold.
- 77 Planet and goddess.
- 9 Most-trodden planet.
- 81 Gault's tale in T.W.S. last June.
 - We, or a large country.
- 85 One thing Les. must do with Light.
- 88 Famous for "mon't-power",
- 89 A sort of thing oft scattered on the floor.
- 90 Strictly conditional.
- 91 Male.
- 92 Family name of the pigs.
- 93 Labor.
- 94 Trees live by it. A life preserver.
- 95 Libra (abr. not CGS).
- 96 Author's name suggests a musical instrument.
- 97 Not two, not too, but. . .
- 99 Parable by Seabrook in Worlds Beyond.
- 101 Pistols for two.
- 102 To expel.
- 103 It is, 4500.
- 104 Time queries include this one often.
- 105 Author who introduced tendrils, callidity, and toti-potency.
- 106 You'll find it in multitemporal stories, and in every bite you eat.
- 107 Cops -- we had this one before-about 21 back.
- 108 This indicates iron.
- 109 Energy stored as molecular motion.
- 110 New Worlds story by Francis Summer 1991.
- Ill Ex-editor of Southern Literary
 Messenger; wrote fantasy, detective
 and stf stories.
- 112 Minor Egyptian deity.
- 113 Story by Kris Neville-Magazine of Enters and Science Fiction, Spring 1950.

<u>Vertical</u>

- l Deutsch did it for Dec. 50 ASF.
- 2 A nearby star (pop.).
- 3 Wrote about nympthons.
- 4 Written by our most reverend editor.
- 5 Philosopher?
- 6 Diplomats slip on it.

3.1

7 Del Rey in Tentastic Adv. Sept.50.

10 Nearby planet.

Shaver's major opus.

Act of detecting certain vibrations. last in ASF (it was when this was made).

Any one else's sun. 18

Slim and alippery. 19

Applied in lubrication, baby care and : 20 ceramies

Travelling, Sturgeon hints. 22

Body that gave Antares its name. 23

Artist in three letters, writer in

Not yours, say we. 27

"Robert Willey" by any other name. 29

Again the "World-Wrecker" a year ago last September -- Startling) .

"3rd p. sing. Pres, indic of be", (dictionary) .

Used often to be pulled.

Irritates cold-sensitive nerve end-38 ings.

Said to get on the covers. 40

41 Group of Thales.

Weird Teles, tried a Coblentz, May 44 1950.

Once tried on apple.

Rivers did this, and machines.

With 11H makes team of Flight and Fear

Counselman put her in W.T one May.

Wellman, Weird Tales, March 1950.

Nom de guerre of a Jules Verne leader.

Where each of us can always claim to be.

Used for scratching. 56

Fantastic story reprinted this 57 Young one.

They pass by, or we go through them. 59

Few of us have seen this planet 60 . Bedrevo

Elliot's share of Magazine of Fentasy 63

and Sci. Fantasy, April 1951.

Referring to non-Hollywoodian stars. . 65

Used to write stf. Doomed to inherit 70 the earth.

Elderly lady lacking beauty but often 75 not malice.

What some of these definitions may 20 make you do.

82 By Jervis in Tantastic Adv., Teb.51.

Adjunct to a pump in drainage.

By Jupiter, and one of his girl

friends. Has been used on internal combustion engines.

Clifford B. ---

Variable; and aid to song writers.

96 Miniature iceberg.

96A Boiled-off HoO.

98 James Blish, with a cover by Timmina.

100 They squeeze it from cheese.

According to the way it was told to me, these country bumpkins were putting on an amateur theatrical in a hillbilly version of the Old Red Barn. Everything went pretty well until they came to the big court scene where Lilly May was testifying to the judge how her spouse had beaten her and otherwise. made their marriage incompatible. Half way through her testimony a way of feminine shricks, cries, and other types of vocal pendemonium ran through the actors seated in the court room. This brought the rehearsals to a dead halt while the assistant director acsertained the cause of the commetion. It turned out to be a young fellow, who, with script in hand, had been going through the "audience" and energetically squeezing the breasts of all the girls.

"Young man," said the "judge", "what possessed you to act in such a manner as to disrupt our play this way?"

"I'm only doing what the script calls for." Protested the culprit.

Where does it say anything like that in the script?" Demanded the "judge".

"Right berem" said the other. and he was right.

In brackets after Lily May's lines ran the directions, "A titter ran through the courtroom.

Anyway, that's the way I beered 1ti

Prodhunter J. Shorthamer. A WOMAN IS A THING

OF BEAUTY AND A JAW FOREVER.

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actual abrasive, and this was done deliberately. The idea was to grind the steel needle so it fitted the grove closely. If you don't believe that this grinding action takes place, take a steel needle after one or two plays and examine it thrue a strong lens. You will note that the point has assumed a definite chisel tipe. This is the reason it is very unwise to place back into the needle chuck a needle after it has been removed—you are almost sure to get it turned so the chisel tip becomes a chisel in fact and it will out into the record grove and ruin the record.

To fellow theory, it was then assumed that the best needle would be one that would NOT wear and which in turn would NOT wear the grove.

Jewelled needles, such as ruby, sapphire and dismond, came into vogue and worked better than the steel needle, but the great weight of the old-fashioned acoustic pickup, and later on the somewhat less, though still excessively heavy electric pickup, still caused record wear.

Current practise is to use a pickup that is either so light, or so well counterbalanced as to exert pressure on the rescord on the order of only a few grams—some of the better pickups exert a needle point pressure of the order of 3 to 5 grams, believe it or not. Combine this light pressure with a precious metal needle, or a sapphira needle, or a diamond tip, and you will find that even after many thousands of plays there is no "apparent wear either with the needle or with the record.

A new pickup I have been reading about—
it is not yet available commercially—
exorts a tip pressure of 1.5 grams,
uses a diamond tip needle, and even after
100,000 plays neither record nor needle;
showed any signs of wear! The frequency
response of the pickup is roughly 10 to
50,000 cps. The voltage output is around
.01. A preemplifier is necessary between
it and the conventional amplifier.

Now for Warner's comments on speakers: the following I am quoting from memory from various articles I have read. First the hi-fi stuff. I read recently in one

of the foremost U.S radio trade magazines that decent hi-fi results can be obtained using a poor man's setup using. the cheapest type of speakers. It seems, and I'll admit this was a revolation to me though, to be frank, I had suspected something of the sort for a long time, that the little 4" speaker such as is used in Auntie Hortenso's Horrible Pipsqueak (\$4.95 and a couple of boxtops) will reproduce frequencies as high as.. 10,000 cps.1 But its low frequency response is terrible. It just simply won't get down below 100 or maybe even 150 ops. And that's whore the jazz boys and the hi-fi hounds start baying- "liston to that beem beem!" they yodel in the hills. So, it is suggested, buy a 12" or a 14" speaker which will get down to about 50 or 60 ops, or buy an 18" and get down to maybe 40 cps. Hook the two up with a cross-ôver network anad you have a practical hi-fi outfit at an ordinary man's price.

of course -- to have this extended range of perhaps 50-9,000 or 10,000 cps., you have to have a pickup with that fidelity and boy! they cost dough! And the audio transformers in your emplifier will also set you back. And plenty. That's the joker in all this hi-fi biz: a joe comes along and says his circuit will reproduce 30-10,000 cps. Fine, you say, I'll build me one of those. But God! Have mercy upon us the price is terrible. And when you start getting down to 30 cps, or even 40 ops, the law of diminishing returns comes into the picture- A practical hum filter network can be built fairly reasonably that will make an outfit sound hum free if you aren't going down below 50 ops. But for every extra 10 ops below that, your trouble with filter hum, and your battle to eliminate it, grows almost at the rate of square root proportions.

and this stuff about push pull triode outputs— push-pull pentodes, beem power tubes, with proper negative feedback, can give you the same curve within reason. In fact, it can be carried to the point where your reproduction is so flat from 50-10,000 cps it sounds like hell. I read once an article where this guy built a single ended job that gave almost the same fidelity, using negative

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feedback, of course.

WHY go to all the expense to build super hi-fi outfits? Is it necessary? You build a lovely job with a flat response from, say, 30-15,000 cps. And then what do you do? You add a so-called tone control.

Ever see even a commercial job without one? "So that the tone can be adjusted to suit the individual" says the blurb. What does a bass tone control do? It actually is a "losser" control—you morely bypass all those lovely hard-won highs so that the output sounds as though the bass had been boosted. Why build an expensive outfit if you are going to stick a tone control on it?

Why not just build something that makes music sounds good to you? Build it so you can listen to it hour after hour without fatigue. Anything more wen't give you any more pleasure, and it will probably cost a lot less.

So Less Hoffman is not a "Mister" but a "Miss". Great thing, knowledge.

I checked through "Are You Sane" in Lee's magezine (SCIENCE-FICTION 5 YEARLY). I don't know who ther I em a genius or just a genius. My score came out 4. Of course I am no collitch freshman— I'm just a plain everyday ordinary undiluted freshman.

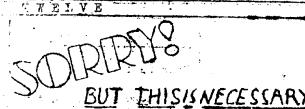
Lee's struggles with a Speed-O-Print amused me. Not that I own anything better or have mine completely tamed - I am just sympathetic. I find that for precision work the Speed-O-Print isn't to be relied on -- this is entirely due to the bastard type of paper feed the machine is equipped with. The food on mine kept flying apart also. This was at the "joint" at the end of the drum -- I curod this (at least I haven't had any trouble recently) by filing the arm alightly thinner so that the shoulder of the stu d would project slightly, thus allowing the nut to turn up firmly and not be caught by the arm as the drum revolved. If this sounds ovolved, it was to me too until I found what the trouble was. For a long long time I nover used the automatic feed on my machine but the last LIGHT was run off using the feed.

All Same

At the time I was very enthusiastic over the results as LIGHT was run off in about half the time due to not precounting the paper -- just putting a stack in and then counting the sheets as they came through. But in the last few weeks I have been reconsidering and now I am wondering if this advantage is worth the disadvantages. For one thing, using the automatic feed increases paper wastage quite a bit. Using hand food you can put 100 shoots through and get 100 sheets that are usable Using the feed you have to put at least and extra 10 sheets through and even then you can't bo 100% sure sof gotting 100 perfect ones. Using hand feed you CAN get registration that is a good 90% better than when using the feed. Another thing, it is easier to adjust your speed so that you can got better copies by going slower near the end of a run than when using the feed, where you seem to run faster, and where the feed arm acts as a drag that has to be overcome, resulting in a cortain amount of jerkiness if the speed is lower than a certain minimum. I have not yet decided whether this issue will be run off "by hand" or "by feed".

In an effort to get cleaner copy this time, I km not using the cushion sheet back of the stencil. I shell also ink more heavily.

RADIO-TRADE-BUILDER- December 1951-Wagner Research Corp., 150 W. 56TH. St., New York, is introducing a 16 rpm disc and attachment. It is believed the new record will have 448 groves to the inch. It will not be used for music, but will be "talking records", holding readings of classical literature. The first ones, it is reported; will hold selections from Shakespeare, Poe, Conan Doyle, biographies, and so on. Alexander Scourby, radio and TV acotr, has already recorded a reading of half the Bible. The new discs are very thin vinylite and are only 4.75 inches in diameter. Decca. Columbia. MCM and Victor say they have no plans to o into production on the 16 rpm discs. "A spokesman stated that many of the firms hade been experimenting with a fourth speed 'in a very small way'." Now all we need is one that stands still. . . . !



Every so often it is my practise to bring the mailing list of LIGHT up to date: to make sure that it goes out only to those who sincerely wish to receive it. Due to rising costs of material and postage this is even more necessary. I have figured that LIGHT costs approximately 5¢ a copy, and an extra 2¢ a copy to mail it. I have not figured in the costs of mailing it to the official editor of the F.A.P.A. As LIGHT now goes FREE to those who went it, I see no reason to waste it on those who never acknowledge receipt of their copies -- who never get anything in swap -who never by no much as a fare-thee-well even admit it arrives at their mail box. You're not forced to swap but I do think some of you who have been getting the magazine should drop a card now and then to say "Thank you!" or, if it doesn't please you, to say, "Nutz to you!" THEREFOR ---- from now on if you have been getting LIGHT, and you suddenly become a member of the WAPA, you will not receive a copy through the mails. If you have been sending me your magazine as a swap, and your magazine does not come to me through the FAPA, I'll send you a subscription. To those others who have been getting LIGHT regularly, and who do not correspond with me, or who do not acknowledge receipt of said magazine now and then, the following is addressed:

THIS IS THE LAST COPY YOU WILL RECEIVE UNLESS I HAVE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING COUPON DULY FILLED OUT BY THE TIME LICHT NUMBER 50 IS DUPLEGATED. ALL IT WILL COST YOU TO KEEP ON CENTING-THE MACAZINE IS A FEW MINUTES OF YOUR TIME AND THE 44 STAMP REQUIRED TO MAIL IT.

OKAY. NOW IT IS UP TO YOU!

Leslie A. Croutch, Box 121, Parry Sound, Catario, Canadas. Please continue to send me LIGHT. My address is the seme as that on the cower () is now (). (If different address or any change is to be made, give in space below.

(If you don't wish to mulilate these words of wisdom (?!) send a postcard.)

A WORD TO THE WISK SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT

FIEL PRESENTATION