SOFTWARE REVIEW:

Limericks On-Line (2 programs). London: InSoText Manuscripts, 1992. (Freeware) Fifty-eight and thirty-eight limericks.

InSoText Manuscripts c/o 93C Venner Road, Sydenham, London SE26 5HU, an organization that believes in selling hard copy books and giving away software, has just produced two "computer-books." These are executable programs that display limericks on your computer screen, not unlike reading a book. Limericks On-Line first appeared as A Book of Limericks by Anna Pest (reviewed in The Pentatette in May 1990).. Alexander Baron, the creator, has actually dedicated this work to Anna Pest who is "no longer with us, having moved on to bigger and greater things — well, that wouldn't be difficult" and "Arthur Deex of the Limerick Special Interest Group." The second program contains thirty-eight new limericks.

There is a menu to call up Notes Explanatory (as Norman Douglas would say) and a blurb about how and why a computerized book of limericks came to be. And, of course, to get to the limericks. The program is a little rough running but I expect the bugs to be fixed momentarily. Send Alexander a SASE, or a blank disk, or some money or something and he'll probably send you a copy for your IBM.

The limericks aren't bad at all — though some may be a bit too British too be understood by Americans,

like: Who is Graham Taylor and why won't Peter Walker pay Maggie Thatcher's ransom?

The Decorative Ponce

There was once a decorative ponce
Who designed cards in several fonts
To advertise whores
To perform dirty chores
And satisfy old fellows wants.

The Girl From Norway

There was a young girl, a Norwegian,
Went to bed with a kinky Glaswegian,
She said to him, "Jock,
Whyever's your cock
Exploring my nethermost region?"