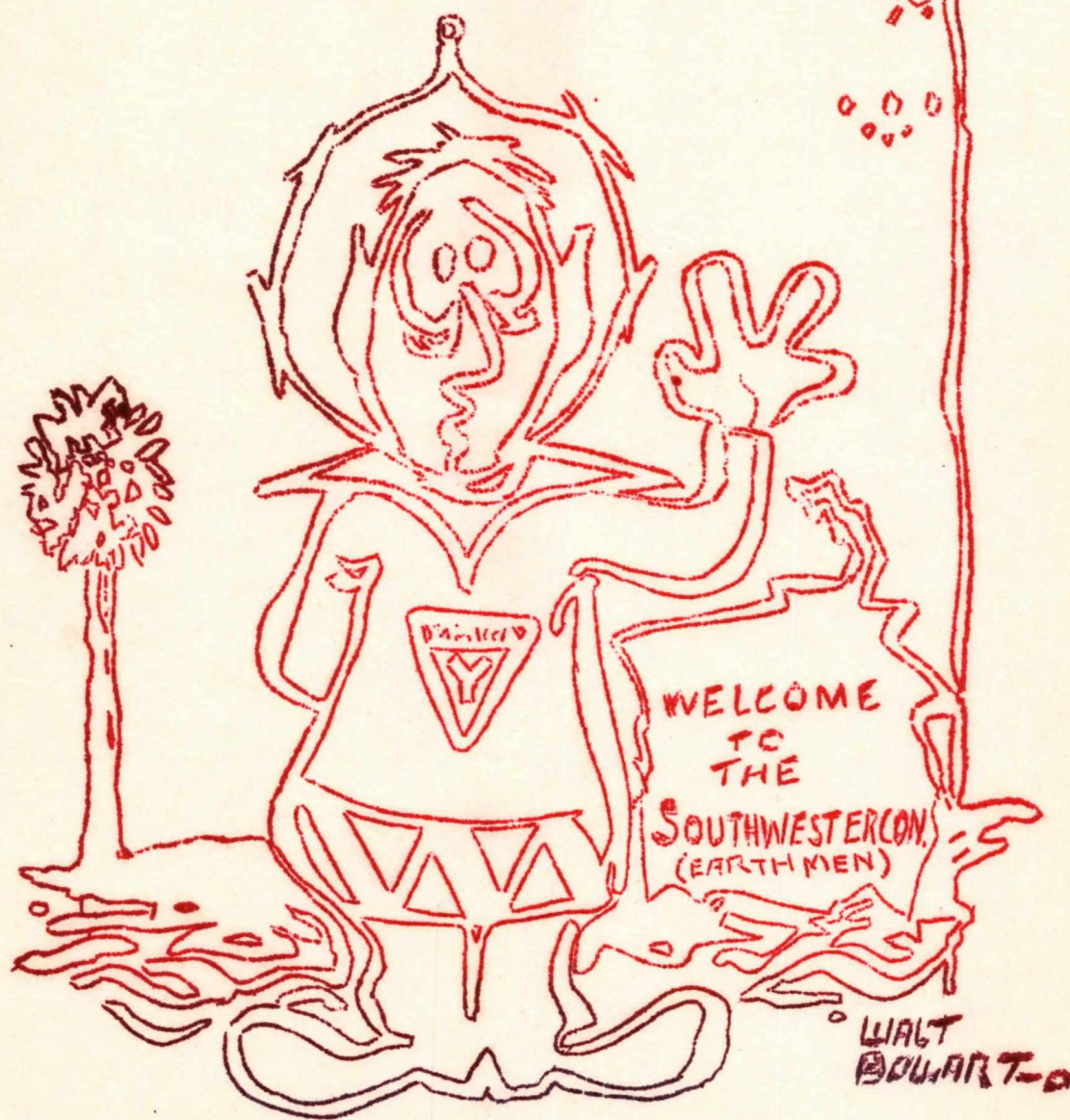


phantasy  
press

JULY, 1958

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84



SOUTHWESTERCON REPORT — DALE HART

phantasy  
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July, 1958

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SOUTHWESTERN REPORT - PART 1

July,  
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# phantasy PRESS

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DANIEL McPHAIL  
Editor

## VERNON McCAIN

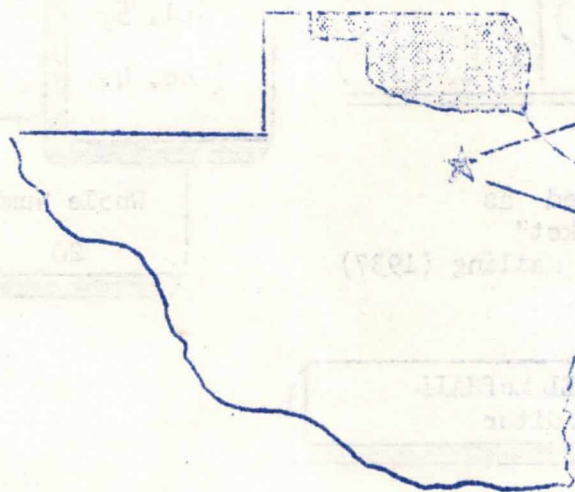
All of fandom, and most especially his friends in the Fantasy Amateur Press Association, were saddened to learn of the un-expected death of Vernon McCain on June 10.

Vernon had been a member of FAPA the last eight years and was our 1956-57 President. He was an outstanding contributor, ranking seventh in total output the last year, and his undeniable talent was reflected in the fact that his magazine, Birdsmith, was voted the second best publication in the recent laureate poll.

The shock of the death of this popular fan will fade as time passes, but we will ever remember his kindly nature and his commentary on a wide range of interests. He has earned a place in our hearts and memory.

The Southwestercon-6, in its opening session at Dallas on July 4th, paid tribute to Vernon McCain and many fans expressed their grief at his passing. There is no doubt that many more will pay their last respects in the pages of the fan press that he loved so well.

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# Southwesterncon VI

## Report

by DALE HART

The Sixth Southwesterncon was held in Hotel Dallas on July 4th, 5th and 6th, 1958. As most fans know, the previous five regional cons had been held in Oklahoma.

The Guest of Honor was Marion Zimmer Bradley, femmefan and professional author of many scientific stories. Forrest J Ackerman was the Toastmaster. Dale Hart, the writer of this report, was the Honorary Chairman. Tom Reamy and Randy Brown were Co-Chairmen. Maurine E. Smith was the Secretary-Treasurer.

Fredric Brown, originally scheduled to be G. of H., had to cancel his appearance because of illness.

Marion Zimmer Bradley charmed everyone with her sincerity, wit and animation. A slight shyness did not deter her from expressing herself forcefully and well. Another thing: Her incredible stamina carried her through the three days with almost no sleep! Without the aid of alcohol, except one can of beer, which she may have accepted out of politeness.

Registration began at 8 a.m. in the Rose Room, where the astronomical paintings in tempera of Morris Scott Dollens were displayed to great advantage—all 36 of them. There was mingling everywhere, in the Rose Room, the lobby, the restaurant, and the rooms. Old friends shook hands; some went sight-seeing; and there were endless bull-sessions. Miss Dallas Science Fiction was present in a scanty bathing suit and "Spacenic" helmet with sprightly antennae. And she was beautiful, too, with a breath-taking figure! (I arranged for Miss Shirley Hamon-tree myself, and I shamelessly take all the credit....Shirley sings with a name band, often playing engagements in surrounding states.)

At 1 p.m. the First Session began with opening speeches by Dale Hart and Forrest J Ackerman. Really, there was a joint speech in which Dale and Forrie exchanged reminiscences. Being such old friends, the two complemented each other neatly. (Note spelling of that word, please!)

The Panel Discussion, "How Has Fandom Changed Over the Years?" --- well, this had begun but barely when the Navy arrived with two films, "The Blue Angels" and "The Challenge of Outer Space". Dale had told of yesterfandom, their interests &

main activities. Then, in deference to the Navy, the panel suspended, intending to resume later.

"The Blue Angels" was very well received. The top-rated jet aces of the world went through precision maneuvers which seemed virtually impossible to execute without chains of collisions. "The Challenge of Outer Space", narrated by Doctor Wehrner Von Braun, was new to most but appeared a little dated to some fan experts. These two films, a long and a short, ended the afternoon session. If the audience had not melted away so quickly, the panel was going to resume. (Here is what Dale said of yesterfandom, by the way: The elder statemen of yesterday were far from solemn. GhuGhuism locked horns with FooFooism. Words were coined, marching songs were composed & sung lustily, interlineations spread in ever-widening circles, mad societies were conceived, etc. One stressed point was the lessening influence of correspondence among fans, since they are not so isolated any more.)

The first session was over early to enable everyone to prepare for the Masquerade Ball in the big Skyline Terrace Room. A stomping good time in wild attire was how we wanted the Ball to be. Most of the attendees had just that, too! However, some complained of the lack of girls and said this spoiled the party for them. Well, let me answer this way: All were advised that dates could be brought without charge. I personally called on the telephone or wrote every known feminine fan in Dallas & surrounding area, some two dozen gals. I was most persuasive, I thought, assuring the darlings that the whole affair was not stag at all, at all. Only a dozen showed, some making only one appearance.

A few memorable costumes were: Barry Barnes, an exquisitely faithful reincarnation of Dracula, in faultless vestments and a stunningly professional job of makeup; Tom Reamy, a sinister villian from the pages of PLANET STORIES, whose costume obviously took many days to perfect; Pat Edwards, a very credible Gully Foyle with a "tattooed" face and line of patter calculated to maintain the illusion; Marion Zimmer Bradley, one of the Kinnison girls, in authentic costume down to the wrist-device; and Bill Conner, a dero with extoplasmic streamers & ghastly grease paint.

Ackerman and Hart were not in costume, and they served as judges. Barry Barnes, Tom Reamy and Pat Edwards were selected, first. After a conference, Tom Reamy was announced as the winner and presented with his choice of Dollens paintings. (The judges' choice seemed to be most agreeable to the audience, incidentally.)

The Second Session began at 1 p.m. on Saturday in the Rose Room. With Hart as the Auctioneer, magazines, books, original illos, and manuscripts were placed on the block. The best illustrations had been matted by the convention committee. A number of excellent Finlays, Emshes and Orbans went for reasonable prices. Some lesser pieces were sold for forty cents, but most of the goodies were released for three or four dollars. I think the highest price paid for a single original was \$4.75. As Auctioneer, Hart noted the lack of banker-collectors in the audience... (At the end of the auction, the remaining magazines and pocket books were offered to one and all, gratis. Many young fans were thus benefitted.)

Later, at six p.m., the Banquet got under way. The Guest of Honor and others spoke briefly. The price of the tickets had been kept low to attract as many fans as possible: \$2.75, including tip. (Banquets can be secured for low prices but seldom, as Con officials have found out already, whether in New York or the Midwest)

After the Banquet, car pools were formed to carry everyone to the World Premiere of a Paramount Picture called THE SPACE CHILDREN, starring Michel Ray and

Jackie Coogan. The screening was given at the local headquarters of Paramount in their private theatre. (While some young fans made wisecracks, most seemed to think the movie was superior to the majority of science fiction films. While being a drama and suspenseful, cheap horror and shoddy tricks were absent from the dialogue and the celluloid.)

On Sunday at 1 p.m., the business meeting was interrupted by the arrival of two TV cameras, one from Texas News and the other from KRLD-TV. Both sequences appeared Sunday evening, at ten and ten-twenty-five respectively. The tentative site of the next con was placed in Houston under the aegis of Ted Wagner and his numerous cohorts. Kent Corey, Walt Bowart or Dan McPhail could not promise a con in Oklahoma. Dallas did not want two cons in a row. So--Houston is tagged, with developments to be circulated later.....

Goodbyes are regretful, as always. We were sad fen at the last. Some of the die-hards were Forrest Ackerman, Marion Zimmer Bradley, Harry More, Dale Hart and Tom Reamy.

A few thumbnail sketches of those present at Southwesterncon VI are:

Marion Zimmer Bradley---intense, with a real sensitive, fannish fancy and a winning personality;

Harry B. Moore, Jr.---standing apart from the crowd but speaking to all and participating fully;

Forrest J Ackerman---never more conversationally adept, urbane, and willing to give his all to any endeavor;

Tom Reamy---reserved but giving an impression of waiting only to make himself felt;

Kent Moomaw---polite, nice-appearing, well-spoken;

Harry Schmarje---an energetic chap best remembered from the days of Harry Warner's SPACEWAYS fanzine;

Kent Corey---tall, quiet and vibrant by turns; and,  
Dale Hart---busy.

In conclusion, I want to say that I want to say more; however, Dan McPhail has a deadline, there is never an end to reminiscences, and I'm still busy.

Bless you all, CHILDREN OF SPACE!

---

THE QUARTERLY TIMES by James V. Taurasi  
(continued from page 18)

All along they thought the mag was a dud and were all but ready to drop it. In fact we had a story all ready announcing that it had folded, but waited until the final returns to run it. Then Jim Blish made his announcement. Vanguard sold 60% of its 104,000 print order, a fabulous sale indeed. Needless to say, the mag will continue its bi-monthly schedule & we don't doubt it will go monthly if sales keep up.

Lowndes' excellent SCIENCE FICTION STORIES went monthly from bi-monthly--the only *S-F* mag published by Columbia to ever do so -- only to drop to 10 issues a year in a few months. But "Doc" Lowndes states that it'll go monthly again with the January, 1959 issue.

# PHANTASY PRESS PHAN

This column is late; very late. If it and the Know-It-All column are in Fapa 83 I'll be very much amazed. As an incidental note, the Know-It-All thing is sort of on an experimental basis. I orginally ran this off myself for a zine I planned and subsequently junked. Its continuance depends on reaction from you. I'll include it again next ish, but will pull it after that unless Fapa 84 produces encouraging comments for its continuance. It should be reminiscent to DAG, who was reminded of his FOR YOUR INFORMATION thing in DIMENSIONS when he first saw this thing in CONCEPT.

McPhail took mucho time and expense to get his Fapa 82 up here so I could review it, so now I'm going to pull a little 'Surprise Dan' party and not review it. Reasons for this include not enuf commentary to make it worthwhile, not enuf time, and also the fact that maybe I'd best leave the reviews to the members. But Dan should be credited for his trouble. I did read the mailing thoroughly, and especially appreciated all the comments on the MEMORY BOOK, as did Dan. And particularly to Harry Warner Jr., who was able to point out a few mistakes amidst his comments.

Dr. Wendell Johnson, University of Iowa psychologist, says programs to spur science study must start with pre-school children, according to a news story.

"There are probably at this moment not more than a handful of babies at their mothers' knees being trained to become scientists," he said.

SCENE: The living room of a home. Mother is sitting on a chair, and her three pre-school children are gathered around at her knees.

Children (in their shrill, piercing voices): Read to us, Mama! Read to us!

Mama: All right, children. What will it be--"The Theory of Relativity," by Dr. Albert Einstein, or "Atoms I Have Split," by Dr. Edward Teller?

Johnny, 3: Whatever became of "The Three Bears."

Mama: Oh, that's kid stuff. We're going into the age of the scientist, and you children must begin preparing early.

Herman, 4: Where'd you get that screwball idea?

Mama: From a very famous psychologist.

Herman: Not that nut Spock again?

Mama: No. This was a man from Iowa.

Henry, 5: Oh, Mama, I'll go along with the gag. Where did I come from?

Mama: Why, er. well, uh, you see, it's a very complicated story. It all began with the birds and the bees. The birds lay eggs, see, and they hatch and there you have some little birds.

Herman: Gee, this is better'n "The Three Bears." What do the bees do?

Mama: The bees? Well, they--uh. Come to think of it, what do they do?

Henry: They pollinate the flowers. What's the matter--you stupid or something?

Mama: That's no way to talk to your stupid moth--to your mother, Henry. But that's right. Where did you learn that?

Henry: On Disneyland. But what's that got to do with where I came from?

Mama: I'm getting to that. You see, human beings are like that.

Herman: You mean the bees pollinate them?

Mama: No, of course not.

Johnny: Come on, Mama, let's see you lay an egg.

7  
Mama: That's ridiculous. That's just part of the story. I'm try to tell you..  
Henry: But, Maw, all I ask you was where I came from.  
Mama: And that's exactly what I'm trying to tell you.  
Henry: Why all this beating around the bush? I came from Toledo, didn't I?  
Mama: Once upon a time there was a little girl named Goldilocks.

A friend pulled up at a stoplight alongside a sports car in Tulsa the other day just long enough to hear the driver say to his companion:

"The squirrel is a Jag 52 with a positive wheel."

This undoubtedly means something but to tell you the truth I think I'd just as soon not know what.

In case you have never seen them, there doth exist in this world a special sort of card now termed as 'Insults For Every Occasion'. This sort of thing has been in private distribution many years, but only recently have I noticed its apparent bursting into the world of light.

Have a few chucklesome examples:

Use your head. (It's the little things that count.)

The way to be seen is to stand up. The way to be heard is to speak up. The way to be appreciated is to shut up.

You should go far. (And I hope soon.)

Don't think it hasn't been pleasant to meet you. (Because it hasn't.)

If you have a minute to spare, tell me all you know.

I'm not in the habit of forgetting faces, but in your case I'll make an exception.

You're certainly trying. (Very trying.)

Be reasonable. (Do it my way.)

Why don't you come over and have dinner? (If you don't mind imposing.)

I'm not hard of hearing. (I'm just ignoring you.)

Your visit has climaxed an already dull day.

Mistakes will happen. (but must you give them so much help?)

Think! (it may be a new experience.)

If you can't convince 'em, confuse 'em.

I'd like to help you out. (Which way did you come in?)

It seems there were two duck hunters sitting in their blind. No, one of them wasn't me. Honest. And don't interrupt. Anyway, one of these guys had a vacuum bottle of hot coffee, but the other had a big jug of Old Banghead. And both of them were swigging heavily while they waited.

After a while the two guys spotted a lone duck winging their way. The coffee drinker took quick aim, fired and missed. The guy who had been working on the jug staggered to his feet, blasted away and brought the duck down.

His companion naturally was amazed and complimented him on the shot.

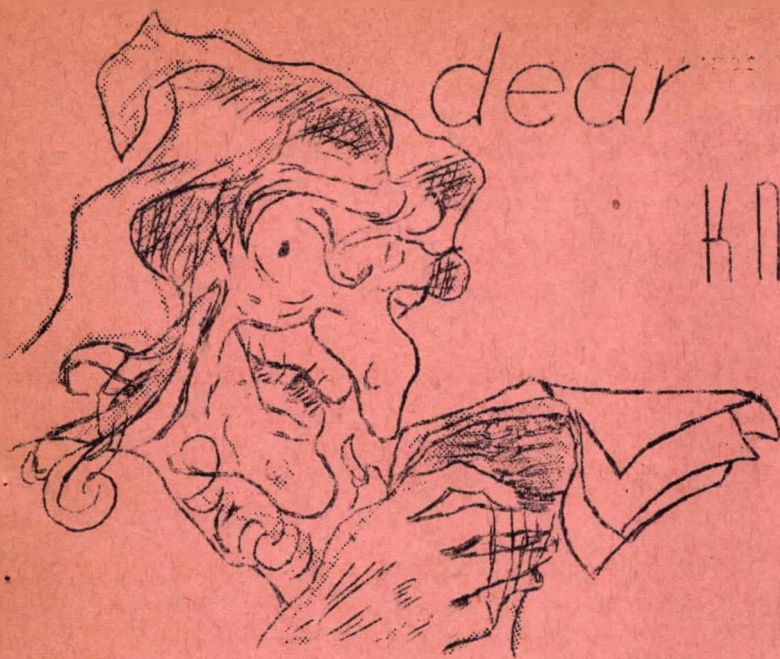
"Aw, s'nothing," the tipsy one replied. "I usually get five or six outta a big flock like that."

Best radio lines I've heard lately department: On KOME, where I spend a lot of time and have done a few spots: "And now, here's Elvis Presley's big one, 'Wear My Ring Around Your....'"

On KAKC: "Now here's a little number titled, "Don't sell the rockery Mother, cause Daddy got the chair last night."

And that takes care of the jokes for this issue.

*Ron Parker*



dear

KNOW-IT-ALL

Dear Know-It-All:

Do you believe the pen is mightier than the sword?

--Gertie

It depends primarily on whether you're fighting or writing.

Dear Know-It-All:

What caused you to assume the name Know-It-All?

--Ghod

Modesty.

Dear Know-It-All:

Has it ever occurred to you that when payday comes around you're taking money under false pretenses?

--The Boss

Yes, it has occurred to me. But it doesn't worry me very much---I'm not taking very much.

Dear Know-It-All:

Do you hope for snow for Christmas?

--Rudolph

If it's all the same to you, I'd rather have shirts, socks, underwear and stuff like that there.

Dear Know-It-All:

We're planning on having my wife's parents for Thanksgiving dinner next year. Is that OK?

--Robert

It would taste better to have turkey.

Dear Know-It-All:

With a family of six, how do you live in a 5-room house?

--Dean

Reluctantly.

Dear Know-It-All:

I understand you had pretty tough sledding Friday. Why was that?

--Santa

No snow.

Dear Know-It-All:

Is it true your house is located over an abandoned coal mine?

--John L.

Yes. Why don't you drop in some time.

Dear Know-It-All:

I have been offered a job by the Lipton company, counting tea bags as they come off the production line. Should I take it?

--Arthur

Yes, if you want to be a teatotaler.

Dear Know-It-All:

Is it true that you were graduated with highest honors?

--Jim Zrovimer

Yes. John Honors was a member of my senior class. He was 7 feet 3 inches tall.

Dear Know-It-All:

Do you believe in Santa Claus?

--Rudolph

Yes, but I understand he's not too sure about me.

Dear Know-It-All:

What is the meaning of RSVP?

--Emily

Repondez e'il vous plait. It's a French phrase, loosely translated into "If you feel you just have to accept this invitation, please give us a little warning."

Dear Know-It-All:

Have you written any songs lately?

--T.P. Alley

I'm working on a love ballad entitled, "I call my wife Pegasus because she's an Eternal Nag."

Dear Know-It-All:

My wife put arsenic in my coffee. Should I divorce her?

--Woody

Yes, if you have the grounds.

Dear Know-It-All:

Every time that Russian dog passes over, my dog howls. Will I be famous if this continues?

--Sleepy

No. You'll be dispossessed.

# LOOKING 'EM OVER

The Editor reviews

the 83rd IAPA Mailing of May, 1958

This mailing contained 38 items,  
of 572 pages, plus two postmailings  
of 30 pages. Total pages: 602.

FANTASY AMATEUR (13pg) It looks like Derry brought in another mag after the FA was printed, as the Amateur Journal is not listed.....The exchange with OIFA sounds like a Good Thing to me.

BLEND #7 (Grennell-19pg) I like this cover by yoself.....I concur completely in your second paragraph. These are all points of policy for Fantasy Press. No one who reads PP can doubt who is the editor, I think. Contributors are allways identified with their articles, and credit given to the artists. All material not otherwise credited is the work of myself. You perhaps noticed that last issue, I even made a change in this department. Instead of terming it "one fan's opinion", it is now identified as the editor's review of the mailing.....I have allways tried to write comments that will be clear to whoever reads them bu specifying what I am commenting on - and, of course, I list the editor with his title when reviewing.....so, meeting all these points, I must assume you like us, eh?.....a lot in what you say about the postoffice situation. I love that auto sticker, MADE IN THE SHAGLAD'S BY EV & OILS that your brother painted. I've quoted it a lot & it allways gets a laugh. I like "Made in Waste by Idiots" too.....if your writing and speaking style are much the same, I'm sure you would be a most interesting person to meet.....what kind of a station wagon do you have now, Dean?.....my son appreciated your compliment on his photographic effort on PP-18. I am in the process now of turning my garage into a combination studio & photo lab for him and a fan-den for me and later on I hope to present an original work by the lad. He enjoyed your remarks on camera equipment..... As for me, I allways enjoy reading your commentary on events connected with your work in the furnace rac--uh, profession.....the item about waiting-lister Joe Rupp being in the dry cleaning trade caught my eye, having been in the same rac--uh, profession myself in the past.....I've seen some minor miracles pulled off by a master cleaner, myself. He was a graduate of the RICO.....



CELEPHAIS (Evans-10pg) Your suggestion that the Directory of S-W fandom list the person to contact in fan organizations is a good one....as usual, "Cell" is very neat in its purple, red & green make-up. I've had a lot of getting a ditto machine because of the color advantage.....Thanks, Bill, for Dollens, my son, and myself, for the compliments on the photo-cover. Let's see another soon. And also thank for the dope on the Burroughs series.....I was glad to note your mention of Myers donation of a buck-fifty to the IAPA treasury. He gets enough blasting as it is. Perhaps his contributions have had little appeal to many, but he deserves a kind word for kicking into the kitty---which certainly needs it. I understand he heads up one of the regular apa groups & that no doubt accounts for the small production he has had in IAPA but with his print shop facilities perhaps someday he will startle us with a really nice fanzine.....your remark about fans dusting off their old Esperanto grammars & getting back into fandom, brings to mind my own first fandom interest in the universal-tongue, which Forrie, the No. 1 fan of that era, had created in me. Our old family physician, Dr. Harrison of Comanche (Jack Speer will recall the good doctor) gave me a small Esperanto handbook & I can recall the kick I got out of studying it (Forrie, by the way, wore his green-star Esperanto button at the Southwestercon).....interesting comments on members of 1944 - more dope for Operation Dragnet.....good poem on last page.....Bill, my humble apologies for not listing Celephais with the nine other publications that appeared in each mailing of 1957. It was an oversight since - as you note - I had your total page count correct I should have listed the IAPA also.

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Do you like bathing beauties? I don't know - I never bathed any!

---

CHUCK O.A. #2 (Harris-4pg) Hold on thar, boy! I don't care for the position you try to place me in as regards your comments on G.C. I was not 'waving a flag' for her nor do I feel this trans-Atlantic conflict has left me up a creek without means of propulsion. I have not been running down Walt illis. I have stated, not once, but several times, that I am not ashamed of my vote for Bob Radle. There is no need to be and it appears plenty of others felt the same way, to judge by the outcome of the ballot. For once and all, Chuck, I'd like to make this point clear. I have nothing against Walt, never have, and never expect to. I am not anti-British, rather I have been pro-England as far back as I can remember. I've stood up for you in many an argument with those who are prejudiced - usually thru ignorance - because I like England and its people, and have had pleasant association with many. My boss is a native of Liverpool and a fine old gentleman. I was happy to renew an old friendship with Mike Rosenblum last year. My wife, children, sister & mother all look on the Ted Carnells as part of the family. He and I have corresponded since 1936 and our mothers almost as long. As to TAFI, I've supported it ever since my active return to fandom five years ago, and I expect to continue to do so. I'm happy to be aiding one of your fellow fans to come across the Big Pond this year. I feel especially honored to be a sponsor of a movement to reduce IAPA dues for our members outside North America. I support local, national & international cons to the best of my ability. I'm not mad at anyone, but I certainly don't like to be told I'm left "holding the can" in an argument I did not start.....aside from your ruffling my feathers on the above matter, I enjoyed the rest of the mag, Chuck.....Man, it's a real job to get a drivers license in Britain - good luck on your exam - hope you are driving that red Anglia by now.....thank for the info on O.A.P.A.

CHUCK O.A. #2 (Tucker-7pg) I sneezed just as I was pronouncing this and nearly blew the top of my head off!.....that's a good cover by Plato Jones.....I was going to look thru my old TAFI files & seek the identity of that unknown fan who uttered the immortal words "Goshwowoyohboy!" but said files are all now boxed as I prepare to turn our garage into a den.....interesting but shocking to read your quotes from the report by Congressman Arenas. Makes one wonder how such a fugg-head ever got to be head of Chrysler. Based on his thinking (?) on missiles, it's a wonder

that his company can ever get out a new car design - especially one termed 'years ahead'.....you are right in showing how the American press, for reasons best known to itself, has continually waged war against the British health program. I trust that some of our English members will take advantage of your invitation to present their views on the subject.

IS SCIENCE FICTION IN A BOX (Bloch-13pg) The flip-side of this double-header is also covered-very ably-by Plate Jones. This must be an Ace pocket book, I'm sure, and it is one of their better efforts.....your first article is one I read & appreciated. You well point up the need for stories to be written to entertain the reader & not the writer. I'm pretty fed up with the parade of yarns that deflate the reader or play him for a fool; the continuous train of stories loaded with symbolism or directed solely at engineers or psychologists; all without that magic formula: entertainment. As you say, it's the manner of telling the story that provides the entertainment & relaxation that is so needed in much of s-f today..... odd that both you and Tucker would mention the original meaning of "jazz" and similar words of earlier decades---great minds in a single channel, I guess.....I must also be a 'square bloch' as I can find nothing but agreement with your views. Long live us middlebrows!

---

Highorow: One who can listen to the "William Tell Overture" without thinking about the Lone Ranger.

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CLAUDE #4 (Sanderson-15pg) Who said our British boys couldn't put out a big mag? And a really enjoyable issue, Sandy!.....I especially admire the neat, clean layout of material.....yes, it is a shame that I had to spoil my son's fine reproduction of Morris Dollens cover by the sorry titling - all blame lies on my poor, saddened head.....hope you do get Joan's biography in circulation for us.....cheers for your resolution to be in every mailing....wish more members would pledge the same.....your duplication needs no apology, it's O.K.....with difficulty, I waded thru the cricket article by Joy Clarke twice, but it was worth it, as I now have a better understanding of the national game of England. I had some trouble until I realized that the reference to the 'bowler' is what we call the pitcher. It is, of course, somewhat like our game of baseball. A "wide" we would term a "ball" but there are many odd things about the game to the American mind. For example, the use of wickets on the playing field seems to turn it into a type of croquet match. And it seems strange on your time angle, instead of having a set number of innings. ....a most clever idea is the special section of pages dedicated to various members & subjects concerned with them. In the Sam Moskowitz Pages, you have the clearest picture of the sorry London Trip Fund that I have yet read. You know, it's a shame that on a fine venture like this that everyone, but everyone, would not be doing his utmost to make the thing a real event in fan history, and certainly with everything above-board & co-operative. It seems from here that Dave Kyle was most ill-advised (to use a kind term) in his many moves in setting up the affair. All credit must go to him for a magnificent plan, and it's a pity that he let it deteriorate into the mess it became. I hate to see an old-time fan in such light. I was connected with him in first Landom with his "Fantasy Legion" club & worked my head off for him as publicity director, but after a bang-up start, he fizzled out and left the rest of us dangling. When I found that my friend Ted Carnell would be staying with him for the 1956 Worldcon, I wrote him a friendly letter (no answer) to have Ted phone me when he arrived, but that has been my only contacts with him. Like you, I am personally in favor of the WFSB, and as large as worldcons have become, I fail to understand the objections that a few fans have to a legalized means of protecting those of us who invest annually in this great event (I have supported it for years, although never able to attend) It is unfortunate that fans are not all true friends & trust the word of each other, but I know from sad experience that such is not the case. I thought the Palascas letter in FANAC a pretty cheap thing, myself. If

they are so righteous, why don't they pay up their 1957 debt for the Program Book ad? I had the pleasure of knowing George Hins Raybin when he was stationed at Ft. Sill about 1950 and had him out to dinner a time or two. He seemed very nice as I recall.....got a chortle out of the Ron Bennett Page.....say, that's quite an ego-boast to see an section dedicated to "Dan McPhail" and I found the figures quite interesting. OPA started off with a bigger bang than IAPA, but the difference in conditions of 1937 and 1977 (when did OPA start?) account for much of that. I hope you do make this an annual affair & include IAPA. I note that the Keeper of the British Museum is an honorary member, which brings to mind that IAPA extended the same courtesy to the curator of the Ben Franklin Museum of Amateur Journalism in 1938 so that mailings would be preserved there. I don't know when the practise was discontinued.....I look forward to your new publication, Aporrheta.

DIASPORA #8 (Carr-11pg) A very good cover by Jells & a very neat issue. It is somewhat comforting to know that another editor waits also until the final moment before starting work.....Terry, I greatly admire your artwork thruout the mag, and wish you would direct a few of your illos this way (hint).....enjoyed your mailing comments, but most especially the considerable info on the vanished kops in the Sputnik section. I was fascinated to read that Ellsberry published a "FAPA FILE" and wish there was some way I could get copies (anyone?). You and Ron have helped me a lot on material for the "Operation Dragnet" project.

PARADISE #6 (Ellik-21pg) As a Howard Miller fan, it's a treat to see him again even if only on headings.....this interesting DEA cover reminds me that this issue of The Press was to have one by her also, but Ron Parker, who was to do the stencil for me, up and joins the army. Where my art work, and other material is now, I have no idea. Fout.....Don Wilson's feature was engrossing, but arouses no comment. And Grennell, as always, is interesting, regardless of what he writes about.

FRINGE #1 (Ashworth-12pg) Say, I enjoyed your browsings in "Hispa & Whiskers" likewise the good word from old Hermes. Likewise the short review dept. You make a point when you say Everyone Has A System on mailing comments. Come again.

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Is any man who is a 5-ton truck at the office is only a trailer at home

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GALLERY #6 (Derry-11pg) A very catchy cover, and a perfect lead-in to the thrilling epic of the G.L.A. by Derry. I join the editor in hoping the new-type GUA organization will be formed!.....Dean Grennell again makes interesting reading.....Artist George Letzger points out very well a big difference between radio and television, in that the former medium has the tremendous advantage of the listener's imagination to provide most of the background, so that a few sound effects, or a gasp, or a whisper perhaps, is all that is needed to start each person to painting their own mental picture of the scene being enacted.

GAZETTE 4/19 (GiCarr-32pg) What a beautiful cover by Bergeron, easily the best cover in this mailing - a fine job on Stenofax.....your mention of the art of tealeaves brings to mind that this has long been a hobby of my mothers.....Joe Sanders did a nice job for you on the interior art.....nothing much in your mailing comments to spark comment from me, it seems.....I do notice your statement (and I heartily approve) regarding your favoring excluding a genuine undesirable, but not because some members don't like what he writes about, be it Bobles or Green Stamps. After all, a very great amount of non-fantasy subjects are written about in present day FAPA (as compared to early years) and are enjoyed, but is due to the manner of writing that makes for their acceptance, in many cases. It's in the manner of telling that makes Grennell's experiences on the furnace circuit, or Warner's discussion of personalities, or Danner's description of his new abode so enjoyable. Coslet has written things of interest in the past (what's happened to the FAPA INDEX, Walt?) & I found the detailed coverage of trading stamps that Lyers wrote last year a very absorbing feature. While I disagreed with some of his opinions, his facts were accurate & represented a considerable amount of research. I do agree that a more

listing of book titles or samples of printing are not for us, but these men are capable of good work, I'm sure, and I would like to see both get active with a regular publication including (as you suggest) mailing comments - at least they could answer their critics!.....No, I'm sorry but I have no copies (only the original) of the Dollens cover without the lettering. I could send you a print of the cover and you could trim off the logo, for a reduced-size photo.

GRUE #29 (Grennell-55pg) This largest of regular publications is a real treat to behold, from the grin-provoking cover to the White Lule ad on the back.....damon knight did a good cover, Ron Ellik designed an excellent logo and you did your usual fine job of duplication.....I trust we will see more epics from the pen of the inscrutable Moy Ping Pong, now that he has returned.....Dean, I told Forrie Ackerman at Dallas about the Sheila Graham bit you have in this issue & he was very interested to hear it had appeared finally. He said Sheila ignored his reply to her sarcasm of s-f.....sure a nice Stonofax of Ledd Boggs and this installment of "The Fallen Lighty" was wonderful with its coverage of Wild West Weekly. Also good was Trai Ballard's bit on Cassidy and your lengthy notes that follow.....Bob Shaw did a good coverage of John Berry, aided & abetted by the Atom illos.....the article on fanhistory was interesting to me, of course, and I hope he doesn't have to eat his copy of The Immortal Storm.....I am inclined to agree with Ired that there are too many eras credited to fandom. I would say the first perhaps ended with the death of Fantasy Magazine, which was the one organized voice of early day fans. The second era would extend thru the World War 2 period to the birth of the atom bomb. A third era would be that from 1945 to the big s-f boom of 1950. If so, we would now be in a Third Fandom, or perhaps the Fourth, if the great race into space begun by the satellite-launchings result in an increased interest in s-f, and an influx of new fans. At any rate, fandom does need a new history, extending from the time reached by Immortal Storm to the present.....Allan Dodd's inquiry about helius prompts me to say that such a refining plant is going to be built in Oklahoma soon.....what is "The Armadillo" with Dold covers, mentioned by Bill Blackbeard on page 55?

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You can always start a fire with a chip on your shoulder

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HORIZONS #74 (Warner-24pg) Harry, it's a neat trick how you manage to have exactly 24 pages each issue. How do you do it?.....that's a generous offer you make, to translate & publish eight pages in English for the Versins or Linaros if they publish their proposed French zine. I had already withdrawn my objections and will look forward to their appearance, even if I can enjoy only the pictures.....the FAPA Te-totalers are growing, as you can add my name with Warner & Ellik as members (nebbe we should incorporate!).....there is some merit in your plan to vote annually on waiting listers. I believe I suggested some time back that we consider the background of persons on the waiting list & vote accordingly.....I enjoyed (of course) the nice coverage you gave PP this issue. Regarding your suggestion that my activity statistics could be an ideal guide to what is eligible for the annual egoboo poll: I feel the same, and plan to make the Report a feature of each January issue of The Press, which will appear in each February mailing. If Officialdom could make that voting change to appear in the February mailing instead of November, the Report could be used as a guide on how to vote. I prefer to cover the calendar year, hence I suggest the ballot appear in the February mailing.....I found I read the entire six pages on jazz with interest, but the feature I enjoyed most (as usual) was the Lagerstown Journal. Ed Deamer was a most interesting character to meet.....it was nice to see you printing letters.

THE LUGG BUNDLE (Durbee-102pg) A very great cheer of appreciation must have resounded in the halls of FAPA for Graham, Ellik, Carr, Mike & Brandon, when this giant zine was tugged out of the bundle. A fine piece of work, boys!.....what can one say about this anthology except that it is must reading and a most enjoyable task. Only a small number of these 45 articles had I seen before, so it was a special treat to read them.....and a belated Happy Birthday, Durbee!

ISOMER #6 (Graham-15pg) We are indebted to Carl Brandon for franking this mag to us.....Pete, I enjoyed your detailed and interesting background to mailing 55. I notice you refer to the "Laureate Poll" and not Agoboo. Was the former term still being used as late as 1951?.....As to the songs: I certainly don't care to know such crud as "School Days" but "Aryan Anthem" is another thing. I don't feel it is in bad taste, but is a worthy protest against unfair prejudice.....and I enjoyed the art work - all of it was good, including the New Zealand fanzine editor, R. Harrocks.

LARK (Danner-10pg) What's the meaning of "Skreughbawl"?.....I found the Open Letter to Gregg Calkins very interesting with its dope on the old Rolls Royce Phantom.....you wrote a mighty interesting description of how you became a railroad fan. I love that Atom illo on page 8!.....re your comment on my 18th issue: it grieves me, Bill, to get these reports of oversights on my "A-Ray" survey. I thot I was checking all mailings carefully, especially the FA listings, but slipped up in both Lark & Stef. Please excuse it, and I hope to avoid such errors in future reports... I'd look up the name of Bank's fanzine, but all my files are packed away at present. Yes, the Ramblers are getting more numerous. The local dealer seems to be having a field day in sales in this army town. He is the Mercury agent & tells me he out bid the Clds agency for the lucrative American Motors franchise. By the way, Bill, my son has just traded his beat-up Ford '47 for a '51 Nash Rambler station wagon. Seems a nice little car. I'll let you know how it stands up.....that Atom illo on the back page looks like a Rotsler, doesn't it?

LEMONADE #11 (Macburn-4pg) As you say, this is quite a chunk of Canadian politics. But, as you also say, the subject interests you and that is reason enough to print it. Which bears out what I have been saying: that any subject, be it trading stamps, horses, guns, player pianos or you-name-it, should not be taboo in our mailings. If it is written in a manner that makes for easy reading, it is bound to appeal to some members.....I would like to read more about the Progressive Conservative party victory.....the rest I read with general interest & even some agreement such as your remarks on McCarthy.....I notice several veiled remarks of an anti-American nature, such as "economic imperialism from south of the border"; and Calkins' "wailing about...the poor put on Americans" and about us being shocked to learn we didn't invent everything. I don't doubt many U.S. citizens act in a manner that reflects discredit to themselves & their country but that's not typical of all of us, and I kinda resent the implication that it is. I don't doubt that - even in Toronto - there are plenty of odd-balls and dim-wits to be found. Right?

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Husband: A curious animal who buys his football tickets in June and his wife's Christmas present on Dec. 24.

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LIGHT #65 (Crouch-10pg) Glad to see you beating the deadline, Leslie.....A most unusual cover by Bob Gibson.....can't agree with you about not voting in the annual laureate awards. If you think the method of voting is wrong, how about a suggestion to improve it? I feel if you are interested enough to invest your three bucks dues & your time and money on a fanzine, that you also have an obligation to your fellow members to vote your appreciation for their efforts which (like yours) go into the making of a successful mailing.....think I'll pass on the new logo!.....I feel your suggestion of a six month (two mailing) probationary period for all new members has merit.....you certainly have a problem with your clothes purchases. What height & weight are you?.....Jan, what a character your Chief Censor is!

LIGHTHOUSE #1 (Berkleyites-18pg) Fellows, I enjoyed this whole thing, even if I find little to comment on. You guys keep the old Lighthouse going.

ALIONA T #7 (Ellik-22pg) With a cover titled "Fantastic Story Mag" and a good bit of art by DCA.....I enjoyed all of this, Ron, especially the reprints from the great LeZombie.....having edited what was perhaps the very first actual 'newszine' for fans (the old SF News) I look forward with interest to your next issue, which is devoted to the fan newszines of the past.

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NOISE #12 (White-16pg) I like the green ink better than the black, don't you? I usually enjoy reading your comments, Ted, even if I disagree with some points. But then, you sometimes make a point that will change an opinion of mine, or cause me to revise a trend of thought. Hope your activities will permit you to continue active as a FAPA publisher, and that you can increase your output.

PANTASY PRESS #19 (mc-26pg) I think we continue to have pretty neat covers & I like this blue ink on yellow stock. I regret I did a poor job of cutting the face on James Rogers excellent drawing which, incidentally, was executed in 1937...After pleading with Parker to get his copy into me, and waiting until the last week-end, I finally whipped up that "Pot Luck" section as a substitute for him. I completed assembly of the mag Sunday nite & mailed it Monday morning and you know what came in the noon mail that day? Yeah, Parker's material!

SNOOZE #11 (Iyers-1pg) It seems there are a lot of money drives going on now. No doubt some are worthy, and if left to voluntary contributions, would be unable to operate properly, but I think that the expense of the campaigns are way out of line in some cases. And why couldn't the government finance a "crash" program for things like cancer research? It would make more sense than some of our spending.

SNOOZE #12 (Iyers-1pg) This is an interesting, if short, article on the subject of mis-quotations.....why don't you expand your zine by including mailing comments?

SNOOZE #13 (Iyers-1pg) Interesting about the spelling of past presidents (of the USA, not FAPA).....I'd prefer your single sheets assembled into one edition.

STENCIL CAZINGS (Bradley-3pg) I credit the Southwestercon ad as part of this, Marion.....I'd say the old Woodstock cuts a good stencil.....I liked your short word picture of the winter sky of west Texas.....and how nice it was to meet you at the con in Big D, Marion. We had a lot of fun, didn't we? Remember the midnite safari that you, Horrie Ackerman and I took into the downtown canyons of Dallas & the resultant "Soda-con" we held when we finally found a drug store open? And the grand tour we three made in my car - including the trip down Lover's Lane (this should raise some eyebrows in FAPA!) and I got so interested in our conversation that I lost our way back? With the exception of one obnoxious person, I found the fans all nice people. The program by former member Dale Hart & his committee (waiting-lister Tom Reamy & Randy Brown) was very good. They could put on a good worldcon.

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He who laughs last has found a double meaning

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TARGET: FAPA (Lney-3pg) Always enjoy this, Richard. Guess I should list its number which is, ah - 123.....in the first paragraph, I strongly agree with you re the classification of "Best Editor" and "Best Publication": the Best Editor would be one who puts out several fanzines or several issues of a single title, one of which could be the Best Publication of the year, such as some special edition. A member could put out a one-shot & win Best Publication, but not Best Editor..... thanks for your comment on our Dollens photo-cover.....you are right, I did leave the FA out of the listings, along with a couple more, which I will correct..... re the Londonconfidential item, did you ever find what Madeleine's costume was?

THETA (Harness-11pg) I like that light, airy touch in your cover, Jack, as well as the neat lay-out on all pages.....farewell to Tyke, Long Live Theta!...glad to hear you are now accepting me, even as an 'oldguardist', and glad you liked the cover. But the real thanks, of course, go to Morris for sending it to me and to my son for his hard work. I just regret the poor lettering, caused by having to rush the logo arrangement in a matter of minutes.....speaking of art work - now that we are on good terms, will you kindly put me on your waiting list for some art work by yourself for The Press? Thanks.....yes, I caught that Bob Hope Moscow show & the spear dance was something to see! Wonderful!.....the four-color painting sounds like a very attractive thing. Too bad you can't mimic it for us!

THREE (Harness-10pg) A most interesting final issue, Jack. Glad to see you went back to covers with Theta, however.....a special thanks to you for the very

nice coverage you gave to the FAPA. LARRY LOOK at I will pass on your comments to Ron as soon as I get his army address. He went into service the first of June.

A FAMILIAR FOR JIM & ARDY YOUNG (Papaconites-2pg) And it couldn't have been dedicated to two nicer people.

THE DISTILLIN CASE (Evans-9pg) Congrats, Bill, on your clever layout & production of this interesting reprint from the Washington Star.

A FAMILIAR FOR ME (Bradley-2pg) Some of this I can agree with, Marion, other parts, no. I know life in a small town can be difficult, especially to a person such as yourself, coming from the populated east, and with interests different from almost everyone else. In my line of work, I deal with all types of people whose occupations range from professional & technical skills, on down the scale to common laborers and agriculture workers; and I know the blunted and/or biased mental outlooks of some can be a most trying thing to put up with. However, among business people or neighbors with whom I am in daily contact with, I find no resentment in a friendly question about the health of my family or a brief discussion of a topic of local interest. Now I think I'd also resent a clerk asking me if I were pregnant (if I were female, of course) just because I was looking at a display of baby clothes; but I don't resent being spoken to when I walk down the street. I think your big problem is living in such a tiny place. I have allways felt I would be depressed if I lived on flat plains as you do now. I like a place like Lawton (population: 60,000) - large enough to have big city advantages yet small enough that I can be at work in less than ten minutes after I leave home. Another nice thing - we are at the edge of the Wichita mountains and we can be there fishing, swimming or enjoying a picnic lunch in less than 30 minutes after I get off work.

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If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything

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THE FOSSIL (Wesson-3pg) This printed 7x10 reprint from the April Fossil is interesting and shows that we can be a small part in the People to People program. In fact, fandom in general, and FAPA & OMPA especially, have long been doing a good job of creating friendships among peoples of different lands. As witness our roster with fans representing nine nations.....will we see the TAFF article coming up?

LANDSLIDE (Derry-1pg) You did a nice job of presenting the Constitutional ballot results in a concise & interesting manner.....why is the assassinated character labeled "old guard"?

#### A LOOK AT POSTMAILINGS

Circular (size 17x22) An appeal to the public by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Heinlein to urge stronger defense & science progress by the government. Franked by G.M. Carr.

A DAVE ENGLISH SKETCHBOOK (Larry Stark-29pg) This legal-length collection of sketches by English deserve praise, not only to the artist, but to Larry for his work on it and the help he received from the Youngs.....of the 110 numbered copies, I have #17.....very interesting drawings and hard to pick favorites.

#### S U M M A R Y

602 pages (compared to 472 in the 83rd mailing) of which 30 pages were postmailed. Publications included one 102-pager (Burbee), one 55-pager (Grennell), one 45 (Sanderson), one 32 (GMCarr), one 29, one 26, one 24, one 23, one 22, one 19, one 18, two 16, one 15, one 14, two 13, one 12, two 11 and 14 ranging from 2 to 10 pgs. There were five single-sheets.

Largest production is credited to Burbee: 102 pages; followed by Grennell who had two publications totaling 74 pages. There were 25 members, plus one waiting-lister represented. Maryland and California led the parade with 4 members from each state contributing. In addition, England had three, Canada and Mass. two each, and one each from Illinois, Japan, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and the District of Columbia.

(Data for above as of July 20, 1958)

# The Quarterly Times

by JAMES V. TAURASI, SR.

(All the items listed in this quarterly news review are based on items appearing in the semi-monthly SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, but often with personal comments of the writer.)

The June 1st issue of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES carried the results of a poll on American s-f mags that appeared in 1957. The best novels, novelettes, short stories, illos, etc. were asked for and each title, etc. listed was given a point and a point was given to the mag it appeared in. These votes determined the best s-f mag of the year 1957. The end results were as follows: 1. Astounding, with 190½ points, 2. Fantasy & S-F with 120 pts., 3. Galaxy with 70 pts., 4. Infinity, 50 pts., 5. S-F Adventures 40½ pts., 6. Venture 30 pts., 7. Satellite 20 pts., and Saturn, also 20 pts., and 8th, Imagination and If, with 10 points each.

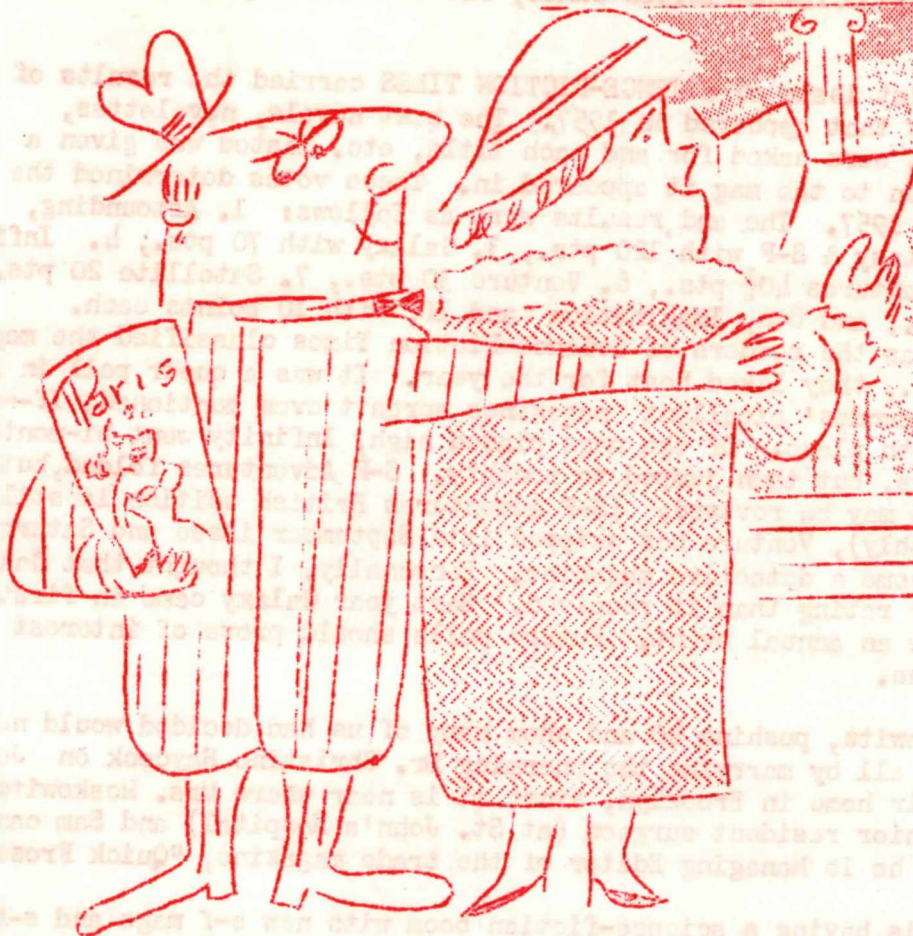
This was as the readers of Science-Fiction Times classified the mags as by the stories, etc., they liked best for the year. It was a queer poll in a number of respects. Lowndes' excellent magazines weren't even mentioned; If—a darn good mag received 8th place. Of the mags placed high, Infinity went bi-monthly from every six weeks, but then jumped to monthly. S-F Adventures folded, but there is some hope that it may be revived. (S-F Adventures British edition is still going strong as a bi-monthly), Venture has skipped its September issue and Saturn has given up s-f to become a detective magazine. Personally, I thought that Galaxy would have a higher rating than it received. Last year Galaxy came in first in our poll, which will be an annual event. Future polls should prove of interest when compared to this one.

Sam Moskowitz, pushing 40 and whom many of us had decided would never get married, fooled us all by marrying the charming Dr. Christine Haycock on July 6th. They will make their home in Brooklyn, since it is near where Mrs. Moskowitz holds the position of senior resident surgeon (at St. John's Hospital) and Sam can subway to Manhattan where he is Managing Editor of the trade magazine, "Quick Frozen Food".

Germany is having a science-fiction boom with new s-f mags and s-f series coming out and old ones going monthly and even weekly. The situation in the United States is better than it has been for a year. The newstands are getting better all the time, but still a long way off from where they were when American News quit national mag delivery. With some of the s-f mags folded or on restricted schedules, the rest seem to be getting better. Apparently the floor of the recession has been reached and the slow upward trend is in site. But just let a few "get rich boys" start putting on s-f mags and we'll have another recession. These guys will never learn that the field is limited to only about 150,000 somewhat steady readers, and that too many mags will kill the market. Some of the editors just won't believe this and are always trying out deals and ideas to get the common reader into the field. It's just not so. Either you're an s-f reader or you'll leave the stuff alone, and to change a science fiction magazine to make it acceptable to the so-called general reader will make it a non s-f mag and thus lose its regular readers. But they keep trying and in the end down go their sales.

The publishers and editor of Vanguard Science Fiction were treated to a pleasant surprise when they called in the first issue and tabulated the sales.

(Continued on page 5)



"You are right, my dear, there is nothing like this at home!"

(Reprinted from **LEO BELLINDER**)

**THE FINAL WORD**  
Dan McPhail

And I do mean final - it being 5 PM on August 2nd & I'm still banging away at this. I like only printing both sides of this page, plus cutting & printing the cover. Tomorrow, I'll assemble the mag & wrap it for mailing early Monday, Aug. 4th. Hope it gets to Eney in time.....I've had a nice summer: vacation, visit with Martinez, the Dallas con & non s-f fun.....Congrats to Sam Maskowitz on his marriage, as reported by Taurasi in his new department.....The biggest scientific event of modern times will take place Aug. 17th when the Air Force will attempt man's first probe of the moon by rocket. Which is a wonderful way to mark FAPA coming of age - this mailing being our 21st Anniversary!.....Final PM in from John Quagliano, an 8-pager, which brings page total of the 63rd Mailing to 610 and puts California in the lead in members represented.

COVER THIS ISSUE is by Walt Bowart. Inside art by Mary & James Rogers, Parker & me.

# FAN-OUT

DAN McPHAIL



## THE PASSING OF A LEGEND

Francis Towner Laney is dead. According to FANAC #19, which just arrived as I prepared to type this page, Laney recently died of bone cancer.

1958 has been a tragic year for science fiction as we have lost a number of the outstanding leaders of both the professional world and of fandom. Henry Kuttner, Cyril Kornbluth and our own Vernon McCain have allready passed Beyond the Great Oblivion.

Laney carved a niche for himself with his excellent writing style that developed such a following among fans. A prolific publisher, his caustic humor & critical analysis of the fandom of his era made him a most influential fan.

I regret that I never knew Laney. He became active after I dropped out of fandom, and made his momentous mark in the halls of fandom and retired long before I returned to the world of s-f in 1953. He leaves behind a legacy of fine publishing and writing that will ever keep his name alive.

## THE OKLACON - TEXAS STYLE

I cranked up my Ford and ventured south to Dallas on July 4th to see how our Texas cousins would do with the Oklacon, which they adopted for this - the sixth - consecutive convention, and re-named the "Southwestercon" due to it's expanded operation.

The con was held in a large downtown hotel, with ample room for displays, meetings and the masquerade ball. The entire 12th floor was given over to housing the fans & attendance was pretty good, tho not as heavy as hoped for. But the program was very good and credit must go to old-timer Dale Hart and his co-chairmen, Tom Reamy and Randy Brown for a job well-done. As usual, the secretary-treasurer is a real work-horse...in this case it was the very capable Maurine Smith.

Paramount brought the world premiere of "The Space Children" to Dallas especially for us; there was a most interesting masquerade ball; Morrie Dollens had a selection of his beautiful oil paintings on display & there were the usual hi-jinks at odd (and late) hours. And, of course, the meeting of both old and new friends.

I had the real pleasure of meeting Marion Zimmer Bradley, who was the guest of honor at the banquet and, most of all, of meeting the fan whose name, like Gernsback or Paul, has allways been synonymous with science fiction to me: Forrest J. Ackerman. I found him to be a wonderfully friendly person, an excellent toastmaster, and a goldmine of s-f information to a backwoods-type fan like me. Back in 1939, Forrie was a charter subscriber to my "Fan-Facts!", but the final issue was returned to me (for postage) & I never re-mailed it. I found the still un-opened zine recently and at Dallas - 19 years later - I finally filled his subscription with the personal delivery of that long overdue issue!

**FAPA FORTYSEVEN.** At Dallas there was a goodly sprinkling of FAPA members, past, present and future. They were Dale Hart and Ferric Ackerman, former members, Marion Bradley and Dan McPhail, present members and Kent Moomaw and Tom Reamy, who are on the waiting list. We had expected Ron Parker and Sam Martinez, but Ron went into the army in June and when I visited Sam on vacation, he was preparing to go north on business & doubted if he could make it - but that he might make the Midwestcon.

**CALLING ANDY YOUNG:** I have a clipping from the local daily that I've been intending to send you, with pic and text of the June 18th visit of Walter Munn, field representative of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory at Cambridge, to the local Moon Watch team. The group here has a total of 62 satellite observation reports accepted by the observatory, one of the best records in the country. Only two days later the press revealed that Ft. Sill would be the key station in a radar "fence" across southern U.S. and designed to track silent satellites. Doppler radar transmitters will soon be installed at our near-by army post, with receiving units in New Mexico and Tennessee to pick up objects flying as high as 1,000 miles.

**SPEAKING OF CONS** brings to mind the recent copy of "Fandom's Burden" that we received. It contained, among other trivia, a printing of the resolutions passed at the 1954 San Francisco worldcon. Perhaps it's better to let sleeping dogs lie, but the resolution condemning the holding of the Oklacon-2 at the same time as the Big Show has always rankled us here in the Sooner State. At that con, we had just sent a wire of best wishes to the world con when we heard of the censure, and it was a big jolt to us all. The resolution said that our committee was "repeatedly" informed of the un-written law against a regional con on Labor Day weekend----yet neither Don Chappell, Kent Corey or myself ever received a single word from them! And in the year following, when I was president of the state club, I did not receive a single communication from them. At Dallas Kent & I discussed this and he told me no one ever warned him. And a funny thing, at Oklahoma City that year, we asked Don Ford and all other out-of-state fans about us "materially reducing attendance" at the worldcon (as the resolution claims) and they all said that if there had been no Oklacon, they still would not have gone to San Francisco. So there!

**DO I HEAR A BID?** The property disposal office at Ft. Sill, at many times each year, holds sales of surplus military items, and I recently went out to get a catalogue on a sale of office equipment, which included duplicating machines. I did not bid, but later received a copy of the bid results. I shall now list a few of the choice items for the special interest of members like Derry, Danner and White: Let's see - typewriters, original prices \$90 to \$190, were sold at \$17.80 to \$35. An A.B. Dick duplicator (\$260) went for \$20.15, a \$630 machine sold for \$50 while highest price was \$65.12 that R.S. Mayer of Chicago paid each for three A.B. Dick Model 90s (original: \$612 total). I had in mind to bid \$15 for a Dick Model 92, but an office supply firm got it for \$18.95. A group of 324 books went for \$35; a local print shop paid \$251 for a used casting machine, originally tagged at - - \$5,000; while another worth \$6197 new went to Typefounders, Inc. of Ariz., for \$501.

**TRADING STAMPS, ANYONE?** I hope I am not treading on sensitive fanish toes in mentioning this, but my wife, Pauline, collects (sh-h-h) trading stamps and is interested in obtaining stamps from other areas. She has the nationally circulated stamps, such as Top Value and S & H, but there are hundreds of regional stamp plans. Those she has now include Prudential, United, Gunn Brothers, Golden Harvest, Shop & Save, Buccaneer, Texas Gold, Add & Multiply (with a rabbit as its symbol!) and AAA. I personally would appreciate your kindness in helping Polly in her hobby, if you could send me a stamp or two from your own area.

**JOKE DEPT:** Having fun is like insurance. The older you get, the more it costs.

TO-DAY'S RETAILER, publication of the distributors of periodicals, lists the following new pocket books of s-f: "Who" by Algis Budrys, "Time In Advance" by Wm. Tenn, "World's Apart" by J. T. McIntosh, "Strange Ports of Call" edited by August Derleth, "43,000 Years Later" by Horace Coon, "Skylark of Space" by E.E. Smith and "The Green Hills of Earth" by Robert Heinlein.

DID YOU NOTICE that Leo Morey, old-time s-f cover artist, did the front of the current, "Anniversary Issue" of PANIC?

#### GENERAL FANZINE REVIEWS

I'd like to take space to acknowledge receipt of the following fanzines which popped into our mailbox at 1806 Dearborn, and extend my thanks to the assorted editors for sending same. Your comments on Phantasy Press also appreciated.

THE VINEGAR WORM #3 (Bob Leman, 2701 So. Vine St., Denver 10, Colo.) This lad is on our waiting list & looks like a fine future member. 15 pages this issue and good reading, but suffers from lack of art work. Dan Atkins contributes a good cover, plus articles by Ron Smith, Robert Bloch & fine humor by the editor. It was nice to note your apology for the joke about Mike Todd, printed before his death. My office provided assistance to Todd for his Indian scenes, filmed in our hills.

STUPEFYING STORIES #35 (Eney-11pg) I receive each issue of this letter substitute with real joy. Especially good are Dick's mag reviews.

SPHERE #10 (Joe Christoff-19pg) The editor is in the midst of changing address with the new location to be announced in the next issue. This is a very readable zine issued on a regular bi-monthly basis & contains fiction, articles & reviews. PP-18 got a nice review & he gave a full paragraph quote on my own panning of the critical fanzine reviews that are sometimes seen - in agreement, I might add. 20¢ or 6 for #1.

GROUND ZERO #2 (Belle Dietz, 1721 Grand Ave., Bronx 53, NY, Apt. 4C) 16 pages of very neat duplication and an excellent cover by Adkins. An addity is that the logo is printed, it appears. Contains quite a bit of detailed info on various cons over the country as well as England. Priced at 15¢

THE COLE FAX #1 (W.R.Cole, 307 Newkirk Ave., Brooklyn 30) Another very neat production, it contains 23 pages for 15¢. Most of this issue continues the red-hot battle with Dave Kyle over the London Trip Fund, complete with photostats of letters.

THE NEW FUTURIAN #8 (J.M.Rosenblum of Leeds, via FAPA member Bob Pavlat) Mike puts out a most excellent fan mag-this one numbers 44 pg. Among a host of interesting contributions the best, I think, is the running account of events of 20 yrs ago by Walt Gillings and a fascinating review of "Fantasy in the '90's" by T.L.Ladd.

KIWIFAN #8 (Roger Horrocks, 18 Hazelmere Rd., Auckland, SW1, New Zealand) 25 pg. of interesting stuff from the fans Down Under, plus a fabulous cover by one Michael Hinge. It's a beautiful thing, did in silver by the silk-screen process.

APORRHETA (Sanderson-26pg) I don't think this is a postmailing, but a general-fanzine. Very good, too, with many fine departments. Especially liked was the "Inchmery Fan Diary" and the sharp Atom drawing on the last page. Joy Clarke in her column, suggests that the FAPA membership be expanded to 100, and the number of our mailings cut to two; which should produce activity from more members & larger zines.

NEXT ISSUE OF PHANTASY PRESS will contain, I hope, a new report on "Operation Dragnet" with additional names, plus perhaps some facts on each person. I'd like to again appeal to members for any additions or corrections to the initial listing as it appeared in the April issue. Thanks to Ron Ellik for his letter of names. Also to those who gave listings in their own publications. I also hope to be able to present a special treat in a new cover presentation. Another hope is that - for once - I'll get started far enough ahead to be able to produce a larger issue.

FINAL THOT DEPT: When people don't know what to say, they shouldn't say it.



Letters of comment are  
invited. Address Daniel  
McPhail, 1806 Dearborn,  
Lawton, Oklahoma.

Dear Dan:

PHANTASY PRESS #18 has been on the pile for a long long time now. I wanted to tell you that I enjoyed it very much & to have you compliment your son on his photography work involved in the issue.

I don't expect to bring out another POOKA for a little while yet, but when I do I want to get some convention coverage. I've written to the Falascas asking them to write up an article on the Disclave, which they plan to attend. I'll write up the Midwesterncon & I'm writing to see if you'd write up the affair at Dallas for me? You are going?

DON FORD.

(I guess the write-up I did for you on last year's Oklacon didn't scare all of your readers away, huh? Yes, I did make 'Big D' and you have my coverage of that fine con by now. My son thanks you for the egoboo. - DM)

Dear Dan:

All Fantasy Presses and FAPA Memory Book received. Man, they sure brought back fond memories of the old days. Ray and I sure enjoyed them. I've read them over twice and plan to do so again. It's been a long time since I've so enjoyed a fan mag. Please keep sending me future copiss. This fan mag I'm going to bind.

As ever,

JIMMY TAURASI.

(Thanks, Jim, to you and your co-editor of SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, old-time fan Ray Van Houton. -DM)

Dear Dan:

A very good mailing this time around, I thought, with Fantasy Press better than usual. And didn't the Berkeley crowd have a whopping contribution? Their 'zines arrived in two bundles weighing a total of 94 pounds, wrapped in rope instead of string. That mailman will shoot me yet! Best & all,

RICHARD ENEY.

(The mental picture of that mailman, struggling up to your door with 94 lbs of Berkleyzines on his back, brings a big grin. It deserves an artists' touch so that it can be preserved in the FAPA history-book for future generations of Fapans to marvel at! I hereby commission Rotsler to do so! -DM)

Dear Dan:

Received Fantasy Press. Enjoyed it as usual.

Southern Illinois, where I now live, is also known as "Tornado Alley." I was caught in 5 tornadoes in 1 day last December. Did \$2million damage to the town I live in. Three hit Mt. Vernon, missing our house only 1½ blocks. I was in two others earlier in the day & one picked up the car ahead of me & took it into a field. A rather frightening day.

LYNN A. HICKMAN.

(Your last remark is certainly the understatement of the day! Come again-DM)