

# POSTWARP

## THE MONTHLY LETTERZINE

POSTWARP is a service of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, and any profit from this publication goes into the NFFF treasury. The circulation of this letterzine is limited to members of the NFFF; if you want to read POSTWARP but aren't an NFFF member, why don't you join?

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: 10¢ per copy; 6 issues for 50¢. Send subscriptions and letters to Arthur H. Rapp, 2120 Bay Street, Saginaw, Michigan.

So far, every letter sent to POSTWARP has been published, though space limitations forced trimming of some. Except to comply with postal regulations, no editing of the statements made in letters is done. The NFFF does not necessarily concur in all or any of the remarks made in this publication.

## VOLUME II, NUMBER 1

### LETTERS FROM —

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## APRIL, 1950

A. EVERETT WINNE

109 Ashley Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Dear Art: So Postwarp's deadline is the 10th and I'm writing on the 12th! Guess I'm usually two days behind anyway. Well, then you've got one here for the April PW. # But I guess you yourself are never behind. In your remarks in the Feb issue you mention six different items fans might like and mention they are all being worked on. And in the next 3 weeks sample copies arrived of the new application, the Fanzine Checklist, the Office Supplies List and one you had not mentioned before, the Fan Club List. Not forgetting either the brought-up-to-date Prozine Checklist. Gosh, you and your two fellow Saginaw fans must have worked a shift every night to get such production. I hope you'll list all these new benefits and forms in the next Postwarp and where they can be secured. There is also the benefits list letter, done by Harry Moore, that can be used either as a list or as part of a letter for recruiting. And this dept. is writing up a new benefits list for WelCom work. Your production put the former list (just 3 weeks old) out of date! # Maybe you wonder why I'm writing such technical NSF stuff to our letterzine and hoping you'll do the same. It should be in TNFF? Sure it should but the O.O. is now over three weeks late despite the letter from the editor I saw in the last Postwarp. /This is what happens when a letter written for one ish gets held over a month.7 I'm sorry to bore those readers who would rather read about S-F, science, etc., so they'd better skip the rest of this letter. Here are the three big problems I think we have to face and lick in 1950: (1) Getting out a regular TNFF on time. Can't figure what holds it up. Sure it's a lot of work -- any editor knows that. But the first issue was supposed to be slim as the new force was just taking on office. That makes the first issue easier, doesn't it? And I know a certain amount of material was sent in, in good time. Is it the stapling, mailing, part of the job? Well, help could be secured from NSF's in the neighborhood, I'll bet. I know it isn't the new officers' fault -- they have been pressing for it to come out and have offered to help out in any emergency. /And did.7 # (2) Recruiting is the next thing we should concentrate on. Other national clubs, some quite new, are growing rapidly and we should too. We need a lot of members to volunteer to help Harry Moore and Eva Firestone on recruiting. Somewhere I heard they got 63 new members between them in 1949. That must have been at least 40% of all secured last year. If only half of us got 2 new members apiece in 1950 (along with Harry and Eva's, the Recruiters, and certain others always at work) we'd more than double the club by Dec. 31! And it's not hard to do -- takes just a letter now and then -- the prozines are full of prospects. # (3) The third item is the WelCom material and that's just a technical problem which you have partly licked already. The rest is being rewritten or mimeod again and the WelCom Booklet should be up to date soon. # Sometime ago you mentioned in Postwarp that you had completed a list of 23 different projects that were under consideration for NSF. Why don't you publish the list? I know some have been done, others are being done so perhaps you'd get some volunteers to tackle some of the others. # Well, Redd Boggs will not approve of such details in a PW letter and he'll probably think that I'm taking the whole thing too seriously! But Ray Higgs said lets have your suggestions. Anytime we feel we have done everything (Ha!) we can consider two other ideas that keep coming up, namely the "Suggested Price List of Used Fantasy Mags" and the classification of each fantasy author's writings by type of story. Jeepers! -- those would even make the Saginaw group sweat a little before tackling them. Best regards,

# SHELBY VICK

Box 493  
Lynn Haven, Florida

Art: 'S funny. Thought there'd be more mention made of the Hellbomb in Feb Posie. Fan telling their own plans for saving us, etc. Whassamatter? Don't tell me our ego has slipped, and we no longer believe we can do such things? Tch. Shameful. But, if only small matters interest us, I guess I'll stick to small matters. (Oh, yes; would like to say something to Stine, other than that I think he's got something there -- but, as far as I can see, he didn't leave much to say. He was just stating facts and such, rather than presenting a basis for an argument). # How's the circulation of Posie going? And why not let it out of the NSF? It could still be a clubzine, carrying club info, and might even spread the club. # Pardon, but why was Seger's letter printed, when it wasn't sent to you? Maybe I'm dense, but I don't see how it could be construed as of interest generally, unless you were trying to get a feud started, or something. Or maybe it was just a filler. Maybe I'd better write long letters, after all... # What'd I do now? Two letters in the same ish. I got mixed up, somewhere along the line. Guess either my first letter was late or my last one early. # What could NSF do? Well, this isn't exactly a new idea but I think it might be a good one: Put out a folder telling what offices there are (for instance, I wasn't even aware of the Begging Bureau and its services until I got into it) and what their duties are and what a guy has to do to qualify for those (such as the Welcom) to which you are not elected. And, of course, giving a good idea of duties of the elected officers, too. Include a mimeod copy of the NSF constitution, maybe. I know from my correspondence that there are more than one who would welcome this -- and it would be a good way for a new member to get quickly acquainted with the club. /A WelCom booklet is being prepared to acquaint new members with what NSF offers; with the various WelCom leaflets published since this letter was written, a large part of this suggestion has already been carried out/. # Fan Federation for Sound Productions, as the club has hitherto been known, and was listed as in the Welcom leaflet, is now known simply as WIREZ. Also, due to the increase in membership and the limited amount of wire on a spool, has dropped, for the most part, the round-robin style. Now instead we wirezspnd by sending spools back and forth -- five minutes on up to an hour, and instead of to all members it's just between a couple of members, generally. Each member wirezspnds with as many others as he wants. And now we are trying to branch out into tape recording. Any members with tape recorders who would care to join, either drop me a line or send me a reel. # 'Snuff for now. Except to agree with Venable that OW is a growing little mag. # Luck,

## WALTER A. COSLET

P.O. Box 6  
Helena, Montana

DeaRapp: Are you forgetting A.Merritt's FANTASY magazine in your listing? It's putting out six issues a year, you know, so with the 1950 WONDER STORY ANNUAL? and the coming companion magazine to OTHER WORLDS, we'll have around 110 US fantasy pros in 1950 without counting CAPTAIN ZERO (which will die in the very near future if it hasn't already). And Planet's going bi-monthly. # Janie Lamb has a corker of an idea in my opinion. Let's get the Norwescon officials properly propagandized. I doubt if they'd object. # Honestly, Ron Friedman, I don't think anyone wants you to drop out of NFFF. Why take it personally? Personally, the only Coye work I can stand is his full color covers. If you can get us a portfolio of those, by all

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menas do so, but his black & whites? Uggghhhhh! # Nothing I say ever seems to arouse anybody much. Maybe (just maybe) the following will: I wish all fantasy publishers would stop publishing for one year. It would give me the breather I need to consolidate my collection and activity. I entered fandom when the wartime lull got into full swing. If I'd entered in 1940, I'd have appreciated that lull, but as it was, it meant I could more than keep up with all that was available and all I knew about fandom. Just before 1946; I began to add to my collection hundreds of magazines at a time, having located by that time a much better supply of old material. I've never recuperated since. Over 75% of the mags I obtained at that time are still unread. And as this is being written, I have, in round numbers 2175 different magazines in my fantasy collection, not counting fanzines -- and very few of those magazines contain any non-fantasy. My book collection should reach the 1000 mark in the next year or less -- not that I claim that's a very large book collection -- BUT THAT'S A LOT OF READING MATTER. I don't even intimate that I could begin to get my collection read in a year of non-publishing -- but I'm ready anytime, for the pros to stop publishing, and I wouldn't even raise one little kick. I do wanna read my collection, but I'm too slow a reader and have too many irons in the fan-fire to keep up with much of the current stuff and make any progress with my back issues at the same time. # And in conclusion: Why don't some of you eager fan-publishers and writers/artists get interested in, and make arrangements to join the Fantasy Amateur Press Ass'n? For further information, and a copy of the FAPA constitution, you can contact me, or the current Secretary-Treasurer, Harry Warner, Jr., 303 Bryan Place, Hagerstown, Maryland.

BOB TUCKER

P. O. Box 260  
Bloomington, Illinois

Dear Art: In re, the March POSTWARP, and Janie Lamb's letter: # It may come as a surprise to most people, but the "Miss Science-Fiction of 1949" who attended the convention is a professional model who was hired to do a job -- the job of getting publicity for the convention. She succeeded quite well, considering the television shots, the newspaper pictures, and so forth. There was no pretense that she had been voted upon by fans, chosen by popular acclaim, or anything like that. One of the New York publishers (perhaps aided by some of the convention officers conceived the idea, furnished the model, and delivered same free of charge to the convention. What more can you ask? # I am not saying that a "Miss Science-Fiction" should not be chosen from the ranks of fandom. Indeed not. I doubt that a girl chosen from the fans would be as attractive, or be able to put over such a professional job, but if someone wants to choose a girl each year for this title, I'm all for it. However, my point is this: until the fans do select their own queen, they (or we) should not object to some enterprising publisher furnishing a model and going through the motions for us. # It should be remembered that selecting a suitable girl requires a large amount of time and ponderous machinery -- the same sort of thing it takes to elect an NFFF officer. After first announcing the scheme, and waiting for the candidates, and then taking a nationwide vote to determine the winner, a girl can be picked for the Portland confab this coming Labor Day. But if anyone wants to do it they'd better get started damned quick -- in fact, it already may be too late. It would require several months to conduct a nationwide poll on that sort of thing. # No one did it before the Convention. Possibly no one even thought of the idea until a month or so ahead of time, when this New York publisher got the idea. It was then a simple matter for him to find the model, furnish the costume, dub her "Miss Science Fiction," and let the cameramen go to work. They did, and several publicity breaks resulted. So let's not censor

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the man for a bit of fast work which we failed to think of ourselves. I don't know if anyone is considering the same idea for the Portland convention. If the fans want to pick a gal, I'll go along for all its worth; but if they don't do so, then I'm content to let some publisher do it. # Best,

V. L. McCain

c/o Western Union  
Payette, Idaho

Dear Art: Thanks for setting me right on the number of mags being issued. Don't know where my figures went awry. However, Future appears on your list, while my figures predated its issue, and you omitted A. Merritt's Fantasy Magazine. So now there's no question about it, we definitely have over 100 SF magazines each year. # To Dot Keller: Regarding your statement that stf doesn't think up things for scientists to invent, I agree, provided you limit that statement to physicists and other followers of 'pure' science. Most of these scientists are interested simply in truth and the basic nature of things and follow where nature leads them. However, the vast majority of inventions are made not by your scientists but by engineers and such folk working from the fundamentals developed by the scientists. And while no one is going to claim they get all their ideas from stf the ideas have to come from somewhere. And very rarely are the ideas developed by the same man who first thought of them. The ideas must come from somewhere and usually they originate with the world's dreamers. And who are our most accomplished dreamers? The writers of fiction, obviously. And what is the most open field for this type of dreaming ever developed? None other than our own modern commercialized science fiction. Wilbur and Orville Wright weren't the first men to conceive the idea of flying. It was an ages old dream cropping up in literature for centuries prior. The earliest of these I have read was in Greek mythology, a rather early form of science fiction. Ideas are elusive things. Very rarely can one man claim exclusive rights to one. They flit from one brain to another, sometimes seem to die, only to be revived by the rereading of an ancient manuscript. And in a field like science fiction which specializes in developing new ideas and concepts it would be highly peculiar if at least some of these ideas weren't kept in circulation until someday they reached the brain of a practical engineer, who, working with the foundation basic science, would bring them into reality. # It seems to be a new form of masochism to gloat over how unimportant science fiction and fandom are, right at the time when the two have developed a wider audience and influence than they ever hoped to have. Perhaps they aren't important, but none of us are going to live long enough to give a positive answer to that, though some of us might someday be able to answer the other way. Everything that occurs has too many ramifications to be passed off as unimportant so casually. Who knows, maybe one of our younger fans will someday turn out to be another Einstein or Kettering and if it had been for his fan interests he might have become a frustrated mechanic or farmer. If fandom should accomplish nothing more than this it would have earned every minute and penny we spend on it. So let's not worry about whether what we're doing is important or not. We enjoy it and that's what matters. If it turns out to be simply a trivial pastime we didn't lose a great deal. Sincerely,

PAUL HAROLD REHORST

1747 North Lotus Ave.  
Chicago 39, Illinois

Dear Art: I noted while reading your article pertaining to "Postwar" in the April, 1950 issue of THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN, that master Shelby Vick was included among the "regular writers". Very interesting. In that I have corresponded with Shelby, both by

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letter and wire, I would someday like to take issue with him in the pages of "Postwarp" as to the merits, if any, surrounding his WIREZ notion. # However, for the present time I feel quite content at merely forwarding several thoughts that have been emerging from the dark wastelands of my peculiar brain of late. Curiously enough, for some inexplicable reason, they center about the "flying saucer" affair. Whether true or not in scope it doesn't matter, since the following is as ambiguous as the tales concerning the saucers are. If nothing else the entire mysterious happening has given us more imaginative mortals some enticing "food-for-thought". # For the purpose of the following argument I am taking the positive viewpoint regarding the "saucer" mystery. For some reason I feel exceedingly idealistic, probably because I just finished re-reading van Vogt's novel SLAN and John W. Campbell Jr's short story, NIGHT. Thus, more or less incredible things appear in a possible light. At any rate, taking the attitude that the "saucers" are indeed visitants from another planet, say Venus, I consider the Air Force or any other agency fully justified in keeping the "known" facts from the public at large. The reason behind this mode of thought is rather obvious. Such knowledge would prove too portentous for the average mind to grasp. The basic beliefs of untold millions in the geocentric position of man in regards to the universe would be shattered. Undoubtedly the optimistic Christian views regarding "God" would be the most profoundly hit. How could man's lowly position in comparison to that of some "outré" super-race be reconciled with the mighty level of earth man expounded by the golden voice interpreters of the Bible. And should this "other" race have absolutely "no" religion or one incredibly different, how then could this be reconciled without lowering or casting aside man's GOD altogether. We may indeed be less than ants in the eyes of such hypothetical "Slan-like" beings. For this reason alone, until absolute proof has been gathered and direct contact made with the "little people" and the world is gradually educated to accept such an innovation, all such "known" information must be subjected to extreme degrees of ridicule. Otherwise, wholesale insanity would result. Remember Orson Wells' little Fantasy and what happened then? Enough said. # With regards,

SHELBY VICK

Box 493  
Lynn Haven, Florida

Well, Art: Seems I'm going to have two letters published again -- unless you don't publish the one that missed your last deadline. (Should be mad at you about such a dastardly trick, but the emergency warranted it.) # Appreciated your list of prozines -- but you left out Wonder Story Quarterly. Also, you didn't mention Fantasy Fiction -- but then, it wasn't out at that time. And maybe you'd like to know that Avon is putting out a new pulp this April -- Out of This World Adventures. Don Wollheim will edit it. # My ego is soothed; even if my letter missed out, my name was there. To Vernon: You are so right! Speaking, that is, of my egotism. # George Andrews' letter (any kin to Archie, George?) was laffable, amusing -- and brought up something else if heat turns into light, how come space is dark? Hmmm? (As Raymond of the Squeaking Door might say...) # Whatta contrast! Eva Firestone makes a definite statement: Disc people are friendly. Dot Keller makes a definite statement, too: there ain't no sech animal!... # Janie Lamb has an idea I'll back her on one hundred per cent. I like cheesecake, of course (as whut red-blooded American boy -- other than Li'l Abner -- don't?) but Miss STF should be a fan, seems to me. Of course, the last one was for publicity. Publicity wants cheesecake. No cheese was immediately available among fem-fen. # Bill's letter reminds me its about time for a piece of silver to be donated from my end of the line.

⑥ Luck, Bill, on ALEPH-NULL. If you can stand it, I'll donate a piece or so... # It seems a few of the readers are forgetting Posie does

not reach all members. Ron was hollering about not getting at least 25 cards or letters -- out of three hundred, he should be able to get that many, he says. Could be he's right. But, unless subs have boomed, his letter hasn't reached 300 -- in fact, barely more than the required 25. And Dot was complaining: "Do only about 15 N3Pers know how to write?" It seems, Dot, that only about fifteen, thirty or so know how to sub. 'Sa shame they aren't all as egotistical as I am. Art would have to put out a fifty or sixty page zine, to print all the letters... Ah, well; it's a lot of fun. # Jim's letter was interesting. I hadn't stopped to consider the age factor in that drive for monies for a ship; being an ancient of 21, that hazard didn't occur to me... # I once mentioned something about 'shorter letters.' So I'd better stop... /At the end of March PWP had about 50 subscribers. In addition, about 10 copies per month are sent to new NFFF members when they join. Circulation is building slowly, but it's building up.../

ED COX

4 Spring Street  
Lubec, Maine

Dear Art: Well, the prozine total hits an even 100 counting the Annual, and will go well over 100 counting the new Avon prozine and, as some do, CAPT ZERO. What about FPCI's "Fantasy Book"? Sampler out of Arkham is done though isn't it. But we still have over a hundred now. Whew! # A more or less major point in this note is to heartily second Janie Lamb's...uh, motion. "Miss STF of 1949" was mostly a part of the New York delegation's bid although she was ornamental and got the desired newspaper attraction, etc. Maybe we can get the Portland guys to have a Miss Stf of 1950 contest (or Mrs. or something) Maybe that should be amended to Miss NORWESCON since Miss Stf of 1950 should really be selected from all of fandom, and that is naturally impossible, unless done by submitting photos, and then the winner may not be able to attend. # To Ronald Friedman's slightly frantic letter. There are a couple of things you overlooked in your haste Ron. One is that it is possible that everybody doesn't like Lee Brown Coye's work. You and Roger Dard (and English) are the only ones that I know of. Just about anybody else that I've happened to ask are as nauseated as I am by Coye's work. So naturally, I wouldn't want my name on such a list, as a person. IF a really big list of members wanted it, I'd officially try to help get the portfolio made for the club. And another point is that POSTWARP does not reach all of the NFFF members. It is available by subscription only and naturally, out of any group, it is hardly expected that 100% would subscribe. You should have had the notice in TNFF. I might add that at the Cinvention, quite a number of NFFF members were present at the NFFF part of the con. Among other things, we voted on artists for a folio to get an idea of what they liked. Coye was not mentioned, to my knowledge. If he was, I doubt if he got many votes. (Art, you verify or correct me here.) /Don't recall Coye being mentioned at all./ If that is representative of the rest of the membership, I fear that the Coye portfolio is doomed to non-existence, at least for a while. # One last thing, You, as a person, can do anything you wish like resigning from a club. But the reasons a person does some things may be sensible and may not. Personally, resigning because enough people aren't interested is silly. And why would anyone want you to resign? You got a persecution complex or something? Take it easy pal, huh? Except for "I sincerely mean it..." I'd think you were just kidding. # If anybody is wondering and worrying and burned up about the "NFFF selecting" convention sites, hear this: THE NFFF WANTS TO HELP select them. The NFFF isn't and has no intentions whatsoever, going to try to "...take over..." (quoted from somebody's letter, in some zine, or place, dunno where now) the choosing of convention sites. Further details in TNFF. (Anything to add to this Art?) /Yeah -- no one seems to have much to say about Redd Boggs' (7)

suggestion that the NFFF conduct the balloting for the con sites. but poll all fans, whether they are N3F members or not. / # I must disagree if for only personal reasons, about the 2-year term of office for NFFF positions. For one thing, there is no more three-month slump. Notice any this time, except for the regrettable fall-down Dale Tarr gave us on TNFF? The NFFF is functioning more efficiently and effectively now than at any other time in its history. And this was going on during the change-over from 1949-50 too. Another thing, while the administrative offices are cracked-down-on a lot tougher now if an officer falls down, a one year term is not so liable to tire an officer and a two-year term is. A fan may be very active and benefit the club in a year but is liable to lose interest in the 2nd. A good officer is liable to want to continue on for another year, so you aren't so liable to lose him. (look at Art for example. And Art, you modest cuss, don't you cut this!). # Bill Venable has some interesting, if unlikely ideas. For one thing, it is impossible to make inactive people active if they don't wish to be. We've found that out. Another thing, there is a certain none-too-small amount of turnover in active-fandom so that the Welfare state isn't so ironbound and hopeless as Bill thinks. There are always the more or less inactive fans who sort of anonymously subscribe to fanzines especially the better ones. It is not so hopeless Bill. # Guess this completes my contributions to the discussions for this time. May POST-WARP long warp. # Yours,

REDD BOGGS

2215 Benjamin St. NE  
Minneapolis 18, Minnesota

Dear Art: No doubt I'm as late as usual, commenting on Postwarp for March, but here are a few comments anyway. # There's something strange here. Eva Firestone seems to have direct communication with the flying saucer people, for she says, "...the Disc people are friendly. They intend only good toward Earth", but later in her letter she admits to a lack of knowledge about the composition of space. "Who knows," she asks, "of what it consists?" Well! Why not ask the Disc people? Didn't they come to Earth across space from the planet Zyltxl? Aren't they super-scientists? Aren't they willing to tell any true occultist all about the Secrets of the Universe? After all, if one believes that the flying saucer people's story is true that they "intend only good toward Earth", one must believe whatever they reveal about space. Whatever a flying saucer pilot says is naturally much more believable than what it says in scientific books written by stupid cosmophysicists who after all have never been in space! # No, Eva, the fact that I never heard of the "Valian theory" doesn't prove that there isn't such a theory. I'm very sure there is one. I'm sickly, painfully sure of it. I never said that there was no such theory; I merely remarked that such a theory apparently doesn't rate scientifically, since it is not mentioned in several texts I consulted. But I'd just love to hear all about it. Go right ahead and tell us the whole story in Postwarp, won't you, Eva? If it is as epoch-making as it sounds, it should be given to all, not kept in the obscure leaflets of the Rosicrucians or the Shaver Mystery magazine. Tell us all, Eva! You're not afraid we'll snicker, are you? # Eva tells us that she read the October aSF, and presumably "The Great Floods", but she feels "the reading of stf magazines is for pleasure, and not to gain knowledge." Well and good -- I read 'em for pleasure, too, but if a few kernels of knowledge appear I do not close my mind to them. Conversely, if I'm reading a textbook for knowledge, I do not close my mind to the amusing anecdote that the author tosses in to illustrate a point. The fact that Eva apparently can and does completely reject anything that falls outside her immediate interests or be-

liefs has rather sinister implications.... # Florence Anderson advocates a "Stf-Fantasy Amateur Press Month". Such a plan sounds nice, since we're all conditioned to the publicity methods of the macrocosm which utilize such means to sell us on eating more goobers or thinking of the plight of Zulu-islanders who don't have the advantages of furlined toilet seats. But what would a Stf Ayjay Month accomplish? Obviously, it would bestow some egoboo on whoever chairmanned the campaign, and would result in the appearance of two fanzines, one from Ray Higgs and the other from Art H. Rapp, labeled "in commemoration of the first Stf Ayjay Month". Two fanzines is two fanzines, of course, but the trouble is Ray and Art would have issued their mags anyway and merely dedicated them to the Ayjay Month because they had a new lettering guide handy and wanted to try it out on a stencil. The prospective chairman of the campaign can easily gather egoboo by starting a new fan club (a popular means of boosting ego nowadays). Therefore it seems that such a Month would accomplish nothing at all. # Dot Keller complains that only a few NFFFers write to Postwarp -- a legitimate complaint, of course. Only 42 out of nearly 400 members have written to PW in its first six months. But come to think of it, that is over one-tenth of the total membership, and that is a whopping percentage for the ultra-active club that is the NFFF. Frankly, I didn't realize there were 42 active fans in NFFF. About 10 was a more likely estimate. At any rate, I think it might be worth thinking about to open the subscription and contributor rolls to non-members. A letter from F.Towner Laney, Charles Burbee, Harry Warner, Les Croutch, Art Widner, or even our boy Ray Nelson, would enhance PW's standing -- at least with me -- by 99.44%. # Sincerely,

RAY C. HIGGS

813 Eastern Avenue  
Connersville, Indiana

Art: Congratulations, the April issue of TNFF is mighty fine. Congrats to you three gentlemen for the splendid work. It was indeed a great pleasure to once again receive our official organ. I see no reason why you should offer apologies for the appearance of the ish. The front cover is fine, the two colors blending in very beautifully. JUST KEEEP TNFF COMING, even in this format and mimeographed as is, and we, the members of NFFF will be satisfied. This alone is worth the cost of membership fees, and look, besides we get POSTWARP and FUTURIST at very low rates too! Sorry to hear that DALE TARR, who was given the editorship of TNFF at the Cinvention, could not come thru with the photolithed issues he planned. Also sorry to hear that he will be replaced by a new editor. Seems kinda funny me not being editor of TNFF anymore, after I did handle the editor job for almost three years - but I thought I had had the job long enough, and too, I wanted to give someone else a chance too, and as ALL OF US DIRECTORS CHOSE DALE for the editorship, and everything seemed rosy for a newly photolithed ish - TNFF...but so far, it hasn't appeared as yet.

DOT KELLER

312 Elm Street  
Gardner, Massachusetts

Dear Art, For the past six months PW has faithfully been delivered on time and full of zip. Well, I enjoyed it no end and am enclosing a large round object for another six months sub. Also I'd like to tell you that you did a swell job with TNFF and on such short notice too. # It's a lot of fun being a fan but I've got a gripe. From the time I first became interested in fandom to right now I've never seen a single other fan. Letters are darn good mediums of expression but they'll never equal actually talking to a

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Friend. I wonder how many other fan in isolated parts of New England and other sections of the country have felt this way. Ev Winne is starting a fanclub in Springfield which will do a lot towards bringing NE fan together but it won't help them all. Of course, I realize that it would be impossible for every single fan to belong to a local club but it's a nice dream. If you have any ideas or suggestions that might do something to bring isolated fan into closer contact with the rest of fandom, why don't you let me know. # After reading the Activity Requirement Plan in TNFF I've decided it's just what the doctor ordered. Any fan who doesn't want to be as active in fandom as this Plan would require doesn't belong in N3F. Actually, most fan are this active already. At least, the ones I know are. The requirements are a lot more lenient than the ones suggested by Jim Harmon in his last letter to PW. All these requirements would do would be to weed out the deadbeat who joined because his best friend joined or who likes to tell people he's a member of N3F. # That last paragraph suggests something said by Bill Venable in his last letter. He said that the active fan usually disregard their less active brothers. Personally, I don't know any non-active fan. I don't say I'm really active because all I do is to write a few letters now and then but I'd like to know how you're supposed to become acquainted with fan who don't write letters. Unless of course you live in the same town with them or something. If you write a letter to somebody and don't get an answer you naturally assume that person doesn't like to write letters and you certainly do not go much out of your way to make his acquaintance. If a fan isn't active I don't see how he could be regarded by his active brothers. To them, he doesn't exist because he doesn't communicate with them. Something like Shelby Vick's theory. # If any Massachusetts fan sees this letter and would like to form a local club please write to Ev Winne. He doesn't know his embryo club is getting this plug but I'm for the club one hundred per cent and would like to see something come of the idea. # Sincerely,

RICK SNEARY

2962 Santa Ana Street  
South Gate, California

Postwarp: Taking things in order, Art, you forgot to list Fantasy Book, about 3 issues a year, The Wonder Annual, 1; The Mexican mag (about 6) and the two British (about 8) and of course Imagination, OW new sister mag (6 issues) and the new Avon stf mag (4-6 a year). That is about 28 more. (I don't know much about the Dutch stf mag, but I'd guess it at another 4. That is 130 at least, if you are a completist, and if the mags had all started the first of the year. Now figure up what the cost would be, I don't have the nerve. # Mrs. Lamb's plan for picking "Miss. Science Fiction" is very good.. I have disliked the idea of having a pretty non-stf gal pushed off on us ever since it happen at the PACIFICON.. But frankly, I am against the whole idea of a "Miss. STF".. Why do we need them? Do we want to compete with the National Pickle Week, on their level? Do we want to get publicity with sex? Haven't we tried for years to get art reforms that wouldn't make us ashamed to show the covers of our mags to our dear old Grandmothers? Then why sink to it ourself? I say, if we can't get good publistey with out it, then we don't want any... We have all decryed the "Buck Roger Boys" type of newspaper write ups we have gotten.. How about deserving better write up then? This isn't ment as a blast at you Janie, you were working for improvement, you just didn't go far enough. # Friedman just doesn't know fans.. I was suprised to find that anyone actually liked Lee Coye's art work in the first place, but when he gets mad because no one writes and tells him they don't want it, he just doesn't know fans.. For one thing he should realize that not all the club reads Postwarp, thus, not all 380-pluss member read about his idea.. And secondly, the near fact that they didn't write, is

the same as saying no.. Afterall, it is logical that the 'no' votes wouldn't write.. It doesn't hurt them if it is passed, and so why get excited.. On the other hand, if only three are interested enough to write, you can bet not many are interested.. # As for what he says about the Cons.. He doesn't seem to read what others say.. Oh well... Not being on the in-side, he wouldn't know that there has been a change.. One as suggested right in Postwarp by Dean Boggs.. The compermise plan has been aclamed by promanet fans on both side, and soon will be in general NFFF concideration. It would be worked this way. Groups wanting the Convention would send in bids, upto three months before the current year's Con. The NFFF would make copies, and send them out with numbered ballots to all fans that were eather on the last years Convention Society, members of the NFFF, or who show interest enough to write in asking for a copy. The ballots would be eather mailed in, or turned over to the NFFF counter at the Con, on the first day. The ballots would be then counted, and anounced, well before the end of the conference, so the next years committee could start to work, and pick up a few memberships.. This is a very simple plan, everyone gets to vote, and the NFFF only acts in the office of imparshial observer. I can't see anyone objecting to that.. # I am inclind to agree with Jim Harmon, The day is not far off, if the bombs don't fall, when we will be able to start counting actifans (so-called) in four figgers. And as any foo can tell you, most of the fans comming up, are not the real fans. But a real fan, I do not mean just a person that reads all, or a number of the pros, writes them letters, and belongs to anumber of stf clubs.. Thoughts things use to mean a fan, but not any more.. I'm a memberof the LASFS, and there I get to meet a lot of people interested in science-fiction, that aren't fans.. Out of 30 or 40 members, I would say there were about 10 I'd class as actafans.. The others do fan work, help with zines, write articles, atend meetings, but they aren't really fans. # Or they are not in the same grade I call fans.. To me a fan is a person that finds fandom an open door into another world. The one that sees the drdam of the future, or even of a bigger and better fanzine of his own.. Fans like Art Rapp that will slave over a mimeo for hours, to turn out a magazine that he looses money on. Fans that do not like the world, or the way it is, and seek a better world, and more understanding people through fandom. In a sence I mean the excapest.. But not just the ones that want to get away from the present, because it is bad.. But thoughts who have the curage to look to the future, to see the dark clouds, with the bright Sun behind them, and find it good.. # In time, we will have to sit up standereds.. There is little question of it.. If we are to stay pure, and to fully enjoy life, we will have to lift our head above the rest.. We might be called snobs.. I thought the Old Guard were Snobs when I joined fandom.. I found out though, that if you got the guts to stick, you can find them swell guys.. I'm not the only one that has found staying in fandom hard at first.. We have to see our tradition upheld.. Not today, or tomorrow though, but years from now.. There is no need for us to worry now.. There are still enough real fans to run things... But think about it. (An don't say Sneary wants to start discrimation against the younger fans.. The day that need start will be after my time with out doubt.. But if you last, you will eather see that, or the ruin of fandom as it was.)

WARREN BALDWIN

407 Philip Avenue  
Norfolk, Nebraska

Dear Postwart: Ah, lovely. I see that I still have a slight possibility of getting a word or two in the Apr. PW. Hope this will help to expel Keller's mistaken notion that only fifteen N3F members know how to write. I make sixteen. Or maybe fifteen at that. Comments on letters will be exscrutiatingly terse, as if I

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get in at all, it will be on the tail end and you'll probably cut my brilliant keyboardia anyway. # I agree with Kentfield to an extent is his notion that the existence of PW ought to obliterate the need for letters in TNFF. It would be a good step toward streamlining aforesaid pub, and it needs it sadly -- BUT... it would seem to be impractical. It must be noted that, unless all N3F members rec'd PW, it would be grossly unfair to those who didn't, as they too are supposed to have their say. Of course, in any matter pertaining directly to N3F, those non-subbers could probably write directly to the officers, but suppose they wanted to advertise a new fanzine or something? In a letter, I mean, as is sometimes done to side-step ad costs? They couldn't put it in TNFF and in PW it would reach only a limited N3F audience. Hah. Who is Kentfield that he has never heard of RAY NELSON? # Vernon McCain sounds like a fan who will go far in the fan field. Only three months a fan and already he shoots letters about indiscriminately like a word-rate slave gone berserk. Anent those prozines: what is MoF? Merritt's Fantasy Magazine? Magazine of Fantasy I believe you missed Fantasy and Science Fiction, which is pubbed by the same organization that handles Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine. Used to be titled just The Magazine of Fantasy, but now they have added the "and Science Fiction." Don't know exactly how often it comes out, as I can't see paying 35¢ for it, no matter how good it is. Maybe I subconsciously prefer hack. Boggs is full of it. New fans aren't developing one-sidedly. They are already one-sided when they enter fandom, which is quite another piece of pie. It's difficult to separate the "old" fan from the "new" fan... as classes, I mean. Roughly, I think what Boggs has in mind is: "old" fan-- that is, those fan who for all practical purposes conceived and delivered fandom as a distinct group -- drew together out of their interest in science-fiction. But the "new" fan -- that is, those who became fan through publicity of fandom, formed by the "old" fan -- joined fandom because of their interest in fandom, and not their interest in science-fiction! I'd love to write pages on this interesting topic but I see you're cutting letters already, in order to cram them all in to PW. So will only say: consider the above sentences in the literal sense and you can easily see how the divergence of aims in the "old" and "new" fan must result in a change in the nature of fandom as an old timer like Boggs knew it (note past tense: knew). "New" fan aren't lop-sided, Redd, they are simply developing along pathways deviating from fandom in the "good old days" -- because their goal has changed with the years. Factors: ever-spreading publicity of fandom in itself not as a facet of the "new" literature, but as a facet of...what shall we call it?...the increasingly rare human tendency to accept a total stranger simply because they believe in the same "cause" or "ideal". Oh fugg! Wish to -- I could express myself more readily in words. I refer you to an article of mine which I wrote for SPACEWARP and which Repp hasn't published yet, the crumb! # The Discs: it is quite possible that they are Earth made. Has everyone forgotten that Roger Babson is trying to find the secret of anti-gravity? Suppose he has? 'Twould be child's play to build a vehicle answering all the requirements of the flying saucer. Same goes for any foreign nation. Speaking of anti-gravity: I think it would be just lovely. Think of how many atomic bombs could be transported by a single "plane." And hydrogen bombs? Easy. Doesn't it make you jump for joy just to think of it? # Why shud Miss STF be a fanny who has been active in fan work? Why does she even have to be a fan? The title is purely for publicity purposes anyway, so I say what difference where she comes from, or who she is as long as she's eye-filling. Besides, with fandom as large as it is, it stands to reason the individual fan can't have his finger in everything. Have to leave something for the "higher-ups" to do... their choice will be just as good, if not better, than that resulting from a fan poll, or some such rigamarole. Who gives a --? # Aaaa, And-

erson! What do you mean, leave the Cons for the ~~men?~~ Cons as must  
 would not exist without the writers, editors and publishers. Did you  
 ever stop to consider how many ~~men~~ would never have begun to go to Cons  
 (after they start, they'd probably go, w.'s, o.'s, or not) had it not  
 been for the drawing powers of the celebrities of the stf world? Other-  
 wise the 'Con' would degenerate rapidly into oblivion. Or at best,  
 they would certainly not continue to be the howling successes they are.  
 'Course -- heh, heh -- I've never been to a Con. Maybe some of you who  
 have may agree with me, tho. If so, why not let PW hear about it? #  
 Vive Venable! The only thinking letter in the ish. Ah, Bill, you are  
 so right. How idiotic to keep N3F discussion out of PW, published for  
 the National Fantasy Fan Federation, to which only N3F members may sub-  
 scribe, in which only letters of N3F members may appear (Nope, not that  
last restriction.) As well devote TNFF to detective stories. And Art,  
 let us have the remainder of Venable's letter so that we may all read,  
 heed, and comment on the thing as a whole. (Can't find it; he'll have  
to write another one!) # But be not sad, Harmon, your letter came in  
 second. Lagly mbbple slacky sou la fiddlenickybis. Glug, glug. This  
 Baker Street thing, now. Might be a little old bit of sense in it, at  
 that. But let us not twaddle, as I don't know what Art'll do to this  
 letter length. Already I see he has slashed out the first five para-  
 graphs. Didn't object to your last paragraph, Jim, but Art -- did you  
 have to print it on the mailing wrapper? I wondered why my landlady  
 tittered when she brought me my mail. # Yerz neurotically,

Pfc

CLARENCE L. JACOBS

RA 19235355  
 17th Signal Service Co.  
 South Post, Ft. Myer, Va.

Dear Postwarp: First, a notice for fen in the Washington D.C. area,  
 or those who can be in the D.C. area Sunday, April 30,  
 1950... reserve that date, for that is the date of the Disclave, the  
 capitol's #1 1950 fanfab. Every step has been taken to make the Dis-  
 clave one of the best single-day fanventions ever held. George O. Smith  
 Seabury Quinn, Willy Ley, and many other pros will attend, at least  
 eight Finlay originals will be among the illo's at the auction, a suit-  
 able scientifiilm will be shown, possibly sound motion pictures will be  
 taken of the Disclave's hilites, and various fan fun is being planned.  
 If you can possibly come, by all means do! The place: The Burgundy  
 Room of the Wardman Park Hotel; the time: 1:30 p.m.; the date: Sun-  
 day, April 30, 1950. The event: The first annual DISCLAVE. # Note:  
 "Dis" is an abbreviation of "District of Columbia" and is not a Shaver-  
 istic prefix. # Activity Plan: Now just a moment, pleez! There are  
 lots of things to be considered -- the time element, for one thing.  
 Many stfen scarcely have time to read the prozines, let alone take an  
 active part in organized fandom. Granted that such people are "dead-  
 wood" so to speak, but does that make their interest in stfantasy any  
 less genuine than the actifan who is up to his tendrils in stfactivity?  
 And, wasn't the N3F organized primarily for the purpose of bringing to-  
 gether these individuals who enjoy stfantasy as a form of literature,  
 rather than a hobby? Too, how about those isolated individuals who are  
 unable to join an active stf club and whose only contact with other peo-  
 ple interested in off-trail literature is thur Uncle Sam's mail service?  
 Are those people going to be denied NFFF membership under B2 -- espec-  
 ially a neofan, who, while he/she/it is a member of some postage-stamp  
 society, is unable to become an officer in said organization? Too --  
 how about people who are slutely crazy over stf but are not particular-  
 ly talented with pencil, stencil and tripewriter? Would you deny US  
 membership because of B1? Is the NFFF, by introducing the ARP, setting  
 itself down as a Society of the Select? ...Sorry, bub, we only al-  
 low actifen in this organization. Go away... # But even tho the

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above sounds a bit bitter, I don't especially care either way about the  
ART. 'Tis just a few things to think over. # Anybody else have any  
ideas? # Inquiringees (HEFF)

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just joined the NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION. Here's  
hoping you find it interesting enuf to become a regular sub-  
scriber!

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