

Being an official postmailing to FAPA mailing #97, produced by Buck & Juanita Coulson, Route 3, Wabash, Indiana, USA. Dated Dec. 19, 1961

WE'RE A BIT CONFUSED. About this Special Election thing, that is. In the first place, we got this slightly frantic mimeographed missive from the Mathom House group, saying in effect *STOP*!!!* At that time we didn't even have mailing 97 yet, so we weren't too sure what was going on, but we waited patiently and eventually discovered that the furor was over the fact that a Special Election on a constitutional amendment was being called off.

John Trimble added a note to our copy of the Special Election-Halt-ing Ballot, saying "You may actually get a few ballots, you know." HAH!

Well, I guess we didn't get too many, at that. Still, they came in from Alan J. Lewis, Redd Boggs, Gerald Steward, Jim Caughran, Rich Brown, Marion Z. Bradley, Gregg Calkins, Terry Carr, Sam Moskowitz, Bob Tucker, Karen Anderson, and Dean Grennell. Tucker said he was sending his "just to be ornery" but as for the rest of you.....didn't you get Trimble's notice, or didn't you believe it? (Or didn't you read it?)

Anyway, just for the hell of it I (the personal pronoun in this missive refers to Buck Coulson) decided to run off an official election result bulletin to give you the results of this unofficial and possibly illegal election.

THE RESULTS: Votes in favor of the amendment - 8

Votes opposed to the amendment -- 4

Redd Boggs will receive his ballot back immediately, since he sent a 4¢ stamp for retrieval purposes. If the rest of you want souvenirs of this little fiasco, get your 4¢ stamps in to me by January 15. (Since the election is void anyway, I don't feel obligated to clutter up our house with your ballots past that date -- in fact, I don't feel obligated to keep the damned things at all, but out of the goodness of my heart I'll hang on to them until you get a chance to ask for them back.)

A comment to those 8 who voted in favor of the amendment; you don't have much trust in the judgement of your fellow FAPAns, do you? You really think that 10 members of this outfit could be stampeded into blackballing a prospective member unfairly? You could be right, of course; I'm not commenting because I think FAPAns are paragons of virtue but because some of you have given me the impression that you did consider FAPA membership to be basically ennobling and I'm surprised at your change of attitude.

DENOTING A CHANGE OF SUBJECT. I was in Minneapolis recently, on business. One night while I was there I went out to Ruth Berman's place, and Fred Galvin came over, and we had a fine fannish time. Redd Boggs was invited -- he said he couldn't get his car started, but we all know

that he's just bashful, don't we? Anyway, Redd, I'm sorry you didn't make it; it seems that I saw every fan in Minneapolis except the FAPA member.

By the way, I was under the impression that Redd's real name was Dean -- at least people have told me that -- so how come he's listed in the Minneapolis phone book as "R.W."? This confuses me a bit, and so does the memory of some FAPA or Waitinglister who said that he was in Minneapolis and couldn't find Redd listed....since there's only one "R. Boggs" in the directory it would seem obvious that this was Redd. (Or did you change your listing after the aforesaid member failed to locate you?)

I might say that Ruth Berman comes from a fine fannish family, and to issue a small warning; if Ruth's younger sister ever casts an eye fanwards, duck! She'll mow down opposition like a scythe thru wheat... heck, she knows more and reasons more logically than some fans I've met, right now.

The business that took me to Minneapolis was a technical literature conference of all the divisions of the Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Company. I noted one amusing fact. These men -- particularly the speakers -- were all heads of tech literature departments, all supposedly expert in the handling of the English language. And at least three of them used the phrase "continue on" in their talks. I suppose this is gradually gaining ground; eventually everybody will say "continue on" and only a few old fogeys like me will complain that they're being redundant.

WE'VE ORDERED A NEW TAPE RECORDER. If this one works right, we'll go into taping a bit more thoroughly; sweating over the Webcor gets a bit tiring and eventually I get to the point where I hate the idea of working with it. (You wondered why we sent you such bad tapes, Raeburn; did we ever tell you that the Webcor will only handle 70 to 7500 cycles at $7\frac{1}{2}$ ips, or 70 to 4000 at $3\frac{3}{4}$ speed? And that's according to the booklet we got with the machine; lord knows what its real limits are.) The new machine is a Pentron; I think it's the NL-3 model, but I can't seem to locate the catalog I ordered it from. Anyway, it's monophonic, $3\frac{3}{4}$ and $7\frac{1}{2}$ speeds, reproduction of 40 to 15,000 or 16,000 cycles at $7\frac{1}{2}$, various other characteristics that I can't recall, and it has 4 speakers, 2 crossover networks and a 10-watt amplifier. Maybe this will identify it to Raeburn and any other Pentron owners (or former Pentron owners) in the audience. It seemed like a bargain at \$139.50, especially as I had been intending to buy a Wollensak T-1500 for \$10 more; even if the Pentron is no better I've saved \$10.

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