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Future issues of SECRET AGENT SX will not be included because of lack of legibility unless the repro improves a lot AN APALLING SITUATION:

There's another large cloud looming over the existence of Apa L; this one somewhat more serious than the question of how many copies we should require. It's been with us all along but it's just starting to get really serious now; and now's the time to put an end to it. This is the problem of the fan who's not interested in whatever's going on in the Meeting at the moment and wanders back and forth between the LASFS Meeting and the Apa L assembly session, helping neither and hindering both.

Apa I was originally essembled in the back room of the Silverlake Playground. This room can be closed off from the main room, so the assembly session and the Meeting didn't get in each other's way. The back room is small, though, and there's only counter room to set out so many stacks of paper. About the time Apa I went over 50 pages regularly, the back room became much too small to work in, and we had to adopt the present practice of

to the rear of the Nesting rous height to eard while out of the excess from to the out of the excess from to the contract of the contract of the contract of the contract of the tables so we cannot get through to collate the Distribution. Besides these, the feas who aren't interested in the regular club Meeting, who used to gather on the frost porch to chat, now "sidewalk superintend" the collating, adding to the congestion around the tables.

This may sound like a potty matter, but it's getting worse all the time. Assembling the Distribution isn't the easiest thing in the world as it is. For example, last week we got started at 8:15, when enough zimes had arrived to make work practicable, and we didn't get finished until 10:00, when the Playground closed and we were thrown out. We didn't even have time to take down the card tables, but had to leave them for the Playground Director to put away; something I'm sure didn't endear us in his graces. This is enough work, without having to push our way through fans standing around the tables, who aren't helping but won't move. Not only do these people get in the way, they take fanzines off the individual stacks and don't return them to the proper places (or don't return them at all), so that we have to spend extra time rounding up the straying copies to get the full 35 copies of the Distribution. Even worse is the fact that these idlers will get into loud conversation, which may not bother us, but is extremely interrupting to the Meeting at the opposite end of the room. This is highly annoying to Dave Hulan, who is trying to direct the Mestings, to everybody at the Meetings who would rather hear the discussions and reviews than the static from the back of the room, and to the few people who are working on getting the Distribution ready before the Meeting is over and the Playground closes at 10:00.

Asking people to stay away does no good. As an example, I recently asked Bill Blackbeard three times in short order to get out of the way, then physically pushed him out of the area. Bill just chuckled, and as soon as I returned to typing up the Table of Contents, he was back in the way of the collators again, making conversation brought dirty looks from the front of the room. Despite warnings to leave the individual zines alone until the Distribution is all ready to go -- warnings that have been given since Apa L started 17 weeks ago -- we're still having to chase down individual pages from such people as Owen Hannifen, who last week managed to make off with an entire unstapled copy of the Distribution, and caused us an extra five minutes work trying to find out where it went. It's bad enough having to take time out to explain the setup to new guests without having habitual offenders who impede things every single week. Besides annoying everybody, this also gives a bad impression of the club to our guests, who see the Director constantly having to ask for quiet at the back of the room, which is not given. It also creates a situation in which we ask the guests to leave the assembly area. when they can see other people apparently being allowed to stand around and watch, which can't make the guests feel any more welcome.

So asking these people to stay out of the way does no good. We might appoint a permenent guard to chase these people away, except that: a) we don't see why we should ask someone to have to give up his Meeting to do this, b) it causes friction, as some of our offenders immediately start "standing up for their rights" as soon as we start "trying to push them around" (this could cause more static than the conversation), and c) we don't want to have to keep fighting people off all Meeting long. Therefore, a rule is being made: anybody who does not leave the area after being warned once that he is in the way and is causing a disturbance will not get a copy of the Distribution, even if he is a contributor. If this doesn't succeed in climinating the problem, Apa L will close down operations at the LASFS Neetings. I will collect the individual mines at the Meeting. take them home to assemble the Distribution; and pass it out at next week's Meeting, which means that there will be an extra week's lapse between the Apa "conversations". I hope it won't come to this; Apa L was originally intended as something to make the Meetings more attractive to member and guest, a "hot off the press" upa rather than just another fenzine distributed at the club, and I'd rather continue it in the present manner. But as things now stand, the point is rapidly approaching where Apa L is becoming a competitor to, rather than a complement of, the LASFS Meeting. This is putting the wrong foot first; LASFS is and will always be more important than Apa L, and if we have to perform drastic surgery on Apa L to put things right with the club Meetings again, so be ito