

all digression weekly 26

Written by Milton F. Stevens, 3989 Beverly Glen Blvd., Sherman Oaks, Calif. for the 46th distribution of Apa L at LASFS Meeting #1464. Mimeod on the Labyrinth Mimeotaur.

Mailing Comments on the 45th distribution.

Dave Hulan; Agreed, most of the Negroes in the Watts area weren't involved in the rioting, but it is irritating to know that relief will go to a great many who were involved.### There is one major difference between your position in regard to your neighbors and that of the average Negro. If you saw one of your neighbors shoot several people in cold blood, you would probably inform the police. The average Negro wouldn't and if he did he would be in danger of reprisal from his other neighbors.

June Konigsberg; Yes.

Gregg Wolford; If you want your parents to approve of fandom, simply develop some more offensive vices so that fandom will be the lesser of two evils. My parents consider fans to be a bunch of beatniks, but after meeting some of my other friends they really can't complain much.

Lon Atkins; Under the influence of eleven beers, I probably couldn't even find the typewriter and if I found it I probably wouldn't know what to do with it.

Andy Porter; I've seen all sorts of movies laughed at in theaters, sometimes with justification and sometimes without. I laughed all the way through Tender is the Night, because there was very little else to do. I laughed most of the way through Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, because I had never seen Roman history so befouled. It was true that Commodus fought in the arena because he loved to butcher men with his own hands, but all his opponents were drugged so he didn't die in the arena. It's also true that after the death of Commodus that the Pretorian Gaurd sold the Roman Empire to Didius Julianus who was murdered thirty days later. Aside from that, everything in the picture was wrong. ###You don't seem to be short of material for Algol, but I've already started another "serconish" article which you can have first crack at if you want it. With any sort of luck, it ought to appear next week.

Felice Rolfe; The members of the lower strata of our society can be divided into primitive and barbaric groups. The primitives are socially oriented, so they form fairly stable groups and don't particularly bother anyone. The barbarians are essentially anti-social, so they form smaller and less stable groups. When I was working at a theater in a lower class neighborhood, I had an opportunity to observe both types in a non-school situation. The main characteristic of the barbarians was that they were more irritable than the average primitive. This irritability is probably glandular in origin and may very well be a hereditary characteristic. All of these groups are dominated by males to a greater degree than would be common in the middle class. Dating is apparently unknown in these groups, so a female has to put out as much effort as a male to establish a liason. There was one couple who had apparently been going to bed together for a considerable amount of time and yet they never came into the theater together.

One night after closing, I was sitting in the lobby reading a copy of Cicero's Collected Works when two young Mexican couples out of the theater. One of the males stopped and asked me what I was reading. I didn't think that any of these kids were well enough educated to know the difference between the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire, so I asked rhetorically if they had heard of the Roman Empire. They all said no. Ignoring their question for a moment, I asked them what on earth they studied in history classes at school. They said that they studied about Communism. I think that for these

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to be studying Communism when they didn't have even the most rudimentary knowledge of history is a classic example on an educational system wasting its own time.

Rich Mann; "Rich Mann vs. Ranch Romances" is an interesting series. Why don't you try to convince some of these people that they ought to form a western apa or maybe even a National Western Fan Federation.

Bill Blackbeard; After I got past the first paragraph of puns, this was the most interesting thing in the distribution. I had remembered the line as meaning that fifteen men had been responsible for the man in questions death. I don't know why I thought that, it's just something that had been filed away in my memory.

Barry Gold; Lyndon Barry Johnson? There's an interesting slip.

Fred Whitledge; In the literary field, C. S. Lewis is known for his Christian writings above all else. None of my professors knew that Lewis had ever written science fiction, or that Dr. Tolkien had ever written fantasy. Dr. Tolkien is primarily known in the academic field as the world's foremost authority on Anglo-Saxon Literature.

Bjo; It's good that you're stopping the pornography discussion, because I feel an attack of misogynism coming on.

Jack Harness; You mentioned young fans becoming acquainted with fandom via the fancyclo--'pedia. While it is a very interesting volume, I think that it has had a rather unfortunate effect of standardizing fan jargon. I was rather disappointed to find out that so much material which I had considered to be original was nothing more than a string of quotations. I knew that Greg Shaw's Labyrinth Duquesne episode would prompt you to do another episode, but I had no idea that it would work so fast.

Mike Klassen; Feud material isn't too good a way to get mailing comments. I, for one, will never comment of feud or semi-feud material. Conformity in high school and in that age group is almost inevitable, because it is at that age that people become class conscious and act accordingly.

Ted White; I had a stint of do-nothingism in the summer of 1960 when I had just left high school and was out of work. That period was worse than the current one, because I was more dependent on people than I am now and I had been cut off from the extensive social contacts that I had had in high school. For about a year after that, I didn't do much of anything except flunk out of college. This time I haven't done anything positive, but at least I haven't done anything negative.

Dave Van Arnam; I've always thought that men were more romantic than women. Women don't seem to appreciate a good spiel as a thing in itself. They seem to regard things as simply a matter of to bed or not to bed without any intermediary step. Women make a great mistake in saying yes or no directly. In saying yes immediately, she deprives a man of all sense of accomplishment and in saying no she shows a lack of wit and sportsmanship. It is in saying maybe that true art lies. If she means yes, all the better and if she means no, well it was fun anyway.

Sin and guilt have about the same relationship as a Gothic Cathedral and the little white church on the corner. Graham Greene is about the only modern writer who really has a grasp of the concept of sin. It was a great idea for literature, not much good for people, but great for literature.

And that's about it for this week. This issue has been written with the aid of a sinus infection that I developed Sunday. I think that this issue makes sense, but I don't guarantee it.

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