

ENEY⁴
TAF

June 1961

29th OMPA Mailing

C O N V E R S A T I O N n u m b e r s i x t e e n



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June 1961 29th OMPA Mailing.

Published by Lynn A. Hickman 224 Dement Ave. Dixon, Illinois.
Published in an edition of 70 copies. 49 go to OMPA, 3 stay in
my files, and the other 18 copies go to contributors and/or
friends that I think might enjoy it.

This issue will run in a more or less diary manner. Not that
I'll be listing all my fannish mail etc, but I will be writing
and typing masters from now until it is time to send it off for
the mailing, and I'll probably be including different thoughts
that come to me and the things that happen here in Dixon that
you might possibly have an interest in.

This is late evening of April 26th, I have everything ready to
go for the 28th mailing but haven't posted them to Daphne yet.
This will be done in the next couple of days so as to allow at
least 20 days mail time.

As most of you know, I'm out of work right now. This does give
me time to do a few fannish things, but makes it tough to pay
the rent, feed the family, and publish a lot. I have finished
Don's TAPP BAEDEKER, Earl's WHY IS A FAN, the BULLFROG BUGLE
and the CONVERSATIONS that were in the 28th mailing, and as
of now, I have JD-Argassy's #56 and #57 completed and FFM #4
half done. I also have done quite a bit of work so far on
JD-A #58. Plenty of time to do it, but I'm running damned
short on paper and the postage money to send the things out.
You'll note that this issue is on 16# colored paper instead
of the usual 20# white. While there will probably be consider-
able show through, I'll try to keep it at a minimum. When I
was in Chicago last week and at the Kemps, Earl mentioned that
he had this colored paper (1,500 sheets) that he couldn't use
(he probably could, but he's so damned nice that way) and that
I should take it with me so that I could keep up my OMPA pubbing
while I was out of work and had the time to devote to it. So
that is what I'm doing. Thanks to Earl, I'll be spending some
time every day or so typing up masters for OMPA. I'm doing it
in this diary manner for that reason. When I do get back to
work on a new job, I'll probably be so busy the first few months
that I'll have no time for OMPA at all. This way, maybe I won't
miss a mailing.

Those of you that read the American newspapers will have noted
in the editorial columns and on the news pages one of the major
reasons that I am not working now. Kennedy is trying to get a
farm program through that would take the power away from the
legislative bodies and put it in the hands of Orville Freeman
with Congress as just a reviewing body. If this goes through
it means that the farmer will be under the worst possible con-
trols that he has ever seen. It means a huge power for Kennedy
and Freeman and of course the Democratic party. It is the reason

that most farmers voted against Kennedy and the reason that the farm equipment business is in about the worst slump it has ever had. The farmer is only buying what he absolutely needs and all companies (with the exception of a few in the south) are cutting back. In the case of the company that I was with, the three newest salesmen with the company were let off and their territories split and added to the territories of the other salesmen. This is general throughout the industry at the present time.

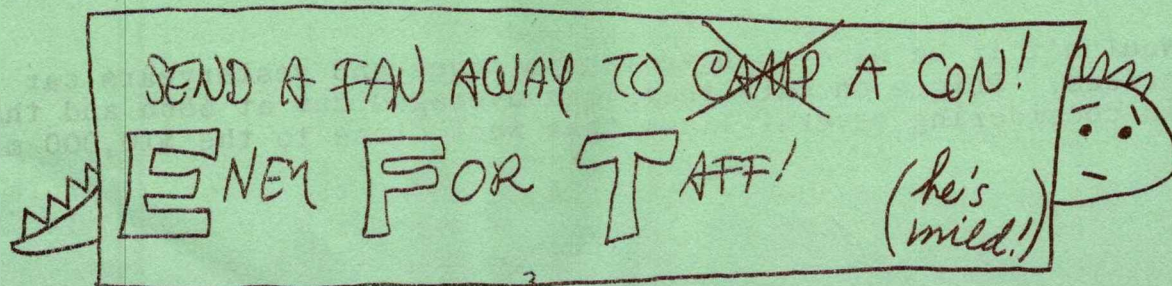
But enough of political things. I'm like most of the people of this area, I have no confidence in Kennedy and his gang. The only thing that he has topped Ike in is golf playing. He has played more rounds since he's been in than Ike did when he became President.

In Conversation # 14, I mentioned some of the cars that my dad had when I was just a wee boy. Today I was looking through some old Motor Age magazines and while browsing through a 1926 issue I came across an ad for the Diana. It pictured a car just like the one my mother used when I was born. It was a heck of a swell car to hear my dad tell it, and he also kept a Moon roadster made by the same company. I will attempt to copy the ad (or most of it) on a master so you can see the beauty of this car. I think it looks good even today. It was a straight eight, 7 passenger sedan with a 135" wheelbase. Back in those days it listed for only \$2,695. It used a Continental engine that developed 72 bhp.

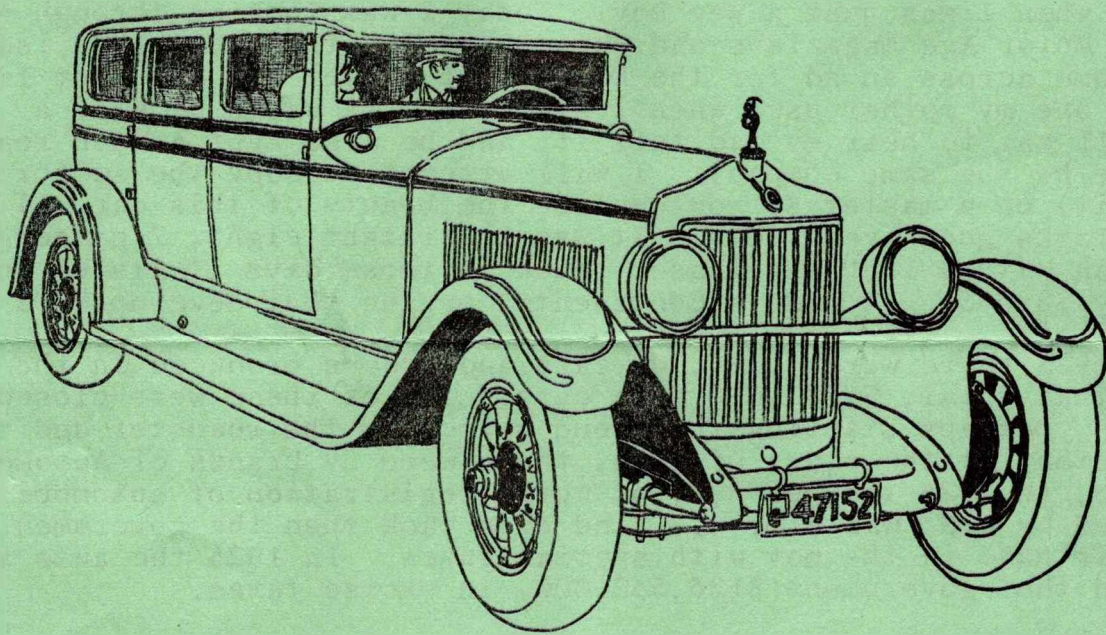
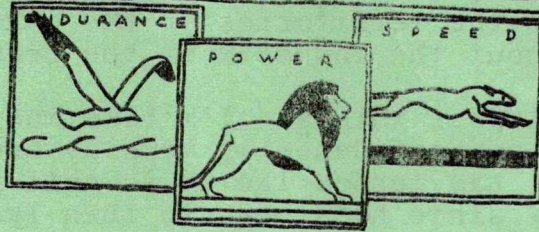
In 1925 there were 4,325,000 cars and trucks produced in the U.S. Of that total, 3,833,000 were cars. 56% of these were closed cars, perhaps starting the trend away from the roadster and the phaeton. At the start of 1926, there were 59 brands of Automobiles. Also, in 1925 the per cent of world registration of automobiles owned by U.S. was 81%.And even back then the government had their hand in the pot with special taxes. In 1925 the auto industry paid the government \$126,552,000. in excise taxes.

Are any of you interested in old tractors? I came across a 1919 issue of Tractor and Gas Engine Review the other day and it has some fascinating things in it.

If any of you show any interest in them, I may reprint an article describing the "new" Indiana tractor in the next issue. It's sort of funny to read now, but was really great back then



D I A N A



Heres the copy of part of the Diana ad. I omitted part of the ornate flair that surrounded the ads then, as it took me a long time to copy this much. The Diana was built by the Moon Motor Car Company, St. Louis, Mo. They offered the following models in the Diana line. Prices are F.O.B. St. Louis. Roadster \$1895 Phaeton \$1895 Standard Two-Door Sedan \$1895 Standard Four-Door Sedan \$1995 Cabriolet-Roadster \$2095 Two-Door Brougham DeLuxe \$2095 Four-Door Sedan DeLuxe \$2195 7-Passenger Sedan DeLuxe \$2695

Wouldn't it be nice to have todays wages and yesteryears car prices. Prices on cars that year averaged out at \$866 and that is considering several lines that went close to the \$10,000 mark.

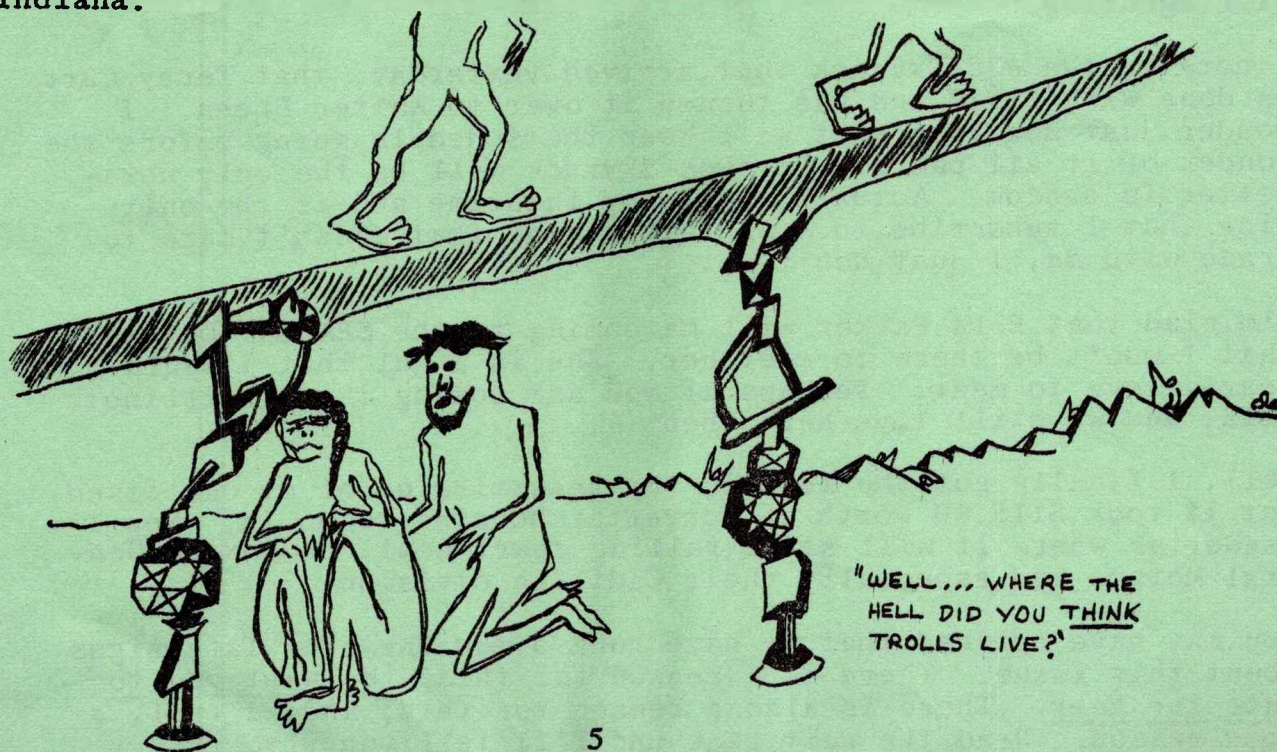
April 28th. Some rather interesting items in the mail this morning. Pitfcs - 139, news of the upcoming Ace Books and a new Doubleday book that looks very interesting. It is A HOLE IN THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA by Willard Bascom. It is the story of the Mohole Project and promises to be instructive as well as entertaining. I will review this book in a later issue of JD-A.

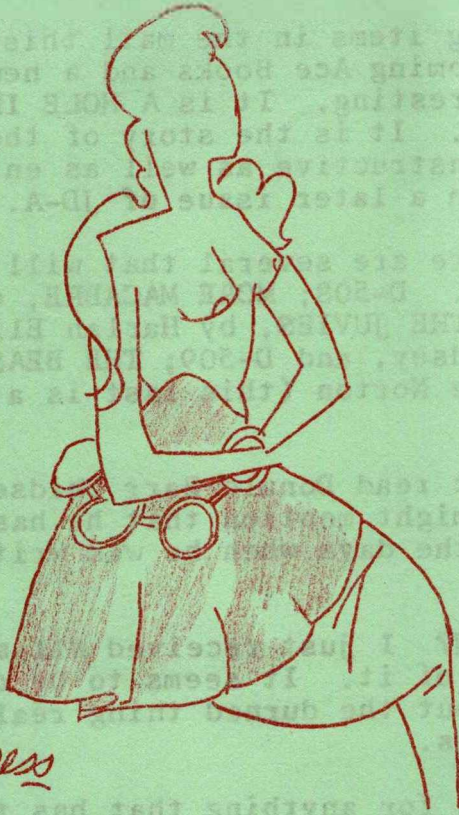
Of the upcoming ACE selections, there are several that will be out in May that I will want to read. D-508; MORE MACABRE, edited by Donald A. Wollheim, D-513; THE JUVIES, by Harlan Ellison, D-512; MAROONED, by Donald Barr Chidsey, and D-509; THE BEAST MASTER and THE STAR HUNTER, by Andre Norton (this last is a double-novel book).

If there are any of you that haven't read Donald Barr Chidsey's adventure and historical novels, I might mention that he has been a favorite of mine ever since the days when he was writing for the old ARGOSY magazine.

Have any of you received UNIFICATION? I just received #11 and frankly don't yet know what to make of it. It seems to be on the brotherhood and love of man, etc., but the darned thing really didn't say anything for all its pages.

For any of you that are a completist for anything that has to do with space, I received a small booklet the other day that my mother had sent for thinking that I might be interested in it. It is a booklet of 4 sermons by Q. J. Everest that were broadcast over Your Worship Hour. The reason mother sent for it is that one of the sermons was Future Space Dwellers. If any of you want a copy, I imagine that you could get it by writing: "Missions", c/o Your Worship Hour, P.O. Box 2026, South Bend 15, Indiana.





Harness

May 3rd now. Was just glanced over page 4 that I had just printed and noticed that I had forgotten to draw in the door handles on the Diana. Really, though, you could get in and out of the car.

Am job dickering with a southern company right now. The job would mean moving again, this time to either Tennessee or Mississippi. Right now we are discussing the type of remuneration. I've told them what I want. If they come through with it, we'll be moving again, if they don't I'll still be sitting here a while longer until I find the type of thing that I want.

Another book in the mails today. The Best From Science Fiction and Fantasy -- Tenth Series. Haven't had a chance to look it over yet but if Bob Mills does as good a job of

selecting as he did with A Decade of Fantasy and Science Fiction, it will be a book well worth having on your permanent shelf. Bob in my estimation is doing a brilliant job as an editor even though he is only doing it on a part time basis, spending the rest of his time agenting.

I note by the #32 Skyrack that arrived yesterday, that Terry Carr is done with FANAC and has turned it over to Walter Breen. I wonder just how long Walt will keep the schedule going before the wonder of it all palls. Perhaps Skyrack will be the only newsletter in fandom. Actually it is my favorite and is the only zine that I subscribe to. Any other zine that doesn't care to trade with me, I just don't get.

I'm glad that Ella Parker will be coming to the SEACON, but sad that I won't be there to meet her. She is a gal that I would dearly love to meet. Perhaps if you are coming through Illinois Ella, and we still live here then --

Well, I finally got the leak in the transmission of my car fixed, but it took \$115.00 worth of Converter housing to do it. Now I'm wondering where it will start falling apart next. A pox on General Motors and especially their Cadillac division.

You may have noticed that we have hung a few Eney For Taff signs about this issue. There is a reason for this. We want you to vote for Eney. There is also a reason for this, and, I feel, a good reason. Read the next page and I'll tell you why.

ENEY FOR TAFF !

Why should anyone vote for dick Eney aside from the fact that he's a real nice guy and that all the British fans would enjoy having him at the convention?

Well, I've always been of the belief that TAFF was started as something of a reward for things that a person has done for fandom. It is more than a popularity race.

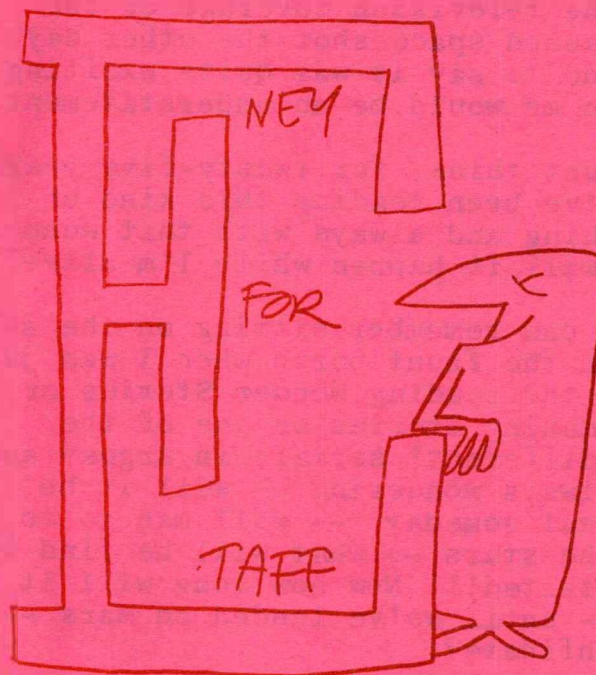
Dick has been a reader of sf for 16 years and a fan for 13 years. He has been a member of the WSFA all during that time, actively, being Trustee, Vice-President, and President, and has been one of those active in getting the DISCLAVES going.

A couple of years after joining the WSFA, Dick took the plunge into fanzine publishing and joined SAPS and FAPA. He has remained in FAPA ever since and was out of SAPS for only one year. And of course you all know him as a good OMPA member.

But the publication that Dick and Fandom should be the proudest of is FANCYCLOPEDIA II. A tremendous job!! Worthy of a HUGO to say the least.

Since then Dick has been doing a fine job with SPECULATIVE REVIEW.

I'm going KING-SIZE this year. I'm voting for ENEY!



"No U.O.B. is GOING TO TELL ME HOW TO WRITE STF STORIES!"

Afternoon of May 8th. I watched the television coverage of the manned space shot the other day and to say it was quite exciting to me would be an understatement.

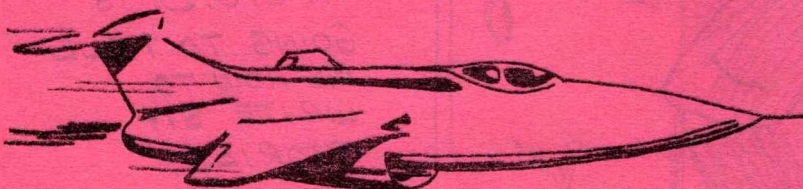
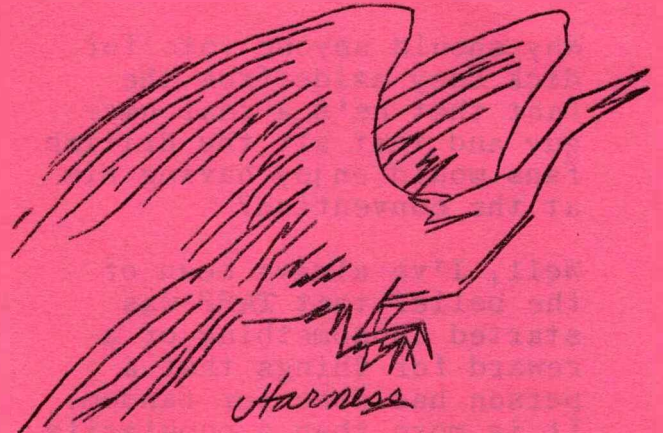
Just think, for twenty-five years I've been reading this kind of thing and always with that wonder, 'will it happen while I'm alive?'

I can remember sitting on the swing on the front porch when I was just a tad reading Wonder Stories or Amazing Stories or one of the 'different' serials in Argosy and always wondering -- will it be real someday -- will man go to the stars -- what will he find there -- and now here I am and we've started!! Now how long will it be until we have a man on the moon -- until we've landed on Mars -- Venus -- and then on out into the infinite?

In First Fandom Magazine #4, Donald Wollheim has an article that really expresses my feelings as well as his own. He calls it a slow time machine to 1961, and goes on to explain how this time machine is making the dreams and sense of wonder that he had in the early '30's come true now in this space age. The only trouble being that the time machine took a full sixty minutes for every hour that it was going forward.

Today on tv they showed the parade in Washington that was given the Austronat. A little anti-climactic for me but still exciting. Twenty-five years ago I would have been dreaming that it was me in that parade. That I had conquered the spaceways and was the big hero. Today it still fills me with that sense of wonder that in these short years we have spanned the gap of imaginative fiction to reality.

Quite a bit of fannish mail in the past few days. Dave Prosser has agreed to be the first artist represented in my JD-A portfolio. It will begin with the #59 issue as Dave has a book to illustrate that must be finished first. Dave is the #1 Fan Artist in my opinion and I'm glad to have him lead this series off.



On the next page is a cartoon by Jim Cawthorne that was sent to me by Alan Dodd with the following explanation.

IT'S THAT
"TOO HOT TO HANDLE"
JOB. THEY ALL
GO LIKE THIS
AFTER 5 OR 6
FRAMES.....



Alan explains that Jayne Mansfield made a film called TOO HOT TO HANDLE in England and that for some unknown reason the censor objected to the transparent dress she was wearing. They couldn't refilm the scenes so they had to have each frame of the film coloured in BY HAND. Hence Jim's cartoon here.

Richard and Rosemary Hickey had a party in Chicago Saturday night and Joe Sarno will be holding one in Niles the 27th of this month. Sad to say, I didn't get to the Hickeys' party and as of now, it looks as if I will miss the one Joe is throwing also.

I'm expecting to have to travel to Tennessee and to Louisiana sometime in the next few weeks to interview for a couple of positions with some southern implement concerns. One I mentioned before. The other one that has come up would take me either to the Kansas territory or back to northern Ohio and southern Mich. As with the previous one we are dickering on type and amount of pay before I will go for a personal interview. I can't see wasting their time and mine in seeing whether or not we could get together on the other details if they aren't willing to pay what I want or if they don't want a bonus clause given me for extra volume produced.

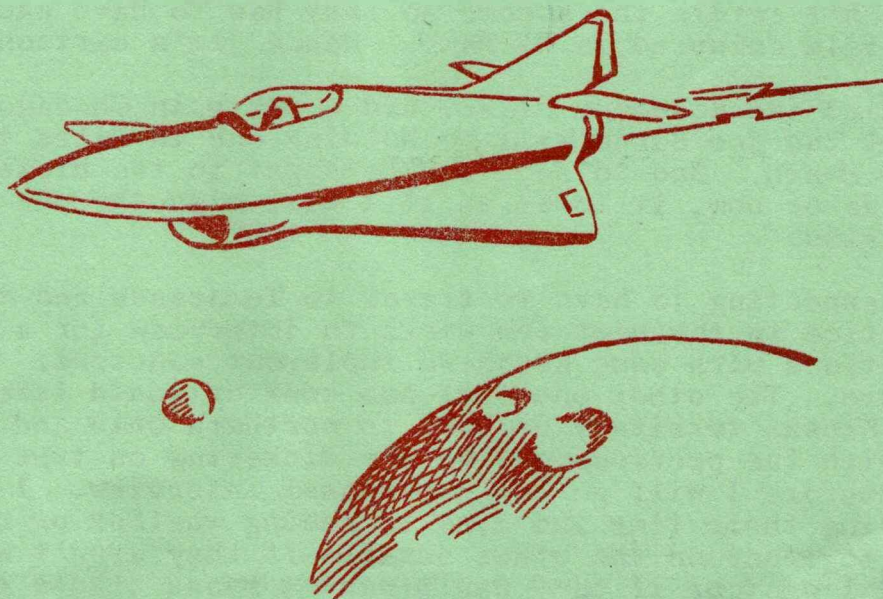
May 24th. Have been busy as heck the past couple of weeks. Have decided to set up as a Manufactures Representative on farm equipment lines. Last week I drove 2500 going to Louisiana and Ohio. I will start out selling Sidewinders and add dome other lines as I get that worked up.

New books in include The Beast Master & The Star Hunter by Andre Norton, and More Macabre edited by Donald Wollheim from Ace. The Rim of Space by A. Bertram Chandler from Avalon, Three Hearts and Three Lions by Poul Anderson from Doubleday and Slan by A.E. Van Vogt, Bypass to Otherness by Henry Kuttner, and Ringstones by Sarban from Ballentine.

Have started getting answers in on my proposed series of artfolios in JD-Argassy. Enthusiasm for it seems to be running high from both the artist and reader groups.

May 25th. Letter from Eric Bentcliffe making me jealous by saying hes going to Italy for a couple of weeks to lie on sunny beaches and drink flagons of vin rose and Chianti. I wish I were going with him but I'll have to content myself with a trip to the ice box for a beer, sit back and have visions of Eric chasing all those beautiful Italian babes up and down the Beaches. Its a shame I won't be there to help him.

The mammoth ORION #27 also arrived in todays mail. Orion got my vote and most others too, in the Skyrack Poll this year. Its certainly a zine thats well worth getting. Since the demise of Apé, its only serious competition in England will probably be BASTION. I think BASTION can be the best British zine published if Eric does it on a reasonably regular basis.



There is a discussion going on in ORION now about young fans and parents and since I was a young fan and am a parent of a boy 13, a girl 5, and a boy 3, I want to say a few words about it here.

Of course when I was a kid we didn't have to worry about fanzines, there were few to be had. Our main worry was to be able to get the money to buy all the pulp magazines that we wanted.

As for my own children, yes, I control their reading to a certain extent, but only so that it will be well balanced. Doug usually respects my judgement and asks me what books to read as I seldom suggest one that he doesn't enjoy. In science fiction I started him with Heinlein, then Tucker, DeCamp, etc. He now reads a good percentage of the sf I get, but likes the older classics best, like Kline, Farley, etc.

In mysteries, he started with Holmes, then Tucker, etc. Even gave book reviews on Tucker's novels at school.

So far he prefers reading novels and doesn't read too many of the magazines.

To be able to read all the books he likes, he must read so many "classics" per year also. We also try to pick these for interest as we wish him to continue to 'love' books.

So far he isn't too interested in fanzines, but he can read those if he wants to. Right now I can't think of any that I wouldn't want him to read.

June 8th. Have been making trips back and forth from Ohio to Illinois trying to get this MR deal set up. Had first decided to set up in Ohio but was offered such an attractive deal from one manufacturer for Illinois that I have decided to stay here.

Doug graduates from Junior High School tomorrow. Highest I.Q. in his school. Real proud of him. He was also one of 8 scouts to be chosen to go on a campout in southern Indiana next week. Has a chance to get two more medals. The "10 o'clock line" & the "Tulip Tree Trace". Although he doesn't know it yet, he was chosen by the other scouts in his troop for the "Order of the Arrow". Only one scout per troop per year gets this and it is quite an honor. Am real proud of the boy so you must excuse a dad from spouting off.

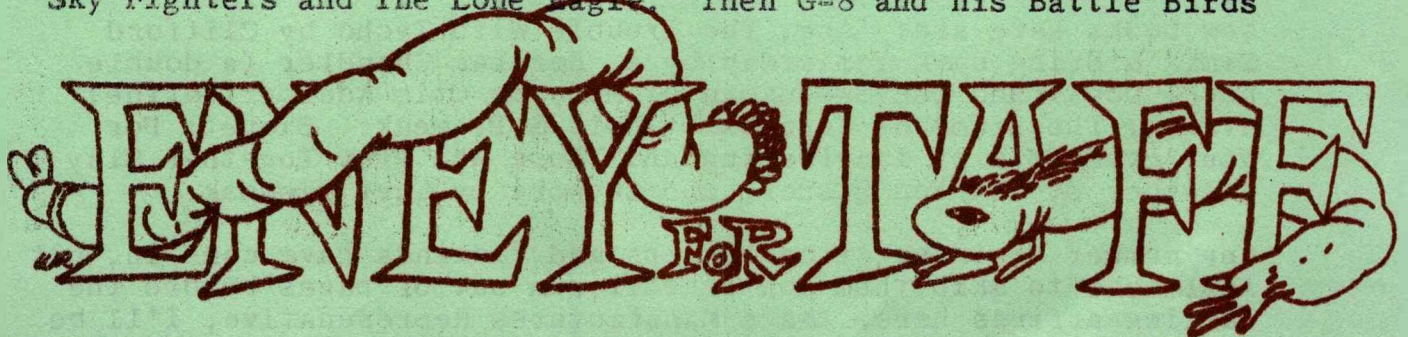
New books here are: Ace: The Trouble With Tycho by Clifford Simak & Bring Back Yesterday by A. Bertram Chandler (a double novel book) and The Swordsman of Mars by Otis Adelbert Kline: Avalon: The Drums of Tapajos by Col. S.P. Meek: Signet: For Your Eyes Only by Ian Fleming and Those Who Prey Together Slay Together by Don Von Elsner, and Skyport by Curt Siodmak.

Any number of interesting letters and fanzines have come in, but I'll have to skip them now or I'll run out of pages before the mailing arrives here. As a Manufactures Representative, I'll be representing several concerns on a straight commission basis so

it will be several months before too much money starts rolling in. Actually sales have been good right from the start, but I don't receive my commissions until the dealer has paid his account and we offer terms from 30 to 90 days. So I'll still have to pinch my pennies for awhile as far as spending money on paper and printing supplies goes.

June 18th. Have decided to go to the Midwestcon whether I can afford it or not. I've never missed one and I'll be durned if this will be the year that I do. As usual the whole family will be going. Carole enjoys these as much as I do. Earlier today I had a phone call from Roger & Mabel Sims in Detroit checking to see if we were going to be there, and tonight I had another call from Don Ford in Cincinnati for the same reason. These calls plus all the letters from friends saying they would see us there make a fellow feel good. Bob Madle wrote that it just wouldn't seem like a Midwestcon to him unless I was there. I've made more lasting friendships in fandom, friendships that really mean something to me, than in any other phase of my life. That's the reason I'll always be in fandom.

On one of my trips to Ohio, I dropped south to stop and see the Coulsons, but it was nighttime and I was doubtful that I could find their place in the country without direction. Tried calling them from about 10 to 11:30, sitting in a bar drinking beer between the calls. The phone always gave the busy signal and no one there seemed to know them. The beer was good though. I wrote Buck a card saying that he was either awfully longwinded or that he was on a hell of a partyline. It seems Juanita was also trying to call him from Anderson that night and couldn't get through either. She called him at the plant the next day and he then found out his phone was out of order. He didn't think anything of my not calling that night as I had told him in a previous letter that I wasn't at all sure that I would be down. It was all according to what time I could leave Dixon. Buck then answered my card with the above information noting that he wasn't really that longwinded and is going to send me a map in case I get through again. Seems the Wabash Telephones are noted for not working when you want them too. The 100th YANDRO came and is a real honey. Especially enjoyed by myself was Dean Grennell's The Fallen Mighty. This time about Flying Aces. I remember when I was reading that mag when it was pulp sized and called Bill Barnes and His Flying Aces. I was quite a fan of the flying mags then, especially WWI stories. My favorites were Battle Birds, Sky Fighters and The Lone Eagle. Then G-8 and his Battle Birds



came along with their element of sf and fantasy and I really loved it. Also Dare-Devil Aces. Golly, how I loved those days of the pulps. I will soon be starting an index of Argosy, All Story, Cavalier, etc. that will be run in sections in JD-A. John Nitka will be doing most of the work on this. Once it is finished, we will also publish it as a limited edition complete book for collectors of the Munsey pubs. It will be a complete index, not just the sf and fantasy.

Was looking through some old Wonder Stories the other day and ran across a letter by Dave Kyle. Real interesting, Dave was only 15 when he wrote it. Its fun to read through the letter columns of the old mags.

Nice letter from Eddie Jones saying that he will be represented with an artfolio in JD-A and offering some good advise on it. I plan to get some multilith masters sent off to Eddie as soon as I get back from the Midwestcon.

Received my copy of the ATOM ANTHOLOGY and it is one of the zines that goes with group of really fine fanzines such as Who Killed SF, The Tattooed Dragon, etc. A Wonderfull job.

June 27th. Just returned from the Midwestcon where, as usual, I had a wonderful time. While I think the attendance was down a little this year from last, many of my favorite people were there. There were also several that made this Midwestcon for the first time. Held a long Hucom meeting where we drafted our recommendations to present at the Seacon. A First Fandom party and meeting was held, nominations were made for next years officers, and several new members were taken in to the organization. Chicago held a fine party although I missed much of it due to the Hucom meeting. Took the whole family this year, but didn't stay at the motel as usual. Stayed at an Aunts and drove back and forth.

July 9th. Had to miss the Coulson's picnic because of a business meeting in Springfield yesterday. I always want to go to them, but it seems every year that something pops up and I miss it.

New Books here are: Dolphin: The War of the Worlds & The Time Machine by H.G. Wells (95¢). Signet: The Unorthodox Corpse by Carter Brown (35¢) and Comanche Moon by William R. Cox (35¢). Avalon: Believers' World by Robert Lowndes (\$2.95).

The Cadillac is slowly disintergrating. In the past few weeks I've put a waterpump, fuel pump, new hoses, new belts, power steering seals, brake line, and even had a lug bolt on the rear wheel break. I'm placing bets now and what goes bad next.

Haven't received my mailing yet. It really takes a long time for them to get over here by surface mail. You can figure on a month to a month and a half, and this time it looks as if it will take longer than that.



July 10th. Just talk about something and it happens. The mailing came today. Actually less than one months mail time, considering that it was posted from Scotland on June 17th.

News from Doubleday states that they are going to launch a new adventure series for space-age youth between the ages of 9 & 14.

It will be the MIKE MARS series and be written by Donald A. Wollheim. The first four titles will be: MIKE MARS, ASTRONAUT; MIKE MARS FLIES THE X-15; MIKE MARS AT CAPE CANAVERAL; and MIKE MARS IN ORBIT. Perhaps I'll have son Doug review them.

Since I'm planning to hold this issue to 18 pages (have to, I'm

running out of paper.), there won't be too much room left for comments. I'll do as many zines as I have room for and then have to quit. The rest of you will have to look elsewhere for your egoboo this mailing.

OFF TRAILS -- Perhaps my argument isn't spoiled after all. I thought Daphne might object to the nude on the cover of #13 (and then she started using them herself), but I certainly didn't think she would object to the word horses--- (as Bill Donaho would say). In fact I had originally typed up Hal's column to use in JD-A, then changed my mind and decided to run it in Conversation instead. I had forgotten the word Americans use for the waste deposits of an Equus caballus was there. I assume that the words Daphne refers to of doubtful taste were in the reprint I did from a Signet book. Come now, Daphne, what other words can you use? And I do like to reprint exactly.

So let me go on record as saying that I do not believe that my zine should have been held back and hope that Bruce will have it included in the next mailing. He has my permission to cross out the word horses--- if he feels it will offend anyones sense of dignity. And oh yes, Daphne, you had the size of the paper for Conversation #14 listed wrong.

I don't believe Daphne should give her support to the ballot in the O.O. This should have

been in her own personal zine. The O.O. should present the ballot but should not try to tell members how to vote.

Not that I'm against the proposals, just against having them supported in the O.O. Here is how I personally voted.

1. Yes. I like the new constitution, especially the Egoboo Poll.
2. Yes. I think it will make for better mailings even though it does make us put out 10 extra copies. I've changed my mind from what I had previously stated on this.
3. No. I don't think the minimum activity requirements should be reduced. 16 pages a year is not too many.
4. No. I still think it best to limit American memberships to 50%. I'm afraid that there are not enough U.K. members or fans that are really interested in OMPA to limit Americans to ten. If enough of you are interested in the 50% figure, I'll make this a proposal. I guess that also takes care of my comments on "Through the Gordian Knot."



DEFENESTRATION #1 -- Terry & Miri Carr. Loved "Down With Fandom" and have written you for permission to reprint this in First Fandom Magazine. Also enjoyed your Slice of the Past. Its fun looking into the lives of other fans. While we don't have the Mad Parties here in Dixon, its surprising the number of fans that came through here last year. The Chicago group (Kemps, O'Meara, Hickeys, etc.) a number of times. George Willick, a number of times. The Grennells, Bob Pavlat, Eric Bentcliffe, Steve and Virginia Schultheis, Ted Wagner, and of course the whole CARAVAN from the west coast. And, on my own travels I get to visit quite a number of fans too.

RANDOM #3 -- Daphne Buckmaster. Covers are beautiful even if the gal on the beack cover is crosseyed. I really am a guy, Daphne. Archie Mercer wrote and said I should send you a snapshot of Carole and really confuse you, but I was afraid you might do an article on me as the Cristine of Fandom if I did.

The only overseas fans I've met personally are Ted Carnell (Cinvention in '49) John Berry (Detention in '59), and Eric Bentcliffe (Pittcon in '60 and here at the house) but I'm sure they'll say I'm a guy and Carole is a gal and all the little Hickmans are human.

Who is this John Rackham? I'd like to have some artwork from him for JD-A and Conversation.

UL #3 -- Norm Metcalf. I would hate to see postmailings outlawed. There are times when these are necessary for stateside fans if they want to get mailing comments off before they are too dated but don't have time to run off a zine as soon as the mailing arrives. You almost have to do that to get the zine back overseas in time to meet the mailing deadline. In my own case from now on, I'm going to try to do the general part of my zines before I receive the mailing and then do the comments at once and get it shipped back over in time to make the next mailing.

I had a bunch of JD-A's that I was sending to overseas fans returned to me by the post office in Chicago about three years ago because they weren't in envelopes. Ever since then all my overseas zines have been mailed in 9x12 Kraft envelopes.

I agree with you that an Apa is not the place for criticism of writing. To my way of thinking it is supposed to be for entertainment and friendship with a basis of sf & fantasy. Of course discussions can be raised on any subjects interesting and entertaining to the members, but how many would be entertained by a discussion on criticisms of their own writing styles. GHod knows I'm a poor writer, but I do get a lot of fun out of being in OMPA. I would hate to see criticisms of my writing style, spelling, etc. because I know its poor unless you just want to read me for funs sake and to see what I do, what I think, without a worry on whether my grammar and style is any good.

I disagree with you on Burroughs and the other old writers. They gave me real entertainment.

I also received that oddball & occult stuff.

VIPER \$3 -- Bill Donaho. Much more troubles with the Cadillac. Water pump, fuel pump, brake line, power steering and yesterday the rear wheel almost flew off. Two lug bolts snapped and the others wore holes to ovals. When it first started shaking and making noises, I thought it was the universals going out. Just glad the wheel didn't fly off as I was driving over 70mph on the #66 freeway.

Glad to see you continuing the series on Astounding. Very good.

I surely don't agree with you and your ideas on southern people. I guess I just lived with them in the south too long and got to know them too well to fall for all that propaganda that is put out by the NAACP and some of the northern papers. The magazine NEW SOUTH is one. When I was living in Orangeburg, South Carolina, Dick Ellington sent me a copy that described in vivid detail the battle that was going on in Orangeburg with all the boycotting, parades and so forth. The only trouble was that noone in Orangeburg had any knowledge of it. There was no trouble at all. It was a piece of fiction written as an article and I'll bet it was believed by a lot of these so called ultra-liberals that just jump at the chance to rant about something or other. I think people would be more stirred up about the manner in which Chicago was stolen in the election and how it made the wrong man President, but no one outside Illinois seems to be pushing it. At least not that we

know of. And the same thing could be said of the Texas frauds. I was happy to see the people rebel there and put a republican in to replace Johnson in the next election they held.

But enough of that. Lets have fun. I heard things were getting so bad in Washington now that Kennedy is going to ask for a recount.

New Books in (July 14th now) are Time is the Simplest Thing by Clifford D. Simak (Doubleday \$3.95) and from Ace comes The Best From Fantasy and Science Fiction (40¢) and a double novel book containing Mayday Orbit by Poul Anderson and No Man's World by Ken Bulmer (40¢). Notice that the Ace books have advanced from 35¢ to 40¢, but they are still about the best buy in the science fiction field today for the average buyer.

On page 12 I was mentioning that it took from 30 to 90 days for me to get my commissions in. That has been changed. We now offer floorplanning on equipment up to six months. While this makes it longer until I get money in, it does help sales to a great extent. Dealers are willing to stock more goods and with the sliding discount scale we have, will paying up as soon as possible. But it does mean I will continue pinching pennies for awhile, and that my next issue will probably be on the odd sizes of paper that I have left here at the house.

Art credits this issue are as follows: Front Cover and back cover are by Wm Rotsler. Interior art by: Wm Rotsler pp 3, 7, & 12. Lynn Hickman (copy) pp 4. Dave English pp 5. Jack Harness pp 6 & 8. Plato Jones pp 7. Terry Jeeves pp 8 & 10. Jim Cawthorne pp 9. Joni Cornell pp 14. Bjo pp 15.

All written material by Lynn Hickman.

There seems to be a tempest in a teapot right now over fan awards. George Willick being the sponsor of the idea. As a member of the Hucom I really shouldn't say much about this until after our Hugo recommendations are presented at the Seacon. But I will say here that the committee decided that this was outside our province. I will also say that the only way that I personally would be for fan awards is if they were completely away from the Con committee and if they were paid for by funds other than Convention funds. Fanzine fans are only a small part of a convention and contribute only a small part of the funds and/or membership fees to a convention. Actually I think that the best fanzine award in the Hugo category is enough. Otherwise there are numerous Egoboo polls for fanzines. Hell, pretty soon we'll have so many awards that none of them will mean anything. I'm just waiting for the Argosy and All Story collectors award to be set up. I should be a cinch for winning that one. And Randy Garret should win the award for the male fan that chases the most female fans award. And now I wish I hadn't sold George my other Multilith. I could have won the award for the fan that had the most Multiliths. Gee, that would make me two awards. Now if I can just think up another catagory.....

August 26, 1961



I don't even know if this page will reproduce. I found this old master with the start of a Plato Jones drawing on it in a box in the attic. It must be a number of years old. I can't even remember what what the drawing was going to be.

The reason for these extra two pages being put in is because I didn't get this finished in time to send to the editor and want to say here that I am sending it out as a post mailing.

This month has been a busy one with the major part of my time being spent in the far southern part of the state, over three hundred miles away from the multi-lith. I did get in to Mark Irwin's party the latter part of July though. It was mainly for Chicago fans but Jon Stopa was in from Wilmot, Wisc., Nick Falasca from Cleveland, Ohio, and of course myself from Dixon. Chicago fans in addition to Mark were the Kemps, Marie Baker, George Pederson, George and Lou Price, Martin Moore, Ann Wescott, Mike & Steve Teller,

Jim O'Meara, Rosemary & Richard Hickey, Lewis Grant, George and Ada Irwin, and Gerald Irwin.

Mark and his parents were the most gracious of hosts and I certainly had a fine time. I was especially pleased that my good buddy Nick Falasca came in. We always have a ball talking about everything under the sun. Mark's dad was a charter subscriber to Amazing Stories and should be in First Fandom. Rosemary & Richard Hickey had just gotten in from Colorado where they were building themselves a summer cabin.

I also got to stop in Springfield one night and of course visited until late with Vic Ryan and his lovely and remarkable grandmother. Vic will be starting at Northwestern U. this fall in Evanston, Illinois so I should see him at some of the Chicago doings this coming year. I'll still be stopping in Springfield once in a-while though as Vic's grandmother is one of the finest and nicest ladies I've ever met.

Tried the other master and found that the typing and the drawing came out even though the master was so old. I also found about 20 old Remington Plastiplat masters in the same box so this is being typed on one of those. I'm hoping these will still work ok too.

Are any of you real Haggard fans? I want articles on the following themes for JD-Argassy. Sir Henry Rider Haggard and Haggard's Egypt. I also want an article on History as a Background for Fantasy. Can any of you help me on this?

Does anyone have a good used micro-elite typewriter that they would like to trade for old prozines and/or fanzines? I need one to use for the letter column in JD-A and also for items in Conversation. Will consider buying, but prefer to trade.

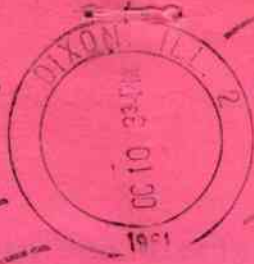
Note that the Saint Mystery Magazine is being published again. New publisher but same editors. The old familiar cover is back and this issue has a good line-up of stories in it by such as Charteris, Derleth, Rohmer, Ellison, and Davidson. Its good to see this magazine on the stands again especially in its old format.

I pulled a couple of books down, Dianetics by L. Ron Hubbard, and Scientlogy by Dr. Ruth Millhouse. Both were printed in colored inks on gold leaf paper with esoteric type fonts.

It wasn't hard to guess what Rafe had done. He'd measured how many running feet of shelf space he'd built, then ordered a matched set of classics to fill the library. Only they weren't classics. He had the best looking books in California but the worst selection.

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