



FR 221



THIS is Ye Old Oaken Windmill Visits The La Brea Tar Pits, sub-  
titled "I Told You That Was One Apa Too Many, Bruce", FR 221, winding  
up still another cycle of THE CULT.

This of fandon's most oftenly published fanzine is edited by  
George Scithers, xoa, XIII; published by the Coulson Fanzine Factory.  
Cover by George's Retina IV, with some retouching; it is so a photo taken  
at the La Brea Tar Pits.

As you will notice from time to time hereafter, I fotgot to order  
corflu in time.

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L E T T E R S V I L L E ::

DICK ENEY hopes:

Dear George:

Convention somewhat wild but generally successful. Amra won Hugo for  
best fanzine. Incense was burned at the Masquerade ball to cover odor of  
reefers. Some dozens of people came down with USAID/VN called Diem's Revenge,  
turistas call Montezuma's revenge, and I suppose Baycon attendees will call  
Bjo's Revenge. No air conditioning in the hotel. Starting first night of  
the con the hippies rioted in Berkeley in support of the appeaseniks in  
Chicago, as I found out when I tried to go thru the Strip on my way back  
to my own Hotel... I was stopped by The Fuzz and diverted around the riot  
area. Politely, even though I was wearing the Stigmata -- Nehru shirt &  
jewelled bangle. Unless I happened always to miss the excitement, I would  
say that Hippies aren't in it with the Buddhists. Tri Quang could put on  
a better show with one hand tied behind his back. St Fantasy ceremony went  
off well, Forrie Ackerman inducted. Rick Sneary was to be, but couldn't  
make it, so Dave Kyle worked up a "dress rehearsal" at Bjo's in Los Angeles  
and had Rick play the part of the inductee and only told him when it  
was all over that the ceremony had been the real thing. Society for Cre-  
ative Anachronism put on fabulous fashion shows, most admirable costumes  
and no small number of adorable femmes to fill them. I shall send you  
slides. The Tournament also went well from fannish viewpoint, creating  
erstauntheit when SCA claimed that real ones were even better. Exegesis of  
MaoThink went over very well, even, or especially, with the Anarchist crew.  
I drank at least six Grasshoppers, somehow. Fancyclopedigest moved  
pasaably well, about fifty sold. Red Baron costume photographed  
& chortled at by all but not selected even for semi-finals by Studebaker,  
who goes by name of Red Baron in Society for Creative Anachronism. Dis-  
tributed two half-gallons of wine in the form of sangrias, a Vampire  
Sangria (white wine and peaches) at Cult Seance naturally. Will send you  
menu from Seance in near future. I thanked Krenkel and DeCamp on behalf of  
the TO&FMESRG when accepting the Hugo for you. Liz Lokke showed up last  
day of con and had to go off to rescue her kids right away, drat the luck.  
I would have given her the Hugo to hold on to for you if she'd been around  
long enough. Berkeley Barb had comic strip on "Czechago" after DemoCon,  
showing Activist types lurking and assembling bombs in consequence of  
unutterably tyrannical oppression.

Hoping you are the same,

Dick Eney

[Panic not: page 2 is blank.]

GEORGE HEAP hopes:

Dear George:

I will, hopefully, get out an issue of the HYBORIAN TIMES this fall/Fall. This should cheer up Jefferrey May and others. I do not want to get bogged down in a ~~xxx~~ lot of individual correspondence. Suggest that you do not advertise the thing in Amra, until I do get out another issue.

The Hyborean Legion badges are available at \$3.00. I unloaded some at the Baycon.

[Comments duplicated in Lagduf 3, aka f/r 220.021: omitted]

At any rate, Eney missed the coa in your letter. [Yes.] Will the APO address on your postcard get things to you faster? [A little, if you airmail. But for Cultic deadline purposes, time of receipt at Box 9120 governs, and you can get a letter to it quicker ~~xxxx~~ than to me at the APO.] I don't suppose you want it circulated through fandom because of the Boardman Problem. [Yes, and the number of people I'd have to tell, when I do move back to ConUS.]

The Seance was rather enjoyable as a common-interest type party. I was glad to meet those who were new to me. Sherry found it so interesting that she talked about getting on the waitlist, but the moment of madness passed.... Eklund, and probably Van Arnan, were at the Baycon but didn't make the Seance. At least I heard they were there.

[...]

I am rather surprised not to have heard from Tapscott by this time. He can usually be counted upon to come forth breathing fire and brimstone. The Pelzii f/r is the only one of the 220th Period and my Lagduf the only one so far for the 221st, but there are many days to go before I can count it closed as far as f/r receipt goes.

Back to Tapscott: there has been nothing so far about appointing another Election Officer. Don't know how that is supposed to work --- especially as one is supposed to selfnominate a week before his [should be: Scithers'] pubdate, or your pubdate, or somethin'. At any rate, I didn't nominate myself.

We went to a stamp show here in Rochester yesterday. At least, to us it was just a show, but to the regulars it was a Convention, somewhat in the tradition of Our Convention. Weeven got asked if we were going to Tucson next year, and signed a petition for some kind of stamp to be issued at Tucson. I could have done a UN first day cover f/r for the Cult, but didn't realize how easily and was broke in any case.

Don't let anyone kid you. The Baycon Costume Ball was a real, genuine, first class, accept-no-substitutes, abortion. Hardly anyone seemed to be able to get good photos. When Studebaker called up possible winners for the last time, some couldn't be found. Lither they had drifted off to other bars, or they just got tired of hanging around in costume doing nothing ---- and having worn uncomfortable costumes, I can easily understand this. One idiot point, by the way, among many, was that Studebaker called for contestants by number, one at a time! So after taking five minutes for the contestant to wander his way back through the crowd, or however it ~~xx~~ was managed, or maybe for Studebaker to decide the contestant was missing; the ridiculous

[HRAP proceeds:::]

procedure was repeated, and repeated, and repeated. I think maybe once or twice, for about fifty contestants, (this was the first repeat for judges selections, and the first chance for anyone to do presentations) did Mr Studebaker think to call out two numbers. Like getting five or six ready would definitely have speeded this particular operation up.

[Thing is, I'm sure Studebaker has seen the Hollander/Scithers team in operation somewhere, and if he hadn't, he could have asked someone who had. I had assumed that, since he's been involved in the mechanisms of the Tournaments, he'd have learned how to manage things [[like, get plenty of assistants, and plan things out beforehand, and yet be ready to change to meet the unexpected]].. biggest gripe to me on the botch is that it will depress the quality of costumes for the next two-three years.]

[What really bugs me, of course, is the feeling -- hopefully erroneous, that the Committee turned it over to Studebaker and then sat back, hoping he'd make a mess of it . . .]

Oh well, enough of that. The rest of the Con was great. Even the food at the Banquet was far above average. Quite good indeed. But the damn hotel didn't provide enough cocktail waitresses, so I had to wander into the kitchen to make a personal deal with the wine steward for our wine. We're now in the process of trying to get me a job in the Bay Area. But I don't think we'll make it in time for the Renaissance Pleasure Fair in October!

Regards,  
George

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JERRY LAPIDUS wrote, summarizing the business meeting and HUGO awards, and promising a d.O. The way things are going, it may be a f/r by the time it's out, f/r's being by awlars, and what with Fitchie Latepub and Eney's Error, there are about eight or nine in Limbo . . .

Jerry: How about trying your hand at incorporating the latest Worldcon Rule changes into the old document, keeping wording as short and simple as possible, and pubbing that. Doubtlessly, St Louis would like some suggestions 'fore they publish the "Official" Rules. I'm very happy to see that St L is thinking enough of their word to be planning to follow the rules right down the line. I gather that some folk simply do not believe the Baycon Committee's announcement of a tie: trouble is, Baycon pretty well established that their word was not to be believed well before the con, so . . .

However, I have reason to believe that the Baycon tie was honest, just as TriCon's was. (Remember, the committee can use its votes to make or break a tie, the latter only if everyone else's vote came within as many votes as there are members of the committee, of tying before the committee voted.)

Anyway, the Baycon Committee went to some trouble to butter their bread; now they must lie in it . . . . .

GHScithers13

FRED PATTEN presumes:

Dear Cult,

With the FReditor presumably someplace in South Korea, are you sure we're supposed to send our letters to New Jersey? Oh, well, they can't hang you for following instructions. (What did you say, Gen. Keitel?) [But -- but -- instructions in my letter to FR 219 said to send letters [[well, that the Cultic address was]] to Box 9120 Chicago 60690.]

Omnes: would it be the Cultish Thing To Do to vote for Wallace to help speed the Revolution? [Well, it is apparently the Lunatic Left thing to do . . .]

The Seance at the BayCon was very enjoyable, both as a Seance and as the only nonovercrowded room party that I attended. All hail to Bruce for providing a comfortable meeting place, and to Dick for providing groovy refreshments. I suppose that Scotty is the only one of us left now who still has an excuse for not believing in Peggy Gemignani. Let's hope a repeat performance can be held next year at St Louis [of Scotty disbelieving in Peggy??].

FR #219 (Avanc #9) I'd almost forgotten what good FR's you put out, Dick; it's a delight to get this. A lot of interesting information on Viet Nam -- I enjoyed reading it, at any rate -- and full publication of letters.

Who is "China's Khrushchev"? Liu Shao-Chi? Or have they started tearing down Chou En-Lai yet?

Speaking of CFR blather -- does Mao still hold the world's swimming record? -- I visited Tijuana with the Trimbles and the Shibanos a couple of months ago and was surprised to see that there's a very big Communist propaganda outlet there now. It's the biggest bookstore in town, in fact. I don't remember the name, and I don't know exactly who's running it; it seemed to stock as much Russian literature as Red Chinese literature. There are a couple of big, beaming portraits of Lenin and Mao on the wall; none of any other Russian statesmen. I got a couple of Soviet s-f anthologies translated into Spanish (one of which says, "We hope that this collection will please the reader and serve to reinforce the mutual friendship between our countries."); about as clear a declaration of intent ~~xf~~ as a piece of propaganda as you could want), some multilingual Russian travel booklets ("Along the Volga River", etc.), and a couple of other things. One was a Red Chinese comic book, or at least a children's book -- a beautifully printed pamphlet with a minimum of text and a maximum of illustration per page. It's a WWII story about two Chinese peasant children who, inspired by the revolutionary doctrine taught in their village by the local commissar, smuggle important information through the Japanese lines to the People's Army, which results in the defeat of the Japanese. As far as it goes, it's no worse than American war comics, which give the impression that the war was fought solely by Sgts Rock & Fury -- this one implies that Mao's army was the only force fighting the Japanese. It was priced at 20¢ US, or \$2.50 Mexican, which I'd guess wouldn't begin to cover the printing and shipping costs. The storekeeper was a very pleasant fellow, and I wonder how many American tourists he gets in his store? (A couple of blocks away is the Tijuana local Kuomintang headquarters, and about this time I began wondering how many Chinese there really are in Baja California, anyway -- and whose side are they on?)

[PATTEN pities:]

A pity you couldn't get enough of any of those safe conduct passes that we keep dropping behind VC lines to put through the Cult. Some of the ones I've seen are pretty humorous, in a sick way; like the one with a picture of an ARVN (or GI?) and a VC trooper buddying it up.

Snider: How did your NIMROD BayCon Project work out? Your brochures looked quite good. Ken Rudolph brought up the latest issue of SHAGGY, published the same day he arrived, and he says that he sold a lot of copies and got a lot of subscriptions. Is your brochure bringing you any subs for NIMROD?

Rogers: I doubt that WorldCons are likely to "get small" again. If it's not "Star Trek" bringing them in, it'll be something else. Not every year, maybe, but often enough. And, of course, you have to define your term of "sane and relatively normal proportions". What do you consider "normal"? 400 attendees? 500? 600? I doubt St Louis' attendance will be under 1,000, with another season of ~~&~~ "Star Trek" to go, probable ads in the prozines, and so on. I wonder how much of St Louis' geographical location will help fans from all over the country to get there? Either Heidelberg or Bermuda will be small, but then '71 will be on the East Coast, and East Coast cons are usually large, I think. The WorldCons had better resign themselves to providing accommodations for attendances of over 1,000, instead of planning small and hoping that only a "normal" crowd will come.

[Well, one thing that would have cut con size down real quick would be a con put on by a really incompetent con committee. Having seen some examples of the nitwittery that passed as correspondence by the Columbus committee, I am sure that, had they won the bid, we would not have had to worry about oversized cons for years afterwards. 'Course, it might have been impossible to find a hotel willing to take us for a small con after a real fiasco . . .]

From where I was sitting at the Banquet, that tie vote for best novella simply wasn't believed. "Oh, they're kidding!" "I guess they felt they couldn't let their Guest of Honor look bad by not getting it!" "Does giving him a sympathy award make him look good?" That was just a couple of people, but I gather from what I've heard since that it's pretty representative of reactions. The most charitable opinion I heard was that the Committee was trying to do a Good Deed by making sure that as many nominees as possible won awards, so that as few fans as possible would be disappointed by having their favorite stories lose. The real damage, whether the tie vote was genuine or not, is that practically everybody believes that it was rigged. [I agree.] Yet nobody seems to mind too much, because, as one fan said, "Well, we all know that the HUGO is just a popularity contest, and it never was a real 'best' award." With the categories shifting every year, and the fans not trusting their own voting -- because for every fan who's sure the Novella tie was rigged by the Committee, there are others who are equally sure that Harlan was voted the Best Dramatic Production by the fans as a joke to embarrass him, and who know that THE BUTTERFLY KID got on the final ballot despite a lack of any serious literary merit -- the awards are being respected less every year. Before the announcement of the awards, a number of fans thought that there was a real chance that THE BUTTERFLY KID might win on a tide of gag votes -- "vote for the fannish underdog!" Several fans

[PATTEN reasons:]

told me that they voted for it, for that reason. Others felt it really deserved to win, because it was the most enjoyable book for the year (to them), even though they all admitted that there was a number of other books that were better in a literary sense. There's still all sorts of confusion as to what the HUGO is, and what it should be, and the way the rules are changed every year "to make fandom happy" [or to "prove that the con committee has complete freedom to break promises, or whatever] doesn't clarify matters any. Incidentally, I see that the latest Ace Double-Novel carries an ad for "THIS IMMORTAL -- winner of the ~~XXX~~ HUGO Award as best sf novel of 1965". If I recall correctly, at the time of that HUGO race, people were making a sharp distinction between "And Call Me Conrad", which was the ~~xxxxxxx~~ version that was technically up for the award, and THIS IMMORTAL, which was the expanded and generally preferred version but which was technically ineligible because it came out in 1966, the year the voting was being held. And now it's THIS IMMORTAL that won the award. Well, it was, because everybody knows that the fans were really voting for THIS IMMORTAL when they cast their ballots for "And Call Me Conrad."

Well, I'd better cut this short, because George asked to be spared long letters. I'm just rambling, anyway.

Cultishly,

Fred Patten VII

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SID COCHRAN judges:

Dear the Harry:

[Here follows an unfortunate paragraph which I will suppress: it is based on the mistaken assumption that Tapscott can be categorized, which simply isn't so. Sid: you overlooked that Scotty is at once anti-war and anti-Boardman.]

Peggy: Hiya, Peggy!

Heap on Peggy: Yep. [Disclaimer, I hope? [[This bit of Cultic lore stems from when the ARBM [[[Arson, Rape, & Bloody Murder [[[[[Har-ness, Johnstone, & Bruce Pelz [[[[[so called for the types of violence they then [[[[[[fictionally]]]]]] espoused]]]] ]]] lived in and around a slan shack housemothered by Bjo; it was then the habit to "disclaimer" unintentional [[or quasi-intentional]] puns & dirty double meanings.]] ]

Lerner on George: Welcome to the club.

Eney, Evers on Eney; Fitch on Eney: I concur with the commentators. Who the hell said that what we were trying to spread in VN was our Technological-Rationalist Civilization -- or that that was what the French were trying to do? Although I would admit that La Pucelle would likely be somewhat shocked to find in what strange company she is in among the Saints of one of these groups. Some of you will recall that one of the major salesmen of American involvement was Dr Tom Dooley -- and if I'm not terribly wrong, one of the big pitches was in the direction of making VN safe for Christian missionaries (principally French



[COCHRAN concurs on:]

and RC, but with some American and Protestants since the 'Geneva Accords' and the withdrawal of French troops).

[I think you misunderstand what the T/R civilization is: the emphasis should be on the R, not the T. If missionarying replaces intense devotion to superstition with a less intense belief in a somewhat rational diety, then it has some value. But -- perhaps Eney'd better field this one.]

Hey! What happens if Ken Goldsmith gets re-instated from Limbo? What list was he Limbo-ized from? This question looks towards the saving the cloak & hood of John G Koning; but if Goldsmith was on the iwl, it won't do it. Oh well! Just in case he gets back in the graces of this Clut, jgk makes himself a 2-address party, being from:

318 Belle Vista and 917 Gorgas  
Youngstown OH 44509 Louisville OH 44509

Elsewhere, he advises that his landlady on Gorgas Street suspects him of nefarious practices already. Hah! Little did she know!

oh, hell! Good night, good ~~nx~~ knight!

Sid.

[You still haven't explained the Zanuk[[?]] and the Philadelphia nun sections of the Internal Revenue Code. Please?]

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PEGGY GEMIGNANI nevers: [This has been somewhat rewritten to make more clear Peggy's meaning.]

Dear Editor;

I have never thought of your Amra as a scholarly publication but it has changed my mind about many things. First thing, I used to be strait-laced but since reading Amra all that has been taken care of. I am happier for it. Secondly, I have found some of your articles as fine as any in scholarly journals. I have enjoyed those which were gathered by Jack Chalker and written by Sprague de Camp, and which thus appeared in the CONAN READER. This book is a must for everyone who likes the unusual and stimulating at its very best.

What interested me the most of all in recent issues is, in Amra v2 #47, "What Really Happened" by C C Hebron. [An English university instructor, I believe.] I have long known that "Sir Gwain and the Green Knight", the long, medieval poem upon which this was based, was descended in turn from a fertility ceremony called "The Beheading of the Green Man" (see Frazer's GOLDEN BOUGH). Christian symbols were superimposed on it by the 13th Century writer who rewrote it and presented it as a morality tale to the unlettered of his day.

"What Really Happened" brings the story back to that ancient origin. It is like discovering a painting under a painting; a beautiful, primitive song of spring, hidden under the spring song that Christianity sings. This poem is a true classic.

Sincerely

Peggy Gemignani

STEVENS minimizes:

Dear George and possibly Cult;

Your lack of desire to receive letters happens to conform exactly with my lack of desire to write one. However, I must send something or be ejected. This being the case, I am also sending a copy to whatsisname, the OA. Things are complicated by the fact that yesterday was the 19th of September rather than the 20th which usually precedes the 21st. That's a horrible thing to endure for a multiapan like myself.

Since my last Cult letter, Czechoslovakia has been invaded, Chicago has had a riot, two schnooks are running for \* president and the Baycon was held. All of which points to the fact that newspapers and fanzines are in no danger of running out of material.

Somebody will undoubtedly comment on some or all of the above topics. Maybe by then I'll have enough excess energy to comment on them myself, but at the moment work has worn me down. Deployment seems to take more energy every time I do it.

Yours truly,

Milton F Stevens

SCITHERS reports:

Dear Cult:

Snider's, Van Arnam's, and Crayne's f/r's finally arrove, via the obsolescent Box O NJ address. I shall assume that Crayne & Snider did so get theirs in before midnight and the Post Awful goofed. I know my (misnumbered) f/r 222 1/13th (shd be: 221 ...) was mailed the morning of 30 Sept and it got a 1 Oct postmark too.

I find myself deeply upset by Scotty's depression anent "Law & Order" as a campaign issue; in some ways I agree: allace is using the slogan to cover his racism, and the Chicago police riot was indeed horrid. However, consider that many people (I believe Nixon among them) are using "Law and Order" to mean law, and order, like that, with no racism implied. Consider that Negroes are in fact the principal victims of Negro criminals. Consider that about three-quarters of the population of this country faces a very real curfew, non the less real because it is not governmental, which makes them unable to walk alone in large sections of every big city. Consider that the Constitutional protection against unreasonable search and seizure protects not the man seized & searched -- mugged -- on a public street or -- worse -- in his own home. Is not the loss of this facet of liberty worth some concern? I have been in Scandinavia, France, Germany, Italy, Greece, even South Korea; in all of these, I feel safer on a strange street, at night, alone, than I do in most big US cities. Only, the thrust of "Law & Order" seems directed (as Heap mentioned) at the trivial crimes, not against robbery and burglary.

Nevertheless, I do not see why the impending collapse of Civilization in North America is any reason to slack off on one's Cultac. After all . . . !

My filin for the OAcy, overleaf, is to end the current OAc crisis. Now, please: will some others file too? I am strictly a last resort candidate for the OAcy. Be Rhadamanthine, George<sup>xoa</sup>/13

# 220 221 Pubs (& note corrected dates: who goofed them up??)

Malfeasors:

1 N f/r 21Oct68 Chuck Crayne, 1050 N Ridgewood Pl, Los Angeles 90038  
2 Y N 11Nov68 Fred Lerner, 98 B the Boulevard, E Patterson NJ 07407  
3 f/r f/r 2Dec68 George Heap, Box 1487, Rochester NY 14603  
4 Y Y 23Dec68 Earl Evers, Box 192 Old Chelsea Station, NY NY 10011  
5 N f/r 13Jan69 Al Snider, Box 2319 Brown Univ, Providence RI 02912  
6 Y N 3Feb69 Scotty Tapscott, 1222 Crandall, Salt Lake UT 84106  
7 N Y 24Feb69 Fred Patten, 1704 B S Flower St, Santa Ana CA 92707  
8 f/r N 17Mar69 Bruce Pelz, Box 100, 308 Westwood Plz, LA CA 90024  
9 N f/r 7Apr69 D&C Van Arnam, 1730 Harrison Av, Bronx NY 10453  
10 f/r N 28Apr69 Dian Pelz, 1231 12th St #J, Santa Monica CA 90404  
11 N f/r 19May69 Dick Eney, 6500 Ft Hunt Rd, Alexandria VA 22307  
12 FR N 9Jun69 Don Fitch, 3908 Frijo, Covina CA 91722  
13 Y FR 30Jun69 George Scithers, Box 9120, Chicago IL 60690

Misfeasors:

1 Y Peggy Gemignani, 3200 N E 36th St, Ft Lauderdale FL 33308  
2 N J G Newkom, 7338 Cartwright Av, Sun Valley CA 91352  
3 N Fred Hollander, 439 49th St, #21, Oakland CA 94609  
4 N Jim Sanders, 611 W 112 St #516, New York NY 10025  
5 Y Sid Cochran jr, 805 Citizens' Bank Bldg, Tyler TX 75701

Quasifeasor:

1 N Y 13Jan69 LTJG Milt Stevens, USS Coral Sea, FPO San Francisco  
CA 96601

Underfeasors:

1 Jerry Lapidus, 54 Clearview Dr, Pittsford NY 14534  
2 Donna Breed, 2775 Carr Court, Yorktown Heights NY 10598

Nonfeasors:

x4 pc N Gordon Eklund, 209 Lincoln Wy, San Francisco CA 94122  
x9 N N Len Bailes, Box 474, 308 Westwood Plz, Los Angeles CA 90024  
xa1 N N Alva Rogers, 5962 Greenridge Rd, Castro Valley CA 94546  
xa2 N N Chuck Hansen, 701 S Grant, Denver CO 80209  
xa5 N N Dave Hulan, 1005 1st Olive Dr #10, Duarte CA 91010  
xi3 Ken Goldsmith, address unknown

Overfeasance:

The office of OA is still occupied by Scotty Tapscott, since his term runs until his successor is elected (see TLC and FR 208), unless he resign, be deposed, or be dropped. Since no one filed with me for the OAcy, I hereby decree and direct any who wish to file for the OAcy must file with Crayne by his pubdate (this extends filing time from the Crayne-decreed 14 Oct to 21 Oct). I hereby file for the OAcy. And as I read the Cultstitution and my previous Rulings, Scotty is OA until the forthcoming OAlection results are published.

Furtherfeasance:

Chuck Crayne is next publisher. Letters must reach him by 19 October. Nonfeasors listed above have been dropped for lactivity (nothing received from them at my NJ, IL, or APO addresses by deadline); in the case of Goldsmith, this was for addresslac and action should be reversed if he provide an address by Lerner'sday. Must write Crayne: Lerner, Tapscott, Pelz, Pelz, & Fitch. Must write Crayne or Lerner: Newkom, Hollander, & Sanders.

