

May 56 FAPA 75 A Zara Press Publication whole #14 vln2

THE DEMON'S DUEL

WHEREIN I FINALLY MISS A MAILING

Yes. The ten-week stay in techschool turned out to be nine weeks plus a month and a half wait before I got into it. This adds up to more than ten weeks. As a result I get home May 7 and the deadline is May 12. This is NOT enough time—not when you are home on leave. So this is being postmailed.

During my stay at Sheppard I almost completely dissociated myself from fandom. I wrote no letters, published no fanzines, and talked to no fans. (Well, I did meet one guy there who read science fiction. I avoided him as much as possible). It did me good: I am all raring to go on Fiendetta now.

After this (30-day) leave I am traipsing overseas. To Europe. There I will probably do such things as get three day passes and go to London Conventions, get three day passes and go to Belgian Conventions, get three day passes and visit Fraulein Steul, get three day passes...

And suchlike things.

I will continue publishing, if I can, overseas.

"But i don't like to be capitalized!"

TRIAL

"Thou shalt not kill," intoned St. Peter.

"But," protested the Lawyer, "My client here didn't really commit murder, you know. It was an accident. He was just driving down the road—and he wasn't breaking the speed limit, mind you—when this old man unfortunately stepped out in front of him without looking where he was going and—"

"Thou shalt not kill," repeated St. Peter rather more loudly.

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"But Your Holiness, the accident was almost unavoidable. How was my client to know he was there? If that old man had been more careful, all this never would have happened. As I said, he was obeying

all the laws, and—"

"I only had a few beers," mumbled the Client, "and that damn speedometer is all wrong anyhow..."

The Lawyer glared at him and continued. "I don't see how you could possibly assign him to the Other Place for an accident that wasn't his fault anyhow, and as I have—"

"Thou shalt not kill," St. Peter thundered, "and THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS!"

There was a loud crash and the Lawyer and his Client were no longer there.
—reprinted from JINX #1, SAPS 34

"The Lord my God? The Lord? My God!"

WHEREIN YOUR EDITOR GETS CONVERTED

I have become a Unitarian. I would also exhort you other religious liberals to become Unitarians too, because that's what it is: liberal religion. It is organized congregationally, like many churches, and it calls itself a church, but it teaches liberal ideas—or rather, its members do. It teaches nothing. The various members are encouraged to form their own creeds, rather than submitting to an imposed creed.

Unitarianism is not radical. There are but a few outright atheists in it, because most atheists are also anti-church. But there are some, and they are not excluded. There are many agnostics, as far as a personal God is concerned. Definitely the majority believe in some sort of God, but they do not begrudge the agnostics.



Many of you out there are atheist or agnostic because you are antichurch, and not the other way around. You have seen the dogmatism of orthodox churches and the hypocrisy of its members, and their overemphasis on money-collecting, and are repelled. So was I. But the Unitarian Church is not dogmatic, its members are not hypocritical (there's no need to be: no one is shocked if you say what you think), and money-collecting is not emphasized.

When I go to Unitarian churches, I go to meet with people of liberal opinions, like mine, and to talk with people who respect any opinion honestly arrived at.

Also, the formal service which some of them hold gives me peace of mind. Thus it attracts people of different temperament. Those that have no use for a formal service (not a ritual—just formal) attend the Adult Forum, or whatever it is called in various places, immediately before or after the service. This might undignifiedly be called a bull session on religion. In most places it is informal, though in many places directed to one subject. Those who find peace of mind in a regular service can attend that, and can listen to sermons that they can agree with (and which, if they disagree with, can argue about with the minister without fear of shocking people), and can hear good music. (In some churches, and many fellowships which lack organs, classical recorded music is played).

As an example of one order of service, that of the church at Dallas: The minister opens with a prayer (for instance, "To God, the indomitable spirit in Man — the divinity of mankind is a favorite Unitarian belief), and then reads from the "ancient scriptures"—the Bible, usually. After a musical interlude, he then reads from the "modern scriptures"—the religious writings of Emerson, or one of the modern philosophers, or a past Unitarian minister, or something. This has always struck me as more sensible than depending solely on one book when you have all of the world's literature before you. After this he proceeds with announcements, etc., congregational singing, and the sermon.

But Unitarian services vary widely. They can be as informal as a Quaker meeting, or more formal than the above service.

Some beliefs:

THE TRINITY "Unitarian" originally meant simply "disbelief in the trinity." This was opposed to "trinitarian." No Unitarian believes in the trinity.

JESUS CHRIST Beliefs vary. Nearly all accept the ethical teachings of Jesus as ideal. As for him personally, we nearly all agree that he was one of the greatest men who ever lived. "Orthodox" Unitarians go further and say he was a special revelation from God: the perfect man, and the ideal for all other men.

THE RESURRECTION Most Unitarians deny it.

MIRACLES Most Unitarians deny the existence of special interference in the progress of Nature by God as unnatural and unreasonable. The abovementioned "orthodox" Unitarians still accept them, and when Unitarianism first was organized in this country (1840's) most Unitarians did. Unitarianism is a progressive religion: its beliefs advance as mankind's knowledge grows. It accepts new knowledge instead of fighting it.

THE BIBLE To quote from John Nichols Booth: "Unitarians do not accept the Bible as the infallible and exclusive word of God. To regard certain Old and New Testament stories as unchallengeable statements of truth would be to discredit the findings of every university laboratory and department of scientific research in the world...to approve particular passages which are inaccurate and barbaric would be to attribute unthinkable moral lapses to a Supreme Being." But also, "The book is inspired to the extent that any rare masterpiece in art or literature may attain unprecedented heights of insight and expression...In pulpit, Sunday School, and home, Unitarians hold sacred the Bible as a ((please note: "a")) primary source of inspiration and counsel without, at the same time, rejecting other sources of religious wisdom."





GOD "Unitarians differ among themselves...They shun the primitive conception of an anthropomorphic Being while believing ardently in the presence of a moral and spiritual ((I would not have used that word—cw)) force in the universe... Whether or not the Deity is ascribed as a definite personality, as a transforming spirit, or as an abstract ideal rests upon the individual judgment of each member of the faith." Booth again. Expressive fellow, that.

AFTERLIFE Unitarians do not stress it. Some have a definite belief in it, others have just as definite belief in the lack of one, and still others simply do not know. We emphasize

the life here and now, the betterment of this world, heaven on earth. Those that do believe in an afterlife do not believe in a separate heaven and hell, but believe in the immortality of the soul, not the body. They are all universalists: they believe that everyone ultimately is united with God. There is no eternal punishment.

We like to drop names. Hendrik Willem Van Loon, William Howard Taft, Dr. Joseph Priestly, Susan B. Anthony, Benjamin Franklin, Supreme Court Justice Burton, William Cullen Bryant, John and John Quincy Adams, John C Calhoun, and Frank Lloyd Wright have been members of Unitarian churches. In addition, Jefferson called himself a Unitarian, Lincoln and Johnson were liberals, and Adlai Stevenson is a sort of Unitarian Presbyterian (he's a member of a Presbyterian Church because there is no Unitarian Church where he lives—but he has retained his membership in the Bloomington (Tuckertown) Illinois Unitarian Church. There are more (27 times as many as the next largest representation) Unitarians in the Hall of Fame than of any other religion, for its size (about 95,000). End of name-dropping.

End of (excessively long) article.

"I feel theologically nude without a robe."

WHUPS

I forgot to mention that Unitarians are opposed to segregation almost as a body. In many southern cities the only desegregated church is the Unitarian one.

STOP!!

CREED

I believe in every individual's right to arrive at the truth himself without interference by others and with unlimited access to other men's expressed thoughts.

Of all methods of arriving at truth, I accept the progressive revelation thereof by reason based on experience as alone always valid.

I believe that the only aim of our life can be the betterment of ourselves and our fellows, and that the realization of this will result in heaven on earth.

I believe in the divinity of man, every man, and man alone; in the perfectibility of the human race; in the unity of reality; in the necessity of fellowship; and in the impermanence of this creed.

—CW

"Well, I'll be switched!"

LETTER FROM HARNESS

I'm looking over the Fapailing...and I come across Fiendetta.

And lo! the Fiendetta contains more of the Demon's Duäl, with more of one Charles Wells' ideas on religion. I liked the story; a good exercise and a good resolution of the problem imposed within the story.

...Also liked the Lyons, Lyons, all lit up. I got that and then looked up and saw the Tyger lino, which could have been omitted...

RELIGION: FIRST REVISION

This I like. It's a good expression of beliefs and very forthright.

I'd like to take another look at Omnipotence, Omniscience, Omnipresence, and Eternality. Not to come to conclusions, but to try to see if there is some other indications in addition to those you have drawn from a definition of terms.

So let's take the Being, or perhaps Beingness is more exact as a term, you propose is (1). You set up this possibility as Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent, and Eternal. Capable of setting up and bossing a Universe, in other words.

Omnipresence? If a Being set up a universe of matter, energy, space, and time, that means he is not located in matter, energy, space, and time. Space and Time would by your definition be created things, and hence unnecessary for Mr. B.'s existence. Clarification: This means Mr. B. is not located in matter, energy, space, and time, rather than saying Mr. B. is "outside" these. ((Italics mine—cw)) Omnipresence would then be answered yes or no and mean the same thing, more or less.

Theoretically, Mr. B. might be capable of considering that he/it was located in NEXT, and deciding to act on that idea, but this isn't germane to the definition.

And let's take another look at omniscience. Total knowing would not leave room for knowing particulars. This would mean Mr. B. would have abstract knowingness. Until some action had taken place, there would be nothing to know. Real cute, but it looks right. I gather the first thought such a B. would have is duhhh?

Omnipotence? If you do anything and everything, what is there to do?

Eternality? Could be. Of course one gets into the problem of affairs before time began.

As I say, I'm not suggesting a way out of this Godhood/damn predicament, though it might be possible to apply a portion of Scientology to it. Your terms for condition (1) just seemed to have different definitions to me than the one you presented, and I thought you might be interested.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF 8TH MAILING

I have eliminated the analysis by type of reproduction. It was too much trouble to be worth it.

Everything went up this time except the number of magazines, which went down. This is largely due to Lee Hoffman and William Danner and Georgina Ellis, along with an almost absolute absence of onesheeters (only one).

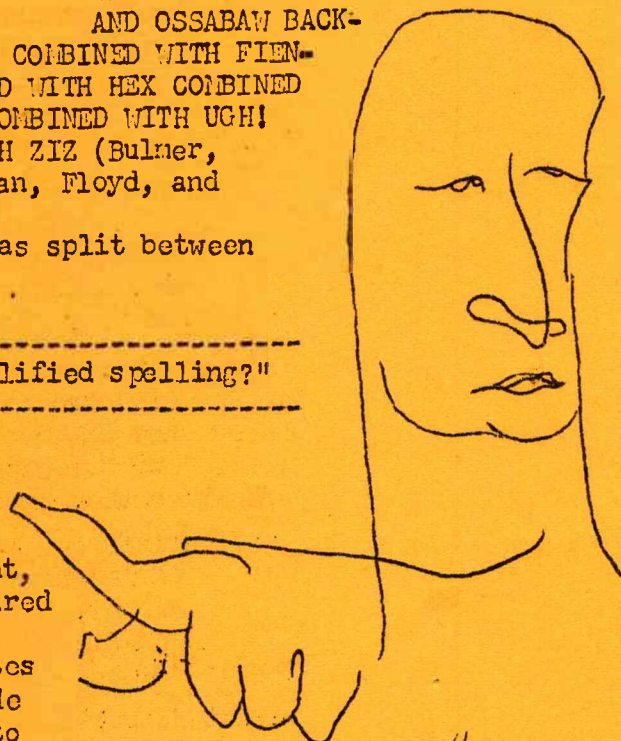
	MLG 72	MLG 73	MLG 74
Total # pages in mailing:	485	449	548
Total # mags in mailing:	43	43	41
Av # pages in each mag:	11.28	10.42	13.37
Av # pp. per represented mem:	15.16	14.97	17.68
Av # pp. per member (all):	7.46	6.91	8.21
Av # mags/represented mem:	1.34	1.46	1.32
Number of represented mem:	32 (47.1%)	30 (46.2%)	31 (46.7%)
Largest magazine:	ZIP (White)	GEMZINE (Carr)	WENDIGO (Ellis)
Men with most pages:	Ted White	GM Carr	Lee Hoffman
Longest title:	THE CHATAHOOCHEE, OKEFENOKEE, AND OGEECHEE OCCASIONAL GAZETTE (Hoffman)	THE CHATAHOOCHEE, OKEFENOKEE, AND OGEECHEE OCCASIONAL GAZETTE COMBINED WITH THE VASSAU AND OSSABAW BACKWATER JOURNAL COMBINED WITH FIEN-DETTA COMBINED WITH HEX COMBINED WITH STEAM COMBINED WITH UGH! COMBINED WITH ZIZ (Bulmer, Bulmer, Hoffman, Floyd, and Wells)	KEEP YOUR COTTONPICKING HANDS OFF MY FANZINE (Hoffman)

The shortest title (72: ZIP; 73: POO) was split between POO (Young) and KER (Speer).

"Chatahoochee? What's that? Simplified spelling?"

LETTER FROM MCCAIN

...I am very flattered that out of 22 favorite interlineations you chose to reprint, three are mine and a fourth originally appeared in BIRDSMITH.....although our tastes somewhat differ.....the only one of your favorites in which I take a particularly parental pride is the "Man is not bred..." one. And just to add to the egoboo content, my name pops up in a fifth.....but one which I don't recall ever having seen before, tho maybe I did and just forgot. However, I definitely missed the nonsense interlineation by Lyons to which you devote so much space this time, and had you not done so I'd never have known he was taking my name in vain. Maybe I should read interlineations more closely; I seem to be missing all sorts of egoboo. ...I was disappointed that you didn't include two of the greatest interlineations of all time, though, both authored by Grennell: "Boggs is Redd but not with ketchup; Boggs is read with relish" and "Just for a change I'm joining the Knights of Damon."



Of my own interlineations, my favorite is "If Dean is good enough for Grennell then why isn't it good enough for Boggs." Grennell thought this was hilarious. Boggs managed to ignore it, with great dignity. ...

Vernon

*****You mention three different interlineations, two of Grennell's and one of yours, which are your favorites. Tastes must differ. The Boggs is Redd one was funny but there have been funny; the Damon one was downright poor; and the Dean one, while good—and pointed—was not a true interlineation. But each to his own tastes. / I didn't make it clear last issue, but I couldn't find enough "favorite" interlineations to fill the space allotted so I included a lot of famous ones along with them: interlineations which caused a big stir, as well as the ones I liked most (such as Courtney's boat). That's why I titled it what I did. / In my opinion, Vernon, people aren't aware enough of your sense of humor. / Three dots (...) indicated editing; five and six dots (.....) were punctuation used by McCain himself. *****

Down with McCarthy!

McCarthy

GIBBERISH

Gibberish gibberish gibberish! All the world speaks Gibberish.
Men open their mouths to speak...and gibberish comes out!

Philosophers speak to each other
Of Existentialism
And Determinism
And Pragmatism.

What do they know of the world?

Theologians speak to each other
Of Homoiousionism
And Predestinarianism
And Arianism.

What do they know of God?

Psychologists speak to each other
Of Introversion
And Extraversion
And Schizophrenia.

What do they know of people?

Scientists speak to each other
Of megaparsecs
And millimicrons
And Gis-Trans-Mu-Meson hogwash!

What do they know of Nature?

What do politicians know of ruling?
What do mathematicians know of logic?
What does anyone know of anything?
I'll tell you—
Nothing!

Gibberish gibberish gibberish! The world is FILLED with it!
But all I say gainst it is nought...
For I speak gibberish too.

—reprinted from JINX #1

Quatt Quarkery

PLAGIARISM

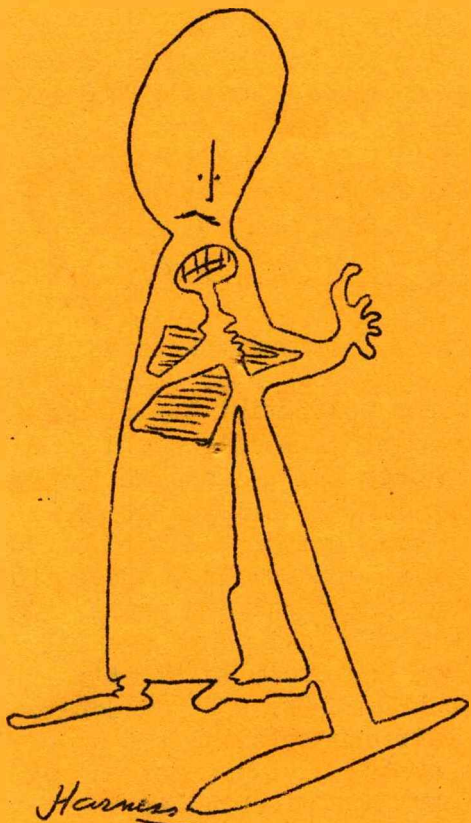
LIGHT Tsk, should be "sesenta y dos" not "sesenta dos". / A humanist such as I am finds God in people rather than nature, but I do not argue with you. It is merely a matter of definition, coupled with my belief about the perfectibility of humans. I agree with you about churches where you get "preached at"...that's why I am a Unitarian, where I get a chance to argue with the preacher and to do some "preaching" myself. / Glad you agree about the membership limit. Raising it ten would lop about a third off the waiting list ONCE...a loss quickly replaced. To lop another third off we'd have to raise the limit again, and you know where that would lead. / I had zippers installed on my button-fly khaki uniform pants. At a dollar a pair I dunno whether it was worth it... Some AF khaki pants and all AF wool pants come with preinstalled zippers. / I hope you don't think it's all right to get ahead by treading on the other fellows liberty. If you don't, then I agree with you. If a person can get rich in fair competition, let him. But everyone has a right to live, and a capitalistic system must not get out of hand and produce worker-slaves, like nineteenth century England. Even if the workers get in that position out of laziness, still it is immoral for the factory owner not to provide livable wages, even if they DON'T deserve it. That is not socialism. That is Capitalism, controlled in accordance with (I hate to say it) Christian ideals. / It is just as bad to be prejudiced against people who are prejudiced as it is to be prejudiced against people of a different religion or skin-color. People who are prejudiced against (for example) Negroes can still be otherwise very nice. (Croutch)

WHAMMY Noted (White-Harness-Magnus)

PLAGIARISM!

HORIZONS The second (you said first but I presume meant second) person plural did not it is true completely replace the singular in French, but it did so to a large extent. The process has merely gone farther in English. / Omniscient means "knowing EVERYTHING". This includes knowing how to do everything, including the impossible. A being which can do that is omnipotent, by definition. Few people grasp the entire implications of the words "omniscient" and "omnipotent". The "omni" means everything, not one iota less than everything. This is standard Christian definition, not my definition. / Do you think (and does McCain) that I WANTED to keep Perdue in? / Newspapers won't disappear if I have anything to do with it. I like a printed record of the news, and I like the completeness newspapers have. Perhaps we'll switch over to a few national newspapers, like the Times and the Christian Science Monitor. The newspapers have already lost out to radio-tv in speed, so perhaps the extra day delay in mailing will come not to matter. But I see no trend towards this type of thing now. / I once had the idea of a national newspaper with a printing office in every city and town. The type would be set electronically with the new teletypesetter they have. Being printed right there where it is distributed would make the distribution as fast as presentday local papers. / But would people buy that kind of paper? I doubt it: most people read the paper for local news, not national news. Maybe facsimile is the answer. / Quibble: is there such a word as "inaneness"? / Your point about philosophy I have long agreed with. I have a low opinion of philosophers... I know so many people who have thought up so many ideas independently which were

PLAGIARISM!



previously thought up by philosophers. The philosophers merely had the talent of expressing themselves better. I myself thought up determinism independently. And I also thought up independently the idea of / a FAPAP, which I want to discuss at length. (Sneaky way to bring it up). As you say, it is a basically simple plan, though complicated to explain. You have listed a number of things in favor of it: I am going to list a few objections.

1. I think a large proportion of FAPA would join FAPAP too. This would have the effect of materially reducing the size of FAPA mailings, because those who joined FAPAP would have larger circulations and would be inclined to publish less pages, as a result.

Huh. After writing the above objection, two more objections which I was going to write went and dissolved themselves. / The objection which I did write down is not serious. For one thing, it is difficult to predict the reactions of FAPA. It may very well be that very few FAPAs join the FAPAP. And in the second place, I'm not so sure it won't be a good thing for mailings to get smaller. / I like the idea of not allowing FAPAP members to vote or amend the constitution...even those sections of the constitution which apply to them. For most of the wild-eyed reformers in FAPA are new members (I'm an exception: a wild-eyed reformer after three years). Most of them

will calm down before they get in FAPA, making sure that those reforms which the FAPA does adopt have a good reason behind them. Now, I have some questions and some random thoughts about details and minor changes in your plan.

1. Will the FAPA and FAPAP treasuries be kept and reported separately, or combined? Separation will ensure that each organization be self-supporting, but a combined treasury, if expenditures and receipts were broken down properly, could do the same thing and would be more convenient.

2. If the FAPA and the FAPAP do not have separate constitutions, why not at least have separate sections of the same constitution for them? That way, instead of revising the whole constitution, we could simply add a new section.

3. Why put the FAPAP in the constitution at all? Why not establish it by by-law? By-laws are adopted by an absolute majority of the membership endorsing copies of it. This is considerably quicker than the cumbersome amendment procedure and has the additional advantage of not increasing the length of the constitution unreasonably.

3. What about a provision automatically dissolving the FAPAP if the waiting list gets smaller than ten or fifteen?

4. Qualifications specifically mentioned for the FAPAP's oe. Can he be any member of the FAPAP? Or just those on the w-l, or just those in FAPA too? (I say any member). Can he be the same person as FAPA's oe?

5. The President, veep, and Sec-Treas of FAPA are also those of FAPAP. Does this mean that only members of both organizations can run for those offices? Or that a person elected to office, if not already a member of FAPAP, must join? Or that a person elected to office gets a free membership in the FAPAP if he does not already belong, to last his term of office? If the latter, is he subject to FAPAP activity requirements under that free membership, or is he exempt from those as well as from dues? (I again say the latter: if you are elected to office and are not a member of FAPAP you receive FAPAP bundles free during your term).

6. Members of both FAPA and FAPAP will get, in their FAPAP bundles, only mags published by members on the waiting list. Thus two kinds of bundles will go out. To waitinglisters, FAPAP bundles will contain all magazines published by FAPAPans, whether in FAPA or not. To FAPAPans in FAPAP, only waitinglisters' magazines will be in the bundle, as the FAPAPans will, I assume, receive all the publications of the FAPAPans in the FAPA bundle. (Inasmuch as FAPAPans belonging to FAPAP must distribute all their FAPA magazines in FAPAP, they should be forbidden to publish magazines for FAPAP distribution without also distributing them to FAPA.)

7. If the FAPAP membership increases over, say, 100, why not reduce activity requirements? This could be automatic, or done by another bylaw in such an event.

8. Publish ten or fifteen extra copies of each FAPAP bundle, excluding the magazines published by those already in FAPA, and sell them at double or trip e cost to members of FAPA who do not wish to become FAPAPans.

Elsewhere in this magazine you may or may not find a proposed by-law for this. / I quibble at one point with your French: ç with the squiggle is pronounced "ss", not "ch". (Danner)

KNIGHT'S MARE Fascinating. Makes me want to read Fort. Or write a story with the ideas he proposes. / I got copy 104. Did anyone else? (Danner)

LARK Maybe I'm prejudiced. But I don't really think that people as high up in the hierarchy as the Pope would exaggerate an illness to make its recovery seem a miracle. I do not doubt that there are people in the hierarchy who would do such a thing, but I don't think they are very high up. And of course I have no proof. But one can go by the example of many organizations honest and sincere at the top but with some corruption on the lower levels. May I point out the United States Government. When I say lower levels, I don't necessarily mean the very bottom, I must point out. / I think the Pope sincerely thinks he saw a vision of Christ, too. One cannot deny that many people have seen all sorts of visions throughout history. But one can argue that they are physically caused (internally or externally) and are not miracles. However, it seems to me foolish to deny that visions have been seen (or that people have been cured in such places as Fatima and Lourdes and Christian Science sessions). Just as foolish as denying that Jesus Christ ever lived. (His life is at least as well documented as Socrates'). / I know what you mean by the attitude of many Catholics. But I also know some very nice Catholics, some of whom privately held distinctly heretical beliefs. Possibly I know more than you that are nice, and less that are stinkers. Perhaps that is why I am more sympathetic to the Roman Church. / I have attended a number of Masses. They can be held with great dignity and beauty. But when a Mass is held by a priest who has a voice like a gangster (like I saw once) who runs through it as fast as he can, and gives out the bread at the communion at the rate of about two a second, then the Mass can be one of the ugliest things invented by man. / I consider Fundamentalism the worst and most illogical form of Christianity, not Catholicism. Catholicism at least has beauty. On top of that, it at least tries to be logical. / Your description of justifying on an FBI was different from mine. I think it is because different FBI's are different. / No of course I don't enjoy a kinescope as much as a live show. But that's because it's not live, not because it's blurry. (Danner)

STEFANTASY AF Enlisted men wear caps with bills, like Army officers. That proves that AF enlisted men are better than Army enlisted men... / I agree with Dean ever so completely about skipping grades. NO one should EVER skip grades. EV-ER. (Other Stef) / I like your cover paper (#35). I suppose it's expensive. (Danner)

FANHISTORY #1: Beautiful. It is better than I expected. I did not think you were

the type to publish an impersonal magazine soberly recollecting fannish historical facts, and I was right. You published a personalized magazine unsobberly, recalling fannish historical facts, nevertheless accurately. / I must meet Mr. Speer sometime. 2: I think Harlan was wrong when he said I did not contribute to the 7th Fandom movement. I was the first one to make a big noise about it. I yelled it up and advertised it and wrote people letters about it, and then quit just as it got underway. The fact that I was the first (and also the first to renounce it) has made people call me its founder. I think that, ad Fiendetta advertised, I "heralded" it. If that is founding something, then I founded it. It's a matter of definition. Ellison was the one, more than anyone, who was responsible for giving it the brief life it had. He did the dirty work: I merely made loud noises for awhile and then quit when I didn't like the way Ellison was taking it. He should be given the credit...or the blame. But nevertheless, Harlan was wrong in saying I never really contributed to it. 3: A Darnriacal issue. Naturally it's the best one, since it's about Ghod. (The American one, not the Irish one). I think Damon Knight is Grand. (LeeH. Or--no, LeeS. Has Larry Shaw been given a new LeeS on life?)



KEEP YOUR COTTON-PICKIN' HANDS OFF MY FANZINE I refuse to comment on voting on new applicants. I might run on for pages like I did at Harry Warner's proposal. / I read this here magazine backwards. Not on purpose or anything. I saw that thing by Grennell near the back so I read it, and then kept thumbing forward and reading the previous article. / BY THIS DARK RIVER was the best poem. The imagery is worthy of Coleridge. The one on page Q was good too, but it left me with an undeniable feeling having understood some basic Universal mystery and then losing it. Perhaps, bluntly, I was just hungry at the time. But it gave me the pessimistic feeling that my whole religion, which is based on understanding things, is false. Don't do it again! / The RSV has that psalm as follows:

"O daughter of Babylon, you devastator!

Happy shall he be who requites you with what you have done to us!

Happy shall he be who takes your little ones and dashes them against the rock!"

Even gorier. (Her Again)

THE CHOOOG c/w THE W2-OBJ Uh, yes. This is like some thing out of the past. I liked the folksong. (Her AGAIN?)

BURBLINGS I like GMcCarr's stuff, too. I think FAPA IS (WUUPS) tolerant enough to allow people to like her without killing them, tho sometimes I doubt. / I don't always AGREE with her, though. / JESUS IN THE DITCH was interesting. I don't remember ever having read it. / Rains cause flood conditions here too. Did I ever tell you about the time it rained so hard that a woman complained to the police that she didn't like the people riding down the street in the rowboat because it made waves beat against her house? / And that is in Savannah, where there are no hills whatever...and we are on a bluff overlooking the river, too. (Burbee)

FIENDETTA I quote Samuel Johnson: "There is no problem which the mind of man can set, that the mind of nan cannot solve." (me)

MOONCALF Those dogs which are indepndent and those cats which make "fools of themselves to be fondled" are exception. On the whole, cats are the independent ones and dogs are the slavish. After all, my statement was a generalization, and all generalizations are false, including this one. / I don't think "damn" and "hell" are going to be considered profanity much longer. They are on the verge of becoming acceptable in mixed company. Among younger people, anyhow. / There have been many arguments against the idea that the quality of the stuff in a literary field diminishes as the quantity increases. The relationship I don't think is a linear one. But certainly it holds true roughly. Also, after a certain point, as the circulation of a magazine increases, its quality decreases too. This "certain point" varies. And I don't think there is a very clear relationship of that kind with hardcover books, where quality seems to have little to do with circulation. Take two high circulation books: GONE WITH THE WIND and BRIDEY MURPHY. GWTW is certainly high in quality, but it had a high circulation too. But BH had a high circulaation, and yet most sensible people regard it as trash. So did Spillane's books. / The agnostic stand which you picture is not the stand of most agnostics. An agnostic merely says you aqmot PROVE whether God exists or not. He may, like the term's inventor, say that the evidence is all against his existence, but that there is no proof. An atheist says he KNOWS that God does not exist, beyond a shadow of a doubt, and anyone who does not KNOW has no right to the term atheist, according to the dictionary definition of the term. These two terms have been much misused. / Nonono, you misunderstood Coulter. He said Jesus was the son of God and a virgin...or rather that he did not believe that. What he meant was "son of God and the virgin Mary" or "son of the virgin Mary by God". He did not mean that Christ was a virgin, although I think that is the stand of the Catholics and conservative Protestants. / Catholicism, like Buddhism, is a logical and sensible religion "after acceptance of its outrageous premises". Many religions are. / Omighod, that Graham quote.(Ellis)

WENDIGO George Wetzel. Bah. I don't think I shall stop in Baltimore on my way to NY like I originally planned. Avoid meeting Wetzel, you know. I have some things to say about Wetzel, here and under Gemzine. (1) Mason's anarchistic views do not "grate" on me and I am in the service. One reason I am in the service is to help see that people like Mason (whom I admire and like) are allowed to continue voicing their opinions. (2) You say, "...the profanity in your zine may be highly objectionable to a deeply religious person(I am an atheist myself) who would find it derogatory of the deity. Don't their feelings count?" Well, don't the Negroes' feelings count? Don't the people who advocate omitting the word "darkie" from Stephen Foster's songs have as much right to do so as you do to advocate omitting profanity? No one has advocated omitting the word "darkies" by law: they merely thought it would be a good idea for the publishing companies to do so. That's not censorship. It would be sensorship if they did not have the right to do so. / You seem to forget that persons have the right to "condemn" other persons for prejudices, as well as have prejudices. It may smack to you of a "desire for censorship" on Mason's part for him to "condemn" you but I would be surprised...very surprised...if censorship had even entered his mind. You seem to think that every time someone indicates dislike of your holy opinions, that they wish to "censor" you. You seem to think that every time someone indicates dislike of YOU that they are "libelling" you. How selfish and egotistical can you get? This dispute...and your membership in it...is one reason I quit the Cult, where the dispute arose. You can be sure, George Wetzel, that I DO hold it against you for being, however unwittingly, one of the main causes of my quitting an organization which I helped found and which was for a long time my major interest in fandom. Remember that! / I invented "hashzine",* not Norman Browne. Must take credit where cerdit (oh well) is due, you know. / XENOBLAST is already in use as a title.

* IN MY NEWSZINE "GREY"

✓ / See Norman's article got printed in INFINITY. Congratulations. / Did anybody know that Fiendetta once had one of its original stories (by Bob Tucker) reprinted in a hardcover book? Back in the subzine days. (Ellis)

WRAITH Local TV station, about 10:00 every night, starts getting behind in its programming, so that by the time they sign off, they are running a full five minutes behind. I think they have overly lengthy commercials. Anyway, its annoying to turn from it (WIOC-TV) to the other station (WSAV-TV) to find that the program you were going to listen to has already been on five minutes, or conversely that (if you are turning from sav to toc) you are going to have to wait five minutes for the last program to end. (Ballard) *Ran 10 min. behind last nite (May 26)*

✓ PHLOSTAM Pardon me, PHLOTSAM. / True, Winston Churchill₁ is a writer too, but not the same one as Winston Churchill₂. WC₂ wrote novels; WC₁ Mostly nonfiction. / But I do not please myself if I publish a Fiendetta which nobody likes. I agree that an editor should publish what he wants, but what I want is to publish an interesting, though-provoking magazine. I don't want to please everyone; I just don't want to bore them. And I fear that I am. / Dogs are certainly good protection and even good friends, but who wants an automatic friend that you don't have to win? / I'm tall but not blond. Sandy Rosin thought I was bald and middle aged. / Yes, Bulmer wrote the piece about NY. / I could say that same thing you said about New Yorkers about stfans...or Unitarians. / You're right about cities. The larger the city, the more you can deviate without incurring the wrath of your neighbors. Tolerance is a product of the modern City, not the modern farmer, as some claim. (Economou)

CONTOUR John Berry is funny. He is funnier than ANYBODY. HE IS FUNNY. / Do you understand? / Explanation of calibre fascinating. I didn't realize it was so complicated. I must read a book on it sometime. (Pavlat)

REVOLTIN' DEVELOPMENT Well. I guess that proves SOMETHING about fans. (Alger)

✓ BHANG I have unusually long legs, too. But I cannot do the ankle trick you describe: you are doublejointed. / I get especially irritated at buses (which I frequently ride), some of whose seats are so short that I have to sit sideways, or else up VERY straight and jam my knees in as best I can. Some small movie theaters are overly uncomfortable, too. / I seem to have unusual tolerance for weather. My tolerance for heat is average among southerners, which is of course much higher than normal among Northerners (who shockingly enough consider anything above 85 F as hot) with whom now that I am in the AF I am associating mostly. My tolerance for cold is below both northerners' and southerners'—especially the latter. I know people that consider below 70 as cool. Me, I go without an undershirt in anything above 70, which means I consider 60-70 as normal. Why do people differ in their temperature tolerance? (Rike)

✓ POO Ah yes, Poo. / "Classical notions" about velocity are not simple when you examine in detail their consequences. Have you ever heard of Zeno? / AREN'T you a scholar? / Odd. I recently (about a year ago...recent as FAPA goes) tightened my mimeo roller somewhat and got better results. / Re that interlineation on page two: Don't say such things. The near point and the far point of my right eye are now only six inches apart (uncorrected, of course) and they're growing closer. One of these days your facetious interlineation is going to come true for me, and I don't like the idea! / I hope you like the World Calendar best of the calendar reform proposal. Before you came into the FAPA I did considerable proselytizing for it. / The military 24-hour system, if adopted, would be a considerable improvement. / The Christian God was created in man's image. The nearest thing in the world to God, potentially, is mankind. Why he insists on refusing to recognize his own divinity and continues to postulate some inherently illogical deity I don't know. I think one reason mankind has not gotten as far as

he could have till now is that refusal; and one reason he has gotten as far as he has is the existence of idealists like Plato and Jesus Christ and Thomas Jefferson and Albert Einstein who recognized, and, in part, made use of, mankind's total potentiality. / End of sermon. / Yesterday some ADA member said he vaguely remembered that Jefferson said something to the effect that revolutions were often good. The Senator investigating him exclaimed that if Jefferson should say that now he should be prosecuted. Sic transit gloria virorum... / That's the greatest compliment Fiendetta has been paid in two years...your saying it is "all philosophical and whithery": that's just what I like in fta. / You have squelched my argument that eternalness implies omniscience: he would have infinite knowledge—even if he didn't retain everything he experienced, but only a tiny fraction thereof—but he still wouldn't have total knowledge of the universe, which would be a higher-order infinity: aleph null to aleph one, I think. / I still, however, think that knowing all about the infinite past implies eternalness. This is a pragmatic doctrine: it is without meaning to say that a being existed in 1956 but not in 1856, if he knows and is aware of everything happening and existing, and understands everything taking place, at both those dates (as he would if omniscient.) For the "fact" that he exists in 1956 but not in 1856 adds nothing to his understanding of events in 1956, nor does it add to their effect on him or his power to affect them. If it did add these things, then he would not be omniscient as far as 1856 is concerned, which means he would not be omniscient period. To argue that he existed one time and not another is like arguing about how many angels dance on the head of a pin: it makes no difference in real life and can never under any conditions make any difference in real life or in the solution of other problems. His consciousness existed in both times, by any sane definition, and what is he besides consciousness? If he had a body, physical or spiritual, it would not make the slightest difference, since he could do anything without it he could do with it. / Omnipresence being implied by omniscience has the same argument for it as the above for eternalness, only applied to existence in various places in space rather than time. / I don't like 1160's either. Maybe it's because you're pica. (Young)

GROTESQUETTE Imh. (Martin)

ABHARTI Frustrating. Just got the 75th mlg, and I'm not through commenting on the 74th yet! / Modern Catholics are not now allowed to translate the Bible from other languages besides Latin. The Vulgate is still the revealed word of God for the Catholic. But other language versions may be used to determine the exact meaning of the Vulgate, which by the way is not all St. Jerome's translations. (Coslet)

HELEN'S FANTASIA Why didn't you ASK the weather station about the balloon? Or would that make them think you were a subversive? (Wesson)

THE RAMBLING FAP YAAAH! Outlaw postmailings? Outlaw singlesheeters? No, no, a thousand times no! FAPA should have as few regulations concerning the nature and contents of publications as possible. Only that way can we give our members maximum freedom of expression. / What about my comments on Chooog? Written in October, commented upon in May—almost half-a-year later. / I'll take 960 stencils anytime. Even if I can't get as good work as you can with cheaper stencils. / Fifteen-cent beer in the PX? Lost AF beer in Texas is 20¢, except some horrible stuff called Lone Star. And, I think, Ballantine. I've learned to like, or at least tolerate, beer since I got in the AF...used to be nothing but wine I'd drink. Budweiser is OK. Schlitz almost as bad as Lone Star. Never tried Pabst or Ballantine. / Also learned to like movies. Glad you said that on top of page nine: I agree with it. The same applies to television. / My spelling abilities are like yours, only I won a spelling bee once. My trouble is that spelling bees always come up with words I have never heard of before, with the result that I lose out near the last. I NEVER study before a spelling bee: the words I study are never the ones they ask.

✓ I half agree with you on your comments on Coulter. He emphasized the negative, not the positive, to quote an old song. I think people like him and Danner should write more about what they think, rather than what they don't think. (Calkins)

NULL-F Like the cover. ✓ "Moreen and my's symbol"? I like that. Do it again. ✓ If the Cult is still active when I get back from overseas (1959) I will rejoin it. I am glad to hear that some of the more objectionable members have gone. I could not have (or would not have) kept up my membership while at Sheppard anyhow: one reason I was irked was that I stayed at Lackland three months without writing a single thing for the Cult, and yet was still a member when I got back. That should never have happened. ✓ Is quantity all that you and Ray care for? I got a free copy of OW in the mail. One story was readable. ONE. (White)

BIRDSMITH But an omniscient being would know how to "affect" those powers you mention. And Don't tell me he wouldn't, because you would be denying his omniscience. See previous arguments this issue. ✓ I am surprised at the number of people who boycotted TAFF. I am wondering if I had been active at the time and knew more about it whether I would have boycotted it. I've missed a lot these last six months... ✓ That business about WU was interesting. I wish more people would talk about their work. ✓ Ashworth's blooper is doubled by the fact that he published a finz named "bem". ✓ Naturally. You should have...but that would be unfair. Never mind. ✓ Oddly small amount of comments this time* Why? (McCain)*by me

TARGET: FAPA! 90%, shooting prone and 100 yards with a shoulder-fired weapon is a score suitable for timid women and small children and Charles Wells. But I have a handy excuse in my eyes. ✓ I don't agree with you about capital punishment, to use a term which you did not use. Who can say whether there is a "real chance" of a person ceasing to be a danger to society? Who, after all, can know what the future can bring? Inasmuch as tomorrow may bring a way of making even the most incorrigible criminal a useful member of society, we have no right to kill him today. Doing so would be a sin, defining "sin" as "an action performed in the knowledge that it is harmful to oneself, one's fellow beings, or society as a whole". It would not be harmful to anyone to keep him alive, properly confined. It would be harmful to him to kill him (of course), and after all, he is a human being. ✓ Some people did not understand that all my talk about an omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent, eternal deity was an effort to prove that deity's non-existence. Since an o,o,o,e deity is the Christian-Jewish-Mohammedan concept, you therefore agree with me when you also deny its existence. Since my few references to a God which I can believe in are to the capabilities of mankind, I can hardly be said to worship my God. The reason I am saying this here is because I have been widely misunderstood, not that you have misunderstood me. I don't think you have. ✓ As you say (and you are paraphrasing Jefferson very well here), a God which condemns a man to eternal punishment for using the reasoning powers which that God gave (presumably) him to use to arrive at the conclusion that God does not exist is not worth worshipping; and if I really believed there was such a God, I would say black Masses, for I would be much better off doing so. ✓ The Civil War was not fought to end the slavery of "others": it was fought to end the slavery of our own people. ✓ Artists have had sharper insight "by definition" ever since Harness defined it thataway. (Eney)

16 LE MOINDRE I'm TIRED of this Holy Crusade Against North American Cars. I LIKE North American Cars. They're comfortable. They have roomy (for most people) seats and roomy trunks. They go fast enough. They are dependable. They are easy to drive. What's WRONG with North American Cars, besides the fact that like everything else they are expensive? ✓ I remember now. Thanks.* ✓ Writers are resorting to the mimeograph. (Raeburn) *CRYPTIC, EH? DOWN, SPEER

GEMZINE No No NO! Requiring activity every mailing would defeat the whole purpose of FAPA! FAPA's requirements are a low eight pages. This is so the members who are "busy" as you say can stay in. If we kick them out we limit activity only to those fans like you who have plenty of spare time. This was SAPS' purpose when it formed. If you want an organization full only of hyperactive members, why not join SAPS? It seems to me that any reform devoted to alleviating the w-l problem must under all circumstances keep the atmosphere of FAPA and the type of person belonging to FAPA as nearly the same as it is now as possible. I am preserving the status quo as far as the personality of FAPA goes, and I will oppose any reform, no matter how minor, which tends to change that personality. The FAPAP idea is the only one I know of which will do that, and I'm not so sure of that after reading Speer's criticism. / The quote on page five (counting from the inside front cover) is a typical example of the way some religionists put words into rationalists' mouths. The "materialists" do not claim we are descended from an "insane fish" who somehow evolved the idea he should live on land, and found a way to do it. No, the "fish" was forced to live on land by natural circumstances. If, that is, you accept that theory; there are others. / Ah yes, Mr. Wetzel again. (1) Do you know what the word "seditious" means? You do not. (2) You are right that the logical process you claim (incorrectly) that Harry Warner used to prove Mrs. Carr was anti-Jewish (that she had criticised Silverberg, that Silverberg was Jewish, that therefore Mrs. Carr was anti-Jewish) is bad logic. It is bad logic. (So was the logic that Warner actually used: but that's beside the point). Then why did you use that identical same logic to "prove" Mason is anti-Catholic? (You said he attacked Bishop Sheen, that Bishop Sheen was Catholic, that therefore Mason was anti-Catholic). Are you logically nearsighted? (3) Your statement about it being surprising that Sam Johnson is an integrationist is a personal insult to me, a Southerner, for I am integrationist and so are a number of other white southerners. There is nothing surprising about it. (4) The fact that you believed anything Clyde Beck told you indicates you are the same type person as he. (5) You are the second fan I have ever known to get me really angry—not just intellectually outraged or something, but really angry—and I resent it. It speaks ill for my own self-control. So you can see, Mr. Wetzel, why I feel I have the right to throw mud at you. (6) You are obviously anti-Semitic since you use the word "Jew" as an epithet in the very same paragraph as you deny your anti-Semitism. (Carr)

ISOMER Dimensional Theory was interesting. Mr. Dilworth's criticisms, however, are very apropos so I won't go into it here. But that part M...I'm surprised Mr. Dilworth did not understand it. Isn't that exactly what Einstein said about time, the (-1) dimension; the coordinates-for-time-in-equations' sign must be reversed? (Graham)

PHANTASY PRESS Interesting, but no comment. Except tht I was shocked to come home and find you lived in Lawton, Oklahoma, which was only fifty or sixty miles from where I was stationed. As a matter of fact, I almost took a trip there. Egads! I did no fanning at all, with an old-time fan living within pass range! Why didn't you write me? (McPhail)

KER Your comments about my comments being incomprehensible to anyone but the person commented upon are correct: I had never realized it before. When I first started, I tried to make my comments interesting to the person who had never read any of the magazines commented upon, but unfortunately I have gotten away from that. / Next issue may find an improvement. I think I'll make notes or something. Thank you, Jack. / But on the other hand, why not conceive of mailing comments as a series of private conversations being carried on in public in case the public finds them interesting? This objection, I think, depends on the editor. And I don't think the editor named Charles Wells agrees with it. So there will be a change next issue. / Very minor quibble: your r's are backwards in your IPA page. (Speer)

DRIFTWOOD What are the noisily liberal schools you are applying to? I've often debated whether or not to go to a liberal school. Expressing your liberal opinions in a conservative school can be a lot of fun... / Very good magazine, but uncommentable. You know. That type. (Dunn)

GOOD NEWS Noted, by ghod. (Harness)

NOTED! Noted! (White)

TYKE MAGAZINE WHAT college's 40 inch refractor?? I thought the only 40 inch refractor in existence was at Yerkes. You don't mean 40 inch reflector, maybe? / You said some beautiful things in this magazine. You said "Rome resisted Christianity and Christianity resisted Rome. And the result is Roman Catholicism." You said "When a man realizes how rational he can be, then you can chop up hundreds of laws that 'protect' because there's no need for them." And that bit about no space. You are almost as quotable as Jefferson! (Harness)

GRUE I almost went to the MidwestCon this year. By George. I wish I had had the money. / Simmery (in Chugh's article) is a corruption of "St. Mary". This was the subject of a long discussion in FAPA a couple of years ago. / The column by Lee Hoffman shows sinful objectivity concerning Ghughuism. I must speak to her about that. It is against all the teachings of Ghu to be objective about religion, as everyone knows. As a matter of fact, that's true of most other religions, too, fakes tho they are. (Grennell)

FOGBOUND Ghod, what a typewriter. (Nartines & McPhail)

LIGHT Your religious arguments are unanswerable, because they are unreasonable and biased. Since when is it "common sense" to suppose that anything which exists must have a starting point? Since when is it "logic". It is not logic; nor is it illogical, I admit. The question is outside the realm of logic, since it is merely one of two conflicting hypotheses either of which can be "proved" by perfectly correct logic if the correct assumptions are granted. The reason I assume the universe is eternal is because it is simpler to do so; the idea that something or someone else is eternal, and the conflicting idea that there is an infinite number of universes outside this one, are more complicated and there are no problems posed by men's minds which are solved by those theories which are not solved by the eternal universe one. Whether a theory is "commonsense" has no bearing on anything. It is commonsense that everything which goes up must come down. It is commonsense that God wouldn't have created the Negroes a separate race if he hadn't wanted them to be kept separate. A lot of things are commonsense. / Your argument for capitalism is silly. As a matter of fact, any particular economic system is silly. What each country must do is to find the best solution for each problem as it comes along. If the nation will be improved by nationalising the coal mines, nationalise them. If it will be improved by turning over public power project A to a private company, do so. If prices need controlling, control them. If they do not, don't: it's a waste of time. Why not allow union shops for railroads and forbid them for postal workers and make it optional for another business? Different problems have different solutions and no one system applies everywhere. (Croutch)

THE FANTASY AMATEUR I don't like your grading system and I think for purposes of comparison you should regrade them according to the old system (I refer to the poll). It doesn't really make much difference except that we have been switching around too much. If we had been using this system, before I would not have complained. / Half of my grand total came from one category: poetry. This I am sure is due to lack of competition in that category (Bradley, Hoffman, and Carr are the only other FAPAs to do much serious poetry) rather than my excellence in it.* (off'dom) *other categories had 8 or 10 people in serious competition for points; poetry had only 4.

P O S T M A I L I N G S

BU 8798 B I had a terrestrial telescope once, too. Only one I ever had. Couldn't even see Jupiter's disk in it, so small. High point of my life when I actually saw a shooting star through it. I imagine it's pretty rare to see a meteor through a telescope, considering the chances involved. I was looking at a full moon at the time and the meteor flashed across the field just below the lower edge of the moon. I don't think there was any sort of shower at the time. My interest, by the way, in astronomy led me into stf too. / Sir James Jeans is odd. I reread one of his books last year that I had read when I was around 12 and was sturck by the oldfashionedness and downright unorthodoxy of some of his statements. (Cox)

APR EMONITION OF DISASTER Who is Ramon Jimenez? / How about more letters from Marilyn? They were interesting. (Wilson)

FANALYSIS Oh phoo. Why should one minister's accumulating a million dollars sour you on religion? / You are wrong about the Bible. It was written considerably after the time of Christ, but not "centuries after"—I'm referring to the New Testament, of course. All of the NT was written within a hundred years after Christ's death, as his death is traditionally dated. This is the finding of the "higher criticism" Coswal dislikes so much. / A large portion of the Old Testament was passed on by word of mouth for centuries before it was set down. The Book of Daniel was the last book written in the old Testament—200-300 BC I believe. But most of the other books were passed down as legend before their setting down. / Certainly a large number of Biblical mss were destroyed at Alexandria, but not all of them, and the loss was not irreparable. Where the loss was irreparable was in the Greek and Latin literary field, where we have lost many important philosophical treatises, plays, etc., due to that burning and to later Church suppression. / You are of course right about "pure" Marxism in the US: did you know that all the important proposals—specific ones, not general ones like the nationalization of all industry—in the 1912 Socialist platform in the US have been adopted except the proposals to reform the electoral system? / Anacin is merely a brand name for an APC tablet, much as Stanback, BC, and others. They do me no good. / Poo. I was all for Susan, and I told him so at the Clevention. One-man rule is what the NFFF needs, but it is too stupid to realize it. Here was Susan, a good organizer with a lot of energy who wants to do something for the NFFF, and what does the NFFF do? Kick him out. / You know, Tucker was right. 98% of the fanzines printed should never have seen print. But most of the remaining 2% is in FAPA, wherein at least 25% of the stuff printed is worthwhile. In my opinion nearly all of the good in fanzinedom (as opposed to fandom) is in FAPA. Why? / I disapprove of height being called "talent" in basketball players. (Shaffer)

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D R A S T I C P O L I C Y C H A N G E

This is one of the worst of the recent fta issues. The reviews are long and dull and the articles (and reviews again) are monomaniacally on the subject of religion. There is no variety, in subject matter or style.

Next issue, therefore, will see a DPC. The reviews will be shhrter, with matters commented on at length (like FAPAP and religion thish) made into separate articles. There will be more humor and more artwork, including foof cartoons. I will marginally comment on the FAPA mailings with pencil in the magazines, a practice which in the past has tended to makes my reviews much less longwinded: the abandonment of the policy is what caused the present longwinded, repetitive reviews.

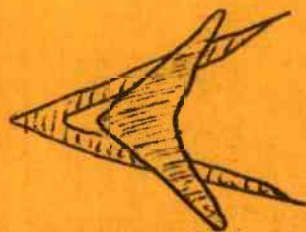


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