

IDLE HANDS #6 from Norm Metcalf, P.O. Box 336, Berkeley 1, California, USA. By the time anyone but Shelby & Suzy Vick, Rich Brown or myself reads this I should be home after nearly four years to the day as a fly-boy (Quick Henry, the Flit!). This isn't intended for any ol' Shadow-FAPA mailing whatsoever but will directly mailed on or about 1 Nov 61 to those who've shown their fortitude in various tangible forms. Since this change cuts the circulation in half my budget director is quite happy. Crudpub #37.

DEADLINE for the next issue 2 JAN 62 at P.O. Box 336, Berkeley 1, California

Lark Aug 61 - Bill Danner

You're right in at least one case when you say that "once one has experienced it he is a printer for life.". I'm looking forward to being home, digging out my press and starting to print zines. It's certainly far more economical than mimeo, and even slightly more economical than photo-offset. (In all factors except time.)

The Vinegar Worm VII #3 - Bob Leman

It's interesting to know that the Department of Defense has withdrawn Operation Abolition as a training film for the military. We were scheduled to see OA but when we arrived at the base theater a chaplain announced the discontinuance of the film due to the considerable doubt over its veracity. As a substitute we were shown Nightmare In Red which portrays the downfall of Czarist Russia and the rise of the Soviets.

If you're going to indict California drivers on the basis of your experience in Rawlins, Wyoming you ought to make a count of the number of cars from each state that pass through Rawlins. I think you'll find that California, Illinois, Pennsylvania and New York contribute the most tourists. And I suspect that in Wyoming the number of cars from California is probably equal to the number of cars from the other 48 states. The odds are certainly higher than your 1 in 50 that a car from California will be involved in an accident or near-accident. Another factor to consider is that poor drivers don't last too long in California before being killed in a freeway accident, hi. I've read where most accidents are caused by drivers who consider themselves careful but who are actually aren't. They're the ones who impede traffic by going twenty miles per hour below the speed limit 'for that extra margin of safety', driving in the center lane when they should be in an outer lane, etc.

California is also supposed to have toughened requirements for driving licenses. So many points against you and your license is only good for one year, so many more points and you lose your license. I'm curious to see how thoroughly the laws are enforced.

Moonshine #29 - Rick Sneary

If I am to choose a personal hell right now it would probably be one in which I'm on K.P. twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week, fifty-two weeks per year. But such a hell has a few drawbacks. You become so tired that your mind nearly ceases to function whereupon you don't mind the torture quite as much. What I speculate would be an even worse torture is to be in solitary confinement such as the Soviets have practiced in the Lubianka Prison. To be naked in a dark, featureless cell which is too small to either stand or stretch-out would event-

ually crack me. There would be very little to occupy your hands, no making string from clothing so as to play cat's-cradle, no inspecting for patterns in the walls, nothing to do but to retreat into your mind. At first I'd do what I've done on sentry duty and play symphonies in my head, solve math problems, try to remember the contents of each issue of ASF and write fanzine articles. But I imagine that such diversions would become unrewarding as time went on. Details would begin to blur, sanity would depart and I'd be ready to confess to masterminding the Hungarian revolt, destroying the planet between Mars and Jupiter, anything to be put into a nice, comfortable asylum.

Moonshade #2 - Len Moffatt

The pulps didn't start out segregated. In the beginning they were integrated. Segregation began with Street & Smith and their Western Story Magazine, Sea Story Magazine, Detective Story Magazine, etc. In fact they had the basic title in nearly every important division of the pulps except for sf. They were converting over until Hornig forestalled Campbell's move by bringing out Science Fiction.

Celephais #28 - Bill Evans

If you're elected to Vice-President of FAPA and want to dig up some old vices you might try around my grandfather's blacksmith shop, hi.

Even we "depression babies" have scattered slightly around the country. I'm still keeping up with four others from high-school. One is right near you at the University of Maryland dodging the draft while working on his PhD, one returned from the Air Force and is going to college and the other two have graduated from college and are beginning their careers. I hear of some of the rest of our closer friends once in a while but they're convinced that California is God's country and why question his workings?

I read my first Ian Fleming stories, For Your Eyes Only, some time back. The background seemed fairly authentic, what there was of it. The stories were slickly written but compared to Doyle, Queen, etc. lacking in substance. I can do without reading about James Bond.

No toll roads in the west, say you. I can think of several toll bridges and five toll-roads. Of course, I'm quibbling since three of these toll roads are no longer in business, the Tioga Road over the Sierras, the Mt. Wilson Toll Road and Uncle Dick Wootton's road over Raton Pass and the two remaining aren't on main tourist routes - the Denver-Boulder Turnpike and the road to the summit of Pike's Peak, Colorado. The farthest west any other toll-roads occur that I know of are the Dallas-Fort Worth Turnpike, the Turner and the Will Rogers Turnpike in Oklahoma and the Kansas Turnpike. There seems to be a feeling in the west that highways should be free. The Automobile Club of Southern California is outspoken against toll-roads and against diversion of gas-tax funds to non-highway purposes.

As for parking, traffic handling, etc. I'll take my motorcycle any day. Of course, there are obvious disadvantages -- the lack of weather-protection (but no danger from carbon-monoxide poisoning), the lack of luggage space, restricted to only one passenger + driver and the drivers who ignore you and try to put two bodies in the same space at the same time. But it's an extremely cheap way to travel, less than \$15.00 will take me from Florida to Berkeley.

You mention the ICC compelling railroads to serve towns. I tried to take advantage of this one time when working at Halls Flat, California. It's on the main line of the Western Pacific RR from California to Oregon but only freight trains use the line. There are only dirt roads in the area none of which have much traffic. A few times I sat alongside the road and counted the number of cars that went by in a day. Six was the maximum number that I ever saw. It was a tough place to hitchhike. On weekends I'd walk into Susanville and back, ninety-two miles for the round trip. One guy advised me to hitch over to Westwood and catch a freight to Halls Flat. He said they were obligated to carry anyone who asked for a ride. So I went over to Westwood. The station agent admitted that they were required to carry passengers but that it cost too much money to stop and start the train for the railroad to be enthusiastic about the deal. He did say that they would do it in wintertime when the roads were closed by snow but not in summertime. So I walked the thirty-four miles back to Halls Flat.

To answer your questions on my bike-riding in Denver: the area within the city limits is on the order of slightly less than 100 square miles (my estimate), the furthest distance from Lowry was about twelve miles and the maximum time for getting there would be an hour if I had to go through downtown during rush hour. The furthest place that I consistently went was Bob Peterson's house which is about nine or ten miles from the Sixth Avenue gate at Lowry. While I had my bike I was living on the other side of the base which meant another three miles. It never took longer than forty or so minutes to ride to Bob's house. This depended on traffic, ice, etc.

Oof Bill, you've caught me on a stencilling goof on EOMM and mystery authors. After reading the completed copy I notice where I ran two sentences into one which made a little sense to me at the time of stencilling. It should mean that the mystery stories I enjoy are over forty years old while the only modern magazine I follow is EOMM.

Target: FAPA Operation Crifanac CXCVI - Dick Eney

Re Silverlock: Pike County is to me one of the easiest references -- at least I think I've it correctly. You've probably heard the song Sweet Betsy From Pike. It's Pike County, Missouri; county seat is Bowling Green, on the Mississippi just downstream from Hannibal, probably named after Zebulon Pike. It gained fame as the source of many westbound immigrants during the 'Manifest Destiny = the Pacific Coast' syndrome a century and more ago. And leaving aside consideration of Damon Knight and gang Pike County, Pennsylvania is somewhat noteworthy, in a minor way, for literary accomplishments. It was the last home of Charles Sanders Peirce, the eminent Harvard philosopher, logician and mathematician who died in 1914 after notably advancing human thought through his writings. (Not that everyone has heard of him.)

The Rambling FAP #26 - Gregg Calkins

The fourth military dating system is fairly simple: "1001" stands for 1961, 091st day thereof. 31 Dec 61 is 1365, 1 Jan 62 is 2001, etc.

As for veterans, draft-dodgers, military service, etc. Busby went into some details on this in Sercon's Bane (Aug 61). Since I failed to receive a copy I had to read Rich Brown's copy and I don't have it handy so memory may play me false. I think Buz took John Champion, Ted White and myself to task for a false interpretation of his words. Assuming Ted White's quote of what Buz had to say

as accurate (which assumption Buz also made) then Buz should read his own statement again. My interpretation of his argument is founded on the feeling that he is reading more into his statement than there was at the beginning. He seems to be defending the viewpoint that those who complain about the military (while successfully avoiding military service) aren't to be extended much sympathy. I went at it while making the mistaken assumption he was talking about those who gripe about military service before entering but enter anyway, like myself. I'm one of the 836,000 other draft-dodgers who joined the Air Force as the least of five evils. I hate the military and can sympathize with those who've dodged the draft. But I don't like to see them getting out of military service by unfair means. Cheating on tests, etc. doesn't make me proud of knowing the fan. But those who are rejected for legitimate reasons have my congratulations. At the same time I can't help wondering if some fans couldn't benefit from a few years in the military. Which doesn't mean I'm proud of having served or would like to see the military continue.

Go ahead and take issue with the statement that "The military and the post office are everyday examples of the concentration of the unfit." You're not bothering me. Go argue with the U.S. Post Office Department, the Cordiner Committee, the Little Hoover Committee, the Department of Defense, etc. According to the DoD the Marines have the highest concentration of unfit members of any service. As you say, it's all in how you define unfit. The criteria used was ability to do a job correctly the first time with a minimum of instruction. On that basis I don't see how c. 93% of the re-enlistees in the Marine Corps can be classified as unfit. Aside from the fact that any re-enlistee is suspect in my eyes the know-how required of a Marine Corps infantryman seems rather elementary in principle. I don't want to put it into practice since I'm enough of a coward and weakling to want nothing to do with the Marines.

You judge the Air Force to be unfit on the basis of my not wearing the complete uniform if I can help it. Ho hum. Since my job is not that of being a model for the clothing-sales store I fail to see the relevancy. And, as a matter of fact, gungho-ness and job-fitness are pretty well inversely related. Since you consider uniform wearing to be important I must suppose that the Marine Corps have a special model rifle which shoots more accurately if the shooter is in full-dress uniform rather than in T-shirt and fatigue pants or stark-naked for that matter, hi. Seriously, I suppose you equate gungho-ness with esprit de corps. It doesn't work that way here. Our squadron has the highest esprit de corps at Tyndall precisely because we're not gung-ho. When these high-ranking refugees from the other services decide our squadron could be more military and start pushing uniforms, inspections, etc. our morale goes down, not up. When our morale is down our work suffers. When our work goes down the smarter huanchos ease off and somehow the dumber gung-hos seem to be kicked into jobs like Physical Training Officer.

While I may be wrong I was under the impression that the Busbys weren't the first fanzine fans to put on a ((world)) convention. Chuck Harris wasn't distinguishing confans from fanzine fans during yesteryears but the NYCon I, Chicon I, Denvention, Pacificon, Philcon I, Torcon, Norwescon, SFCon, Loncon and Solacon were all put on by fans whom I associate with fanzines.

The FFM/FN story "The Weigher of Sculs" is by Andre Maurois and was in the Oct 50 FFM.

The Rambling FAP #27 - Gregg Calkins

Your Heinlein bibliography is a fine work except for the nearly-inevitable errors and omissions.

True, "Beyond Doubt" to my knowledge has never appeared in hardcovers but it did make Pohl's pb anthology, Beyond the End of Time.

"Universe" appeared in The Best of Science Fiction, as did "Solution Unsatisfactory".

Beyond This Horizon didn't appear from Grosset & Dunlap in 1948, it was either 50 or 52.

Space Cadet was from 48, not 52.

Tomorrow, the Stars was from 51, not 52.

Farmer In the Sky ("Satellite Scout") was from 50, not 53.

Between Planets ("Planets In Combat") was from 51, not 54.

The Star Beast was from Scribner's, not Doubleday.

While I'm not sure I think Have Spacesuit, Will Travel appeared from Scribner's rather than Doubleday.

Methuselah's Children appeared in 58, not 59.

Vandy #12 - Robert & Juanita Coulson

Buck: I wouldn't say "Stories about spaceships are just as impossible today as stories about submarines were when Verne wrote "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea". proves anything. There were working submarines when Verne wrote about the Nautilus even they were crude. Today we have fancy spaceships running around earth. The main reasons they aren't taking men to other planets are lack of thrust and to a lesser degree skins capable of withstanding the re-entry temperatures. These present-day spaceships differ only from interplanetary spaceships in degree, not kind. Spaceships today are better developed than subs in Verne's day.

Theoretically, there is a difference between socialism and communism. Socialism is state ownership of the means of production, distribution, ~~consumption~~, etc. while in communism these concerns are owned by the people and there is no state. However, Marx and Lenin saw communism as evolving from an overthrow of capitalism by socialism which would disappear (the withering away of the state). Listening to Radio Moscow you hear references to the Soviet Union as a socialistic state governed by the Communist Party. And when I tune in some of the Cuban stations I can hear slogans like "Castro, Socialism and Communism Forever".

Speaking of Cuban stations I'm now listening to Radio Swan, the anti-Castro station on 1160 KC. It's usually jammed by Castro but tonight the jammer seems to be on reduced power. Its buzz is still there but several db's weaker than Radio Swan. Radio Swan is currently bragging about its being the voice of liberty and truth in the Caribbean. Cuban stations have their own slogans like, "Cuba, the land of liberty in the Americas", "CMCX, the voice of revolution", etc. But there's pretty good music on some of these Cuban stations. Right now Radio Swan has an anti-Castro broadcast with background music right out of WWII - Beethoven's 'V for Victory' theme.

Perhaps your theory on the spendability of Canadian money increasing directly proportional to the distance from the border is in error. I can't get rid of it around here. (Though I've spent it in California.) Canadian money I had last year was gotten rid of in two ways: selling it to an airman from Selfridge AFB, Michigan who was glad to have it and by using it to pay tolls on the Ohio Turnpike.

Perhaps convention boundaries are fixed by fan population (and exactly where

do these boundaries run?) but I was under the impression that sf readers as contrasted to fan attended conventions in "great" numbers. Figuring the per capita number of sf readers is constant throughout the U.S. (which probably isn't true due to distribution) then since roughly two-thirds of the population lives east of the Mississippi there should be two zones east of the Mississippi. Since there are two zones it seems like a fairly sensible arrangement. But moving a con from Detroit to Pittsburgh doesn't make a great deal of sense from rotational stand-points (disregarding bidding and voting). The difference between them is 294 miles, five hours' drive on the turnpikes. To come down from Cloud Nine the present arrangement is sensible because it works. There aren't enough cities with willing fans to make a really thorough rotation possible. And I checked back to see precisely what I said to start these comments and it's fairly foolish since as Wells put it "it's people who go to conventions, not dirt."

You ought to have our Base Post Office. After charging me 4¢ the first two ounces and 2¢ each additional ounce they discovered a sliding-rate table. Then when the postal rate increase for overseas-intended mail was announced they started charging me varying rates. Right now they've settled on 5¢ for the first two ounces and 3¢ each additional two ounces. I'm tempted to send to the Government Printing Office for a postal manual and find out these things first hand.

Your quoted headline of girls having to possess a license for slacks in Mexico surprises me. The last I heard only prostitutes wore them at all. Back in '56 I was in Culiacán, Sinaloa. My sister put on a pair of slacks to wear while window shopping. She drew quite a bit of comment from men and averted eyes or glares from women. I tried to clue her in but she was of an age where flaunting society was important. So she kept on going right down one of the main streets and back to our hotel.

Juanita: For another view of the Donner party and by another sf author than Vardis Fisher try George R. Stewart's Ordeal By Hunger. I think I saw a revised pb on the stands the other week.

At Lowry AFB, Colorado I was buddy-buddy with a Negro from Indiana. I was rather surprised when he mentioned segregation at Indiana University. It seems he was allowed to attend classes but that the student union and similar social as contrasted to academic functions were racially segregated. I'd heard about the Supreme Court ordering integration and thought that the South was integrated except for the places that made headlines. So I'll never forget the first day I rode a bus from Tyndall to Panama City. As is my wont I went to the back and sat down. The driver gave me funny looks and so did each passenger as he came aboard. Panama City itself has separate drinking fountains in the service stations, separate serving windows in the drive-ins and so on. I wish a merchant would display a sign reading "Human Beings Only".

As for teacher's pay a buddy of mine fresh out of college with an A.B. in history and an M.A. in education received several offers from California high schools. Coalinga and Auberry both offered him \$7200/year starting salary. Coalinga is a hot, desolate and lonely town on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley and usually teachers don't last there. (For example: my great-aunt quit after a year and moved to a high school in the Sierras.) Auberry has a superb physical plant in a fair location. It's a little town tucked in a suffocating valley in the Sierra foothills but a short drive will take you to Paradise. John said these were about the two highest rates in California. \$5700/year was more like the going rate in many school districts.

Ankus #1 - Bruce Pelz

"The Combination to Silverlock" is great as far as it goes so far. When you complete the thing I'll have to find my copy and re-read it so I can find out what was way over my head among the allusions.

Dept. of Irrelevancies: I now see the source of Frank Lloyd Wright's two houses' names: Taliesin East and Taliesin West. With the outre architecture of the two houses it will be a lllloooooonnnnnnggggg time before those houses ever find a place in the Commonwealth.

There's another Manning Coles story that deserves consideration besides their fantasy stories -- Duty Free, which is a parallel-universe story. It's entertaining reading though it's perhaps a bit short on the qualities that make for literary endurance.

I somewhat share your pessimism as regards IPSO. Finding enough topics to interest thirty people four times a year, year after year is a chore. And I do not think there are that many subjects. Furthermore, some of the members don't even seem to be trying while there are those like myself who are very trying. And a quarterly apa with so many American members which doesn't announce the Official Topic two mailings in advance is hurting itself. I hope something is done about that -- soon.

I must congratulate Dickensheet on his Holmes misadventure. The sheer appropriateness of the ending had me grinning like the Cheshire Cat. Julian Wolff should reprint this for the Baker Street Journal.

Stefantasy Aug 61 - Bill Danner

I think breathing air for free was pretty well disposed of by Ol' Doc Methusalem in the Sep 48 ASF. For some reason I never got around to reading the story but only Campbell's blurb so I don't know the gimmick. But between Hubbard, Doc and my hunches it's probably a deadly aerosol and the villain charges for the antidote. If the aerosol was an extremely minute virus there wouldn't be a great many foolproof defenses and you'd feel much safer greasing the villain's palm. Now I suppose someone will tell me there's a different gimmick. That's okay, I'll read the story anyway.

Limbo #7 - Bill Donaho (with some slight assistance from Dave Rike)

Donaho: While I'm not an only child I did have a sort-of-lonely upbringing. Up until I started school I hadn't had any children of my own age to play with, simply because in our small town I was about the only child my age. The Adair kids were two or three years older which is an enormous gap at that age and the only kids younger were still in their cribs. I learned to write and read before and during kindergarten and was busy reading everything comprehensible in our house by the time I was in the second grade. Up until I entered high school there were never more than four other kids of my age level in our neighborhood. Our family wasn't especially close-knit and so I was left pretty much to myself. I do know of three families which are very close-knit (when I sent in my original answers to Kemp's survey I recalled only two) and there isn't much difference in the children. Each of them is fairly bright, aware and what you might call fan-nish -- two of the eight children are avid sf readers, one first-born and one third-born. Three of the others read sf occasionally. The remaining three are

all in one family and I doubt if they've ever read any sf. But all this is idle speculation. It would ^a psychiatrist under controlled conditions to properly evaluate and pass judgment.

You figure that Amazing should be commended for co-operating with and paying attention to fans. In my book that's a mark against Amazing. A prozine which caters to fans is toying with suicide. A prozine which suited fans 100% would not have enough sales appeal to stay in business. After all, we're a noisy minority with more highly developed and/or blunted tastes than Sam SF Reader. But if you'd prefer a mimeod Amazing with a circulation in the hundreds just relax. That day may be soon.

If you wish to see any movie for less than \$1.00 without going downtown there is a solution. Re-up in the Army and see them in the Post theater, hi.

Driftwood (Sep 61) - Sally Kidd

I'm interested to see that you have a phobia against checkmarks in FAPazines. But it needn't deter you from making comments. Just keep a notebook handy and jot down mailing comments as you read. Or after you've read through the first time for enjoyment go back with a notebook and write out mlgcomments.

Bravo for championing those of us who are primarily readers and not writers against Boggs. (Not that I have anything against Boggs.) But if his desire to see only good writing in FAPA mailings was to be carried out 6¢ would probably cover the postage for a mailing. And there wouldn't be too many members left. (Unless some members changed their writing habits to suit Boggs. I know I would not bother. I'm in this for fun and goofing around. Polishing up material is work and isn't worth the bother when most fcn will judge you on other grounds.)

Pantopon #2 - Ruth Berman

Chuck Hanscn spoke too soon about rising up the waiting list. Nearly everybody has been going backwards for several mailings.

I now have an exception to my rule of always answering the telephone. One has been installed in our barracks, courtesy of Big Brother. Most of us either ignore the phone or go out the window if someone answers it, and the call is for us. If we could have everyone ignore the phone we'd be okay. But there's always someone gung-ho for the corps.

W'Basket #1 - Biff Demmon

True, if FAPA kicked out everyone who didn't agree with a majority of the members it wouldn't be desirable. But there are disagreements and disagreements. There's still a large range of opposed viewpoints in FAPA even with G. M. Carr gone. And she isn't interested in discussions so much as making herself unwelcome in print. To quote her Gemzine 4/29 "...I have noticed that the fame is fleeting, opprobrium seems to pay off dividends...".

If you'll check the Crudpub numbers you'll find that I haven't been sending you everything. (Or at least I don't recall sending you everything.)

Idle Hands #5 - Norm Metcalf

Danner: I've finally found tougher staples than yours. While opening the last Cadenza my staple remover snapped in two. (Close examination showed that the metal had crystallized.)

The Lurking Shadow V 2 # 1 - Chuck Hansen

About the funniest example of cannibalism I can recall happened in Hinsdale County, Colorado sometime around the '80's. Something like six Democrats and one Republican were snowbound outside of Lake City. The Republican came into town without the Democrat. The Democratic judge is supposed to have not worried about the murders so much as the fact that the Republican had eaten the Democratic majority in Hinsdale County.

I'm not worried about reincarnation. There's no way of proving anything one way or another on the subject. I was merely recalling something I'd read in an old FAPAazine about a reincarnation discussion being settled by the point of where the extra souls are coming from. That's not a valid point for disproving reincarnation. As a matter of fact I've yet to hear of any valid arguments against reincarnation. And there is some evidence in favor of reincarnation. Perhaps I am too skeptical but I haven't seen enough evidence to convince me either way. So I don't worry about it. It does make for some interesting fiction, Buchan's The Path of the King, The Lake of Gold, Heinlein's Beyond his Horizon, James Ramsey Ullman's The Sands of Karakorum, several works of Mundy, ad peninfinitum.

As for using Scripture as a history book it's like many another ancient book -- to be taken with a few grains of salt. But compared to, say, Herodotus, I'd say Biblical history comes out ahead if you discount the religious bias. Thucydides is far more accurate than the Bible but he's far less readable.

Re it being an imposition for Nazarenes to journey to Bethlehem it's only about 70 airline miles and each year they went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. That's about 65 airline miles. And it's only in "Luke" that Joseph and Mary lived in Nazareth before the birth of Jesus. Matthew says they were living in Bethlehem prior to his birth.

The best story I've heard about Christmas cards is the one with the Scotsman who returned each card to the sender rubberstamped 'Sandy McDougall wishes the same to you.'

Since you want a plain, unvarnished account of New Mexico's Lincoln County War you might try finding a copy of Eugene Manlove Rhodes' article titled something like "In Defense of Pat Garrett". While Rhodes' account may not be 100% true it's probably as close as you'll ever find. He knew many of the principles and lived in the area for a good many years.

Wyoming's Johnson County War received what seems like fair treatment at the hand of Struthers Burt in Powder River -- Let 'Er Buck.

And as for the Earp-Clanton feud in Tombstone I've heard that someone recently published an account derived from the newspapers of the period. If so, the book would tend to be more accurate than the memories of Earp's widow fifty years later.

I wonder how well a really accurate account of anything would be received? We all remember T. L. Sherred's "E For Effort", don't we?

Pipsissewa #1 - Jerry Page & Charles ((one 's')) Wells

Wells: Speaking of Esperanto and other synthetic languages I've been hearing some favorable comments on Interlingua. While on sick call I was leafing through the magazines and found an article on Interlingua. There also was some text in Interlingua. By golly I could read 98% of it which is more than I can say for some Esperanto texts I tried. (But if it was a loaded sample....)

As far as I know only Sherlock Holmes of the mystery and detective characters/authors has a fandom. Among western writers Eugene Manlove Rhodes has a sort of fandom which might be better termed 'a loose circle of admirers'. The late Bernard De Voto, and such people as Thomas B. Costain and W. H. Hutchinson are "members". So far their activity is largely devoted to bibliography and either persuading commercial publishers to issue new editions and rescue other works from their magazine oblivion or else pub limited editions themselves. Three privately-published volumes have so far appeared and I'm sorry to have missed the first. Its value is now nearly astronomical. (If by chance anyone has a copy of The Little World Waddies, Carl Herzog, 1946 for sale let's dicker.) I think Bill Evans is an admirer of Rhodes though no one else in fandom that I know of.

Hah on WSB, Atlanta being clear-channel on 750 KC. Theoretically it's supposed to be but usually I can't hear it due to interference from somewhere in the Caribbean (though my broad-band tuner is probably having adjacent-channel interference more than on-channel interference). If I want to listen to WSB I have to tune in WSB-FM which comes in most of the time. Or else I can go back to California and listen to WSB-AM on my communications receiver.

AM radio needs more enforcing of present regulations regarding interference. The FCC has licensed too many stations with too much power. And each class of station (daytime, regional, clear-channel, etc.) is always trying to secure more privileges at the expense of listeners. The daytime stations want to be able to broadcast from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. Since skip starts about one-half hour before sunset the cacophony would be increased from the present few minutes to well over an hour. Clear-channel stations haven't had over 50 KW since WLW on 700 KC was reduced from 500 KW back in the 30s. The most effective reason was complaints from the Canadian Department of Transport saying that Canadian stations on 690 KC were being drowned out. And actually 50 KW is enough to be heard across the U.S. From California I've heard WHAM, Rochester, N.Y., WNBC & WCBS, New York City, WSB, Atlanta, etc.

Since Chuck Hansen is quite rightly proud of Denver's good qualities and one of these is lack of snakebites he has evidence that Denver is better than Eden.

fap #2 - Les Gerber

I'm glad to see you finally sent out the shadow-mailing. I was debating the sending of a bill for 100 copies + postage to you in hopes you might take the hint. But your delay isn't my main reason for dropping the Shadow-Fapa Mailings. Sending copies to those who don't respond is the main one. Of course, such subsidiary considerations as mailing this out on time, not being forced to run 105 copies (+ any future increments), showing FAPans that I'm going to continue, etc. do influence my decision. I also suspect that I failed to receive a few zines this time because of the non-appearance of the Shadow mailing.

____ If this space is checked either respond or be dropped.

Redd Boggs, 2209 Highland Place, N. E., Minneapolis 21, Minnesota

Norm:

Idle Hands #5: You've spread yourself awfully thin through the apas, and seem to contribute little but mailing comments, but at least you've published a hefty mag for the Shadow-FAPA, which no doubt is a good sign. A good sign of something or other. So a few three-dotted comments: I believe there is, or was, some PO regulation that only one staple could be used to fasten a circular closed, but it is seldom enforced. Third-class matter destined for overseas definitely requires envelopes, and this regulation is often enforced. In fact, I thought it was always enforced.

I don't know how to take your comments on Open Season on Monsters. You mean you define this publication as mailing comments? It would take an awfully broad definition to include it, I'm afraid. I haven't written any mailing comments under a stricter and more accurate definition thereof in FAPA since 1955, and none in SAPS since 1952 or 1953.

I like westerns on occasion (once every two years roughly, I get on a western novel kick) but don't care greatly about the books of any of the writers you list. (I don't know Myers or John Cunningham, however). I read westerns mostly because I want something formula and even slightly cruddy, perhaps. Something good enough to read but something I can read uncritically. Best westerns I read when I got on a western kick nearly two years ago were Yellowleg by A. S. Fleishman (recently reprinted under a new title, the book having been made into a movie), and Blood Moon, by Frank Castle.

I agree that Spacehounds of IPC is the best Smith novel in some ways -- the menace and the war against the menace are almost believable, and the fate of the IPV Arcturus is just short of perfectly done. If the Spacehounds weren't quite so super-super, and especially if the Stevens-Nadia love story wasn't quite so saccharine! I think I prefer the second and third Skylarks and the original version of Triplanetary, and maybe the first two Lensmans. In other words, I'd place Spacehounds somewhere in the middle of the Smith canon.

Being on a RLS kick at present I can tell you right offhand that Treasure Island was first published in 1881 in a boys' magazine called Young Folks. Stevenson said Long John Silver was W. E. Henley "without Henley's virtue.". Yes, Henley was a cripple. What do you call Long John Silver?

And while that's only eight pages into a twenty-two page fanzine, that seems to be about the extent of my comments.

Redd

((As for overseas-intended fanzines the notice I received from NYC said either an envelope or a wrapper is required. Perhaps using the last page fools the clerks. ## I define 'mailing comments' as comments upon anything in the previous mailing. Under that definition Open Season On Monsters qualifies since it was comments upon the FAPA constitution which is contained in The Fantasy Amateur. How do you define mailing comments? ## Long John Silver was a cripple but he was not crippled if you can forgive the distinction. I was under the impression that Henley was actually incapacitated.))

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