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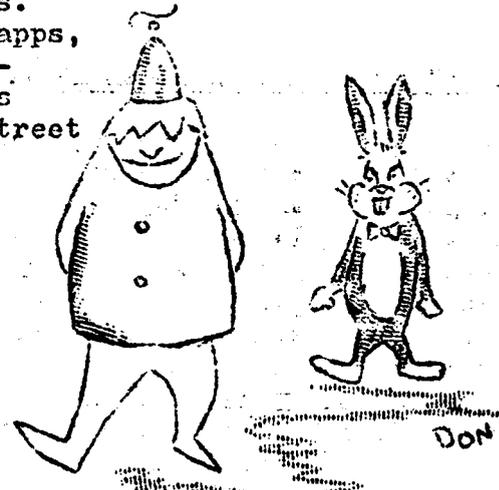
" Yes, neoratfandom, may be used, Norman"

FAN SCRABBLE IS POSSIBLE!

If you happen to have four or five hours to spare for a game...the first stanza of this new fannish pastime was played a couple of weeks ago when Norman & Ina Shorrocks came over for the day. (See mi V.3. No.4. for basic rules) Since this was the first time the game had been played under Bentcliffe (Shorrocks Amended) Rules certain unforeseen problems arose - notably the time-lag everytime a word was challenged and Head Kibitzer Ina had to dive upstairs to my den to check through a '43 Astounding or John Roles MORPH. Understandably she would get interested in the story in which the word supposedly appeared. However, the game has distinct possibilities and I'm looking forward to future games when I've revised the rules....you see, Norman won! This was probably because of my liberal framing of the rules in the first place; ie, that any fannish word may be improvised and if deemed worthy, may be allowed. The word that turned the tide in the first game was 'FANGZINE', defined by Norman as a fnz put out by old Drac's fan club. I couldn't find it in me to disallow that...and since it counted as a triple-triple...Norman won by something like 547 to 488. Incidentally, our version of the game is played with 12 letters per player rather than the conventional 7, and one thing we intend to rectify is the insufficient number of F's and Z's in the basic SCRABBLE set. Not only loc are solicited for mi but scrabble-letters, as well...

FURTHER ALONG THE TAFFMO TRAIL

"Our German tour wasn't as extensive as our British one. ((Write Len & June Moffat)) But thanks to June's oldest son Bob Konigsberg, we had an interesting tour of Mannheim, Heidelberg, and Frankfurt, plus seeing much German countryside from the trains travelling to and from the three cities. We didn't get to Berlin as Mario was ill, he phoned us the night we arrived in Frankfurt coughing like crazy. His doctor wanted him to go into hospital just to rest. He did assist us however, in meeting a fan in Frankfurt, Prof. Dr. Karl Kerejci-Graf, a geologist. Karl is an Austrian and a veteran of WWI, so he had to be in his late 70's or early 80's. But he is a lively little man, loves his schnapps, and took us out for a 2 1/2 hour lunch at a Yugoslavian restaurant. He collects s-f. as well as Sherlockian books, is a member of the Baker Street Irregulars, has had papers published in the London journal of the BSI, has travelled all over the world, taught in China, etc. Fascinating and wonderful man. Soon as we get caught up with our mail we will start work on our trip-report, which we hope to illustrate with at least one page of photo's selected from the 400 or more we took. Further on TAFF; deadline for final voting will be Easter '74, so the winner will have time to prepare for the September trip to Washington."



Gonna shampooka that fan right outa my hare.....

WILL THE REAL IAN WILLIAMS PLEASE STAND UP!

" I'm becoming a bit weary of this hoax-fan business! ((Writes Don Allen)) Especially now that I have just found out that the two Ian's (Maule and Williams) are creations of Fanartist Harry Bell! The fan who I thought to be Ian Maule, and who has been visiting me quite often, is Brian Temple, a mate of Harry Bell. Now for the punch-line; I've never met Harry even though he lives nearby. He was always too busy or had some other excuse. However, last week I did see him and I recognised him immediately. Harry Bell is none other than Golden Age Fanartist Bill Harry! I'm surprised that he's had such a good run....Harry Bell - Bill Harry, it's so obvious...." ((Hmmm. But Bill Harry was just a figment of LiG's imagination....first they created Sir. William Makepeace Harrison as a symbol of all that was noble, and then, as a sort of Son of Harrison (with a pop-style image) Bill Harry!))

BUT MEANWHILE THE REAL PETER ROBERTS HAS STOOD UP.

And is to stand for TAFF! Some of you may have noted a certain amount of not-so-subliminal advertising for Norman & Ina Shorrock to stand for TAFF in the last issue of mi. This, alas, along with other inducements and entreaties, failed in its aim. Norman & Ina most regrettably are not available as TAFF candidates; it's not that they wouldn't like to accept the nomination, rather that mundane commitments over the next twelve months or so must preclude them from doing so...SO...PETER ROBERTS FOR TAFF! He's mi choice and he had already been approached by several other fans with the same suggestion and is willing to accept the nomination. I think he'd make an ideal representative of British Fandom at next years DISCON II, so let's send a Rabbit to the White House Warren, eh ?

ANOTHER NORMAN CONQUEST, DAMMIT!

Flushed with success from his victory in the first game of FAN SCRABBLE, Norman came over again a couple of days ago (Could it be that the game is addictive ?) for a repeat match. The result of which, I regret to say, was another Shorrock victory (I really must revise the rules further). This time the game didn't take quite as long for by the use of Beryl's Cookery Timer we limited 'moves' to five minutes, and anyone unable to move inside this limit had to pick up another letter. This time we both topped the 1,000 scoring mark - no mundane words were allowed this time only S-F terms or fanwords. ' Our aims, ' we agreed after the third bottle, ' must be to define the upper limits of fans capacity to play SCRABBLE....even if we have to cheat a little!'

DON ALLEN LEGIBLE AGAIN

Both I and my optician would like to thank Dorothy Allen for buying Don a new typer.... Now, how soon can we expect SATELLITE to appear!

