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YOU PRIVILEGED FEW are now pe-
rusing MELIKAPHKHAZ, rare SFPA
fanzine of the noted nobody, Lon
Atkins. Indeed MELIKAPHKHAZ is
so rare that its generally be-
sotted editor has only allowed
it to appear in ONE of the 16
mailings of the SFPA! Oh, rare!

Rumor has it that the nimble
editor maintains residence at
Post Office Box 228, Chapel
Hill, North Carolina. Quarters
are rather cramped there, but
the rent is very reasonable.

This rare issue of MELIKAPHKHAZ
is the founder of its dynasty
and should thus be addressed as
#1. MEL #1 is produced for the
SFPA mailing numbered 2 to the
4th power (or 16, for those
mathematical illiterates among
YOU).

endofcolophonendofcolophonendof

The remaining nattering on this
page (and probably the next)
will go by the name of "editor-
ial"; I didn't want to risk
putting another title on this
page, too confusing.

And now to the point of titling
my zine with a mouthful of con-
sonants. First, as the ghod
Eddison readers amongst YOU are
sure to know (attention Len
Bailes), Melikaphkhaz is the
name of the strait off which
Laxus and the entire Witchland
fleet were sunk by Juss & Co.
Realizing this, YOU'll under-
stand when I say that anybody
whose zine appears in the MC
department of MELIKAPHKHAZ is
in dire straits.

A moment of silence while YOU
recover and/or scream in agony.
.....Say...the SFPA won't
blackball me for a pun that
treacherous..will it?
I have a sinking feeling.....

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Ah! A virgin page to besmirch before I reach the MC's. A couple of weeks ago I cut the stencils for my comments on the 15th Mailing and started them as "page three", so now I've got to do a "page two". The bottom of the page I suppose will be devoted to one of my sub-standard puns, a mess of which are mouldering in the little lead-lined container I keep such things in. For acidic humor they are remarkably base.

Tomorrow begins Spring Vacation here at UNC. In those ten precious days I hope to finish MEL and get a good deal done on CLARGES. Exams are going to be cramping my style for the June mailing, though how any sercon young fan can allow classes and other types of school work to interfere with his fanac I just don't understand. Maybe some of the sercon young fans in the SFPA can tell me.....

I never dared be radical when young
For fear it would make me conservative when old. ...Robert Frost

Through Time and Space with Ferdinand Fakeoff

J. Byron Cletes, a BNF of 35th Fandom, was noted for his personal charm, his scintillating fanzine and his abominable poems. Indeed his poetry was usually the bane of any fangathering he attended, for with a few drinks under his belt, J. Byron would attempt to quote loudly and at length from his prolific uncollected works. Eventually fandom began inviting J. Byron to parties on the condition that he not wax poetic. This rule was enforced by throwing the guilty party into the pool when iambic pentameter began to flow.



Five years of this suppression and J. Byron's heart was overburdened with sorrow. In desperation he appealed to Ferdinand Fakeoff for a solution. Seeing his good friend almost in tears, Fakeoff was moved to aid him and the following plan ensued. Fakeoff was Entertainment Chairman for a huge banquet the Tau Ceti Amateur Press Association sponsored, so he would be able to arrange for Cletes to speak. During dinner

Fakeoff would serve the most potent liquors he could obtain --- exotic drink to tempt even the lightest drinkers into overindulgence. Then, the membership drunken and unresisting, J. Byron could recite his poetry for an hour or so.

The night of the banquet arrived and Fakeoff was busily plying the APA members with hard drink. It was a rollicking evening, but as Fakeoff had expected the members eventually calmed down to the suitable state under the influence of too much exotic offworld liquor. Judging the moment ripe, Fakeoff rose to the podium. He spoke with calm assurance.

"And now J. Byron Cletes will read a selection of his poetry..... since there's an APA tight for it here."

theselectionflyersremindmeofthelastnationalelectionbutwhoisjohnsonandwh

ART CREDITS:

Cover by JOE STATON
Bacover by Lonardo da Vincible
Page 2; JOE STATON
Page 5, ROBERT E. GILBERT

SFPA 16

ZUGZWANG PUBLICATION # 2

Chaityboids

MAILING
COMMENTS

ON

The
15th
MAILING of
The SFPA

THE SOUTHERNER (OEjs) * Well, you fellows ought to thank Al and I for providing the SFPA with a waitlist. Of course I don't want to see us on the wl for long; but neither do I want to see any of y'all go. So why don't you let the OE increase the roster to 25? After all, there are more, err..., Northern members (Arnie Katz: read the "damnyankee") than the Constitution provides for, so this would square that by dropping the percentage of N.m.'s. The OE has the power to do it

DAMNYANKEE 5 (KATZ) * I like the distinctive way you titled your zine. Like in the colophon. But then the colophon is so easy to find. Only the words "Arnie the K" tipped me off as to what zine I was reading. Everybody knows that AtheK edits Zaje Zaculo.

Have you heard Johnny Cash's arrangement of "It Ain't Me, Babe"? He seem's to do some of Dylan's songs well. Which is more than I can say for Dylan himself. Anyway I looked at it Dylan's "style and voice" is a pain. He is the perfect man to sing "Bad Earthquake A' Coming", though, since it's a parody.

Agreed that tolerance is necessary to fandom. New Wavers or others cannot seek to limit or censor the idiom or topics of fanzines without destroying the essential virtue of the zines, which is the freedom of a faned to express himself as he wishes. Gnu wavers don't seem to be very hot on the pubbing end of fandom; or at least I've yet to run across one. I can see where they'd be quite a gnusance, though.

Isn't a "bigot" just someone whose views are divergent enough from yours to cause antagonism, Arnie? Not refering to you, but anyone who set up his little group of beliefs as the ONE TRUTH is a prize candidate for the title of fool. Complete analysis of a situation from only one point of view is impossible and even dangerous. Man is singularly ill equipped to deal with social problems in cultures other than that particular culture to which the "reformer" belongs. Little survives long without some reason for existence, and a system long balanced and stable never truly

contains a "superfluous" part. That is with respect to the generating system, of course, but not necessarily with respect to some external system.

Blatant removal (or attempted removal) of some arbitrary part will result in possibly violent seeking for compensation, defense or reorientation. To successfully change (and I don't mean destroy) a social system one must proceed slowly and with care. Basic tenets must be transformed or replaced. This is not the work of a few years, but rather of a few generations.

I agree that arbitrary discrimination is senseless and cruel, but you do not know the full situation in the South. To truly understand you would need to have been brought up here. Nothing disgusts me more than the I-Lived-Three-Years -In-Alabama-And-Am-Now*An-Expert attitude. They come with pre-conceptions and so that is all they see--- only what they choose to interpret as concurring with their beliefs.

Discrimination because of color is wrong in my opinion; yet it is equally wrong to deny anyone the right to choose his associates on any basis he decides to. Lines of class, interest and ability will always exist --- attempting to legislate against them is as futile as the state of Iowa's law making pi legally 3.000. What must be abolished is any false conceptions that color or appearance determines a person's class or abilities.

'Nuff said. If you want to argue or have a point clarified, write me a letter.

ENDLESS SHADOW 2 (MITCHELL) * "The Failing Fangs of Mr. Desmodus" certainly reads well. Your style fits its delightful easy tone perfectly. Only the bit about Krust seemed superfluous--- what did it have to do with the vampire theme of the story? But this is really nit-picking, and I must say that I enjoyed your story.

Your MC's are rather "Goshwow" and Larry worshipful. I guess TIME (not the fantasy zine TIME, but the duration type) will take care of this;

Join the N3F to make contacts with genfandom; 90% or more of fanac seems to me to be conducted through correspondence channels, goodly numbers of which you'll pick up in the N3F. You also get a new member packet--- certainly worth having.

STOP THE PRESSES (STATON) * But I've got to mail my zine a whole three days earlier to get it to Los Angeles on time! But then Dave has proved a good OE (I hear) in the past. What a dilemma! If I could vote, I guess it would have to be for....JEB Stuart-- he could be everywhere at once.

STARLING 4 (LUTTRELL) * Aw, come off it, Hank! A 19 page lettercol. And pretty damn repetitious. This could have been edited to half the length and still retained the same content.

So the trend is back toward ACTION. This is true,; but for how long. Inevitably the wheel will turn again and bring another facet of our microcosm into focus. The significance in the present development is not in the return to ACTION, but in the fact that now we have a repetition of theme---a measure of the diameter of the wheel is available. Now we see the magnitude of the range of emphasis in our genre.

Liz Riggs' illo's strike my FANcy; they have a certain charm..... STARLING is the only place I've seen her work. 'Fess up, Hank, are you holding her prisoner in the deep dank dungeons beneath your Keep? If so I'll have AtheK send Muron to cut her free and bring her into the world of genfandom. Try to keep her for yourself, will you?

There are Names for things like that.....

Glad to get Dwain's tips on forming an stf group. We have two pulping fans, an ERBite and a couple of fringers here and would like get a center of fanac going. Al Scott has even asked ATom for a piece of post-sized art to post on the student union bulletin board to attract attention---and ATom should sure do it. (Attract attention that is. I don't know whether he'll give Al anything.)

RAC actually liked Howard's clinker Almuric! All I can say is, "Yetch!" And RAC's reviews are usually quite good. Hope the dread calamity of FAFIA doesn't strike him.

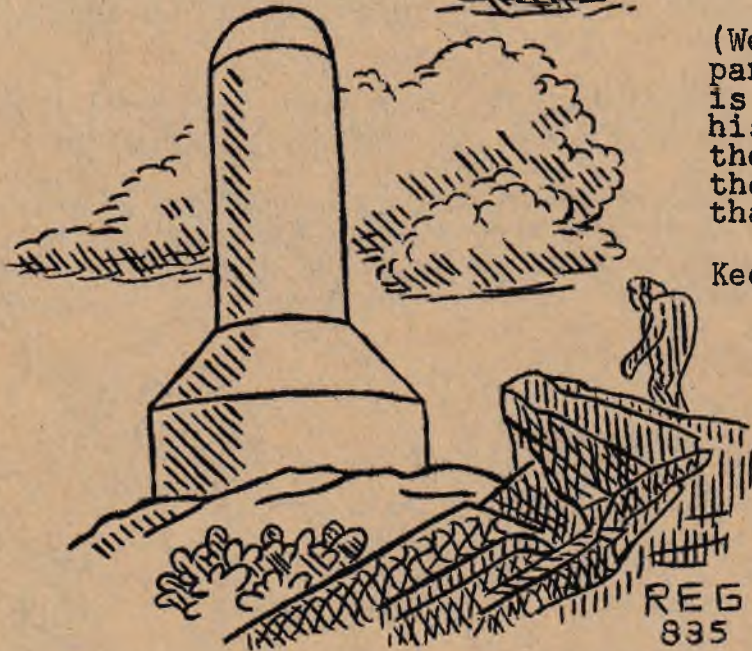
A good zine, Hank, but I think you try to pad it too much. When I evaluate a zine it's by quality of content, not by page count. An editor should prevent the dross from ever reaching print.

SUCH AND SUCH 3 (LUTTRELL) * Reviewing current issues of prozines seems rather pointless to me, since by the time the review gets to the reader the prozine mentioned has long ago vanished from the stands and later issues have appeared. The reviews can't be classed as nostalgia, for our memories of the zines are still very fresh.

What kind of newstands do you have in St. Louis? I've never heard of a large city that didn't handle all the prozines on the stands. Even Chapel Hill has all except GAMMA. The worst place I've ever been for stf isolation was Lexington (Armpit of the South), Virginia. The "newstand" there had sort of a Magazine-of-the-Month policy for stf zines. Only one (on rare bonus months, two) prozine was sold in any given 4 week period. The theory behind this was that since science-fiction wasn't very popular in Lexington, why bother displaying more than one zine title? Good months would see ANALOG or F&SF ----- dismal times found IF their choice.

The distributor also failed to bring the stf titles published by Ballentine, Lancer, Avon, Belmont and others. We only got Ace, Signet, Bantam and Pyramid stf books, and not even all of the titles they put out. Oh, it was a frustrating four years.

KABUMPO 2 (DIAN) * The day my mailing arrived was damp and overcast, and I hurried back to my office without opening the Jetpak. Not bothering to switch on the light, I dropped into a chair and popped out the staples in the Jetpak. When I spread the mailing in the dim light filtering through from outside, KABUMPO's cover completely entranced me. In that pseudotwilight the girl seemed like a princess of the High Elven silhouetted against the bright moon of Middle Earth.



(Well, Dian may like the above paragraph, but Robert E. Gilbert is gonna kill me for typing over his cloud. Sorry, but I thought the top of the building was also the top of the illo. Yeah, I know that'll teach me to think.)

Keep the KABUMPOs coming, Dian, and you'll take the Egoboo Poll by storm. You'll have to look out for certain competitors, but aided by the methods of persuasion described in K#2, even any fools who dissent (if any can be convinced to cast their votes correctly. After sweeping the Egoboo Poll, you could become OE--- just the beginning

of a string to put even Bruce's list of OEships to shame. Onward!
Enjoyed the discussion of Thorne Smith. I've had a chance to read any of his books, but now I'll be keeping a eye out for Smith in pb. Used to watch Topper on the tube years ago and remember it as fairly good. Maybe if I saw it now I'd change my mind.

The fannish poems inspired me to try my hand at a distortion of Shelley.

Ozyfandias of LASFS

I met a traveler, 'twas an antique fan,
Who said: Two vast and drumless mimeo's
Stand in the Slan Shack... Near them, on the floor,
Dead drunk, a shattered faned lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its owner well those passions read,
And in his fanzine stamped these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed.
And in the colophon these words appear:
"My name is Ozyfandias, faaan of faaans:
Look on my zine, ye FAPAns, and despair!"
Nothing beside remains: Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, panned by YANDRO,
Brash and sneering neos stretch far away.

* * *

The most painful torture of all, Dian, is a modern invention: direct electrical stimulation of the pain center in the brain. This hasn't been tried on humans yet (to my knowledge), but has been used to kill laboratory animals. Its advantages are many: no physical damage to the victim, pain may be eliminated at any time by switching stimulation to the pleasure center, there is no attenuation of pain and, by allowing the victim to recover (which could consist of a few minutes stim of the pleasure center) occasionally, death can be avoided and torture could be prolonged indefinitely.

The disadvantage is that a long delicate operation must be performed to implant the electrode, an operation in which the mortality rate could easily be high. But then surgical technique is constantly improving and soon the pain center stimulation method may be a useful tool in police stations all over the country, where it could be used to extract confessions from hardened criminals--- like jaywalkers, speeders and overtime parkers. Or even fans.

UTGARD 4 (HULAN) * Well, UTGARD outpoints LOKI this time, and that's quite a feat. THE FAN OF BRONZE, of course, is largely responsible. Please to continue.

Below your "boxscore" you mention only strings of mailings hit. Why not give "batting averages"? That is, percentage of mailings hit since joining the SFPA. It seems to me that this, along with average number of pages per mailing, would provide the most accurate way of determining a member's activity.



So here they are --- the long awaited Batting Averages! Only present members are listed. I started counting mailings with the first one that the member under consideration appeared in.

MEMBER	HITS/AT BATS	B.A.	TOTAL PAGES	PAGES PER MAILING
Ambrose	11 / 15	.734	135	9.0
Andrews	11 / 15	.734	135	9.0
Bailes	5 / 5	1.000	57	11.4
Gibson	2 / 7	.286	16	2.3
Hall	- / -	-	-	-
Harkness	4 / 7	.572	145	20.7
Hickman	2 / 4	.500	79	19.75
Hulan	11 / 15	.734	276	18.4
Katz	4 / 5	.800	73	14.6
Locke	5 / 7	.715	69	9.9
Luttrell	3 / 3	1.000	82	27.3
Mann	3 / 3	1.000	15	5.0
McDaniel	3 / 7	.429	33	4.7
Mitchell	2 / 3	.667	12	4.0
Montgomery	6 / 7	.858	95	13.6
Norwood	6 / 13	.462	62	4.8
Pelz	2 / 2	1.000	28	14.0
Plott	13 / 15	.877	166	11.7
Staton	5 / 5	1.000	66	13.2
Weber	- / -	-	-	-

The above uses Dave's system and doesn't count postmailings. Notice how most of the high averages are by relative newcomers. Old-timers Plot and Hulan are up there high, though. It's also interesting to compare the Batting Average and Pages Per Mailing columns.

LOKI 8 (HULAN) * Sorry to see that LOKI is folding; anxious to find out what it's yielding to --- a fannish project, I hope.

Got to disagree about Witch World; I don't think it's Hugo material. Let me qualify that: I think there are better choices available this year. Witch World isn't sufficiently coherent to make Estcarp or Kolder materialize as more than sketchy mockups. The book reads like it was written quickly to meet a deadline, and all the shortcuts of stereotypes and noisy action to cover the bones of Standard Plot # 7, were used.

I am a Norton fan, but more of her older work (the best being Star Guard) than of the books she is writing now, in this new prolific period of hasty novels for ever recurring deadlines.

MANNDATE 3 (MANN) * To go one farther on the GEM method of setting off comments on letters, put them in another color ink. Any really dedicated fanned would. Yeah.

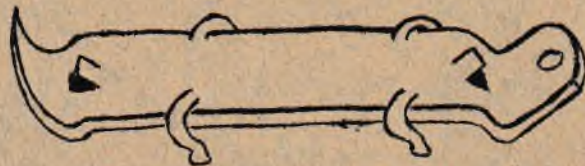
CLARGES 1 (ATKINS) * Rather than say something bad, I'll just be silent. Looking back, I shudder; but I'm full of curiosity as to what y'all are going to say.

THE INVADER 6 (STATON) * Very nice cover. More color, please. I understand that some censorship boards feel it necessary to read some questionable books several times to make sure, really absolutely sure, that pornography is involved. The same with some movies. Books given this treatment by some boards were Fanny Hill, Tropic

of Cancer (and Capricorn), The Rambling Maids, etc. Rumor has it that the cheap, lurid sex paperbacks receive the same scrutiny sometimes.

Perhaps the censors who do this have a morbid obsession with the very "filth" they have sworn to suppress. I think censorship is a sign of an unhealthy society, and that some of the sicker and more confused individuals will be found trying to police the thoughts of others.

The good thing about a hero like yours in "The Warmonger of Mars" is that nothing can upset your Appelcart.



PROPOSED SOLUTION
TO THE VANISHING
CHURCH-KEY MYSTERY

ZAJE ZACULO 5 (BAILES) * The five great lords of Demonland? I count four Juss, Goldry Bluszco, Spitfire and Brandoch Daha. Who else of Demonland is of their stature?

Must disagree about large mailing making a good APA. The one reason that N'APA may be better than SFPA is NIEKAS, not size. Indded, my choice for the Hugo is NIEKAS. (But of course that's only because CURSED has folded.)

Why not run EX through the SFPA? That should certainly make up for your minac, as well as boosting mailing size, a thing that is needed. The SFPA should hit about 200 pp every mailing --- it would, too, with a little more activity from the membership.

IPZIK! 21 (BAILES) * Interested in a couple of chess games via APA? If so, then I play 1:P-Q4 with the White. With the Black I'll reply 1. ...P-QB4 to 1.P-K4, and 1. ...N-KB3 to 1.P-Q4, 1.P-QB4 or 1.N-KB3. OK?

WARLOCK 7 (MONTGOMERY) * So violence is more likely to occur to a passer by in New Orleans than anywhere else, eh? Well, why don't you drive your Alabama tagged car, with a Confederate battle flag flying and a "Wallace for President" sticker on the bumper, through Harlem one midnight. Want to bet that you'd make it back out?

I remember Anniston when it was 30,000 and dry. Now it's 50,000 and wet (and suppling Gadsden with 40% of its liquor). Quite a change.

Jim's "Filler-Diller" was just a variation on a joke as old as Mar. How is it that you've missed hearing it until now?

What happened to pages 5-19? Hope we see them next mailing.

CLIFFHANGERS AND OTHERS 7 (NORWOOD) * Glad to see this postmailing arrive. It is refreshingly different in its format and content. Does Murphy appear in all CH&O's?

A while back, when I had just barely entered fangdom, Ned Brooks gave me the names Frederick Norwood and Tom Dupree to write for info on Southern fanac. In my ignorance I wrote Rick a letter with the salutation "Dear Fred". I have yet to hear from him. Guess he's kind of touchy about things like that.....

I guess the cover is the Lone Ranger and Tonto gone modern. Maybe they now track down evil JD's and brutal motorcycle cops. If they wipe out lurking speed-traps, they could have a real field day in Georgia.

Furl that Banner, for 'tis weary;
 Round its staff 'tis drooping dreary;
 Furl it, fold it, it is best;
 For there's not a man to wave it,
 And there's not a sword to save it,
 And there's no one left to lave it
 In the blood which heroes gave it;
 And its foes now scorn and brave it;
 Furl it, hide it -- let it rest!

Take that Banner down! 'tis tattered;
 Broken is its staff and shattered;
 And the valiant hosts are scattered
 Over whom it floated high.
 Oh! 'tis hard for us to fold it;
 Hard to think there's none to hold it;
 Hard that those who once unrolled it
 Now must furl it with a sigh.

Furl that Banner! furl it sadly!
 Once ten thousand hailed it gladly,
 And ten thousand wildly, madly,
 Swore it should forever wave;
 Swore that foeman's sword should never
 Hearts like their entwined dissever,
 Till that flag should float forever
 O'er their freedom or their grave.

Furl it; for the hands that grasped it,
 And the hearts that fondly clasped it,
 Cold and dead are lying low;
 And that Banner -- it is trailing!
 While around it sounds the wailing
 Of its people in their woe.
 For, though conquered, they adore it!
 Love the cold, dead hands that bore it!
 Weep for those who fell before it!
 Pardon those who trailed and tore it!
 But, oh! wildly they deplore it,
 Now who furl and fold it so.

Furl that Banner! True, 'tis gory,
 Yet 'tis wreathed around with glory,
 And 'twill live in song and story,
 Though its folds are in the dust:
 For its fame on brightest pages,
 Penned by poets and by sages,
 Shall go sounding down the ages --
 Furl its folds though now we must.

Furl that Banner, softly, slowly!
 Treat it gently -- it is holy --
 For it droops above the dead.
 Touch it not -- unfold it never,
 Let it droop there, furl'd forever,
 For its peoples' hopes are dead!

THE SOUTHERNER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTHERN FANDOM PRESS ALLIANCE

Volume 4 $\sqrt{-1}$, Number 4 Mailing #16 $\sqrt{-1}$ June 1865
Joe Static, Official Editor Al Android, Treasurer

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WAITINGLIST....

1. Grant, U.S....22 Shot Glass Road...Appomattox, Virginia
2. Katz, Arnold...UB Apt. 469B...Allenhurst Road...Eggertsville, New York

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