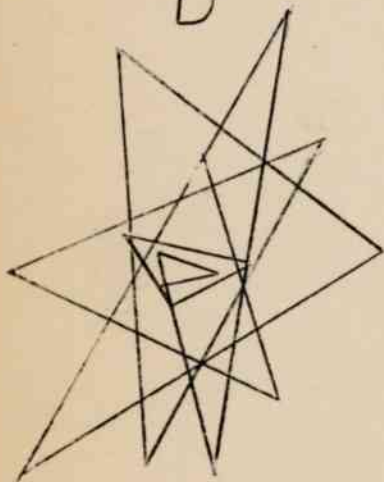


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1964 - 1965

ATTENTION ALL FEN

Everyone in fandom has probably heard about the Neofund. At every Con he has heard, if with only half an ear, someone summarize what the Neofund is and does and end with a plea for contributions. The average fan has, by now at least, a vague notion of the fund's function.

However, how many fans really know what the Neofund does for them? Not enough it would seem, because there are still widely-held misconceptions about the fund and its function. Many fans seem to feel that it is "just another fund." To the contrary, the Neofund is an organization set up to help any fan who should happen to run out of money at a convention. Any fan who finds himself in such a situation is eligible to receive aid from the fund, provided that there is sufficient money in the treasury. While all fans are eligible for aid, if there aren't sufficient funds to assist all applicants, teenage fans are always given a first preference.

Also, a number of people in fandom have the mistaken impression that the Neofund is a sort of "gift" or charity organization. Anyone who receives aid from the Neofund receives it in the form of a loan which he must repay within a stated interval after the convention ends. Fans over sixteen must pay back the loan within ninety days, while fen under sixteen are given up to sixmonths to repay. As these loans are interest-free, everyone who receives this aid is expected to make an additional contribution to the fund when he repays the loan.

Briefly, what the Neofund does is make loans to fans who have become stranded

at a convention because they ran out of money. The loans are made primarily to help defray the expense of their transportation home.

However, it isn't intended that any fan should plan beforehand to make use of the fund because this would be unfair to other fans who might have a more legitimate need for such help. For this reason, no one may arrange in advance to receive a loan from the Neofund.

The Neofund was organized in 1958 by Harriett Kolchak because she noticed that at conventions, fans, especially younger neo-fen, would occasionally run out of money and be unable to get home. If this happened, the unfortunate fan would have to ask other fans to lend him enough money for him to pay for his trip home, a process which was very embarrassing and humiliating to all concerned. To help alleviate this situation, she originated a loan fund to which any fan stranded at a convention could go without embarrassment and borrow enough money to arrange for transportation home. She felt that a preference should be given to teenage fen primarily because there are presently insufficient funds to permit the Neofund to always provide assistance to all applicants and neo-fen are less experienced and hence more likely to run out of money.

Because the Neofund helps all fans, every fan should take a greater interest in it. If fans stopped to consider that the Neofund could help them at some future convention, they would realize that their contribution to the Neofund helps them as well as others.

Although limited at the moment by a scarcity of money to being a form of fan-nish "traveller's aid" society, the Neofund

hopes to expand beyond this limited scope. The ultimate aim of the Neofund is to expand to the point where it is self-supporting and able to provide many other services for fandom, i.e., to become a form of fannish "ford foundation."

The Neofund needs the support, financial and otherwise, of all fans. Contributions may be made to any member of the Neofund Executive Committee. Although the Neofund is interested primarily in cash contributions, anything else you might wish to give, such as materials for auction, artwork, and other similar saleable materials, will be greatly appreciated. We would also be very grateful to anyone kind enough to place an advertisement for the Neofund in his fanzine.

The Executive Committee
of
the Neofund

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