

N I D D H O G G R 3 0

NIDDHOGGR 30 is prepared by Dave Hulan, 19018 Bryant St., #2, Northridge, California, 91325, for the 47th Disty-Wisty-Poo of Apa-L. It is primarily an experiment to find out the idiosyncracies of my new IBM Executive typer, so the material will probably be of little interest to anyone not a typewriter fancier. But I may eventually get around to some comments on the 46th, so you might glance on and see. This is also Jstun Publication 117.

As those of you who read the last issue of NIDDHOGGR may be aware, I have been wanting an electric typewriter for quite a while. Finally today I went into a typewriter shop that had *O*L*D* typewriters of all descriptions, and they had this venerable Executive for only \$50. Since that is within the range that I knew I could meet by selling my cameras and my old typer - I can get almost that at the pawn shops - I wrote the man a check and brought the typer home. Now I'm engaged in finding out its little idiosyncracies - like how this proportional spacing jass works, and how to set the margins and such. It doesn't have any easy way of setting the margins as far as I can tell - you have to lean over the thing and set them by hand, pretty much guessing where you want them to be. Also the tabulator key doesn't seem to work very well - you can't set it, but just have to use the pre-set distances on it. And it does have pica type, while I prefer elite - but that isn't a strong preference, and pica has distinct advantages in appearance.

Now to try a few experiments. Line up a row of dots, which presumably are spaced as closely as any letters are..... and compare letters, as a babcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz It would seem that fiijt are the same as the period, which is two spaces on the back space, mw are four, and all others are three. Capitals now.....

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN	OPQRSTUVWXYZ	ABCDEFGHIJKLMN	OPQRSTUVWXYZ
iiiiiiiiiiiiiiii	iiiiiiiiiiiiiiii	aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa	aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
ABCDEFGHIJKLMN	OPQRSTUVWXYZ	NOPQRST	UVWXYZ
wwwwwwwwwwwwww	wwwwwwwwwwwwww	wwwwwww	www vww

Capitals, it seems, are all four except IJ, which are two each, S, which is three, and MW, which are five each. Interesting....

And now to turn to the impression control, and find out what setting gives the best ditto masters.

- Set at zero: The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog
- Set at five: The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.
- Set at ten: The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.
- Set at fifteen: The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.
- Set at twenty: (well, it has up to 25 marked, but it seems to hang at 16, and I SEE no reason to go higher anyhow the way this looks. Five looks fine from herO...

This typer also has an unusual feature in that it has no quotation mark key like the majority of typers - instead it has a print-type apostrophe and an inverted comma which can then be used to "set off quotes in professional style." I find I rather like the idea. In fact, I find I rather like the typer, which I suppose is a good thing since if I bought it and didn't like it Katya would probably shoot me... Oh, I forgot to mention - it also has an expand setting on it which would come in handy for apa deadlines if the OE would allow it, which he probably wouldn't, would you BRUCE ol' buddy?

Well, I think I've pretty well figured out how this thing works now, so I guess I'll go on to some

Comments on the 46th

BRUCE: Yes, I'll agree that it is probably impossible to separate the rioters from the innocent ones; My attitude, however, is that it is better that some of the guilty ones receive the benefit of the relief than that the innocent should suffer because of the actions of a few. Consider - most of the rioters and looters have already stocked their larders pretty well - that was one of the things they were after in the looting. So that even if they receive the additional relief sent out, it is of little satisfaction value to them, because they are already possessed of more and better things than are likely to be sent out in relief packages. The innocent, on the other hand, not only did not gain through the riots but frequently actually lost, or if they didn't lose at best found that most of the places where they could buy goods were destroyed. The satisfaction value to them of relief is very great. All things considered, I think that to refuse to provide relief to Watts on the grounds that some of the recipients will no doubt be undeserving of it is not a defensible position on rational grounds. It is possible to defend the position that one shouldn't ever, under any circumstances, extend any kind of general relief to a population - I disagree with this position, but admit it can be defended from consistent premises - but once you'll admit that relief is OK if there is some way of separating the good from the bad then I don't think the qualification will hold water. Not that I expect to convince you of this, or really particularly care to... my missionary days were long ago, and these days I argue mostly to convince myself that I can still put together a good case, with any other results accruing being simply fringe benefits - or liabilities.

FRED: When Len Bailes' last SFPAzine arrived here it had eight perfectly uncanceled air mail stamps on it; naturally they are currently awaiting future use after being carefully steamed off...

If rahadlakum was that Turkish Delight type candy Ejo had out at our place a week or two ago, it is indeed Good Stuff, if not quite so afrodisiacal (did anybody else see that movie - not "Kismet", but the French one that used "afrodisiacal"?) as might be expected from the quote you have here.

I would personally prefer to turn the crank a few more times and get more out-of-town members if they can find people to agent for them - most of the interesting material in Apa-L comes from them, and most of the proposed additions, like Atkins, are much more likely to put through worthwhile material than most of the current LA contributors. If raising the copy requirement drives a few out then so much the better; if Apa-L doesn't improve soon it's going to be the biggest weekly crudzine in history. I favor raising the copy requirement to 50 - how about the rest of you?

LEN: Welcome to LASFS, Ol' Euddy - actually you haven't been there yet, but unless something goes wrong you'll be at the meeting where this zine appears. And I'll be able to give you your SFPA Mailing and all... Actually Tom hadn't run all the way from Pasadena - I don't know where he'd been, but he came sauntering in about 9:10 and yelled "Hold it" just as Fred was about to start running off the ToC. Damn, I just noticed that this thing doesn't have an exclamation point, and not only that but it has no straight apostrophe to make one with - ' doesn't really pass very well. I suppose I can get one of those typits or whatever that Meskys is always talking about and put an exclamation point in place of the $\frac{1}{2}$, which can be replaced by $1/2$ anyway without any difficulty.

Ten Top Fans - looking at the various lists there seems to be considerable agreement on Willis, Warner, Coulson, Carr, Eney, White, and Trimble (Bio) - and I would have to agree with all of them. For the remaining three I would

probably choose Bruce Pelz, Ron Ellik, and Wally Weber, but to a considerable extent any judgment of this type depends on what you consider important. Some fans have their main influence in fanzines, others in conventions and related activities, and fans whose main interests are in one area or another will find different fans at the top. I, for instance, can't imagine why Tom Gilbert put Bill Rotsler in the top 10, nor why Len Bailes put Lee Hoffman there, because neither of them are very active these days - Bill is pretty active in LASFS and FAPA, but that isn't general fandom; and the same I guess goes for Lee and Fanoclasts and FAPA. Tucker isn't very active either, but I think he's more active in a general fandom than Bill or Lee because of his column in YANDRO assuming he's still writing it (I haven't gotten YAN in quite a while, since I pretty well quit pubbing a gerzine to trade with).

I went on a C.S. Lewis-kick a few years back (6 or 7 of them) - he is a very good writer, especially his non-fiction. I never cared very much for either the Narnia books or the Silent Planet trilogy, but his non-fiction was beautifully written and very persuasive. He and Dorothy Sayers and G.K. Chesterton are the three best ~~xxx~~ apologists for Christianity (using the term "apologist" in its original sense of "defender") I've read; all of them start from a pretty orthodox view (Anglo-Catholic in the first two cases, Roman Catholic in the third) and manage to justify it rather well. I wonder if some of the more ~~xxx~~ violent religiophobes in Apa-L (like Van Arnam) have read any of the books of those authors?

MILT: No particular comments but I thought I'd mention that I enjoy your discussions of various things and consider you the most valuable "discovery" of Apa-L (Gilbert is as good, but he has been a fanzine collector for some time and it would have been only a matter of time until he started publishing even without Apa-L, I'm sure). I'd have enjoyed seeing your comments on Bjo's pornography comments, too - I suspect I know what they'd have been like, because I've felt like making a few myself. Being a married man I operate under certain handicaps in this sort of discussion....

BJO: Hey, I know you meant it as a joke, but with something like this that goes out all over the ~~xxx~~ country somebody might ~~xxx~~ take you seriously and think I really am a segregationist. I'm not, people - I'm not even a "moderate"; I'm a strong integrationist. I am a Southerner, and don't feel ashamed of it, but I disagree with many of the common attitudes of the people back there and that's the leading one.

Besides, nobody would want to feud with me. I simply ignore people I don't like, which makes it hard to feud - so far no one who has struck me as worth paying attention to has turned out to be a sort of person who wanted to feud. If the news ever changes I'll let you know.

And that, good people, seems to be all the comments I have for this time, and aren't you glad? Katya said she might do some comments this week, in which case they will probably begin if not end on the other side of this sheet. She'll probably want to try out the new typer too. Lessee, I could expand so that I can take up more space with the same amount of typing, but I'm not sure whether it will look good or not - probably not. One thing I do wish I knew how to change about this - and it probably can't be changed - is the line spacing - this typeface, while nice in other respects, is a little tall for 6 lines to the inch - about five would give a much neater appearance, although it would make for a difficulty in cutting stencils, where the lines are figured out for you. However, it sure would fill up a page quick...