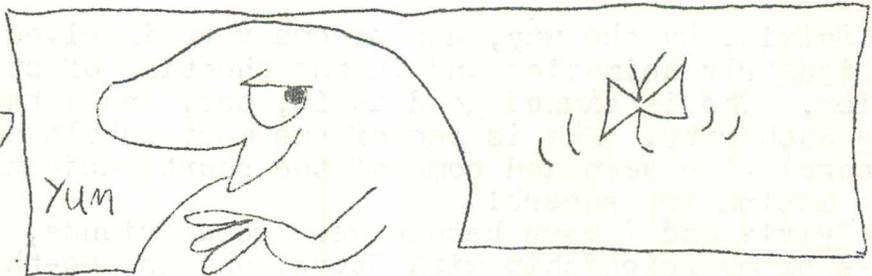


47
NULL-F



is published for the May, 1970, FAPA mailing by Ted White, who has a few things to say, and doesn't want to wait until he has time to get around to a full-length issue of this rag. ::QWERTYUIOPress, sure...

WM. ROTSLER FOR TAFF: Somewhere elsewhere in this mailing should be a set of TAFF ballots, one of which you can and should make use of. Yes. You will notice that of the three candidates, only one is a FAPAN. That man is William Rotsler, Esq. But you already knew that.

Okay, did you know this? That most of the returns thus far, according to Spy S, are from "confen"? That once again (as when Bob Shaw lost) we're in danger of seeing One of Our Own lose through our own lethargy. I mean, maybe TAFF means nothing to you and that's why you're here in this Elephants' Graveyard, after all. But time was when FAPA's membership considered themselves the Cream of fandom. I doubt we are, but if we're anything at all, it's high time we stopped assuming the other fellow is going to take care of things. It's time we cast our own votes and backed up our choices with more than a hand-wave or a plug in our fanzines. What I'm ineptly saying is, if you want Bill to win, why not cast a ballot? It's the only way you have of helping him win.

And by the way, my ballot is where my mouth is: I cast the first one.

A LETTER FROM THE AFORE- I've been meaning to do this ever since I
MENTIONED WM. ROTSLER: got NULL-F 46, but "you know how it is."

In response to your OLD MARRIAGES NEVER DIE, Dept.: Sylvia was here when I got the issue, so after I had read it, I just handed it to her, saying, "Here's something I think you should read."

She settled down on the pile of sleeping silks and furs that are our living room furniture and proceeded to read away. Her progress was marked with things like "Oh!" and "My goodness!" and various degrees of laughter. When she handed it back to me she said there certainly must be someone going around saying she is Mrs. White but it is not her.

I know that you asked me about one of those stories at the Baycon (it was the Baycon, wasn't it?) ((Yes; that's where I first heard the one about the 'nest' in Kansas City and I was kind of flabbergasted. -TW)) and I told you then what I repeat now: that girl in the "nest" thing is/was not Sylvia. I think she was in Europe at the time, or just back, and had gone there in the company of a fellow art student whose interest in women could be charitably described as minimal.

Sylvia told me that when she passed through New York (I presume both ways) that she contacted little or no one. The mood she was in, I presume.

I know this does not shed any light on this mysterious "Mrs. White" but we can be assured of one thing...she is not Sylvia Dees White Langley.

Sylvia, by the way, has become very involved with motion pictures, particularly animation and in the shooting of still photos to achieve action. She is damned good at it, too, and I think I can speak with some authority. She is one of the most subtle and deft cutters (film editors) I've seen and some of the short subjects she has cut from live action are superb!

Sylvia and I have become very good friends, I think, mainly because of my friendship with Steve, who is one-third of a very rewarding and close friendship between he, I and Paul Turner.

Living with Sylvia can be very trying, even as a friend; but I believe the rewards of a fantastically imaginative mind, an extremely high intelligence and unique outlook far exceed those annoyances. As we tell her, sometimes there is a lot of Sylvia in a room.

You may use this letter in a fanzine, if you wish. When I die my whole life will pass before me on mimeod pages.

I've started to write & sell sf. How about that? Are none of we fans immune to trying it ourselves? Amazing.

--Bill

::I wish you had sent your story to AMAZING, Bill. Whatdya wanna do with them other guys, anyhow?

I guess your letter clears up half the mystery; I had a hard time visualizing Sylvia in the role those stories seemed to cast her, and I'm glad to hear it wasn't her and she's doing well for herself in The Movies (which I'd heard). But now I have a bigger mystery on my hands --who in hell is the mysterious "Ex Mrs. White" who has been trading on my name in various parts of the country? Who indeed? I dunno. If anyone hears anything, I'd like to know about it, because I feel like the silent partner in some weird rite about which I know nothing. Like, strange.

SAM MOSKOWITZ'S FAPA MEMBERSHIP: When Sam put his annual DIFFERENT through the last November mailing, I glanced at it and said to myself, "Well, I guess Sam's out this time." Then I forgot about it. In January (I think) Greg Benford mentioned to me that he'd written the President to query the eligibility of DIFFERENT, and after some beating around the bush had been told that the President had referred the matter to the Veep, had recommended leniency, and the Veep had ruled Moskowitz still a member in good standing. I was surprised and annoyed. Officers threw Ed Martin out on far slimmer grounds, and it seemed to me time we enforced the Constitution a little more impartially around here. I wrote a letter to the President with carbons to the other officers, pointing out that of DIFFERENT's nine pages, seven were clearly photo-copy of previously typeset and published material, and that this was obviously "reprint". Neither the President nor the Veep replied to my letter (I'm told the Veep was greatly annoyed by my temerity) but OE Pavlat did, to agree with me and to point out that neither the President nor Veep had jurisdiction, that being solely the Sec-Treas's. He queried Sec-Treas Evans, and Evans put it straightforwardly to Moskowitz, citing the relevant sections of the Constitution, and advising Sam of his varying courses of action.

There; aside from Pavlat's mention of the case in his own zine last time, the matter rests, as far as I can see. To me the matter is one of impartially enforcing the rules by which we run this club--not personalities. I don't think the rules should be used to "get" out of favor members, nor to help those who are In, by the varying standards of the moment. Consistency, that's what I'd like to see. Okay? --TW