

PESKYS ON THREE

intended for the 5th N^oAPA mailing

#B

(Well, it's about time! This is a little late, isn't it?)

(By the way, what do you think of this type-face? WEIRD, isn't it? The school physics department owns 2 typers -- this one & the elite on which I'll do most of the comments.)

N^oAPA YAP # 3 No comment -- at least not at this late date! (2 June, 1960)

CONJURE # 2 In RE page the 12th -- Grrr! I do NOT think that a N^oAPA (a why'd you leave out the ' ?) should have had previous experience in the field. And for purely selfish reasons -- POLHOGE was my first attempt at publishing. Somebody's (was it Seth Johnson, Clayton Hamlin, ~~or~~ or someone else?) idea of a new & better APA with a limit of 20 or so does sound like a good thing to be set up once N^oapa has a waiting list of 10 or so. With the new's APA in existence, perhaps experienceless waiting listers could be required to spend an app rentlessness period there. Say nothing scary about ~~Richard~~ Lovecraft's "Color Out of Space", but I haven't read "Being".

THE VAUX HALL FANATIC As a few others remarked, ILLEGIBLE!

WHYOMA I think it's pronounced "pole - hede" the latter to rhyme with "rode" -- if I remember correctly, that's the way the physics prof promulgated it. I think it's you that commented in some other mailing that you don't buy the 50¢ mags because they cost too much. Well, I guess that you saw that article of mine in SF-Times a few months back where I compared the cost per page of the various mags. Of the current lot, it seems that R&SF @ 40¢ is the worst buy & Galaxy @ 50¢ is the best. Notice how JWC&R screamed unfair!! in the last SF-T because AS&F was well down on the list, & the Nov & Dec 59 ish shared the bottom slot with R&SF? Incidentally, as soon as I catch up on my correspondence I'll redo that article for Mr. Taurasi making more accurate word counts & trying to account for ads, etc. When I first did it, for instance, I hadn't noticed that Amazing (a GOOD magazine) uses different sizes of type on different pages. Well, I sure hope I get an affirmative answer on that PG I'm mailing you today.

ROVER # 6 A good part of the first 4 pages is illegible. Interesting, but no other comment.

USSR EXHIBITION (+ RIDER) This Stinks! Literally!

222 # 1 See whiz, I share wish I could draw that well! Your cover is DeE-100-TV-~~spelling~~!! I've often seen the term "slipsheeting" but can't figure out what it means--perhaps you could inform me? I already told Belle that I'd spend a few hours helping out in the Pitteon NSF room.

hirondel I read & enjoyed both First On Mars & Sands of Mars, but they certainly had little in common, other than a semi-realistic background, as far as I could see. Incidentally, everyone, ignore my comments on Bruno's Gemlin in POLHOGE - 2 if & when the damned thing comes out. Halynch writes good letters.

(Still 2 June, but now at home on my own lousy portable! And for once I remembered to put the backing sheet in when typing!)

WHYOH, again. (I shouldn't type directly on master -- I'm always leaving something out!) I forgot to give the 2nd point of my remarks about JWCjr. To save you the job of digging out #337, I'll quote part of his letter: "...It rather reminds me of a computation I saw some years ago that showed that, cubic foot for cubic foot, the cheapest of all commercially available metals was metallic sodium. (The computation was perfectly correct; iron is cheaper per ton, but almost ten times as dense as sodium.) Somehow, though, despite its cheapness per cubic foot, sodium has never succeeded in replacing more expensive metals in wide general use."

Dan Blackburn suggested to me the perfect answer, "I think your magazine is dense too!" & I'm putting it here since I don't know whether or not Jimmy Taurasi will let me include it in my revised article.

Incidentally, if you remember, in the original article I did admit that my calculations could take no account of the quality of the material published.

USSR EXHIBITION, again. Say Les, what has Dick Schultz got against you anyway? He keeps making comments in fanzine lettercolumns & of the 4 cartoons he sent me 2 were "Anti-Gerber". One I didn't like & sent back, but the other is below. (Of the other 2, one appeared in Peskys on 4 & one will be used either in the next (#3) Polhode or perhaps in my one-shot, Herpolhode: Silence Fact & Fiction. The yet to appear one is the best of the lot.)

Incidentally, the souvineer booklet was appreciated -- I never did get down to see their propaganda show.



THE SAVOYARD # 3 I just checked on my far from complete set of Worldcon ProgRepts & Programs to see what they say about NBS Inc/Un-inc. The 4 X-Con PR's don't mention it & I don't have the program. However, pg 37 of the PhilconII program is quoted a resolution passed at the X-Con setting up a "national sponsoring organization" to become effective with the 11-th Worldcon (PhilconII) with the new con committee becoming the NSO pro-tem. It ended with "Be It Furth-

er Resolved: that the Tenth Anniversary World Science Fiction Convention Committee shall bear no obligation nor responsibility toward the formation of such a national pro-tem body." Also, all of pg 14 of the 4th PR was devoted to the question of the NSO, mentioned that it was Dave Kyle that introduced the resolution at the X-Xon & that he was chairman of the sub-committee on the NSO. It asked many questions on what form the NSO should take & asked for the suggestions of fandom at large. The first 4 PR's of the SF-Con make no mention of the NSO & I don't have the program. #However, the special, 3rd & 4th Clevention PR's devote a total of some 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ pp to the ~~NSO~~ NSO rotation plan etc. In the special PR they mentioned that the office of "Recorder" or "Historian" was created at the PhillconII & that the actual NSO was set up at the SFCon. The first Newyorkon PR mentions that the name WSFS was chosen at the Clevention, & the 3rd PR announces the incorporation ~~#####~~. So you are correct -- the WSFS is older than the corporation.

I enjoyed "A Neo Views The Wall-Known Fan", & comson, tell us the story behind it.

DREAM STUFF # 3 Jeanie Bogert writes interesting letters, doesn't she. I wonder if that crud is still making the rounds on the idiot window at some off hour. There have been improvements however -- about 2/3 of the stories on "Twilight Zone" are quite good, some of the one-shots have been excellent (the only one I caught was "Mas, Babylon") & "Men Into Space", altho corny in plot & with some errors, is a definite improvement over "Rockhead Jones", "Tom Corbit" (come to think of it, I remember correctly over these many years, TC was fairly good), "Tales of Tomorrow", &c. //// Hey, I like Art Rapp's idea of producing a number of extra bundles to be sold instead of just 5. //// Ai wundir hu yu kud mien wen in tak about W papers hu dont no hau tu spel. In Polhode-1 I tried to be carefull of my spelling -- even had Belle check the completed manuscripts for me. However, when it came to typing the masters, I quite often found myself making the same old mistakes again despite the fact that I was working from the correct mss. By the way, what's your attitude towards the "demolishisms" such as "altho", etc, which seem to be fairly standard fannish practice? //// You might be interested in knowing that of the 45 OMPA members, some 21 or 22 are from the British Isles, 1 (Ann Hayes) is from Canada, 3 from Australia/New Zealand & the rest -- some 20 -- are from the U.S.. At least that was the case some 6 months ago when I saw a copy of their 0-0. //// I sent copies to those who were discussed at length but the only reaction I got was from Randall Garrett who, at another convention, told me that he liked it & would like to get future issues. In fact, he said that he would like to get many more fanzines than he has been getting. However, the "exchange" would be rather one-sided for he said that he might send some money for it, but probably not an LOC. Several people present tried to convince him that the LOC is really what was wanted, but to what effect I don't know. While we were talking, he pointed out an error in what I wrote about him & if I remember I'll print a correction in Polhode-3, which WILL be out this summer. Incidentally, I just got a fanzine called "dubious" from A.J. Budrys (631 2nd Ave, Long Branch, N.J.) [Hey, would it still be called a fanzine if it were produced by a pro??] which is 3 sheets of chatter ranging from so-so to very interesting. You can get on his mailing list for free, like, but he requests that you send him fanzines if you publish one. I find it a lot of work to write a fanzine & want to get as much mileage out of that work as possible. That's why I produced 151 \pm 1 copies of the first ish of Polhode & will print about 200 of the 2nd. & don't you produce very many copies of your Fapazine for purposes of trade, etc? And if you only produced 40/45 copies of Dream Stuff, where did those LOC's come from? //// I don't think an IMUS (UPS, THE IMUS TYPER JUST SKIPPED) curiae was distributed to OMPA -- was it, George? //// Oh, I forgot to finish -- so I'm not, you see, against expanding membership, altho I now beleave that it should be done slowly & with much care. For instance, when Belle has the run-off election, I suppose that we'll be able to choose between a limit of 40 or of 50. I'd vote for the latter if it became effective when we had a waiting-list of 10 or so. Also,

we should go easy with the expanding & it's also possible that after a rush of enthusiasm with many fan joining there might be a decline in interest which would eat up the waiting list & even leave the group with a number of vacancies. THAT would prove to be quite embarrassing! /// I agree on this TAFF ballot business. If all of the money that is spent on printing them up & on advertising both TAFF in itself & the various individual candidates were instead donated to TAFF directly, more money would probably be collected than is with the present system. By money spent for ads I mean both the purchase of ads in such places as (on programs & the cost of producing the pages of plugs present in innumerable fanzines. /// At the final Metrofen meeting there had been some discussion about varying fanfames (ie, about f-f's who vesp, not about other's vesping them!) It had been pointed out, & by one of the femmes there, that attendance is one of the very few (if not the only one!) activity groups which are "cool" in theory but where the male: female ratio is very high.

ULP! I just ran off the last 3 pages & they came out lousy! Apologies to everyone! I must go down to the neighborhood store where I got them to find out the brand name & warn fandom-at-large to avoid these. The blue is at least way readable, but the green is impossible!

For her safety I won't mention the name of this one, but more than one femme was present. - Altho, she said that it has happened more than once that a female would come into fandom, trap a husband, & drag him out of fandom. Thus, said she, femme are looked upon with distrust in fan circles.

QUOTH THE WALRUS Impeccable duplicating & even justified margins yet! You really put us to shame. "First Fandom" was extremely interesting -- hope you can remember more about it to tell us.

INTO THE FOREST One thing always (well, not always but since last Sept.) confused me -- with all this insistence on 40 (or 45) copies, why did I get a postcard from you the day after I had mailed you Polhede-#1 which PC said to send you 30 copies?

RAVING MAINE-IAC 2 Horrible cover altho the illo on pg 3 isn't bad. Otherwise, no comment.

((Oh blast! Forgot the lousy backing sheet again!! I wonder if it really helps--well I'll see when I run this page off, for I will now put it in.))

BUCK ROGERS FAN Some 15 years ago (I don't remember the exact number, but it was several years before the idiot window came into prominence) there used to be a block of childrens adventure & radio programs on the radio station WOR (now affiliated with the mutual network--I don't know if it was then) running from about 4:30 to 6:00 PM with an additional one ("Terry & The Pirates") at 6:15. For about a year one of these was "Buck Rogers" & it, like all the others, ran for 15 minutes a day, 5 days a week. I remember that one Friday I had to go somewhere with my parents & was furious at having to miss that days installment, & even more so when I found the program no longer on the air the next Monday. I had wondered for months how it had ended, but now I no longer remember anything about the show.

I didn't know Buck Rogers was THAT old altho I did know it had been for quite a while. Thus I put the "1939" label on the rocket I modeled after the Buck Rogers strip which had appeared in some multi-strip "comic" magazine around '45. BR never did have his own magazine, did he?

Your comment hasn't "riled me up" but thus far I still intend to keep Polhede available to outsiders. Of course it can happen ~~now~~ now that I've

((After all that talk, I did forget to put in the backing sheet, but it's in now. The last page was done on a "Ditto Royalty Carbon" while this is being done on an "Olde Town # Jet Ride" master unit.))

fissioned off the MC's, that Polhode will appear with decreasing frequency 'till it disappears. Number 3 will appear in Sept & there might be another during the winter depending on how much I get done before school starts again.

Just dug out my notes on that old Kuttner-con, which really is ancient jistory by now.

I have in my notes that Willy Ley said that a TV camera is a satellite 1,000 miles up could not detect something under 8 miles in diameter, so it would not be usefull as a "spy in the sky". He was, of course, talking about an unmodified camera.....No secret fuel had been used to launch the Sputnikie, but just kerosene & liquid oxygen for the first stage & solid boosters for the later ones....In 1923 Oberth had theoretically described the disaster which wrecked the 2nd or 3rd Vanguard attempts-- if a rocket is too long & narrow turbulence can start the front end oscillating which would build up & break the rocket in half....The German scientists had nothing to do with the Sputnikie--only a number of technicians had been captured & they were kept on an island where over a period of 2 years they dictated everything they knew. They were then released in E.Germany & within a matter of months had made their way to W. Germany; they are now working in industry, mostly in France.

Robert Heinlein had said that SF prepares its readers for change & that most people "neither beleive ~~before~~ before nore wonder after", & that if a person is "too stupid to see what is ~~before~~ before his face he is bound to be surprized." There was much more on edulation, "the sputnik woke us up", but "is it too late?", etc., which is so dated that it isn't worth repeating now. Especially since all of this has died down & we have gone back to our optimistic contentment.

Then was the panel discussion on Kuttner. SAM started off by listing some of his many pseudonums & gave a brief rundown of his carear. He started by immitating Lovecraft & Howard & writing humor. It was third rate back stuff. He attempted sex in Marvel & then immitated Merrett in the late '40s. His greatest success had been during World War II when Campbell began to "discover" new authors -- Padgett who wrote humor & O'Donnell who wrote better quality adventure. He then wrote his best stories, "Vintage Season" & "Childrens Hour". There was a 4 year lapse in his writing as he went to UCLA & majored in English. He recently began to appear in F&SF & No Boundires /why do I keep reversing letters? had just been published by Ballentine, & he had other projects on the fire. However, a book which appeared just before his death was credited only to C.L.Moore--a sign that he was sick towards the end? (Her stuff was much too wordy before meeting him.)

Then Dr. Tom. S. Gardiner said that many of his best stories dealth with a conflict between 2 radically different groups; in Fury it was between these with a long & a short life expectancy, in the Baldy series it was between the telepaths & non-telepaths. Dr. Gardiner also mentioned "Fairy Chessmen" & "Vintage Season" but I don't know what he said.

All I have under L. S. de Camp is that he was very timed & used 16 pseudonyms.

I already mentioned what C. L. Kornbluth said. He also remarked that Campbell had suggested "Variable Truth" as a theme both to Kuttner & Heinlein the result of which was "Fairy Chessmen" & "Waldo" respectively.

Larry Shaw spoke of how Kuttner had always been improving himself, & his death was a real loss in the stories he would have written in the next 5 or 10 years. Larry ~~Shaw~~ Shaw also mentioned that at one time whenever a new author would appear fandom would accuse him of being a

penname of Lutner, so as a joke he wrote a piece of first rate space opera under the name of C.M. Liddell which nobody guessed to be by him.

Altho Heinlein wasn't on the panel, de Camp asked him to make a few remarks. All said among other things that Lutner had been ill for a long time & that he was a "pro's pro" who inspired many to try to write. He was a craftsman who could do anything... He was a recluse because he was a sick man... When I once visited him they wanted to make an appointment for a future meeting, but could find no calendar to help fix the date--nor was there a newspaper or even a clock in the house. The radio hadn't been used in two years. Mr. Heinlein ended by noting that Lutner had been greatly underrated, & that he had written some great "was done its" on the level of B. Fowler Wright.

Finally Mr. de Camp refuted some of Cyril Kornbluth's statements. Said deC, "If bad literature will have a bad effect on the reader, then good literature should have a good effect too. Then what of the effect of all the good preachy type literature produced around the turn of the century?"

Now you sorry that you asked me?

You probably wouldn't have too much trouble selling your pre '45 stuff, even in a lump, but I imagine that most interested people already have most post '30-45 stuff. And then there is the matter of money & shipping! Well now, in some 6 or 7 years when I have (I hope) my Ph.D. & have been working a few years....

Well, as you can see in Polhode-2, no ish of Campbell Journal of the IAS have yet been published. The latest--is it #19?--ish of Letter Forum put out by Alma has much to say about the ~~Journal~~ Journal & its non-appearance.

Your Bible-collecting info was interesting & I'll have more to say about it later, maybe.

PICTURE TRACK # 1 Nothing to add to what I've said in Po4.

SHRIMP GUIDE You sure let Dan & Pat have it, didn't you?

REMEMBER CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS? *O* *N* *D* *E* *X* *P* *O* *S* *E* *!!! *? *!!!! *!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! (get the idea, like?) I intended to bring one to the Luncheon to show "Randy" Garrett but I forgot. (7 guesses which one). But I guess he must have had it shown to him 25 times already.

AVE IF WAVE # 1 Well, since everyone else already stepped on you for your comments, I won't bother. I do hope, however, that this reaction doesn't make you quit.

I'm now against unlimited membership, as I expressed above, but NOT for your reasons. Look, you've been talking about joining a mundane apa & the only SF apa you're not on is OAA & you're on PAF waiting list. I'll bet that if a new SF apa were set up tomorrow you'd join that too. So what's the difference between producing mag for 2 40 member AAAs & one \$80 member AAA? On the other hand, I do realize that if SAAS had more than 35 members its greatly detailed individual mailing comments would no longer be possible & much of its unique spirit would be lost. Why haven't I gotten a Postwart in over a year?? Especially when others apparently did!

Your Christmas-Jard zine, "Hello", was good but I can't say anything else about it.

THE HAS BEEN MENTIONED ON / (the 5th mailing of) "AAA BY edmund r nesky, 723A, 450t. B1ln20m