

page 1 of Pesky's 6-7

11:00 AM, Fri 24 Feb 1961 & here we go with a mad race to make the 8th NAPA mailing whose deadline is March 10th. Before starting on the MC's I want to make a few general remarks.

First off, I expect to print very few extra copies of this (as it will contain very little more than mg's) & as of now there are only 2 people to whom I expect to give copies. Second, apologies for the litto. As I told several people, with the help of a local fringe-fan named Carlton L Frederick (fringe in the sense that he has very little interest in fuz) I intended to use a radically new method of production for this ish. However, I put off writing this until too late & I doubt that he could have things ready in time so I'm composing directly onto master. Hebbe next time....

Thirdly, there should be somewhere in this mailing Herpolhode #1 which should also be in the next SAPS mailing. (I say "should" 'cause Dan Blackburn, who promised to multilith it for me, has yet to finish & it's getting late....) This is one of the very few times I expect to cover both SAPS & N'APA with the same zine & I'm doing it this time because I feel that this particular zine should serve as a good introduction of myself to SAPS which I expect to enter very soon. I recently got onto the FAPA WL & momentarily considered putting it thru the "shadow mailing" too but decided against it. There would be no point to it for at least another 4 years & from what I understand (I have yet to see a complete mailing) this particular type of zine would not be appreciated very much there. I will avoid SAPS-N'APA coverage because of the large membership overlap but will keep an open mind to other combinations. I shouldn't have implied above that Dan had Herp for a very long time. I originally wrote it in time for the Jan SAPS mailing & Carl promised to quickly produce a cover for me. When he failed to do so Dan ran off a few copies (enuf for SAPS) with a blank front cover but due to various snafu's it didn't make the mailing. Carl finally came thru with the cover last Friday (the 17th) & Dan is now to re-shoot & rerun the outside page (it is to be "digest sized") & finish the run on the other pages. I am a bit worried about making the mailing however because he is a little slow & things always come up which prevent him from finishing. But I really can't complain because he is doing it at cost as a favor to me for which I am very grateful. I don't have any mimeo or multi equipment at my disposal & if I did I wouldn't have the time to use it except during the Summer. And I certainly couldn't do as good a job!

Fourthly, I suppose that there will be some remarks about the "incomplete" copies of Polhode in the last mailing so I might as well explain right now. As I said in Polh I originally got that story for use in a 1-shot to be put in the memory book. I had part of it on stencil & was thinking of putting it thru the 5th mailing as a 1-sheeter (which would have made 6 zines for me in that mailing--ain't you glad I didn't?) when I showed it to Belle. We then had a discussion on it the upshot of which was that I kept it out of the mailing even tho there really was absolutely nothing wrong with it. It was done because this is the sort of thing which, if found by the wrong kind of parent, can result in a younger fan's getting forcibly yanked out of fandom. But I did put it thru the memory book where it had a far greater chance of doing such harm, which was quite inconsistent of me. When I started to cut Polhode I decided to leave it out of N'APA copies because 1) I'd already agreed to do so, & 2) because it was already run off & each copy bore the notice that it would be excluded from N'APA. It would have looked most silly going thru N'APA with the statement right on it that it would not. Since I ran it off there have been all sorts of complaints about "censorship" in the last 2 N'APA mailings & if the expected reaction is in this mailing I might have included it in the next except for the fact that 90% of you already saw it either in SAPS or the memory book. There is no longer any point to it.

Finally, for now at least, on prior distribution. Since it's permitted I do take advantage of it. If Polh 3 had been ready when it was supposed to be, most copies would have been distributed before the last mailing. But since it was ready such a short time before only 20 were & most of these went to either contributors or local friends. Only 2 or 3 went out as subs or trades (one, Bob, to your co-publisher of Psi-Phi--I hope sending copies to him alone will bring trades.) As for Herp, I don't expect to send any out before March 12, which is after the N'APA deadline.

There are one or 2 other things that I wanted to say but I think I better get started on the mc's now. If I have time, then at the end. As for the arrangement of the mc's, I put all of the 6th mailing zines next to the zines by the same publishers in the 7th, thus integrating the 2 bundles. (It looks nice that way--just about as thick as a SAPS bundle). I also moved up to one place those zines by editors who had more than one in the mailing. Oh yes--if I run out of time I'll just put those pages that are ready into the mailing. After all, some egoboo is better than none. Well, here goes....

BALLOTS What are the 2 lines under Jack's name for--write in candidates? As for the ammendment, yes. I suppose it's equivalent to sending copies to the national library by OMPA. As for the second ballot, I NEVER did get a copy with my bundle & I hereby officially gripe. But from the O-O copy: I don't give a d\*\*\* about the O-O title. I was originally in favor of raising to 45 (& eventually to 55 in steps of 5--I like patterns & then the 4 true APAs would have covered the full spectrum from 35 to 65 in steps of 10) but what with the sudden drop in membership (I believe we won't be up to full roster with this mailing, either) I voted against it. I am curious as to how the voting went on the conditional points & am sorry that you didn't say. Maybe next time I see you I'll remember to ask. No question about raising the dues & as for the 3 month wait it would have eliminated the snafu's like those which accompanied Gerber's & Larry Anderson's joining. But I suppose that the OE can avoid them by just being extra careful & I suppose that once we regain a wl it won't be able to happen. That reminds me--if we don't regain the wl what say we cut back the limit to 35 or even 30? Give ourselves untill the 10th mailing & then see.

N'APA YAP (Dietz') Don't shoot me Belle, but I dun got a looot of gripes. I know you were sick when you put the last mailing out but still you made a horrible mess out of the mailing-contents. In Seth's VHF you forgot his separate cover which brings the zine total up to 7; Deckinger only had 7 pages of his own material in Hocus; I had 6½ in Polh (as you correctly credited on the membership list); Nebulous ran only 8 pages of which 6½ or 7 were by Phill. Next we come to Kaymar. APA tradition says to count each page as "1" no matter how large or small it is when counting towards the "Bragging Total" of the mailing & to proportionalize when computing credit towards minimum activity. There is no reason for us to slavishly follow tradition if we don't want to & you are perfectly free to assign "20½" pages to this zine. But if you do, please be consistant & give only 10½ to Hocus, 12½ to Ape, & 2 to Red Cube. I don't know who did the cover of Neofan so I don't know whether Hennifen should get 7 or 8 pages of personal credit. But regardless of how much credit you gave Ron for Red Cube in the bragging total column, he should only have gotten 2 in the activity credit column! As for Help!, if you follow tradition, 3 pages in BT col--if you use your system, 1-1/3 will do. And as for the YAP, in both ish you should have given yourselves only NINE pages--the covers were NOT



by you. PLEASE, BE CONSISTANT! The postmailing lists seem to be ok, but why did you list my zine as "N'APA-zine"? The title wasn't overly long & it was at the top of almost every single page, including the first one. As for YAP 6, I think it has an error or 2 also but I didn't mark them off before integrating the mailings & it would be too much work to check now. Again without checking, I believe that in the 5th you did accidentally give N'APA CON 4 pages of credit but I also think that this was an error in copying from your scrap list & that the total number of pages (which was computed on the scrap list) was correct. But I'm too lazy to dig out the mailing to check. You know, I guess you're right & this will go down in fannish history as "that (censored) mailing."

I will now take this opportunity to make some (unsolicited) remarks about N'APA to our incumbant OE, the right reverand Scribe Jack Harness. (Incidentally, Belle, did you purposely list the wrong title for his zine in the O-O after all the remarks he made about his zine being Obscene Matter # C, & then called it "I-NUM...#2" In other words, because he apparently hedged as to his actual title.) We got off to a flying start but recently had a lot of drop-outs from among the steadily producing members. And we are cluttered with one hell of a lot of deadwood. Perhaps the time has come for a stricter application of the rules, even if it means cutting the current membership down to about 30. Then, if it doesn't go back up the membership limit could be lowered too. And, of course, each new member would be required to have a zine in his first mailing. Belle had very much trouble with sickness, mundae, etc & really didn't have time to sit down & rigidly enforce the rules. I hope you do. As for the 50% fine, I am in favor of keeping it in much modified (more on that later) form. But the mailing should be withheld from the delinquent member until the fine is paid & forwarded only then. This way we would not wind up with members owing \$1.50 the was at least 2 have since the start of N'APA. And set a very short deadline for paying the fine after the O-O has been sent 1st class to the delinquent member. As for the changes, it should only be usable in dire emergency & then not more frequently than (say) once every 2 years. The fine should be stiffer -- at least \$1, perhaps \$2 -- & should be accompanied by a page penalty. Say double the amount of pages due (say he was only short 2 pages in the x mailing--then he would have to have 4 in the x / 1 mailing), with a special deadline 20 days before the regular one. My reason for this is that there is no machinery for a membership to be otherwise saved in extenuating circumstances. FAPA has its petition & in SAPS the OE is Ghod & if conditions warrent he can pardon a delinquent member (the way OEney did pardon you a few mailings back).

Well, enuf of my YAP--you're the OE & I'm taking the privilege away from you. So endeth my unwelcome comments on how I think N'APA might be better run (& I suppose you're asking why I didn't run for OE if I have so many "bright ideas" -- well, you see, I'm not a masochist.) & begins the comments on

VAUX HALL FANATIC (Johnson) which I recieved on Dec 27, some 4 or 5 days before I recieved the mailing itself. Well, Seth, you seem to have the duplication problems solved. Your only difficulty now seems to be the grey streaks along the edges of some of your pages which do not interfere with the readability of the zine. Art probably can & did tell you what to do in order to get rid off it--I suspect that either you used US type (as opposed to Gestetner type) stencils which are about 1/8 inch narrower. Either that or you typed them too near the side edge. As for the idea of work-for-word transcriptions of worldcons, I sort of doubt that it could be done both on grounds of economics & amount of work. At the

Pitteen, as you know, Jimmy Taureal put out a daily 1-sheet edition of S-F Times & just do do that was one heck of a lot of work even with their high speed Rex Rotary. (They tell me that they can run off a 6 page issue of SFI (1,000 copies) in one hour on it! Of course the final result shows that it was run off quickly.) Even there were two of them & they had the back cover of the cumulative subscribers' copies run off & addressed they put in one heck of a lot of time. You would find very few fen who would be willing to give up a sizeable portion of their convention time for a project like that. As it is there are just too few hours available during the con to do everything that there is to be done. // And that was just cutting & running the stencils & collating. There is also the matter of transferring the tapes into typescripts & getting the speakers' approval. Most would want a crack at revision from a typescript before consenting to publication. Two years ago BSFA had a symposium on fantasy which ran for two meetings & had de Camp & F.B. Long, among others, as speakers. A total of 6 hours of tape was accumulated & there was talk of publishing this & selling it for \$1. (The number of sales at this price would have been very much the same as at half the price, so why not take in the money?) The material was very good & there would have been a fair sale to the Lovecraft collectors because of the talks by Long & some others on Lovecraft. (Incidentally, the only program event I missed at the Pitteen was Long's talk (ch--& Ford's slide show except for the tail end), but those who heard both it & his ESFA talk say that they were substantially the same but that the ESFA one was better & had a fair amount of unusual material not present in the routine Pitt talk.) Anyhow, it was finally decided that the amount of profit would not be worth the amount of time it would take to make typescripts from the tapes, even with fast typists like Belle doing much of the work. If that is true for a 6 hour tape, how much truer would it be for a whole Worldcon! And the cost of professional stenographers would be prohibitive. // But if someone does publish it and has exclusive rights to the speeches, I'll probably payup to \$2 for it. I have a copy of the Convention Memory Book which I recently acquired & it was just that sort of deal produced by, I believe, Don Ford many years ago. It sure made fascinating reading and rivaled Innuendo in size.

As for me unt der Neff, it's like this. After seeing all the adds in the Solacon prog nupte & program & then after it was mentioned in passing by Geo Raybin & Joe Casey at at some Metrofen meetings I joined on impulse some 2 years ago. I never became active in any phase & it wasn't 'till some 15 months later that I answered my last welcomeletter (I'd recieved about 10). If not for N'APA I suppose I would have remained an inactive member indefinitely (except for occasional roundrobins & letters in Postwarp/Tightbeam) staying in just to receive the official zines which I generally find interesting. However, then N'APA got started & Belle talked Dan Blackburn into both the NBF & N'APA & he talked me into joining N'APA. This got me started on fms & then Geo Raybin gave me a 2 foot or so stack including Gry's, Shaggles, Fanag's, a Ploy, 2 OMPA mailings (which I still haven't gotten around to reading), JDEArgaway's, & many other lesser zines. After reading & subbing to most of these I took a bundle from Seth's FCL & therein discovered Yandro & Pierre Versain's F&SF both of which I liked very much. Funny thing, tho--I airmailed Pierre an LOC & sent him several of my fms but never heard from him. Well, I've since dropped him from my list but I wonder wahappin. Anyhow I'm now in the thick of mainstream fanzine fandom & have lately been giving some thought to my relationship with the gud ol Neff....

I still expect to stay on indefinitely for in addition to the above it now has N'APA & the Mes Buro to offer. And I suppose I owe the Neff something for getting me into mainstream fandom which I might be partially & ineffectively repaying by trying to recruit among non-fen. (As you said, Seth, there is just no point to recruiting among the already active fen for even discounting the ineffectiveness of this due to the general hostility



towards the N3F) most of them can get little or nothing out of the Neff.) I was fortunate enough to get a mention in Fantastic's lettercol on my first try some 6-8 months ago & this brought 6 replies. I answered 5 & thus far only one joined. Two were answered rather recently--one was from a town 25 miles South of L.A. so I also recommended IASFAS to him--so I haven't given up hope on them, & one has just sent me some really good artwork for the next Polhode (Harry Dauthwaite). He wanted to contact fan-artists so naturally I also put him on the trail of Bjo & her fan artists club. My reason for not answering the 6th reply is that I can't find his letter. (I said my attempts were ineffectual.)

For similar reasons I have recently started to write fanzine reviews which would be seen by some 500<sup>or</sup> readers who are not fans (& some 2-300 other people too). I hope to keep in close contact with the editors of the reviewed zines to find out how many, if any, bites they will get & after some 9 months & 9 reviews evaluate the results & see if the attempt is worth continuing. Norm, New Frontiers was the 2nd zine reviewed (as you know, since you saw a carbon of the review) & you will probably get the review about the same time as this arrives. You will let me know about the results, won't you?

The recent influx of prominent fen has produced a pleasant reaction in me--I suppose it's a partly subconscious reaction of "See, I was right in belonging to the Neff. The fact that all of those BNF's & WKF's are joining proves it!" But when you stop & ask yourself why are they joining.... I mean, what are they going to get out of it? (As Les Gerber recently said to me, it seems to be becoming the fannish thing to do, when he heard about Miri Carr's intention of joining.) I suppose that in part it is a feeling of "We've been griping about how awful it is for all these years--let's see if we can fix it up." combined with a substantial drop in the general feeling of bad will towards the group. This drop must be due, I guess, to the formation of N'APA, Ronel's amusing column in Shaggy, & R.M.H..

It's now 50 minutes since I started this page & I still have much to say on this subject. But I find myself at a loss for words when trying to compose on master & I must be boring a lot of you to the point of tears (if you even read this far!) Let's see if I can't somehow wrap this up quickly.

Due to internal feuds, fuggheaded administration, etc, in the past, the Neff had gained one hell of a bad reputation & even tho much of the cause has left the reputation to some extent lives on. Even if the reformers are completely successful in making the organization entirely acceptable to general fandom I suppose that "N3F Project" & "Dougherty Project" will remain synonymous for all time. This would, with luck, however not be accompanied with bad will. But even if there isn't any bad will there won't necessarily be the good will for its projects that say Fanac has. For instance when Fanac started up the fmp up a while back with Dave Rike (?) heading it this got an amount of favorable publicity & cooperation that no Neff project could get--now or at any time in the foreseeable future--because of the good will Fanac has thruout fandom. And when this fell flat on its face Fanac didn't garner any resentment except perhaps among the fen who lost material. Now if this had been the N3F Mss Buro.... And of course there will be future N3F projects & services that will fall down too, because their success always depends on the dependability of the people running them. I suppose that even my attempts at recruiting might have gained the Neff some resentment because of my taking several months to answer the inquiries & loosing that letter from India. I suppose I'll eventually find that letter & answer it, but how happy will he be to get an answer 6 months after he wrote me airmail? This is one reason (the others are lack of time & interest) that I will never run for any office in the Neff outside of N'APA. I am interested in the N&APA & (except for the first 2 or 3 mailings) always managed to find the time for a fair sized contribution despite school & everything. I suppose that once I'm finished with school I

might some day take a crack at running for OE. But one thing--now that I'm beginning to get involved with other APAs I never expect to mention the NEFF or any of its deviations except in discussions like that of the first IPSO combazine.

And what will happen with der Neff in the future? I have no idea except that I will have no influence in what eventually does. Most of the bad features that I have heard about have been cleared up during (& perhaps slightly before) Ralph's administration but as Horn said last time around it has gained few good features. Come to think of it, what can it ever be other than (for the most part) a neo's correspondence club? That's the feature I have been stressing (without mentioning "neo's") in my feeble attempts at recruiting. Currently, aside from its NCC aspects it provides a home or haven for that assortment of people generally referred to as "N3F types" who have little or no interest in staf & outside fanzines but are interested in metaphysics, yogi, flying-saucers, spiritualism, Dianetics, etc -- but I suppose that there is nothing wrong with this as long as they don't predominate (or even become a fair-sized minority) & don't scare the neo's off with weird welcomeletters. (Wow! You should see some of the winners I'd recieved! I guess my mentioning that I was a physics graduate student really brought them out in droves!) Wonder what the reformers will do with the Neff if & when they get into complete power & what will happen to the "N3F type"....

Well, Seth, that Multi on which Dan is running off herp did cost his company over \$1000 but there are both cheaper & more expensive models. But that ain't the only capital investment -- if you want to use it the way you suggest you must also have the plate-making camera too & Dan has no idea of how much that costs. Of course you can type the plates or "mats" directly (as is done with Amra, JD-Argassy & others) but then you loose the "Advantage" of not having to retype the letters & you might as well go back to mimeo, as far as you are concerned. And then it isn't so easy even with the whole setup. What if you wanted to put onto the same page a letter which was typed with a new ribbon & another which was typed with a ribbon that should have been retired 6 years ago? If you set the camera to catch one just right the other would come out either too faint to read or as a solid black glob. Also, the final result doesn't look too neat (see some of the lettercels in Logic at Work). If you have access to such a machine it would cost about as much as a mimeo to use. The mats & paper cost a little more but by photographic reduction you can get more onto a page. I'd volunteered to do the July Tightbeam & for a short time I had considered doing it by multi. I like the technique because I can type the stuff up at home despite the fact that my typer can't cut a stencil worth a damn & it is a pica. Also the final res weighs less & I could send out perhaps as much material as would normally take up to 40 pages for only 3¢. But I don't want to unload the work of running it off (except for a cover) onto Dan even if he would be willing to do it (which I don't know). Carl Frederick said that he'll soon have a mimeo so even if it is a hand-cranker as long as it isn't too messy I'll do it on that.

How in hell would Marion's using Neffers as characters in a story ever cause someone to join?

Your remark to Guy about how he should include a gestafaxed photo of himself in a future Talig Wood reminds me that I recently saw an add in U.S. News & World Report for a machine made by the Ditto company which will copy a photograph onto either a Ditto master or a multilith mat. I forgot what they called it but it ended in "afax" & they didn't even hint at what the price might be. But I didn't know that they had a process analogous to stanofax for the spirit process.

Your various remarks touching on "that forbidden topic" reminds me that only once did I see a discussion of it in a fanzine as a result of which I actually learned something & which I found interesting. That was in the lettercol of the current (Jan) Yandro. Usually it consists of what can be paraphrased as "Look, Ma! Ain't I being adult by using naughty words in print? Gee whiz!" I'm afraid most of your remarks fall into this class too. You really say nothing.

Before commenting on Prosser's opus I want to carefully reread it & the marginal notes I've made. But I'm coming to the bottom of a page & I have to teach a class in 10 minutes. I'll just finish up this page by chiding you for your lack of prudence in putting Dave's concluding remarks on the back page in full view of every curious mailman that might happen to glance at it in an idle moment. It could then have been indefinitely delay-

ed while undergoing "postal inspection." This was almost as smart as Mal Lewis using "coetus" as a fanzine title!

And now on to your remarks, Dave.... I wonder how really surprised you were to the reaction your artwork has produced. I have seen a large amount of your published artwork but far from all of it. Of it all the only I could see anyone even wanting to object to was the backcover of Mike Deckinger's zine right in this mailing & that certainly wasn't obscene. But you certainly try to nauseate your audience with much of your work--I can't think of anything else you could possibly have had in mind when you did the cover of the Fanatic under discussion. I can just picture you saying "Boy, they'll scream when they see this one! I bet half of them will gag!" as you cut the stencil. In a different way you seemed to aim at disgust with your covers on (if I remember without checking) Hocus 10 & 11. & then you marvel that people complain about your stuff! Fortunately that particular kind of thing doesn't bother me (what does is stories like the Matheson one recently done on "Twilight Zone" where the 3" alien BEMS kept hacking at a woman with full sized knives & axes--or more accurately, making her hack herself. I found it so disgusting that I had to shut it off) but I can sympathise with those people that it does. Altho I can admire your technique in putting your stuff onto stencil I don't particularly care for it because of its obvious attempt to shock. But what I do greatly admire is your straight non-shock illustrating such as that which accompanied the story by Ed Ludwig in Mike's Hocus anniversary. And that illustrating the Chalker zine's Lovecraft story. I had considered several times writing to ask you for some artwork (I think I even went as far as to send a copy of my zine so that you would get it before my letter) but each time decided not to because you apparently do your non-shock type stuff when illustrating a suitable type story, & not when doing a cover or fillo. Well, if I ever do get something which might be suitable for that type of illustration I will write & ask.

Your whole article & the section on pg 11 in particular (where you speak of thy type of person who sneaks off into a dark corner to read a girly type magazine reminds me of something which happened several years ago. I was in one of the downtown Brooklyn 2nd hand book stores (Civic Center Books, I think) looking for stef when this seedy looking old man came in & walked up to the proprietor. I was standing about 5 feet away & he mumbled something--the proprietor asked him to repeat it louder. With very much embarrassment he asked "Do you have any books on sexology /really stumbling when he tried to pronounce it/ -- er, you know,...with lots of pictures." It was only with great effort that I kept myself from laughing out loud. I suppose this is why a lot of the erotic stuff is disguised as art or science (in addition to the legal reasons of having a smoke-screen to hide behind when dragged into court) -- to let the characters who drool & slobber all over these things sooth their consciences that they're really doing something intellectual & constructive. by telling themselves Also related must be the reason the Times Square 2nd hand mag stores carry large stacks of religious books right next to the coverless nudist & pervert magazines. The stores wouldn't devote that much space to them if they didn't sell & I guess the perverts who come in for one also buy the other to salve their consciences. A third conscience salving mechanism I've noticed (at least in the...er, warmer?, stef) is that in the end, no matter how she was threatened or tempted, the "purity" of the heroin comes thru unblemished. Thus the reader gets his thrills from the overly detailed description of the threat/temptation but has the face-saving good feeling at the proper end. It's similar, I suppose, to the "Crime Does Not Pay" deal in the various versions of crime fiction.

Well, Dave, I'll end my comments on your "article" by noting that you seem to have some really strong opinions & present them as if they were unquestionable fact--divine revelation.



Oh--and as you just might have gathered from the above I don't care for THAT type of publication myself & have little respect for the person who does slobber & drool over it in some dark (or even light, for that matter) corner. And why does Burge put his kind of illos in SI-FAN, NanShare her illos in her & other Sapszines & cet other than to inspire such slobbering & drooling?

And finally, Seth, I come to the other Fanatic which was apparently intended for the previous mailing. Except for the lettering, I thot your cover was horrible. I just dont care for this Ken's "artwork". The only comment my rereading inspires is that I sure hope I'm not as repititious as you are & I sure will try not to be! (Tho I'm writing so much that I'm afraid I will be.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Before going on to Hocus I thot I'd mention that I got my first FAPA O-O a few days ago & I see that they don't use the same page-count system as SAPS after all. From reading Bob Lichtman's SAPShistory articles I had gathered that it is universal practice to give full credit for a page, no matter how small it is, in the "braggin' total" but it ain't not followed in FAPA. But there they do something still different. One person had a half-sized zine in the mailing so his page total was halved--BUT he had used a letterpress with very small type so to compensate it was multiplied by 2 again. Thus they take into account the wordage (or other material) that you can squeeze into a page. Thus, in SAPS Herp would get 16 pp credit in bragging total but only 8 in personal credit while in FAPA it would get 16 either way. Wonder which of the 3 systems (SAPS, FAPA, or that of your last mailing) will be used this time, Belle, & how many pages credit you will give to Herp, in the various columns.

\* \* \* \* \*

HOCUS 17 (Deckinger) Well, I guess that you'll get your head handed to you by Buz for your remarks about Wroldcon dues--I wouldn't be surprized if this were one of the causes of the editorial in the latest Cry. Well, as you undoubtedly already know & will also be told in great detail by Buz this mailing, economic conditions ain't the same everywhere & they will apparently be able to put the extra amount to good use. But I also have a point or 2 to make which I think I will save 'till I come up to No Place. Very

good & well written book reviews by Ed Gorman! I really enjoyed reading them & they did go beyond just giving a plot summary (which most fuz reviews of proz content themselves with. Of the books reviewed the only one I read was Vortex Blaster tho I do own the others & will probably read them some day. As for Blaster, I did find the first 2 or so chapters horribly clumsy but after a while I got swept up by the action of the story & found it quite enjoyable. I think I'll try to finish reading the Lensman series which I hadn't touched in 7 1/2 years.

In a sence this reminds me of my reaction to Cummings's Man Who Mastered Time. I'd never read anything by him when he died & the next (one of the first) Lunacon's was devoted to him. There was much discussion of the merits & demerits of ~~his~~ his work which I no longer remember (except that he was criticized for telling the same 2 or 3 stories over & over again except when ASF got him to write a few originals) with rather heated argument & finally the matter went to the audience. I turned out to be the only person who had never read anything by Cummings & admitted it & some panalist suggested I try MMMT which Ace had recently re-issued. (Made some remarks about a "virgin ? unprejudiced mind"). Well, I did & the internal inconsistencies were horrible--he must have contradicted himself some 50 times. Altho again I eventually got swept up with the action of the story I kept on saying to myself "Oh, how ridiculous!" The final result was somewhat enjoyable but I don't think I'll bother trying tp plow thru another of his books. In Smith's book the characterisation was flawed (& the dialog, if I remember) while the logical consistency of the Cummings book was flawed. I was able to overcome my reaction to the former but not to the latter. (But I must admit, that despite the horrible flaws at times I really did get swept up by the story--he had some talent at narrative.)

I stayed for Halynch's show after the masquerade (which was pretty good) so I missed Harlan's witticisms, unfortunately. Well, apparently you did your MC's early for the rest of the zine was eventually postmailed (about 1 month after the bundles went out, if I remember). But you're not the only one who so complained, Art Hayes has such a remark in



his zine but I also got an LOC from him on the 2nd half in which he complained that some of the first pages are missing. Oh, well....I suppose I'll be seeing you day after tomorrow at the big ESFA shindig at which time I suppose you'll get a copy of this. But I got a kick out of your remark in a recent Yandro lettercol in which you spoke of what Sam had said at a "recent" ESFA meeting. First off, you haven't been to an ESFA meeting since we moved out of Academy hall some 10 or 11 months ago & second, Sam had said that when we were still meeting at Slovak Sokal Hall out of which we were kicked some 18 months ago.

NO PLACE (Busby) You ask "Ten-day Cons, anyone?" Sounds like a good idea to me--why don't you do it with the Seacon? No need for a program the whole time of course, but it might be better if the amount of program which is usually crammed into 3 days be spread out to a liesurly 5. Then the other 5 days could still be officially part of the con so that people would stay around but completely informal a la "Midwestcon." Speaking of the Seacon, & of financial matters as discussed in the latest (Feb) Cry, I would like to but in with my unwanted  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ worth. There has been some, if not a lot of, griping from the Anglofen about charging only \$1 for membership but the full \$3 for attendance--something like "It seems that you want to take our money but don't want us to come because if we did you would no longer give us the discount." All this does seem rather silly when you compare the \$1 involved to the cost of coming. But since it would put an end to the silly griping and would cost the con committee between 0 & 10 dollars why not announce that anybody would have to pay only \$1 above membership at registration. I think it is legal for you to do so for several reasons. (Two, actually.) First there is no actual continuing organisation so the Pittcon vote binds you in no way & then when, was it Ed Wood?, brought up this matter of raising the membership fee I'm sure he didn't intend it to be an unalterable straightjacket. The way I look at it, if you wanted to charge \$10 con membership you would be perfectly free to do so but you would be rather unpopular for doing so. Any committee would be unpopular if it raised dues on its own accord & probably Ed saw the need you spoke of in Cry & as a disinterested outsider made the suggestion. Thus he wasn't looked upon with suspicion & the proposal was favorably recieved, & this made you free to raise the dues without raising a stink if you wanted to do so. If you are lucky & turn in a larger surplus than did Pitt (that is, if you add 1 or 200 dollars to the amount turned over to you by Pitt) as does the next con the '63 con would (that's "could") charge only \$2, without having to be afraid of setting a hard precedent for the next con. And if, as expected, it is LA in '64, I will be very surprazed & disappointed if they don't reduce it to \$1 & \$2 for that one year no matter how much is turned  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ over to them by DC or Phil or whatever. After the big stink they made about the \$3 I don't see what else they could do & still have any self respect.

Much as I enjoyed that fresh & offtrail book Sirings of Titan I don't consider it fair to be eligable for the Hugo again. After all, if something came out as a serial in '59 & were reprinted as a book in '60 it wouldn't be eligable. So something that already had a form of book publication in '59 should be even less eligable: (Incidentally, this year I'm plugging Centicle for Leibowitz for novel of the year.) Blish won the Hugo in '59 & was GOH in '60. Heinlein won the Hugo in '60 & will be GOH in '61. I hope that this doesn't develop into a rigid tradition. (After all, fen are very rigid & tradition oriented when it comes to aspects of The Microcosim.) Oh--and speaking of the Hugo's, I remember that at Pitt they arranged for a panel to choose future Hugo topics to be set up. Again, I would like to see some freedom left to the committee (Con) in selecting topics. Some years there might be no prog or movie or novel worthy of a Hugo, or something special (Like Fancy II) could come up which

does deserve one. (Another example is, of course, Who Killed Science Fiction?)

The 10th mailing would be appropriate for a big oversized one, but that is simultaneous with Seacon. The next opportunity I can see is the 21st, when we will "come of age." I guess your remark about N'APA becoming the N3F if the latter were to fold up is the answer & that should end all future discussion on that topic. Why should we have a set of initials which means something? Of the older APA's SAPS is the only one that does. Neither FAPA nor OMPA (nor VAPA or 7APA either, for that matter) means anything. I haven't had too much trouble getting sufficient runs except when the ditto was acting up & overfluiding so that the ink was used up too quickly. For a time I had a large amount of trouble with what I suppose is called offset (that which was wrong with Red Cube in the mailing under discussion) but I seem to have it licked now. My results are far from perfect but I think they're at least readable. (Now watch this page turn into a blue solid streak!) Apparently I just can't get away with any substitutes for this \$1.75/ream paper. I'm inherently stingy & this bothers me when I know I can get ditto paper for only 75¢ a ream or that green 2nd sheet for 43¢/ream. Well, if I can set things up with Carl (& scribe JH doesn't reject it) I'll have something really special next time which ain't ditto nohow. It was page B which wasn't counted last time because it was illegible. Belle did see B'.

Liked your remarks in No Place 2 about what to do with the radio of an Hetch & Reel enthusiast. I think it would be fun to try. Hokay, I see I was wrong. There sure ain't gonna be any rush to invade & take over N'APA which I had come to expect from a few rather noisy comments by other members. And my other purpose of keeping the wl reasonably small certainly needs no hold! (I just spoke to Belle on the phone about an hour ago & she says that we're still under 40. Also, because so few zines have thus far arrived Belle says that she will not give members their bundles at the ESFAcon Sunday.

Before going on to Guano #'s 9, 8, & 7, I just want to warn you not to be surprised if I again break off in the middle of a sentence. Normally pg 8 would have been my last but I am making a special trip to school tomorrow in order to run off 9 & 10 & any more I might type tomorrow. I expect to have 12 pages tho I might get in 14; as for the remaining zines, I am not sure what to do. I want to comment but don't want to postmail. So I'll have to include it in the 9th mailing at which time some of this stuff will be almost ancient history. Guess that I'll just make that part short & (so I don't get a bunch of gripes about flooding the place with zines) staple it together with my comments on this mailing.

GUANO (Hayes) I think the proposed postal change has been worrying for ~~the~~ cause it would kill of proz, not fuz. To send out 3rd class mail you need no special permit or anything--it's the 2nd class which is tied up with red tape & that has very cheap rates. The magazines claim that they can't survive without these rates for they are not only used to mail out subscribers' copies but they are used by the distributors & wholesalers to distribute large bundles of the zines. In the case of a local deliverers' strike (like the one on now in NY) the more "important" magazines are also mailed directly to the news-stands. (Generally only the weeklies.) I guess it would be simpler to use the right names of Alan & Albest but now if I could only remember which is which without having to look it up... So what's your opinion on using NF3 which is admittedly a





I think you are right about the reason people objected to Seth's remarks at the Detention. I am told that a groan from the audience is extremely audible on the tape of that session at the point Seth asked the question. But I shouldn't complain myself for I often say or write things just as stupid when I do so without thinking.

I might some day take a crack at your puzzle but not now. I have to be out of here by 6:30 & not only do I have to finish this page but I must also run off pp 8-12.M

Finally I come to Guano # 7 & I see that I have no marks 'till I come to page 10. A number of the suggested people did run on a reform ticket but unfortunately very few made it. I think a major factor for this was that the "N3F" types knew nothing or little of them & some of their platforms weren't exactly inspiring. (Ya hear me, Brucifer?) But at least Cal Lewis is ~~in~~ in because of Twig's resignation.

On page 12--humanity has been around for a billion years? That's news to me. (This is in reference to Phill Harrell's article which you used to round out your ish.)

Before moving on to Sonoma I want to thank you for giving me your SAPS mailing. (The PO had lost my Jan bundle & several other fmz in a period of a month or so. There are at least 3 large single fmz that were also lost because the pubbers assured me that they had been sent. Wonder how many zines I don't know about were lost.) I will try to get your message into the next mailing if I can get Don agree to multilith ~~up~~ that letter you sent me. If not, I might do something else. Thanks again, Art.

SONOMA (Metcalf) If I want to stay in more than one APA I suppose that eventually I will have to rely on MC's as skimpy as yours but I just don't like to do that. I like to shoot of my mouth in an uninhibited manner & say anything that comes to mind which isn't libelous, no matter how long it is.

I am surprised that you made IPSO. Altho you have pubbed many excellent fmz yourself the only thing by you that I saw was a letter in Cry & one in SFT (I think) & letters don't count. I had a hard time myself, having to cite articles in SFT & a column I used to do for Gerber's Metrofen. After that I was stumped 'till I remembered the long thing I had in TNFF some 8 months back (a progress report on N'APA written at Belle's request). After I snet these in I remembered what is probably the most important of all--my contribution in Who Killed SF?

Soon after I got your original request I read the PB version of Blish's Triumph of Time and took some rather inconclusive notes as I did so. I intended to reread it but got your letter saying that the hardcover version was being sent. Well, I have yet to recieve it & if I don't soon I will send you a tentative evaluation based on the notes I did take. I intended to included them here but I left the notes home. Also, I read Rogue Moon but didn't find much I wanted to say about it. Also, I didn't have the time to try to struggle anything out & by when I do in a month or so this will be ancient history....Say! This looks awful familiar--did I perhaps already write this to you, either directly or via MC's?

Oog! I just noticed that I forgot to mark off your zine for MC's. Damn!

Ghood Ghod! Are you serious when you say that X - 1 was better when it was sponsored by ASF? As I remember it, around '48 or so I started to listen to 2000+ & Dimention: X around '48 & I liked both at the time very much. (Oog, how's that for grammar! Also, I'm sorry if I'm repeating what I said last time (in Po5) but I don't remember what it is in my zine that inspired that remark from you & I don't have a copy with me.) Around when I started to read ASF (Sept 51 was my first ish--I picked it up on the recommendation of the introduction of some anthology. No--in the back there was a bit on where to find more good stef.) ASF took over Dimention: X & ran good stories from the pages of ASF. (One I remember was a time-travel yarn --I think it was time travel -- called "Untitled Story". After a while I lost contact with both programs--they probably went off the air. Then Galaxy started a radio version of Tales of Tomorrow which in no way resembled the TV klinker & did good stories from the pages of recent Galaxies. It lasted only a short time & I don't remember the year. But one story they did was Leiber's The Moon Is Green which should fix the date approximately. (On TV, in the meantime, I discovered Out There on CBS about '50 or so & shortly afterward Tales of Tomorrow --forgot the network but it's the one that used to be owned by NBC untill the antitrust laws intervened. The first 6 or so months that I saw were almost as good as the shows on Out There but then it rapidly degenerated to real crud & I stopped watching. There was also a very late one-man stef/