

ALUSKY'S 88

page 1 of Pesky's 8, published for the 9th (June 1961) NAPA mailing by one
--Edmund R. Meskys-- , which creature resides at 723A, 45 St., Brooklyn 20, NY

& 7:13 PM, Wed 5 April 1961 and here I go again starting another revolting
set of MC's. The bundle arrived today & I want to quickly write up the first
page so that I can run it off when I return to school Monday & send an
advance copy off to Norm Metcalf.

Last time around I cut off right in the
middle of a sentence addressed to him & want to send him the rest before he
does MCs on my zine. After that I'll for the most part forget about the
old mailings and get down to the 8th one.

Now--on to Norm. It all started
on page "F" of my Po5 when I remarked about erasing some tapes of X-1 from
it's good period, when it was sponsored by Galaxy. Norm simply commented
that the show was better when it was sponsored by ASF & I decided that he
must have been really thinking of one of the several other shows once spon-
sored by Astounding, & started to give a rundown of the various ones to see
if he might remember which he really was thinking of. (Perhaps Dimention: X)
Before I knew it it had blown up into a miniature article on stef on radio
& TV & I ran out of time.

I'd mentioned D: X & 2000 from around 48 & the
fact that the former was taken over by ASF late in 51. Also that there had
been a good radio version of Tales of Tomorrow sponsored by Galaxy a few
years later. Sometime in that general era of 51 or 2 there was a radio se-
ries called Space Patrol on radio on Saturdays about noon (not to be conf-
used with Space Cadet on 3 evenings a week for 15 minutes a few years ear-
lier). I never knew that there had been a TV version of SP until it was
mentioned rather extensively in a SAPSzine some 2 mailings back.

After a
while I lost contact with all Radio & TV stef until X-1 was revived under
ASF sponsorship. This was, unfortunately, almost exclusively a rerun of
old Dimention: X transcriptions and they really showed their age. Many were
quite crude altho there was some top notch stuff too such as some Bradbury
Martian stories well done. But a very short time later it was taken over
by Galaxy which ran almost exclusively good stories recently from its pages.
One, I remember, was "The Tunnel Under the World" and another was "\$1000 a
plate". A little later (I think) it shifted to a new time but remained on
the NBC network. It was on around 9PM Wednesdays and was immediately fo-
llowed by a very good fantasy program called "Sleep No More". On the latter,
Nelson Ahmstead (spelling?) would dramatically read one or 2 creepy stories
to the accompaniment of sound effects. Some of these stories were availab-
le on LP records about the same time. While both were still on the air du-
ring the Summer of 56 NBC took on a third show of interest. I don't remem-
ber its name but it was on 5 days a week for 15 minutes a day for 6 weeks
afternoons at about 4:30 or 5. Its quality far far below of that of the o-
ther 2 shows but it was intended for children and wasn't really bad. It was
rebroadcast from the BBC as an experiment and (Carl Frederick tells me) was
again rebroadcast once a week on Saturday afternoons for what seemed to be
an endless stretch of time--undoubtedly 30 weeks. I believe it had no spon-
sor & its plot went something like: A crew has just returned to Earth from
a long trip to Mars--the first expedition to ever return--where they had had
many strange and harrowing adventures. By then better powerplants had been
developed so their ship was re-equipped and immediately sent back to inves-
tigate the strange things they had discovered. Because of this new plant
it takes far less than the original 9 months to return. When they get back
they discover Martians who capture them (I believe) 1 by one until all are
imprisoned. It seems that there are only a few hundred Martians left and
they are preparing to invade Earth and take away the free will of all men
"for the good of humanity". The Earthmen escape & flee to warn Earth but

2ND

JUST WHEN they get within radio range of Earth the Martians turn on some ray which stops all radio waves & are about to invade. The heroes talk them out of it at the last minute & (I believe) they decide to migrate to another star. ((Just spoke to Carl recently & he's not sure when that show was on but it probably was 56 or 7 on that Saturday stint. He doesn't even remember what part of the day it was on.))

Anyhow, somewhat later both X-1 & Sleep No More disappeared a few weeks apart, and as far as I know there was no stef radio show for a while.

In 57 or 58 I noticed a radio show (whose name I forgot) listed as on WOR (Mutual network? The one made ~~known~~ famous by Lone Ranger anyhow.) listed in the papers which didn't sound to promising. I never got around to trying it until there was a passing reference to it in SF Times. ("XXX is a lucky author. His story YYY was done twice on the ZZZ show.") I then made a point of tuning it in the next time (it was on 2 nights a week) & found it to be introduced by J. Ghod Jr, some ('bout 1/3?) of the stories were from the pages of ASF, & pretty good. ~~ASF didn't sponsor it but was passed on the show. It went off the air 1 or 2 months after I discovered it.~~

Well--that takes care of all of the radio programs connected with ASF (as far as I know) and, in fact, I believe there have been no stef radio shows since. I wonder which you could have been referring, Norm, when you said that the ASF X-1 was superior. I am reasonably certain that you ain't not referring to those ASF sponsored broadcasts that I heard.

Well, while I'm at it I might as well turn this into a minor spontaneous article and cover the other radio & TV programs I remember. In the radio field, back around 45-48 for many years there had been The Mysterious Traveler and Inner Sanctum both of which did a little stef. Some time in that era there was a show which lasted only 3 or 4 weeks called Quiet Please! which had a very high proportion of SF. I believe it was on early Sunday evenings (7 or 7:30) or perhaps even late Sunday afternoon (4:30). I only have the slightest recollection of one plot and that to considerable detail. These 2 scientists build a small time-machine & use it to send small objects a few minutes or even hours into the future. They notice that the objects become extremely cold and gain caterpillars as "passengers" during their absence and conclude that wherever the objects go until time "again catches up with them" must be very cold. They want to investigate this themselves & start to build a larger, man ~~sized~~ sending machine. One AM they find the machine finished, conclude that the caterpillars did it because they want men to visit their strange world, & the narrator gets on the platform & the machine is turned on. He finds himself standing in a great snow-covered plane where everything is grey and cold and (I think) receives a telepathic message from the 'pillers to the effect that now that the time machine exists they will use it to enter and take over our world. In order to make it habitable they are making it colder and a sign of this was the extremely cold winter just passed. ((That winter it had snowed in certain parts of California for the first time in a very large number of years and the radi newscasts had made a big point of the fact that this was the first time many of the residents had ever seen snow.))

I don't know why this one story is remembered so vividly. I didn't find it outstandingly good or scary at the time. But it is the only story from that era that I remember in such detail.

In the same general era there was, of course, the group of radio programs from 5PM to 6PM (with a few just before or after) weekdays on WOR. Most (if not all) of the years I listened Superman was one of them and his visits to the moon and such certainly gave it a stefal interest. Captain Midnight quite often had to do battle against such weapons as disintegration rays so

N03

I guess that that belongs among the borderline too. Then, as had been discussed by several members a few mailings back, Buck Rogers had been on for a year or two a little earlier, I believe, than 5PM. When he left, in almost exactly the same time slot there there was a new program which dramatized classic novels in 5 daily installments and included much of Verne and a little other stuff. This too didn't last very long--a year or so--and again I don't remember its name. (oh--Carl thinks the BBC show was called something like Flight Into Space and that sounds right to me.)

What else was there on the radio? Nothing special that I can think of at this time. But there is one program from way before my time that I know about from hearsay which was supposed to be on sometime in the 30s. It was a scary type program called The Witch's Tales & I believe it inspired a pulp-of the same name.

And of course there were the various one-shots like the infamous War Of The Worlds.

Oh-- I just remembered two others of marginal interest. About the time of the radioversion of Tales of Tomorrow Galaxy sponsored a weekly 15 minute program called For Your Information where guess what 2nd best (according to Asimov) science writer answered questions sent in by the listeners? (And speaking of Papa Vili, he told me at the Lunacon day before yesterday that his next book is a history of Astronomy ((for a change of pace)) to be finished only a year or so from now. I suppose that by when you read this some 2½ months from now it will no longer be news but I decided to mention it anyhow.)//////////Again, I don't remember the name of the other show but I believe it was on Sunday evenings on the NBC network outlet. It was a what would have happened if type of program which I heard only a few weeks before it too bit the dust. (Apparently my discovery of a show puts some sort of hex or jinx on it.) Two I remember are, what if Seward hadn't purchased Alaska and what if Ceasar hadn't been assassinated (which particularly irritated me at the time for its use of Shakespear's dialog as a historical document of what was said.) I would place this one too as around '49 to '51.

On TV, of course there were Out There, Tales of Tomorrow, Tom Corbit, & Captain Video of which little need be said. Nothing, in fact, that I didn't ~~ALREADY HEAR OR ELSEWHERE~~. As I said elsewhere, I didn't know that Space Patrol of radio infamy was ever on TV. There is only one other series from that era that I know of, which I mentioned in my comments on GEN Carrs zines somewhere in my great mess of verbal diarrhea in the 5th mailing. A series showing stuff & horror movies (was it Not For Nervous People Theatre?) ran some things as movies which I am fairly certain were pasted together installments of some defunct show. They starred some character called Rocky Jones and were by far the worst things I ever did see. Far worse than both Captain Video and Tales of Tomorrow at their low points.

After ToT had been on in its poorer incarnation for some time it went off the air altogether and further use of that timeslot was very irregular and didn't have a regular show for quite some time. Sometimes ½ hour horror plays/stories were presented which were in content very much like those on ToT.

After that, as far as I know, there was nothing until TZ started up 1 or so years back.

If there is interest and comment on this, particularly if it supplies more information, I might someday do up a full article for Polhode or someone else's zine on this topic or a subdivision thereof. But I think I've dragged it on enuf for now and before starting on the 8th mailing will finish up the MC's on Sonoma 2 & 3.

On with Sonoma #3--I do remember seeing the Genie during the Pittcon. I left the room with the "floor-show" as soon as everything ended there and walked in on the middle of Mesquite (spelling?) Kid. I no longer remember what was shown afterwards, if anything was, but I was told by people there that Genie & cet were shown before I arrived. It's possible that they weren't hik for I wasn't there and just have what somebody told me to go by. But I am positive that it was shown at the 2nd Lasfas showing, for I remember seeing it.

Norm--you comment that "Tiamat #2" wasn't a legal postmailing--did you receive a copy? I have reason to doubt that Dan ever sent it out altho he δ says he did. I have found that he often says he finished doing something which really isn't quite finished but which he thinks he can soon finish up. Then at times something comes up & he never does finish. I suspect that, as I said, this happened to Tiamat. I've often found him pulling this on me when he runs off various fmz, for me. Oh, if only the use of QWERTYUIOPress didn't cost so much!

Except for 1 or 2 minor items I decided not to bother with the only comm-entable thing in Sonoma 2 is Harry Warner's letter. He gave 2 reasons for dropping the idea of a FAPA purgatory. I agree with the first that it might make the waiting list intolerably long but I tentatively disagree with the 2nd. From his brief description of this waiting list apa I understand that any member of FAPA could also be a member simply by sending enuf copies of his FAPAZines to cover all of the WLers in the purgatory. Thus, no matter how good purg. got to be, I can't see a member declining to enter FAPA in order to remain in purgatory. It would be quite simple to enter FAPA and remain in p., wouldn't it? ((There is one slightly possible I can see why someone might decide not to enter--if the quality of FAPA were to fall below that of p. someone might figure that the extra dues and copies of hik his zine might not be worth the low quality zines of the members who don't cooperate with p., especially this person's finances were rather short.))

And speaking of Purgatory and the Shadow Mailings, I quote from a post-card from MEZB:

Gosh, I don't know who runs the Shadow Mailing; I get the thing now and then but I never bother to read it. I think somebody called Russell Chauvenet is the motivating "genius" behind it. He could probably tell you, anyhow, since I'm sure he is a member. I threw out my copy or I'd send it to you.

As you can see, at least some members don't think much of it. I wonder how many others have the same attitude--perhaps I'll soon find out for I just recieved today an almost complete copy of the 94th mailing from surplus stock, ((I don't think that MEZB will mind my quoting her pc for she seemed to be quite open in her dislike of the shadow mailing or (I gather) any kind of participation by WLers.))

and now (blare of trumpets! choruses of hosannah and hallaluyah!) the actual comments on the 8th mailing.

YAP--Congratulations Belle on completeing a job well done under extremely trying circumstances. No comments on the O-O or edicts contained therein this time around. However in the interests of accuracy for future records I would like somebody to check the following 2 items which might be in error. Initial counts by me give an additional 2 pages to Gemzine and one additional page to Art's monster postmailing. I might be miscounting them myself, but that's the way it looks from here.

THE COMPLETE STORY OF HOW NOT TO MOVE was greatly enjoyed in this corner but inspires no comment. I hope

N05

you recuperate from your OEship quickly, finish getting your house in order, and are soon able to take an active part in fandom again outside of the Lunarians.

KIP #4 (& #3 while I'm at it). ((Lichtman)). Dern it, I wish you were doing MC's 'cause I want to ask you some questions. Well, I'll ask anyway in the hope that you or someone else takes pity on my ignorance. In your zines you have some fantastically good lettering and I was wondering whether you have special Ditto lettering guides or make do with Mimeo ones. And if you use mimeo ones, how the ~~h~~ do you do it? Nothing that writes will fit in mine so what I've finally resorted to is a long, drawn out process for which I'd very much like to find a simpler substitute without investing in a second set of guides. (Especially since I'm using Ditto only for MC's and that only until I get around to picking up my own mimeo one of these days.) I line up the guide for the letter, number, etc that I want, slip a piece of carbon paper under it, and trace out the letter/number/symbol that I want. After I've completely written out the message that way, I return the ditto carbon to under the master sheet, the lettering guide to over the letter, and trace out some 4 or 5 times with a stylus. (I tried it frechand on pg 2 & 3) Now there must be an easier way! Incidentally, I've never seen it in your zines but I have occasionally seen shading plates used with Ditto. Do you have any idea as to how it's done? Those ripples just look to small to have any effect on a master--do you need special plates? (I decided to leave a small blank space & try to use one as it would be used with a mimeo stencil to see what will happen--nothing, probably.) I take it Kerckhoff Hall is the physics or science or something building. At least there is a set of laws for electric currents named after this guy or someone with a very similar name and I'm too lazy to check. Nirenberg was cute but sure was hard reading. That phony German accent was really layed on thick. But ghod ghu, it doesn't make much sence, no matter how you stretch things, for that guy to be picked top speaker--nobody would be able to understand him no matter what he was yelling. Or is that the point--everyone else was so dull that his ravings were good in comparison? But the convention before his arrival seemed to already be quite lively. The local stationary store sells masters (purple only) at 10¢, ~~10¢~~ \$7 per 100. Carbons are 7¢ ea. Or at least these were the prices last summer. There is also a store in Manhattan which sells (or sold) masters in any quantity in 5 colors at 5¢ each but the green and brown are no damn good. Last summer I'd purchased many masters and I'm just finishing them up (except for the brown) only now. I've also chiseled $\frac{1}{2}$ or $1\frac{1}{2}$ dozen from the school, mostly purple & grey, and will probably run out before I finish these ICs. But I do want to run out before buying more 'cause I don't want to mix together the fresh ones with the old. And even tho the red & blue (& grey) are good enuf for writing I decided to just use them for lettering, etc. What the heck is that thing "how to split the infinitive and harness its power." I could make no sence whatsoever out of it! Wish I had the will power to get off this fandom kick while I finished up school but I'm just too strongly hooked. I'm sure that if I succeeded and didn't take up any new vices my grades would improve tremendously and I would be out from under the threat of being booted out.

Ups--just noticed that you use a "Du-All" lettering guide which you got (you say in #3) in a drafting store. Still, what kind of guide is this--mimeo or other? // Hmm, I don't think the OE was always gh^{od} in SAPS, was he?

12:56 AM, Fri, 14 April 1961

As you can see, I did play around with my plates and wheels. Both plates seem to have worked quite well. I would never have believed it--those ridges are so small. The course wheel seems to have worked OK too but the thin, close spaced one seems to have given a solid line. Well, I'll see when I run this pair of pages Monday. The lines across the top were done by running the wheel across the front of the master while these to the left were done by running it across the back. As you can see, my hand isn't too steady, even when I draw the line while resting the stylus on a notebook.

GRIBBLE #1 ((Wanshel)). 'Twas good to see you at the Lunacon Sunday tho I did only get to say 1 or 2 words to you. As I mentioned then, I never did get around to writing an LOC on your first ish of Fanfaronade; altho I am just about totally incapable of writing (intentionally) that light frothy kind of humor (or any kind, for that matter) I still greatly enjoy reading it. Incidentally, I don't know if it's my imagination or what, but you seemed to look considerably different from the way you did last time. Saw your items in Cry & Hyphen tho I don't offhand remember any others. Larchmont must be quite close to NY that you can come down for simple club meetings and not just cons like the Lunacon. I know very little about this group you're with but apparently it and the Lunarians are quite similar. ((I was once invited up to a Lunarian meeting which I found moderately enjoyable and I'm sure it would have been more so if Sam & Hans Santesson had been there & Belle had been feeling better)) ((Now, because of that above comparison I suppose I'll receive bombs from members of both groups.)) I too have been getting letters from Henry Ackermann but I am fairly certain that he has one more "n" than Forry. Why justify margians? A number of people (Sam, Jerry Page & others I forgot) convinced me that it adds to the neat appearance of the zine tho I haven't yet decided whether it's worth the extra work. All of #4 'xcept the lettercol will probably be justified but after that I don't know. Incidentally, you would have gotten a copy thru the mails both for the brief (printed) note and Fanf but when I was sending them out I noticed that you'd joined N'APA.

NO PLACE ((Busby)) In the continuation of your discussion with Ralph on BNFs etc; I just read The Harp Stateside which I won in a raffle at the Lunacon & there, back in 52, Willis is talking of what almost amounts to being a Marxian class struggle between the BNFs & the NEOs. So apparently this isn't a recent development. And in a Stellar from around '55 there's a fandom-fiction story (by Burbee?) called "BNF" which plays him up as being quite a snob. I suppose we do need a new work for what Fancy calls a BNF but, like you, I'm at a loss for the proper one.

I'm glad you accepted my idea of \$2 total registration for overseas attendees--you acted so quickly that you must have espied me as I thot of it. I don't think I had it down on paper yet when you wrote your announcement so it couldn't have been ~~clair~~ clairvoyance but must have been ~~tele~~ telepathy. (Hey--you did do that, didn't you? I'm not just dreaming it up? I could swear I saw someplace the announcement but a quick recheck fails to turn it up in No Place. Could it have been in the latest CRY?)

ULLY MULLY GUE ((McInerney)) 'Twas nice meeting you too at the Lunacon. I am fairly certain I once had someone with at least a very similar name in one of the classes I thot--probably 2 or 3 years ago. Wonder

if it could have been a relative.

You sure did have trouble with your hecto, didn't y (damndamndamndamn.....) you? If I remember correctly, you told me at the Lunacon that you threw away/were throwing away the beast and had gotten/were gonna get a mimeo. Hope you have better luck with that.... Hmm, strange that on your first page the blue came out far better than the purple. With hecto, ditto, etc, it is usually the purple which works best. Wonder how much of your puzzle I can get. Well, nothin' like trying:

PALMER/SFL
AC/ipo/ilO
dC/mIsILES
g/ecc/pA/
e rc/oB//a
tED/LeB/Ur
tR//I/AD/k
/OZ/tIn//h
f/atheisma
s/PRO/eO/m

I used CAPITALS when working across and lower case when down. Don't know whether it's all correct but the thing was nowhere near as good as the one which was in the--first?--issue of XERO. Now THAT one was really wild. You had a few cute entries but all these "letter after..." & "TR" 's didn't help make it interesting. (Oh--as you can see, there were two that I couldn't get. I thot opposite of Dero was ERO & I don't know anything about the flying saucer clubs. The only group I could think of was civilian saucer intelligence or somethijg like that & that doesn't fit.

Well, hope you have better luck with your duplication next time and that you have a larger zine.

NEBULOUS 2 ((Harrell)) Hey, that is fantastically brilliant hectoing on both your cover illos! I've never seen anything like it! (Or did I just happen to get the first copy of the gelatin?) Apparently a hecto pencil was used over a shading plate in order to get the combination of blue dots & streaks on the front cover. In your MCs on How you plug Ronel fer TAFF. Don't remember whether I mentioned this before but I know (to some extent) & like both RE's so I just sent in a donation without voting this year. Sure wish both could go! I understand that quite a few people just ain't votin' this year. Interesting to hear that Gold still wants (or wanted before being hospitalized), at least nominally, to revive X-1. Sure hope they do so some day, but when & if they do I hope they publicise the fact. That way, perhaps, I wouldn't discover it just a few weeks before it goes off the air. Speaking of Hectos, some 12 or more years ago I used what must be the Gestetner of hectos. The thing must have cost several hundred dollars and for that kind of money one could have actually purchased for for real live Gestetner. The jelly was on a roll which must have held 50 square feet and 12 sq ft (a 3' x 4' area) was exposed and usable at any time. When I finish typing this master I will try to draw what I think it looked like off to the right. As I remember, to use it, you wet down a chosen area on the jelly with a sponge, placed your master copy on some metal contraption & quickly pulled this contraption along a track. As the contraption would move, it would press the paper firmly against the jelly where it would remain. You would then rub the back of the paper with the sponge & peel off the paper. To print, you would return the contraption to its original position, place a piece of paper where the master sheet had been, and pull the contraption rapidly again. The paper would be stuck to the jelly & would have to be peeled off. Return contraption, place paper, pull quickly, peel paper, return.... Add you



got good registration with the beast, too. It was on the ship my father worked on and once when I was visiting him he ask-

ed me to correct the half dozen or so copies of a list of needed repairs so as to keep me busy & out of his hair. So I put one copy in a typer with a hecto ribbon, typed the corrections onto that copy, & used it as the master-copy. An indication of the accuracy of the registration of the machine was the fact that the run copies were perfectly corrected both in added sentences and in crossed out sentences. Here were sheets which went thru the hecto twice. Your parody Firelight Zone was cute & enjoyable, but that's all I can say about it.

While I'm at it I might as well comment on Neb #1 from the last mailing. Your cover was faint but clear--in fact that could be said about the whole ish. I suppose that I got one of the last copies from the run. Only bright thing was the red lettering. \$3.50/quire is about what most stencils sell for around here. I paid that for the ones used for Polh 2 (I think they were Heyer) & on the Dietz' recommendation tried to get Gestencils for Polh 3. The store I went to didn't have any but gave me Polychrome Gestetner-type stencils at the same price. When I ran out I picked up Speed-C-Print Thrift-Quality at about \$3/quire and got (I think) just as good results. I suppose I'll keep on using these tho I might get some "better" ones for pages with difficult illos. I really don't know what the difference between cheaper & dearer stencils is tho, & what the advantages of one over the other is. When I bought ink in order to use the ~~3/4~~ B'n'F press I paid \$3 for a box of 2 cans--I think each can held a pound. As for paper, \$4.50/1000 sounds too high. 20# mimeo can be gotten most places for 1.50-2.00/ream in 1 ream lots & then there is the fabulous Pace Paper where it's available at 85¢/ream. And the proprietor of a local stationary store promised to get me 70# (that's 70# not 70¢, seventy pound) paper in 4 ream lots at 1.50-2.00/ream. (He wasn't sure of the exact price.) This is multilith paper which is very opaque & feels quite solid, yet (he said) for mailing purposes it actually is equivalent to 20# paper and weighs only as much as 20# does. That's it on this too tho it was all interesting (as was Solar #2.) Sorry I never got around to doing an LOC on Solar--right after reading it I put it aside to do an LOC but soon after that I put a second zine aside and before I know it I had a 6" pile of zines I wanted to do LOC's on. Well, to make a long story short, I wound up doing none at all.

GENZINE 4/29 ((Carr)) Well, FAPA's loss is M.P.'s gain. I hope you now have nice big ish like this in every mailing. I know very little about this dispute of yours with FAPA tho I have gathered that you are a bit unpopular with at least some members and that you did actually goof on your renewal dues, despite being warned. Since I've had no experience with FAPA I can't say whether anyone else would have been treated in the same manner for the same goof but I'll assume that the officers are honest and they would have. If I were in FAPA I would be far more willing to sign a petition for the forgival of your goof than for some of the people that did successfully get back in. This is because, whether I would agree or not wity your zine & viewpoints, you are an active member and do have a considerable zine in each mailing. The usual person who is saved, I understand, is one who gets by on the minimum activity (8 pages/year?) which heesh gets in at the last minute for the last mailing. Sometimes he goofs & is out but manages to get himself reinstated. An example of this is Sakoskowitz--altho I know him quite well from ESFA & Faircon meetings & get along quite well with him I would be (if I were in the position) far less willing to sign a petition for him simply because he is quite inactive. Despite several requests I have never seen his zine but I am told that it is annual, does run some 10 or so pages, & consists almost exclusively of reprints. I don't know wheth-

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er this is true or not but it is what several people told me. But more on S&F&P&A when I get up to Brucifer's (I think) zine. Anyhow, it's gunna be a loooong time 'till I'll be in a position to sign anyone's petition. (And thank Ghu for that! I should be finished with school & working for a year or so when that happens & ((I hope)) I'll have more time.) Earlier today, in stead of working on my solid state notes I put in about an hour experimenting trying to put an illo onto master. It looks like the shading is very uneven & one area, because the plate shifted on me, came out way too dark--if the appearance of the back of the master is any clue. This will probably be the only illo this 'cause it took as long to put on master as it takes me to write one page of MCs. If the illo looks familiar to any of you, it's because you saw it in IPSO. Then I'd multilithed it & except for a tiny corner of a cloud none of the greys came out at all.

I'd heard the theory about Pearl Harbor expressed a number of times, usually by some extremely right wing commentator that used to come on the radio for 5 minutes right in the middle of the Jean Shepherd program some 4 years ago. I vaguely remember a furor over it about 1954 but I never became particularly interested one way or the other about this business of whether or not FDR invited the attack. About that time I was just starting to shift from a liberal to a conservative viewpoint (I finished 'round '58) & I remember that U.S. News & World Reports featured an article about it on the cover about then. Don't know what--if anything--the article concluded 'cause this was a few months before I started to read the mag. (I still sub to it tho I now find time to read only 1 ish in 5 or 6.)

Thankee muchly for the kind words on Polhode. In commenting on the letter you say "I am pleased to note...at least one other fan likes...Cabell's writing." Several other people said almost exactly the same thing in LOCs.. ..NO, damit, they don't! I just dug out the 3 letter I thot did (Brom James Blish, Don Ford & Bob Tucker) but each one only mentioned Tiffary

Thayer. (Incidentally, Jerry is now working on a Thayer article for me tho he's not sure that he can have it ready in time for the next Polhode.) I'm sure that someone commented on Cabell tho now I just can't think of who it could be. And I won't pull out my list of LOCs in order to get all of them out of the filing cabinet & check!

I read the Storm a little over 4 years ago & didn't find it particularly confusing tho I'll bet that a lot of references went over my head because of my



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TH page of Pesky's 8 _____ 9:38 PM, Sat, 29 April 1961

...or, fannish naivety. I suppose that if I were to reread it now I'd get a heck of a lot more out of it. Same is true of the early N'APA mailings, especially the first 3 & even the next two to some extent, now that I know something about a lot of the people. As I said before & as was obvious from my first Polhode & the verbal diarrhea I inflicted on the 5th mailing, N'APA was my first real contact with fanzine fandom.

Oh yes--what's your system for numbering Comzine? Is 29 its whole number? I first thought it might be Vol 29 #4 but that seems ridiculously large. I finally decided on Volume 4, whole number 29 after I discarded the possibility of 4 meaning April. (N'APA is in March & FAPA May, so it wouldn't make sense. But then, 1 or 2 people believe that you never do.)

You wonder why there are Ghost Towns & why the usefull buildings aren't put to use for moving people into out of slums. Well, what would these people do for a living once they got there? From what I understand a place becomes a ghost town because something happens to the principle industry (which is just about the only one) & there is a virtual lack of jobs. The people find it necessary to choose between abandoning their homes & starving & strangely they usually move. (This definitely not always.) I suppose that now 1 or 2 might be within commuting distance of work but then there is the question of whether the buildings are sufficiently non-primative & repairable for people who can afford to commute by car or even bus to want to live in them. I suppose that at best a very few could be brought back to life by the introduction of new industries but since they're having a hard time getting them into "depressed areas" where there still are people even if there aren't jobs what government or other agency will want to bother coaxing one into an area without people?

You criticize Norm Metcalf for unintelligible MCs. I'm afraid I was a bit guilty of that myself in the 8th, particularly in my comments to Norm. I'd used the medium of MCs to reply to some unanswered letters from Norm without giving the others a chance to figure out what in hell I was talking about. I might as well mention now (for all the good it will do) that James Blish had objected to Ted White's comment that the science of The Triumph of Time was nonsense. (Ted had said this in the lettercol of New Frontiers.) So Norm had written several fanzines with scientific backgrounds asking for an opinion, & I was one of those asked. I agreed but just as I finished the U.S. (pb) edition another letter came saying that there were some errors in this US edition which were due to the publishers & that a British (hardcover) edition was being sent me. Mr. Blish had been given an opportunity to proof-read this & was satisfied with the edition. As I mentioned then, & is still true, the book has not yet arrived. In my correspondence with Norm I said I'd like to do a book review for MF & that I'd have something to say about Rogue Moon which I hadn't yet read at the time. As I mentioned then, I did eventually read it but didn't find anything earthshaking to say about it. I suppose I could have written some sort of review of it but I just never found the time to do so.

I will henceforth try to reform & make my mc's intelligible but don't know how successful I'll be. (One odd thing I noticed about yours--they're written in the 3rd person as if they were reviews, instead of being addressed directly to the publisher. I would guess that this is to try to make them more intelligible to your letterhack audience--right?) Your MCs are well written and a model to follow (other than this 3rd person bit).

Your comments on Critique about fannish intolerance of non-conformity & the "N3F problem" were very interesting, but I think there was (& still might be) a bit more intolerance on the part of the Neffers too than you imply.

Hmm--you comment to Phill Carrell about his brilliant colors. As I mentioned above, the colors on my copy were quite faint & non-brilliant. I suppose then the the brilliant colors of my copy of Nebulous 2 are then coincidental.

That's some wild lettercol you have there! Arguments fly fast & furious on all sorts of topics and it is all interesting. However, I find things rather confusing to follow when there are all of those interruptions. What I finally did was read only the letter first, then read your comments, & finally (if necessary) read it as printed. The only one I found overly confusing was Benford's letter & that took several readings to get straightened out. I suppose that there are good points about making all of your comments at the end of the letter (uninterrupted flow of thot) and immediately after the thing commented on (the reader knows just what is being commented on). Perhaps a satisfactory compromise could be reached by placing comments between paragraphs where they would be far less interruptive, or at the bottom of the page & tied to the text of the letter by footnotes. What I mean is making your comments in the form of footnotes even tho they would usually take up more space than the text of the letter does. This last does seem to be the best solution--what say?

I suppose that your lettercol remarks on being dropped from FAPA represent the wonder & thots that went thru your head as you recieved the mail and not your actual thots as you cut the lettercol. I ~~suppose~~ don't think you put each letter onto stencil as you recieve it, do you? You must have at least several on hand before you start so that you could have some sort of editorial balance & know what to cut from earlier ones which will be better said in later ones.

And now that Benford letter....

I'll only comment on that part with which I have some experience--namely that exchange on certain aspects of physics on the next to the last page of his letter. You had then been arguing about absolute "right" & absolute "wrong" & he came out with "There are ~~examples~~ examples in physics where this does not apply. (You might say that this is because there isn't enough known at the moment but actually the limitation is basic, (ob believed to be so) and cannot be erased by further investigation.) There are descriptions of events which ~~can~~ match only parts of the problem, and others match other parts. Of course, you can say the "right" solution is the one which explains by using all descriptions, but if they are extrapolated, they contradict each other." Now altho I don't completely agree with him I do know what he is driving at. He undoubtedly could have expressed this better so that someone who had no prior knowledge could understand what he meant but I suspect that he didn't because it would have been too big a detour from the topic being argued--ethics. I think I'll take a crack at trying to show what he meant & why I disagree. I know I get way too verbose when I start on a topic like this & I'll do my darndest to try to keep it to a minimum.

Now we all (or most of us, anyhow) have an intuitive sort of knowledge of what we mean by "matter". I mean, like it's obvious--matter is lumps & @f @f things...er, particles. A wave is something else entirely. A bit of water will ~~not~~ move up & down, back and forth, but never go anywhere except for the tide. But the wave itself keeps on moving. It is a pattern in the water which moves forward while the water (on the average) stays where it was. Waves and lumps--these are the two basic things which have been observed in nature. When it came to light, the scientists began to wonder which it is --lump or wave. Newton believed in lumps because waves can bend around obstacles and light rays cast sharp shadows (if you have a "point source of light"--say a small very bright lamp far away so that it looks like a point). But later when scientists examined the shadows thru magnifying glass-

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es and found that light did bend but oh so slightly. So things were just dandy. Most everything consisted of lumps, a few (including light) of waves.

But then around the turn of the century some pretty startling things were discovered to explain which you had to assume light was made up of lumps. Some 20 years later some new experiments were tried with electrons (KNOWN to be lumps) in which they behaved as if they were waves. This is what Greg was referring to. Matter and light both behaved like waves at times & like lumps at other times. It is now generally believed that both are neither lumps nor waves but something in between. You might have seen references to 'wave-packets' at one time or another. A wave packet is a short train of waves like so:



Thus it is confined to a reasonably small region of space like a lump but is undulatory like a wave. And don't ever try asking a physicist what it is that shakes in order to carry the wave. He will just look upon you with pity & call you naive. Dammit, physics is no longer physics but applied differential equations. An experiment is done which gives some unexpected result, so a search is made for an equation which will predict that result. Then the equation is fiddled around with until it predicts some new ~~or~~ previously undiscovered result, and an experiment is done to see whether that will happen in order to check the theory. But it is seldom asked what all this means--what shakes?, etc. ((I suppose that this isn't asked today about matter waves because when physicists tried to ask it about light around 1900 they completely failed to find any "lumeferous (or some such--you know about my spelling!) ether" and indications seemed to be that there is none.))

Greg also seems to refer to the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle which states that you can't measure something without upsetting it in an unpredictable way, even if absolutely perfect instruments were to be used. Nature seems to be so constructed that it is basically impossible to measure anything with perfect accuracy. (Or more accurately, it is impossible to measure both members of a conjugate pair of coordinates with arbitrary accuracy. And you can relax--I will not spent the next 17 1/2 pages explaining exactly what that means.)

In this argument about getting eyesight measured in a physics lab, I get the impression that you are purposely "misunderstanding" him to "teach him a lesson" to that he would not use inexact phrasing.

In your FAPA NCS to MBradley you comment that a difference between fans & non-fans is that "fans dare to think their own thoughts, without ~~wait~~ waiting first to see what the party line is going to be." Fan might be non-conformists by mundane standards but I feel that they are greater conformists and more bound to their own traditions than the mundane types. Why did they scream about the Analog title? (I'm not asking about Psi or dean drives--that is the basically different matter of editorial imbalance and quackery.) And why do they step on you for your non-(fannishly)- conformist views?

I basically agreed with much of what you said about financing a Catholic education & don't agree with some of those recent requests for direct subsidies and handouts. But I think I'll hold off commenting on this 'till I read some of the other comments and decide whether or not it's worth going into the details of my opinions and my reactions to recent developments.

Finally, about the food value of pickles. You say that you were told in the 3rd grade that pickles have none and were shocked when you looked at a caloric chart. I might guess that the teacher meant that it had no benefi-

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ial value (ie, vitamins, proteins, etc) as candy doesn't and you misinterpreted her loosely made statement. On the other hand, what with all the weird theories going around on that and related topics all of the time, I suppose that she could have meant just what you thot she did and that her ideas were all wet. Incidentally, I have no idea whatsoever of what the values are in either sence --caloric or nutritional.

FANDEN ((Higgs)) You really work in spurts, don't you. Two issues were postmailed to a single mailing, then 2 others in another single mailing somewhat later. About the covers--liked the drawing of the humanoid bug on #3 but didn't care for the caption. Dea's BEM & ship on #5 was only so-so--I suspect it lost quite a bit in stenciling. I totally disliked the ben in the mirror in #4 and couldn't figure out Bjo's laughing fen on #3.

I think the objections are largely to your writing style, which was particularly bad in #6. I shouldn't talk, perhaps, because I am guilty of exactly the same faults--mc's sporadically typed directly onto master/stencil loaded with typos, skipped words, and words and phrases repeated twice in the middle of a sentence.

Also you almost bubble with enthusiasm ~~MEMEM~~ for almost every fannish project, whether Neffer or not, which you become interested in. This is presumably to try to get others interested in these and unfortunately for you it seems to have exactly the opposite effect and brings scorn # down upon you too. Particularly when it is some aspect of the N3F you are enthusiastic about. Incidentally, you seem to have an extrmem amount of enthusiasm for and devotion to der Neff which is something I have never been able to figure out. I have never felt anything like this for any organization whatsoever and only slightly start to approach it for fandom as a whole. Not having experienced it, it sort of puzzles me. I suppose that over the years you recieved a tremendous amount of pleasure out of the Neff and can't understand why others don't.

I suppose #'s 3 & 4 were written primerily for the Pittcon Memory Book and intended for non-fen or fringe fen and as such aren't bad. However, in N'APA they went over like a lead balloon & would have been best left out. Haraly anyone appreciated them.

I am very mildly interested in those O-O's, etc, advertised on the back cover. What years are they from and how much do you want? (That's some add you put in there ==it doesn't even list the price!)

On yes--that Pittcon repor& does have a usefull format. If there aren't any more errors than the listing of "Flowers for Afternoon" for "Flowers for Algernon" it is a usefull and concise summary of the whole Pittcon. It is next to impossible to dig desired info out of long / rambling reports like mine was and the brief daily issues of SFTimes which were timely in their appearance but lacked any over-all perspective because of the publishing schedule.

CRY OF THE WILD MOORE ((Don Anderson)) This has consistently been one of the best zines, if not the best aine, for each of the 3 mailings it has appeared in. I hope, Don, that you are in N'APA for a long, long time.

Hallalayah--another Civil War Fan hater! My views on this whole sordid celebration are just about exactly the same as yours. One of the very few good things about the elaztion of the current Democratic administration has been the reduction from 60 to 5 the number of commemorative stamps scheduled to celebrate the Civil War. And ~~20112~~ I think that this should be cut back to a single black memorial stamp for issuance to celebrate the ~~END~~ END of the sordid mess! (I might, admittedly, have interpreted it wrong but I believe

I read in the papers some 2 years ago that the government intended to issue a series of some 60 such idiotic stamps.)

Your reprint of "Am I Intellectual in the Army" was fairly interesting but the guy sure struck me as awful conceited!

It's a shame you had to read the Ballantine edition of Fads & Fallacies-- it was one of the worst butcher jobs on record! I first read & muchly enjoyed the original hardcover edition (In The Name of Science) from the library. I found the whole thing to be quite funny altho perhaps go a bit overboard in his ridiculing for the sake of humor. Then the Dover paperback edition came out with some 50 new pages of material and all of the old for only \$1.50 which I bought but only read the new sections of. When the Ballantine edition came out, I browsed thru it on the newsstand & threw it back. I am fairly certain that less than 1/3 of the Dover edition was left in this one! Altho I collect books about stef and this had enuf such material to qualify I refused to pay 50¢ some of which would eventually get back to those damn butchers at Ballantine!

"Horizontal Rain"--a cute expression you used there. I got a kick out of it.

In re your remark about the Storm being an autobiography of SaM. I'm not prepared to judge either way but here's what he says about it. When it first began to appear serially, he was criticized for over-modesty for not including the parts he'd played in the history of fandom for his name did not appear once in the first umpteen chapters. However, he says, this is so because he did not begin to play an important part in fandom until perhaps what is 1/2 or 1/3 of the way thru the book, and it is then that he did chronicle his own exploits. He says that if he had written the book further, he would have appeared less and less frequently until he would have virtually disappeared by 52 or so. It is only because the book breaks off where it does that much deals with him (according to SaM) and that is the cause of this criticism. In a later conversation I remarked that since he played so small a part in fandom after 52, if he were to ever continue the Storm he would have to stop around there. He said that he wouldn't tho it would be considerably more difficult--most of the information on pre 52 fandom would be readily available to him but for later times he would have to simply do a great amount of research. Well, this is all academic for he has no intentions of carrying on the history. He says that his articles about stef are just as valuable as a history of fandom, and that he gets money for them. But maybe some day....

If I ever buy a mimeo, it'll probably be 2nd hand. I got a good summer job with NASA this summer and planned to pick up both an electric typer (so that I wouldn't have to come into school every time I wanted to cut a stencil) and a mimeo (so that I wouldn't have to depend on the school's lousy azograph or on dependable Dan for my duplicating. Both 2nd hand, of course! (I ain't gunna be that rich!) The typer's still on the agenda but the duper isn't--mainly because of school. Things went pretty bad this semester (which ended today) and I have to start my thesis this fall. That thing will probably take every second of my time for at least 6 months and a substantial portion after that. I don't want to have a duper around the house to tempt me and in fact, I plan to do several extra 6 page aines this summer to carry me thru in N'APA & SAPS during this period. Because of its nature, the same unfortunately can't be done for IPSO & there will be no other APAs asking for a portion of ~~my~~ my time for some 3 years until I get into FAPA. So it looks like I'll be gettin that mimeo next summer, instead.

I guess that the statement "I don't know nothin about music but I know what I like" applies pretty well to me. I quite literally know nothin but I have developed a great taste for Bartok (my ghod who can do no wrong), Ravel,

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Tchaikovsky (or whatever the spelling is), Berlioz, Stravinsky, ...er, that's all I can think of know here in school with no access to my record collection. But I guess the name of the composer is no guarantee that I will like the record. Recently one of the RCA record club selections had pieces by 2 of my favorites back to back & I took it. I believe the titles were something like Summer Nights & Blessed Danozel and that was one of the most ghawful records I ever heard. It almost gave me an engram! Blyarrgrh!

This talk of prejudice and hate sheets in recent issues of Moose reminds me of a rather curious fact. Because I have little in common with my relatives I seldom go along when my parents visit them so I haven't noticed this myself except in one case, but my parents have often remarked that those who came over from Lithuania since WWII have a fierce hatred of the Jews which we just can't understand. The extreme case even I noticed talks of secret Jewish societies which plot to take over the world, the "fact" that Eisenhower (whom he calls "itsky"), Harriman, ~~and~~ Rockefeller, etc are really Jews in disguise and that even the Pope is! Wonder what he thinks of the Eichman trial.... My parents often have wondered what could have happened since they left (I believe) in the early 30's to cause all this. One local fan theorized that it stemmed from the siding of all of the small East European nations with the Germans and against their traditional enemies, the Russians. Then they were subjected to the Hitler propaganda and were taken in by it. The theory sounds plausible. I wonder....

Dick Lupoff says that comic books are the chief outside interest of the current fandom. I don't think he's quite right but has only a small corner of the picture. Fandom seems to be reminiscing about all of the things of childhood to an extent I would almost refer to as a binge. Comics, radio programs (both evening complete story to an episode ones and the late afternoon serials) movie serials, even early TV programs! Your "The Magic Hour" (in #2) & my comments stuck among various past MCs are symptoms of this and this almost set me to saying more on the old shows I remembered. But I became afraid that I would repeat too much of what I already wrote in previous issues.

I am afraid that I am totally and completely confused by your interlineation, "'It's not true.'---Ann May Wong". Could you perhaps explain? Or is it such a thing that is ruined by an attempted explanation?

Altho I have been defending Heinlein's book on the grounds that it is perhaps a good idea that only those who do something for their country have the right to vote and that the Infantry is just one of many ways of "doing something"--remember that it was the brat's last choice and that he said he'd rather not go in if it wasn't for a military type position?--one of the happiest days of my life came some 33 years ago when I got my 4F rating. I suppose that the only occasion that will equal or surpass it will be that day very many years from now (if ever) when I get my Ph.D..

You say that you suppose that a multilith mad would probably classify as a stencil and so a multilith zine could not get a 2nd class permit. I don't think so for multi is an offset process as opposed to a stencil process and I believe that a number of prozines are published by offset.

SONOMA ((Norm Metcalf)) You ask Armstrong since when Knight reviews have been appearing in Fantastic. I believe Rick was referring to the fact that Fantastic is the only place left where Knight reviews could appear unless another columnist were dropped.

In re your review of Seth's 2nd zine, the 3rd page of my IPSD contribution was published for me by Multilith and the mat was photographically produced. I haven't seen the camera but the press is a Multilith 1250 which Dan Blackburn operates at work.

Don't know about the accuracy of Kaymar's indices but there is one hell of a lot of duplication among various indices which have appeared in fanzines, annuals, etc and as one-shots in themselves. To be useful, its existence must be known to the potential user. But most are so obscure, especially the small, specialized ones, that they are virtually unknown. For instance, until I saw them listed in one of Koestner's catalogs, I wasn't even aware that some table of contents checklists of FFM, Marvel & a few other zines existed. (I ordered them & they turned out to be horribly mimeod on mixed sized pages--some letter-~~size~~ sized, some legal. And the paper seemed to be the same croxx between wax paper and airmail paper/~~th~~ that he uses for his catalogs. I recently learned, incidentally, that accurate and large table of contents listings are useful to collectors which surprised me. With it, a collector can decide which 10 of 35 offered issues he should buy when he only can afford to buy 10. This is something I never thought of before and used to consider such lists virtually useless.

NEOFAN ((Hannifen)) A tremendous improvement appearancewise over your last issue. Whoever yields the stylus certainly has learned how to handle it. And I think the absorbant paper helped too.

I suppose you took the title of your other zine (which has yet to arrive) from the John Collier story of the same name, "Green Thoughts." As I remember it, it is about a man who turns into an orchid after being trapped by the plant and is snipped off in the end. But yours have yet to arrive.

In re "Mordor in 64"--I say "South Gate again in 2010--and not 'fore then!"

I read and enjoyed The Hobbit and Farmer Giles of Ham but have yet to hit the Ring itself. Got as far as sending a check to that west coast dealer--oh, what the heck's his name! Oh yes, J Ben Stark. Anyhow, he returned it saying he could no longer get the cheap British edition at that low price. When I was at Gripin' Steve Takak's today I intended to pick up the 1st volume in the (damin) \$5 US edition but he said that he quit stockin' em when the 3rd volume recently went out of print. Don't know if this out of print business is true, but I suppose I better hurry up and contact other dealers just in case it is. Think I'll phone Brad Day this week and reserve the whole set. Hmm, I see you plugged Dick Whitter in your first ish. I occasionally buy stuff from him too but not as often as from Steve or Brad cause the latter 2 operate stores I can visit and browse in. However, Steve's stock has recently been putrid, consisting almost exclusively of out of print horror crud, and I seldom visit his store anymore. (Ghu, hows that for a sentence! And I almost tacked "even tho it is the most convenient" onto its end.)

Thanks for sending the extra Neo #1 to me because of SAPS--thisway I have ~~now~~ a complete set of the illegal postmailings too. In a month or so I intend to send you and the other Wlers my first SAPS zine. As of now 3 pages are printed but I'm not sure that it'll run much more than 8 all told this time. Despite it's being summer I'm rather cramped for spare time. I had a 1-sheeter in the last mailing which I didn't consider worth sending out but if anyone wants a copy I still have 6 or 10 left.

MONSTER TIMES ((James Taurasi)) I don't think this is the first monster fmz.

As I told you on the phone, I don't know what is but Bob Coulson mentioned their existence several times in Yandro. Perhaps our Aps can supply more info.

I got an invite to that monstercon and almost went but just had too much schoolwork. From what I heard it was a lot of fun & I'm sorry I wasn't there.

You say (in Fantasy Comice) that no mag could come anywhere near as good in excellence as Campbell's Unknown without Campbell but I disagree on two counts. First, if there were some sort of switch in the market and an Unknown were to be practical again, I don't think Campbell could edit it today as well as he did 20 years ago. At least not if what he's doing to Anal-Oh-Gee is any indication! Second, I understand that several extremely short lived mags of the "boom" of the early 50s did equal Unk in spirit and quality. I don't remember their titles and haven't read them, but I have heard this several times.

You are one of the few people around who use the "editorial we". At times this comes off OK (as in your articles withing FC), but at times it rubs the wrong way to a very large extent (Your editorial, Bester's book reviews in F&SF, and Walt Cole's former column in SFT come to mind). Its so clumsy and artificial sounding that I just can't see why you use it.

FANDOM IS JUST A HOBBY ((Prieto)) Awful skimpy issue this time, but your'e headed in the right direction. Keep on going. But DOWN, Frank, down! Look, fer ghu's sake. It isn't the mention of stef that ...er...upset some of the other members but your style of presentation. You yourself admitted that you only had a week to put it out and were hazy on a format. Also, to a large extent it was an extremely vociferous and "fannishly sophisticated" minority which did the griping.

If you put out more issues of Fantasy-Review, I would suggest that you streamline the checklist and put in a larger number of comments on the books. I mean, who likes to read nothing but a long list of books published during the last umpteen months? And nothing else. By streamlining, I mean run the 3 or so months together to save wasting space on a repetitious title heading, connect the columns with dots rather than underlinings to enhance readability and reconsider the facts (and their presentation) given on each title. And DON'T let Jimmy reprint your comments in SFT until AFTER the N'APA deadline!

The cartoons and MOs give the impression of spreading things out to take up space so as to get in last second minimum activity requirements under a very tight deadline. Next time instead of listing 15 or so "noted"'s and "no comment"'s, why not run all of them together into 2 paragraphs?

In your plug for the Convention Annual you say "and by return mail your copy will be sent post haste." Not if you mail it in Syracuse, it won't! Every so often I would phone Jimmy to bitch about the non-arrival of SFT. (like, it's 2 months since one darkened my mailbox and that was over a month late!) and he would insist that it was mailed out on time or at most 1 or 2 weeks late. Now the P.U.O. has the right to hold third class mail for 5 years before delivering it if it wants to, but if my copy ϕ was mailed out first class on March 17 and others were mailed out also first class at 1 to 3 week intervals and NONE of these have arrived, something is putrid in Scandinavia! & Especially if they (the first class copies, that is) were bundled separately from the 3rd class ones. Look, if nothing turns up by when you get this and it seems that the PU swallowed up 5 issues of SFT without leaving any sort of trace, bitch to the Postal Inspectors in Washington. I don't know their address but Ted White tells me that they are independent of the post office and s&h are capable of making an unbiased investigation. Perhaps some other N&Pen knows where to write?

Something just has to be done about that damned PU--things are really getting bad and haven't improved with the new administration. It lost countless copies of the last Polhode, the Jan S&S bundle, and numerous other things. For instance, about a week ago Ted White tried for the 3rd time to send me a copy of the Void annish and it has yet to arrive. And what they pulled on Walt Cole is just unbelievable! About 2 years ago he belonged to ESFA and

was the secretary. The members began to gripe after a few months about not receiving any meeting notices which he claimed to have sent out. When he bitched at the PU he was told that they had stopped making pickups at that box several months back but that they hadn't get gotten around to removing it! Garrgh!

But still, no matter how bad the PU is it is still very hard to believe that it could have lost over 700 copies of 5 issues. Ya ~~ya~~ sure that some-one ain't exaggerating a bit somewhere?

RACHE ((Bruce Pelz)) Very good cartoon strip by Harness on the cover. Hope this becomes a regular feature. (I almost typos festure!) But as for the insides, my weren't you lazy this month. Hope you have more next time and include some of your enjoyable verse.

If I would have had the time to do so, I would have typed all of my comments on your and the scribe's zines on ordinary paper with the school's elite typer, had Dan reduce that to the limit (about 25 or 26 letters per inch) & multi it onto that DEEP blue paper. I think that that would have been the proper revenge for that eye-wrenching paper you used the last few times.

I might be at the Seacon at that--I just don't know. I couldn't make the Disclave because it was a week or so before exams and don't expect to be able to ask for 2 days off from the summer job 3 weeks after starting in order to go to the Midwestcon. That would make it a whole year between faaanish type cons--the 60 & 61 Philiconf's. (There were the ESFA & Lunacons this spring, but they were pure program.) I should be able to save enuf money from the quite well paying job to get that typer, a taper (full sized) that I want, and fly out to the Seacon. But since I just can't see spending \$350 on carfare & living expences just on the Seacon I'd want to take in S.F. & L.A. too for about 5 days each which would raise the total to \$450-500. I expect to have that much by then and am now wrestling with my conscience or miserly instinct or whatever it is to decide whether or not to do it.

When you said (in the censored Savoyard) that SAM (re)joined FAPA some 3 years ago, I suspect that that was the time he was dropped for postmailing too late or some such and was re-admitted on petition. I am fairly certain that if he had been dropped any time after 55 or even earlier he would not have gone thru on the waiting list again. He just wouldn't have had the interest/will power. I said more about SAM & APAs in my first SEPSzine which I don't want to repeat hear for fear of losing credit on that page. But I sure got some weird impressions of them from him!

Finally, I'm reminded that Garrett went around shouting that he'll give an article to every SF fmz that he receives in the next few months. (This was at the Pittcon.) I guess that was a fairly easy promise to make for New Frontiers probably was the only fanzine which might be considered eligable by his weird standards, if even that was. A few months before the Pittcon he & Donald Westlake were guest speakers at an ESFA meeting & I gave him a copy of Polh #2. (I'd sent him #1 because he was mentioned rather prominently in it and the next time I saw him (at another con) he asked to receive future issues.) He scanned thru it for a few minutes waiting for the meeting to start and then went into a tirade on the lack of stef-type material in fmz. (Can you imagine what would have happened had I given him a set of my MCS!) He said several times that there was only 1 piece of stefnal material--the article paraphrased from de Camp's talk. Wonder what he considered the sf movie reviews to be, or the one-letter l. column which was almost pure discussion of sf. And isn't his Ghod's IES close enuf to stef for him? I've come to the conclusion that for something to do by his standards, it would have to consist of formal essays on topics like "The Place of SF in the Coming Generation" and would have to be written exclusively by pros. I haven't wasted any more copies of my zines on him.

And what really shocked me was that for all of his shooting off of his mouth he had nothing in Who Killed SF? Wonder if that didn't meet his standards either. And when Norm gave me a list of articles on hand for future ish of New Frontiers material by Campbell's hack was not included.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ((Scribe JH)) I suppose that everyone who doesn't convert to Scientology will be removed from the membership list.

And thanks, Jack, for getting the Dickensheets to put in Tantalus. (And thank you Dean and Shirley for putting it in!) This was a very very refreshing change and much appreciated in this corner. Ignatz help me but I can't find anything else to say about this except "Great!" and "More!" I hope you enjoyed putting this out and will be tempted to do more of the same for future mailings--perhaps even join N'APA? Unfortunately I suppose you will ~~do~~ nothing but trivial inanities (with a few exceptions like Moose) in the mailings and there won't be enough in the the group to interest you.

Jack, you've done a lot to save the last mailing and perhaps under your dynamic leadership N'APA will get someplace. As for your zine itself, Obscene Matter #1 starts off with a nice cover. You can sure do a lot with a shading plate. I think I'll pick up a few more myself before I start my next mimeod zine. Wonder how good Gestetner plates are. When I got my 2 Speed-O-Prints thru Ted White he told me that some other brand--ABDick? Heyer?--is worthless because of method of manufacture. He said that they can be only used 2 or 3 times before their surfaces become worn out.

I most definitely am interested in these further notes on the use of shading plates, etc.. Since I have negligible knowledge (mostly what was in Duplicating Without Tears) it should be quite usefull. I am eagerly awaiting Rich Brown's promised handbook of fanning which should turn into a major reference wbk.

Bjo, your article makes a lot of sence. But one point about all this business of whether or not the N3F is accomplishing anything. What is any club supposed to accomplish? Local clubs are to meet other fen and discuss personally things of mutual interest (which might or might not include stef depending on the club). APAs are for easy exchange of fanzines and 40 or whatever way correspondence with kibbetzing. And the Neff? IF it is a correspondence club only, it is serving its function well. If it is more than that and if it wants any sort of relationship with general fandom, there is room for debate.

On the projects you list--there is a definite need, asyou say, for a complete primer on duplicating. Too bad Vinç Clarke gafiated before he published the remainder of Duplicating Without Tears. I can't help hoping that he will temporarily come back just to finish off the thang, mainly so that all off the material he collected won't be lost. Perhaps Rich Brown will be able to get past the talking stage on his idea. (Perhaps he already is--I don't know. All I know is what I saw in Fanac announcing the project a while back.) If he gets enuf published perhaps he will be able to talk Vinç into giving him the material that he has.

The duplicator-directory looks like a pretty hopèless task unless it is done on the same basis as the tape speeds in Bennetts directory,

All the others sound good too, but are out of my class. I tried to supply people with Pittcon tapes but I just don't have the transcribing fascilities. The people I sent tapes couldn't make anything out on them.

Some sound interesting to try and I have an idea or 2 of my own but no time for it. I'm beginning to wonder whether I should have taken on the July Tightbeam, tho I really have no doubts that I'll be able to do a passable ~~job~~ job before the deadline. Maybe after I finish school....

20

Flat Eval was appreciated and I hope there is a gap smaller than 6 mailings before his next appearance.

Bjo--has Harry Douthwaite contacted you re Pastell? (21 Stratton Road, Whalley Range, Manchester 16, Lancashire, England.) I've published illos by him (see page 9 of this mess for a sample) as has at least one other fanzine. He is quite interested in fantasy art and I sent him your address (unless that damn PU went and lost it again).

You promised to put complete titles in the O-O when you were campaigning. Too bad Ted Johnstone is no longer with us for then he could test this by putting out another issue of his fanzine with the 110 word title. I don't know what the title was for the first SAPS bundle I got was the one after he had tried it for the second time. For some strange reason nobody wrote out the full title in the MCs. I wonder why. Or perhaps tomorrow, when I go to school for the last time before Sept (in order to run this slop off--I have no other reason for making the trip) I should make use of that "scientific typewriter" with the integral signs, partial derivative dymbols, greek letters, etc to really come up with an interesting title. Hmmm, maybe I'll do that....

In your first N'APazine waaay back you asked who told me that FAPA had 60 page zines--it was Sam and those were almost exactly the words he used. It happened (I think) on the same day as the rest of the conversation I mention in my July SAPSzine.

Is that store in LA still selling those large lettering guides at half price? And if so, are you still willing to act as agent? (I'm referring to page 9 of your first zine.) What sizes and styles are available (if they still are?)

Coleman's bit on "Psychohistory of the N'APA" was quite good and it really hit me when I recognized some of the equations. Like, he is apparently connected with physics, math or engineering in descending order of probability.

Those Trian femmes that adorned various fmz--are they human or humanoid BEM? After staring at them for quite a while I haven't been able to decide.

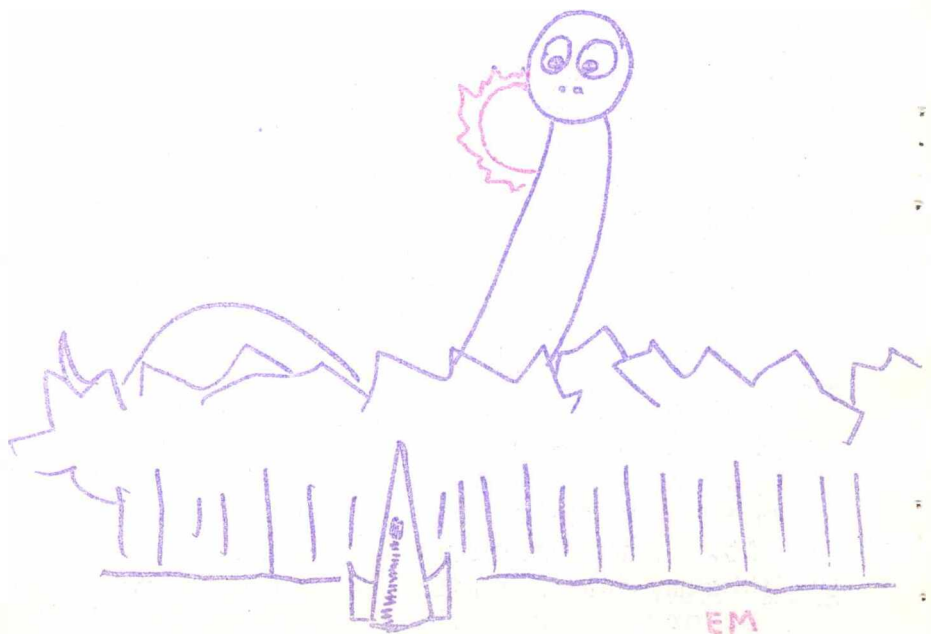
Finally I pass my mess and come to the triple post (or pre) mailing,

GUANO ((Hayes--bw Acv Sub, Lewis, and Fanatic, Johnson.))

Since the signature on the cover is backwards I suppose this was originally prepared for ditto and used on hecto or vice versa.

The prices you listed for various Gestetner supplies in Canada were most interesting. Ordinary paper sunns about the same here--except at the fabulous Pace Paper--but I don't know how much Gestetner paper runs. Stencils seem to be a bit more expensive for you.

So even Gestetners aren't standardized but come in at least 3 different varieties! Sounds like a horrible mess, especially when you add in the specially built ones. (Ted White says his is a U.S. surplus machine which had been specially



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BUILT TO TAKE standard type US stencils.)

Listing the new members is OK but try to be diplomatic, huh? I am particularly referring to this will/son't work business. I know that there are a few people around who are the type that wants to do work for a group while most others will do so only reluctantly. Some people who weren't inclined to do work might decide not to join because of that question on the application, particularly if word got around that the information is printed. I understand that this stuff once was listed in TNFF some time before I joined and caused considerable ill-will then. I think I'll write a letter to Tight-beam--either mine or Bob Lambeck's ish--about revising the application blank.

And now we come to part 2--AeV SUBSTITUTE of Allan Lewis. Glad to see ~~XX~~ that the long gap between issues was not due to gaffiation. You seemed to irritate many people (myself included) with some things you did and did get pretty well stepped on as a result. As you said, you lost out on the Directorate, etc., and I figured you must have just plain gotten disgusted with everything. Perhaps things will stay on an even keel from now on and you'll start appearing regularly again.

Can't find anything else to say about this or Seth's part. Took me an ~~XX~~ hour & ten minutes just to do this much MC's and I see that they just is no longer comin. (Ain't ya glad?)

I was also gonna say a few words about the zines of people who didn't have anything in this mailing anw which I didn't get around to commenting on last time but I just don't feel like re-reading them now.

They include APE which was much enjoyed (especially the artwork which was superb), 7 Eyes (which was interesting), Kaymar, Walrus, Critique, Pooch, Kahan, Ashanti, Erratica, Tulgey Wood, Karma (very like the SAPSzine Krama in its title), and Why Not. About half of these were very much enjoyed and some were even marked out for comment while none were actually disliked.

I visited the Ditto store on 14th St & 5th Ave today and boy, did they have a skimpy stock. They were very generous with samples however and I got a few Ditto pencils and about a $\frac{1}{4}$ ream of paper. They produce 16 and 20 lb paper and the latter (at least--don't know about the other) comes in 3 grades. These cost \$6.05, 6.35 and 6.65 per M (which compares with \$3.50-\$4.00 per M for other brands in stationary stores). The early sheets of this rag were run off on \$1.80/ream Sphynx paper, the later sheets on EZDuplicator \$2.00/ream stuff. The cover is on 70 pound \$3.75 per ream multilith paper and page 19-20 is on the sample paper I got (the middle quality). All of the paper except the multi seems to have about the same amount of showthru so apparently you just can't win.

I tried out the green Ditto pencil above but apparently I drew the page number in the wrong place. Next time I'll have to do it after I finish typing. Since I want this far I decided to add a cover too in order to make this zine large enuf to send out at Catalog Rate (which is a little cheaper than parcel post). Not sure what'll be on the cover, but it'll be all mine! It should be real grousome, if my attempt at imitation Atomilio on page 20 is any indication.

While I was in NY today I also bought some colored Ditto carbons at 7¢ ea and a ream of "Dittoforms" for \$3.75. This, presumably, is what you are supposed to use with the carbons and pencils to make the master, so I have potentially 500 Ditto masters. The first of these will be used on the cover.

My main reason for going into NY today was to price electric typers (used, of course) and pick up an FM radio. I am now the unproud owner of a Blonder-Tongue (made in Newark NJ) which set me back a whole \$19.95. I was prepared to spend 2 or 3 times that but several of the lab technicians in the Physics department said that this was a remarkably good radio for the price. Not being a person who spends money for the sake of spending it, I followed their

advise and got it at the wholesaler they sent me to. (I suppose ~~XX~~ that the nominal selling price of the thing is about \$30, but who ever heard of anyone paying the nominal price for a radio, phone or such?) I'm listening to the thing as I hack this out and it sounds pretty good. I suppose that to get something noticeably better I'd have to pay quite a bit more.

As I expected, reconditioned typers run from \$75 to \$350 depending on the store, the age and the type. "Black" IBM's are around 100, "Grey"'s and those "Black"'s which have proportional spacing start around 200 and IBM "executives" start around 300. Will have to shop around some more to see if ~~th~~ these are the rock bottom prices. Varitypers run from 100 to 550.

Oh--I just noticed. Those sheets for use with Ditto carbons and pencils aren't Dittoforms but are "DP-MASTER WHT 24# 8½x11" which I believe means 24 pound white "DupliMaster" or some such. "Dittoform" is the idiotic name they give to the gummed label on which this info is presented!

Well, today's my last day in school and I didn't even have to come in. I did in order to run off the 4 pages I'd typed yesterday + the 2 I'm now typing. Tomorrow I'm headed out to Newton N.J. with my parents for a few days (I'll bring along plenty of fmz to read while I'm there--about 1 foot including 2 SAPS & 1 FAPA mailing have piled up due to school) and will come back Sunday via the ESFA meeting. Hal Lynch is using the group as characters in some new stef film he's making and Chriss Moskowitz volunteered the use of her medical office for the meeting because of the possibilities of props there. We should have some fun.

Then Monday, as I mentioned before, I start ~~U#G#H~~-work. Should be interesting and appropriate to my fannish nature tho since it will be for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and a new theoretical Institute for Space Studies. The latter was just opened up some 2 weeks ago in the vicinity of Columbia and only 2 blocks from where Carl Frederick lives. (& dammit, I'll have a hour ten trip out there and work starts at--horrors-- 8 AM.) They rented offices in, of all places, the Interfaith Building of Riverside Church. I looked the place over today and if I remember correctly their 2 4th floor offices are separated by one belonging to the Protestant Council of NY. I didn't go up to the 19th floor where they are setting up a computer. (A computer there--it makes you think of AC Clarke's story "The 90 Billion Names of God" ((os some such title))!)

A few weeks ago the NYTimes had a real gosh-wow article about the place & I'm beginning to wonder just what I got myself into. It seems to be almost a junior version of the Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies.

Well, I'll see Monday....

Incidentally, I never was able to get that issue of Herpolhode from Dan Blackburn which he presumably multi'd for me. Well, I've now given up all hope of ever seeing it. It is a shame that I lost all that artwork, tho, 'cause I had used up quite a bit in there.

Well, that's it for now. Signing off at 8:42 PM on May 31, 1961. See youse all next mailing.



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