

RESIN #8 from Norm Metcalf, P.O. Box 336, Berkeley 1, California. This issue is intended for the 60th SAPS mailing, even though it's composed of comments on the 58th mailing, Jan 62. Crudpub #44. Resin #9 may or not make the 60th mailing, don't hold your breath looking through the bundle.

Die Wis #4 - Dick Schultz

If you weren't a veteran you should go back to trying to talk with ants. In basic training we had a guy who wanted a discharge very badly. So he stood outside the mess hall barking commands to ants. When they ignored his commands he grew abusive and threatened to court-martial the ants. Lt. Romans saw this performance and sent him to the headshrinkers. A few weeks later he was once more a civilian. The Lt. was rather gung-ho for discharging basic trainees anyway. ('Get 'em now before they goof up where it's serious.') He was always on the lookout for devianists. One guy figured out how to make his bed in minimum time. Instead of sheets and blankets having equal overhang on both sides of the bed he made his bed with one side just barely tucked in. The other side would hold fast during the night. The Training Instructor caught him one morning. He was discharged for having a poor attitude. ('Anyone trying to make life easier for themselves is unco-operative.')

Resin #7 - Norm Metcalf

Shelby Vick told me I really fouled up on Joe Green and his naming of his offspring. Shelby says Joe's son is named "William Merritt" for Hodgson and A. while the girl is "Rosemary" which doesn't have any sf significance as far as Shelby knows.

After Donaho's slightly successful OMPA campaign to have the members do mailing comments I tried to talk him into joining SAPS and conducting an anti--mailing-comment campaign. For some reason Bill isn't enthusiastic over the idea.

Spacewarp #72 - Art Rapp

Thanks for the hospitality when I stopped off at your place on my way home. I wish I could have stayed longer but as it was I made it to Berkeley just in time to start redtape for re-entering the University. Maybe I'll be seeing you later this summer (perhaps before you read this).

If Stapledon's The Starmaker is unreadable for you it might be best to avoid Last and First Men, Last Men in London and his lesser works. Try instead Odd John or Sirius. They're both available in Basil Davenport's selection of Stapledon, To the End of Time, Odd John has appeared twice in Galaxy Novels, the first time complete and unabridged, the second time I wouldn't bet on it.

Outsiders #46 -- Wrai Ballard

As far as U.S. states go I've been in 33; California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oregon, Washington, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Arkansas, Ohio, Michigan, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Uncle Sam (and the Pittcon, which I wouldn't have gone to if I hadn't been in the service) added the last twelve states. In addition I've seen Idaho and South Carolina from Wyoming and Georgia. I'd seen Arkansas from Tennessee nine years before entering it. Previous to the service I'd managed to circumnavigate Idaho, Oklahoma and Arkansas without entering them. As it stands now the only states



less than 180 degrees west of the Mississippi which I haven't been in are Hawaii, Alaska, Idaho, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, and Minnesota. The only thing that would tempt me into the last four states would be the chance of meeting you and/or Boggs or Berman once more.

One reason for SAPS losing members from the "Berkeley/New York axis" could be that local fan contacts bear a great resemblance to SAPS. There's the same idle chitchat, gossip, the sense of being with friends (and possibly, enemies). Therefore fans who engage in local activities have less use for SAPS than other areas which aren't quite so informal.

It's very easy to tell Ellis Mills and Norm Metcalf apart. Ellis' last name begins with "M", Norm's last name begins with an "M"; Ellis was stationed at Lowry AFB, Colorado during 59 & 60, Norm was stationed at Lowry AFB, Colorado during 59 & 60; Mills had a post office box at Lowry instead of a military box; Metcalf had a post office box at Lowry instead of a military box; Ellis belongs to OMPA, Norm belongs to OMPA; Ellis was on the SAPS w-1, Norm was on the SAPS w-1, etc. This should enable you to differentiate those two fans.

Lloyd Broyles' address is Route 6, Box 453P, Waco, Texas. The 1961 Who's Who in Science Fiction Fandom is 50¢, advance orders for the 1962 edition are \$1.00. It's a very handy volume and Lloyd should make more use of it and the questionnaires he receives back.

Collector #28 - Howard DeVore

None of the stencils in Halberd #102 were reprinted. The pages from '52 (at least you had the correct date) had never been run before. Hal did mention this in his notes.

Flabbergasting #21 - Burnett Toskey

Okay, put me down for an autographed copy of Lectures In College Algebra.

Hey! That's a tremendous idea you've given me for duplicating my genzine. Instead of carbon-copying it I can use maximum pressure and type out five ditto masters at once. Gosh! Thanks for the idea Tosk.

B\*A\*N\*G #1 - Les Gerber

Shapiro didn't resign. He made arrangements with the warden to stay in SAPS. But I wouldn't like to think of SAPS mailings being read by prison censors. Whoever "resigned" Shapiro did the right thing -- after a fashion.

Warhoon #14 - Richard Bergeron

Have you never read past The Warlord of Mars? John Carter and Barsocm don't occupy a mere trilogy but a total of ten books plus one magazine story never in book form.

Warner: There's nothing inherent in TV that precludes fine definition of the pictures. It's merely arbitrary. American TV uses a system of 30 frames per second and a horizontal oscillator frequency of 15,750 cycles which gives 525 line scan. In some European countries the horizontal oscillator frequency is much higher (I think the maximum is somewhere around an 850 line scan). I



don't have any references on why the FCC chose 15,750 cycles. I suspect it was influenced by maximum quality at minimum cost. The lower-definition picture requires less critical engineering.

Bergeron: There's another tale I've heard of someone fleeing the scene of war. During the 30's a European foresaw the coming of WWII. So he figured out the perfect refuge and settled on an obscure South Seas island named Guadalcanal.

As for why much of OMPA's material is general in nature compared/<sup>to</sup> the SAPS emphasis on mailing comments I have a few observations. OMPA had low activity requirements (16 pages per year) and a deadwood rate averaging around 46%. Without hauling out my very nearly complete set of mailings to check I seem to recall that mailing comments grew less and less popular as the percentage of deadwood rose. So some of these commenters turned to general material because of the futility of writing mailing comments to someone who might not reappear for several mailings (or drop completely). Donaho's campaign to produce more mailing comments wasn't the first. The Sanderson-Clarke-Goodwin axis also tried without much success. Donaho pushed through a new constitution which (among other items) lowered the activity requirements to 12 pages per year and required this 12 pages to be original material. This probably means the loss of some more members who'll be replaced by waiting-listers willing to play the game under the new rules.

Watling Street #11 - Bob Lichtman

The San Francisco Chronicle has deteriorated since 1953 when the old owner did die. I can't see why you're so enthusiastic about it. The news coverage is poor, the paper is slanted towards a low common denominator (but higher than the Examiner or the News-Call Bulletin) and it's only saving graces are some of the editorial features. If you want good news coverage you have to read the Oakland Tribune. Lately I've gotten an urge to find out what's been happening in the world since I quit reading newspapers seven years ago so I've begun reading the N.Y. Times. The library doesn't do a very good job of keeping it up-to-date so I'm eagerly awaiting the west coast edition which is supposed to start this fall.

As for paperback book stores of my experience the U.C. Corner can be beat by the Alamo News in San Antonio, in some respects by Cody's in Berkeley and by Stacey's and the City Lights in San Francisco. But from what Ben Stark says the East Bay's paperback distributor is falling down on the job. There's a much wider selection on the stands in San Francisco.

You shouldn't be fooled by all the propaganda saying that San Francisco has no smog. There was a glorious day back around '56 when the Cal Engineer came on sale with an article on why smog may someday come to the Bay Area. That same morning was smoggy. I suppose San Francisco west of Mt. Sutro, etc. probably escapes smog but then I haven't set up observations in the Sunset district.

Whew! If UAPA mailings are worse than NAPA mailings I can't conceive of how bad they must be. After reading the May 62 NAPA mailing plus a bundle of surplus stock it seems that N'APA:NAPA = FAPA:N'APA. (By the way Pelz, do you have a spare copy of The Old Ship that I could have? I'm extremely interested to see what you had to say to NAPA.)

SAPristi #2 - Andy Main

For historical novels I do like Waltari's works, particularly The Dark Angel.



Others of my favorites are Alfred Duggan, Vardis Fisher, Dumas, de Camp, Harold Lamb (I recently saw his obituary), Robert Graves, some of the minor authors in Adventure, Nordhoff & Hall, etc. Most of these authors are able to recreate history so vividly that I'm interested in checking up on them to see if they were playing fast and loose with history or not. And some of them researched so well that their interpretations have colored those of subsequent historians and novelists. Lamb, Nordhoff and Hall are prime examples of this. Lamb's books on Central Asia (both history, historical narratives and fiction) seem to have been used as source material by subsequent novelists and popular historians while anyone writing a book on the Bounty and the later fate of the mutineers seems to take into account Nordhoff and Hall's interpretation of ambiguous events.

Hobgoblin #7 - Terry Carr

White: Your quote from Lady Jayn on taming the looting Mongols reminds me of the Sheikdom of Sharja. The Sharjans used to be great pirates until the British lion took annoyance at having fleas in its tail and forced the Sharjans to sign a treaty to refrain from piracy. That was in the 1800's. Recently the Sharjans hijacked a ship to show the younger generation how to do it. The Pirate Coast Rides Again.

SAPterranean #5 - Walter Breen

If you're interested in reading further on 'survival types in the frontier West' there are three books of fiction and two nonfiction works that will give you a start. John Myers Myers' Dead Warrior, Eugene Manlove Rhodes' The Best Novels and Stories of ..., Edward Abbey's The Brave Cowboy, Walter Prescott Webb's The Great Plains and Wallace Stegner's Beyond the Hundredth Meridian. Frederick Jackson Turner's Frontier In American History isn't of much value in evaluating the frontier after it reached the plains. Myers' work deals with miners as seen by an easterner and might have been subtitled "Gullible's Travels". Rhodes' forte is the people of southern New Mexico. His fiction was so authentic that he was threatened with death if he returned to Socorro, New Mexico. (A local villain recognized himself as one of Rhodes' characters.) And it was so true to the region that the locals eagerly awaited the next issue of the Saturday Evening Post (usually, though he sometimes appeared in other zines) to see themselves and their land portrayed. (Appearing in the SEP of those days is no adverse reflection on his works.) Webb's book is the classic examination of the effects the Great Plains had on American society while Stegner traces the changes in government policy from uncomprehension to partial understanding of what must be done to cope with the land of little rain. The bibliographies and references in the latter two books can lead you much further, if you desire.

If you think that you can malign the army by saying that it's worse than a Soviet prison camp then keep right on. But don't be surprised if the rest of us scoff at you. If you want anyone to pay much attention to you you should really have some factual bases for your malignments. Otherwise you'll continue to get the same reaction of 'Oh yeah.'.

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To repeat once more Sam Moskowitz does read the FAPA mailings. The only items he considers of great worth are the sf-oriented zines and these he files separately.

If you're going to deny subjectivity in music you ought to pick out a limb fairly near the ground. Music is a subjective phenomenon no matter what you say. Perhaps I'm misreading you but you give the impression that music that appeals to Walter Breen is objectively good and anyone who disagrees on your selections is a moron by the name of Toskey or whomever. Can't you appreciate the possibility that Toskey's mind may be far more capable of grasping the "chamber music of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven" than your mind is? After all, the small number of instruments reduce the number of possibilities compared to an orchestra. And you have stated that you prefer chamber music to orchestral music. Can't you concede the possibility that Toskey's mind is more capable than yours of appreciating orchestral music?

Spaceward #73 - Art Rapp

Yeah, some wondrous results can be obtained by servicemen writing their Congressman. They told us in basic we had the right to do so but just let them catch anyone doing it. At Tyndall anyone detected writing to his Congressman had "Political Influence" stamped on his Form 7. So when the next shipment to Windswept AFB, Montana came in they had plenty of volunteers. However, I do know one case that came out okay. An A/2C wrote to his Congressman protesting that he had been passed over for A/1C. His Congressman had him promoted. But by the time the red tape unsharled his hitch was up and so nothing ever happened to him. The only other incident of "pull" I recall was this A/3C at Lowry who got drunk the night before his wedding. The captain gave him an Article 15 restricting him to quarters for two weeks. So his fiancée came storming out to have him released. The captain remained adamant. So she threatened to tell her uncle that the captain was obstructing the course of true love. The captain backed down in a hurry once he found out that her uncle was the base commander.

The top legal speed limit in the U.S. (ignoring 'reasonable and proper') that I know of is 80 mph on the Kansas Turnpike.

Ignatz #30 - Nan Rapp

Now that you're doing not-covers, Wrai has his not-poetry is some loyal SAP going to volunteer to do not-mailing comments?

A. Merrit's Fantasy Magazine (#1) - Ed Meskys

What's so illogical about colonizing a new world by use of covered wagons drawn by horses or oxen? If a draft animal breaks down you grow another one instead of using expensive matter-transmitters to bring replacements from the Moreau Parts Shop. The same goes for your covered wagons. Replacements are no further than the nearest usable tree. Heinlein showed a realistic grasp of the implementation of technology under conditions primitive. This is more than can be said for some other authors. Clemens' Connecticut Yankee is one example of such balderdash.

Warner: Stark buys new English books and magazines directly from the publishers if they'll sell to him. (Most will, some won't.) He picks up used English material from several dealers. However, Stark as a dealer is at one disadvantage which private individuals aren't subjected to. He sometimes has to



pay customs duties on his imports. However, the average fan should be better off dealing directly with Slater, Chapman, Flood, Ley or one of the other dealers in England.

Telekinetic Terrace Times Revisited #2 - Lee Jacobs

It's rather easy to prove that some SAPS do not read each and every word of every SAPSzine. This also applies to SAPSzines they comment on as well as those they don't. For proof I refer you to the mailing comments.

SpeleoBem #14 - Bruce Pelz

If you don't remember anything outstanding by Jack Vance try The Dying Earth, To Live Forever (you should remember that one, it's been incorporated into Coventry, or so I gather), "Telek", ASF Jan 52; "The Gift of Gab", ASF Sep 55; and as a last resort the Magnus Ridolph stories. "Big Planet" is supposed to be good though Big Planet isn't after Avalon got through with it.

If I write anything that can stand on its own two feet there are some good reasons why I'd send the material to a genzine. They need good material -- most of them badly. If I did send an article to a genzine editor he'd prefer something that hasn't seen the light of day before (my apazines have/had a larger circulation than some genzines). I'm certainly not going to put anything in an apa for critical evaluation. There isn't that much critical evaluation floating around looking for targets. And of course, the foregoing shouldn't be taken too seriously since I've put general material into SAPS, OMPA, FAPA and NAPA.

Offhand I can think of fans who dropped FAPA for SAPS (including drops from the w-1) -- Art Rapp, Nan Gerding and John Berry. (While we're thinking of anomalies Hickman dropped FAPA and SAPS for OMPA.) But I think you're right. It's useless to expect SAPS to equal FAPA's quality on FAPA's ground. FAPA attracted most of the best fans prior to SAPS and it will keep right on attracting them. If we're going to stay viable it will have to be because of our differences.

Some bit of correction to your CRAP checklist: The Devil's Work #2 was dated by the military dating system I'd proposed re CRAPtionals. It was c/r 67.061 which means it was issued on the 61st day of 1961/2 Mar 61.

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Harry Warner, Jr., 423 Summit Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland

Dear Norm:

Three fanzines from you are on hand, and it is time to do my duty by them before they start to pile up badly again. Sudden thought: some fans would say at this point, three fanzines, that's not too many. I wonder if ministers could not adapt that catchphrase to their own purposes when attempting to explain the mysteries of the trinity to prospective church members? "Three persons in one, that's not too many."

There was another factor in the predominance of magazine stories in polls in the 1940's. Fans were still not prosperous enough for the most part to purchase hardcovers, and there weren't many books appearing that found their ways into public libraries outside the largest cities. The Heinlein books that introduced so many youngsters to stf didn't start to show up in school libraries and juvenile departments of public libraries until the 1950's. Remember that it



took years for The Outsider and Others to sell out. Usually a hardcover had to be remaindered before it started to get lots of fanzine attention. Which reminds me that I just yesterday picked up a remaindered copy of The Mislaid Charm in the Prime Press edition for a dime. I'd watched it work its way down in price from 79¢ to that level over the past two years in a local dime store and didn't buy it until I decided that it was worth the price quoted.

On the Hugo troubles, I think that much confusion could be eliminated if the nomination ballot contained a list of eligible items. The nominations would not be limited to these but they would serve to jog memories and to reassure voters that such a work really did appear in that particular year. There would be cries that this is unfair to things that don't get listed on the nomination ballot but it would be just the way the procedure is conducted for lots of movie polls, television awards, and ~~many~~ Astoundingly similar projects. I'll bet that Camelot doesn't get a vote in the nominations for best dramatic production for 1961, simply because nobody but me thought of it and I didn't fill out the ballot.

There's room for your periodic rundown on the fan history project. I think that I'm approaching the end of the fanzine-leafing. The next task will be to get access to files of some publications that I don't have and to ask questions of various people to fill in gaps in knowledge. One major uncertainty is whether I should go through all the correspondence that has accumulated over the years from significant fans. It would probably delay by another six months the start of writing but I imagine that letters contain quite a bit of information that everyone has forgotten by now. I'll more than likely grab a pound of letters and see how many facts I get from that batch, then decide if the results justify the time expended. I still think I can do a bit of writing before the end of this year to adhere to the original schedule in the letter, since I'm confident that I have all that is needed about certain events and people and projects already. I'll have to wait a while longer to determine whether I'm going to write the whole thing from beginning to end or start with the easiest parts and fill in the more difficult areas as I complete the assembly of information.

Yrs., &c.,  
Harry

((The Heinlein juveniles were in all the libraries I frequented as fast as they appeared. Of course, this only proves that the public librarians of Pasadena, Los Angeles and Glendale approved of buying sf. Our high school librarian didn't approve of sf (she had read Weinbaum's The Black Flame and condemned sf on that grounds) but she bought nearly everything that came out.))



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