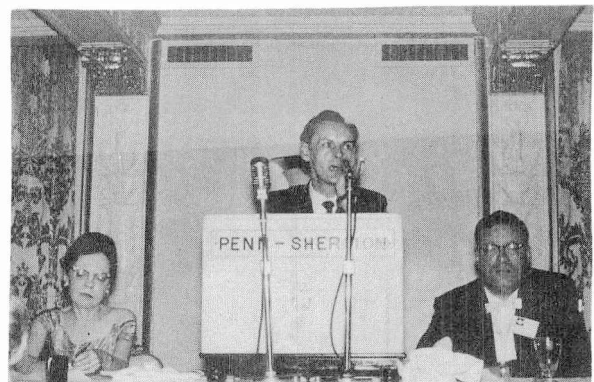




# SAVOYARD

10

OMPA 36





# "It Is My Very Humane Endeavour..."

COMPADRE 2: Jerk Harmless. I think I've already told you what you can do with your article on phonetics and stuff, but I do like polls (not you, you bird-brained parrot) so I'll be glad to answer the one you published here:

1. What do the initials O.M.P.A. stand for? Obviously they'll stand for most anything, considering some of the characters they keep on as members.
2. What title does Bob Lichtman have? Isn't it something like "Los-Angeles-Priest-of-the-COTBOTW-If-the-Thing-Ever-Gets-Going?"
- 2A. No, no, I mean what title does he have in OMPA? I think his title there is ZOUNDS, but I haven't seen an issue in several mailings, so I could be wrong.
- 2B. What respect is accorded the President of OMPA? We refer to him (in hink-pink-dink style) as a tall-and-thin American nut. And we vote him out of office this year, don't we?
3. Why are the OE and Treasurer of OMPA always located in Great Britain? Balance of trade must be maintained: we ship them fanzines and money, and they ship us back fanzines.
4. Why do the British use such small paper? Everything's reduced over there (except possibly Archie Mercer), and besides they're stingy — haven't you ever heard of the "tight little islands"?
5. What is the Official Slogan of OMPA? "12 Pages a Year or Out You Go, Mate!" (or possibly "We Are NOT the British Answer to SAPS!")
6. Who won the American Civil War? The souvenir sellers at the many Historic Sites, together with the character who thought of the current four-year centennial celebration of the damned thing.
7. Who signed the Magna Carta? Not me; they shouldn't let anybody near that thing without searching them for pens and pencils.
8. What do the initials C / D / B stand for in American Bookkeeping? Calvin "Diff" Bemmon.
9. Why is Schultz such a widely-used artist in OMPA? It might be because he remembers to send out promised artwork to people without being prodded six times, but more likely it's because he bribes the members (with artwork) to use his artwork.
10. Who rode a three-toed horse and conquered quite a lot of the British Isles? I don't know, but if you tell me it was you or one of your Scientological friends in a Past Life, I'll hit you.

If you're still a member of this nutty group, send along another poll -- some of your suggested answers were almost as good as mine.

WHATSIT 3: Ken Cheslin. The only trouble with a microfilmed library is that coloured illos would then be in b/w unless you did something like making a color slide and microfilming a reference to "See Slide # \_\_\_" in the main microfilming of the book.

One of those "singing-defeats-aliens" bits you were trying to remember may be Len Moffatt's "Alpha Centauri Curtain Call," and another John Berry's fan-fiction "Lightening Conductor." They both used the gimmick.

CONVERSATION 21: Lynn Hickman. Now that you've resigned as publisher for First Fandom, who is in charge of getting that years-overdue FAKEFAN IN LONDON into print? As it has been advertised since about 1958 or so, it really ought to be published one of these years. Maybe DON FORD could answer this question, but this isn't the quarter for POOKA, I guess, so I figured I'd stick the query in here. You two are the only two First Fandomites I know of in

OMPA.

And while I'm complaining, I thought I still had a sub to JD-A. And tho I'm used to fanzines not appearing when I have sub to them, I'm not used to having them appear and not get to me. I had to wait until Rotsler disposed of his fanzines a month or so to get JD-A 58 and 59 — has #60 appeared yet, and if so, do I have a sub, or not?

BINARY 4: Joe Patrizio. I suppose every political opinion that says more than "I hate war/And so does Elinor..." is bound to irritate a few people, and I'm sorry that mine had to irritate you. However, since you ask if I think my method (ignoring politics and politicians) will get everybody to sit down and be brothers better than the Ban-the-Bomb marchers' method, I am inclined to say that it will — after all, if everyone started marching up and down the country carrying signs there would be a helluva traffic snarl and fights might break out between two groups trying to pass the same point at the same time. But with my method everyone could just sit down (by himself, if he wants) and be as brotherly as possible. By the way, what does CND stand for, Conglomeration of Nutty Demonstrators?

Your comments in regard to my attitude on military aid — that countries have a bloody nerve returning political face-slapping for military aid when that aid is used more to defend themselves than to defend us (which should be obvious on the face of things) — is almost enough to make me vote for Goldwater. He's in favor of cutting down (or off) foreign aid — and then we'd see how much political face-slapping we got. I remember a cartoon by Low (of whom you may have heard) showing Britain with an ice pack on his head, while in a thought-balloon the U.S., in business suit and Indian Chief headress, did a wardance. The caption read, "What a headache, sometimes, to be with America... ." The next panel simply had a changed thought balloon, showing Russia with a large sack, beckoning, and Britain looking frightened, and was captioned: "...but to be without it, O Lor'!" But then, maybe Low opinions of America aren't the general thing in Britain? (Disclaimer, of course.)

Being of a rather fatalistic turn of mind — i.e., having a damn good idea what I can and can't change — I see no point in wasting my time walking up and down carrying signs or picketing the White House or such. You're welcome to do whatever you please along such lines, of course, but I'd appreciate any proof that the past few years' worth of such activities has done any good whatsoever.

One last thing I'm curious about: how do you figure you are defending us, in the face of ICBMs and such?

I think I may have irritated you again... .

DETROIT IRON 1: Dick Schultz. I like your chess pieces very much, individually, but they don't seem to hang together very well. It would be great to have an entire set based around one style or another — the Kaiserin, for example, or the Archer. Some time when we have nothing else to do, we might try getting some such sets made, huh?

You're not the only Germanophile in the audience. I find I agree with your attitudes quite a bit — especially the appreciation of uniforms and such. But you forgot one important thing: the music, especially the marches! Some of the WW II German marches are the best I've ever heard (even if my only recording of them is marred by constant interruption from some propaganda-spouting moron trying to make quite sure no one winds up liking Germans because of the music.)

SOUFFLE 4: John Baxter. I appreciate your attempt to finish the Aldiss limerick from the Feb. '63 Galaxy story, but your last line doesn't scan right. It should be: \_\_\_'\_\_\_'\_\_\_'\_\_\_ and you have: \_\_\_'\_\_\_'\_\_\_'\_\_\_ ; how about simply changing "Knots in..." to "Silken bows on..."? I'm not really satisfied with that last line, actually,

but I can't think of a better one. Has anyone asked Brian what he intended? Or would that be cheating?

ENVOY 12: Ken Cheslin. A delightful cover, and welcome to the bad pun club.

COMPACT 1: Ella Parker. In regard to TAFF and the raise in voting fee. By this time you should know that the fee has been raised. The catalyst was the vote of the British convention to have the fee doubled. Since the vote came so close to the deadline for making up the ballot, there wasn't time for Ron Ellik to canvass the stateside fans and see what their opinions were on the matter; he simply raised the fee to \$1 and let it ride. We'll see how this affects the voting, if at all. I for one think it was a very good idea to raise it, and I hope that the same number of people vote -- more, if possible. Then, assuming the normal support from conventions and such (Chicago didn't donate anything to TAFF, as they needed their spare finds for the publication of the Proceedings), it should be possible to up the ante for each TAFF-man. And that I would definitely like to see. Even if it isn't me this time. (Of course, I hope it is, but... .)

Arthur Thomson: "Sterno" is a type of jellied alcohol, which comes in a small tin. The tin is placed in a collapsable metal framework stove (about 8"x8"x6" high), the lid removed from the tin, a match applied to the alcohol, and a fairly serviceable cooking flame is obtained. It is used on camping trips, or in rented rooms that don't have kitchen privileges (hi, Ted Johnstone!) On occasion you may find a reference to someone getting intoxicated on the stuff, but such characters usually die -- it's mostly methyl alcohol.

OUTPOST 4: Fred Hunter. More commendations on the Curtis illos, and the Campbell column. Both are quite delightful, and I'd like to continue seeing them in OMPA.

Err...I do save all issues of OUTPOST to be eventually bound in buckram with lettering on the spine and everything. Problem is, APA mailings take the first priority, and only if I have second copies to put in a general file do I have a possibility of binding the individual titles. A fast check of my general file reveals OUTPOST 3 all by its lonesome. Would you have extra copies of #1, #2, #4, and probably #5 by this time, that you'd trade for either my SAPSzine or FAPAZine. I would like to have a complete general file... .

You're right about the confusion that Patrizio's numbering will spread in the ranks of newcomers to OMPA in a dozen mailings or so, but I rather get a kick out of "little annoyances" once in a while. (There's another binary-number nut around, too: Ed Baker in N'APA publishes DUBHE -- a binary star -- with binary numbering.) But I have an even better surprise in store for FAPA come the August mailing. Up to now my FAPAZine, ANKUS, has had straight numbering, #1 through #7. Then Steve Tolliver mentioned octal number systems... .

I must be dense, but I can't figure out your bacover-BEM's name, nor what he intends to do. But I like it, anyway. I agree that the Curtis style shown in the front cover and the Freeman-column illos is definitely not ATom-like. The one for "Outlook" is, and so is the one on the last page of MCs. Doesn't really matter though -- they're all quite good; my favorite is the heading for "Output." That's a lovely little thing. I wonder, if I sent a couple stencils...?

GRIST IV:2 - Ellis Mills. Foolish as it may be, I'll assume your quiz is on the level, and try to answer it in the same way...

1. If you went to bed at 8PM and set the alarm for 9AM, you'd get only one hour of sleep, since the stupid clock doesn't know the difference between AM & PM.
2. England's 4th of July is Gu Fawkes' Day, I believe, so yes, they have one.

3. The average person has 1 birthday a year.

4. If you have only one match, and enter a room with a kerosene lamp, an oil heater, and a wood-burning stove, you would light the oil heater first, as you can't light anything else from the kerosene lamp, and the wood stove takes too long to light. Whoa....almost goofed: you light the goddam match first!

5. 30 divided by  $\frac{1}{2}$  is 60, plus 10 is 70.

6. A woman can be a beggar's sister and the beggar not be her brother if the beggar is the woman's sister.

7. Both the calendar month of February (in all years save Leap Years) and the lunar month have 28 days. However, if you're getting sneaky, all 12 calendar months have 28 days; most of them have a few more in addition.

8. I seriously doubt that the lawmakers of Scotland or anyplace else have given thought to the idea of marrying one's widow's sister -- or any other relative of your widow, since they don't obtain that relationship until after one is thoroughly dead.

9. There are six outs in a baseball inning.

10. An archaeologist could have found gold coins dated 46 BC, but they would be forgeries -- the term "B.C." didn't come into use until A.D.

So do I pass your silly test?

BURP! 21: Ron Bennett. I have no idea exactly why I found it so funny, but your account of the Roses cricket match joke, and your comment on it broke me up -- mostly the accented comment, rather than the joke, too. Maybe I've read "Sam Small" too many times.

ERG 15: Terry Jeeves. Thanks for the Crossword puzzle -- that "counter glow in the sky" delayed my answer several days, until Fred Patten asked a classmate of his, and said classmate remembered a Willy Ley article about something in German beginning with "C" and ending in "shine." That brought to mind a CULTzine called GEGENSCHEN... .

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T E R R Y J E E V E S F O R T A F F ! ! !  
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SCOTTISHE 31: Ethel Lindsay. I'm afraid I must fall back on the old saw of "I enjoyed it," for the most part. Frances Varley was as good as Machiavarley, Willis was as good as usual (which is Very, of course).

My only comment is on your attitude toward the Death Duties Act. In spite of the fact that I'm nowhere near being rich, or even having any rich relatives, I think it is a decided crime to scoop 75% of a bequest into the public coffers and leave the heirs with only 25%. I object to this on the grounds that a man's earnings are being hit quite enough during his lifetime, and he ought to be able to do what he wants with the remainder when he dies. The "SOAK THE RICH" attitude (which has been seen in the States as well as in Great Britain) is just one more step toward the One Great People's World that some of our Eastern Friends have been advocating. I'd rather have some Rich around so that I can aspire to become one of them, than pull them down to mediocrity along with me.

OFF TRAILS 35: AE Cheslin. I'll have to take back what I said in the last SAVOYARD about people not objecting to the OO covers, as I see by this mailing that there are several objections -- including one blithe comment that the cover was simply and quickly ripped off on arrival. I guess the next AE might as well go back to the non-cover issues. I like covers, for what it's worth.