

More than likely this is a 4th-Annish, also, from F M Busby, 2852 14th Ave West, Seattle, Wash, 98119. We have lots and lots of lovely goodies for you this time, and maybe even on both sides of the paper if my wind holds out. You have got to keep in mind that 17 is a difficult age, even for a fanzine.

"Then I won't DRAW any more political cartoons!" said Tom Nastily...

Poul Anderson and Bob Buechley and Elinor and I got hooked on a Swiftly session one afternoon at the Westercon. Jack Vance groaned and left after the first dozen or so; I suppose he had a hangover or something. Well, who didn't?

Yes, we have survived the Westercon and the postCon visiting and the bill from American Express [or, a credit-card hangover] and homecoming and putting out CRY 169 and [me only] a bout with some sort of mutant flu bugs last week. Anyone out there familiar with a flu that makes your throat sore in front and fills the voice-box with glop so you gag when you cough and swallowing is painful, incomplete, and most unsatisfactory? It was only bad for a couple of days, but sure a new one on me.

"Come out of that restroom and move this oil truck!" said Tom cantankerously.

Go ahead and blackball me; just don't retaliate with Elephant Jokes, is all.

14 FAPA memberships were represented at the Westercon: Karen Anderson, Busbys, Caughran, Donaho, Jane Ellern, Ellik, Ellingtons, Harness, Miriam Knight, Lichtman, McDaniel, Pelz, Perdue, and Trimble [SAPS had 13, and the overlap is 7]; good to see you, each and all. Wlers present were Metcalf, Main, Moffatt, Ruth Berman, Benford, Meskys, Demmon, Patten, Fitch, Woolston, Rogers, Langdon; 12 in all.

And here is a good place for thanks to the Ellingtons, Andersons, Knights, and Friar Wm Donaho for their fine hospitality after the Westercon. Really great.

"Look how much taller I am, Grandpa!" said Tom gruesomely.

OK, a look at the mailing: Nothing to complain about in the FA, except that the President's misunderstanding of the status of those two amendments was based on the O'Neys' previous classification of them as ambiguous; then, since no signed copy was on hand [and it was a long time since ChiconIII]: well, you see how it goes... Null-F 33: Since you are still bitching about the November 1962 CRY, Ted, I will summarize here the remarks I made [into a vacuum, I guess, since you've not answered] in another arena in which (versatile as usual) you were also bitching, only much more insultingly. To wit: yes, I did goof your column that time [that is, it was my policy and my decision; Elinor was in this case an innocent victim so get off her back]; I owed you an apology for that and fully intended to send you one, but forgot. And you are quite justified in pulling the column and making a complaint. All right so far? But your trouble is that you never quit while you are ahead. First you said in letter the same sort of thing as in Null-F33["why the hell didn't you have the courtesy to at least send me a copy?"], instead of assuming a postal mishap [which appears to be the case, since the cardfile shows you listed for the usual contributor's copy as is the usual routine here]. That was the wrong thing to say, Ted-- or rather, I am the wrong guy to say it to; it cost you, here, much if not most of the moral advantage or ascendancy you had held on that issue. You got some of that back, in a way, by default in that you deserved perhaps a little better than the offhand or flip answers Elinor and I dashed off to you in here from time to time. But you lost the marbles again by coming on so personally-insulting both in FAPA and elsewhere ["foul editorial practices" and rotten(?) ethics were some of your better lines there]; the only reason I didn't just plain tell you to go to Hell in both forums was that I've been through this Get Mad At Ted White And Get Over It routine before at least a time or two, and decided to try to short-circuit all that wasted effort. Now then; you have my public apology for the original goof. May I suggest that from here on you drop the personal-derogation bit before my rather thin stock of patience wears through?

I should add, gentle readers, that Ted was victim of a bad set of circumstances. His column was the last item to go onto stencil; everything else (including page-nrs) was ready to go to the printer that day; the assembly party gang was lined up for the next day. Then it came up that Elinor had misjudged the length [going from pica to elite, and with different margins, guessing isn't as easy as you might think]. Well, it was disrupt the whole schemozzle or abridge Ted, and Ted lost, is all. At this late date I see that the best answer would have been to leave off the last section of the column (not related, particularly, to the preceding sections) but I was feeling a bit harrassed at the time and didn't think of it.

Didn't anybody realize that Elinor's "...if I have to leave off the punchline!" was supposed to be humor-of-exaggeration? Some days it just doesn't pay...

Horizons: Harry, you ask of how you should act at your first WorldCon. Exactly as you happen to feel like acting, I'd say. After all, you are paying your own way and are accountable to no one, so follow your own wishes and interests. As for running into people you don't like: be neutral, or show an Amiable Image, or tell 'em off thoroughly, depending on how you happen to feel at the time. OK? [Or it is possible that in person you may feel like healing the breach; that's OK, too.]

Vinegar Worm: No, Bob, I simply (and misguidedly) picked it up when a prominent fan used you as an example of What Is Wrong With SAPS. However, by sloppy research I did manage to come up with an entirely fallacious hypothesis, which should be some comfort. And here's one dedicated to you:

"I have poisoned the truffles!" said Tom Gormenghastly.

Wraith 21: I don't actually know as to "Do blondes really have more fun?" but I assure you that any research project to settle the question will have my wholehearted cooperation, which is plenty. On the postCon mail drought, this recent Westercon has been followed by a dropoff, but not as bad/the ones after a WorldCon.

PRA #15: I still haven't had the nerve to tackle this huge work. Apologies and all...

Lighthouse 8: Your reversion to type is a sprightly piece of work, gentlemen. Pete, add one vote for FAPA's kicking in toward the Fan History [assuming that copies will be circulated through FAPA, it's the least we can do-- and incidentally, how about ol' O'Eney and "A Sense of FAPA"?].

Ankus 7: That's just your Indexer's Blood showing, Bruce, because there is no reason why the FA should list Shadowzines or anything whatsoever except the legally-constituted components of the mailings-- "slanted for FAPAns" or no. Like, think, man-- any other course simply means an unofficial increase in the size of the group.

"Supersquirrel" is absolutely and utterly terrific. More, please, I hope.

Phlotsam -30-: Say it ain't so! This was really a sad and unexpected jolt.

"All right, troop; we will camp right here!" said Tom pretentiously.

Which indicates the end of MCs on the One Oh Third. Incidentally, all of the Tom Swiftlies except the first are brand new today, to the best of my recalls, and the first is one of the few I can remember from the BayconII session; so it goes...

Sylvia, you were saying you like Lisa all fat and round; well, she is again. In fact, she always was; diets just get her down to where she has the merest hint of a waistline. Which leads into what she did just a minute ago: she hasn't, for about a year now, been able to get up on the couch under her own steam. So she just now [and it is fairly usual] walked over and poked me on the leg with her nose, looked up to be sure I got the message, and walked over to the couch to be lifted up. No intelligence?

I met more cats in the Bay Area than-- than people, I think; I've almost completely lost track of the names [pity, since many were delightful] except for Ellingtons' Second Samuel who likes to eat shirt-buttons, but I do know one thing. I have got to stay out of the Bay Area or I could end up a cat man.

And now we are at the bottom of the page, and as you know, we CRYfiends always wind up an item at the bottom of the page, no matter what, even if we have to leave off