





CECI ET CELA

We refuse to accept responsibility for quality of the stenciling in this issue; the dyktawo stencils spring large leaks where o's, e's, a's, c's, etc. are struck. Fortunately we were able to get some twenty-pound paper in Boston; hope the improvement over last issue's horrid sixteen-pound stuff is worth the lugging of it all over the City of Dogs and Churches. We discovered that a shopping bag halves the labor of carrying such things.

Enuf of such chatter. We are Jack F Speer, and Port of Call is still 6323 Western Ave in Urbs, District of Columbia. Fonumber is Woodley 4803; leave message if I'm not there; or you mite call the War Dept. branch 4322.



REMARKS ON THE TWENTY-SECOND MAILING Pg 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Once again an extra-big Mailing betrays us into running this department over four pages

QUOTE WORTHY QUOTES P 6  
Thinkworthy quotations

REJECTED--TOMORROW Pg 7, 8  
Gad--did I write this?

LAST STOP TO LIMBO P 8  
New and, we hope, more euphonic name for They Did Not Bo

ITEMS FROM MY SCRAPBOOKS P 8  
Mainly about my car

THE HELICON P 9  
But, after writing the article, I decided not to contribute the item to paper pulp

CALL IT WHAT YOU WISH P 9  
Amusing if true, but not true

FICTITIOUS BUT DEFINITELY P 10  
Being new name for and continuation of the preceding department; we hope the name will cause fewer innocents to be misled

LOOSE ENDS P 11  
Pro reviews

BOSKONE DIARY, BOSKONE III P 12 and below this  
A scoop, we hope

letter from the MFS was read, Officially beginning, TAPA petition was passed around and some debate was necessary to get signatures. NFFF was discussed; generally believed it should disband or suspend. What to do with treasury after Annual paid for was a question; one (I must shamefully continue this to the back cover)



REMARKS ON THE TWENTY-SECOND MAILING

Continuing the resolution begun by changing the name of this department, we announce the following order in which the pubs will be reviewed henceforth: They will be taken up according to the geographical location of the city in which they are published. Not being Chinese or Semitic, I will go from left to right across the map. That brings Los Angeles area up first.

And Milty in first place, as before, tho his sheet came in late. Curse those people that irresponsibly change the names of their publications, necessitating a "see" reference in the Check-List. The names of towns the conductor sings out sound imaginary, but I guess they aren't. Arcadia is an Augustan conceit, San Marino a republic in the Italian peninsula, and Monrovia the capital of Liberia... Pogorus stinks, and the stench is not pleasant... I having failed to get one before, Torry has supplied me with the War Lock which was part of the 21st Mailing. Jacky well defends his orthographical ability, but his justification of simplifyd spelling would be stronger if it really were "systematized simplification". But he often retains silent letters or letters whose usual sound is not present, as a concession to the established eye-habits of the readers. And in such spellings as the kite lite tite nite which he cites, he ignores his sometime use of y to indicate "long i". Re your defiance of our mores, Forty; why? Mores may be quite arbitrary and yet deserve being observed. The use of ) to indicate "divided by" is quite arbitrary, and yet useful. Re walking next the curb, people here in DC are already free to do as they wish; natives don't know the meaning of "Cabbage!" But what ever gave you the idea of making efficiency the test of boy-girl customs?... The Madman of Mars continues to build toward a terrificlimax. Ah, for the days when he was merely interested in the color of a girl's eyes, teeth, and hair!... Guteto. Are fans "selfish & shortsighted"? Relatively, no, think I. Other comments on Guteto I will do elsewhere in this Mailing.... I will be bold to say that I do not think much of the letters of Henry S Whitehead. Possibly editing would have helped them, but nothing in these eight pages seems more than the ordinary educated, intelligent man could turn out.

Cunningham's "Salute": Good Golly Meses!

Tho he nowhere admits it, I presume that this Mutant is published by the same John L Gergen who dood it before. Many Futurians and others will no doubt be informing Liebscher that the jokes he cites are shaggy dog stories. Apparently Walt doesn't read Esquire. While "surrealistic jokes" is possibly a better name for them, I prefer to use the established phraseology where possible, so will continue to call them shaggy dogs. Unaccountably, not a one of the poems Russell quotes appeals to me particularly; I take vehement exception to his statement that the goal of all philosophies is the inculcation of a fatalistic attitude; that is an inexcusably narrow idea of the thing, if the remark was made with full consciousness of its meaning. In *De Commentary* we regard the use of monetary symbols in rating as an intrusion of grubby capitalisticulture. I don't deny the charge that I'm biased and prejudiced on some things. But what do you mean by those words?

With D B Thompson I will get semantic some more. What does he mean,

*Speer calculating the west-east order of #APApubs*



BUT LOOK -- THAT ISN'T A MERIDIAN PROJECTION, AND YOU HAVEN'T ALLOWED FOR THE CURVATURE OF THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY



operationally, by the war continuing "to have its affect, in a constantly decreasing ration, for many centuries to come"? We are taught, in Studies in American Literature, that such a set of ideas as Puritanism or Rationalism is just as much alive today as two centuries ago. Certainly Puritanism is part of the history of MrsGrundy-ism; but one night my prof. acknowledged that the conditions of frontier small towns and Evangelical-Protestant ethics mite have given rise to the same sort of thing without the Puritan tradition. The concept of convergent paths, which has appeared in s-f only in the past two-three years, raises the question "Even if this thing hadn't happened, mite'n't different causes have produced much the same result?" So define your terms, Basilisk. Phooey to Dobby's phinal interlineation. PhooPhoo phoreover! Anyway, "of" isn't pronounced "oph".... Corporal Lynn: Cis-Atlantic soldiers could probably comply with the activity requirements, but I fear that in many cases it mite be merely token activity. I will stick out my neck and say that I'll try to mimic any fan's stonells for him who doesn't have a duplicator. But as is well known, I'm a rather sorry handle-spinner. I for one would not rejoice to see the fans of fandom, those allegedly casual, depart fandom. Very few fans, in my opinion, are on the whole a disadvantage to fandom.

In Sci-Fic Variety, we generally agree with Carnell's article, but the only thing in the issue I have marked for comment is the line about "the danger this entails" in Tucker's item about publishing d' fans' addresses.

Walt's chain letter. I dunno; Lester's space-ship plan looks better, but none of the research is with such models. The BIS ship was to have steam jets and subsidiary rockets at the side of the living compartment, to correct any wobbling, and they found great objections to any plan they could think of for landing gear. But, Al, the Indians don't use tomahawks to scalp with. They kill their man first and then use a scalping-knife. There would be no increase in the population of the first BIS rocket, Tucker. Only men (and only three at that) will make up the crew. They won't wear no clothes because that would be unnecessary added weight, when even playing cards will be made of special light-weight stuff. The one- and two-member clubs such as comprise the IFF may mislead new fans into grandiloquent ideas when they hear how widespread fandom is.

In what order are the magazines reviewed in the Critics' Report? This is funny: Liebscher says Quoteworthy Quotes is one of the best things in the FARA; Schwartz calls it a waste of pages. Al's work in listing the surplus stocks is very much appreciated. A few corrections and supplyings of information: I think Milty, rather than Elmer, did the actual publishing of Blitzkrieg. Le Grande Bel Masque came out with the tetrahedra on it, so was published by Speer. Pseudo-Futurian should be credited to Rosenblum. Milty did most of the work on Vote!... The EA Lean-to nice if he can do it. Re leeway to make sure you've sent enuf copies to cover the entire membership, I've always sent a baker's half-hundred, 50 plus 1, and it seems to work.... En Garde's sermon on withholding judgment was meaningless to me, because I had no idea of a specific case they were referring to. Who wrote Beyond the Portal? It sounds too good to be true. The most control I ever have of dreams is sometimes to realize that it's a dream and consequences don't matter, but as for going to sleep again and taking up where I left off, or exercising any great control over it, I just can't. I do disagree that the failure to dream at all, or at any rate to dream and remember it afterward, is sign of a lack of completeness; rather it indicates a nearly perfect psychological equilibrium. What the Ashleys say about writers falling in love with something they've



written and refusing to revise or discard it, is all too true of me. The best I can do is consign it to They Did Not Bo. "Dictionaries leaning more and more to the fonetic method"? The only popular dictionary I know of to do so is Funk and Wagnalls', which uses a fence-straddling system that has no survival value. However, philologists in general now realize that fonetic symbols are better than diacritical markings, and eventually this will sift down to the masses. How delightfully informal these fans are, as evidenced by Abby Lu's Truckin' on Down to Tucker's. Feeding each other's children, getting in bed with each other, -- Gee-see!

"Already Chauvenet's out" --? Come? Re 48J's complaint about injustice in the Army. I'm afraid these are times in which justice can't be done, because the whole race labors under what is an injustice by normal standards. What means "Maudit"? That about the drizzle and the drip is old; came but in the Reader's Digest of an article in Life called Subdebase. Backover, cartoon neat.... EEE mentions suggestion that EAPA and NFFF combine. Way things are now, the nearest thing to this would be the EAPA taking over some of the more useful functions proposed for the NFFF. What think you? Mighty sorry to hear Evans is taken away from us.

Censored.

Frome must have a permanent gripe against civilization. Probably the frustrated artist. His picture of the noble savage in a new day dawning over the wreck of civilization tells its own story. The Wolfman is unbelievably trite. Look at this remark: "We should be nearing the Talari village where nine men are supposed to have been killed by a so-called wolfman." That's the sort of thing that gave Skylark Smith the screaming willies. Gord Peck has distinguished several types and characteristics of stfnal proper names, but overlooks a very obvious one, the use of double names, like Tars Tarkas and Tardos Mors, which are never shortened to just one of them in rapid use. Unscientifacts excellent as ever. It wasn't emuf that "--And One Was Dead" should be obvious from the first; they had to draw a picture of it just to make sure we wouldn't be surprised. Will editors never learn? I don't quite get the point of this Canadian nationalism in fandom. If Canada had a unique set of cultural traits which set them apart from the US, so that the fans there wouldn't find the kind of fandom they like south of the border, there mito be some sense in it. But I have always been taught that the various sections of inhabited Canada, East, Middle East, Middle West, Mountain, and Pacific, are more like the corresponding sections of the US than they are like each other. GGolly! Another misspelling of splfrsk, this time by Major Jupiter, as "splirfeld"; pretty soon I'll forget how to spell it, m'self. Does Les Creutch drool goo every time a girl is mentioned? Re teleopathy, the person in the quiz program is psychologically "set" to think of the answer; the information is all set to be delivered, and the hint merely throws the switch and closes the connection. The Missing Universe is another step in the direction of realizing the three-dimensional character of time, that I have mentioned every so often.

Russell, there was one comment on your revelation of your very soul. Harry mentioned that gas rationing probably put an end to your

FREEDOM, ALGIERS MAR 091525Z  
 TO EISENHOWER FROM MARSHALL FOLLOWING  
 IS PLAN BARSOOM COLON IF CODE WORD  
 KAORIKANTOSKAN IS FLASHED YOU WILL DIS-  
 PATCH LANTHAN WITH FORCE CALOT AND  
 THUVIA UNIT TO THERN VIA BLACK IRATE  
 TO MEET FORCE CHESSMAN UNDER THOAT  
 COMING IN FROM WHITEAPE AT MORSKAJAK  
 STOP LANTHAN WILL COMMAND COMBINED  
 FORCE AND MARCH TO ODJAR MISSION TO  
 HOLD THE LINE HELIUM DASH DEJAHTHORIS  
 AND IF POSSIBLE EXTEND IT TO THARE

Outgoing #32553

SECRET

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nite drives. [Norm Stanley's point about inertialess drive being used to create potential energy seems quite valid, but I suspect it leads into the maze that surrounded the question of The Irrelevant. Ah--does Smith use the rocket principle? darned if I can remember.] No, Elarcy, don't you think fonetic spelling would bring about uniformity of pronunciation, so that the initial confusion would presently disappear? The use of Noah Webster's spelling-books thruout the land is credited with the incomparable uniformity of speech that does exist all over the United States. You have abandoned many old dreams, and have more interesting things to do. Tellusallaboutit. The I have at times been guilty of such intolerance myself, I don't agree that the EAPA has no place for magazines of the subscription type. Live and let live; and anyway, I wouldn't want a mailing made up entirely of fanzines of the Suspro type. I don't think Mengarini's poem is very good. He hasn't given us any new ideas, and the expression of old ones here is not strong.

Merry Christmases from the beginning. pride, pride.

Harry, surely that wasn't Ray Falmer writing in Yhos! Ofcourse the EAPA could revoke the exemptions to soldiers and Britons at any time, but there's inertia, and the possible feeling three years from now that "we've carried them this long; we mustn't let them down now" so that a positive effort to repeal the provisions wouldn't succeed. Oh, Harry, Jonathan is never spelled with an h after the e. Your lineations at the tops of the pages didn't come out very legibly, as you doubtless know now.

A distinctly sub-par issue of Sustaining Program, in material as well as in appearance. On Ramblings we await comment. Konan was begun three years before it was published. Professor Smith had just told us the characteristics of the natural epic as seen in Beowulf, and I wondered why someone couldn't write a literary epic which would have all those characteristics, rather than always lacking some, as Paradise Lost, Idylls of the King, and Hiawatha lack. But ofcourse when I started writing it myself it lacked many of the characteristics of the natural epic.

We nominate for immortality Larry Shaw's "Breathes there the fan with soul so dead, who never to himself has said, 'I think I'll start another fanzine...?'" As for taking notes so's to make comments on the stuff in the mailings, I began last New Year's (1942 that is) making pencil marks in the margins. Wonderfully handy. Yur brother at Ft Knox may get mail expeditiously, but Martha didn't hear from her hubby for months after the invaders moved to North Africa. What do you mean by "who runs the planet"? Do you mean who annoys who, or who serves who, or what? The suggested comparison of the NFFF and the 1780 Confederation is only an analogy, so proves nothing, and even the analogy is not close.

We wonder if the listing of members as associate eds on something should constitute an activity credential. Not that the three associates on X haven't plenty of other credentials; it's just the principle that troubles me. In this issue, "a bit of gynaeology" is rather successful in getting across the stinky effect aimed at. The burlesques on Nostradamus, we notice, have veiled meanings applying to fandom. The listing of ten beasts calls to attention perhaps one of the greatest evils of having so many pro mags; that fans no longer have all read the same set of stories to form basis for their discussions.... Koonig shouldn't



be too hard on artists whose scenes don't appear in the stories; maybe they were edited out later. Possibly the Golden Bough you were trying to remember on p 5 is the treatise on superstition from which Pratt and deCamp got their laws of magic. I think the quote from Space-Tales' editors would have more effectively condemned them without your comment; maybe the comment was intended to enlighten them, but they don't get FAPA publications. Re not reading the editorial blurb-- how else can we with limited time decide which stories to read and which not, unless we depend on the notoriously inaccurate illustrations? We can't choose entirely by authors... In Phantagraph, "The Objective Approach" was very well done; stopped at just the right point. We feel extremely dubious about the truth of DAW's statement that "scientific and cultural progress is being made today only in such nations as the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, and France." The statement, a little earlier, that our science, machinery, factories, educational ability, and means of living are up-to-date and economics is behind, an oft-heard claim, moves me to wonder just what is up to date. For our science is groping blindly, our machinery and factories are ridiculously inefficient, education is woefully behindhand, and our way of life shows a cultural lag of a generation.

Swisher complains because more people aren't sending in obscure items for the Check-List. Isn't it just possible, Sw, that there are few more old ones to be listed? After all, that limit does theoretically exist, and you must approach it someday. In his key, he has omitted that for the nature of the contents, tho he still uses it in the list. I am very sorry that he began originally with indicating volume with arabic and number with roman. This is contrary to all usage and I wonder why he did it. The word "flug" in the name of Assorted Flug & Chop Suzy Drippings I believe I have seen elsewhere; the corresponding American term is chug--pocket chug, tee chug, ktp. Why don't you make brackets on the typewriter like Youd taught us instead of inking them in?... Well, Art, Harry and I don't like to make our review depts too long because our mags, unlike some other personalized fanzines, attempt the outward appearance of a general pub, with a variety of unrelated articles and departments. And we have a standard number of pages. The interlineation where I was supposed to be drunkie or something was about my entire vocabulary in Icelandic. Got it outta a War Dept manual, of which I also looked up the ruf draft and discovered that the stupid printer had--but this is no place to go into that. What does yours about ommanipadmofoe mean? The one-building towns are already here. Have you heard of Pentagon, Va? Pop 25-40 thousand, and everything but beds and swimming pools, and I hear they're planning the latter. But I will prefer to sleep in a neo-colonial house in Chevy Chase. Did Ruth and Pete really help grind out this issue of Yhos?... Fan-Tods (what means title?) is swell from cover to cover. Particularly commend Yesterday's 10,000 Years, the quote that says there is no other reason for keeping it up than that we are alive and not dead, and--well, save that for my opinion sheet. The tetrahedra of my masthead were explained in the first Rejected-- article; I like the shape because it's the solid with the least number of faces. It's an FAPA anything. Possibly your distimmer of the doshes got it out of the original source, Ogden & Richards' The Meaning of Meaning.

We hastily

adjourn this session.

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"God is afraid of me." --Thomas Davidson

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Another Buck Rogers reprint is out, half Brande, half Skyroads. There are some brite spots in it, but it covers the time in which the page slipped into definite decline.



## QUOTE WORTHY QUOTES

"A simple-minded interest in ideas is the main source from which mankind acquires novelty of outlook." --Whitehead, *Adventures of Ideas*

"the importance of living in the present. The tendencies to live in the future by saying, 'As soon as I get through college, I'll start living,' or 'When I get married, everything will be fine,' or 'As soon as we get such-and-such kind of government, we'll have a happy world' --these ways of postponing living till the future are undermined." --Kello May, "Does the War Destroy Our Values?"

"At certain periods it becomes the dearest ambition of a man to keep a faithful record of his performances in a book; and he dashes at this work with an enthusiasm that imposes on him the notion that keeping a journal is the fairest pastime in the world, and the pleasantest. But if he only lives thirty-one days, he will find out that only those rare natures that are made up of pluck, endurance, devotion to duty for duty's sake, and invincible determination, may hope to venture upon so tremendous an enterprise as the keeping of a journal and not sustain a shameful defeat." --Innocents Abroad. I must be quite a superman; mine is ten years old now.

"Three subjects perennially provoke argument: politics, religion, and grammar. Not the least of these is grammar." --Warfel

"With that fondness men show for their less successful ventures, Webster declared the work to be the one he was most satisfied with." --ibid

"The material world,' continued Dupin, 'abounds with very strict analogies to the immaterial; and thus some colour of truth has been given to the rhetorical dogma, that metaphor, or simile, may be made to strengthen an argument, as well as to embellish a description.'" --Poe

"No satisfactory evidence is found to support the hypothesis that a man must get his ideas from one of his ancestors. Given certain premises, it is the persistent nature of the mind to supply the logical conclusion." --H G Townsend

"As there is no Unconditional or subjective thought, so there is no Absolute in objective reality. There is no absolute system of co-ordinates in space to which the position of bodies and their changes can be referred; and there is neither an absolute measure of quantity, nor an absolute standard of quality. There is no physical constant." This is Stallo, quoted by Townsend. Townsend goes on: "He attacked particularly the fallacy of 'simples' in matter or motion, charging that both Leibnitz and Spinoza were victims of it. A complex structure, he argued, may indeed be made up of 'simple components' analytically derived from the structure in question, 'but it' proves nothing whatever as to the simplicity of these parts in themselves."

"Too, he was probably very handsome, but we only touch upon his conquests in another field." --Final Blackout

"I think the great contribution the English have made to the valuable things of world culture is this: An interest in struggling for an unpredictable goal." --Wilfred Trotter



Tomorrow, you remember, was an excellent publication, eventually printed, put out by the SEA boys in Great Britain. This piece was submitted in 1937. The editors disdained to say aught about it.

#### A WORD FOR SHORTHAND

Much has been said about Esperanto, practically nothing about shorthand. And yet, the immediate value of shorthand exceeds that of the universal language, and it is surprising that so few people can write it.

I shall discuss only Gregg shorthand. It has profited by the mistakes of other systems, and I might almost say that, as nearly as the English language allows, it is perfect. It has been adapted to many other languages, including Esperanto. I might say that it will never replace printing, for the same reason that script never has: It cannot be split up into individual characters for the linotype. However I firmly believe that the abbreviating principle, used in shorthand, also works in speech, evidenced by the commonness of "th", and general acceptance of contractions. By the same trend, an ancient six- or seven-syllabled name has now shrunk to Cody. S-f stories have spoken of the state of Nova, and N'yawk City. As for shorthand itself, it is well adapted to all the purposes for which we now use script, though it must be written somewhat more carefully. This will be seen later in this article. Grammar is reduced to a minimum. Many words like "magnificent" and "magnificence" are written alike, because their use in a sentence will determine which word is intended. The abbreviating principle is used to the fullest. Practically all letters, alone, stand for at least one word, and h indicates "are", "our", or "hour"; but who could confuse them in a sentence? For long words only enough of the outline is written to distinguish it, thus "estab", "calend" (spelled k-a-l-e-n-d), "attrib", and "blvd." There is also an abbreviating principle for many short words: "pow" (p-a-co), "associ" (a-s-o-sh), and "territ" (t-er-t). F can mean "for" or "fur" (prefixes) or "ify" or "ful". Many letters or combinations written slightly above the line of writing indicate a "tr" following. Thus K, representing either "con" or "coun", when written above the line means "counter" or "contra". As you know, everything is spelled phonetically. G is pronounced "gay" and never has the J sound of orthodox English. Ch is really a consonant in its own right, companion to J, and is recognized as such, being given a sign and pronounced "chay". No such useless characters as Q get a lock-in. Sh, pronounced "ish", is not strictly a consonant [How different would be the organization and material of this article if I wrote it now! For only one instance, I now know that ch is not a consonant in its own right; but sh is!], but is given a character of its own and is very useful in representing the frequent termination "tion". "Cient" (as in proficient) is spelled "ish-t." Many shorthand students are surprised to find that W and Y are actually only OO and E accented differently, and some are frankly sceptical when told that H is sounded before W in "wheat".

Some of you may never have seen or noticed what Gregg shorthand looks like. It is difficult to describe on a typewriter. Some characters are curves (which break faster toward the end, as in longhand) while fewer are straight lines. Vowels are circles, ellipses rather, and U-shaped hooks. One letter, H, is a dot over the following vowel; and often omitted. Some consonants are written forward along the line of writing, or slanting slightly upward. Others are written downward with a small backward slant, just as you would write a figure 1. Another way of distinguishing between characters is by the size. For instance, N, M, and men-mem are all forward, practically horizontal strokes, but M is twice as long as N, and men-mem as long as



the two together. Hence some care must be exercised till writing becomes habitual.

How would shorthand look in type? Well, here is a sample, with dashes between the letters, spaces between words; apostrophes indicating disjointment:

G-r-e-g sh'-nd s e-u-'t b e-s-p-er-t-s .

(Gregg Shorthand is used by experts.)

But I have said enough. If you're still in school, be sure and take shorthand. And if you're out, why - take it anyway!

ahdoublesizetorollagainimapproachingjupeysarbitmovejupeydidanybodymovethoneggy?BILL

#### LAST STOP TO LIMBO

One of the things I wrote in the fall of '38 when I was in an office where there was no work to do was a fan fiction story in which Willis Conover and an unnamed visitor, wandering about on the Eastern Shore, discovered a pirate treasure. Then there were several snapshots: Kuslan, who once wrote an article entitled "If I Had \$100,000", received just that; Bolshevik Lowndes got an equal amount with more promised, to finance the ideal string of prozines described in SFF; and Morojo, who once told a reader that Madge doesn't have a rich uncle, got a huge shipment of elite, pica, and vogue typewriters. Dan McHail once said that if he had a lot of money he'd --build a rocket ship? I asked. No, he answered --get married; so he got a cut. The story remained unfinished.

Written about the same time was a report of a ~~man~~ explorer who watched a church service, wondered if they believed or understood the Apostle's Creed, and tried to find, by reading the minds of the people, the meaning of the words to Revive Us Again. I am not sure that this piece was influenced by a similar passage in a Wonder Stories story, but it may have been.

It was a great temptation, to leave this blank, just for the sake of variety.

#### ITEMS FROM MY SCRAPBOOKS

A number of cards of membership in one-time organizations, including the GNU Congress, Liberal Democratic Party of same, the AAPA, DFF, and IFF. Some of those are still going, of course.

Another card is, ironically, a guarantee to replace, with charge for usage already had, a tire I bot a couple of summers ago.

Speaking of the Spirit of FooFoo, here's a poem I got with a Christmas gift at a party. "Jack owns a car called the 'Spirit' You never see it till you hear it. Cutting the 'A' cards down Really made him frown He was never lucky enough to get a C- yet." But I do have a B. Doesn't that use of "was" (preterit) with "yet" (which requires the perfect) simply stink, tho? It's an all too common usage among New Yorkers and others under the influence of NY kultur.

And here is the receipt for that painting of the Spirit referred to in Call It What You Wish. I swear it's blue.

Cartoon with no legend under it, and no point apparent, unless it is that the guy (it's in a dinosaur museum) has hitched the skull of a mammoth onto the body of a brontosaur.

On second thought, I think "was" is past descriptive. The usage is incorrect, anyhow.



## THE HELICON

Have had this lying around for a long time, not knowing what to do with it. Here's a chance to say something about it and then contribute it to paper pulp for natl defense.

Some students at George Washington University have been trying for a long time, unsuccessfully, to get permission to put out a University literary magazine. They did get out one issue a year or two ago, but the administration is adamant.

Any-  
way, I've got a copy of their one issue. Some of the material may be of interest to you. There are some Dali-istic linoblock prints. There is an introductory editorial discussing the need of practice to develop youth's creative writing. A poem, entitled "A Protest", describes chemistry students "The laboratory! Here, I thought, Dreams become realities." then how they cram for exams, take down notes, memorize stuff they don't understand, and those who somehow pass the exams don't know how it happened or why, they are being congratulated. Something entitled "This Is a Play", similar to the discourses on nothing that appear from time to time in fandom; two pages of talk and discussion, mainly about what it's not, and then down-curtain. The Girl in White is a story about a guy and a rather strange gal he met. He couldn't get a direct look into her eyes, and in parting he asked her name, but she said "You are too young to know my name." Years later he dreamed of her, the nite before he wrote the story, and it is hinted that she was a female counterpart of Mr Whatzisname in On Borrowed Time. But in last nite's dream, he saw her eyes. The Rivers Laugh is a poem in which the long first part apparently protests the inroads of civilization and industrialism on nature, but in the second part looks to a time when towers, roads, and high-tension wires have fallen into neglect and disrepair. There's a perfectly realistic sketch of a scene in a highway diner, something that mite have been one of the atmospheric chapters in Grapes of Wrath --nothing stfnal--and which has no point at all. Peter Margolies has a poem in the John Donne metaphysical style, and a little later Tom Slate, of whom you've heard --the editors describe him as "a remarkable survival of the Age of Pope"--, tears into metaphysical and a lot of other modern poetry. "In one respect, free verse needs no defense: Its sound is a true echo to its sense. # To use inverted order is taboo-- It's better far, all order to eschew: Let nouns alone in sentences be ranged, Be subjects from their predicates estranged,... Take heart, then, friend, the best is yet to come, When thought shall cease, and consciousness grow numb. The bliss of man, deduction shows us clearly, Is not to act or think beyond the Belly."

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Quite a boss in the cancrake is Tom

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## CALL IT WHAT YOU WISH

Royal General Jack F Speer recently had the Spirit of FooFoo repainted, a regent blue. But what Jack doesn't know, being color-blind, is that a ghughuist saboteur dumped red pigment into the paint before it was sprayed on. So now Speer is proudly driving the Spirit around, dyed a deep purple.

Elmer Perdue advises that his doctoral thesis at the University of Wyoming will be on The Metaphysics of Humor.

There is a persistent rumor around, that Milton Rothman is the fiancé of Gertrude Kuslan.

Dan McPhail's first son was christened J-20. If the next one is a girl, he plans to name her Jane 6EM32. I suggested that if it is a boy, he should be named 21MM392, but Dan wants the label Ralph 124C41 on one sooner or later, and toys with such names as 6475 and 79-89 7.



## FICTITIOUS BUT DEFINITELY

The preceding page is from the stencil-too-many that I cut for the previous SP. Since then there has arrived from Perdue the information that the subject of his thesis will not be that previously announced, but instead will be on "The 'Ships and Men' Concept in the Konan".

Several Boskonians stood looking out over Boston Harbor, and boredly listening to Speer tell who the Jonathan Edwards and the John Wise were named after. Suddenly he grabbed someone's lapel and said, "See that one there labeled 'Arthur Middleton'? That's an ancestor of mine--signer of the Declaration of Independence--spent the rest of the war in a British prison." His auditors were unimpressed, and a Futurian snored, "Is that the most prominent monkey you have up your family tree?" "No--" Speer said; "There was a pirate-- I think--and lots of state pioneers. And--you know who James Buchanan was?" "One of our worst presidents" someone remembered. "Only because he was so old at the time," Speer defended; "he was ambassadors and lots of things before that." Kornbluth spoke up: "So you're a descendant of James Buchanan? All I remember about him is that he's known as the 'bachelor president'."

East and west branches of Freedom were to get together at a synod planned for late last year, but it had to be called off because of the impending arrival of the Crown Prince of FeoFeo.

It is rumored that the reason for EEEvans' enforced absence from fandom is that he didn't pay his last year's income tax and is languishing in Alcatraz.

Milton Roth-

man in his spare time has worked out an adaptation of that gadget Disney used to get a voice like a little locomotive's, which adaptation makes it possible for people to sing the Star Spangled Banner without cracking up on the high notes.

Optimum gatherums

"What may be left of General Grant's great name forty centuries hence? This-- in the Encyclopedia for A.D. 5868, possibly.

"URIAH S. (or Z.) GRAUNT--Popular poet of ancient times in the [my shorthand note looks like "Astic"] provinces of the United States of British America. Some authors say flourished about A.D. 742; but the learned Ah-ah Feo-fee states that he was a contemporary of Scharkspyre, the English poet, and flourished about A.D. 1328, some three centuries after the Trojan war instead of before it. He wrote "Rock Me to Sleep, Mother."

thoughts sadden me. I will to bed." --Innocents Abroad

"Those  
THAT SHORTHAND MUST  
MEAN "AZTEC" MUST

Good enuf for the Danyankoo

Way back in the silent days, we remember a horse opera, starring Buck Jones I believe, in which Buck got knocked on the conk and while he was unconscious dreamed of floating upward like smoke and wandering around in a three-dimensional scene sprinkled with stardust, talking to a guy behind a counter which was set in a large five-pointed star, and to other people in other similar stars.

Why have there been no fan knock-knocks, handies, or little meron jokes?



I'm using this now, the there yet remain the FFMs to be commented on, because I haven't read all I want to in the FFMs I have, and also because I need space in this issue for other things, and want to confine this to a page.

One of the loose ends is the Aug 39 Science Fiction, which I somehow missed when I was reviewing Science Fiction before.

"Derwin Lesser" has an article in which he extrapolates too much, assuming that because mastery of additional dimensions would clear up some mysteries, it would clear up all, which is extremely improbable.... The Man who Solved Death brot a guy back to life and everybody assumed, as the story revealed, that the guy knew what lies on the other side. But many religions believe that when people die their souls are unconscious until the Millenium.... The essentially correct, Charlie is a little naive in The Psychology of Anger.... Gallun's little thing entitled Strange Creature is not bad. One may question whether Sabakko would recognize his girl friend in a little fotograf, when Africanatives don't savvy fotos at all.... As to the Eternal Conflict: I could get more worked up about the danger of the world going up in a blaze of chain explosions, as was assumed once in a Blue Book story, if the atom hadn't already been cracked, without resultant blowup. The traditional argument against immortality is presented by another pseudonym. That old people are willing to die doesn't prove we ought to; I think a man in his prime is better able to judge than a doddering dotard. The attitude toward death may be the result of physical condition rather than experience. The hopeful note in Utopia is Coming is wistfully pleasant; I don't like the statement that it can come "only" with certain things--there are many and varied utopias...; Gardner reasons forcibly that editors shouldn't follow the fans' wishes; yet Moskowitz' argument remains unrefuted that, except for Palmer's rag, the most successful pres have been those the fans liked best.... The Silent World has a cute idea, but if the critters lived and saw by sound, why were their apartments lighted, and why didn't the explorers ever hear them, and how did they absorb and store the energy of sound, anyway?... The fillers in boxes scattered thru the advertising pages at the end are sometimes naive, but frequently must stimulate thought in the young reader--the one about a Goal, for instance. As to movies versus television, I mark that, even the one can make milk shakes in his own home, he prefers to go down to the corner drug store and hang around with the gang while drinking store-bought ones. The item about a thickly populated Earth assumes a straight-line continuation of population growth, ignoring the leveling off of the curve.

Much less pleasant to turn to is Planet Steries No. 1. In this all I have read is part of the Golden Amazons of Venus, mainly because I thot I mite want to use creatures like the Scaly Ones in a story of my own someday. The Golden Amazons served very well to make me able to sleep even in the chair car on the train coming back from Bookene III. I thought I might pick a lot of examples out of it to show, in definite form, some of the things that make the difference between good literature and sixth-rate stuff, but there isn't space to do that here, so I'll defer it till some other occasion. There are plenty of examples of bad literature yet to be published, which I can use.

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Art Widner says all the interlineations in the current Ynos are related

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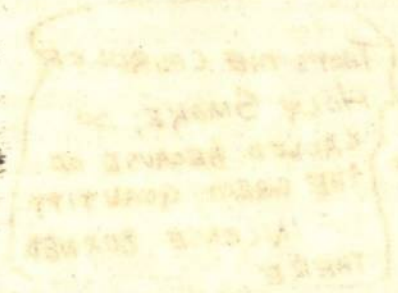
Add complete descriptions: The kind of an American who wonders whether Kwasind is a Turkish name or Bulgarian.



... was to try to do the ...  
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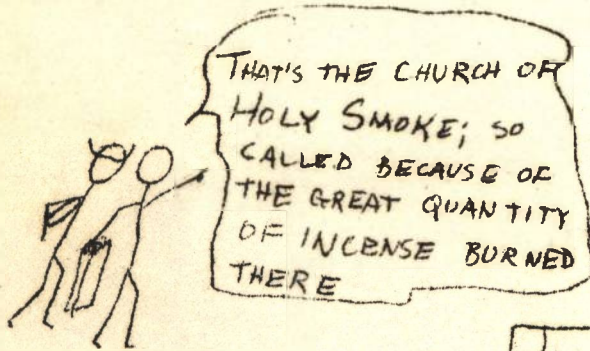
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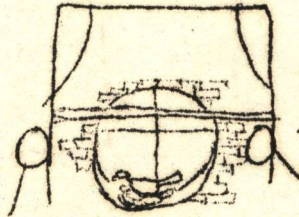
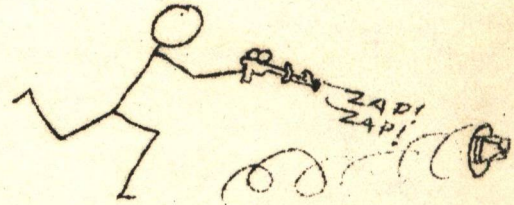
suggestion was to give it to the 4c Foundation. I got a secretary appointed so he could record my suggestion that the first big fan gathering after the war run an intelligence test. That concluded business, and Tom had to go; Bill Ryder departed about the same time. Later came a long call from Claude Degler, who'd hitchhiked in from the Middle East, and he showed up toward the close of the game of Interplanetary, on Widner's board, which game was won by the Lazar when he, having turned Pirate, waylaid Suddsy's Pluto rocket on its return and brot the immortality dust in to Earth himself.

Some wanted to go out to Swisher's, and I thot I mite use the evening to do the paper on Bryant, but widner suggested seeing Fantasia full-length. Finally Suddsy guided Claude to Swisher's, Chan homed to study, and the rest of us saw Fantasia, then to the dorm, where Tom hadn't returned. Widner and I had many chances to converse on matters ranging from stencils to ethics, the last one when Julie and Jules went to the Lazarium to get something or leave something. On their return I was escorted down to South Station, where my train was already in.

rather well on the train, considering. It was late, <sup>arriving</sup> too. I went directly to a G# doctor to have him look at what might be symptoms resulting from my smallpox vaccination, but he said it was probably orange rash, akin to tomato rash. So I didn't get the sick leave which I thot mite enable me to type up in time the paper on Bryant as a romanticist. Slept



THAT'S THE CHURCH OF HOLY SMOKE; SO CALLED BECAUSE OF THE GREAT QUANTITY OF INCENSE BURNED THERE



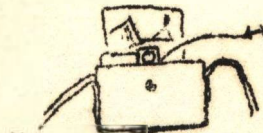
THAT'S GERTIE, MASCOT OF THE BOSKONE. I THINK SHE WAS NESTING THERE LAST YEAR

SPEER SNEERING AT YANKEE CIVIL WAR MONUMENT

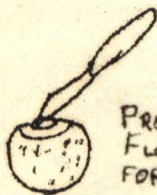


SPEER BEING DRAMATIC

AND NOW - MY BAGS.... YOUR HANDS ALL ROUND.... AND I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN SOMEDAY. FARE YOU WELL



HOW I SAW FANTASIA



PREPARING A FLORIDA ORANGE FOR CONSUMING