

CALVIN T. BECK

March 5, 1959

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I wish to suggest that the next time you make a mailing of F, or any other fan-mag in which you set down specific dates as deadlines, do this instead: 1) run off the cover or back-cover stencil, in which you'll no doubt have such a notice appended as the last job off your mimeo' machine...this way it'll be the stencil cut nearest to the time of mailing. Next: figure at least four days between the time you have finished all mimeoing; add those four days as being approx. amount of time for stapling, stamping, etc.: add at least another week to week and a half (being about the time the P.O. takes for non-first class matter)... and then give your readers around two weeks to absorb the contents. All in all, the deadline should never be less than about 30 days after the time mailings are about to be made. 2) best idea of all: just mention the fact that the readers have 2, 3, or 4 weeks in which to contribute from the date they've received their copies. This means that you are not committed to specific dates, and relieves you of this nagging thought, which in itself can be a rather unnecessary headache.

From all that I can gather, I believe that one of the main reasons fan editors get fewer contributions than they expect (as you sort of indicated) is due to faulty dating. My copy was dated as "March First" being deadline time, even though I got it 2 days later in my box. Now you, too, can join other miscreant fanmag editors of the past for frustrating God only knows how many more budding Bradourys...into the fannish fire and brimstone of Fangatory with you!

As your F effort of recent date stands, it's a nice controversial and thought provoking job...this is a heck of a lot more than can be said of other efforts in the field, especially of most previous N3F publishing attempts. Controversy and discussions that are a few marks higher than the average run of chitchat are the meat and substance of intelligent individuals. Those wishing to curtail freedom of expression (whether inside or outside of an organization) in so many words admit their inability to keep up with those who would like to indulge in it. Or else they have a totalitarian streak - whether conscious or not - that is as dangerous to the general welfare of the people who have some capacity for thinking (who have brains) as any danger that the word totalitarian implies...into this dung heap we can toss Stalin, Hitler, Nero etc., they are the prototypes -- their carbon copies are legion.

And I'm afraid that this danger right now lurks inside the N3F. For only several weeks prior to the date on this letter Paul Harold Rehorst was ejected as a member from the club on vague charges surrounded by nebulous hypotheses. Whether one wished to side with him on many of his points -- which, it is true, brought about some heated controversy and words -- or damn him for many of them isn't so important as the fact that he was literally thrown out of this organization, out on his ear, for trying to exercise a right that is clearly outlined in the Amendment on Freedom of Speech, the First.

That Rehorst was purged -- because he was, according to a few members and officers "too controversial" is also not so important as it is an affront to the dignity of other members as well as diminution of their rights. Aside of the other obvious fact that Rehorst was a good and worthy member, compared to much deadwood (including my idle self until very recently), the other existing danger that this matter has now put into power is the possibility that all members in the N3F (and conceivably throughout non-organized fandom) not only run the risk of censure, getting censored, but also being "dropped." while socially this may have no ill effect as far as the outside world is concerned, this would be (to a young and impressionable even though intelligent individual) a mental scar that could set up a cycle of other damaging blocks to the person's ego. Now, aside of any psychological implications: the Rehorst Case has changed the entire N3F climate into one of a small scale environment of indirect brainwashing out of the ultra democratic and spirited thing

that the very name "science fiction and fantasy" (or imagination) implies.

The mockery of it all is that where the original intention of most fans, and N3F members, was to join a group to escape from rigid codes and mores that conform almost every mote of intellect out of a human being these days, these very same people run the risk of leaving one pattern of conformity only to join up, or get trapped, with another that might even be worse in the long run.

The whole actual little horror of the Rehorst matter is that he was secretly removed without his or any of the other members knowledge; without even allowing him a chance to either make a formal reply, a rebuttal, or apology if he wished (if there was anything to apologize about). Generally it is customary in mature groups to notify a member or warn him officially to "watch out," provided such a warning is really representative of the majority's wishes and isn't the selfish desire of those having a personal grudge. In mature organizations which try behaving like they were somewhat grownup, generally at least 3 warnings are issued...the 3rd one is a qualified "get out," which means the member has the chance of making a substantial reply before the tribunal, court, or "panel" that represents the majority. This is a privilege granted to all in a democratic society. (I understand that even prison-gangster type "kangaroo courts" are considered more flexible than the sort of treatment Rehorst received.)

But even this isn't so important as the point that practically all N3F members bat the breeze at one time or another over matters about as "controversial" as those that served as the thin excuse it took to kick him out. Thus, in theory at least, each one who is paid up as a member could have his name besmirched the next moment if The Powers That Be disagree with his views, his style of expressing himself, and the way he may turn a sentence or a phrase.

For in taking this matter up with the beloved dictator Ralph M. Holland, and explaining to him how scrdid this affair may seem (except, of course, to Holland and others who planned all this), so that he might use his position to clear the air, he said in so many words that any members who do not wish to put up with his views can gladly get their dues refunded by asking Janie Lamb! Ralph proceeded to tell me in so many varied styles that the "N3F constitution must be upheld", etc., etc., to the letter...that it was his duty as President to apply the law without discrimination like a midtown police officer handing out tickets, instead of an SFan club prexy, Holland is making the law apply solely against this one particular member.

Though many of us were firmly opposed to many of Rehorst's views, especially those concerning Reds in the N3F (much worse a Commie spy or two) --- while Rehorst often had a way of putting across his ideas in an abrupt, perhaps slightly irritating manner, especially when we disagreed with him, it doesn't seem possible that in our democratic society we would expel someone from this nation to another part for "disagreeing with him"...and it isn't sound to think that this should happen even in fandom...unless it were fandumb. Therefore, as of now, there is only one solution: The immediate reinstatement of Paul Harold Rehorst as a member.

Despite what some people might like, anyone in the Directorate can alter this decision that was handled in such awful taste.

I think that, whatever the consequences may be, this only serves as another example of "what's wrong with fandom." Is it little wonder, then, why pros and others with "connections" have had less and less contact with amateurs in the field; why departments are dropped one after another in the promags...and why the gap was never more tremendous than it is today? As pro disinterest grows, fandom will atrophy all the faster. Evidence of this are the small number of good, even mediocre fanzines we have had in the past several years, compared to the period prior to 1956, especially prior to '55.

And there are so many ways in which the "fen" community can grow up. The sooner

The project is: generally, a program for increased correspondences and exchanges with non-English-speaking fan; but specifically, opening communication with Soviet fan.

I've been vastly curious about Soviet fandom ever since an editorial of Campbell's several years ago mentioned that some 30 stf magazines were published in the USSR. What are their stories like? What kind of plots, scientific elements, motivation, elements, & c.? What are the readers like? There must be many, many Russians with the mental qualities and strong interest that makes a fan as opposed to a casual reader -- do they have 'zines of their own, conventions, any or some or all of the things that make up fandom as we know it? Most intriguing. And completely unknown. Would I be interested in corresponding with a Martian Stefan? Well now!! And to us Americans at present, that young Russkii who spends all his spare rubles on Soviet stf is just about as unknown, as alien, as worthwhile a correspondent.

Finally, a few months ago, I started trying to find out what could be done along those lines. Wrote a couple of fan in Europe whose addresses I dug out of my files, and UNESCO. Four months later, my European letters had come back with "Onbekend. Terug aan afzender" and "Inconnu. Retour a l'envoyeur" stamped on them and the UNESCO letter had been answered by a member of the East-West Contacts Staff of the Department of State.

The last was quite encouraging. They offered official approval of the program and assistance in clearing it with the USSR -- but it had to be sponsored by a "...responsible, nationally recognized organization in the field of science fiction ..." to get that help. Seems the US signed a cultural exchange agreement with the USSR in Jan. '58 into which such a project would fit neatly if so sponsored. So I rooted around in my files some more and came up with Janie Lamb's address and re-joined NFFF and wrote some more letters.

This is one of them.

Ralph and Janie mentioned that there'd been quite a fuss in the Federation recently -- somebody insisting on loyalty oaths, banning persons from satellite countries from membership, and a general witch-hunt inside the ranks -- and it was suggested that any proposals having to do with Soviet-bloc countries might well be postponed until tempers cooled and memories faded. But they also said he'd been soundly trounced by negative votes from an overwhelming majority of the members. So I'll take my chances and if I get McCarthy'd to death it won't be for lack of warning.

What I'd like to get right now is a loud and representative response from the membership, from which I can determine whether or not enough other fan share my interest in foreign stf and stfan to make a correspondence and 'zine exchange program workable. One could consider (and I do) that it'd be a definite -- if hardly earth-shaking and probably unmeasurable -- contribution to the 'international understanding and trust' of which one hears talk but sees little action; but I go along with Campbell in thinking that sheer personal interest is the most workable and valid of motivations...and if that's not available I can forget the whole thing right now.

I'll give a fairly detailed description of my present plans (subject to change as more data, suggestions, & c. come in) so the members will have some idea of what the actual activities involved would be like. First off, an official 'Standing Committee for International Correspondence and Exchange' of the NFFF should be set up; very simple affair, just a directive from the Directorate authorizing it, then those most interested in doing something along those lines become its members. It would then analyze in detail the available info on feasibility and desirability of various types of international fanec programs, formulate a detailed program of all that seems most desirable and workable, and submit it to the membership and Direct-

orate for an official ok. This obtained, the Committee would inform the Department of State of the plans, in detail, get their ok, and, through them, that of the USSR; latter procedure only for those parts of the final program involving the USSR and 'satellite' countries.

My own idea of a good program goes something like this: USSR-gov't approval and assistance in arranging correspondences with Sovfen (necessary or at least very helpful because USSR sfen clubs are gov't-sponsored) and exchanges of fanzines (they may have something of the sort by now) and prozines. This is all reasonably practical, for while practically no Americanfen can read and write Russian, some 40% of Russian 10-year school graduates (age 16-17) have a thorough command of English; and anyway, we could look at the pictures in their 'zines. The Committee would advertise the program, enroll correspondents, arrange pairing off, arrange 'zine swaps, etc., including, of course, quantities of round robins on various subjects. The sfen in other Eurasian countries would receive the same attention, differing only in that the State Department ok would be unnecessary for countries outside the Soviet bloc -- the language situation is about the same throughout Europe and much of Asia, so English could practically be the language employed for the entire program; with assistance from whatever fans should turn up with a knowledge of the foreign language involved; perhaps Interlingue might be experimented with a bit should anyone be interested; it's terrifically simple, both for reading and writing, and has some currency in Western Europe.

In brief aside, the reasons for going through the red tape of State Department approval & c. are worth stating, since I've had it suggested that it be avoided and the program undertaken only on an unofficial and private level. First; the State Department has more or less promised to assist in obtaining an ok from the USSR gov't, which is a pretty darned necessary thing (since their clubs are gov't supported and sponsored) for any large scale program. Second; it will reassure all who might feel cautious about it that the program won't be 'playing into the Communists' hands by providing anti-Western propoganda material, since the State Department will have opportunity to analyze it for any such undesirable factors and suggest corrective measures should any be found. Third; and most important from an immediately practical standpoint, it will completely quash any of the accusations of 'communist-domination', 'pink', 'fellow traveling', & c. that would be certain to be launched against the NFFF and fandom in general otherwise, by those 'patriots' whose attributes I can't adequately describe and still expect this letter to travel through the US mails..... being able to point publically to a full approval from the U.S. Department of State will keep them from even getting started.

Such a program seems to me to be an absolute 'natural' for NFFF; I'm surprised that something like it isn't already in progress. Quoting the Preamble of the NFFF Constitution, the Federation was formed "...in order that desirable objectives, beyond the accomplishment of single individuals, may be attained through united effort." by "...persons interested in promoting the progress of Science Fiction and Fantasy, and in furthering its enjoyment by themselves and others." I submit that international communication and understanding between science-fiction and fantasy fans to the greatest possible extent is a desirable objective; that such a program will very definitely promote the progress of s-f and fantasy; and further its enjoyment by Neffers and others. I also see Gary Deindorfer's plea in Vol. 17 No. 4 of the NATIONAL FAN-TASY FAN for ideas for the Internal Improvements Committee, to keep the NFFF from 'going to the dogs', being a 'do nothing' club, to 'restore it to its original purpose'. Can you deny that such a program, actively carried out, would be a tremendous source of publicity and ego-boo to the Federation? And rather patently refute any accusations of 'doing nothing' and 'going to the dogs'?

And drop me a card or something and let me know what you think of it yourself.

Best,

/s/ James MacLean

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←The information that I personally have on the Soviet clubs is that the clubs are not so much for the reading of SF, but are more of the Sercon hockey club types. Of course, I can't vouch that this is strictly so. However, I imagine that it's fairly true.

There is only one American fan that I know of who can read Russian, and who might be able to write it. This is Harry Warner, Jr. who was at one time a very active Neffer. He was the co-editor of the first issue of our Official-Organ (at that time it was BONFIRE) and in general was a good Neffer. In '45 he was the Chairman of the Directorate. He may be interested in the idea. Among others, he will receive a copy of this issue. It is a little unfortunate that in order to go thru with this, that we must unveil ourselves to the Government, but since it is the only way, what else can be done? I'm a little concerned at the moment, of this calling attention to ourselves to the Communists. Fandom had a very unfortunate experience with them about '40, and then they were openly displaying themselves. However, the common concensus seems to be, from the Rehorst dispute, that we can 'handle ourselves' if any Communists would be attracted.

and I repeat James' plea to write, if you like the idea. I do! You are also all encouraged to vote on the included ballot.→

BOB FARNHAM

502 2nd Avenue
Dalton,
Georgia

March 11, 1959

A word regarding Racy Higgs. Few of we fans know that Higgs is not a youngster any more. His injuries have hurt him far more than most of us know. His penchant for not answering mail made a lot of folks sore at him, but the excellent work done on his publications did, I think, offset most of his faults...and too, there are factors over which Higgs has no control -- the same as the rest of us have...

wallace west hit the bull's eye fair and square! "The main purpose" of NFFF or any other fraternal order, whether correspondence type such as fan clubs, or the get-together-in-person-type is to enable its membership to have fun, get acquainted and exchange ideas...what else is needed?

When the prozines began dropping the reader's letter columns, fans got mad. There went the mutual contact -- the safety-valve outlet for feuds (and believe me we used to have 'em!) and the exchange of ideas. Fan criticism had become too stiff for many an editor, and first one, then another dropped the letter columns. The result was fans quit buying several prozines, which not too long after dropping reader's pages, folded... Startling Stories, Thrilling Wonder Stories and the rest of the old Standard publications went the way of many another prozine, mainly because the best editor Standard ever will have -- Samuel Mines -- quit in disgust. A lot of folks lost their jobs when SS and TWS folded.

And still there are they who will claim Fandom is not important to prozines. How come, if so, Fantastic Stories (I think it was, Alan?) ←I believe it now is FANTASTIC SF, and before was just called FANTASTIC.→ has recently started up a Reader's Letter Column? FSF is a Ziff-Davis publication, and those lads are no fools...so what does this indicate? A trend back to Fandom?

I personally back up wallace's proposals 100%. I'd also enjoy being in on a round robin letter, BUT -- the postage question, with me, is ever a seriously perplexing unsolvable question. So RRs are out, I guess.

Rod Frye is correct! Abstain from publishing anything more on the asinine Com-

N'APA -- Terwilliger is Official Editor of the Alliance. Larry Sokol is Director, representing the Directorate, and thus tying it in officially with the NFFF.

Officers not listed:

Secretary-Treasurer -- Janie Lamb, Route 1, Heiskell, Tennessee.

Official Teller -- Stuart Hoffman, Box 13, Black Earth, Wisconsin

This is all at present, except for the overseas representatives, and that section is at present in the process of revamping.

Regarding the Fanzine Title Clearance Bureau, I didn't mean my remarks on Pavlat's file to be quite as snooty as they appear in print. What I was getting at was that, as a matter of general principle, the mere fact that someone else already has something is not necessarily a good reason why NFFF should not also have it. Good-year didn't stop building tires simply because Firestone also makes them -- and so on. The matter of duplicating services, if carried out completely, would leave us with very little to do, because some other club duplicates almost every service we have to offer. The selling point is we do them better and give the customers the whole lot in one package deal.

As for the specific proposal that we try to get Pavlat to let us copy his lists for our files, I think it is a good one -- if he will do it. Bob is an ex-Neffler and, according to all I can hear, is one of our most disgruntled ex's, and may refuse to let NFFF benefit from anything he has. However, this is no reason for not trying to get his list to copy for our files, and I will take full blame for the fact that he wasn't contacted. I had intended doing it myself, but the Rehorst mess and several other things came up so I never got it done. I am even more tangled up with correspondence at the moment, so will pass a carbon on this to John Koning and let him handle it.

As for the Bureau itself, I cannot agree that it duplicates any other service now available in fandom. That is, a checking and registration service for fanzine publishers, to prevent using a title which someone else has used. This has been one of the traditional NFFF services almost since its beginning, and very popular with the fan publishers. It was necessarily discontinued due to the loss of our old files, but it is high time we got it going again -- which is the main idea of the whole thing. I did have an idea in the back of my head to publish a list of the titles which John has already with the thought that any members who knew of a zine not listed could give him the details on it. However, I have set this aside for the time being -- since it seems sort of like getting the info the hard way. We might publish an index of current fanzines which are available on subscription -- as a service for neofans mainly, but I have not definitely decided on this yet.

As regards the prozine list: all previous attempts to publish these have been failures. Perhaps, as you say, we now have enough collectors in the club to pay for such a project. I have no objection to running a vote to find out. Why not put a ballot in the next POSTWARP asking all those who want such an index to mark it and mail it in? Also, it should include the number who would be willing to pay for such an index, since funds for free benefits are limited, and it is likely that any non-contributed benefits will have to be sold at cost.

Wallace West -- he has a good point. The quality of SF is a rank steal of the customers' money in most cases...and fantasy fiction is even worse. To try to improve the standards is a legitimate objective for the NFFF, and deserves all the thought and discussion the members can give it. I think maybe a start in the right direction might be to rate the prozines, so that fans would know which ones to buy.

Ghu knows there is also no lack of bona fide fannish subjects to be discussed and argued about in a friendly way. Subjects which are of vital importance to fandom. The S-F writers who are worth reading can be counted on the fingers of one hand -- well, almost. Prozines are folding up wholesale. What should be done about

it? What can be done about it?

Rod Frye -- What an editor or a member has the "right" to discuss in a club 'zine is practically the same as what they would have the right to discuss in a regular "in person" meeting -- in our case, anything concerning fandom in any way.

I'm all for discussion and debate. It's the lifeblood of fandom. Even if you don't convince anyone, it does you some good. As Rick Sneary pointed out, defending yourself in an argument forces you to study up on the subject and think out logical reasons for your stand. With which I couldn't possibly agree more. But when the contenders begin to get really mad at each other, and start tossing personalities and abuse, the discussion is doing no one any good, and is doing the club a lot of harm, so it is time to call a halt.

The big trouble is that the ones who are fondest of dishing it out in king sized lots are the very ones who will scream to high heaven if even a slight bit of it is tossed back at them.

So it is often necessary for the chairman of a meeting to shut off debate on some subject in order to prevent the meeting from turning into a riot. He has this power under law, and can call the police to enforce his orders if necessary, even if the subject under discussion is normally within the "rights" of the persons discussing it. On the Communist matter, I felt that it was necessary for me to do something of the same sort in order to prevent great damage to the club. There are certain subjects which seem to raise the emotions of people to the point where they cannot discuss them calmly. Chief among these are politics, religion, and Communism. I have never seen a discussion on any of these which did not eventually end up in a brawl. The subject of Communism is important, and it should be discussed so that all Americans know exactly what it is. But we are trying to run a fan club, not a free-for-all fight, and so they have to be banned.

Cleophas Benoit -- Before the election last year James Chambers notified me that he was circulating a petition to put a name change on the ballot, and I suggested that he hurry it along so that it could go on the same ballot as the annual election. I never heard any more about it, so I assume that either he did not get the necessary number of signers, or that he changed his mind. Art Hayes was another one who favored the name change at one time, but I note in his latest publications that he has changed his mind on it. At one time I was also all for such a change, but am now against it (altho not violently so).

The fact is that all the pressure for changing the name -- or at least all that has come my way -- has come from U.S. fans. The overseas fans don't seem to care much one way or the other. Their main problem, and the reason why we don't get more overseas fans, is the difficulty in getting U.S. dollars. Even if they can get them (it is illegal to export U.S. money in some countries) \$1.60 is a lot more money in comparison to their week's wages than it is here. The problem we have to solve is the dollar problem. Most of the overseas fans we have now are financially sponsored by some U.S. fan. Some of them pay their own way in cash, but more of them have their dues paid by some U.S. fan in exchange for fan or prozines, or simply as a good will gesture. I have a few half-formed ideas which I will try to get worked up for the next Neffers News, and I hope some other members will add something.

Seth Johnson -- Erwin Scudla, Director of the I.S.F.S., with world H-Q in Vienna, Austria, recently joined NFFF. It is quite possible he has a file the size he says, (30,000 fans!!) altho I suspect that most of them are Europeans, and that most of them would not be interested in a club like NFFF. I may be wrong, but I understand that the Central European S-F Clubs are very very serious. They are probably influenced by the attitude of the USSR clubs, which are also very large (2000 to 3000 members in some of the larger cities in Russia) and also very serious and dedicated -- "Science Thru Science-Fiction." The USSR needs scientists. If the young fry can be interested in the right kind of Science-Fiction, then they might switch to an interest in real science as they grow up, and dedicate themselves to a scientific career. Therefore: it is the duty of all good Communists to foster an interest in S-F. If you are interested in what sort of stories they have in the USSR, the ones I have | |

I do have a suggestion to get the ball rolling. How about in some of the forthcoming issues of POSTWARP, let's hear from some of you members on the topic of, "How you came to the love of your life, Science Fiction." I imagine there are many funny stories involved in the telling of how one became a fan, rather than interested in becoming a hockey player, or some such thing. My story is a funny one, at least I think so, so I am sure some of you would be worth hearing from. How about it Cleo, Seth, and everybody else? Now, here is something that all of you can take part in by writing a page or two for POSTWARP. Now that POSTWARP is such a splendid club 'zine, let's really make it worth our while. After this type article has run itself out, we can play around with some other themes.

Al also wanted to hear reports from the different committees. As head of the Membership Activities Committees, I think that evidence will support my statement that we are very active, and were active last year. In fact, it seems almost like an all time high for fanactivity in the N3F. There is ample proof, by the number of recruits coming in. In fact, I can hardly keep up with them anymore. We will be waiting to hear from Ernie Wheatley, head of the recruiters, as to whether he needs more help. ##(Obviously, and unfortunately, Ernie, among other officers, didn't bother to write.)## Of course, there is always more room for people who wish to help in recruiting, but since Ernie is closer to the problem than I am, he would have the most information on this. I would say that the N3F over the past two years has more than doubled its membership, which is a very good indication. The welcome Committee needs nothing said about it. It is an excellently functioning committee under the leadership of Art Hayes, who is a big asset to the N3F and has been for the last 2 years. His publications for the Welcommittee have been excellent, and his work is just about unequalled. Seth Johnson has been working with the Round Robin letters and he has many, M*A*N*Y of them going, and is always happy to get more started. The Round Robin Letters have done much to keep the members in touch with eachother and offers them ample opportunity to take part in as many as they wish, and have time for. So get in some, if you aren't already taking part.

One feature that I have long wished to see made a part of the N3F is a personality corner. Each issue of one of our publications, I would like to see 3 or 4 people featured. They would write the article themselves, with their vital statistics, their hobbies, and other things of interest. I think that this would be a very welcome addition for the new members. Each issue could feature an old time member and a couple of new members. I believe that this would bring to light many of our members who are hiding under the bushel right now. What say you...it is all up to the membership to get behind such a thing. Perhaps, Al, you could write to the first couple of members and invite them to write up an article on themselves to get the ball rolling, and then as other fans feel they want to share the spotlight of the Feature Corner, they can send in their writeups.

Summing up, the N3F has really been on its feet this past year, and this. The officers are good ones, we have a very nice membership, and the renewals and recruits are coming in, so there is hardly any excuse now why the N3F cannot become the biggest and the best fan club in the whole country.

Actually I am a little biased, and think that we are the biggest and best club in fandom today.

/s/ Honey

←All I know about local clubs, is the University of Chicago Science Fiction League, of which I attended one meeting when I was in Chicago, and therefore was made an honorary member, due to the kindnesses of Fran Light and Earl Kemp. All that was done was, there was a program given, and then everyone sat around and talked about their then new movement for the "Science thru Science Fiction" clubs in schools. It was all very nice, and did have to do with S-F and/or fandom. Of course, after the

the WC to someone else who is approved, once the first three items are moderately well taken care of.

In closing, I would like to comment on the O-O. I have not been getting that publication regularly. I never did get the Platform Issue. While I must sympathize with Racy over his troubles, this is the second successive year where we have been having O-O troubles, and an O-O that is not regular accentuates the troubles, e.g. The Rehorst hassle would not have been quite as intense if the O-O had been regular. The O-O is the most important publication there is in the club, bar none. Coslet became too busy with his work to be able to carry on, so after waiting a while, he finally resigned from the job of OE. If Racy cannot do the job now, he should also resign, regardless of his difficulties. Regularity of any Official 'zine is important, such as in POSTWARP, but PW is not as important as the O-O

A fiend,

/s/ Art Hayes

←(Here is a partial list of publications, and prices if I know them, of 'zines obtainable from N3F members. Additions, of course, are welcome.

- GEMZINE and/or GEEZINE GMCarr Letter of comment, or being
5319 Ballard a friend of Gem. You must
Seattle 7, Wash. be on S&PS or FAPA w/ tho.

- HOCUS Mike Deckinger Price unknown, write
85 Locust Ave. and ask.
Millburn, New Jersey

- GROUND ZERO Belle C. Dietz 15¢ 10/\$1.00
1721 Grand Ave.
Bronx 53, N.Y.

- FAN NEWSIE Bernard Cook 5¢ I think, but I'm not
2648½ Pine Place sure.
South Gate, Calif.

- FANAC Ron Ellik 4/25¢ 9/50¢ Four issues
2444 Virginia for 2 shillings from Archie
Berkeley 4, Calif. Mercer, 434/4 Newark Rd.
North Hykeham, Lincoln, Eng.

- GYRE Steve Tolliver Letter of comment. Usually
909 South Madison distributed with FANAC
Pasadena, Calif.

- S-F PARADE Stan Woolston Price unknown. Possibly a
12832 Westlake letter of comment. Dunno.
Garden Grove, Calif.

- THE SICK ELEPHANT George Wells 10¢ 10/\$1.00
Box 486, River Ave.
Riverhead, N.Y.

- CRY of the NAMELESS Wally Weber 25¢. 5/\$1.00 12/\$2.00
Box 267, 920 Third Ave.
Seattle 4, Wash.

- Twig and BEST of FANDOM Guy E. Terwilliger BOF is 75¢ Twig is 15¢,
1412 Albright St. 6/80¢, 12/\$1.50
Boise, Idaho

that will promise to have one novel by each of those authors during the current year. We could have that poll every year for that matter. Certainly it would stimulate the market for the top ten authors in popularity and assure us of a steady supply of their writing. If they could be assured of marketing a novel a year I'm pretty sure they wouldn't be wooed away from sf by historical or detective and mystery publishers.

Thought Clay Hamlin's letter was most interesting, but might suggest to Clay that most science-fiction is based upon the subjects we discuss in the robins. The fact of the matter is that in most robins we get our votes in for favorite authors and types of fiction and after a round or two it just isn't possible to say much more without repeating ourselves. So from there the robins go right down to the basic roots of ideas on which most science fiction and fantasy is based.

I could, of course, review prozines and the like but I think a more general discussion and report would be more interesting. How about asking for volunteers to review one zine each as they hit the stands? Thus I would cover AMAZING, Clay could cover ASTOUNDING, and others could come in with F&SF, FUTURE, and the like. Only be sure the mag reviewed is one of the favorites of the reviewer. Let's all be for and constructive, rather than against and destructive.

I wonder why Larry Sokol doesn't write up some of his apa work for the O-O and POSTWARP. Personally I think most members are scared off from the very start by the lack of duplicating experience. Ten of us have started a carbon letter in which we mail answers to ten letters simultaneously. Only we can't use carbons any more and most of us have taken to using the hecto. Eventually we hope to get one fan with a spirit duplicator to run off copy for us and then mail to all simultaneously. It would be quite a task though, for most of us to grind out over ten pages per round. I only wish we could afford to send a copy to each member of N3F once a year or so and see if we could get enough subscribers to finance all this fanac.

As for Cleophas Benoit's idea, it is a good one. However, a rose by any other name smells just as sweet.

I think the International Science Fiction Society is a group of organizations with one central clearing house of information under the care of Erwin Scudla, Vienne XVII/107, Rotzergasse 30/1, AUSTRIA. I don't know how many organizations in Europe belong to the ISFS, or what percentage of the speak English. But I do think that N3F would have an appeal for those who speak and write in the English language. So after winnowing those 30,000 names down to those who speak and write English, we would still have a sizable segment to do our recruiting from.

Ralph Watts brings up a pretty good point about TNFF. I wonder if it wouldn't be better to have a committee of editors in charge of this with each one responsible for one part of the zine. One editor for fiction, poetry, and the like; another responsible for prozine and fanzine reviews; a third one responsible for illos such as covers and cartoons; and last but not least an editor to correlate the directorate reports and get after the directors for their reports. I would gladly report on the Fanzine Clearing House and the Round Robins if the editors would send me a postcard 10 days before deadline reminding me that such a report is desired at that time. Incidentally, to date not one prozine has helped us in any way with publicity for the Fanzine Clearing House.

Faneds participating in the Fanzine Clearing House are Bruce Pelz with PROFANITY, Robert Lambeck with CONNECTIFAN, Alan Lewis with FANTASY ASPECTS, Mike Deckinger with HOGUS, Sture Sedclin with CACTUS, Bernard Cock with FAN NEWSY, Eva Firestone with miscellaneous publications of her own and others, Art Hayes with GUANO, MHO DJ I, BULLZINE, and others, James Taurisi with SCIENCE FICTION TIMES, John Mussels with SIGMA OCTANTIS, John Thiel with CAVEAT EMPOR and Larry Stone with PAUCITY. Many

others have contributed bundles of miscellaneous zines not of their own publishing which are most welcome, especially for Neffers who would have all the N3F publications anyway.

Try Virginia Phillips, 881 E. 34 St., Hialeah, Fla. for some arty cheesecake for future issues. She will draw on assignment but does, of course, her best work on inspiration. She is a new recruit to N3F, incidentally.

Fanatically Yours,

/s/ Seth Johnson

←I am afraid that I am at odds with your method of reviewing, slightly, Seth. You seem to think that a reviewer should not be a critic and criticize, but should only praise the good. Now, I don't feel that a reviewer should lambast every magazine for this, that, or the other little minor fault, but I do feel a reviewer should be a critic and if there is something which he feels it radically wrong, instead of merely ignoring this failure, I feel he should point it out and explain the reasons for his feeling on the subject. It does no-body any good if everything he reviews is 'good', but, of course, he must express why he feels a certain piece is good, bad, or just fair.

Your suggestion of polls is a good one, I think. Even though I'm not sure it would be possible for the magazines to help us on it, even if they wanted to. However, I'll try to put a poll thru in this issue.

On Clay Hamlin's RR discussion -- I suggest you see his letter which is later in this issue. It has some interesting results in it.

Your committee of editors idea is nice, if only it would work! It seems indescribably hard to keep all the editors active at the same time. Someone, for sure, will go GAFLA. Nice idea tho, and it deserves to be tossed around more. I just got the news from Holland that he plans to take the O-O over for some time. Then he'll turn it over to someone else when he gets it going steadily. I personally think that 1 good editor who comes out on time, is much more of an advantageous arrangement than any other order. Just find the 'one good editor' -- that's all.)

XX

G. M. CARR

March 4, 1959

5319 Ballard Avenue
Seattle 7,
Washington

Congratulations of POSTWARP Vol. 10 #2 -- you did a fine job on it, both as to appearance and as to editing. In fact, the only detriment I saw at all in an otherwise perfect issue, was the fact that the "Nov-Dec" issue was delivered the following March...

I wish especially to commend you for a firm editorial policy. Alan, don't let these jokers try and persuade you that N3F is a branch of the Library of Congress or something. Any guy that does all the work on a clubzine for the fun of it (as you do) deserves the fun he gets out of it. If you enjoy "editorializing" in this letterzine -- go ahead and do it! All these protests about "freedom of the press" and "constitutional guarantee" are nothing but a lot of pompous baloney. Just so you observe a little common sense and courtesy in your replies, you can editorialize as much as you like.

What's more, in my personal opinion, the editor of a clubzine has not only the right but actually a duty toward the other members to do a little discreet censoring. It is only common courtesy to try and make your contributors look as good as you can, by trimming out any excess verbage and any screwball statements that might make them

look foolish. Nobody has any "right" to be "heard" verbatim in somebody else's fanzine -- even a clubzine. The only way a fan can insure that "right" is by publishing his own fanzine. Sure, the members have a right to be heard and to express themselves on any idea, within limits. The limits of what will or will not annoy or offend the other members. That is the real heart of editing a clubzine. To try to give everybody a break -- not just the individual contributors.

This brought up for discussion several worthy topics -- and a couple not so worthy. For instance, this perennial plaint about changing our name from "National" to "International" because we have some overseas members. So what? The British Science Fiction Association has overseas members, too (in fact, I'm one...) but that's certainly no reason they should be expected to change their name! Neither is there any reason we should change ours. After all, as Ralph Watts pointed out, "NFFF" is only our name as a club. It is not a definition, nor a statement of Faith! Neither is it intended to be a complete description of our activities or membership! During its many years of existence, NFFF has covered many phases of fanac and if we always attempted to change the name of our club to fit a description of its activities, we would be fussing around with it forever!

Another plaint with which I take issue is this recurring insistence that it is N3F's duty (or something) to discuss S-F. There is no obligation on the club officials that they have to pre-digest the current S-F offerings and serve them up in the clubzines... Heaven only knows there are plenty of fanmags who offer that service regularly; some of them (as in our new member Wally Weber's CRY OF THE NAMELESS) performing an almost ruthless dissection of every publication from the crudest fanzine to the most pompous of the prozines. As to round robins discussing S-F -- so what? If any person is interested in S-F, what's to stop him from introducing the subject in whatever RR he belongs to? Haven't you got enough initiative of your own that you could at least say what you are interested in discussing? Gosh, does someone have to tell you what to talk about in your letters? It seems to me that it is up to the fan who likes to discuss S-F to be the one to initiate it -- rather than sit back and moan because other people prefer to discuss other topics...

Lastly, as to the distinction between discussion, argument, and feud. Actually, the latter has no place in N3F at all. In fact, if clubzine editors would exercise their full duty as editors, they would eliminate all references of this nature. Trouble is, most fans enjoy watching other people fight. When what starts out to be a mere discussion of abstract principles develops into a heated argument, instead of dropping the subject altogether when it becomes apparent that tempers are being lost, most of the bystanders jump onto the bandwagon and "take sides" -- not, in most instances, because they give a hoot one way or the other -- but just for the sheer fun of watching the fireworks. This is the point at which a firm hand at the wheel can save a lot of wasted emotion. But even clubzine editors sometimes enjoy a good fireworks display, and instead of pouring oil on troubled waters -- just pour it on the flames and add to the fire! At least, one must admit that a feud does stir up excitement in an otherwise dull routine....

/s/ G.M.Carr

[[I'm sorry to say that I, too, for awhile, was all for 'having only Science-Fiction' in N3F, fandom, fanzines, and everything in general. But somehow -- just how I can't really say, except maybe it's just that my interests vary widely, I think that fandom should, as it does, be about anything and everything that is interesting. As F. T. Laney said, "Why should we engross ourselves in the stegnet backwaters of a third place literature when all around us is a fascinating universe?" I agree! While I do like to discuss S-F, I also like to think, and write about other things.

F A N Z I N E S

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Do you want to see a sampling of fanzines? If so, send \$1.00 to Seth Johnson, 339 Stiles Street, Vaux Hall, New Jersey, and he will send samples of fanzines that he has, and you won't have to address countless letters to fanpublishers trying to get a few fanzines to see what you want to subscribe to. Seth does it for you!!

ship, but how small is that representation -- surely it could not represent a true picture of those countries and the active fandom within them.

A simple thought to the matter. If such an International Science Fiction Group could be formed, where would its center be, and how would the representation of any one main group be able to attend its meetings? Letters, tape recorders, or any other methods are not the answer, for discussions, suggestions, ideas, must be stated there and then by personal contact, and arguments against. Unfortunately telepathy which is the only answer to the problem, or perhaps direct sound and vision, are not within our reach at the moment.

Associations that grow need more elbow room, and a title to suit the fact, but is International the correct one?

Seems I've written nothing but criticism of your letter, Cleophas, disagreeing with the use of International in preference to National for the N3F. Actually what I have tried to write are reasons why International should be closely studied, with all it may imply, before being actually used.

To your reply to Cleophas' letter, Alan; a few comments please: I can only offer my personal opinion of an International 3F. It does not necessarily mean that it is the opinion of other "foreigners." Strangely enough, too, we "foreigners" do care about the welfare of N3F or any other fan group. To me, N3F especially, for, to me it appears a singularly active group containing quite a fair number of keen members.

Maybe we have lacked in our proof of interest in the N3F, but distance, time, and lack of personal contact has perhaps caused this. Distance delays mail and an immediate answer to any suggestions offered by the N3F is impossible, which brings "time" into the matter, for time, a delaying factor, would bring to you an opinion too late to be of use. Personal contact usually solves a difference of opinion, and the "know-how" of what the other person really thinks.

Where finance is limited how can any group anywhere offer more to members? And this applies to the N3F too. No one can do more than their best, and the N3F doesn't really do too bad.

And finally, I agree that the activity of N3F and the expansion of same comes before the alteration of its title.

By the way, "Deadwood" is hardly the term, "Practical" maybe.

Gonna' take this opportunity of wishing all N3Fers the Very Best of Luck, and Good Wishes. Keep up the good work, ye members of ye olde order of N3F.

All The Very Best,

Sincerely,
/s/ Dave

{{I like your idea of an International fandom, but unfortunately, you have touched on the very heart of it -- having some sort of meeting at least once a year. You are right when you say that personal contact irones out a lot of differences of opinion. In the recent hassle between Rehorst, myself, and other people, if the subject had come up at an actual meeting, I am sure that none of us would have appeared as stiff and uncompromising as we did in print. Heck, I called Rlpph Holland up a few days ago (a record of the call appears in the "editorial") and just talking to him helped make the problems that were puzzling me and prompted me to call him seem very small, relatively. It was the actual conversation that did it. A letter can not get across your entire attitude on a subject, unfortunately.

Your letter disturbed me greatly

when it arrived, because of one point it illustrated, and which you also brought up. If I had been on the ball, by the time your letter arrived, this issue would have been out and in the mails. Yet, I enjoyed your letter very much, it deserved publishing, and I thought it was in general a G*O*O*D letter. Yet, it was published only by the skin of its teeth, and because I was lazy. This, I think, is an abominable situation. Yet, what to do about it? I mentioned it to Ralph, and that I was considering sending this issue AIRMAIL because of the ballot, and Ralph told me he agreed, except for the tremendous expenditure. He also mentioned his own stuff, to overseas members, had been going First Class. In some cases it had done some good, while in others it hadn't. Anyway, we agreed that this issue would be sent Airmail (in fact, Ralph has assured it by generously contributing to the Airmail Fund), but I am making one stipulation. All overseas members: please help return our trust in you by responding to this issue, and returning the poll. If you don't, then what's the use of sending them specially if you don't care much either way? I also think that Ralph Holland should be given special thanks, for being so generous and interested in getting Official Material to overseas members in time to do some good. Need I say that this is way above the line of duty which goes with being Prexy?

And I want to thank you, Dave, for writing, and I hope this will encourage more overseas members to write. Your letter was needed. Thankyou.~>

~~~~~

BOB LAMBECK

March 5, 1959

22 Long View Drive  
Simsbury,  
Connecticut

One hand is the Nov-Dec issue of FOSTWARP with January letters in it. Is this the usual?

Discussion of SF, as Clay suggests, should probably be a part of the activities of an SFangroup, but I don't care too much about it. I used to be an SFan; now I'm a fandom fan.

I say leave the name of the club as "National Fantasy Fan Federation." I don't bother to think of this rather lengthy title when I think of the club, however, and I suspect that few other members bother to do so. I merely think "NFF." I know that NFF and National Fantasy Fan Federation are the same thing, and that NFF is lots easier to say and think. The name doesn't matter too much in relation to what the club stands for. We can still be International with the present name. The present name is well known, and a change might be deleterious.

Doug Clark has a slight inaccuracy in his letter. AMAZING is not deteriorating down to the teen-age level. It has already deteriorated that far and is headed for an all time low. Can't understand, though, why it's the only prozine sold in this town. The stores used to carry ASF, but I haven't seen that around for months.

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Yours,

/s/ Bob

←(Unfortunately, it is the usual, it seems to be far behind in dating. I thought I could catch up, but now it looks as if it will take a few years. Perhaps I'll have to skip an issue to catch up after all, but I hope not.

It seems to me that if you want ASF or other magazines, it would be wisest to write the magazine and pour your tale of woe in their lap. They'll be glad to fix you up, I'm sure. AMAZING? I don't agree with you, but I'm sure I'll never be able to convince you that you're wrong. I don't think it's the best in SF, but I don't think it's terrible, either.

And thank you for writing, Bob. I wish more new members would write. I'd like to know how Fw strikes a new member when he reads his first copy, but alas, few ever write.~>

GEORGE N. RAYBIN

1326 Grand Concourse  
New York 56,  
New York

March 24, 1959

First off, whoever abbreviated NFFF as N3F never studied algebra -- that's for sure. Shouldn't it be written NF<sup>3</sup>?

I am glad to see that you have managed to squeeze out enough time to keep POSTWARP coming regularly now. This is very important, as POSTWARP, among other functions, acts as a safety valve for the members, permitting steam to be released before explosions occur.

The discussion as to a change of name of our club makes me laugh. This is probably the least important decision to be made, and everybody is starting to take up the cudgel. Call it what you will; it's the quality of the fanac that determines if a club is worth belonging to. I am glad to say that the NF<sup>3</sup> has improved to the point where it has become worthwhile again and I think that Ralph Holland deserves much of the credit.

Sincerely,

/s/ George

JANIE LAMB

Approx. April 5

Route #1  
Heiskell,  
Tennessee

Today Memoriter #5 came, and with it some surprising suggestions and ultimatums from Art Hayes. Now, I feel I've kept silent long enough, perhaps too long. So now the rebel yells.

First let me say Paul Kehorst's dismissal from the club was NOT because of his viewpoints or proposals on the Commie issue. Maybe this was a factor in the case, in fact there were so many factors it is hard to point a finger at any one thing and say "This is it." Beginning in 1955 Paul has been constantly at outs with the official family of N3F. Nothing was the way he wanted it, we were all-ignoramuses. Possibly the "straw that broke the camel's back" was his cry of "Rigged Election."

G.M. Carr's missive was not considered in the case, though numerous members wrote that they were for Carr's proposal, and that we should expell-kehorst. One voted against it, three said they felt we should give him another chance. Since he has been given chances since 1955 there just had to be a stopping place. Paul has talents and capabilities which N3F could use, it is lamentable he was not pleased with the club. Maybe he will like ISFCC.

Second, before stating my ultimatum let me say a few other things. I have been thoroughly investigated by the FBI and found trustworthy and loyal enough to have access to "Top Secrets" in the Atomic field. My husband also holds a high security clearance, since he works in an Atomic Lab. Our loyalty to our country has never been questioned. I feel our government is second to none. I believe in a government "...for the people, by the people, and of the people..." But if N3F adopts the First of Art Hayes' proposed petitions, and says we must sign a loyalty pledge, I will resign from N3F. If I was requested to sign such a pledge at the place of business where I worked, I would not hesitate to do so, even though I have never seen the benefit of such a pledge. I refuse to do something so silly in the play world.

I left ISFCC when it adopted Activity Requirement Points. I could easily have met the requirements, but I refuse to have someone breathing down my neck telling me "How







The real reason for the "National" is that the NFFF was originally conceived as the capstone of a system of regional, state, and local clubs, concerning which see below.

FANTASY: While this word is not ideal, it seems to be the nearest thing we have to a one-word description of ourselves that the general public will understand.

FAN: There are strong objections to this. You can see a smirk cross the face of even sympathetic editors when they read "fan" -- and notice how Joan W. Campbell, for one, avoids using it. It is also unnecessary. One would assume, if we belong to a fantasy organization, that we are interested in fantasy.

FEDERATION: Up to now we have not been a federation. The value of having state and regional federations pyramiding up to the National is much to be questioned; in the only example we have had so far, the Mid-West Federation, I know of no activities that wouldn't have been carried out by individuals without a federation. As for local organizations, it was brought out at Boskone II that there is little reason for local groups to join en masse instead of as individual members of the general organization. If we should decide later to adopt a federal setup, having another name would not prevent it. Wouldn't a better word be "Association" or "Society"? Surely these are sufficiently dignified -- such organizations as the Royal Society and the National Geographic Society use them -- and there's not the hint of sounding brass that "Federation" carries.

The principal objection to changing will be that we've started with the N-three-F name and ought to keep it. What are we, a pack of conservatives? If a change of name is needed, we should change it, and the sooner the better. Do we want to be saddled forever with the stuttering jawbreaker, "N-F-F-F"?

--Jack F. Speer

Perhaps I should also state that I did cut out a few non-pertinent sentences. However, I do not think that my hatchet work destroyed the meaning. The reason for re-printing it was more as a matter of interest, than anything else. I guess this must make 15 years or more that a name change has been in the offering. Must be some sort of a record, though I couldn't say just what...

I HAVE BEEN FOUND OUT, it seems! John Koning wrote me in response to last issue, and kindly pointed out a mistake which he attributed to Ralph Watts. However, I generously admit the fact that I have been found guilty of a G\*R\*A\*N\*D G\*O\*O\*F in the filthy habit of editing letters as I go along.

John caught Ralph's statement that appeared at the bottom of page 8, saying: "It could be that such other fan organizations as SARS, FAPA, and The CULT would be of more interests to the fan pubbers among us." (Of more interest than Round Robins, that is.) John pointed out to me that all The CULT is, is a glorified Round Robin, consisting of an actual 18 members -- 13 members plus a 5 member active waiting list. All 18 have to write to the publisher (Each member pubs in turn) at least once every two issues.

This, I admit, was a bad goof, and I apologize. Actually, what Ralph said was: "...fan organizations as SARS, etc...." Having an inherent dread of ambiguous words such as etc. I changed it and tried to make it more definite. Unfortunately, at that time, I was not acquainted with The CULT. I'm sorry, Ralph, and thanks, John, for catching my error. I bow my head in shame.

And now, everyone knows my secret sin. I cry.

NEXT ISSUE, youall, I hope, will be in for a surprise. Our March-April issue, which will appear in May, I hope, which I agree is an abominable situation, will have a new format. Yessir, a brand new format. So I want everyone, E\*V\*E\*R\*Y\*O\*N\*E I say, to write in to me. Hear? I admit, having loads of letters, like this issue, is a lot of

work, and hold up advances on having the Sept. + Oct. issue appear in time for the Den-  
tention, but, I enjoy it. Immensely, in fact, I might say. As a matter of fact, of-  
ficially, this issue is just about right, for it's appearing almost exactly two mon-  
ths after the preceding issue, which is supposed to be the way things should happen.  
Unfortunately though, as I have mentioned, this does not help us to catch up. Sob!

Actually though, things are going to become worse! You see, we are going to  
move sometime this summer, either in July or August, into the Detroit area, no less!  
Or so it appears. So guess how that'll upset our schedule. I only hope we move be-  
fore the con, tho. Be just my luck to move in afterwards.

So be sure to write, every-  
one for the next issue. Deadline? Let's just say, two weeks after you receive this  
issue. Heck, I still don't know when this'll be out, or with how many pages. I just  
rec'd a fine letter from Arthur H. Rapp, which'll have to go into the back pages of  
this fine sterling family-type magazine.

I CAN ALMOST hear some members of N3F who are acquainted with the N3F membership list  
muttering to themselves, "Where did Rapp get a copy of POST-ARP? He hasn't been a  
member for almost 10 years!"

It is time, I guess, to admit another sin. For some time  
now, I have been sending issues of POST-ARP to non-Neffers. Officially, it can be  
called recruiting, I think, though I'm a bit dubious about the benefits of doing this.  
It's actually more to just let non-Neffers know more about the N3F. And the best way,  
I think, is to let them see a few Neffers' letters. I pay for the expense, of course.  
But I don't think that really matters...who pays, I mean. What is important is that  
N3F, which is usually used as a butt for a goodly share of fannish jokes, should maybe  
let people -- fans I should say -- who have not been acquainted with the N3F and those

who have, but not for a long time  
see what N3F is doing now. At  
least this way, if they still feel  
inclined to make jokes about the  
N3F, they'll have new material to  
make them on. And if there are  
things in N3F which appear humor-  
ous to non-Neffers, and we can't  
see them, then what's wrong with  
having other people tell us?

It is  
mainly, on the above idea, that I  
have been sending issues of P. to  
non-Neffers, with the invitation  
to "R\*I\*T\*E" if they have anything  
to comment about. After all, be-  
ing out of N3F will give them an  
extra viewpoint in looking at N3F.  
And I don't know about other Neff-  
ers, but I'm interested in their  
opinions, and why they criticize  
Neff, if they do. Anyway, look  
at Art Rapp's letter, and tell me  
if you think I'm wrong. Okay?

When I first took the job  
of editor of P., in my first is-  
sue I made an offer to any and  
all recruiters, which I'll renew.

Any recruiter who has a ~~prospective~~ prospective member who is interested in N3F, but  
would like to know more about N3F before joining, or anyone in this vein, if you send  
me this prospective (I got it right that time!) member's name and address, I'll be more  
than willing to send him/her a sample copy of POST-ARP. This offer is open to every-  
one -- you don't have to be on Wheatley's committee in order to write and ask me to  
send a copy to someone.

PEOPLE HAVE from time to time, sent FW illos for use. I'm beginning to run out, however, so this may be regarded in illoing circles as a premature SOS. I won't really be low for another issue or so. But the only person's illos of which I have what I consider anywhere near a suitable backlog, is Philip Poland.

This is aimed toward all N3F illoers, incidentally. I have stated before, and I repeat, that almost anyone is able to submit an illo that will suit me. I figure that if someone works to make them they deserve to have them published. Note, I won't publish anything, but I'm not too fussy, either. You don't have to be a genuine A\*R\*T\*I\*S\*T, like that, to be published.

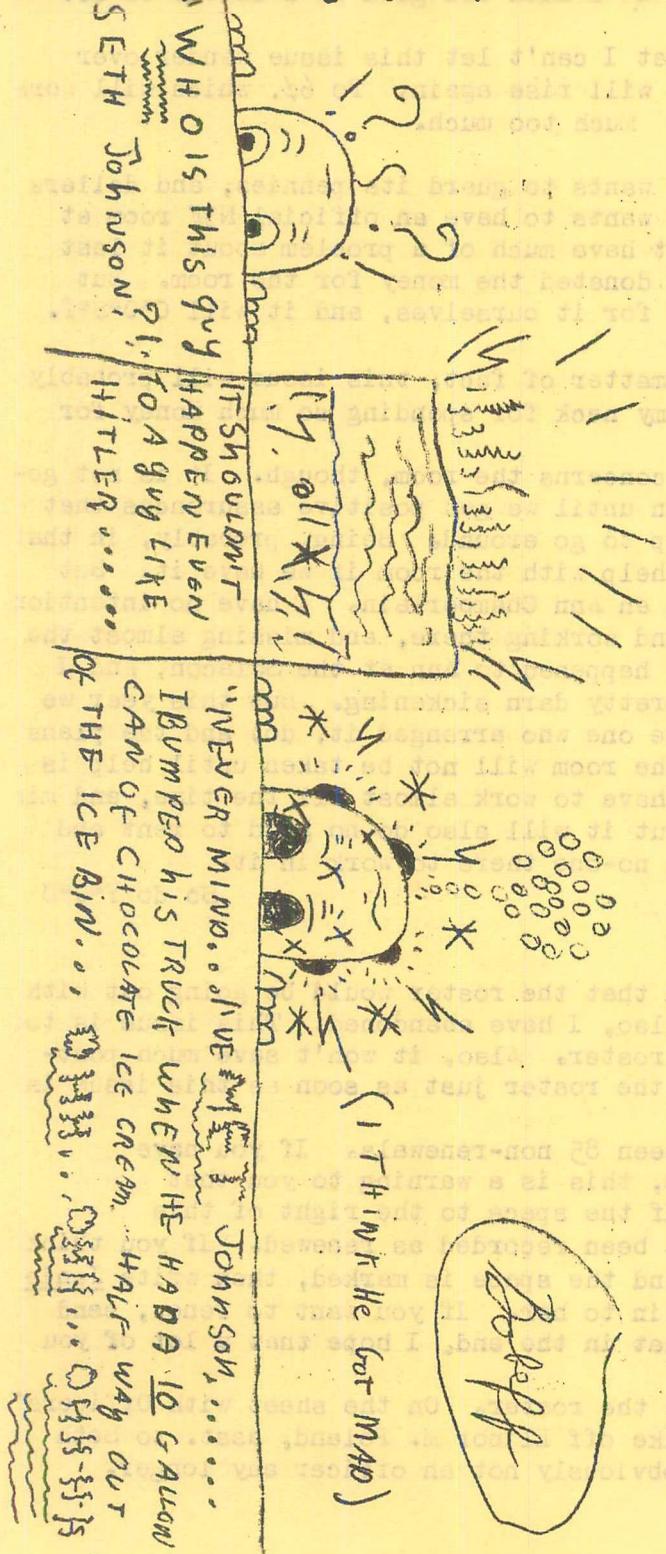
Unfortunately however, only a very few people have noticed my distress. Art Wilson, is one, and who, incidentally, someone whom I consider a F\*U\*N\*L fannish cartoonist. I'm almost out of his work. Then Marilyn Cross, Phil Poland, Gary Deindorfer Bob Farnham, and Doug Payson (a former Neffer) have also responded. Nice. But I think it's interesting to note that Bjo Wells who really rated on the FANAC poll has preferred to ignore my pleas for illos. Come on Bjo, and "Give Your All For Dear Old Dover".

THERE IS one request which I would like to make in regard to letters destined for F. when you type them, they don't seem difficult to read, but they sure are when I try to put them on stencil. So I'm requesting everyone to please, if you can, TYPE LETTERS DOUBLED SPACED. If you don't, I'm not saying they won't be printed, but if they are double spaced, it saves me considerable eye-strain, and I believe I can type stencils faster if the letters are doubled spaced. Thankyou. It'll help me a lot.

A FEW people have entered N3F lately, and I feel their entrance should be recorded. TNFF which usually does the job won't be out for a while, so here with all data are:

- Djinn Faine, Box 52, Olancho, Calif. Born 1/9/38. # Beauty Councelor. # Interests: book, fanzines, etc. Also art work. # Has sold poetry. Has hecto, gestetner. Can type. # Sponsored by Bennie Edwards. Is active in fandom and definitely NOT a neo. Is on OMPA waiting list.
- Virginia Philips, 881 E. 34 St, Hialeah, Fla. # Interested in all of STF. # Sponsored by Elinor Poland. Already active in Round Robins. Does illos too, seen Johnson said
- C.E. Clawson, Box 82, Custer, Montana. # Sponsored by Howard Norman. # No other info.
- Ake Hanson, Ballarupsv. 28A, Malmo, SWEDEN. # Interested in correspondence, fanzine and book collecting. # Sponsored by Sture Sedolin.

THAT IS, unfortunately, all the info officialdom has on these members. If they, or in fact, any member wants to write in and tell about himself, he is invited to do so. The material will be used in something like



the column Honey Wood suggested in her letter -- a personality corner like thing which will undoubtedly appear in TNFF, and all material will be forwarded by me to Ralph Holland. The reason that F. should not publish it, is of course, that F. is supposed to be only a letterzine, and such things are to be 'out of bounds' so to speak. No one has said I mustn't touch, but it is TNFF's duty to run that sort of thing. And after all, TNFF has to have something interesting in it. And what's more interesting than reading about yourself? So hurry hurry and send something in.

I THINK that perhaps I should call this the 'goofed up' issue. When originally planned, I thought I might barely have enough material to cover 18 pages. I changed that to 24 about a week and a half ago, 6 days ago I changed it again to 30. Now I find that I have to leave out Kapp's letter after all, in order to keep it down to 34 pages plus the 2 page ballot. Kapp's letter will lead off next issue, though. I couldn't possibly think of leaving it out altogether. It's much too good of a letter to let it suffer that fate.

The reason, of course, that I can't let this issue wander over 18 sheets is that once I do that, the postage will rise again. To 6¢, which will work out to a fantastic amount for just one issue. Much too much.



THE MAIN REASON that N3F wants to guard its pennies, and dollars so jealously is that N3F wants to have an official N3F room at the Detention. We didn't have much of a problem about it last year -- some nice people donated the money for the room. But this year we have to pay for it ourselves, and it will C\*O\*S\*T. Yes. It sure will.

As a matter of fact, this issue will probably bring Directors down on my neck for spending so much money for a 34 page letterzine.

As concerns the room, though. It is not going to be a definite plan until we get positive assurances that there will be enough help to go around. Being, probably, in that area, I have offered to help with the room if we have it. But I am N\*O\*T going to pull an Ann Chamberlain. I have no intention of staying in the room and working there, and missing almost the entire convention. This happened to Ann at the Solacon, and I personally think it is pretty darn sickening. But this year we know better (at least the one who arranged it, do) and the plans so far seem to be that the room will not be taken until help is offered. No-one should have to work almost all the time, and miss almost the entire con, but it will also do no good to rent and have the room open, with no-one there to work in it.

volunteer?

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So do Y\*O\*U

I THINK I also mentioned that the roster would be going out with this issue. This plan also, I have abandoned. This issue is too late to hold up for the roster. Also, it won't save much postage in the end, anyway. So I'll get busy at the roster just as soon as this issue is in the mails.

I did mention that there have been 85 non-renewals. If you have not renewed, and you are receiving this issue, this is a warning to you that this is the last N3Fzine you will receive. If the space to the right of this has a cross in it, then you know you have not been recorded as renewed. If you think Janie made a mistake, and you have renewed, and the space is marked, then write Janie Lamb, Route 1, Heiskell, Tennessee and complain to her. If you want to renew, send \$1.60 dues, also to Janie. And need I say that in the end, I hope that a lot of you 85 people decide to renew?

*That Holland distributed* Also in relation to the roster. On the sheet with Officers' names and addresses, under Round Robins, strike off Elinor M. Poland, asst. to Seth Johnson. Elinor failed to renew, and so is obviously not an officer any longer.



