

G O S H W O W !

P O S T W A R P

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*Laughingly dated as:*

JULY-AUGUST 1959

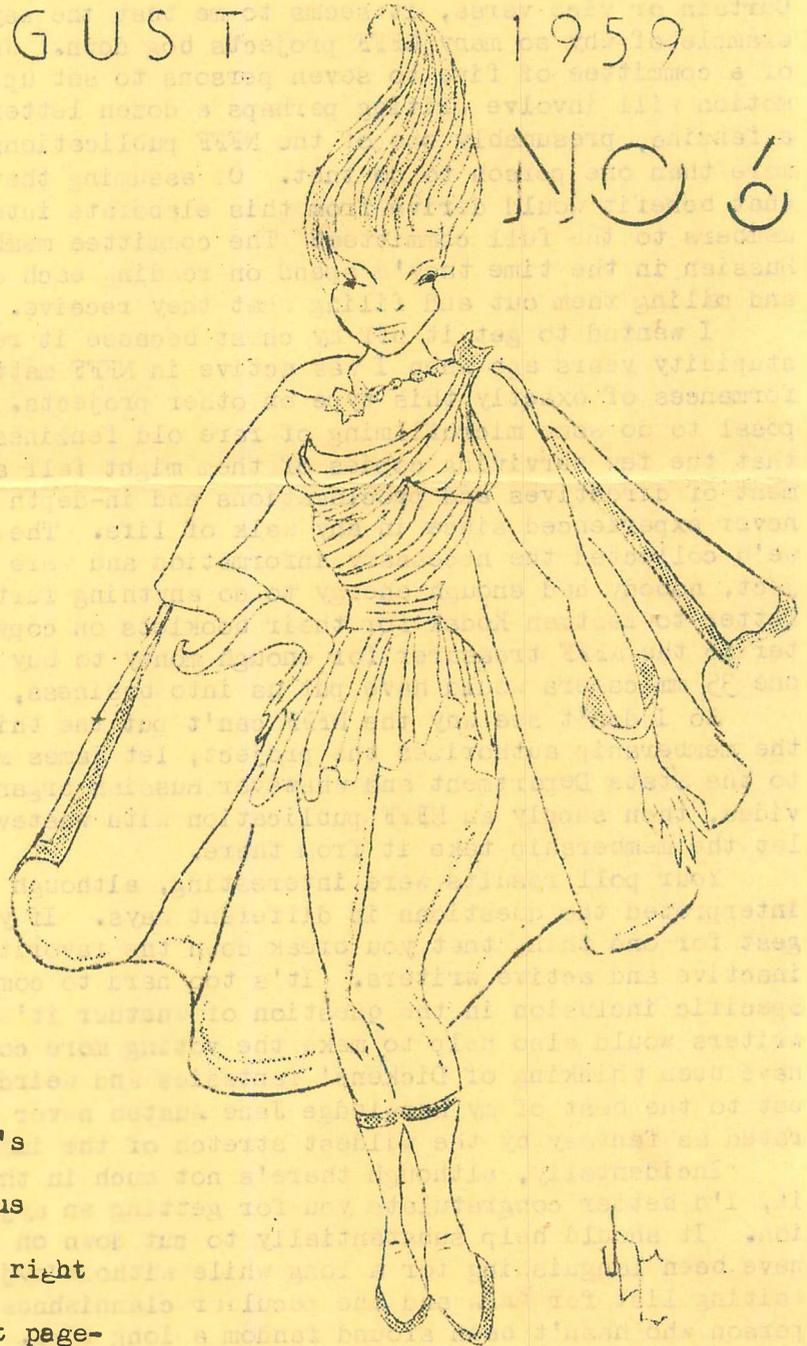
VOL 10

NO 6

So that there will be dancing in the streets and all, I'll announce right here that this is the last Lewis-edited ish. of the NFFF magazine of letters & comments.

Indexers note: the real date on this is April, 1960. This is also being distributed thru the 24th OMPA mailing for Britishfen's curiosity. And, least any serious objections be raised, I'll state right here that I'm refusing any credit page-

wise for this in OMPA--okay? If you're not in OMPA and would like to see the accompanying sheet which goes with this, just ask and it'll be sent to you.



HARRY WARNER, JR.

September 20, 1959

423 Summit Avenue  
Hagerstown, Maryland

I'm not sure that a letter is expected of me in return for this March-April issue of Postwarp. But there are some spare mementos in the office right now, and it's an excellent opportunity to give you the benefit of the doubt. The date of the issue gave me a slight jolt when I saw it, but then I remembered the prozine published by a learned musicologists' organization which is supposed to come out quarterly but has just released an early 1958 issue. And members pay two bucks a copy for that magazine, too.

In fact, you might feel better if I didn't write the letter, because I'm sticking my nose in where it doesn't really belong with what follows. While I'm glad to see that something may be done about this proposal to push fandom behind the Iron Curtain or vice versa, it seems to me that the way it's to be handled is the perfect example of why so many NFFF projects bog down. What is the conceivable usefulness of a committee of five to seven persons to set up this project? Getting it into motion will involve writing perhaps a dozen letters and getting the cooperation of a fanzine, presumably one of the NFFF publications, nothing more. It shouldn't take more than one person to do that. Or assuming that there's some need for a committee, what benefit would derive from this elaborate interchange of all communication among members to the full committee? The committee members could learn to read and write Russian in the time they'd spend on reading each other's mail and making spare copies and mailing them out and filing what they receive.

I wanted to get it off my chest because it reminds me so strongly of my own stupidity years ago when I was active in NFFF matters and took part in useless performances of exactly this type on other projects. I remember in particular one proposal to do some microfilming of rare old fanzines and prozines because of the danger that the few surviving copies of them might fall apart or get lost. Such an assortment of directives and proclamations and in-depth study projects followed as I've never experienced since in any walk of life. The net result was that by the time we'd collected the necessary information and were in a position to start on the project, nobody had enough energy to do anything further. It was all so stupid--one letter to Eastman Kodak for their booklets on copying of documents, and another letter to the NFFF treasurer for enough money to buy some microfilm, and the use of one 35 mm camera would have put us into business, just like that.

So I don't see why the NFFF can't put the thing up to a membership vote, and if the membership authorizes the project, let James MacLean write the necessary letters to the State Department and whatever Russian organizations the State Department provides, then supply an NFFF publication with whatever information he's gathered, and let the membership take it from there.

Your poll results were interesting, although it's obvious that different voters interpreted the questions in different ways. If you plan to do it again, I'd suggest for one thing that you break down the favorite author poll into two categories: inactive and active writers. It's too hard to compare a Bradbury with a Wells. Specific inclusion in the question of whether it's legal to vote for non-fantasy writers would also help to make the voting more consistent. I suppose Gertie might have been thinking of Dickens' fantasies and weird tales when she included him in, but to the best of my knowledge Jane Austen never published anything that could be rated as fantasy by the wildest stretch of the imagination.

Incidentally, although there's not much in this Postwarp in direct reference to it, I'd better congratulate you for getting an ayjay group started in the organization. It should help substantially to cut down on the loneliness for some people who have been languishing for a long while without ayjay memberships because of the long waiting list for FAPA and the peculiar clannishness of SAPS that might intimidate a person who hasn't been around fandom a long time. And an ayjay organization is one that is pretty easy to keep going, once you start it, with a minimum of red tape and complexity. Just one person to get out the mailings, plus whoever gets stuck with the jobs of keeping the records and receiving the money and doing whatever judicial action is needed.

Yrs., &c., /s/ Harry

{{Harry--you did exactly what I wanted you to do. One of the purposes of sending out extra copies is to keep us from blundering into the same mistakes over and over again. Your letter, I think, has helped. It also, I think, illustrated by a very graphic example, what Busby meant by "Constitutional Roofaraw." I know when I stenciled MacLean's letter I said to myself, "Egad, what a lot of work. I wouldn't want to be in on this." But I failed to follow my thought to its logical conclusion, as you did; that is all probability, it won't work. So thanks, Harry.

Incidentally, I might make note of the fact that some time later you sent me a letter written on an NFFF letterhead--which listed E.E. Evans as President, Bob Tucker as Veep, Walt Dunkelberger as Sec'y-Treas., Art Widner as Chairman of Directorate, and Walt Daugherty, Phil Bronson, Art Sennert and yourself as the other Directors. Very interesting, and proof positive of how you worked for the NFFF. I guess it was made up in the mid-40's.

Another poll? Perhaps later this year, but nothing's definitely planned as of yet. I guess, though, when I do make one up, I'll have to follow your suggestions in order to get something in the way of results that really mean something. Those results were botched up considerably.}}

ED LUDWIG

July 30, 1959

455 N. Tuxedo Avenue  
Stockton 4, California

This letter is written for the purpose of wholeheartedly complimenting all those who have written frankly, if somewhat abusively, to a fan of Amerind descent, protesting his inclusion in fandom. Amerind, as we all know, is the antropological term for American Indian--a term which should have long ago overflowed into popular useage.

Fandom, and particularly the NFFF, should confine itself only to the superior races--that is, those races and cultures which have contributed constantly to world civilization's progress without signs of weakness, faltering, or retrogression.

This doctrine should also apply to those of mixed blood. In so saying, I'm aware that this writer must be counted as one of these contaminated creatures. Unfortunately, my great-great grandmother, a Cherokee maiden named Apalani, enticed my great-great grandfather one sunny afternoon in the backwoods of pioneer Kentucky and tainted the clan's blood for all eternity. Until enlightened by the more progressive factions of fandom, I was actually proud that some of Apalani's kinfolk had the gumption to take a few random shots at a creaking wagon train. In fact, I have at times regretted that their habitually peaceful nature restrained them from pushing the whole noisy mass of Invaders back to Plymouth Rock.

I suggest that our enlightened friends carry their doctrine a step or two further. The Germans and those of German descent have always been considered rather gruff and warlike. NFFF members so contaminated should be expelled at once. British pomposity and mock-supericrity are certainly not to be endured in the science-fiction world. Scandinavians are descended from the once-ferocious Vikings--horrors! The French are too pre-occupied with sex. Our armed focces have gallantly opposed the Japanese in World War II, the Chinese in Korea, the Spanish in Manila Bay. Russians are, of course, subversive. As for Negroes, Bostonians, Jews, Southern Californians, Catholics and members of Chambers of Commerce--well!

I also recommend excluding from fandom the following groups (subject to approval by the Big Brother selected to arbitrate such matters):

1. All fans under the age of 21. We want a mature fandom, not a jibbering mass of pinwheeled-hatted adolescents.
2. All fans with less than a college education. We want thinkers with educational backgrounds, not backwoods plow-pullers.
3. All fans with blue eyes. I prefer brown eyes--at least in slinky blondes, so why be choosy?
4. All fans over the age of 21. We want fans with the drive and enthusiasm of youth, not old men and women laden with burdens of supporting wives, husbands and enildren.

5. All fans who have attended college. We want real people with fresh, open minds, not stuffy scholars imprisoned in dreary ivory towers.
6. All fans with eyes. (This is out of compassion for people with brown eyes whose feelings might be hurt at their exclusion.)

Reference for the above doctrine: Mein Kampf, by A. Hitler, Esq.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ed

JOHN P. TUCKER

October 15, 1959

Post Office Box 445  
Roswell, New Mexico

I understand that there has been some difficulty overseas with prospective members of NFFF being unable to obtain American dollars for membership purposes. Understanding some of the intricacies of currency exchange, I can see that this could well be a very real problem in some countries.

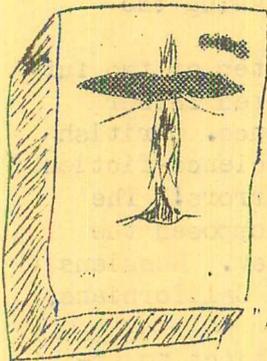
In order to alleviate this at least to a small degree, I'd like to volunteer both a suggestion and a little help. It is simply this: If the president of NFFF and three directors will endorse some overseas member-to-be, I will personally pay his dues for a period of one year. I will do this each year BUT will not pay the same person's dues two consecutive years. The reason for the qualification is quite simple. Assume that in the future there arises a situation whereby I wish to stop doing this, or am financially forced to stop, then by not being allowed to maintain one person's membership I would not be in the position of possibly accidentally "offending" that person. In other words, I'd follow the first law of robotics as far as payment was concerned: by action (paying for NFFF dues) I would not harm a human; by inaction (no paying for NFFF dues) I would not allow a human to come to harm.

If you think this has any merit, circulate it around NFFF and see if perhaps a few others might not like to join in the "project". "Project Overseas Membership" might be handled in this fashion: unencumbered funds would be turned over to the treasurer for overseas memberships and the President and the majority of the Directors would "appoint" members from overseas who could not obtain exchange money with their dues drawn from our voluntary contributions.

See any good in this?

Sincerely,

/s/ John



Ok  
58

"A dangerous  
energy"

←Yes, John. I see a lot of good in it. Individual members have arranged exchanges, but a group such as this would be nice too. I guess interested members should contact you and you should contact Art Hayes with a more definite plan→

STAN WOOLSTON

November 21, 1959

12832 Westlake St.  
Garden Grove, Calif.

Your magazine Postwarp will be the first one in 1960 the members are apt to see, unless Art Hayes sends one of his out to everyone. ←You're speaking technically, of course!→ So I'm going to use this opportunity to "sound off" on a few points that I believe members should give their opinions on, because it's one of their club's projects.

The advantage of having a "year" is that every so often we have a chance to "start over" again. We then have a natural invitation to comment and also to become active in whatever area of things we find interesting. Postwarp to me means "the voice of the fans", and as it is a club organ we have the subject-matter of the NFFF

to discuss too. I know that writing regularly to both the letterzine and contributing to The National Fantasy Fan, can be both fun and a way for the member to become more and more interested in fandom as a whole.

Ralph Holland has been re-elected as President; he has re-appointed me head of the Neffan News Service and as Public Relations officer. These two activities are intertwined; they represent potential areas of contact between NFFF and fandom at large, through individuals and groups. For example, the news program is to gather news as it happens or at end of every month at my address, where I can "distribute" it to fan publishers in and out of the club. This means news of NFFF that is of interest to all fans will be read beyond the readership of Postwar or TNFF. It means, I hope, that there will be cooperation between fans who are where news happens and the Neffan news distributor (myself). But...

I am just the coordinator. I have found it takes too much time for me to do all the correspondence needed to line up reporters in each fan-club to cover news both in the club (and their projects, meetings are included here, and news HEARD ABOUT because each individual club is a "news magnet."

So I am asking for assistance. I need individual collectors of information who will send me letters near the end of each month. If some news story "breaks" I would appreciate hearing as much about it AT ONCE as is possible. Don't worry if you haven't had formal training as a reporter; if you give the information including the address of someone I can write for details and follow-up material, it will be most helpful. It will mean you are making this a successful news-gathering set-up, and then I can send out details to everyone who indicates interest, or see it gets to publications everyone can read it in.

Regional coordinators are needed too. These will send me news and tips on news: addresses where I can write for details on a news story that they have heard a hint about. This could be a marriage of a fan. ("Josephus X. married someone, I heard; you could write to his friend, Harry Urner, at 1234 Fifth St., Sixville, Indiana.") It could be address of someone involved in a forthcoming conference or S-F Convention; a new SF series on TV (or a report on first or one of the series), etc. If a TV or book report, give TV home station or publisher, with address if possible, so a follow-up for more details can be made.

So what we need is for YOU to keep your eyes open for things of interest to yourself, about fandom or the pros. Then send it to me. And I will see it gets in TNFF and other publications. I will send news to other fanzines and to clubs, where it can be used for the sake of many. This will be better than just a publication to reach a handful of fans, without the cross-coverage being possible.

I know you can help if you will. Will you? If so, write at once and tell me. And thanks. Write to: Stan Woolston  
12832 Westlake Street  
Garden Grove, California

September 19, 1959

There are so many things to comment on it takes selection to keep a letter to a reasonable size. I've talked to Mr. Campbell of astounding ((Now Analog, Science Fact and Fiction)) at the Solacon, and sort of like the idea of the Explorer's Club --but then I've been behind in reading all the zines I have on hand and am only slowly catching up. Fandom is time-consuming; I can't say it is always as much fun as reading S-F, but in any case I do like it and it's a challenge. I'll write Alma to see what more she may have on the group, for my own information. I like to explore ideas, and if I get time might find it possible to do a little original research. After all, an individual is the final authority on anything (and other kinds of accepted authority implies a willingness to let others think for you). I hope others comment on Alma's letter.

After the Detention was officially over Randall Garrett spoke before a bunch of late-nighters (in one of the regular convention rooms) for several hours about the need for welcoming new fans into activities, and also in keeping them from being unduly familiar. I may have simplified what he said to the point of idiocy, but the

idea was that at conventions there should be a way for the interested newcomer to find a niche for himself. Apparently this gentleman believes that conventions lack the spirit of the crusader--or the fans there do. Perhaps he was speaking more widely, and wished to suggest that there should be a way to help spark the interest in the new fans so it would turn into a flame. I didn't mention the the NFFF was one group that tried to meet this need--but I may write him later. Quite a large group sat fairly quietly to listen to him, so either the subject, or the way Randall Garrett expressed himself, must have been interesting. Perhaps some NFFF members would have ideas as to how we may help more in getting an enthusiastic reader of S-F to become an active fan. I know it is one of the important things this and every fan group needs.

This is not the answer to the above, but it's in sympathy with it: YOU (each reader of Postwarp) are urged to write me news. Fans go places and do things; I like to know so it can be included in TNFF and sent out in newsheets to other fans and groups. Same goes with what the "pros" do. One fan can't do this alone; help is needed. Reporters. People who will write a letter and just say what happened if they don't have journalistic experience. If I can get the names, addresses and other details of a news item it doesn't matter too much if it's written formally or not. But without the item, this news service that I am trying to "spark" will become too big a burden for me to do on top of other activities. I'm not built (structurally) for begging on my knees, but I might try it if someone doesn't start sending in the news. I can answer letters too--I'm a fan and like to know what's cooking. You can be a reporter too--write me about it please.

Jim MacLean wants to start an international corresponding group inside the NFFF, using the language-ability and interest of members. You are interested in polls, Al. I suggest you write Jim and see what ideas he has on this. I know he wants to find out what members speak various languages, and if they want to write overseas in English or other languages. Of course the English correspondence has been going on already, but it could help a special group to get going if he covered both areas. Now, such a poll could go into fan interests and abilities in some detail--find out what areas of interest the fans would like to at least START their letters to "foreign" people with. (And note that that word "foreign" is not a word of insult; it means non-U.S. people to the citizens of this country, or citizens of other lands. Sometimes I think some people assume it's meant to be derogatory. Tsk.)

Directors and other officers (WC headman, for example, was not a director until recently) have their areas of activities. When they do their job well it's easier for all of us; directors don't have to try to fill in, and it helps the President too of course. We need more activity on all levels. Everyone who wants to be active in one area or another can find a place if they ask the right place. Now, about a poll and what to include. I suggest that we try to find out what members want as individuals, and what they think they are able to help at. This help may be limited to one item or for a few hours a month, but if it is worked into a program for the NFFF it will make all others who work for the club do a more interesting and better job--and with less strain. A convention is one place a poll might be distributed; a letter-zine is another good place. I'm willing to work with you on suggested questions--and in a short time I'll try to compose some questions to see how it goes.

In the meantime, maybe you or others will have ideas for this.

I'm a member of the Directorate. I'm willing to pass on all ideas and information on who'll volunteer, etc. A letter is enough for this, of course.

The letters by Busby, Deindorfer and others have good points. There are areas where a serious approach in the NFFF pays off; this does not mean that the fan must be an aesthetic.

I know the active members enjoy what they do, whether they laugh out loud about it or not. Having fun is part of any area of fandom, or belonging to any group. Sometimes fans can seem mighty gloomy or fanatic about insisting that their views are the one true views, or their club is the one true club. Perhaps this causes many "outside" to resent them--and many IN the club, for that matter.

Everything I've said here may not be included in the thought I'm trying to state, but I think it is important: as long as the NFFF is interesting to the member, it will have some importance to him. The member who comments or is otherwise

active is much more apparently a part of the club, and the member feels part of it too. Perhaps we who have contact with members through the publications should remember to ask everyone to speak up when they feel something of interest has been expressed. In Postwarp you have a fine chance to help in this. I'm glad you're continuing to help as you are.

Stan Woolston

September 5, 1979

28 Earle Avenue  
Bangor, Maine

CLAYTON HAMLIN, JR.

Well, I have been called lots of things during my brief tenure in active fandom but being called overly modest in my opinions is something new. However you might be right, considering that last letter. So let's see just what might be done to start an argument.

Now, I surely have a great respect for the opinions of fandom expressed by Art Rapp. Still, I have to disagree with his latest letter in several respects. He can't help being somewhat disillusioned about the overenthusiasm that all neofans are so very susceptible to. Having learned the hard way just how much effort is required to get something really worthwhile for the club working and the tremendous demands on time that they require, it is easy to see why he sort of looks down from his years of experience and takes it for granted they can't do any better than the last bunch did before. "It was tried before, and failed from lack of willing workers. Why shouldn't the same thing happen again?"

But Art; with the greatest of admiration for your own work in fandom--are you and the other old timers going to sit idly by and let the current group of over-enthusiastic fans fail in their attempt from sheer lack of support?--Just because you know from experience that nothing like this has ever worked before? Or would you be willing to use a few spare moments of that most precious of all commodities--time--to see if this attempt just might be able to do something new and worthwhile that might, in the end, drastically revise the opinions of outside fandom that the NFFF always fails in whatever they attempt?

Most specifically--I am speaking of the new bureau that I have been appointed as head of--the following up of members and getting them into the midst of the activities current in the club right from the beginning. It is a rather deplorable happening when someone like Joni Cornell, who wrote that letter in the last Postwarp, tells how no-one was even interested in whether she could do something for the club. I can name at least a dozen others who have told me the same thing, too. What a waste of talent to fandom, and perhaps even to professional sci--in time--this lack of interest in the talented newcomers is. Well, I intend to correct it. And I have the help of Art Hayes to support this program. Surely you all know what he can do. We will try to do it ourselves if we have to--and just the two of us might succeed. But it will be easier if some of the more apathetic of the older members try to help a bit as well. It will surely be appreciated more than I can tell.

One of the first things on the program will be a reactivation of the Manuscript Bureau. Now, I don't blame Raleigh for this inactivity (Ed Ludwig controls it now, anyway.) --no-one sent him any material to use. However, as one branch of this new service, we fully intend to institute a complete change of policy for this bureau. Certainly we will not wait for the neos to initiate the correspondence--we have every intention of going out after them. You people on the Welcommittee--let's let them know that if they want to write or illustrate or do any kind of work--they only have to send the stuff to Ed, and it will certainly be published. And knowing from sad experience just how overworked a talented member can become, we will see that this doesn't happen to them. Already there are two or three members in the club that even the Welcommittee doesn't know about, that are equal to many of the writers and artists that everyone knows about. Plus a couple of formerly inactive members that

have been persuaded that they have as much chance of being published as any of the better-known fans. They surely have, when you realize there isn't a faned around that isn't just begging for new material.

Right at the present, most of these talented newcomers are generally being offered to the new N'APA, just to get it going under full power. If they really want outside help in publishing those zines, they shall have it to the limit of what there is to offer. ((Yes--for example, if someone sends me either stencils or masters, I can reproduce them for him for N'APA.)) And that is certainly more than most of the fans seem to realize. Keep those neos busy working--maybe some of them will drop out later--some of them will move on to the rest of fandom and perhaps look down on poor old NFFF for the childish things that sometimes happen in this club. (It is easy to forget that they did the same themselves, when getting started.) Some very few will be the professionals and big name fans of the future. I personally know one member of the club, possibly two, that are awfully close to that already. How do you know that the next recruited member won't be another one until you get them active, and find out?

Yes, I suffer from overenthusiasm, but is that so bad? Even though only a neo of less than a year in active fandom, I still can claim a knowledge of fandom from just about its earliest days back in the early thirties. ((You can claim it--but I'm inclined to doubt it.)) That is how long I've been a fan at heart if not in name. They did some wonderful things for pro stf in those days. Then there would be the general collapse of everything as they became more interested in fandom, instead of stf, after which the cycle would start back up, and continue this way for awhile until the next inevitable failure. Right now we are right in the early stages of that consistent upsurge of interest, so this is obviously the time to give it that little push to see just how high it can reach. The NFFF is going through some of the inevitable troubles that always come when the new members try to force their way into becoming big name fans in their own right, and although it can't help but be sort of irritating to the older ones by causing them to reevaluate their own policies--it shouldn't be fought too much except to the extent of seeing that these neos don't burn themselves out before they accomplish what they can for fandom and specifically the NFFF. Sure--they need a steady hand to make sure this doesn't happen, but let's not oversow it by ignoring the fact that the newcomers will probably do more in the next few years than has been accomplished in the past recession of several years. ((May I make the statement that all of Clayton's "Fan History" is to be taken with a grain of salt? Because, it should be.))

Anyone want to help? It will be fun to see just how high this club can go. Because certainly, if it doesn't go up, it most certainly is going down into what probably will be nothing more than a numerous bunch of splinter groups that will never get anything done from simple fighting with each other. ((Bob Lambeck just said he doesn't give a damn whether the NFFF brings forth new pros. Lambeck says that he is in this hobby to have fun--not to "enrich the field of Science-Fiction" et cetera, ad nauseum.))

/s/ Clayton Hmlin

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September 25, 1959

1011 E. Hoffman  
Spokane 22, Washington

MARIJANE JOHNSON

Here I am--late as usual and just as ambiguous as ever! You were right and I wasn't insulted, although some were for me. Mostly, I was sitting on the fence until more were heard from, not so much to make up my mind, but to hear the different opinions. I still say "under the right circumstances," but frankly believe there are too many circumstances. Don't think the outcome would be worth the effort and the trouble it could, not would, stir up. As you say, pleasure and seriousness can be combined in the NFFF, but that could get too serious. Don't think I have the grey matter anyway, so I'm just not too apt on the idea. For those who have, I expect it could work out--oops, there I go, being ambiguous again.

There should be a special niche in the NFFF for me. I just don't have the

energy to get in too deep and that's why I stick to recruiting and welcoming. I get a big bang out of finding people who really become interested and have the know-how and equipment to leap right in and do things.

I'll be interested in hearing more about the NFFF prozine idea. It sounds interesting.

I don't like fussin' and feudin' any more than most and a lot less than some, but I don't think the NFFF is as bad off as Gary Deindorfer makes out. Anyhow, I try to stay in my niche, call it fence-sitting, but that's something we can still do in this country. I'll fight just as hard for my fence as others do for or against other issues.

/s/ Janie

November 21, 1959

614 Harvie Avenue  
Toronto 10, Ontario  
Canada

ALBERT LASTOVICA

You may remember me--we met briefly at the Detention. It was here at the Detention that Ken and Fren Kruöger finally induced me to join the NFFF again. In 1954, at the Midwestcon, Don Susan enrolled me as a member. How keen I was, really anxious to learn what I could do for the club and what it could do for me. Nothing happened! In the year I was in, I received one welcome letter and about half a dozen fanzines. Nothing else. No attempt was made to see if I would be willing to do something. So I finally dropped out, for obvious reasons.

It was with some apprehensions that I put my name on the dotted line. The thought kept recurring to me, that if the club was so apathetic toward new people before, would they be any different now? How unfounded my misgivings! Within a period of about 5 weeks, I received no less than eight welcome letters (at this writing) and several club publications. It was really encouraging to read the warm personal letters of people like Esther Richardson, Art Hayes, and Raleigh Multog and the others who wrote to me.

The welcommittee are to be congratulated on doing a splendid job! If this welcome is a sample of the way the club is now operating, then I'm sure my stay with the NFFF will be a long and enjoyable one.

There are certain elements in fandom, particularly some members of the so-called APA groups (SAPS, FAPA, OMPA, the CULP) who regard the NFFF as a useless and sterile body within fandom. These same people proudly point to their own groups and say, "We are a select group of ten who publish excellent fansine material." They publish good fan material all right, but most, if not all is solely for consumption within their own groups. In addition, they delight in pointing to their exclusive memberships. These people undoubtedly dispise the NFFF because it is an open organization, requiring no waiting period--in fact, nothing other than an interest in Science Fiction. ((These statements, Al, could only come about through an extreme amount of misinformation which you have absorbed as Truth. They don't dispise the NFFF--they've just turned to a form of fanac which is more rewarding <sup>to them</sup>, and they get tired of NFFFers beating drums, yelling "we are the best!" and "You ought to Help us because you're BNFs" etc. Your other statements are equally erroneous, but I'll let them pass.)) The ways these clubs are organized and who they admit are their own business. But when people start criticizing other groups because they operate on a different basis well, that's just about the acme of boorishness, snobbery and idiocy. After all, who wants to wait years to join a club so that he can publish a good fanzine? Our zines may not be literary gems--but they weren't meant to be. ((Neither are APazines. Fans join apas because they want to belong to a group--to receive the other members' magazines, to read the comments, etc. No one ever has said you must join an apa to publish a good fanzine! That's not what apas are for!)) Science Fiction should be a hobby and not a compulsion. I'm not saying that all

people in these groups are like that. There are many fine fen within the Apa groups. There is a place within fandom for both the fanzine publishing fan and the non-publishing fan. It appears to be the case that some people build themselves up by tearing down other people. Human nature, I guess. ((Am I to take it that you feel that the non-pubbing fans are entirely blameless?))

As Alexander Pope so aptly puts it:

"To err is human, to forgive divine"

((Okay, Al, I forgive you. But I do wish you'd make more of an effort <sup>toward getting facts</sup> before lambasting apa groups. Your facts just ain't. You sound as if you take honey wood Graham's word as the Gospel Truth. Speaking of whom...))

Yours in Science Fiction,

/s/ Albert Lastovica

1515 Hopkins  
Berkeley, California

HONEY WOOD GRAHAM

There are so many things to comment about in the present issue of Postwarp that I hardly know where to begin. The first thing on my mind is a statement made by Bruce Pelz, namely "loud-mouths who are venemently against some other branch of fandom such as the Apas." Well, Bruce, I am one of the "loud-mouths" who is vehemently against some of the apa groups. The reason is this: they can sit around and make comments about the NFFF, so why in the heck can't I sit around and make comments about them, when ever I have an opportunity? Just about every Apa member of one sort or another that I have met, has something real low-down to say about the NFFF, and this I don't go along with. The item that has me curious is JUST WHAT LOUD MOUTH NFFF member you are mentioning in your statement. It would give me much pleasure to hear just what promoted this remark...are you a loyal NFFF member, or a would-be apa member? ((Honey--there is no difference, except in the minds of people like yourself who purpously try to antagonize the apa members. What you need is a sense of humor about the NFFF.))

O.K., Alan, I missed out on the vote, so my 10 votes for best writer go to Hog. I don't know how I missed an opportunity like that to swell the ballot boxes.

Gary Deindorfer's letter caused me much unhappiness. I consider myself an average NFFF member and I can tell Mr. Deindorfer more about fandom, zines, and prozines than he would care to listen to. I think you sadly under-rate the average members of the NFFF, Gary. How much do you know about fandom? Also, being an active club member and officer in various types of clubs, I would be willing to state that many clubs get into hassles over items that slow down the efficiency and enjoyment of clubs, but that is one of the necessary evils. Get any group of people together and you will have conflicting ideas, which will hinder the progress of the club. I would also say that in the past year, more has been done for efficient management of the club (NFFF) than has been done in any other s.f. club. The apa groups get bogged doen in other types of unpleasant things, such as reviewing every fansine sent to them, without offering anything new under the sun. ((In the first place, that just isn't so. In the 2nd, what fanzines are reviewed, are done for fun. It's not an unpleasant task to the members. And in the 3rd place, have you thot that the reason the NFFF has done more for efficiency this past year is because it has more to do?))

On the overall whole, Postwarp is surely stirring up interesting comments, and getting down to some true feelings of the membership. Let's keep the letters pouring in and hear some more comments. I know I enjoyed reading them...how about you?

As Ever,

/s/ Honey Wood



ious.

Buz for example. Now you try to ~~cut~~ the ground out from under any critic by stating he isn't an outsider. Not true. If he isn't, why isn't his name on the list of members. Exactly how many members does he correspond with? Very few I am sure. Not that it matters as far as criticism of the constitution goes, naturally, but after that he simply repeats the propaganda of the "hate N3F" group that we all know so well. We like the rules and regulations too much and take them seriously? Ha! It would be the easiest thing of all to give him the names of fifty members who won't even mention the subjects in a year of correspondence. Sure, the directors do, as do the editors of various club publications. That's their job.

In the end it seems rather obvious that Buz is making the same old mistake of picking out the actions of one or two members he actually knows, and from this stating that because of them, the more active members, the rest of us have the same motives. Is anything more ridiculous than that? ~~Yes: your punctuation. - rnl~~

Actually of course it is just the opposite. As a fairly well known fan outside NFFF he surely doesn't know even a small percentage of the members of this club, or what they are doing. Most members have little or no desire to become well known in outside fandom. Too much fun going on inside the club to have any desire to do anything like that. ~~This bickering undoubtedly arises from the fact that the N3F and outside fandom exist for two entirely different purposes and, in general, for two different groups of people. The N3F is, or should be, just about ideal for neofen, sf and fantasy readers, budding pros, and the like. It should not develop into anything similar to the LASFS or Nameless Ones. There is really no place in the N3F proper for fake-fans, faaaaans, or pseudo-fan-fans. The N3F is designed to be sercon and of interest to sf and fantasy readers. This illogical bickering will undoubtedly die off as soon as the people who yell "Sercon!" realize that they are complimenting us. - rnl~~

I have never written Buz, so I don't know a heck of a lot about him personally. If he would care to join the club, I would be only too happy to write him, and perhaps show him just where he errs in his condemnation of the club. - Granted I am only a neo, with no desire whatever to become a BNF, still he might find something of interest in a correspondence. After all, anyone who can carry on exceedingly pleasant correspondences with such controversial fans as Paul Rehorst, Gem Carr, and many others and all that without the slightest trace of starting a feud just might be able to find something in common with him.

As for Gary, I can only ask, if you want discussion of stf and all those things why in the world haven't you written me to be put into a stf robin? If he wants to find some authors of the future, that are pretty darn good even now, let him write Art Hayes ~~better: Ed Ludwig - rnl~~ for some material from the Manuscript Bureau, including that much deplored fan fiction. Do you really want to do something about it Gary? Then for gosh sakes lets see some expression of interest from you. You aren't alone in that you know. I have been trying to get a group of fans that think stf should be the most important part of fandom ever since I joined. At times almost alone. And results are promising, but not nearly as much as they would be if those who are interested in this would only tell us. Any perhaps offer just a bit of help at times. ~~note: stf should be the most important part of the N3F. Fandom is not yet ready to receive the gospel - rnl~~

If he is like many fans and simply doesn't like to initiate a correspondence of his own, let him consider this an invitation.

Well, Gary, whatcha going to do about it?

/s/ Clay Hamlin

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2520 - 4th Street  
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

RALPH M. HOLLAND

Sept 13, 1959

Postwarp arrived after my return from Detention -- another fine issue. Keep it up. Now that you are up there where there are some other fans, maybe you can draft some help in getting the zine out -- have a publishing bee, or something, and let them earn their stripes by turning a mimeo crank, addressing, stapling, etc. They might as well learn young. ((Yeah, sure. - rml))

Regards Art Rapp's suggestion about the prozine reviews: I think it is a good one. When NFFF was started, one of the reasons given for its existence was to keep its members up to date on prozines, fanzines, books, etc., so all these are legitimate fare for TNEF. The catch, as you point out, is finding the space and the editorial personnel to handle it. TNEF is also cut down to \$12 an issue, as you know, and there is a limit to how much I can finance in addition to that. However, I think the Directorate will reconsider that limit, particularly in view of the fact that our 1955 treasury has finally come unglued from the fingers of our former Treasurer, so that is probably not a factor now. As for someone to run it -- well, it was Rapp's idea, so who is better fitted to take charge of it. So I will begin to twist his arm.

On Rapp's comment about the attempts of NFFF officers to please everybody, the stated role of the club when it was organized was to avoid, so far as possible, the numerous differences of opinion and the feuds which are always present in fandom. The founding fathers felt that this was necessary in order to unite all fans. There were as many different opinions as there were fans, and any course the club adopted would separate it from some group. BUT, this does not mean, as I see it, that the NFFF and its officers cannot be for or against anything, merely because it might anger some fans. Where principles of right or wrong are involved, then the officers not only can speak out, but should. I have always found that nothing can be gained by trying to evade a moral or ethical issue. The best thing is always to do and say what you know is right, and let the chips fall where they may. I don't know of any hard and fast rules as to when an officer should remain neutral and when he should take a stand. It all depends on the circumstances, and is a matter of good judgement. If the officers have good judgement in such matters, the club will prosper. If they either speak when they should be listening, or try to straddle when they should stand up and be counted, the NFFF is going to be held in contempt.

Answering Buz Busby -- he is against all organization, so his views are naturally colored by his philosophy. He frankly says he doesn't believe in any sort of organization. I don't think such a view is practical. Obviously, neither do those who will read Postwarp. If they did, they wouldn't be in NFFF, and wouldn't be reading Postwarp. As to preoccupation with organizational affairs, it must be remembered that, while the main purpose of the club is to have fun, and the main objective of most members is to enjoy themselves -- someone has to stay home and mind the store while the rest of them are out playing. Things don't "just happen." They happen because someone did a lot of serious skull beating and hard work to make them happen. The duties of the president ARE defined quite exactly -- he runs the club. Or, as the constitution puts it, he shall "conduct the affairs of the organization".

The Directorate sets the basic policies, and can review acts of the president if it sees fit, but aside from that the prexy runs the club officially. Naturally, he can't do it all by himself, so there are various departments and committees appointed to do the detailed work -- but it is done in his name, and he is the one who is responsible if it isn't done. It has always been my policy to give these administrative aides a free hand to pick their own committees and run things pretty much as they please, but I am still the target for all the bricks and dead cats if anything goes wrong, because it is the duty of the president to conduct the affairs of the organization -- or see that they are conducted.

I think that perhaps both Buzby and Deindorfer make the mistake of thinking that the noisiest group in the NFFF represent the majority, whereas they are usually far in the minority. As for instance in the Rehorst case, which is mentioned, a few members were making a lot of noise about it, ((blush -- rnl)) but they had a bit of trouble in finding the necessary 8 signers for their petition. Which does not exactly indicate that "everybody," as Gary puts it, was worked up about the deal. NFFF is far from perfect, of course. So long as it is composed of human beings, they are going to do all the foolish things that human beings do -- and various other human beings are going to point with alarm at the club. But the great silent majority of the membership goes along having a fairly good time in spite of all its faults. We should never reject an attempt to make the club better, but at the same time we should realize that it will never be perfect, and not get too concerned over a few pet faults so long as the overall picture is good.

Regarding the Soviet exchange idea -- I have remained neutral to date. I do not see the dangers that some see, so am not violently against it, but neither do I see much to be gained, and fear that the sponsors are in for a let-down if the thing ever gets into orbit. For myself, I have been fighting and arguing with Communists in unions, public forums, and other groups for a good many years, and I have finally decided that you just can't reason with them, so why waste time trying? I doubt that any contacts you would get in the Soviet Union would discuss politics or economics with you. It is the policy of the USSR to try to show what nice people they are just at the moment, so they would probably confine their letters to S-F and science, if, as I think, that is the official policy. They would, of course, be 100% "safe" Young Communist Party members, and under strict discipline, so would only discuss what they were told to discuss. But, mainly, I doubt that the average U.S. fan would like the USSR brand of "science fiction." I think it would be just too heavy and sercon for them. Over there, it isn't a hobby -- it is a serious business -- "Science through Science Fiction" -- get the young fry interested in a very serious variety of science fiction (or maybe fact-fiction would be a better name for it) and they may show an interest in real science as they grow up -- and the USSR needs scientists to beat the USA. It is up to the Directorate, and ultimately the membership, to decide, and I think they are capable of making a decision, so am content to leave it to them.

((I believe that there are enough fans interested in discussing science fiction with Russian fans that the project would be worthwhile. Granted that the science fiction written in the USSR is severely limited by the government as to treatment of the subject (like: no defeatism), but it is still creative writing and definitely falls into the classification of SF. - rnl))

/s/ Ralph M. Holland

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## DAVID L. TRAVIS

December 24, 1959

Box 362  
Tombstone, Ariz.

I am withdrawing from any semblance of active fan work. This will not be hard, since I haven't done much to start with, for, as you can see, my typing is atrocious, (spelling too) ~~It's better than mine,~~ but that's not really saying much - rnl~~})~~ and my correspondence irregular. Also, I have no desire to publish a fanzine, and one is not really in unless one does. Probably, no one cares, but I want to give some of my reasons for dropping.

First, there is the matter of time. I am a compulsive reader and I read 6 to 8 books a week, plus magazines. When not reading, I like to pretend that I am a writer. There is a story about a very famous writer who was to conduct a class on writing at Harvard, I believe. He walked into the lecture hall and asked the people assembled, "How many of you want to be writers?" Naturally, all put their hands up. "Then why the hell aren't you home writing?" and the man turned around and walked out. That's going to be me. From now on, when I get enough energy to do something other than read or sleep, I'm going to be home writing.

Then, too, much of the activity of fandom seems to center around the conventions, and I have very little hope of ever being able to attend one. Actually, the conventions seem to be the only place where fandom actually talks about SF. The NFFF seems to be like the country club which was started by some men who wanted a golf course, but after it was built, the pool, tennis, bridge, and social life took over first place in the interest of the members.

Third, I didn't like the Rehorst affair. In a club which is conducted almost entirely by mail, I don't see what any valid reason could be for dropping a member. In a social club, one who doesn't bathe or who gets blind drunk or who picks fights or gets up in meetings and says obnoxious things should be dropped, but if somebody writes things you don't like, simply apply a match to the missive, and everything is taken care of.

The bit about the non-communist affidavit could come in here too. I personally feel that there are several dangers available which are worse than communism, but the government doesn't. Someone said that it wouldn't do any good, because the communists would be willing to sign anyway. Probably true, but I can't see why the argument doesn't work both ways -- where's the harm? ~~Here:~~ If every member of the NFFF is required to sign such an affidavit, the NFFF will most certainly be changed, within a few years, into a communist-dominated club. The commies will gladly sign in order to hide the fact that they are commies and anyone with any respect for the Constitution of the U.S. will refuse to sign, and, hence, be kicked out of the club, in order to preserve his personal freedom of thought. - rnl~~})~~

I'll probably send my membership fee in to Janie Lamb, because I like to read some of the publications. Most fanzines I have read were incoherent at worst and obscure at best. There was a complaint about the percentage of members that voted in the last election, and there are a couple of reasons which could explain why. First, it wasn't secret ballot since a signature was required, and the directorate decreed no write-in candidates. Probably legal, but high-handed, nonetheless. A lot of people didn't agree with Clayton Hamlin's critical article in Memoritor, but I did almost a hundred percent.

I can hear the comments: "Who does this pip-squeek think he is telling us what wrong with our club?" And there is only one answer --

I am -- --

Yours truly,

/s/ David L. Travis

G. M. CARR

August 21, 1959

5319 Ballard Avenue  
Seattle 7, Washington

I don't know about the rest of you, but I am positively gleeful at the Official Organs we have been getting lately. I offer my public congratulations to President Ralph Holland on the beautiful appearance of TNFF, as well as the promptness and timeliness of the contents. This is the kind of OO I've been talking and dreaming about for years -- and now that it has finally come true, I can't thank Ralph highly enough! My only hope is that he keeps on publishing the OO, or, if he turns it over to someone else, the next OO keeps up the good record that Ralph has finally established. Nice going!

And while I'm on the subject, I'd like to comment in a few things in the Aug-Sept issue of TNFF. I notice that Raleigh Multog and Joan Emerson are trying to build up the Manuscript Bureau again. Personally, I think this is a wonderful idea and I have used the MssBu myself in the past -- when it was active and available for use -- and would use it now if there were any way I could. But I find, on contacting Raleigh, that the old backlog of material has evidently been lost. I know it exists somewhere, because there is still a Round Robin serial in it by Orma McCormick, Isabelle Dinwiddie, Olive Morgan and myself that has never been published, and I am sure there was a lot more material besides. Does anybody know what became of this? ~~←~~←The MssBu is now under Ed Ludwig, 455 N. Tuxedo Ave., Stockton 4, Calif. - rnl→

The idea of the Manuscript Bureau is to provide a clearing-house where fan editors can ask for (and get) artwork and articles, fiction, poetry, etc. Although most established fan editors already have a steady stable of contributors, even the most popular of them occasionally likes to try something new, and the discovery of a new fan-artist or fan-writer is like discovering gold. The writers and artists, on the other hand, are faced with the problem of getting their material out for publication. About the only way a newcomer can get his work out is to send it out at random, hit or miss. The trouble is, all too often it misses ... Naturally, they usually send their material only to the best-known mags, and these are the ones which are full up with talent. I am highly in favor of the MssBu and was very sorry to see it discontinued. I hope Raleigh and Joan get it working again real soon.

Congratulations also to Alma Hill, Belle Dietz and Joan Emerson on their Columns. I find them very entertaining and enjoyable. This is an easy way to take the news, and the timeliness of the contents is refreshing. The Lunacon Report was interesting, too.

- RALPH HOLLAND FOR PREXY!

/s/ G M Carr

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R.R. #3  
Bancroft, Ontario, Canada

092959

J. ARTHUR HAYES

I haven't even given a slight thought to the Campbell IES. In some ways, Alma's article on it was enlightening, but not of a nature to cause me to send anything to IES, in fact, it tends to prevent anyone from doing this, since it is obvious, from Alma's research, that, as yet, it is only an idea, with no real organizational ability behind it.

As for MacLean's letter, well, for the European members, I find myself lacking enthusiasm where the exchange of membership is concerned. Janie Lamb and myself have exchanged membership. I don't know what Janie has received, but I received for my membership, some beautifully reproduced zines, some photo-offset, but, all of them in German, none of which I can read. My offer to pay for European members who wish to join still stands. They are to send me the equivalent of the N3F dues in current mint stamps of their country. By correspondence, we can make sure that not too many duplicates will come my way. Another way is for them to deposit to some places, an amount equivalent to the N3F dues, and we would pay their dues here. Seth Johnson has something along these lines, with an account at an English Bookshop. As for James' comments in regards to the WC, I have to agree. Am still trying to get something simpler than the Activity Brochure in action, for just the purpose he claims. Don't think it will be any easier than the AB though. My complaints about the exchange membership, I think, will apply even to the ISFS, though they do have English publications.

Art Rapp:- I am not in favor of the name change. Have just received a petition with three names on it, for this purpose. I will not sign. // As for MacLean correspondence plan... not being in the U.S. I am not sufficiently aware of the political atmosphere in the U.S. to comment in how it would affect an individual who participated.

Buz Busby:- Remember at the DETENTION, the comments on whether non-refugee letters should be printed or not? Well, in general, I would say no, but there are exceptions, and this letter of Buz's, seems to be one of those. I don't mean to say that I agree with all that Buz says, but its presentation seems to be carefully calculated to be an honest expression of opinion. Yes, we are too preoccupied with our own organizational activities. It seems a necessity, since, unless there is something along the lines, we will end up with only the OO, and nothing else. We have to keep pushing. The suggested constitutional change might be a good idea, worth considering further. I don't think that the right of petition by the members should be eliminated, but the section could be revised to limit this to having the petitions force the Directorate and Prexy, to include in the normal Fall election, certain matters that a group of the members want. As for his comments on requirements, well, I am moderately in favor of them, as my actions in the WC will show. Having ARs in N3F, would cut down the membership, but also cut down on the disorganization existing.

Deindorfer:- As it has been stated elsewhere, the term "Fan" is an all-inclusive term, a breakdown would show that it included many different types of fan. We have the Convention fan, the APA (and publisher) fan, the letter writing fan, or letterhack, the contributor fan (he is a variation of the publisher fan), and the reader. You cannot do justice to several lines of activities. The moment you take on more than one, something has to suffer. I'm sure that you, Alan, do not do as much reading as you did, before you became a publisher, I know I'm not. Oddly enough, now that I'm becoming an active publisher, the amount of reading I do has just about doubled, while letter writing and contributing has dropped to just about zero. - rnl-> But, Gary should remember that there are many in the club who are strictly readers (with some letter-hack thrown in), and if they want to swing the club more to SF, it is within their powers to do it, not by saying that they want more SF, in the publications, but by contributing SF. If they want SF in the N3F pubs, let them contribute some. I should have mentioned that there is also the organization fan too. Gary can try to join Ellik in lampooning the N3F, but he will have to dig up a little more ability to do it properly before he can join Ron.

MacLean:- I had not heard of James' plan to get the correspondence plan going with only 'non-communistic' peoples for now, with the inclusion of the others when the time was ripe. As a result of not hearing of this, I voted against the idea of doing this, since it seemed to me to be watering down the original proposal. I was of the opinion that it should either be accepted as it was presented, or dismissed, rather than have the N3F Directorate water it down. Since James is willing, offers, to have it a two stage affair, with correspondence with non-commie countries, first, then expand it to include the commie countries, then, I am in favor of the committee being set up now. ((It still seems like watering down the original proposal to me. As I recall, the original intent was to secure NFFF/U.S.StateDept sponsorship of a plan for correspondence between U.S. and Russian/communist fan. Correspondence with non-communist fan can be arranged without any sort of special fooforaw. - rnl)) I am willing to give as much room in MEMORITOR as will help. MEMORITOR will be sent to all the N3F members for a few more issues. As for the exchange of prozines and hard cover books, as James suggests, with commie countries, does he realize that Russia does not recognize the International Copyright conventions. Our authors might find some of their stories reprinted, without compensation.

Al Andrews:- As you say, Don Day already has an anindex out, and a follow-up edition is about to go to press. A yearly index, however, might be a good idea. Don Day, in his index editions, covers several years.

Bill Mallardi:- Maybe he might turn his hand to some SF songs, for publishing in the fan field?

As for the DETENTION and its goings on, I'm still trying to assess whether I enjoyed it or not. I am not sure. ((I hope you decide that you did. I'm looking forward to seeing you again at Pitt. - rnl))

A fiend,

/s/ Art Hayes

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ART WILSON

Nov 28 1959 Year of the Swine  
((I hope you don't mean anything personal, Art. - rnl))

c/o C.A.T., Kaitak Airport  
Kowloon, Hong Kong, B.C.C.

On October 26 I received what appears to be the bacover of a Postwarp, the only page which contained my address.

Date & Issue Number unknown, ((that's the breaka - rnl)) but it contains the tail end of some kind of a poll, plus the interesting information that deadline for nextish was September 15th. I'd like to have a complete copy of this Postwarp please, if you have any spares floating about.

Kindly compare, above, date of receipt with deadline for nextish. I cannot speak for other overseas members, but my reaction is, why beat a dead horse? Our comments in any given issue would appear at the earliest half a year later, by which time the whole subject is ancient history. Methinks I've mentioned this before, probabobbly to someone else.

The October-November 00, now, arrived on Nov 24, having been mailed from Cuyahoga Falls on Oct 6 at 9:00 AM. This is about average for first class sea mail, i.e. six weeks or so. Furthermore, the 00 arrived intact, having been mailed in a strong manila envelope.

Hoo-ha, friend! Upon closer inspection of this precious, wrinkled

back cover of Postwarp, my blood-shot little eyes see a postmark as follows: Birmingham, Mich. Sept 11 4:30 PM. Your guilty secret is out, Alan - you moved house & then mailed. The defense rests. ((But it's worse than you think, Art! I'm not Alan, I'm Bob Lambeck; and I don't live in Birmingham, even tho the P.O. thinks I do. - rnl))

Regards -

/s/ Art

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## Personality Corner

MARIJANE JOHNSON

I was born here in Spokane Sept 4, 1920 and expect to be a native all my life. There aren't any really interesting aspects to my life as arthritis started working on me when I was eight, which sort of made the usual activities and way of growing up come out differently. I went to two different grade schools, junior high, and graduated from high school in June of thirty-nine.

We lived in the same house until I was eighteen and then we moved into an apartment (That's an understatement!) in the back of the drug-store my dad bought. He and mother ran the store alone for a couple of years and I worked a very little bit behind the fountain and waiting on customers before the wheelchair caught up with me in 1942. Since then I've done some jewelry (shell and then rhinestone), textile painting, and crocheting, but never got rich at any of them. I still do quite a bit of crocheting and sell some now and then. Oh yes, I've collected quite a stack of rejection slips over the years too. After my dad died in 1954, mother and I kept the store, but I have a manager to run it as she had a stroke that same year. My dad was never one to do any traveling, so we took advantage of the chance to spend the winter on 55/56 in Calif. We went down by car, and Clancy and I had our first plane ride when we flew home a week after mother and my aunt got home by car.

Then, I discovered fandom in the fall of 56 after sending my name in to Amazing's "Space Club" for SF fans who wanted to be penpals. Walter Coslet, at that time the OE of the NFFF, wrote to me and invited me to join. I sort of hedged (and still am) because I was afraid I couldn't do enough to hold up my end, but he assured me that there would be a spot for me. I sure found that true and have really enjoyed myself. I've met so many very nice people, and I had the very wonderful opportunity of spending 6 weeks in L.A. last fall (Clancy and I flew again and were about flew out, gosh that's expensive traveling!) where I met Ann and Dave Chamberlain, Bennie Edwards, Ernie Wheatley, Stan Woolston, and re-met Coral Smith and talked to Bernie Cook on the phone. Also made a trip up to Berkeley and met Honey Wood and Rog Phillips, and I've talked to H.E. Latham on the phone here in Spokane and Ron Ellik and Bill Ellern (the latter not of N3F) came to call on me when they were over after the Westercon in Seattle. Oops, musn't forget Bjo, Djinn Faine, Forrest Ackerman, and Richard Stephens. I think that's mighty darn wonderful for a pigeon with a busted wing. So, needless to say, N3F really opened up a whole new world for me, and Clancy and Mr. Mittens are enjoying it too. Let me assure everyone that they are both very real, not as accomplished as in their fictional adventures, but nevertheless an important part of life at 1011 E. Hoffman.

Oh yes, if anyone ever gets to or goes through Spokane, the phone number is HU 3-8278. Just don't call before 10 A.M. or after 9 P.M., bankers' hours, wot? And, unlike Bill Mallardi, both male and female are welcome. By the way girls, I've seen a pic of Bill -- nice!

That brings me pretty well up to date, and I hope for more years of enjoyment in N3F and bless every one of your little pointed heads. Mine is, aren't yours? -- Janey

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## MAD SCIENTIST, BAILEY, SAYS, "HEY"

((Many people have asked, "Who was Ralph Bailey?" Perhaps this posthumous publishing of one of his many writings will help to answer that question))

That's always the way it is, one person does the work, another gets the credit! That's my Death Ray (see clipping below) they stole. Only instead of using monkeys I used neofans. Oh sure I know it's against the Law, but what ain't, nowadays? For a while we used Heroes. My daughter, Mad Madeline, lured as many into the place as she could, but after a while the supply sort of gave out (so many sci-fict mags been folding). I thought of using plain Democrats, but it's hard to tell them from Republicans, besides it's better to use real monkeys, if you can get them. That's the trouble, there was a short supply of monkeys. I don't say they had put on pants and shirt and become Fanzine Editors. Still, there are a lot of new fanzines been started lately. Hmmm? Well, anyway there I was, slaving away in the Laboratory eight hours a day eight days a week and finally my invention gets swiped. Look at all the neofans I wasted, too. Oh, well, saved 'em a lot of struggle. Half of them probably would never have become Small Name Fans, anyway, and think of what a small percentage would have reached the heights of Big Name Fandom, able to walk and talk to well-known BIG NAME FANS and even say Hello to Pros. Say, you know something ... I haven't seen Madeline around for a couple days ... hmmm? ... I betcha one of those Heroes she lured into here "out-lured" her -- and my Death Ray, too! Probably he was a Hero from Astounding Stories! Curses! Curses!! Curses!!! Us poor Mad Scientists have the damdn't time! Sometimes I wish I'd become a Hero when I was younger and had the chance. A good Hero always wins. Those five Heroes I perfected my Death Ray on probably were not real Heroes but bungling Commie spys. -- RB

(From New York Daily News, Saturday, April 25, 1959 (No kidding - R.B.) ) Washington April 24 (News Bureau) - a crude radio "death ray" that can kill a monkey in five minutes and might explain why airplanes have mysteriously disintegrated in flight, was described to Congress in testimony today. [The] director of the National Institute of Neurological Diseases told the House Appropriations subcommittee there was no danger from regular radio and TV.

He added: "However, while we feel certain that radar and radio are not dangerous, we have had mysterious airplane accidents."

"The basic principle -- using a radio beam to concentrate a powerful electromagnetic field in a small area -- had always been considered impossible with ordinary frequencies," [he said]

"But it appears that if you use a certain frequency ... it can happen."

At least 10 monkeys died in the experiments. Each was strapped to a chair ... the radio waves short-circuited brain and nerve functions.

[Afterwards] a National Bureau of Standards scientist ... said that if the power [of radio frequencies] were stepped way up [they] could be harmful.

\*\*\*\*\*

GRUMBLINGS FROM THE HUGE, GAPING, ODORIFEROUS, CAVERNOUS MAW.....

<<I don't know what that is, but you can kiss it any time you want to.>>

--oo0000oo--

You are reading an issue of Postwarp, if you haven't realized that abominable fact before. I'll come out and admit right now that this here is Al Lewis on the typer.

As for this issue, and for future issues. This one: I am still the editor, but Bob Lambeck is the assistant editor--or managing editor, or whatever. Bob has done roughly half the work on this issue--a little less, I guess--but more important, has made sure it gets out.

Who will be the editor next issue? This, is a problem. Bob offered, and I accepted it, too, to put FW out every three or four weeks by himself until it is back on schedule. The money has piled up in the treasury--all we have to do is put out the issues and spend it. So anyway, this was a nice offer, and I took Bob up on it--or so I thought.

However Ralph Holland has been saying that he's suspended Postwarp. I haven't been formally notified of this yet--but I guess it's so. The way the rumors go, he's been looking around for someone else to do it.

So now no-one knows who does the next issue. I suspect, however, that Lambeck will get it in the end (after several issues, I know he will) so the thing to do is to either send letters to me or to him. I see him every day so it won't make a whole lot of difference.

Where do I stand on this? Off on the sidelines, I guess. I just lost interest in it after several issues, as was evident. I think I know why, now, too. I was talking to Bob about it, and he surmised that perhaps it was because there really wasn't very much that was interesting in Postwarp. I was shocked at his saying this--to me it was pure heresy--but on looking my past issues over--I see he's really almost right. A few things were interesting, but they were few and far between.

squawk

One comment I might make, though. People like Travis might ~~have~~ all they want to. But it's interesting to note, that when Wallace West wrote a letter which offered much food for thought, and a definite suggestion (<<Postwarp, Nov. '58>>) nobody did anything about it. I certainly don't care--my concern for Science Fiction is very low at the moment. However, it is funny to note of all our self-called Science Fiction enthusiasts not one did any serious thinking upon the subject.

Speaking of our Science Fiction enthusiasts reminds me to put in a free plug. I've just received two issues of a fanzine called New Frontiers. You are seriously urged to subscribe to this. It is published by Norm Metcalf. I'm not sure where the subs are to go--try Terra House, P.O. Box 336, Berkeley 1, California. It cost 30¢/copy or 4@\$.00. New Frontiers is a fabulous Science Fiction fanzine. So far it has contained material by Foul Anderson, Bob Olsen, Jr., L. Sprague de Camp, and Mark Clifton (among others) which makes it well worth getting. It is much better than Inside ever was. So if you consider yourself a true Science Fiction buff worthy of the name, make an effort to get this. It almost makes me wish I still collected the stuff.

Back to more mundane things. Although I am giving up Postwarp, I am still not through with the NFFF (or vice versa).. You are liable to still see my publishing through my capacity as Director of Publications. (Goshwow!) So far, I have a few ideas for projects, and the NFFF is very rich, through a few windfalls at the Convention. So I have high hopes of getting out at least two "benefits" this year. This is not a promise--it's just an idea. If you happen to think of something you think should be published, let me know and it'll be considered.

One thing that is being talked about as a possible project is an NFFF sponsored fanzine. Guy Terwilleger came up with one very good idea for this in the N'APA: that it be a round robin fanzine. Four or six different people put out one issue at their own expense once a year in some preconceived order. A very nice idea; one thing which is most appealing is that it would be at no expense to the club.

Speaking of N'APA reminds me to comment on how well it's been coming along. The last mailing was 240 pages or so, and the membership has been building up. So far we have 34 members. Several fans have joined just so they could be members of N'APA. Bob Lichtman and Buz Busby are two cases in point.

There are several other things I could ramble on, but I'd like to finish up this issue. Since this is my last editorial, I imagine I should say goodbye, and it's been fun. It has been, to a certain extent, though I'm not nearly as bright-eyed now as I was a year and a half ago. One cheery thought I can leave you with, though, is that Postwarp is, at least, being turned over into competent hands. So remember, send letters in within two weeks of the date you receive this. Since I'm still officially editor, I guess you should send them to me. But I still suspect that next issue Bob Lambeck will be doing the entire thing.

And yes--it has been fun.

Best,

*Al Lewis*

POSTWARP

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