

The impossible we Cancel that offer of money for the inconceivable  
did yesterday--an old style CDC template. I may take us a few  
found an old one at work. minutes longer.

#67

From what I had previously understood, the next G&S party will be sometime in February or very early March. Since we had rather short notice on the last couple, I would prefer to start making arrangements now, rather than waiting until the last minute. I am planning on driving the Buick up, if I can find (at least) an extra driver. I can take a total of 6, including myself. I hope to find passengers who do not need to pinch pennies on the trip, because of the planned side trip to The Ranch House.

My plans are: leave LA as early as possible Friday, using my knowledge of routes to get out of traffic early; eat dinner at The Ranch House (dinner at The Ranch House is \$4. - \$5. per person, more info in the next paragraph). After dinner we will proceed to Santa Barbara or directly to Palo Alto, depending on whether or not an intermediate place to stay can be found. If we spend the night in SB, we will join the usual faaanish gettogether at Anderson's Saturday morning. If, on the other hand, we go directly to Palo Alto, I and any passengers who wish to join me, will get up the next morning and go sightseeing in SF. In any case, we will come back Sunday by the much faster inland route. The charge will be \$5.00 per person. The extra driver should be capable of driving an open, uncrowded highway at 70 without getting nervous.

A word on The Ranch House is in order. It is a small restaurant in Ojai, run by Alan and Helen Hooker (disclaimer) and specializes in gourmet cookery. It would not please someone like Owen Hannifen, whose taste runs to large steaks and similar plain foods, but I like the place and I think that someone with tastes like Bjo or Flieg would like it. The meal is average sized, the usual selection is only among some 4 main dishes, but these are diverse enough to please all different kinds of gourmets. The typical selection starts with something like Orange Chicken, and proceeds outward from there. They serve bread which is baked right there, which does not include ordinary white bread; health food nuts will love it, but so will anyone who is getting bored with agime-bleached white bread. I remember date-nut bread, and Soya bread, and there were a couple more. Their cookies and cakes are also fantastic.

Anyone interested?

67 FØRMAT(6H ), being random comments on the 66<sup>th</sup> dwp.

L #12 (Ted Boggs): You are sounding like your brother Redd again. Your comments, both to me and to others, indicate considerably less sense of humor than was possessed by the writers of the Lloyd House Purity test. I can see that you

need help before you are completely overcome by that case of FIJAGH and become a mundane, so I'll try to help you. To start with, if I ever again have occasion to put anything like the LHP through an APA that you are in, I'll help you understand it by lettering across the top, in large letters, "THIS IS INTENDED TO BE HUMOROUS." By the way, anyone who claims a score of under 20 on that test is lying in his teeth. It is designed to have an effective range of 20 - 100.

Now, as concerns J.G., the question of what is funny is relative. (This from a very reliable source--one A. Einstein) Certainly Rosharn was (in effect, and very indirectly) accusing J.G. of a "crime." However, Rosharn's statement in print, even if it were in as direct a form as "J.G. takes marijauna" would be inadmissible in court as hearsay. J.G. does have a sense of humor/proportion about all this and won't be suing Count DeThre. (His sense of humor does not extend to the commission of Old New York jokes.) However, I'm getting off the track; let's assume that J.G. did sue the Scribe for X dollars. Whether he would win or not is not material, but he could make a prima facie case. So what? Art Linkletter and Alan Funt have both come within a micron of being sued many times, and it took much moolah to get them off the hook. Some of Linkletter's best stunts could have cost him \$100,000 and up if the victims had been less good natured. One of Lloyd House's best, the Sam Marino fake kidnapping, didn't come off just right and cost us \$500.00 and almost got the house disbanded. If the frosh who stole the Pasadena Freeway a few years back had been caught, they would have seen a jail from the inside. This does not make these jokes any less funny.

Certainly GLORY ROAD is more poorly written (i.e., less well written) than Stranger. However, your opinion of STRANGER, combined with your attempt to put me down for my opinion of it, makes me wonder just what school of criticism you belong to. I suspect it is the "Everybody Else Is Wrong" school of criticism. I usually follow the T.S. Elliot school, with some divergence on the subject of religious works. As to whether I've read any great literature, I won't try to impress you with a long string of "great" literature, some of which I didn't like...I'll just mention THE CHARTERHOUSE OF PARMA. I admit that STRANGER is not as good as THE CHARTERHOUSE; not surprising, since THE CHARTERHOUSE OF PARMA is, in my opinion, the greatest novel ever written.

I consider STRANGER "great" because 1) it is very well plotted--compare it to James Joyce's PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG MAN if you think that all books must be like yours and consist mostly of action. 2) It adheres very closely to its form. 3) It can be read many times and holds something new for the reader each time. It is written so that the total meaning on all levels cannot be comprehended in only reading; this is as it should be. The first time I read STRANGER, it was merely a typical Heinlein novel, but longer and more intense; it had the usual elements of

"Typical Heinlein Humor," and the best Heinlein character I had seen. The second and third times, I realized that it was the funniest book RAH had ever written; the jokes were packed at High Density (800 bits per inch). Since then, I have stopped laughing at the jokes (even Heinlein's jokes wear off after a bit, you know) and started really comprehending the philosophy expressed by the book (not necessarily that of the author) Assuming that you had never read any Heinlein before, which is the better characterization: Hugh Farnham, or Jubal Harshaw? Joe, or Michael Smith? Barbara Downs, or Gillian Boardman (you should pardon the expression)? Which book does more with point of view? which book is deeper? Well, Tedd?

FROM SUNDAY TO SATURDAY (Don Fitch): You note the inability of LASFSians to grok more than one new fan at a time. Remember the invasion of the CATS? I remember that the APA L contributors were, on the average, the first to be able to tell us apart, because our in-print personalities were reasonably clear cut. And there are still some LASFans who can't tell Flieg and I apart.

WHAT TO DO WHEN #1 (Dr. Marsupio DeThré von ningo-Beagle): For those who don't have access to piano or similar instrument and cannot sight read, the tune is the theme from Chopin's "Funeral March."

ODTAA (Bill Glass & Al): Very interesting. I don't know very much G&S1 so what is the tune to "Picture if you can."? (If it is G & S at all, that is.)

XXXXX

TUNA #1 (Greg Shaw): Please don't mention ITA in print again.

A BUCKET OF PLAID (John Trimble): I see you are getting worried about the 69<sup>th</sup> disty. As a matter of fact, you may well "be spared." I am not planning for the 69<sup>th</sup> disty because Bruce Pelz, whose opinions I respect, has indicated that it would not be a good idea. Owen is planning something, but it won't be crud. Of course, I can't answer for Dwain Kaiser, Gil Lamont, or any of the other young fans.

"Camp" as a noun is totally outdated in gay slang. It disappeared from use about 8 years ago. And so what if Gay slang eventually finds its way into straight circles? Modern English contains lots of old prison slang. Most modern clothes originate from the gay world, including: my velour shirt; "tapers," "racers" and similar narrow cut pants; the shirt nosharn gave me for Christmas; the "tent" style of women's clothes a few years back; most high fashion wear is designed by lesbians for girls who are missing curves and lumps where girls should have curves and lumps. If you feel all that threatened John, your only good defense is to stick to suits and ties, with Ivy League pants (but watch out for single button jackets) and speak only 18<sup>th</sup> century English.

end of comments

