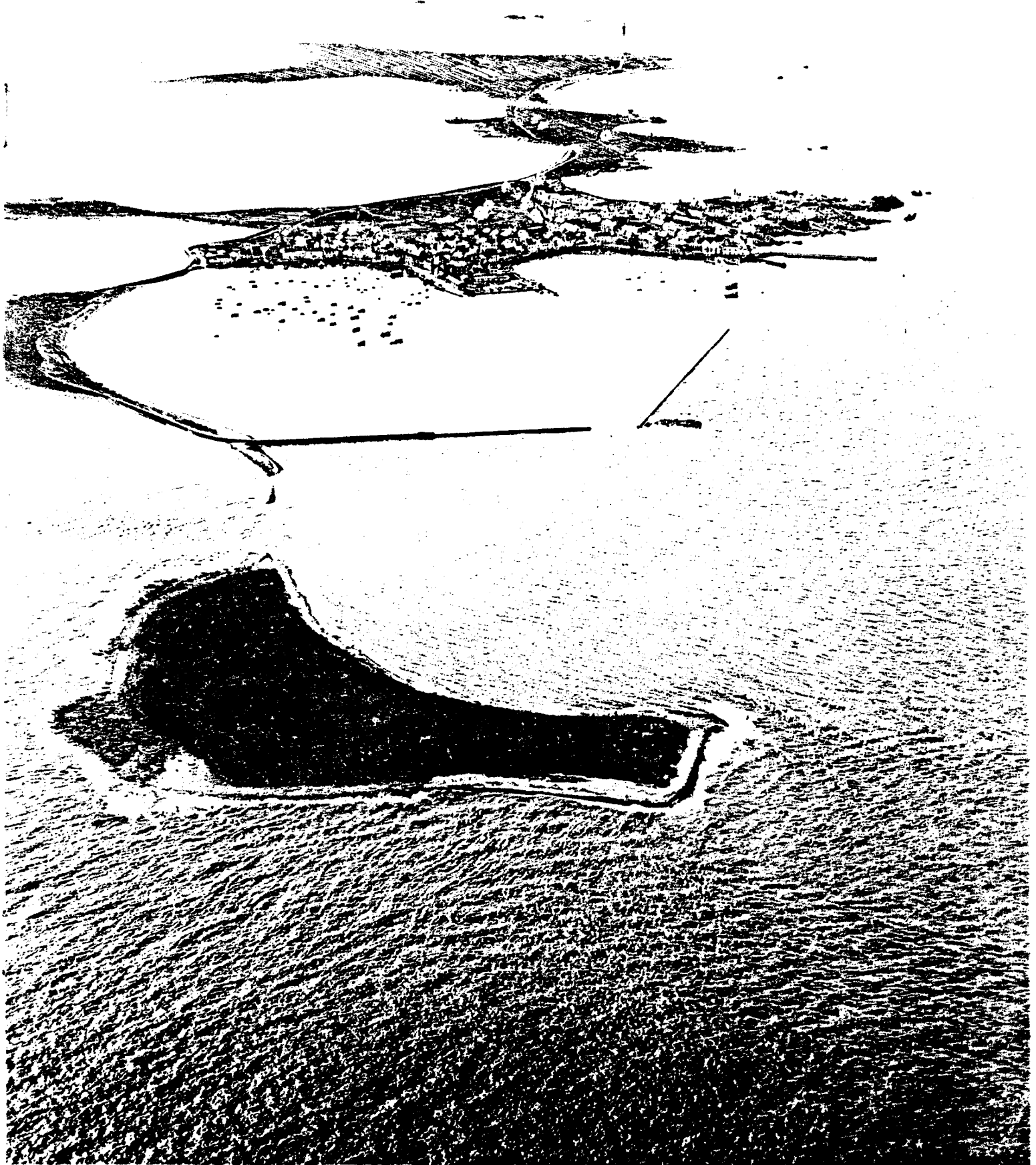


DETOURS 9



YHOS Art's clever use of an insignificant 5.7 earthquake to entice 2 young ladies into the shelter of his brawny arms was an encouraging story for the rest of us dirty old men. The integrity which led him to refuse subsequent "a" marks in the course is even more impressive. ... That quote from one of the "students": "I just hate it when you have to know what you're writing about", was a stinger.

SAMBO 30. Liked the Ether Bunny cover. That was a fascinating patent application about the "Novel Form of Exhibition or Entertainment". Especially your explanatory note "Everyone knew there was little money to be gained from entertaining the public." (11)

WHAT THE DORMOUSE SAID 7 But the prisoner's opinion of Yngvi in The Incomplete Enchanter (possibly based on Yngvi's supposed part in turning him over to the giants) should not be cosmic law. If any fan assert something, surely another can be found to deny it. Yngvi may never have been a louse after all. Can't stand shaving? My Norelco triplehead takes care of the danger of having me appear to my public in a long white beard.... You asked Eric Lindsay to explain the appeal in a hobby that can lead to death (mountain climbing). The fact that one is in peril attracts one's attention; the senses are sharpened; one pays attention to what is going on; existence is conducted on a higher level. We effortlessly remember instances of dram, excitement, danger; the hours spent lying in a hammock or watching TV blur indistinguishably into the past. W. B. Yeats expressed the sentiment well in a poem he wrote about an Irish aviator in World War I, "An Irish Airman Foresees His Death":

"I know that I shall find my fate
Somewhere among the clouds above.
Those that I fight, I do not hate,
Those that I gurad, I do not love.

My country is Kiltartan Cross,
My countrymen, Kiltartan's poor:
No likely end could bring them loss
Or leave them happier than before.

Nor law, nor duty bade me fight,
Nor public men, nor cheering crowds:
A lonely impulse of delight
Drove to this tumult in the clouds.

I balanced all, brought all to mind:
The years to come seemed waste of breath,
A waste of breath the years behind,
In balance with this life, this death.

(Quoted from memory)

DAMBALLA 40 When you refer to sliced mushrooms dipped in beaten egg and sauteed in butter do you mean the commercial mushrooms available in your friendly super market? I find the darker mushrooms served with some Chinese dishes far tastier, but do not know their source or how they are prepared..... Another point about the Bible as we have it today is that it is incomplete. There were lots of writings, and committees of elders or bishops reviewed them and let some in and threw others out. It was an understandable bit of

editing but to my mind the process introduced some human bias. Your cover showing a prehistoric saurian sniffing a palm tree, with a suggestion of pterodactyls in the air, is a good concept if they were all three really contemporary once. However the repro failed you in that the parallel vertical streaks of ink don't properly belong in the sky & so distract the eye.....It was nice of you to like my covers but remember that I am a mere scavenger and do not offer any original art!.....My great uncle Regis Chauvenet was first president of the Colorado School of Mines in Golden and I have sent the school some memorabilia of him that turned up in the family attic. Some day I expect to visit the place, and on such a trip would enjoy visiting with you as well, assuming you are willing.

PHANTASY PRESS Its extraordinary that you'd put such a clear nicely done cover on such almost illegible mimeography. What's the problem? Won't your aging typer cut clear stencils? I do not enjoy what is hard to read.

POOR FISH A cormorant can't swallow the fish because a ring is placed around its neck. To keep the cormorant interested the ring is removed from time to time to allow it to eat a fish or two. This has been covered in old National Geographic articles...did Sherlock Holmes subscribe?

HOG ON ICE 9 Disch may "live in the constant stink of (his) own fear, but it isn't reasonable for him to impute such a thing to others generally..... I liked being 30 (it looks especially good from 60 now) and Dish's introspective agonies were never mine. Your closing poem "GENERATION" is well put. Nice.=

CONTINUOUS BRIAN EARL BROWN 6 Looked at as a passage through time, our existence depends on continuity, since if we don't exist at time $t + n$, tho we did at time t , we will not exist (as far as I know) at any time subsequent to $t + n$. Hence I have explained your title (or have I?). There used to be movie houses that would show some star attraction over and over again: NOW SHOWING! CONTINUOUS! BRIAN EARL BROWN IN "THE HERO OF THE AGE" and maybe the title is more in this spirit, keeping you ever before us.Your reviews didn't inspire me to want to read any of the sf books you mention (Saved much time. Thanx.).....In my view, impact printers using metal type are technically obsolete.

F - 6 (Mike Glicksohn) Welcome to the MC Club. You'll enjoy your membership more if you continue to be selective. As you agree, I believe, a mad compulsion to comment on everything leads to watered down comments of little worth.

EGO BOO POLL 13 ballots is logical considering what a trial it was to struggle with the peculiar format used this year. The thing should be made easy to use, or not continued at all.

HORIZONS 161 Those wordless hiway signs which disturb you are not indications of creeping illiteracy. They are internal conventions for the benefit of travellers not fluent in the language of the country they are visiting. You must have forgotten that with the decline of the dollar, travelling in the USA has become relatively cheaper for foreign tourists and I believe they are now coming to the USA in greater numbers than our tourists are visiting abroad, reversing the previous situation..... It is hard to eliminate the combative

urge. I certainly have no wish to inflict harm on anyone, but chess, tennis, sailboat racing and other games are certainly on the competitive side, and gain interest thereby.....Your squirrel problem, which I take seriously, has a possible solution if such trees as provide paths to your roof are not connected aloft with too many other trees. Wide metal bands say 4 feet of thin sheet aluminum, placed around tree trunks 6 feet from the ground will deny a squirrel access to a tree from the ground (trim low hanging branches of course). You will still have to consider access to your roof via telephone or power lines, and perhaps need to consult the respective companies about baffles. Then to protect against climbing up the house walls you need outside metal siding not only on house but also chimney if it protrudes in such a way as to be accessible from the ground. Big project. Squirrels hop freely about on our roof from time to time but have never tried to gnaw through the slates, and we have the upper story sheathed in the aforementioned aluminum siding. We also see many fewer squirrels around since we raised our kittens into big active cats. The cats chase the squirrels but I am hoping they don't actually catch one as a cat could receive considerable damage at the teeth of a squirrel before subduing it. The cats are quite active and good climbers and the squirrels don't seem to want to stay to argue the case. Cats are also undemanding compared to a dog. We let ours roam all day from dawn to dusk and they are quite happy doing so; a dog might demand more attention and companionship. We have the cats indoors after dark and give them some attention then & we are all getting along fine. That's been OK for us but you might have reservations about going into the cat business.....Looks like you have poorly designed computer terminals. The one I am using does not lose any information you type in; when you get to the bottom it automatically scrolls up about half a page so you see what you were just writing, and half another half page to continue in. Of course, you must take a separate step to save what you have written permanently. If the system goes down before you have made a permanent save, you lose all the temporary storage contents and have to start over. That does not happen with an ordinary typewriter!.....I read the list of things you worry about with a certain sympathy but altho I too have occasionally made such lists my more general attitude is that of Alfred Neuman of MAD magazine...: WHAT?? ME WORRY??

DETOURS Some mad fit of energy possessed me shortly before the May deadline and I completed the issue, got it repro'd at the friendly neighborhood repro shop, and dispatched it West by overnight air express. Alas! A week later it was back in Silver Spring. I have since been instructed by the eminent Editor, Bruce Pelz, not to insure such shipments but to mark them "Leave at door." If the PO did indeed leave notice of receipt of insured parcel at his door, he nevertheless did not see such a notice, presumably blown down some distant street by a fitful California breeze. So the reshipment of DETOURS merely made the August mlg. I decided to replay this scene in November but blew it again and must be content to appear in the February mailing even tho I am typing this on November 11 (I quite forgot deadline was Nov 8 and not Nov 15).

FAPA 172 AUGUST 1980

YHOS Wouldn't trust myself to learn to keep left but am glad you survived the British roads. Greatly enjoyed the HG Wells pilgrimage... a noble project.

HORIZONS Sorry you were not feeling well last summer. It detracts from the enjoyment of the pennant races. You put out a million words a year for the paper? If you work a tidy 250 days a year that comes to 4,000 words a day. Glad it isn't my job. Then, too, we should add another million or so for your minimal fanac.... You say that death is a terrifying experience for "many" old people, but it is my impression that these are in a tiny minority. Liked Mark Twain.

DAMBALLA We didn't know when we lived in the country 45 years ago that neither the broad green fields nor the clear star-sown night skies were going to become increasingly unavailable as the years moved on. Too bad you can no longer enjoy your telescope in Denver!

CURMUUDGEON Would have been great if the small print had been black instead of gray on the typed pages. The frontispiece was especially nice and I liked the artwork and decorations taken individually. As a whole it looked thrown together rather than planned, so doesn't get top marks but 9 out of 10 isn't bad. The glimpse provided of a printer's world is familiar but well done.

EGOTRIPPING IN LA You've tripped over a lot of maladies. Your sad story reminds me not to belabor the membership with too many tales of such misfortunes as come my way. Good luck with your legal battles regarding insurance etc.

SNICKERSNEE Your first shy little story appeared in the Avalonian with (among others) poetry by Stanton A. Coblenz? I was quite fond of his collected poems in a volume called (?) "Shadows on a Wall". I even liked his SF satires, "In Caverns Below" and the like.

I AM LEGEND The Wild West Weekly! Say, I used to save my dimes for that when I was a kid of 12 or 13 back in 1932-1933. Um, what remains? Circle J? Hopalong Cassidy?... Did you refer to a "sexy commentary" on a Thornton W. Burgess story?? The idea boggles my mind. Of course it's wrong to divide the unfortunate word as thro-ough. Everyon knows it ought to be thro-ugh.... Even admitting that Azusa Oh Ohno is an interesting name, my favorite remains that of a girl who once attended a school where my wife was a guidance counselor. This splendid name is VIJAYALAKSHI YALAMANCHILI, and its poetry, man!

ABSOLUTELY HYSTERICAL APATHY It held my interest. Did you say 18 months to do 4 pages? At that rate it would take Harry Warner ~~or~~ 9 years to produce an issue of Horizons and fandom might never be the same. You remain a minority of 1 concerning last year's egoboo poll format.

QUANTUM SUFFICIT Your house by the sea has a certain appeal in spite of burst boiler and dubious wiring -- hope things are more livable by now. I didn't share your appreciation of the old ALGOLs and I think they are just another unwelcome step away from the basic concept of FAPA (ie, the personal touch).

PHANTASY PRESS Surprised you did not make Bernard an offer for AMAZING. Don't you want to be a pro

publisher? ... It might be hard to sing the words "Daniel McPhail" without getting off key (I'm imagining this) and if so that would account for your being favorite unsung FAPAFAN. .. Your repro is much improved.

COGNATE Looks as tho the MANSA people are no less human than us outsiders. Maybe I couldnt pass any of the tests but I feel no special awe for those who have. It was nice of you to share their perfectly ordinary anecdotes with us of the lesser breeds.

DRIVEL You said it was Drivel; I didn't say it. .. Its fine if Jesus loves you; who could object? I'm just thankful he doesn't love me; there's a strong feeling we wouldn't get along.... Of course you are right that the space colony, in L5 or whatever, is not set to go. It isn't as close as Apollo was when JFK first said we should go to the moon. In retrospect the brilliant success of that venture has brought us curiously few benefits and we have permitted the Russians to have space to themselves for quite a while now. Even the Space Shuttle is a foredoomed fiasco (my opinion) due to the bad decision to rely on ceramic tiles as heat shields.... By the way, Isaac Asimov has published Guides to both the Old and th New testaments of the Bible, and while he carefully abstains from comment on the religious aspects, he does point out quite a few factual errors as he goes along. I won't make a list of these boo-boos unless you insist, but one of the more notorious is that according to the Bible Joseph the husband of Mary the mother of Jesus had two fathers (Jacob, according to Matthew 1:12; Heli, according to Luke 3:23). And even at the beginning in Genesis we have two separate and distinct stories of the Creation and I dont think the versions in Genesis 1 and Genesis 2 can be completely reconciled with each other altho obviously lots of people have none of my difficulties. We obviously were evolved or made to live under the conditions found on this planet; an infinite spirit needs no mouth, nose, lungs etc. and it seems drivel (I said it, you didnt say it) to prattle of humans being made in the "image" of God..... There is a sublime innocence about someone who can find the Bible to be a "source of love." It is full of stories of the most appalling cruelties, massacres, betrayals, etc. as well as of many incidents on a higher plane. If you select the latter out by some judicious skipping, maybe you can get the effect you want, but what you have skipped is still there in the record.....To the Tombaugh Station was my favorite Bob Tucker book, but I can't find my copy now. Too many books are on a shelf because their physical dimensions suit that spot, and logical assortment has suffered severely. Its not your fault.

STAGGERWING You get more worked up for less cause than anyone I can think of offhand. Maybe someday when you're a BNF you'll sit back and take things more calmly. We have a conspicuous sign on our refrigerator that says B E C A L M . Drop in for a snack any time. .. How can you collect debts from someone tossed in jail for "contempt of court" for not paying? I always thought debtor's prisons a poor idea and heartily disapprove of any legal artifice tending to reestablish them in defiance (I believe) of the USX Costitution. When I can't spell the US Constitution any better than that I have stayed up too late and had better resume this page on another day.The Bashed and Unabashed Ego approach to catching up on old MC's was novel, welcome and entertaining (as long as you didn't bash ME). .. Those kids who ran loose in Baker St. in the gas-light days must have been exclusively male. Young girls were not allowed out in the streets at all hours in those days

STARCROSS SF The review of "A Caller from Overspace" broke me up laughing, no easy thing to do to a veteran of FAPA.

"so short that by the time you realize its not going to get any better its finished. Barely soon enough, too." O my!

ESDACYOS I knew I'd seen this cover before or a time warp may have taken us all. " something not explained, which may be why I've never forgotten it." Ah, yes. Well put. ... A cover "impossible to resist" of which predictably "no trace whatever existed in the story"? Familiar enough.....It broke me up to read about Cy Condra's flirtation with "The Yngling" being disturbed by 2 weeks of listening to "Yngle Bells" at Christmas time. My wife even had to ask me to stop laughing so she could concentrate on Phillies v Royals Game 3 1980. And the revelation of that ultimate weapon against telepaths ("He didnt think. Because there was nothing in it, no one could read his mind") made Condra's story that much better. Afraid Grennell's youth just doesnt cut it against Cy Condra's marvelous yarn; and even Larry Shaw's reminiscences altho nice in themselves don't quite stand up to such competition.

DETOURS The credit memo giving John Clark the acclaim for the cover was printed white on black and may not have reproduced as I would have wished but the thought was there. For those who couldn't read it, the cover showed Mariner 11 above TITAN in 1981 (artistic conception). As for the folly of putting the May issue in the August mlg, I did ship it west in time but it was returned to me and had to make a third transcontinental trip. Seems that Bruce never got a notice it was being held for pickup at PO. He told me in future to write "may be left at door" on package and not to ask for receipt from PO.

NOTES FROM ARINAM Ofcourse there can be respect for the Law. Its all in how its administered. If you're raised to believe the cop on the beat is your friend and your experiences back this up, you'll naturally experience respect for the law. For instance if your car is stolen and the police recover it don't you get the feeling they're on your side? But if the law is not respected it cannot be enforced (eg Prohibition).

HAWAII How can the Journal of Mongoose Studies avoid all mention of Rikki Tikki Tavi? I did read, tho, that the mongoose has been a disaster in the Islands as far as native birds are concerned. Joking about your typos suggests gafiation?? Incredible. Fight back... give 'em 2 typos for the price of 1.

Other Stuff It was there. Thanxx (sort of).

TIGER



SYNAPSE Another tennis casualty! Hope you have recovered and can Jack Speer play again. It may be a game hazardous to us elderly types but I will bring my racquet with me if ever we meet again. ... The main technological advance that made scuba diving possible was the perfection of a demand valve air regulator by Jean Jacques Costeau and Emil Gagnan in occupied France during WW II. Until then the transfer of air from high pressure tanks to the "demand" of the expanded lung had been difficult without enclosing the diver in a pressure suit. Plimsoll lines are mandated by law for freighters, which cannot legally be loaded any further once the plimsoll line sinks to water's edge. They do not apply to yachts. Yacht designers calculate LWL (load water line) with due allowance for a normal crew with supplies and equipment. The crew of a 45 foot cruising sailboat could vary from 2 to 6 people depending on the boat and where she's going. Of course many more could cram aboard for an afternoon's sail, but the FAPA membership wouldn't fit in very well.... Houseboats are at their best in sheltered waters and are entirely unsuited to weather a storm at sea. If you wanted to live aboard a boat in retirement a houseboat would be splendid provided you realized the nautical limitations of the thing and risked no dangerous passages in open waters. ... My days as a chemist are 35 years behind me but I think that the strength of an acid is measured by the H ion concentration per dissolved gram molecular weight. It is far higher for hydrochloric and sulfuric acids than for organic acids such as acetic acid (the typical acid of vinegar) and I believe food would be difficult to digest if only organic acids were present in the digestive juices. The computer does not know how to win elementary checker endgames such as 3 kings against 2, because it only looks ahead 4 moves at most and for this problem it needs a long range plan which it doesn't have (and won't until some human improves the program and puts in a procedure for dealing with the case). In Russia ~~8x8~~ 8x8 checkers is obsolete and 10x10 is played everywhere. I have been mildly surprised no enterprising US manufacturer has introduced 10x10 to the USA especially when you see many hoary old games put out under new names as for instance 9 Men's Morris ("Mill") produced under the phony name "International Mühle".

RAMBLING FAP Its a fascinating story, this boat deal. Hard
Gregg Calkins to believe you survived all the cited hazards
and emerged still the owner of the boat. Of
course I could have given you lots of excellent advice but no one pays attention to my advice. Unasked, I'll proffer a tip: carry a repeating shotgun or rifle on board if you plan to cruise in the Caribbean Sea or along the coasts of Central or South America..... I think you've overlooked that you and Harry Warner Jr. aren't the only FAPA baseball fans. I maintain that I qualify, having viewed major league baseball played in Sportsman's Park, Yankee Stadium, Polo Grounds, Shibe Park, Griffith Stadium, Braves Field, Fenway Park, Baltimore Memorial Stadium, Cleveland Municipal Stadium, RFK Stadium, Dodger Stadium (LA) and the Oakland Coliseum. I go back to the days of the St. Louis Cardinals' Gas House Gang, led by Pepper Martin and featuring Frankie Frisch, Ducky Medwick, Charlie Gilbert, Dizzy Dean, Wild Bill Hallahan, and other such characters.

HORIZONS Those irregularly shaped pinkish blots on a
Harry Warner Jr. Gritbin page could be footprints of Vitons.
Do you really think all 65 copies of a FAPA
fanzine are likely to be identical? ... Your hobby of patronizing flea

markets and yard sales has a certain appeal, but you've the advantage of that famed attic of yours, equipped with trained squirrels ready to save you the price of a document shredder when you need to keep the contents from overflowing. We aren't all so blessed. My best buy was at a church bazaar: a nice 1931 edition of "Erewhon" illustrated by H. Charles Tomlinson and published by Cheshire House. Elegantly bound, the pages still uncut; all this for 25¢. By contrast I don't think reading about the Hindenburg disaster in your old newspapers would have cheered me up... Your line, "I tried not to duplicate the work of God by makin' a fool of myself" is classic! Bravo! BEST IN MAILING award.

PHANTASY PRESS
Dan MacPhail

Your cover reminds us that we don't ordinarily pay enough attention to the cultural affairs of BEM societies. .. Yes, it seems worthwhile to review the early FAPA mags if you have the patience, but I have no old mailings and am not looking to accumulate a file. Gotta get rid of some if more keep coming in. .. Those issues of Fan Facts you describe would be fun to read, previously published or not.... You or Louise must be complimented on the great improvement in the appearance and legibility of Phantasy Press.

DAMBALLA
Chuck Hansen

You'll find British English not the same as American Both have curious euphemisms for places equipped with wash stands and toilets. We have "restroom" (public) and "bathroom" (private homes); they prefer "water closet" but somewhat timidly abbreviate it to "W.C." Maybe it is even a social error in Britain to use the words instead of the initials. In private homes the British are more likely to refer just to the "bath" (I think) but I am open to correction from those more knowledgeable than I..... Taking shots for allergies does tend in the end to sensitize the victim. The danger could be more than "slight". Its natural to regret the passing of the tiger, a marvellous animal whose habitat is rapidly disappearing, but the villagers who use friends and relatives to the occasional man-eater probably have a different view. When my son was young I used to read to him the stories Jim Corbett told in MANEATERS of KUMAON and it was apparent over & over again that Corbett had a solid affection and respect for the tigers and limited himself to eliminating those that from wounds or age had been reduced to preying on humans, neither their normal nor their favorite prey. We know that wildlife is doomed when its habitat disappears, with a few awkward exceptions such as mice, rats, crows, coyotes etc. who have managed to adapt to the changed environments we provide for them. It is curious to see the abundance of fearless crows along the Washington-Baltimore parkway, feeding on small animals that were victims of the auto traffic. They seem to know no hunting is permitted along the road. On our farm in my youth they were shot at, and became extremely wary. But really to save wildlife there can be but one answer: fewer humans. Lets hear it for Zero Pop Growth!

DYNATRON
ROY Tackett

I liked "if there is science here it is in the rarified realm of quantum physics which I approach with all the caution of a starship captain in the vicinity of a black hole." Waiving the question of what brought him to that vicinity, I consider myself fortunate in not being obliged to believe in the disassembly of the electron, proton and neutron into fur and twenty ~~blackbirds~~ "elementary" particles each equipped with varying degrees of "spin", "charm" or whatever..... That business of a gyroscope disappearing if subjected to equal forces along all 3 spatial coordinates is reminiscent of Seaton's escape from the "Immortals" in "Skylark of Valeron" What of the energy required?

Resistance to intrusion into the 4th dimension might be greater than any force we could generate without destroying the gyroscope. It does sound preposterous. .. If you like TV depicting exploration of space in a favorable light, did you take in Carl Sagan's COSMOS series on PBS? ... Vladimor HORT is a respected chess grandmaster and your signoff as HORT always calls for a doubletake.

ECHO BEACH
Marc Ortlieb

Hasnt benighted Australia been blessed with the civilizing influence of electric razors? Yes, these are languid and drawn out conversations, these inter-continental MC's, but there is a certain charm in something unhurried.... Why should God be worshipped? I have not been able to see the logical necessity. If I ever had any personal acquaintance with God I would want to raise a few questions that bother me; I wouldn't want to fall on my face or ~~sig~~ sing hosannas. If God made the world and time, it cannot have been for the purpose of having finite creatures sing his praises (probably off key at that). It might have been more for the fun of seeing what was going to happen. Omniscience is not a necessary attribute of the "Creator" no matter how many theologians tell me otherwise. There might be a case for considering this an experimental, imperfect creation. Since I know "worship" is important to others I try to respect their convictions but it is alien to my philosophy. At the same time, it can be shown that the quality of my thought has been mediocre at best when it has been applied to many fields, and it would be silly to suppose theology anydifferent so I would never adopt a dogmatic attitude... Your concept that a real god would transcend logic may have merit, at least if you mean our concept of logic.

FANTASY COMMENTATOR
A. Langley Searles

Sam Moskowitz is no doubt responsible for our receiving this, and it is nice to have altho I'm getting a bit feeble to pick up such large fanzines these days. Lee Becker's verse is much better this issue, but he perpetrates a blunder and perpetuates a myth in "Lost Boundary." No witches were burned in Salem, Mass. Those that were killed in the well known hysteria were put to death otherwise, mainly by hanging..... It is easy to explain why Fin de Siecle by Jacques Sternberg (in Future without Future) has been ignored. "35,000 words of unrelieved gloom" @ Searles' own review is something I am happy to ignore. Who needs it, well written or not?..... Bernard de Voto was worth reprinting, altho one wonders if his views remained ever unchanged. Certainly J.W. Campbell did no worshipping at the altar of "Doom Beyond Jupiter" and de Voto might have found a different atmosphere in ANALOG.

OF CABBAGES AND KINGS AND BABY TURTLES
Peggy Rae Pavlat

The most fascinating life you'd like to lead would of course be the one you "don't remember." Opting for the religious life may have its points. I've known happy nuns..... Since we are passing thru the same shadow you describe regarding Bob's mother, and trying to care for my wife's feeble 97 year old mother at home, I can all too fully empathize with your experience..... But as to Dr. Charles Culpepper and Russell Bletzer, as pleasant and unexceptional as their passages seem, I find a certain difficulty in applying them to myself, having, it is to be feared, already entered upon my declining years, but without, alas, having acquired that wisdom to which both of your preceptors allude so respectfully.....Hasn't it been some time since baby turtles were really discussed?

MOONSHINE
Len & June Moffat

If I'd known you were going to report in 1980 on the activities of 1942 I'd have made a more determined effort to get to the Kenkon.

RED SHIFT 7
Taral Wayne

You have the only press name (Tarable Mistake) which I admire more than my own Entirely Uncalled for Publications..... According to the Jerusalem Bible the literal meaning of the "writing on the wall" Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin is uncertain but may represent names of weights. In Daniel 5 Daniel has no difficulty in making a free translation, essentially "you've been weighed in the balance and found wanting." Of course, altho the author of Daniel did not know it, Belshazzar was never king of Babylon; not related to Nebuchadnezzar, he was the son of a later king, Nabonidus, and never king himself, altho so addressed by Daniel in the story. You found 1 to 2 inch ships too tiny and preferred scale models? Where was your imagination? My father invented his own "war game" wherein we composed our own topographic maps and fought with colored round headed pins representing artillery, infantry, cavalry, battleships, cruisers and destroyers. To us the engagements were no less real for all that. Still, this talk of models has its charm, tho Allison really seemed best of all.

F-7
Mike Gliksohn

What you did with those 9 weeks would have killed me but enjoyed reading about it in a bemused sort of way.

KPHDS
Don Miller

Saying goodbye to a kidney is a tough one. Regrets that you had to go thru all that and quite understand cutting back on chess, go and the like. The only Western pulp I remember fondly is the "Wild West Weekly" but I als used to read "Railroad Stories" and I recall in particular one cover showing a brakeman standing easily on a boxcar top staring into the sunset from a moving train..... There was a romance about trains once. Someone wrote a line: "the whistles of the great trains, going West, lonely at night through cold Nebraska towns.." that lingers with me yet. Your index of Nebula is a fantastic project. I lack the courage to even think of reading the index, much less the magazines.

LOFGEORNOST 2
Fred Lerner

Ah, Beowulf. My favorite (modern) English translation is the one that starts "Lo, praise of the prowess of people-kings, of spear-armed Danes in days long sped we have heard, and what honor the athelings won....." I cant remember much more ... ("in the roadstead rocked a ring-dight vessel, ice-flecked, outbound, atheling's barge...") At one time I knew a bit more of it..... The book reviews are interesting even in face of the overwhelming likelihood I'll never see the cited vlumes.

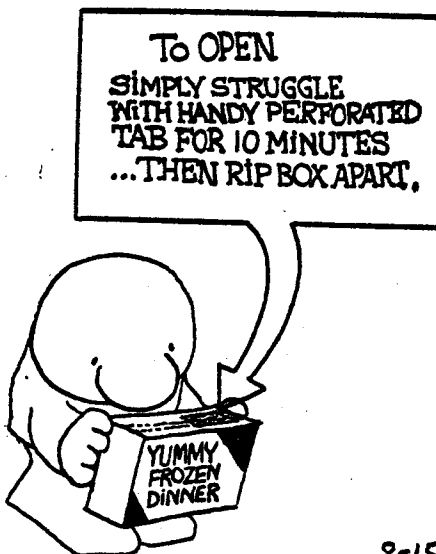
BOBOLINGS 32
Bob Pavlat

Ah, Maine. I never visit the state without thinking of and sometimes visiting Norm Stanley, but you may not have gotten as far North as Rockland. My wife and I found "Tourist" signs on private homes more inviting than the commerical places to stay.... I will go along with all of your proposed amendments: Equal Dues (\$10); Eliminate Blackball; Eliminate 3 maffing rule for new members; and Eliminate early admittance (I can admit a mistake).

DRIVEL 4 Don't forget I'm really pleased to have another USCF M Johnson member aboard even if you refuse to print your games and

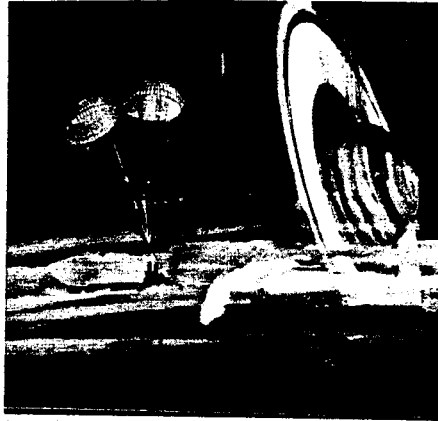
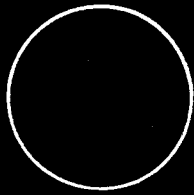
have not bothered to look at mine. The 4 kinds of "love" from the Greek (in "Islandia" there were just 2, sexual and non-sexual) are worth a few thoughts but your definitions have no real sharp edges. "EROS" isn't entirely selfish; there should be joy for 2 not just 1. PHILEO is certainly reinforced by reciprocity but why does that diminish its worth? I don't feel my "phileo" for a friend is in any way demeaned by his return "phileo" for me; its natural biofeedback (I often tell my cat, who seems to understand, "Its love, when we want to be together, Barney."). STERBO (love as an obligation) is admittedly on a lesser plane but by no means ignoble. Duty has its place with honor and valor in the pantheon of virtues. AGAPAO, the only one to win your unqualified approval, you define as "love based on value .. without any expectation of return." I might well respect someone whose welfare I considered more important than my own, but if this person, busy with more significant affairs, would not give me the time of day, I could feel no great affection or AGAPAO for him or her. Indeed AGAPAO seems a rather quixotic type of love, a self-effacing love for someone apart from us "withut any expectation of return." The more I think of it the more nebulous and self-defeating AGAPAO strikes me. But I suppose it is a powerful force to certain people, the ones willing to become martyrs and lay down their lives in behalf of some cause or other. As for AGAPAO towards not merely one indifferent to me, but one who actively dislikes or hates me, that is beyond my comprehension and is left to those who wish to aspire the beatitude of the Eight Fold Path or the hope of becoming canonized some day. There have been a (fortunately few) instances in my life when I wanted to be friends with people who felt no similar urge with respect to me, and sharply rebuffed me. They may have had many fine human qualities worthy of AGAPAO but I did not feel it for them. perhaps a confession of my own inadquacies. Getting on to my reaction to your original try at converting FAPA to Christianity----- of course to my eyes you did seem "obsessed with a youthful topic" for surely it is generally in our youth that we argue about the meaning of life and the significance of religion. Years bring us settled views and in most cases the young missionary spirit simply isn't there any more. Its not a belief in religion or an urge to contribute to FAPA that represents a "youthful obsession"; its the longing to go out and convert others to your way of thinking. To do you justice, since your opening issue you haven't harped on this theme and I've found DRIVEL pleasant enough to read.

AND MORE Well, some other time. Just cant read all of each mlg. now.
some compulsions to be good owed by the lost child to the dreadful wood xxxxxxxxxxxx

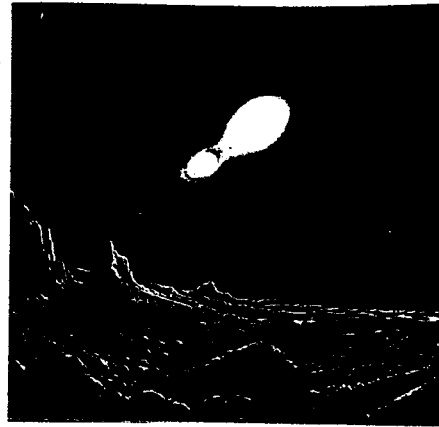




THE PLANETARY SOCIETY



LEFT An artist's conception of a landing on Titan, satellite of Saturn, and largest moon in the solar system. Titan has an atmosphere denser than that of Mars and covered with clouds composed of organic matter. Information on the origin of life on Earth may be waiting for us there. No one knows whether the Voyager flybys in November 1980 and July 1981 will reveal breaks in the



clouds and our first view of the Titanian surface. Future missions will include Titan orbiters and landers. Painting by Ken Hodges.

RIGHT The search for planets of other stars and for advanced civilizations in space has just begun. Shown here is a hypothetical planet in a contact binary star system. Painting by David Hardy.

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