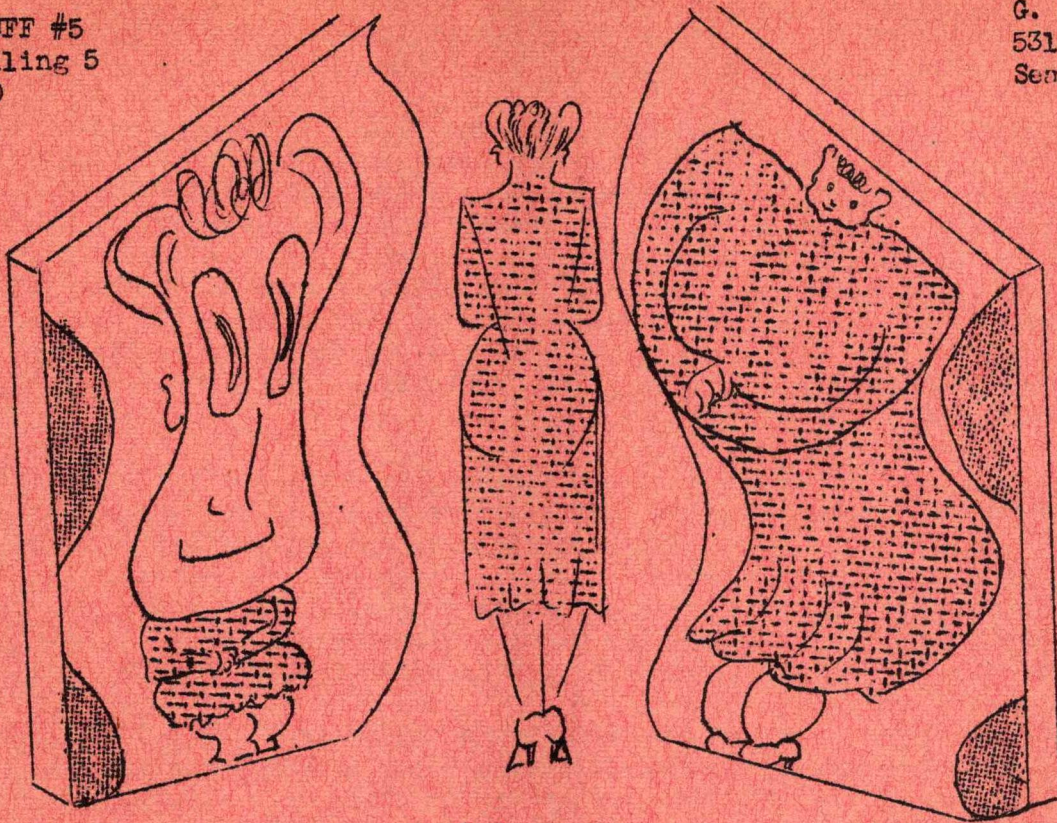


DREAM STUFF #5
NAPA Mailing 5
June 1960

G. M. CARR
5319 Ballard
Seattle 7, Wn



DREAM STUFF

In this not-really-asleep dream, I found myself in a big hall with crowds of people and laughter and lights and noise... The people were milling around, shouting and talking, so I walked over to one group to see what it was all about. I discovered the walls were lined with trick mirrors set in pairs, so that anybody who stepped in front of them was confronted by duplicate images, each just the opposite of the other. One side would show, perhaps, a short body with a big, swelled head -- and the other a great, imposing body with a little pinhead.

The warp in each mirror which produced the distortion was obvious, but at each set of mirrors the interested spectators were arguing and speculating as to which of the differing images was correct. No matter how loudly they argued, nor how vehement their insistence, none of them bothered to look at the person who was casting the image. They just looked at the mirrors and tried to deduce what he was like from the reflection in the glass.

I walked all around the hall, and every set of mirrors was more ridiculous than the one before it. Although I noticed that the farther I went, the less noticeable became the warp in the mirror, nevertheless the image would be just as distorted... Here a lop-sided face on a straight body, matched with a face that was all right, but the body all hunched and twisted. Each set of mirrors reflected a different picture, but all were grotesque from the warp inside.

At last, weak from laughter and wiping my eyes, I stumbled through a door at the far end of the hall, and into a softly lit room that adjoined it. Here, everything was different from the rude jostling of the outer room... It was a luxurious salon with deep carpets, and overstuffed chairs in little intimate groupings. Beautifully dressed mannequins posed and postured before the mirrors. Everything was so exaggeratedly beautiful and lovely that it reminded me of pictures I'd seen of swanky Dress Salons... but then I saw it was not professional models who were doing the posturing

but the guests themselves. Each, in turn, would promenade from glass to glass, stopping frequently to bow as the others applauded, then turning again to pose and prance and gesticulate before the mirrors that lined the walls.

But, as I came closer and examined the mirrors, I saw no cheap, easily visible distortion as in the outer room. These mirrors, with their delicately tinted glass, under the soft and flattering lights, reflected an image that astonished me. I came closer, and joined the posturing parade... Looking into the glass as the others did, I saw myself as a young woman, beautiful, even a bit sexy. I went to the next -- here I saw a witty, scintillating, sophisticate. Each mirror I came to was more flattering than the one before it. And, as I stopped before each mirror, the elegant people seated cozily around, applauded and admired. Then I saw that they -- like the other groups -- could not see the person casting the reflection. They could see only the picture in the mirror.

This amused me, and I thought it was a bigger joke even than the other mirrors -- hilariously funny that the distortions in these mirrors should produce beauty where it did not exist, and create an illusion of wittiness and sophistication even in such a prosaic individual as I. So I turned around to share the joke with the spectators but then I realized that they did not know it was a joke... They could not see the warp in the mirrors, so they believed the beautiful images were true. I was distressed that they should be basking fatuously in a false illusion, so I cried out,

"Can't you see? These mirrors are as false as the others! Do not be deceived by these false images, they are even worse lies than those in the outer chamber. People do not look like this -- you are being led astray by flattery. Although you cannot see them, there are distortions in these mirrors, too, so that the images you see are not the Truth. Because they are flattering images, and you want to believe them, you let yourself be deceived... but do not trust them. They are not true!"

Then the hushed atmosphere became tense with their harsh whispers as they angrily tried to stop me.

"Hush!" they said, "Do not be uncouth." And they angrily thrust me away. As I walked on, I could hear their scornful murmurs, "Common".. "Illogical".. "Fugheaded".. But one or two of them looked disturbed, and glanced questioningly around the room.

When I saw they would not listen, but preferred the flattery of their own illusions, I walked on past them into a small, bare room. In this tiny place there was nothing but a big, plate glass triple mirror with a harsh, bright light above it. It was a mirror such as dressmakers use, which reflected faithfully every blemish and wrinkle without compromise and without distortion. Here, at last, I saw myself as I really am, and I did not particularly like what I saw... especially coming right after the flattery of the previous mirrors.

"Damn it," I said, looking at my sags and bulges with disgust, "this is why I hate to try on new dresses... Why do we have to get so homely as we grow old?" And as I stood there, scowling at the dumpty figure with its wrinkles and grey hair, I suddenly remembered how my mother had grimaced with disgust at the mirror which reflected wrinkles and grey hair, too. I laughed at the memory, for as she had gazed, she told me of her own mother who also grumbled into a mirror,

"Egha, huru fule non blir ne non blir garral..." (Ugh, how ugly we become as we become old..) So I felt better as I realized I was not alone in facing disillusion.

And as I stood there, laughing at vanity which hurts at losing youth but bravely faces the changes age must bring, I noticed someone else had come into the room. Then I realized that I had become the mirror, and the person who entered looked and saw himself in me. He stood under the harsh light of truth, with no place to hide, and saw himself reflected as I saw him... he fled in terror, hiding his eyes and shrieking.

(Cont'd on last page)

MARCH 18, 1960:
FROM: G.M.CARR
TO: JANIE LAMB

DEAR JANIE,

JUST RECEIVED THE 4TH N'APA MAILING AND IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT THIS APA HAS ONE SITUATION THAT DOES NOT OCCUR IN THE OTHER APAS. I MEAN THE PROBLEM CREATED BY BEING A SUBSIDIARY OF ANOTHER GROUP, WITH TWO SETS OF DUES. I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE TIMELY TO WRITE A FEW WORDS ON THE SUBJECT OF MEMBERSHIP TURNOVER DUE TO THIS FACTOR.

RON ELLIK'S MEMBERSHIP IS A CASE IN POINT -- WE DOGGONE NEAR LOST HIM AS A MEMBER OF N'APA DUE TO THE FINAGLING THAT WENT ON ABOUT WHO WAS PAYING HIS N3F DUES. THE LATEST I HEAR IS THAT HE PAID THEM HIMSELF, AND IS NOW A MEMBER FOR 1960 ON HIS OWN VOLITION. I HOPE THIS IS TRUE.

BUT, ANYWAY, THE N'APA MEMBERSHIP AS OF MARCH 15, 1960 (AS SHOWN IN THE OFFICIAL N'APA YAP) LISTS ALL THE 34 MEMBERS WHO JOINED N'APA IN 1959. BUT, IS THIS FIGURE ACCURATE ON THE BASIS OF N3F RENEWALS? HAVE YOU ANY SUGGESTIONS ABOUT A DEADLINE FOR RENEWING N3F DUES IN ORDER TO BE LISTED AS A N'APA MEMBER IN THE MARCH MAILING?

I THINK THIS POINT SHOULD BE BROUGHT UP, AND I WOULD LIKE YOUR OPINION FROM THE STANDPOINT OF KEEPING THE RECORDS. IN YOUR OPINION, SHOULD THE N'APA MAILER (N'APA OE) CHECK WITH YOU TO SEE WHO HAS RENEWED (OR NOT YET RENEWED) BEFORE PUBLISHING THE MEMBERSHIP LIST IN MARCH? COULD A LATE-JOINING MEMBER OF N'APA CONTINUE HIS MEMBERSHIP FOR HIS FULL YEAR EVEN THOUGH HIS N3F MEMBERSHIP HAS LAPSED?

I THINK THIS POINT SHOULD BE BROUGHT UP FOR DISCUSSION BECAUSE THIS MATTER OF RENEWING PROMPTLY COULD BECOME VERY IMPORTANT. WE DO NOT HAVE A WAITING LIST AS YET, BUT IF WE EVER DID GET A LIST OF FANS WHO ARE EAGER TO GET INTO N'APA, IT MIGHT MEAN THAT A MEMBER WHO FORGOT TO RENEW HIS N3F DUES IN TIME, MIGHT LOSE HIS PLACE AND GO TO THE BOTTOM OF THE WAITING LIST. (COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT IN ITSELF COULD BE A POWERFUL MOTIVATION FOR RENEWING PROMPTLY)

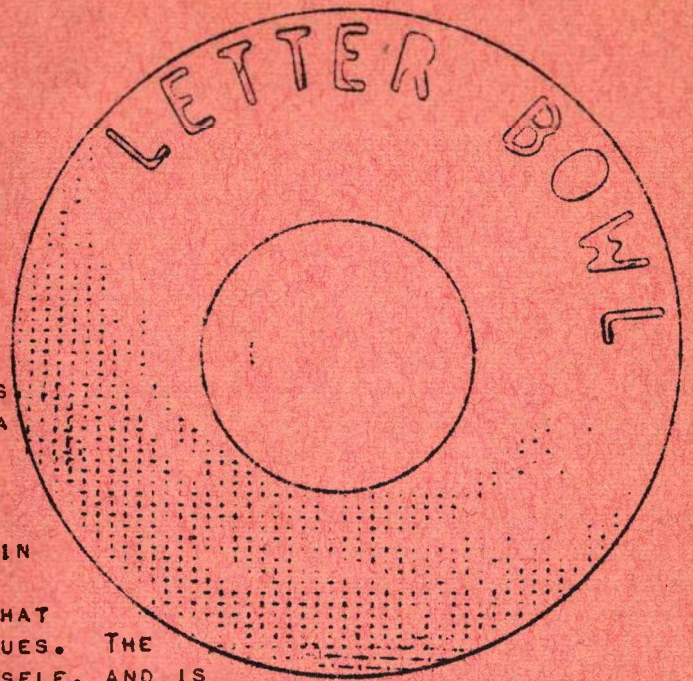
BEST WISHES,
/s/ G.M.CARR

FROM: Janie Lamb, Heiskell, Tenn.
TO: G.M.Carr

I'd suggest deadline for N'APA mid-March, as April TNFF carries N3F Roster. I've been mailing Terwilloger list of new members and renewals.

With following exceptions, all names on your list had renewed as of March: Ernie Wheatley, No; Steve Tollivor, No; Alan J. Lewis ? -- Lewis says he did, but didn't toll me; Larry E. Anderson, No -- we have 2 Donald Andersons, but no Larry Anderson. Could Larry Anderson be one of the Donald Andersons we have? Where does he live? How come he is a N'APA member? Was he ever a member of N3F?

(GMC: I DUNNO -- THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION. HOW ABOUT IT, LARRY?)



Al Lewis told Hayes he had paid his dues by deducting from POSTWARP expense, but hadn't told me -- maybe it should be kept secret from the Treasurer... Ellik caused all the furor over his dues himself -- he liked N3F but hated to give in -- I like the guy, tho.

How about Mailing the N'APA list back to me, I'd like list of members. ('Scuse pencil, but awful busy right now, and must answer before I forget.)

Best,
/s/ Janie

(GMC: YOU MEAN NOBODY HAS BOTHERED TO LET YOU KNOW WHO IS IN N'APA AND WHO ISN'T? Tsk, tsk! IT WOULD SEEM TO ME THAT THE SEC-TREAS. SHOULD BE KEPT IN VERY CLOSE TOUCH WITH THIS INFORMATION, INASMUCH AS MEMBERSHIP IN N3F IS A REQUISITE FOR MEMBERSHIP IN N'APA AND THE SEC-TREAS. IS THE ONE PERSON WHO KNOWS FOR SURE WHETHER A MEMBER IS PAID UP IN HIS DUES. THIS WOULD ALSO BE IMPORTANT FOR ROUND ROBINS -- YOU LISTENING, SETH?)

FROM: Bob Lichtman, 6137 S. Croft Av. LA 56, Cal. March, 1960
TO: G.M.Carr

Dear Gom:

I'll be faunching to receive the N'APA Mailing. From all reports, far and wide, I believe the membership roster is almost filled up. Should do N'APA a world of good to get a waitlist behind it, unless the idiot directorate decides to use their "power" to create an unlimited membership, in which case I'll drop out as soon as it passes EAPA's level. I am quite unsatisfied with the present constitution, even with the changes which were up to vote. Am planning on doing an entire, complete re-writing for submission to the vote. It will, I hope, clear up a lot of the messy clauses created by the original author (Larry Sokol, I think, who has had no apa experience.)

Ralph Holland points out the biggest reason why a fanclub running just for its own self-existence is bound to be a flop. His comments on N3F bureaucracy show conclusively that the N3F does not have a chance of working any more efficiently than it does now -- "things just don't happen" he say, "in fandom or anywhere else". Maybe so for the latter, but things just do happen in fandom. Maybe they're not completely spontaneous (I mean, you just don't wish yourself a fanzine or a convention) but national clubs aren't required to set them up. This doesn't apply to apas, which are set up along different lines. And because of that, I imagine the N'APA will be more successful than the N3F ever has been or will be. And I speak now as a member of N3F and of N'APA.

Art Rapp has a rather interesting theory, but I'm afraid if N'APA attempted to guide its own course without any help from old-hand apaites, it'd soon devolve into a slump and die. Or, barring that, it'd be so cruddy that no one save the members could take it. As it is, N'APA seems to be doing okay. That ballot with constitutional changes in the 3rd mailing was one of the poorest examples of apa constitution changing I've ever seen, though.

Gertrude, if you have any old Quandrys and the like down in your cellar, would you consider selling them to me? I would be most interested in obtaining same. That includes all such: Fanvariety, Opus, Confusion, etc. What do you have?

Cheers,
/s/ Bob

(GMC: SORRY -- NOTHING, NOW. THEY'RE ALL GONE... SEE BELOW.)

PR4020 SY4006 SY NNA183 NL PD AR-NEW YORK NY 3-
M CARR- 5319 BALLARD AVE SEATTLE WASH- HAVE JUST READ DREAM STUFF WILL OFFER \$10
PLUS POSTAGE FOR ENTIRE LOT PLEASE ADVISE WILL RAISE PRICE IF NECESSARY. BEST REGARDS
ELLE DIETZ- ADSE MG 820A MLD MG DA 715A BY 807A -810A \$10.

FROM: Andy Main, BEM, 5668 Gato Ave. Goleta, Calif. Apr. 5, 1960
TO: G. M. Carr

Hail GEM! Having recently recd n'apa mlg #4, I was reading thru and I saw your note on the last page of your zine about FNZ CLEARANCE. I'd like to get some of the fnz offered, but I don't know if I'd have the money involved. But I am willing to offer say, five dollars besides pstg for them--I might be able to go higher if you get obstinate--actually I don't have enough room either, but I plan on packing them away -- most of them anyway--when I get them, and peddling off old ones, as you suggested. How bout that? Is it enough? Or have you sold them already? Hope you haven't, as I want to build up the old collection. Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain,
respectfully, and all that rot,
Andy Main, BEM

(GMC: BELLE DIETZ WAS THERE FUSTEST WITH THE MOSTEST. STEVE SCHULTHEIS RUSHED A SPECIAL DELIVERY OFFER AFTER READING ABOUT IT IN YANDRO, BUT HE WAS TOO LATE, TOO. TX FOR THE 3¢ COMMEMORATIVE)

FROM: Art. Hayes, R.R. #3, Bancroft, Ont., Canada 9963 -- 040360
TO: G. M. Carr, 5319 Ballard Ave. Seattle 7, Wash. U.S.A.

Howdy:-

Thanks for the RR Withdrawal. I won't comment on that particular withdrawal, if any comments are called for, I'll reserve it for the publication I use. But I might as well write a short letter at this time, just for heck.

You remember some time ago when you wrote about the Manuscript Bureau being restricted to N3F members only, well, it seems to be working out that way anyhow. I'm including a flyer, a copy I made of a flyer, from the fMp. I think Ed Ludwig has a good enough start now with the Mss B, not to have to worry about this new development outside of N3F. I made out a few copies to distribute in the Directorate, and have one more copy left. I do not think it would be a good idea to say anything that would be interpreted as being in opposition to this fMp. It is up to us to make sure that the Mss Bu can meet this competition. There are some rules in it that they have that I like so I sent a copy of it to Ludwig, too.

(GMC: PERSONALLY, I'M GLAD TO SEE FMP REVIVED. IMITATION IS STILL AS SINCERE A FORM OF FLATTERY AS IT WAS WHEN TERRY CARR FIRST STARTED FMP IN IMITATION OF THE THEN-ACTIVE N3F Mss Bu. IN FACT, I CONSIDER THIS AS YET ANOTHER THING WHICH N3F HAS ACHIEVED FOR THE GOOD OF FANDOM AS A WHOLE. NO MATTER HOW LOUDLY SCOFFERS SNEER AT THE POOR OLD DYING MONSTER, NEVERTHELESS, FANDOM HAS BENEFITED A LOT MORE THAN IT THINKG FROM N3F.)

Well, I'm almost caught up, have only seven letters left to write. I won't get them all done tonight, since I'm going to Toronto tonight to see what I can negotiate for in the way of better duplicating equipment. My ditto has done a lot of duplicating in the time I've had it and I think I should retire it. It has taken care of over 70 publications to date. I'm hoping to be able to make a deal on a Gestetner, but, like the multi-lith, the prices may be too high. We shall see on Monday.

A saturnalian fiend,

/s/ ART HAYES

(GMC: MULTILITH -- GESTETNER -- AH, YOU LUCKY BACHELOR, YOU! IMAGINE BEING CHIP-HEAVY ENOUGH TO EVEN DREAM IN THAT DIRECTION.... GOOD SHOPPING, ART. I HOPE TO SEE THE RESULTS OF YOUR QUEST IN THIS COMING N'APA MAILING. YOU HAVE PUBLISHED SOME VERY GOOD MATERIAL THAT REALLY DESERVED A BETTER (I MEAN MORE EASILY READ) PRESENTATION. I HOPE YOU FIND WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR AND CAN CONTINUE PUTTING OUT THOUGHT-PROVOKING STUFF.)

[IGU 200]

CRANKCASE

DRIPPINGS

One of the most surprising things to come in the mail, and one that presents me with a problem I don't know how to handle, is a copy of THE FANTASTIC UNIVERSE OMNIBUS. Apparently Hans Stephan Santesson has sent review copies to quite a few fans -- in fact, he must have plastered fandom with them to get down the line as far as he... I'll gladly review the book -- but my fanzines now have such a limited circulation that I hesitate even to read it, for fear of doing so under false pretenses. Another thing, what is the proper procedure in a case like this? Shall I write and thank him? Or would that raise a doubt in his mind as to the wisdom of sending review copies to anyone so obviously naive as this -- thus cutting myself off from any future windfalls of this nature! Should I send him a copy of my review? Not having read it as yet, I don't know whether that would be wise or not... Certainly I would not care to bite the hand bearing gifts (to scramble a couple of metaphors). And what is the best way to express my appreciation? Obviously, the best way would be to review the book honestly and give that review as wide a publication as possible. So I guess that's what I'll do, and hope it will seem an adequate return. Thanks, Mr. Santesson.

May 19, 1960: Wrote again to Jim Brederick asking for an accounting of that \$2.75 I sent him last July for a double-deck of Emswiller-designed Detention playing cards.. Not that I expect to get the cards, but I think there ought to be some kind of acknowledgement of the money. What I suspect happened is that the cards were sold by the time he got my order, and in the last-minute confusion before the Con, Jim just endorsed the check over to the Detention treasury and then forgot to make a notation that I had credit coming for it.. But, Heck! That's no way to do business... They could at least have credited me with a Membership in the next year's Con -- that would have given me one of those highly desirable low numbered Membership Cards for this Philcon....

Speaking of things for sale...

SIAMESE QUEEN for sale.
Beautiful Sealpoint.
SU 3-4842 after 4.

MING DYNASTY Manuscript
Painting of Ho Chan Yi Yuen --
Very Rare and Priceless. \$265.

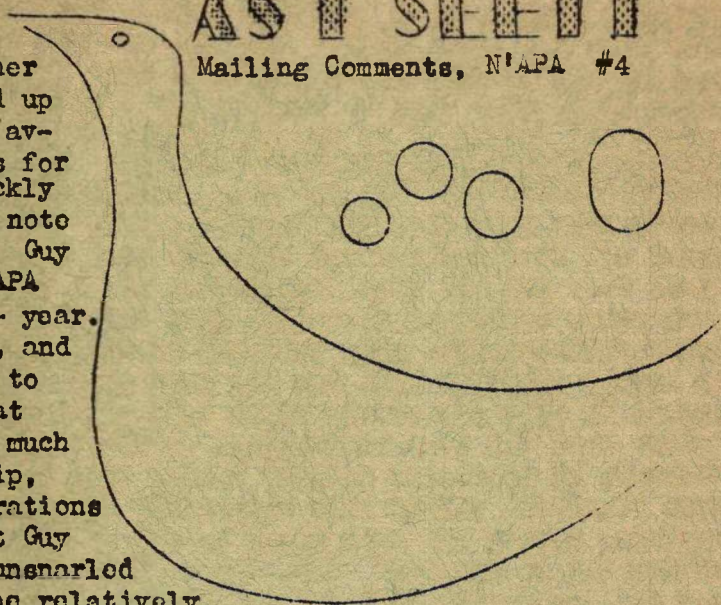
SPANISH PEDRO AT STUD
No. 2821 Reg. TA 5-3340.

WIDOWS and walls washed; floors
waxed. Experienced man. EA 4-7333

Well, we've weathered the first year and the prospects look good. No doubt other more statistically-minded members will add up the total pages for each mailing, compute averages, evaluate trends, etc. etc. But as for me, I am satisfied to see the club so quickly established as a full-fledged APA, and to note the enthusiastic response I has received. Guy Terwilloger deserves thanks for seeing N'APA through its first -- and most difficult -- year. He's been bombarded with plenty of gripes, and taken it well. Although, it is only fair to qualify that statement by pointing out that for the most part, the gripes were not so much against Guy for his handling of the OE-ship, as they were against the snafus and frustrations usual to any "shakedown cruise". Now that Guy has taken the brunt of these mishaps and unwarbled them for us, the succeeding years should be relatively easy. Thanks, Guy, for a job well done.

AS I SEEM IT

Mailing Comments, N'APA #4



LITTLE ACORNS #4 - Guy Terwilloger. It just doesn't seem POSSIBLE for so big and so beautifully produced a mag to spark absolutely NO comment. But, impossible as it may seem, that's the case with me. I've read this mag through three separate times, without coming up with anything more to comment on than the mention of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES. A Seattle fan, Mark Walsted, told me the other day that he is thinking of selling his FFMs. I don't know how many he has, except that his file starts with Vol. I #1 and is complete as far as it goes, which is probably within the past couple of years. He didn't mention a price, but I rather suspect he is thinking in terms of \$75 or up. If any of you are looking for a collection of FFMs and have the dough to talk business with, you might drop him a line. His address (last I have) is 3745 University Way, Seattle 5, Wash.

IOTA #1 - Mike Deckinger. I am glad to see that "Twilight Zone" is receiving wide publicity, because as you say, it is a good science fiction-slanted program. I get a kick out of the references to "Twilight Zone Fandom" in fnz. The way this half-hour weekly TV short is bandied around, it practically does add up to a fandom of its own. And deservedly so. But I'd like to say right here there is another equally good half-hour show, "One Step Beyond". We get it out here on the Alcoa Hour on Tuesday evenings. It started a couple of weeks before Twilight Zone, but I suppose the reason it hasn't received as much publicity is because it runs more toward ESP and Psi phenomena. I like Alfred Hitchcock's Sunday evening show and would class it with the other two even though it doesn't stress stf or fantasy, because it does transfer the story without distorting it. The characterizations stay with the original as far as technically possible, and the plot is not recognizably changed. I think that is true of all three of these shows, and is why they are so good. This stupid idea of taking a good story and tearing it all apart in order to present some parodied caricature of it, has just about destroyed most stf TV or movies. But these 3 TV shows are different, and I can recommend them even to the fussiest viewer. ... "How's my spelling, GEM?" he asks me... after a particularly horribobble booboo! I would of tole him, but lately I've been having such a seige of booboes myself -- (and not only misspellings! I've been even getting names and titles all wrong! It's actually pathetic how I'm slipping) -- that I'd just as soon ignore the subject temporarily.

WYOMA #4 - Eva Firestone. Here in Seattle, Avocados are a seasonal commodity and range in price from as little as 6/25¢ up to two bits each. Most of the time they run about two for a quarter. Personally, I'm very fond of them and when they are plentiful (so I can afford it) I indulge myself recklessly in spite of the calories.

SKIMMERS GUIDE & GROUND ZERO - Belle Deitz. Enjoyed both very much, but about the only comment that occurs to me is to wish that there had been a little more development of the plot-situation in Ken Brown's "Weed Patch". As it was, I couldn't tell whether the weed-patch was infested with earwigs and the Aliens were harvesting the Great Sahara Desert, or whether there was supposed to be some connection between the two. I suspect the author intended to imply that the lazy gardener finally killed off the invaders with a Flitgun, but he didn't make it very clear....

QUOTE THE WALRUS - Ralph Holland. (Chuckle) No offense meant, Ralph, but I can't help being amused at some of the suggestions being offered N'APA -- not only by you, but by other well-meaning advisers. It certainly is easy to see by the nature of some of these suggestions, that the persons who made them have had no previous apa experience. For instance -- it is as futile to try and prevent the members from referring to the "official editor" when speaking of the official who mails out the bundles, as it is to attempt to keep kids from calling a policeman a "cop".... It just isn't possible to play "Cops & Robbers" without at least one "Cop". Neither is it possible to play "apa" without an "official editor".... If there's any danger of confusion between the N'APA "OE" and the editor of TNFF, it would be easier to change the latter to "Official Publisher". or something like it...

LA BAS - Robert Lanbeck. Well, if you are, as you say, a r&r enthusiast, perhaps you can tell me just HOW to tell the difference between r&r and the ordinary "popular music". (Now, I don't mean any of those silly definitions like, "If you can understand the words, it's popular music, and if you can't it's r&r.!!!") What I mean, out here we have the "Top Ten" and "Top Forty" tunes blaring out of the radio, and they all seem to set my feet a-tapping. But they run all sorts: from "Battle of New Orleans" and "Sink the Bismark" to "Green Fields" and "Tall Oak Tree". We got story-ballads like "El Paso" "Big Iron" and "Running Gun", and things like "Angela Jones" "Teen Angel" and "Old Lamp Lighter". Then there's the novelty tunes, like "Little White Dove" and "El Matador"; negro singers with "You've Got What It Takes" and "Mack The Knife"... Of course, the instrumental mood-music like "Theme From A Summer Place" "Ebbtide" and "Silver Sands" is probably not noisy enough to be considered r&r, although it does have a pronounced beat. But just how CAN you tell if a record is r&r or 'popular'?

PICTURE TRICK #2 - MZBradley. That cover is itself a neat 'picture trick'... It is a good indication of the vividness of your writing, Marion, that all the time I was reading your descriptions of the various picture tricks, I kept seeing aerialists in white tights (with pink trim) swinging through the air from bar to bar doing the acts you were describing. It takes very vivid descriptive writing to produce this visual impression... (Of course, having a vivid imagination of my own helps, too....)

THE SEDENTARY POOCH - Bruce Henstell. Ever since Les 'n Es Cole ('way back in '49..) were mistaken for 16-year-old twin brothers, whenever a new fan introduces himself as a teenager there is a tiny wave of skepticism in the minds of old-time fans.. They don't mind being hoaxed by a boy-fan who turns out to have been a girl-fan all along, (or vice-versa) nor even by a brilliant youngster who cons them into picturing him as being about forty, with a soup stained vest... But most of us sure do hate to be hoaxed into thinking a new fan is a youngster when all the time he's a grown-up adult snickering at us through his beard (or, worse yet, a couple of adults snickering through their beards!) ... Still -- with that spelling -- maybe Bruce is only 14.)

FACADE - Larry Anderson. Welcome home, Larry... it's been a long time, or so it seems, since I strained my eyes over that teentsey-weentsey type face of yours, but I'm glad to see it again. Speaking of the Indians on reservations, reminds me of a trip many years ago when my husband and I stopped at a little country store in Wyoming. While we were gawking around, some young men came in. It got so quiet in there you could almost cut the silence with a knife. They looked tough and mean and sore at the world, and though all they did was buy some pop and cigarettes, it seemed as though everybody in there held their breath until they had gone. Afterwards we got to talking and found out they were Indians from a near-by reservation. I never did find out why everyone was

so uneasy when they came in. Goodness knows, nobody minds the Indians in the reservations out here and I've never noticed anybody go into a tizzy when they walk into the local stores. But evidently the situation is quite different with Indians in each separate reservation. Also at that time I remember hearing that the Government had attempted to help the living conditions of the Indians by building small bungalows. Nice little cottages, with cupboards and kitchen conveniences of the latest (at that time) kind. But the Indians just wouldn't have anything to do with them. They went right on living as they had before, and the cottages fell to pieces from neglect. I suppose the reason it made such an impression on me, was because I would have liked one of those cottages to have lived in, myself...

PHANTOM - Wally Weber. I knew those Flying Saucerers must be good for something... One of 'em, at least, succeeded in sparking this delightful report of his lecture... I wonder how many fans noticed one interesting facet of that article by John W. Campbell, Jr., "The Space Drive Problem" (Asf, June 1960) wherein he described an invention by Mr. Norman Dean? I refer to the possibilities of use in spacecraft -- and especially Campbell's conjectures as to its extreme high speeds and maneuverability. When I read his descriptions of what could be expected in the way of performance from use of the Dean Drive, it struck me as being remarkably similar to what has been reported all along regarding the performance observed in these so-called "Unidentified Flying Objects". This similarity of performance, plus the Government's peculiar (to say the least) "indifference" to Mr. Dean's invention, makes me wonder if Campbell is not overlooking the obvious. For instance, suppose the Government has been engaged in testing something very much like Mr. Dean's "invention" -- and has been using it in a successful secrecy (successful, probably, because they were able to keep it away from whoever it was that has been spilling all our atomic beans all over the place). If that were the case, then it would explain the Government's lackadaisical attitude toward Mr. Dean. What better way would there be to keep from rousing interest in his invention, than just to treat it like another "crackpot" idea? Even to refuse him a patent on it might raise the query, "Why?" Therefore, in order to maintain their secret, they would have to let him get his patent and sit there twiddling his thumbs... At least, this is the first suggestion that I have heard so far that makes even the faintest "sense" to me... Somehow, I just can't accept the "explanation" of Little Green Men from Mars. Or even handson strangers from Venus... (On the other hand, supposing an experimental aircraft were accidentally stumbled upon, what better cover-up could there possibly be than to pretend to the gullible citizen that they were Benevolent Venusians?)

SAVOYARD #4 - Bruce Pelz. "...popular music is worthless." Worth less than what? r&r? This I like: "I don't think" says Bruce, "anyone has a right to gripe because there is a class of people who don't have to work their asses off every day like the griper himself may have to. I figure that a man has a right to what money earns and what money his ancestors earned but didn't get a chance to spend. Why the hell should they go and give it away to some jackass who hasn't the brains or ability, either in himself or in his ancestors, to earn big money?" Excellently expressed. I wish there were a few hundred million other Americans who felt the saw way, come voting time... I wish somebody could explain to me what is so terrible about Big Business. These "Capitalists" like Henry Ford and Andrew Carnegie who have been lampooned and vilified because they "exploited" the people, actually are responsible for the great strides in human welfare that their productions made possible. I cannot see how it is that a business should be accused of "exploiting" a man because it offers him a job -- one that did not even exist until they provided it for him. I do not argue in defense of low wages and poor working conditions. But I do question whether a job at low wages is not preferable to no wages at all... Take the Automotive Industry, for instance. If Carnegie and Ford had not developed steel and automobiles, what would those millions who now depend on this industry for livelihood be doing for a living? Scrabbling for beans and potatoes on some rock farm? Or starving like the so-called "backward" nations who had no Ford or Carnegie to "exploit" them into the highest standard of living that the world has ever known....

THE RAVING MAINE-IAC -- Clayton Hamlin. It could be, Clay, that the reason you were "bored" with the apa mailing, was because you expected too much... Actually, it was an excellent mailing -- especially so, considering how short a time this group has been in operation. But if you were looking forward to a big pile of generalzines, somewhat on the order of YANDRO, CRY, and APZ, no wonder you were disappointed... To people who know apas and know what they excell in, the best part of all is the comment on-comments-en-comments. It is this which gives each apa its special "gestalt" -- and without these comments, the group would have no more personality than general fandom. I think when you have belonged to an apa for a while, Clay, you will realize this -- and will probably feel a little foolish for complaining. If all you want from N'APA is a big bundle of fanzines, you would do better to spend your money on subs.

SUN SPOTS #3 - Bjo. "...I didn't suspect Trina of more than pony-tailed cuties with a low center of gravity".. (Chortle!) (For the benefit of non-SOLACON attendees, wasn't it Trina Castillo who wore the tight-fitting masquerade costume which consisted of a huge chestnut pony-tail hanging to her waist, and an ever huger chestnut pony-tail fastened lower down which hung to her ankles...?) Bjo, that was a simply MAGNIFICENT article you wrote to Janet Freeman. I wish it could be reprinted where every teenager could read it. It seems a shame to waste it on a mere 40 members, most of whom are too old to benefit.

ZZZ #2 - Alma Hill. I chortled over the picture you presented in your comment, "You'd have been shook too, if you'd unrolled a zine marked 'CONTENTS: PORNOGRAPHY' in a decent study hall..." I don't know just how tough the officials of N'APA intend to be in their interpretation of "5 pages all your own work", but usually it is considered that any person who makes a selection of material for re-printing, is giving "his own work" ie, his editorial judgement should count for something, as well as the work involved in publishing the selected material. This provision is intended to prevent potential deadwood from tossing leftover "Program Bulletin for the 1956 Annual Amalgamated Hog-Callers of North Carolina" into the mailing just to maintain their activity requirements. QUANTUM MAGNUM - beautiful! In fact, this is just what I hoped for when I first spotted your name on the membership list... (Mental image of a cat purring over a saucer of cream)... More, please. I like it.

POSTMAILINGS:

ROVER 8 - Alma Hill. I'm glad to see Project Art Show coming along so well, but aside from that, I'm afraid about all I can do with this is read it and drool... I don't think enough of my own 'artwork' to submit any, and I don't expect to get to Philly so I can see the show. But at any rate, I can be glad that others will no doubt have the pleasure of seeing it.

BOYCON NEWS - Terwillegers. Tantalizing, but as with the above, all I can do is drool.

PEALS - Deitz. Belle, I wish you would write up your trip a la THE EARF. You manage to mention the things that give insight into people and places. No criticism of the various D&F winners, but no matter how detailed their conreps, they seem to miss the intimate little things which put so much into your reports. Thanks for this glimpse of Inchnery -- it is absolutely delightful!

FAN DEN - Racy Higgs. Oh, heck, Racy -- I just hate to try and figure out the "5 best" of anything... I like 'em all (or else I dislike 'em) and to try and say which is "best" is like trying to choose between Ice Cream and Roast Turkey! They're each good in their own way, so how is it possible to say which is "best"?

FITCON MEMORY BOOK - Kaynar Carlson. I'll try and send something, but I don't know what...

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION - ~~of~~ "Mailer" Dietz. Seems clear and explicit down to every last l'il ol' detail except HOW MUCH ARE THE DUES? Can't find it in the Constitution, and don't recall that it ever was clearly decided... \$1? \$2? a buck fifty?

DREAM STUFF -- Cont'd.

Others came who glanced casually in the glass, stopping only to straighten a seam or pull up a showing slip, or comb back a straying lock of hair... These were unafraid of Truth, and had nothing to fear by what they might see there. One came who roared with rage at what he saw reflected in that harsh light, and tried to shatter the glass that showed him so unfavorably. But who can destroy Truth? Another tried to smear the glass with mud, and so cover up the image it gave him. But who can hide the Truth? Now and again someone would come and start back in surprise, then try to brush away the unsuspected lint which clung to his clothes, or scrub the newly disclosed stains. Yet others, when startled at this sudden sight of themselves, cried out in pain, "You are doing it deliberately -- just to hurt me! You are hateful! You are cruel!"

At last there came a group who conferred together indignantly, demanding that they should all band together to ostracize this mirror which caused so much unrest.

"We can't allow anything like this to go on," they said. "We don't believe in Censorship! This glass is censoring our right to believe what we want to believe, therefore we must prevent anyone from looking at it. After all, those pictures in the mirror are only the mirror's opinion of what we are -- and we cannot permit any mirror to hold opinions about us! The only opinions we permit, are those we approve of, and any mirror which will not reflect us as we wish to soon, must be removed!"

So they hung padlocks on the door, and put up signs saying, "VERBOTEN" "OUT OF BOUNDS" "NO ADMISSION" "KEEP OUT" then they went away, rubbing their hands and saying,

"There, that ought to teach her a lesson! We can't let anyone go around hurting feelings like that.. It is all right to tell lies about people until nobody can tell what is true and what is false, and it is all right to butter them up with flattery, no matter how deceitful, but NOBODY can be permitted to tell an unpleasant Truth and get away with it!"

But the Mirror hung there unperturbed. After all, who has ever succeeded in suppressing Truth for long?

"RELIGION IS THE OPIATE OF THE PEOPLE..." KARL MARX

WHAT SOUL HAS NOT WAKENED ALONE IN THE NIGHT
AND CRIED OUT TO GOD IN ITS FEAR
AS A CHILD IN THE GLOOM OF A NIGHT-DARKENED ROOM
CRIES TO KNOW IF ITS MOTHER IS NEAR?
AND THEN -- LIKE THE CHILD LULLING BACK TO ITS REST
WHEN HER COMFORTING VOICE HE CAN HEAR --
IS NOT CALMED OF ITS FRIGHT IN THE DEPTH OF THE NIGHT
WHEN FAITH WHISPERS BACK, "GOD IS HERE.."