
FIRST DRAFT #58

Vol. 10, No. 4

15 Apr 65

in which Dave Van Arnam indulges in several highly unprecedented activities and also undergoes something of a crisis of conscience...

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The first unprecedented thing (first, because I did it several weeks ago) is that, as the 3d thru 12th pages of this issue of FIRST DRAFT, Effers will find my SAPS column for Mike McInerney's SAPSzine (if, as I mention in the column, 6 members drop out this mlg, it will actually be my activity requirement, and hence technically a separate zine -- I wd then in the future list it as being SAPRISE! #2, a name which otherwise will go on whatever zine of mine actually do become my activity requirement on entering). I realize that none of this is of any interest to anyone not in SAPS (ho, John Boardman!), but I felt some kind of explanation was due. It is not, however, last-classing it to Apa L, the column, that is. [1] I strongly doubt many Ellers wd care that much about 10p of SAPS mc's, and [2] hence, I did not run off enough extras beyond the 45 I gave Mike and the 30 for Apa F (plus my usual 10-20 copy overrun).

The second unprecedented thing is related to my current Crisis of Conscience. The skilled-in-such-things among you will have noticed a certain slight difference in appearance of the Swell Ol' Dave Van Arnam's FIRST DRAFT, at least for the first two pages.

That is because the ABDick 320 photo offset machine has arrived at the office and is now operational (read: well, yeah, Lil, I think I can run the thing...).

And FIRST DRAFT is now the longest-running weekly fanzine and with Offset too. No, Ted, not with set-off; that's only when I'm running your stuff in Apa L (hm, and with the last 10 pages of this issue, too...owell).

Speaking of Ted, I don't really think he thinks too much of the tabletop offset idea even in principle. Or especially in principle. But I can assure you, it's a sweet-running little machine.

Ahem. Faneds kindly note the following.

DEPARTMENT OF ANNOUNCEMENTS OF NEW FAN BUSINESS: The details haven't been completely worked out yet, but once we get the offset working on a production basis and work out a pricelist, I'll be going into the offset-work-for-fans business. It's not my machine, of course, but Lil is willing for me to offer a special competitive rate for fans (it's business she wdn't otherwise get, of course). She & I wd both be making money on it, of course, but it wd still be a good price. And the service wd be quite fast. I never offered to do the same with mimeo because I didn't want to go into competition with Ted, who, of course, still does a certain amount of professional mimeographing for fans. Offset is another matter, however. Anyway, Tune In Again in a week or two for details on pricing, full range of services available, and all.

DEPARTMENT OF ARGUMENTS ABOUT PROFESSIONAL WRITING: Getting back to Ted again.. At the last Fanoclasts meeting he was talking about my draft of

Null-Q Press

Undecided Publication #112

this is a page by Dave Van Arnam for Mike McInerney's SAPS/71 zine this is

this is also
FIRST DRAFT #58 -- page 3

and if six people drop out of SAPS this mlg, this is

SAPRISE! #2
Vol. 1, #2
25 Mar 65

Dave Van Arnam Apt
1730 Harrison Ave, 353
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And that's Messy Colophons for this mailing. Boy, I'm glad this is appearing inside a zine somewhere instead of being a front page (I say this since I am reasonably certain that six people are not going to be dropping out of SAPS this mlg).

I expect this COLUMN OF FIRST DRAFT SAPRISE will be rather short; but I do at least want to attempt to comment to those people who were good enough to comment to me. I was going to comment at length on this mlg -- hell, I was going to comment at length on last mlg -- but somehow having a column in someone else's zine just didn't feel the same, didn't provide the same stimulus to creation as, being able to put one's own separate zine thru. I see that several Members supported the no-frank edict (as is their right, naturally), but I have to go along with whoever it was who pointed out that it seemed just a bit too bad to penalize those very prospective members who, by their enthusiasm for publishing, have indicated their desire to contribute to the Betterment of SAPS. (Of course, you might think they -- we -- put out lousy zines, and I have to admit I have no answer for that one.)

Not only NORM METCALF, but also ARNIE KATZ, RICH BROWN, and MIKE McINERNEY offered me space for columns in their zines, and I thank them all for their offers. NORM, I'm sorry I didn't even drop you a note, but certain personal turmoils temporarily hindered my fanac, and the brief procrastination somehow spread into many months. At any rate, it somehow seems the fannish thing to have accepted the offer of one who was not a Member at the time he made the offer...

BRUCE PELZ :: SPELEOBEM 26 THE READER'S GUIDE TO TARZAN'S AFRICA has *ahem* been Temporarily Delayed. Other activities preempted much of my time, and the fanproject had to give way. The project has not died, however. And I do intend to revise the Barsoom/Amtor guide, basically because I want to bring the Mars index in line with the others and include all names, not just places. +++ You'd be surprised at how well the Fanoclasts/FISTFA are getting along with other fangroups in NYC these days. As for sticking it out, with no fallings-out among Efficers, there's been almost no friction for the past four years and more (or, Since It Started). +++ "NO law applicable to conventions that can be enacted by fans."? You mean Syracuse doesn't have to pull a 3/4 vote off to set the Rotation aside? +++ RICH MANN, dammit, I don't care what they say in LA -- those things Tom Gilbert sends to me are Apa L mailings! As I've said elsewhere, when's the last time anybody ever saw me at a LASFS Meeting?...

DIAN PELZ :: YEZIDEE 10 Yes, Eddison's prose to me is a total delight. I can see where he might be a bad influence on a writer (Cabell's prose got to me in 1953, and I've been fighting its

influence on my prose ever since). At first I thot you were putting me down, when you mentioned that when you were younger you tended to over-embellish your sentences. Then I realized that, after all, I did too; and if I over-embellish my sentences now, from time to time, it is (presumably, at least) because I damn well want an over-embellished sentence or two. I probably will do some fiction (new, not reprints as in Apa L & Apa F) when I become a Member. Bloody rich sword-and-sorcery, I hope. +++ I like the opening phrase of Ch. 9 of the Annals, I do; I thot about it for some time, puzzling over implications, then decided the hell with it, I like it whether it's a trick or not. +++ I liked THE GOLDEN HARP, too.

FRED PATTEN :: MISTILY MEANDERING No. 11 New York has no intention of bidding in '66, and wd do so only if Baltimore did. Presumably Jack Chalker will be at the Eastercon next month, and possibly we may be able to iron out some questions on the next two or three years' bids, at least to the extent that New York and Baltimore will grasp each other's points. Tune In Next Mlg, You All! +++ LEN BAILES, you'd have a heart attack if you'd ever catch a glimpse of an interesting fanzine after I've had at it with a soft-lead pencil. I also crease the pages at the spine so they'll lay flat and I can read them without holding them flat with my hands, hey. // A minor correction, Len, the bid is now for Manhattan rather than for Brooklyn, as the Brooklyn hotel arrangements didn't work out and we have a better one in the works for the con anyway. // More BNF Trade Cards?

NEW YORK IN 1967! ----- TRICON IN 1966!! ----- LOS ANGELES IN 1968!!!

FMBUSBY :: RETRO 35 Gee, it's sort of weird, or Weird, experiencing this urge to Defend Jack Chalker against your comment -- fortunately, tho, I can't really figure out what you're talking about. I do know that Dave Kyle is running the Syracuse bid, and I also know that his wrecking of the '56 Worldcon is paradoxically hurting the NY in '67 bid and aiding the Syracuse in '66 bid. owell... +++ Mike can survive your insult to him, I suppose; I presume you are basing your denigration of him on Eney's statements in the Fanpoll, which Mike has already proven completely untrue. Let's try to get briefly away from this pattern of insults; Eney simply was wrong (it is likely he was thinking of a passing remark by Earl Evers), and you accepted his position as fact. I rather think Mike deserves an apology... +++ I keep having this feeling that neither you nor Eney understand (or want to understand) that the great majority of anti-Exclusionists were vastly outraged at the way this thing has been handled from the very start -- the repugnant snickers in the Boondoggle right thru to your rather uncalled-for inclusion of a crack about "backed by responsible elements of fandom" in your TAFF write-up of Bill (at least, I am given to understand you wrote it; if not, my remark applies to whoever did). Eney's remarks in the Fanpoll, and his Loaded Questionnaire, are another example. And there's never been such a backhanded apology as the Apologia. Dammit, even when you want to put the skids to a man for what you consider good reason, you don't do it like it's been done to Walter. As for TAFF, I'm sure Terry wd have won it anyway; the resounding nature of his victory merely underscores the fact that most fans consider the Exclusion was a big botch of a job. +++ Dammit, I've enjoyed this SAPS mlg tremendously, and instead of expressing my opinions on the things that gassed me, I'm still on Topic A. My final remark (I hope) is that if Walter doesn't accept the Apologia, neither do I. And vice-versa.

ARNIE KATZ :: EXCELSIOR! 2 Arnie, you are a very funny writer. ("You're Almost Under Arrest." -- old Fanoclast joke.) "Let us dance and sing and cheer, /Arnie's Neo of the Year!" (This one can be reordered for the next several years at least.) +++ I wonder what BRUCE PELZ's pagecount ratio is to those 300+ publications. He might do well to calculate it out in self-defense -- Apa F & Apa L are raising pub #s like jet-propelled elevators. SAPRISE!/1, back in October, was my Undecided Publication #47, and the FIRST DRAFT that these pages will be appended to the day after the SAPS deadline will be approximately U/P #117... -- but the average number of pages per issue is probably only about 3 or 4, while Bruce probably averages more like 10. And most of the weekly zines that are really regular are 1-page-only. +++ Your remarks about rich brown are quite true. Contentious tho his writings may be, he is in person one of the nicest guys in fandom. +++ Hey, Arnie, can I reprint your Christmas Story in SAPRISE! when I become a member? Like, man, it's funny... +++ Len Bailes was three in 1950? That's terrifying! Don't put things like that, Arnie, it makes me feel like the Old Man of the Sea, even in SAPS. (I was three in 1938; does that terrify anyone? I shouldn't have brot the subject up...) +++ How d'you like the front-page format this issue? Yeellltchhh? I thot so...

WRAI BALLARD :: OUTSIDERS 58 I used to hate cops intensely. Oddly enough, it was the Army that made me modify my opinion. Aha! someone will say, because the MPs were so much worse! Not at all. Because so many of the MPs were really decent types. I did meet up with a few filthy swine, but for the most part they were fine men. ...Still, a bad cop or MP is about the worst form of human life there is.

NORM METCALF :: RESIN/20 Hic, Hike, Huac? +++ What have you got against faaans? +++ The Martindale items are quite interesting; I can't think of any comment offhand, but I mention the subject so that I'll remember to look into it. +++ Howard's prose is not on the same level as Dunsany, Eddison, and CASmith, but he does have a style. And I find it quite rich for a pure adventures-story writer. The other writers named were far from writing pure adventures. +++ I wdn't have agreed with your description of the ERB fans -- but then I received the latest BURROUGHS BULLETIN, in which several people flay Dick Lupoff because he has dared to dig up a number of writers and adduce them as possible influences on ERB. It was all pretty sick. +++ Thanx for egobog; hope you like the Tarzan guide (coming soon...soon...)

GORDON EKLUND :: PLEASURE UNITS/9 Funny as hell. +++ Dogfood bound for vement over 5 years Korea? An improvement over 5 years ago. +++ You've got some solid stuff in this issue. I'd like to comment on it at length, but I'm aware that I'd have to Think A Lot, and I'm not really feeling quite up to it.

RUTH BERMAN :: DINKY BIRD 13 There are aspects of Eliot I appreciate highly; basically, however, I'm an Ezra Pound man. /Some of Eliot's earlier poetry, and the Four Quartets, rank as high as anything else in English poetry. +++ Hm, well, we differ about Eddison, but on Tolkien, not as much as you might have supposed. Tolkien does draw one into the story -- I can't skim him, I instantly find myself right in the middle of the story -- and yes, his characterization is frequently more complex than one might at first suspect. I also find his poetry growing on me, tho it's far from being major; it is very competent, and

(and that's Foresight for this issue, gang)
the particular genre involved, that's Rare. However, I can't quite see that Tolkien's style is rich if, as you say, he works for simplicity (a point which I grant you). I like Tolkien's writing, and he most definitely has his Moments. But they are not moments arrived at through any particularly overwhelming culmination of the sound and sense of the ringing words. I will modify that last sentence. His prose does have moments of rhythmic strength. He wrote a vast, rich, challenging, magnificent work. But he didn't write it with a rich prose style. +++ The question of 'mannered' style is, I think, not directly to the point to my remarks above; I wd like to mention in a separate context that mannerisms per se do not make a good prose style in my opinion. Here again we may be in different contexts. There are mannerisms in Eddison; but they are not the entire substance of his writing, not by any means. He has recurrent verbal tricks -- but he has a strong rhythmic sense, and a sense of how to build the phrases in a scene. Admittedly this is not immediately as convincing as the rational development that Tolkien uses. Accept the premise of the fantasy world, and Tolkien is accessible and his development can affect the emotions; with Eddison one has not only to accept the fantasy world but the fantastic style -- but the rewards are as great, if not greater, once one has.

My familiarity with Coventry is limited to my having read a batch of several '62 Dick Schultz zines (acquired by devious means) and one at-the-time-totally-incomprehensible story about a bunch of LASFS, the day the Bomb dropped, and flip-back. It was all howling meaningless chaos to me. Having read your story, I don't feel that I know that much more about Coventry. rich brown has since explained a number of technical points, and pretty well outlined the basic structure to me. I still don't find myself able to follow any of the stories very well. Still, there was an odd fascination about MANYWHERE, and I read it closely -- as closely as I read the Annals of Shalar chapters. I actually know less about Shalar than I do about Coventry, and yet I experienced no real difficulties with the Shalar story (except the traumatic shock when an installment ends with 'to be continued'...) -- even criticized the prose style. Still...on another level, I seemed to recognize something familiar in MANYWHERE--not, I hasten to make clear, as an Involvement, but as a genre, a type, a device of storytelling that I happen to like. In the context of MANYWHERE, this wd be the 'doppleganger' bit. No doubt a true Coventrian wd be gassed all the way thru...it's a personality question, too, of course, and on this level, having first met Bruce almost ten years ago, I was gassed on this level. It wasn't till about 3 weeks ago that I mentioned your story to rich, and found out who his avatar was... Well, anyway, I liked your story.

Gee, if waitlist zines hadn't been banned, maybe all my comments wd have been this long.

Let us have no unseemly jokes about Cause and Effect, now....

NANCY RAPP :: IGNATZ 37 Hey, not everybody in NYC is Rotten And Evil, and NYC does, after all, have a few of the con- (disclaimer) veniences that larger cities offer... Give us a chancet!

ART RAPP :: SPACEWARP 80 I wd have done much better to have simply quoted you than to have less effectively re-stated your comments. A point for writing mc's while one reads the mlg. One doesn't forget who said what and how effectively, that way. +++ "I refuse to get all worked up about the poor starving Indians. Let 'em eat meat." I can't really see any way to fault that position. He's got

an excellent point there, Tackett has, and it's too bad Nehru (apparently) never got around to it himself. I get all worked up about what a damned fool the poor starving Indian is, myself. "Ah," I say to myself (forgetting that Jack Chalker's listening), "but that's what religion'll do for you, every time..."

NAN GERDING :: NANDU/28 "I find it tragic that people are afraid to be themselves, openly and honestly, because they fear ridicule and/or rejection." It's a dead-end, too. Build up a mask to protect the soft and fearful self, and what happens? About the time you finally feel safe, you realize that the mask has become your Self, and you have to start hiding it behind another mask... +++ "It is easy to respond to response." For a year now I've been publishing a weekly fanzine (FIRST DRAFT) which every now and then attempts communication. Until it got to be a habit, it could easily have folded if the Fanoclasts had not to some extent responded to it. For its Annish, I hoaxed an issue announcing its demise, and was chastened quite properly by the lack of concern at FIRST DRAFT's folding (except for rich brown). Consequently I've decided that I'll be damned if I'll fold it -- a statement which in itself is a demonstration of an inability to communicate adequately, since it is not what I meant to say at all. At any rate, your remarks have at least touched a nerve in me, and I'll be interested to see how many others have been similarly (no, not 'similarly' -- 'comparably'?) touched. +++ I find I cannot restrain a common neoSAPSish curiosity about The 200th and De garren haa det gut!...

ED COX :: MAINE-IAC/27 I don't know that I'm a particularly fast reader, especially since I'm very Serious about literature and English prose and such, and hence almost invariably read for much more than Communication or Facts, or whatever. That may sound like some sort of contradiction to my comments to Nangee, above, but I rather think of it as being a question of technique in addition to Communication and/or Facts per se. In college (hi, Bruce!) I read perhaps 300 books a year, plus reading-in some thousands more, and the percentage of sf was rather small. But your question has rather forcibly brought it to my attention that since I got out of the Army some 4+ years ago the percentage of sf has gone up, not only in relation to my diminishing overall reading, but in absolute terms. And since the advent of my weekly fanpublishing, and the subsequent arrival of weekly Apas F & L, the percentage of fanzine-reading has Broken All Previous Records for me... Lin Carter, now, he's been reading approximately a book a day for the past five years or more. For the last couple of years he's been hitting about 500 a year. And he's begun getting his own books published... +++ Gee, in the context of your own remarks, maybe this sounds a bit Plonkish. I didn't mean it to be. It's just that Lin and I are basically book-oriented, and always have been. +++ Of the books I've read in the past 6 months or so, the John D MacDonald Travis McGee series accounts for a higher percentage than I'd like to admit (since there's only about 5 so far...). I read all of ANALOG (as I have since April 1951), maybe 30% of F&SF, and only occasionally in the other prozines. Fanzines? I don't want to think about how many I read these days...not that I don't find them rewarding, but I wouldn't have believed two years ago how much time one can spend on them...

BURNETT TOSKEY :: DEADWOOD/1 All I can say is that I find your case extremely sad, and -- forgive me for making the point here -- that reactions such as yours might well have been taken into account by those who professed such a great concern for fandom.

Dave Van Arnam has lost count of what page this is, and even of what zine..

I myself was tremendously re-enthused by fandom after attending the Discon, and was determined to make the Pacificon. Dick Lupoff had even invited me onto his panel there. But -- tho at first I didn't have this reaction -- eventually I was so sickened by the virulent nature of the anti-Walter writings, and by the sick disregard for the basic decencies of discourse, that I lost all interest in going to the Pacificon. I realize your position is not the same as mine vis-a-vis the Question involved. And I admit that I have discovered that I am not as permanently disillusioned as I thought I was (or I wouldn't be co-chairing a Worldcon bid...). But I invite consideration of a few points, one being that there wd have been no feuds at all if the subject hadn't been brought up -- which I realize is no point at all in the Exclusionist context. Another point, and this I think is more central, if not the central point, is that though there wd predictably have bgen controversy no matter what had been done, nothing cd possibly have been worse than publishing the BOONDOGGLE, and I cannot see any justification now or ever in that act. +++ I realize that this is bitter too, and that this also is something that you can hardly take pleasure in reading. +++ I suppose it's done less than any good (in the context of motivating you not to Leave SAPS) to have discussed this matter. I'm sorry. And if it's been presumptuous, I'm sorry again.

DAVE HULAN :: NIFLHEIM/10 I'll be a member some day (Ho, Bruce Pelz!) and might conceivably engage in a pagecount war -- but..."no professional mimeo services are considered fair play"? You're Discriminating against my job! Of course, Apa F & Apa L look to continue their hypnotic influence on much of my spare fanac time, but my not-entirely-overwhelming First Effort in SAPS has garnered more than enough Response to counteract the rather chilling effect of the OEviaI Edicts that (coincidentally, I hope) accompanied my you-shd-excuse-the-inherent-contradiction Maiden Debut. Paradoxically, I think my fanac might increase in page-count if I can lay hands on an elite electric typer. I've begun to get Constipation Of The Fingers, or Something, in the weekly apas, worrying about whether going-on in depth on some particular point or other was going to oblivionate other comments I also wanted to make (the page-count economics of coast-to-coast weekly apa-ing being something we shall only Hint at here...). owell. +++ My extensive mark-

'Oblivionate' -- I rather like that, Van A., you moron.

ings of your remarks on the New York in '67 bid have been sort of, hm, obsoleted by clarifications and discussions in Apa L (in which points have been reached that wd have taken us into the 1970's in quarterly apa terms). I suppose I shd still Comment, for the sake of non-Ellers, but I see I've still got IBEX to mc, so I'll wait. +++ A challenging article on heroic fantasy, which I begged off commenting on in AF and AL with the excuse (implicit if, conceivably, not express) that I wd save commenting on in for SAPS. First off, few books which promised as much as THE WELL OF THE UNICORN did have ever cost me as much effort to get thro, or left me with such a feeling of "why did I bother."

But that was some 8 years ago, and I'm willing to give it another chance in the same way I'm glad I gave Cabell another chance after being stopped cold in my tracks after two chapters of BEYOND LIFE. Especially after having read Of Worms And Unicorns. Not that I don't have a myriad arguments and contentions and quibbles concerning approximately one statement in three of yr article... But it seems that you find as much in reread=ing WELL as I do in rereading OUROBOROS, and it strikes me as at least

worthy of investigation that, this being so, your enthusiasm for the WORM is little greater than mine for UNICORN.

Prose style: WORM was an impenetrable forest for me the first time thru, which was back about the time I was discovering Literature and, excusably I think, little realized the demands often feel justified in making on their readers. But I recognized the presence of something challenging.

UNICORN, on the other hand, which I read perhaps 4 years after my first go with OUROBOROS, tho similarly difficult to read, first time thru, seemed to my judgement to be difficult not so much because I was not grasping the author's intent but because the author was not grasping the full intent of his words. In search of worm memory's easiest aid, I opened, two minutes ago, my copy of WELL, strictly at random, and got p. 125, the first page of Ch. 17. The second sentence reads: "They crossed a stream running swiftly between steep banks and began to climb, with hills throwing up on either side and small patches of wood, as pine or locust."

By "throwing up" I gather Pratt means "thrown up"... But that is a somewhat facile point. "...small patches of wood, as pine or locust." -- that is a phrasing which, it seems to me, wd cause any reader as much difficulty to retrace and unravel, in the context of Pratt's relatively uncomplicated sentence-structure, as any of Eddison's more overgrown syntactical mazes.

I am not trying to Bomb Out your liking of WELL, though, really; rather, I'm trying to pinpoint some differences, one of which is that I hardly see that WELL "is written in a clear, straightforward style after the manner of most well-done modern popular fiction." Straightforwardness in the quoted passage wd, to my mind, at least call for putting it: "...small patches of wood, such as pine or locust." Or some similar rephrasing. With Eddison I expect the devious locution; but not with Pratt.

implied

Contrary to your/supposition, Eddison was a deeply philosophic writer -- so much so that I hasten to add that I neither agree with nor, by a long shot, even comprehend much of his thought. Lord Gro alone takes the WORM out of the category of "pure adventure stories." However, when I started this comment, I had no intention of making an essay out of it, so I will regretfully cash in here, with the observation that you have gotten me interested in THE WELL again, and if I do attempt a rereading of it, I shall use your article as a guide. We may hear more of this subject.

JACK CHALKER :: IBEX/5 Jesus! I've got IBEX and SPY RAY annotated like unto I was going to write a book about each, which I'm definitely not going to. ...maybe I shd save discussion till the Eastercon (at which I presume you and Eney will be in attendance). But a few points call for printed answer, lest some think no answer possible. First, the Fanoclasts neither had nor have any intention of making a Thing out of the 13 yr old Baltifan (you see? I don't even say 'Baltimoron'...) at the Phillycon. If we are talking about the same fan, I found, at the party that evening at Harriet Kolchak's, that he was really quite a decent sort, just a little youthfully overenthusiastic about his Cause. I do hope that you will have the same forbearance shd any similar case develop on the New York side of the 1967 Contention.

if this page 8 by dgv isn't the last, then I don't know what's going on

As for all those wonderful groups that are aching for a con in Baltimore in '67 you've been listing here and elsewhere, fine. When you get right down to it, tho, the main thing is to have a hotel that wants you. And we've got one lined up too, Jack -- in Midtown Manhattan (which, if anyone grows too bored with the con, and we are planning one that shd bore very few, a greater variety of vacation activities than any other city in the world) -- and we wd be the only convention at the hotel. No Sigma Fraps like the DisCon, no Seebees like the Chicon III. Just us, a lively program (tho not a hectic one), a fine, eager hotel, and, outside the front door, the richest and most varied city in the world.

"A very young mind, however, has no such deep-rooted convictions -- preaching of atheism is bad, but exposure to it is good." Atheists don't say, to quote you again, "...all of you had better think like me." It's Catholics and Baptists and Christian Scientists and 7th Day Adventists and -- but I'm not going to list them all -- so forth who done their best for as long as they have existed to terrify as many people as they cd reach with the absolute threat of eternal and horrible damnation if they didn't Truly Believe. Well, sir, you may think that's fine and all, and you're quite welcome to hold your opinions -- and to publish 'em and all -- but you're going to have to go some to prove that religion shd have any more right to propogandize children with its poisonous nonsense than shd atheism (and its poisonous nonsense, if we're talking about Mad Murray). +++ It is possible that, thru ignorance of what Fabricist doctrine is, I have misread a portion of your comment to Kusske. owell.

Your remarks to Nan Rapp about how goddam free-thinking Maryland is fall to shards when compared to the way Madalyn Murray and her family were so incredibly mistreated by those same goddam free-thinking Marylanders. Mad Murray has an objectionable personality in print, and her political ideas are mostly anathema to me; but nothing can compare with the purely physical and verbal brutality of enraged "moralists." I sure wd like to see those pictures of her grandma battering that poor helpless cop -- and I'd also like to see some publicity about the many times MM's son was beaten up by his pious school-chums.

Hm. I'm afraid your (self-admitted, I'll grant that) circulation-building stunt of Frothing about some supposed "sacrilegious" fanstory on "Christmas;" which, I suppose, also helped to get MIRAGE a Hugo nomination, so turned me off (back when I didn't know it was just a harmless little schtick of yours) that I'm still sort of Reacting to it. Ok, maybe we can write it off and discuss things in less inflammatory fashion. ++++ Gee, I wish I hadn't said that; I think I might have enjoyed exchanging some good old Dogmatic Inflammatory Rhetoric with you. But fanac is a serious thing for us worldcon bidders, eh?....

"I agree that the Fanoclasts are a strong, united group -- but New York is one of the loosest battlegrounds I've ever seen. If it's so united, why did a good number of the Lunarians and Hydra back us? Why are there so many feuding factions in NYC? What happened to that great Silvercon NYC was going to put on last year? Remember NYcon II -- it went... bankrupt..." A hell of an indictment, Jack. Too bad none of it applies.

Yes, the NYcon II went bankrupt. As I recall, no current Fanoclast had anything to do with the NYcon II. But Dave Kyle did...and neither your bid nor ours contain any element of support for his current Syracuse bid, now, do they? /// "that great Silvercon" was a Lunarians project,

I don't know, you unnerstand, but I suspect dgv's going on to page 9...

Jack, not a Fanoclasts bid. /// This may surprise you, Jack, but there are no "feuding factions" in New York. Times have changed; they really have. Individual fans may dislike other individual fans -- 'may'? why mince words? several incontrovertably do. But is this phenomenon unknown in Baltimore? in D.C.? in L.A.? in London? anywhere? There are no club feuds in NY fandom. There are, however, too many fans to fit comfortably into one club (a la LASFS). But there are more in any one of the half dozen active NY clubs than there are in all of Syracuse... /// Hydra is beside the point, actually. /// So a good number of Lunarians are backing you. Several other Lunarians are members of our ConCom... /// What it boils down to is that New York has pretty much outgrown its clubfeud days. As has, I might add, fandom at large. New York is, fundamentally, big enough to accommodate a number of different clubs, without feuds, and knows it. /// Ok, now, Henchmen, let's hear it for NEW YORK IN '67!!!

Well, anyway, you're right about not Excluding wait-listers...

YES, JACK CHALKER, YOU CAN NOT SPELL AT ALL, AND YOU WERE ALSO TRYING TO MAKE POINTS ON OTHERS BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT SPELL AT ALL EITHER. OK?

Maybe Indian-wrestling wd be the best way to settle worldcon bids. Hm. Fight hands now and come out shaking....

DICK ENEY :: SPY RAY/hm, er, ah, OPN CRIFANAC/CCLXIX Maybe before I comment at all to you I better mention that I am not under a posthypnotic spell administered by Ted White. At least I think I'm not. Anyway, Ted has never tried I think I am not, therefore I am.....-----
to propagandize us about you, even when Prodded. I volunteer this point as a clarification-in-advance which conceivably may aid in this and future discussions.

If I speak strongly, it is in a context of Strong speaking, and I think it a rather unprofitable point to hack over "who Spoke Strong first?". The BOONDCGGLE was strong-speaking, MINAC answered it strongly (as did many, many others). And the thing that has really revolted me was the pro-Exclusionist response to those who questioned the BD. Rogers' dud torpedo, that you "is specious; first because the BD is not the logical alternative to "...throwing Walter out without explaining why." The BD is simply garbage, semantic gibberish; it proves nothing, demonstrates less. Hell, Dick, of course there wd have been controversy following the exclusion of any fan.

But stop and think for a minute, those of you who support the BD, the Pacificon Report, and the concomitant publications shoring up the BD, the P.R., and so forth.

Has it for a moment occurred to you that the level of indignation we who have been fighting the BD (etc) have reached, was due to the (1) publication of extensive and highly debatable clutches of rumors, insinuates, and misinterpretations, and (2) the contention that Smearing is justifiable if it is in a Good Cause, even if the Smearing is of debatable utility (to anyone with a modicum of forethought) in attaining the Beatific Completion of said Good Cause.... Hell, man, I can take a hint from my Subconscious, and the preceding coagulation of words indicates to me that, when you get right down to it, I don't think SAPS is the place to carry on an argument of this nature -- at least on this subject. Lest anyone surmise

that I am Copping Out, however, I will gladly furnish a copy of any pertinent material published by me on the subject. I will, however, also gladly state here that the REPORT OF THE PACIFICON II COMMITTEE added little more than verbiage to the question-at-hand. But let's not fight this out in SAPS, huh? /// Possibly we can discuss this at the Eastercon... /// Another disadvantage to hacking this over in SAPS is that I have other annotations on SPY RAY but tho I'd like to make comments, I'd rather, for the time being, avoid proximate causes of returning to the Combat. I had long (and generally egoboosting) comments for Scithers, and lengthy annotations for your Demographia. owell; right?

+++++++

I got my buck in to Bruce too late; anybody want to sell their copy of the present mailing? Otherwise, there goes my Fabulous Complete Run....

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A WANDERING MINSTREL I DEPARTMENT The Effers and Ellers amongst you will recognize the fragment quoted below (from a longer poem, some three pages long and as yet unfinished). But I am merciless about requoting my poetry (and it's faster to type than mc's written in the stick). I shd background the following a little -- but if I did, I wdn't have space for it. The 'Adrienne', however, is a non-fan, no one anyone in fandom knows.

so then past my world is splendid star tracked
golden empires of mankind and the riches of the future
and a word or two hinting into my heart of
such a girl as Adrienne to make kings
lonely in the hollow majesty;
Adrienne to make me happy from dust
serious with joy
and terrible with the pleasure of her
glimpsed in the protection of my heart and days
wrought by her love into a delight of silver and diamond hours
patterned with beauty to the simple time denied me
by a rotten worn past I hope to shed like some mere saved soul

Adrienne to bring me to the world that sings her
maiden like honeybees
sweeter than dew

-- all this, and the world hasn't even
glanced into her eyes of an evening and seen
Earth like an unknown star in the perfect night,
as I have seen myself, in a dazed delight,
a momentary blaze upon the skies
and now a cinder drifting to the ground
glanced into her eyes to see

puffs of dandelions
bare branches snow banked by streams
green lawns
and the trembling brink of the moment
when love, with ancient flourishes,
processions into our lives...

/-----/

And I don't even have space to tell you I'm hoping you are the sane...

-- dgw