

WAGGON

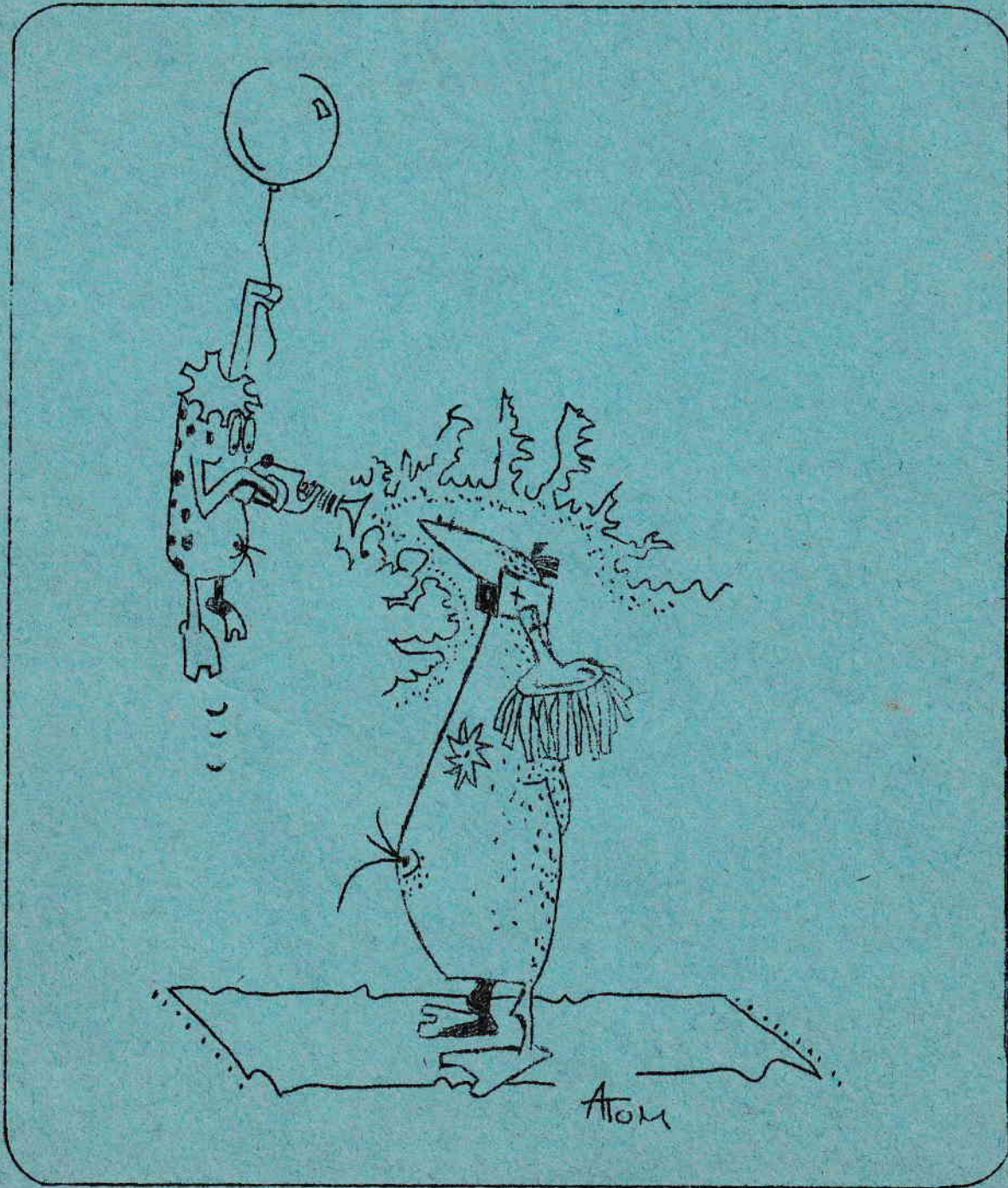
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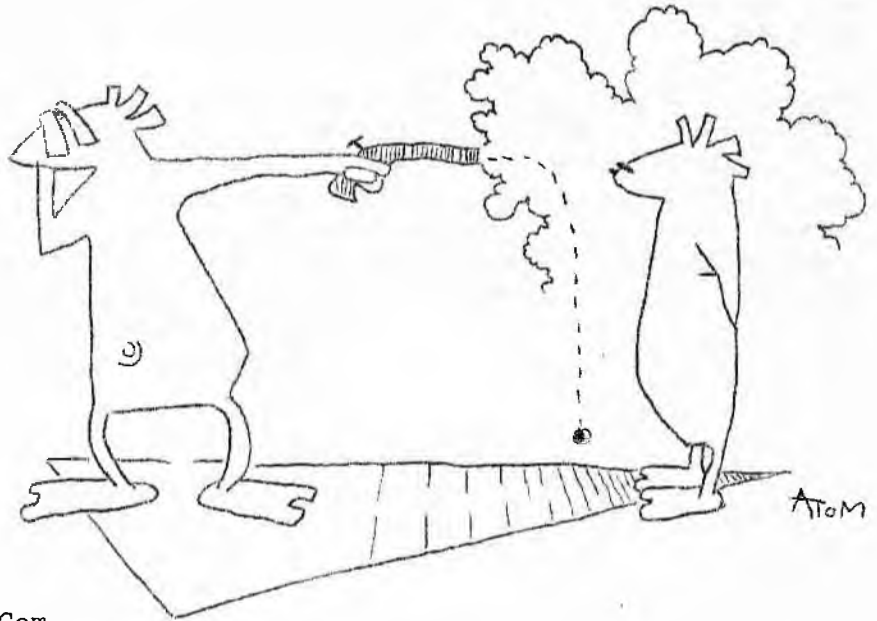
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MOLOT

...Being comments on the giant 13th Mailing of the Southern Fandom Press Alliance. This issue of UTGARD, third fanzine of that title emanating from the duplicator of Dave Hulan, 19018 Bryant, #5, Northridge, Calif., 91325, is intended for distribution in the 14th Mailing of the SFPA and to Arthur Thomson, a Good Man, who contributed the artwork which may be found on the cover and elsewhere throughout the zine. Since there will be a LOKI in this mailing, this issue of UTGARD will be entirely composed of Mailing Comments. J8tun Publication #48.



The Southerner 13 - OE: You left me off the roster this time. You also got the alphabetical order mixed up a few places. But not bad for a first try; be more careful next time if you can, though.

The size of the mailing is astonishing; SFPA and N'APA had bigger mailings that quarter, but they have two and three times the membership and weren't that much bigger mailings. If we can keep this page count while upping the quality at the same time, we'll have all sorts of people faunching to join!

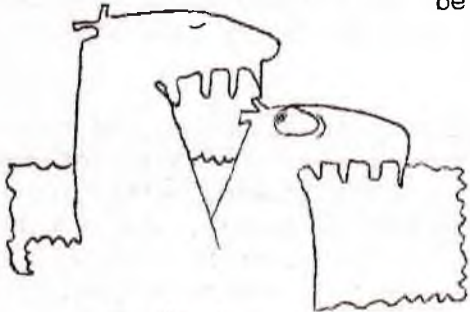
Phoenix 9 - Dave Locke: I won't comment on this too much because I really ought to write you a LoC. I really ought to write that last installment of the UNKNOWN column, too. Maybe I even will. Just last night I wrote you that letter I'd promised to write you in September...

In comment on comments to Joe Staton in your lettercol, just ask Wollheim or Lupoff or anyone who's worked with them if Krenkel and Frazetta are the same! According to Dick, Krenkel is probably the most exasperating professional artist to work with in the business - he draws when, what, and how he feels like it, and pays no attention at all to deadlines. Frazetta, on the other hand, is a reasonable chap like most professional artists, which is why he's now pretty much replaced Krenkel on Ace covers.

dol-drum 4 - Dave Locke: This is interesting, but I can't find anything about it to comment on particularly - especially after writing you that letter last night. I already commented in it on most of the things in d-d that I would comment on, and writing the same comments two days in a row is too much. Even to different audiences. I do hope you'll figure out some way to get YELLOWJACKET reproed so it can be read; large parts of this ish are illegible. Joe says he's doing it on some sort of flat-bed mimeo, so no wonder, but both of you should find some other method to do your zines. If nothing else, let me know and I'll do them on the Rex, which I've finally tamed more or less.

Endless Shadow 1 - David Mitchell: What I can't figure out is whether or not you're for real. I know these Alabama fans and how they delight in hoaxes (I used to be one, after all), and you read just like the sort of hoax Al and Dick might come up with. On the other hand, you could also be perfectly real, because I've known people like you, too. If you are real, I won't comment much on your zine because either the experience of seeing more fanzines will rapidly reveal to you what's with fandom or will drive you out; in either case I can afford to wait.

Mandate 1 - Rich Mann: (Poor mann, beggar mann, thief...) Regarding Benyo's commentary on THE UNKNOWN 5 - UNKNOWN is not primarily noted for weird fantasy. That was the domain of WEIRD TALES. Unk's strength was in what might be called mythological fantasy - things like the Pratt-DeCamp stories of alternate worlds; L. Ron Hubbard's Arabian-Nights romps; Norvell W. Page's Prestar John novels. There were quite a number of weirds published in Unk, but they were not the most common type. This particular collection does seem to be mostly composed of weirds, but that may be more a reflection of Bensen's tastes than the usual run of stories from the mag.



He kept saying do
something significant
so I tore his arm off
and mailed it to Forny
Ackerman

Nothing 1 - Mann noch einmal: Noted.

Excalibur 7 - Katz & Bailes: Thanks, boys. I had been wondering what sort of zine Exc had gotten to be since I dropped out of N'APA. The early CURSED was pretty horrid, you must admit yourselves. This issue, however, isn't bad at all. I still wouldn't sub to it, or even write for it (assuming you'd want me to write for it if I wanted to), but I'd trade for it if I had anything to trade.

Boardman's story was amusing, if hardly an original concept. But he lets his prejudices against the South show through too much when he makes a man who is a citizen of the Confederate States show the kind of animosity toward the North at the end that he does. The antipathy displayed by many Southerners toward the North was developed after, not before, the Civil War - there is no more reason to suppose that a Southerner would react violently against the suggestion that the North might have won the war than that Northerners now react violently to the suggestion that the South might have won it. John, of course, probably does, but he is hardly typical, and nothing the story says prepares us for the inventor to be another John Boardman (in reverse, of course).

Excalibur 8 - Katz & Bailes: No particular comments. I think you should get the artist or somebody to stencil all of your art; there is obvious improvement in the illos stencilled by Bjo and Joe as against the rest of your artwork. Or else you should be more careful stencilling artwork.

Such and Such 1 - Hank Luttrell: Welcome to SFFA.

Zaje Zaculo 3 - Len Bailes: The "Stolen Dormouse" cover was done long before Emsh was illustrating stf; it's a Hubert Rogers. I suspect that my favorite prozine cover of all time is the one Cartier did for the last UNKNOWN that had a cover illo, illustrating Norvell W. Page's BUT WITHOUT HORNS (a very fine and much-neglected superman novel - perhaps the best, in some respects). There are other meritorious ones - the classic Rogers for the first installment of GRAY LENS MAN; the Gladney for BLACK DESTROYER; a number of Finlay and Lawrence jobs for FFM and FN. Take your pick.

Page 5 of my copy of ZZ is blank. Do you have a spare with all pages? Especially since there seems to be an interesting discussion of something on that page, judging from the spillover on the next page.

Please don't call on me for a defense of N'APA. Considered objectively, I suppose the overall quality of N'APA may be as high as that of SFPA; however, I can't consider the two apas objectively. The people in SFPA interest me; there are virtually no people in N'APA whom I am interested in who aren't also in SAPS, so I am not very interested in N'APA. I looked through the last mailing, and it hasn't changed that much since I was in it a year ago. I cannot, however, speak for everyone's taste. I will say that I can't see how N'APA is any better than SFPA.

Invader 4 - Joe Staton: The main thing you need is decent duplication. Maybe we can work it out that I can print Inv for you on the Rex. Otherwise this is quite a nice zine, and the vignette by Montgomery is one of the better fan-fiction bits I've seen recently. The plot isn't the greatest, but the writing is nice, which is the reverse of most fan-fiction and a major stride forward. Larry probably got a few points from me for fiction the next egoboo poll.

Damn Yankee 2 - Arnold Katz: OK, Arnie, if you want to let bygones be and such I'm willing enough. I'll even apologize for calling you a klutz. You still act pretty neish, and you've been around fandom long enough you ought to know better, but after seeing the exhibitions some fans like Rich Brown and Mike McInerney, who have both been in fandom longer than I have, have been making of themselves in various places I guess you aren't so bad. There doesn't seem to be any real malice in you, at least.

I'm in four apas again now - SAPS, Apa-L, SFPA, and OMPA. Yarst on rasty ol' you...

To compare Lee Hoffman and Ted White to Forry Ackerman and Burbee as long-time fans is a bit strained - Forry has been a fan from the early '30s and Burbee since at least the early '40s, while Ted and Lee are both as recent as the '50s. Lee may have begun her activity in the late '40s, but I know Ted isn't that far back. I can name some other old-time fans, though - Harry Warner, Redd Boggs, Elmer Perdue, Walt Daugherty, Alva Rogers, Sam Russell...I could go on forever naming fans I know personally that date back to before Ted White was born, much less a fan...

Tijuana.

You may get a thrill walking along some street sure you're going to get mugged any time - I don't which is why I don't like New York (among other reasons). Baltimore in '67! (Or St. John - I have no overwhelming love for Baltimore, just a consuming dislike for NYC...)

Don't be too hard on Larry regarding his remarks on the Civil Rights Bill. Until you've lived in Alabama you have no idea how incessantly one is propagandized on the subject of race. It's an obsession with a large portion of the population. Only one side is permitted to be heard; it's no wonder that most of the people there believe that the Civil Rights Law is going to turn the country into a police state.

Even though nobody can ever seem to get very specific as to why - like what they expect the law to do to them if they are observing the simple courtesy of the Golden Rule, and what's wrong with punishing people who treat other human beings like dirt. I don't really want to get involved in this sort of argument, but I can see Arnie getting picked on for being a damyankee and I thought I'd better get a born-&-bred Southerner into the argument on his side. Lemme know if you need help, though I refuse to attack the run-of-the-mine Southerner when it isn't his fault - but that's another story. See PELF 4 whenever it comes out for a lot of info on the subject.

Joe would make a very bad Staton Girl. He's a nice guy, but sort of ordinary looking even for a boy...

Damn Yankee 3 - Arnie Katz: Of the stuff you mention as worthwhile in the June N'APA mailing, I have seen all but GE ZINE and ROMAN anyhow as a non-member - I imagine I could get those, too, if I wanted to go to the bother of letterhacking them, which would be considerable less trouble than pubbing a zine. No N'APA for me, thanks...

Cliffhangers and Others 6 - Rick Norwood: Just for the record - the last Cliffhangers was numbered on itself and the O-0 as #4, but so was the one before that - in fact, the last one was #5 and this one I'm reading now is #6. I just thought you'd like to know...

This is an interesting bit of layout, or whatever you should call it - an exercise in getting words to come out right. As such, I guess it justifies what is a rather hard-to-follow layout.

But your fascination with words should, I think, include learning how to spell them. Preferably soon. It doesn't help your fancy layout any when one of the words you use to make the vertical come out on WARLOCK is "Chearful". That is only one example; I refrain from listing the misspelled words in Cliffhangers only because I don't need another couple of pages credit...

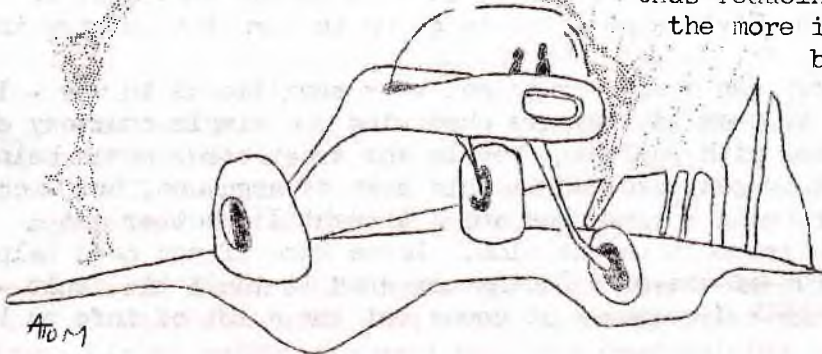
Constitution - OE: I really think this should be included in the O-0, but I suppose it's OK to have it like it is. There are a couple of amendments up for vote this time, and I guess this is as good a place as any to discuss them.

First, the amendment to permit non-publishing members. I was for this at first, when it was originally proposed during my OEship, but now I urge a "no" vote. SFPA is big enough. There are many advantages to a 20-member apa which are not possible to a larger group; I'm already in a couple of big apas and one of the unique charms of SFPA is its small size. At the time this amendment was first proposed, SFPA had a membership of less than ten, and I favored the amendment because I hoped it might arouse some interest in the non-publishing fans of the South and make them want to become full-fledged publishing members. Now SFPA has almost, if not quite, a full roster, and for all I know may even have a waiting list now. I know of a couple of Northern fans who tried to get in and were rejected because the Northern quota was full, so you could say there was a WL. A full-membered apa is a much better stimulus to fanac than one with non-pubbing memberships available.

Southern members may disagree. The real issue at hand is the purpose of SFPA - is it an end in itself, or is it supposed to be something to stimulate fanac in the South. If the latter, then this amendment is probably OK - but even then don't count on it. In the first place the larger number of copies required may reduce the individual effort per zine, so that the overall quality of the apa may go down; in the second, loss of the advantage of small membership may cause some worthwhile potential members not to join, thus reducing quality. The better SFPA is, the more it will stimulate Southern fanac, because it will draw the attention of the national fanzine press to the South.

However, I won't weep if the amendment passes. It won't bother me much as long as the total number of copies required is held under 30.

As for the second amendment, I wrote it out at Joe's behest, so I



Atom

hope he remembers to include it in the 0-0. I have faith he will...

Oh, good grief - I typed over the shading in the illo on the facing page. Stet, but I hate myself when I do things like that...

Anyhow, back to the amendment to let Southern members who move away from the South retain their Southern status. I think this is not unreasonable; those of us who joined while living in the South presumably did so because we were interested in Southern Fandom, and simply moving out of the South is not going to change that. If it does, the member will probably drop SFPA. This way, the limitations on non-Southern members will not be so strict - of nine non-Southern members on the last roster, only four were not residents of the South when they joined. Also, to confess my ulterior motive, I will be able to run for OE again. I like being OE. I think I was a pretty good OE, even if the apa didn't grow much during my term - it had some of the best material in its history then. I would like to be OE again. If you pass this amendment, I will run for OE in the next election. This may enable us to have our first contested OElection in the history of the apa. It should have interesting results...

Utgard 2 - me: A correction - I said "Most nights [several people] get together at our house for cards, etc." - that should have read "Most Sunday nights etc." Our place isn't quite that much of a slanshack - in fact, at our new place we hardly ever see fans, especially since the Squirrel went to DC. He went to school near here and dropped by occasionally.

Warlock 5 - Larry Montgomery: A very good run-down of the early history of the SFPA by Dick. I could, and perhaps should, add somewhat to it; as OE through its second year, which saw the treasury wheel up to heights far beyond anything we'd need for years to come, I have some of the inside dope. But for now I think I'll let sleeping dogs lie. There was a good bit of unpleasantness involved before the thing was finished, though I like to think that the present growth of the SFPA was made possible in considerable part by it.

One wonders why you call dol-drum the best APazine in the mailing and then give it only 5 points, while Spore, which is certainly a pure apazine, got 7. Howcum?

The Terry Ange illo seems more a device to show off all your shading plates than anything else - I see no particular artistic merit in it. The front and back, however, are both very good - as good as I've seen on SFPazines outside of Hickman's. I had a pretty good one on LOKI 4, to, come to think of it.

Conglomeration 1 - DeepSouthCon: I'm just sorry I couldn't make this. When is the Con to be next year? Dian and Bruce Pelz, Katya and I may make a trip back to the South next summer sometime (probably late); if it should coincide with the Con we would try to arrange to at least hit it for a few hours. Keep us informed of your plans...

The Pulp Era 61 - Lynn Hickman: You travel, don't you!

As usual, beautiful artwork. As a lover of the pulps, I enjoyed the articles; as one who was born too late to get in on more than the last dregs of the pulp era, I am unable to comment on them intelligently. I just enter a plea that you continue to send TPE through SFPA, or if you decide not to to let me know so I can sub or trade or whatever is necessary.

Bel-Marduk 1 - Jim Harkness: If the things they say about Mississippi were melodrama it would be ridiculous. Unfortunately, there is more truth than melodrama in a lot of it. When men are killed for nothing more nor less than attempting to aid American citizens to register to vote, then I say that there is for all intents and purposes

//Ed. note - the illo on this page is by Bill Gibson; all the illos aren't by ATom after all.//

a police state in existence in Mississippi. I'm not talking through my hat, either. My father was a minister in Jackson for nine years, ending last summer when he told his board that if they refused to permit Negroes to worship in the church if they wanted to then he could no longer consider himself the minister of a Christian church; they told him, in effect, "not of this church, either", and fired him. But that is by the way - what I was getting at is that he has been in reasonably close touch with many of his former parishioners who disagreed with the board, and although for the most part they are all segregationists they are people of good will and they are one and all shocked and dismayed at what the state is coming to. And I say, Jim, that if you don't realize this then you're kidding yourself - an activity which is rather more prevalent in Mississippi than elsewhere ("Why, our niggers like segregation - I've asked a lot of them. Couple said they didn't, but we took care of them good...").

No, no - "Ohm Brew" is all wrong! Fans who move to California don't get to where they subsist on gruel - they get to where they subsist on Beer! Just ask Lee Jacobs...

"The Unenchanted Duplicator" was an amusing bit of froth. Dave Locke might even have enjoyed it. Who knows?

And you managed to get every single one of the Hugos wrong. So did I, almost - the only one I hit was "No Truce With Kings", and the only reason I voted for it instead of "Code Three" was because I like Poul personally.

Stranger Than Fact 5 - Jim Harkness: One disadvantage of stiff covers - if the PO goofs and busts your apa bundle open (as they did mine) and then fastens it together again with tightly-drawn wire (as they did mine), stiff covers take a permanent set. The paper zines are all flattened out by now after three months more or less on the bottom of a big stack of apa mailings, but poor STF is still crumpled. Sigh...

The Staton cover didn't come through very well. I have a feeling the original wasn't very good. The washing technique is inadequate. That is about the extent of my artistic erudition - all I know really is that Joe can do much better. You seem to have a bad habit of using expensive repro on rather poor artwork, when there is much better material available.



Beatle-fans of fandom, unite! You have nothing to lose but your reputation! Seriously, there are quite a number of fans who find the Beatles worthy of note - Dick Lupoff, John Berry, and Elinor Busby are three of the bigger names that come to mind right off. I like them, myself, although enough is too much as far as listening to their music is concerned. They aren't that good. I think more of them as performers than as musicians. We asked ATom when he was out here how the British liked them and he said, "Oh, they're nice boys. And they improve our balance-of-payments no end!"

The rundown of SF criticism by Coulson was interesting; he left out one of the best, a collection of essays by a number of sf authors and editors whose title I forget; I believe Basil Davenport edited it, but in any case it exists and someone who can remember the title should mention it. It included about 25 or so essays, including one by de Camp which was obviously a precursor to his SF HANDBOOK, including much of the information written in almost the same language.

Iscaariot 13 - Andrews & Ambrose: The cover is, in my opinion, the best thing I've seen of Gilbert's. Too much of his work is too dark (viz. the cover of WARLOCK), and a lot of the rest of it suffers from poor stencilling. Photographic repro no doubt helped this one greatly. Heavy lines like his almost always end up smeary lines on mimeo, which give his illos a dirty (in the physical sense, not obscene) look. Dick Schultz has much the same trouble, except I think Bob has considerably more talent than Dick. I wish that he would do more of this more representational, more open art, rather than the grotesqueries and crowded, dark drawings that he is more prone to do.

Nice con report, Al. Not as long as my Pacificon report in LOKI 9, but then your con didn't last two weeks, either...

"The Shortest SF Murder Mystery" was pretty bad. The idea wasn't bad, but at least he could have made it rhyme properly. And scan.

The Walker article was interesting and informative to a Burroughs fan such as yhos. Mention of ERB-dom reminds me of Camille (a helluva name for a man!) Cazdessus, who in turn reminds me of Mary Cazdessus, who is a living doll. I guess she's his wife; if she's his sister, some of you single fen down there ought to get with it. But I'm pretty sure she's his wife.

No, no, NO! Don't put an illo in the middle of the text and then type back and forth from one side of it to the other. I will fight from the rooftops, on the beaches, in the streets, but I will never give up in my fight to get this abomination eliminated from SFFA. It's easy to type it that way, but hard as hell to read. You should have typed everything on the upper-right section, then gone to the top of the lower-left section and finished the page. You would have gotten the same layout and it would have been easy to read. (This is Page 26 I'm referring to).

Your handling of the lettercol is better this time, although I think you're probably interrupting too often - saving comments till the end of a paragraph rarely hurts.

Sporadic 12 - Bill Plott: Well, at least you kept up your string of hit mailings - the only member of SFFA never to have missed a mailing. How does it feel to be the Wrai Ballard of SFFA.

I am getting this horrible temptation to write a "Plott Chronicle" - if I just had a little more confidence in my ability to handle the faan-fiction form...

I may do it anyway.

If the threat of nuclear warfare is the worst atrocity to come out of WWII, how would failing to drop the bomb have changed that? The threat of nuke warfare is inherent in the existence of nuke weapons, whether they'd ever been used or not. As for dropping the bomb being an atrocity, if that's what you meant (it wasn't what you said) - some of the incendiary raids on Tokyo killed more civilians than either of the A-bombs. Why were the nukes more atrocious, then?

Harlan Ellison is now one of the most obnoxious and goshwow old pros in the field...just ask Ella Parker...

Interesting M's, but since none of them were directed at me I don't find much to recommend on. This wouldn't necessarily be a handicap - I commented on some other 'Cs to other people - but having some addressed to me helps in finding re-comments. Which is why I try not to miss mailings, and why I greatly regret having missed several recently in the SFPA.

Which wraps up the mailing comments for this issue. Now for that ever-thrilling serial, which has not appeared for several mailings now -

BOX SCORE OF MEMBERS IN MAILINGS

MEMBER	MAILINGS HIT	PAGES IN ZINES	
Ambrose	1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9,11,12,13	135*	*Co-edited 270 pp.
Andrews	1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9,11,12,13	135*	Credit divided
Armistead**	3,4,5,6	28	
Bailes	11,12,13	46***	**Ex-member
Broyles**	7	6	
Gentry**	1,3	18	***Co-edited 64 pp.
Gibson	9, 12	16	Credit divided
Harkness	9,10,11,13	145	
Hickman	12,13	79	
Hulan	1,3,4,5,6,7,8,10,13	204	
Jennings**	1,3,4,6	80	
Katz	11,13	50***	
Kurman**	2,4	11	
Labowitz	6	25	
Locke	9,11,12,13	61	
Luttrell	13	2	
Mann	13	12	
McDaniel	9,10,	24	
Mitchell	13	5	
Montgomery	9,10,11,12,13	88	
Norwood	3,5,7,9,10,13	62	
Padgett**	1	7	
Pelz	-	-	
Plott	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13	166	
Staton	11,12,13	45	

I'm happy to see that my lead in total page-count didn't evaporate during my long period of small or non-existent zines. Probably the 50 pages I have prepared for this mailing will add to my lead, unless Plott or Harkness do something fantastic in view of their lack of opportunity. Postmailings, you will note, do not count in this box score. That's why Labowitz, still a member, has a record of hitting only one mailing. Postmailings may keep you in if you need page credit (that's at the OE's discretion), but I don't think they should count toward records of mailings hit or running page-count. There were at least two Iscariots and three Lokis that were or will be postmailed so far - in fact, if PMs were counted I'd go over the 300 mark in page-count this mailing. Ah, so. Stay well, as John Boardman says...