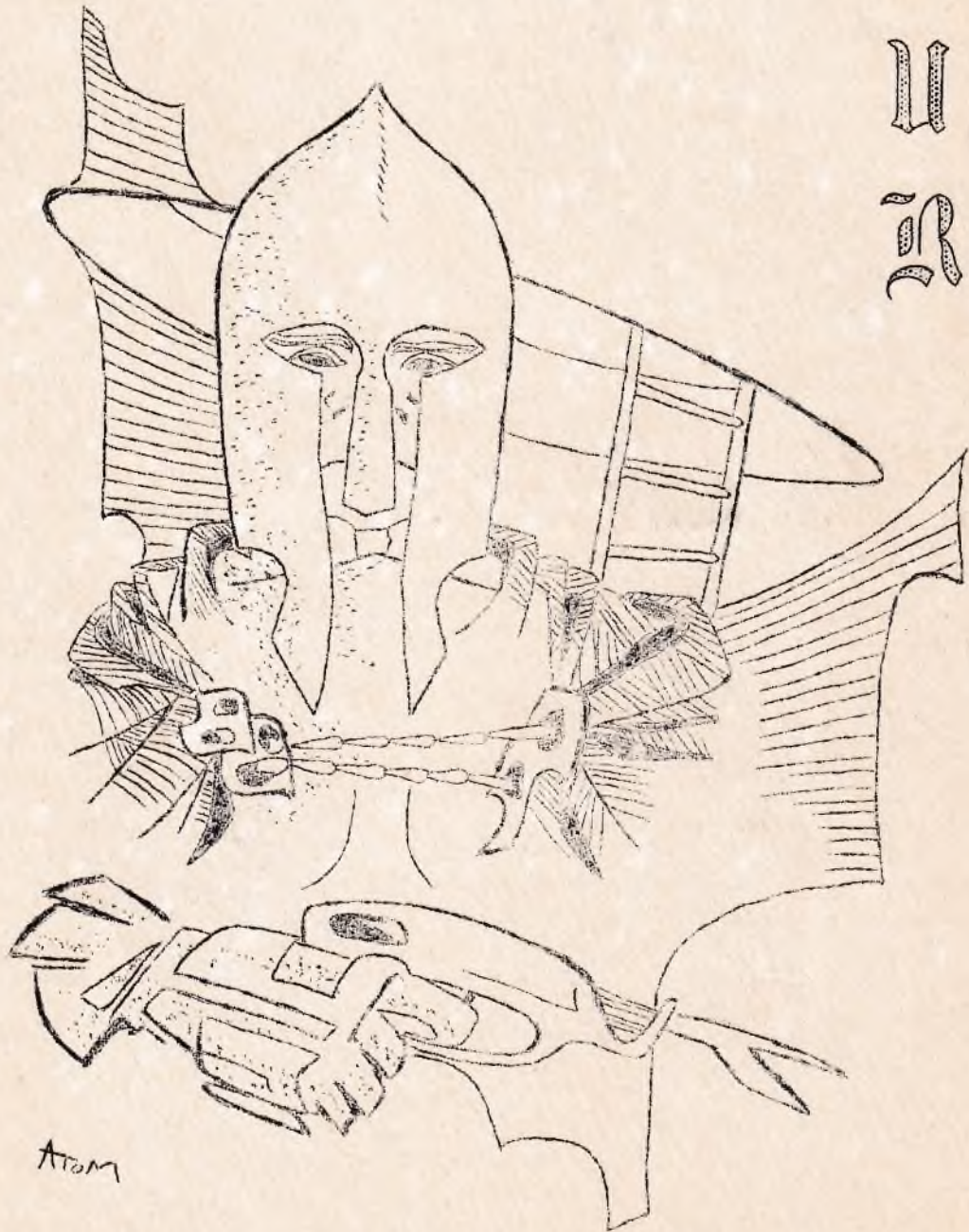


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# UTGARD THE FOURTH - DAVE HULAN

UTGARD #4 is edited and published by Dave Hulan, 19018 Bryant St., #5, Northridge, California, for the 15th Mailing of the Southern Fandom Press Alliance. It will consist of editorial natterings, Mailing Comments, and perhaps a short article or two if I can think of something to write a short article about. Illustrations will be credited on the page where they occur, except the cover, which is by ATom. Illo on this page by Joe Staton. LASFSRexed. Jotun Publication #70.

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## Editorial Natterings

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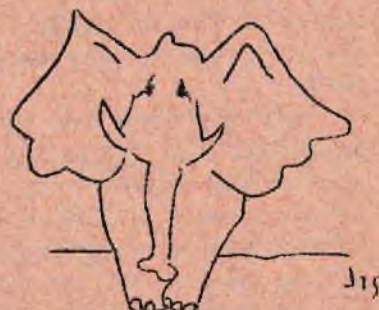
Since I am, for the time being at least, folding LOKI to make way for another project which is at this time still under wraps, I will use UTGARD to communicate to the SFFA portion of LOKI's readership a retraction of remarks made in LOKI 9 concerning the honesty and veracity of Ted White. I have no reason whatever to think that Ted White is dishonest or unreliable as far as personal knowledge is concerned, and I have in the recent past had direct evidence that the person on the basis of whose accusations I had formed a judgement of Ted is less than reliable and truthful himself.

I have already tendered my apologies directly to Ted, but I would not have anyone form a judgement against him on my say-so when in fact I had no basis for my statements. I still oppose the New York Worldcon bid, but mostly because (a) I don't like New York, and (b) if Syracuse gets the '66 con, which seems highly possible, the Rotation Plan will bring the '67 con to the West Coast and I am a member of a prospective "LA in '67...or '68...depending" Committee (along with John & Bjo Trimble, Al Lewis, and Fred Patten) and would naturally prefer LA to New York. If it should come down to a contest between Baltimore and New York, well, I'd have a hard choice between rotten eggs; Philadelphia is the only major city I've ever been in that I like as little as those two. I spent a week in Baltimore one afternoon...

Hey, Dave Locke, how about having a Worldcon in Troy? I can think of some good mottos...

I am, as I noted last mailing in UTGARD, filing for OE of SFFA for the coming year. At this writing I do not know for sure whether the "Retained Status Amendment" passed or not; if it failed why then it is obviously the sense of the organization that they want a resident Southerner as OE and not just a person who has spent enough time in the South to have a Southern outlook. If it passed then it will be up to you to decide who you want for OE (assuming someone else runs). I understand that Larry Montgomery is filing; possibly there will be others.

I will basically stand on my record as of my first term as OE. I got three of the four mailings out exactly on time; the fourth was delayed only because Roy was in the hospital and I was unable to get to my typer and mimeo to run off LOKI and put out the mailing. That is extremely unlikely to happen again, and in the unlikely chance it did, I now have another SFFA member (Dian) living nearby who I'm sure would rescue the mailing. The O-O will be run off on the LASFSRex, which will mean good reproduction, and I will again open my offer to duplicate members' SFFA material at cost (the Rex association requires a fee of 10¢/stencil be paid to the association for all work done for non-stockholders - count that in the cost), which would amount to around \$1.25 for 30 copies of a 6-page zine. I'll run off extras, and up to 150 copies the Rex association doesn't charge any more, but I won't collate extras - I'll mail the loose sheets back to you. You can figure about 1¢/3 printed sheets for extras. This only applies if I'm elected OE, remember - except for Joe,



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who has already asked me, and who is a Special Buddy. Locke and Plott and Andrews are Special Buddies too, but Bill and Al have dupers already, and Dave hasn't asked me to duplicate his stuff. If he does I will, of course. But I'll run off anyone's SFPAzines at cost if I'm OE.

Joe wrote me back some time ago with an OE-type problem which I forgot to answer at the time; I'll use this opportunity to make a few remarks on that subject. Namely, postmailings. Should SFPA accept them and if so to what extent? This is at the discretion of the OE - there is nothing in the Constitution on the subject one way or the other, intentionally so (I know, I wrote the thing). Now--this is the way that I handled it when I was OE and is the way I'll handle it again if I'm OE again. In effect it is the way that Bill and Joe have handled it so far - there were no postmailings for credit as far as I know during Jennings' term.

My practice was to give activity credit for a postmailing as if it had appeared in the following mailing, insofar as it was necessary to keep a member from losing his membership; however, it did not count as official SFPA activity in that it was never listed in the 0-0, and therefore it is unrecorded and hence something that cannot be officially checked by collectors. Future postmailings could be listed in the 0-0 by the incumbent OE, which would make them official SFPAC, but unless they are they are tacitly considered unofficial membership-savers and nowt else. Which is why they get no credit in my Box Score. Speaking of which, I may as well put it in here...

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**
Andrews	1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9,11,12,13	135**
Armistead*	3,4,5,6	28
Bailes	11,12,13,14	51***
Broyles*	7	6
Gentry*	1,3	18
Gibson	9,12	16
Harkness	9,10,11,13	145
Hickman	12,13	79
Hulan	1,3,4,5,6,7,8,10,13,14	254
Jennings*	1,3,4,6	80
Katz	11,13,14	58***
Kurman*	2,4	11
Labowitz*	6	25
Locke	9,11,12,13,14	69
Luttrell	13,14	38
Mann	13,14	13
McDaniel	9,10,14	33
Mitchell	13	5
Montgomery	9,10,11,12,13	88
Norwood	3,5,7,9,10,13	62
Padgett*	1	7
Pelz	14	8
Plott	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13	166
Staton	11,12,13,14	54
Weber	-	-

\*Denotes ex-member

\*\*Co-edited 270pp.,  
credit divided =

\*\*\*Co-edited 64pp.,  
credit divided =

And so ends an era in the history of SFPA, with Bill Plott missing his first mailing. Not only that, but the second longest unbroken string in SFPA, Montgomery's five, was broken. Bailes, Locke, and Staton now have the longest unbroken strings with four. Plott's 13 straight will stand for some time; my six straight (3-8), second longest string ever (in SFPA), will probably be tied and broken soon.



# M O L O T

## COMMENTS ON THE 14TH SFPA MLG

Illo by Joe Staton

The Southerner 14 - OE: I suggest that you first-draft at least the membership roster this time. Then maybe you could get the list in alphabetical order. It's confusing when you're doing something like my "Box Score" and are trying to add new members in where they belong in the alphabetical list.

Nothing 3 - Your ditto does nice work, although my copy of Nothing 3 isn't low enough on the page, so that the heading down to about the bar of the "H" is off the top. If you still have extras left I'd appreciate a better copy, since I do save my SFPA stuff with eventual binding in mind. Oh, I just noted I left out your name above - rather than corflu out a whole paragraph I will say here that this comment is to Richard Mann, of Michigan State Fandom (Southern Michigan, anyhow...). I used to have an Apeco photocopier in my office in the Army and it turned out pretty good copy, but I didn't know they made spirit duplicators.

Kabumpo 1 - Dian Pelz: Welcome to SFPA (in print)! Very nice cover, and it must have been an immense amount of work even for the 25 copies required for SFPA.

I wouldn't say that the Christian religion was important in "The Nine Billion Names of God" - as I recall, that story was based on a variant of Lamaistic Buddhism. The idea of God having many names is not really part of Christianity - the Christian God has one name (Yahweh), plus a number of other things that he is called (The Lord, God, I Am, etc.) which are not names but sobriquets (as Washington is called "The Father of His Country", or as every king of Spain, whatever his name, was called "His Most Catholic Majesty"). The many-namedness of God is generally associated with Hinduism and the religions deriving from it (various forms of Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, etc.).

However, there are many other SF books taking the Christian religion as a basis - A Case of Conscience, all of C.S. Lewis' SF, these come to mind immediately, and I'm sure there are many others. It might be an interesting project for someone with an extensive SF collection who has read most of it.

I was interested, in the conversation about The Worm Ouroboros at the New Year's party, to notice that you pronounced "Zaje Zaculo" as if it were Spanish - "Zah-hay Zah-cue-low" - whereas I had always thought of it as being spelled after the English manner and thus pronounced "Zah-jay Zack-you-low". It's interesting, when the author gives no particular clue as to how a foreign-looking word is to be pronounced, to see how different people apply their own linguistic tendencies to it. Speaking of which, practically everyone I've talked to about it pronounced the title of the Mundy novel "Tros of Samothrace" with the last syllable rhyming with "mace", but the author apparently meant it to be pronounced in the Greek style to rhyme with "rocky" - because in The Purple Pirate Caesarion addresses him as "Twos of Samothwakee". Q.E.D.

Yeah, I'm different from your "white-trash" former neighbors. I'm not interested in likker...



I thought a blivit was the same thing that in my younger days we called a "plueger", but if your definition is correct it isn't. A blivit is five pluegers.

The Invader 5 - Joe Staton: Well, I finally got "Desert Pursuit" into print - now all you have to do is wait and see if anyone thinks it's better than Katz or Howard. Before you go too far in your judgment of Howard, though, have you read anything of his besides Almuric? It is just about the worst thing of his I've ever read. Try some of the stuff in Skull Face if you can get hold of a copy, especially the King Kull and the Bran Mak Morn stories. I think "Worms of the Earth" is generally considered his best work, although I find some of the Conan stories and "Kings of the Night" better...hell, I just went to check on the title of the last-mentioned bit and got to looking through the contents of my copy of Skull-Face, and they're all good. Many of his other stories are pretty bad - like Almuric and some of the Conan stories - but I still think the stories in Skull-Face are as good as has been done in the sword-and-sorcery field. Differences of opinion welcomed...

Judging from some figures I've seen, I'd hesitate to say that "comix fen and the ERB nuts are almost entirely unaware of the existence of a larger fandom". Mostly because it looks entirely possible that there are more comix fen, and more ERB nuts, than there are SF fans in the general sense. SF fandom is a more general fandom, less specialized, but I question whether it is larger in the numerical sense.

The phrasing of the Constitution under which you sneaked in Mann was phrased that way on purpose - you didn't think you had found an unconscious loophole in a Constitution written by ol' Dave, did you? Man, when I write Constitutions, they say what I want them to say. If you find a loophole, it's because I wanted one there for some reason. In this case, I intended to provide for just such a case as Mann's - if someone wants in enough to stretch around and figure out a fancy way he can justify being a Southerner, he deserves to be in. The OE can always use his discretion to keep out too many non-Southerners.

Such and Such 2 - Hank Luttrell: You will probably, as time goes on, learn how to Comment On The Mailing. So far, you haven't, which means that there isn't much in this zine to comment on. Basically, if you're going to do Mailing Comments, you should try to introduce new ideas or new aspects of ideas that have been brought up; simple reactive MCs like yours in this issue are OK for part of your comments - a member is interested, after all, in whether you liked this or that item - but if you hope to get any reaction to your comments you have to write something with more to it than a reaction.

Of course, you got a reaction from me - were you looking for a Lecture On How To Write Mailing Comments?

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Starling 3 - Hank Luttrell: You know, Starling and Loki made up over half of this mailing between them...

St. Louis is a nice city - one of my favorites - and it would be a perfectly good place for a convention except for one small difficulty - the lack of a group of well-known, active fans. If you can get a group together and keep it that way between now and 1969 (which will probably be the next Midwest Worldcon), maybe putting on an interesting regional con in '67 or '68 to show that you can, then you might get a Worldcon in St. Louis. It is, after all, the second largest city in the country which has never had a Worldcon - while San Francisco, much smaller, has had two, and such relative pygmies as Portland, Seattle, and New Orleans have had one each.

I took a glance through the first part of your stories and they didn't catch my interest - sorry.

Damn Yankee 4 (w/rider) - Arnie Katz: Read the Constitution. Well, at the time you wanted to repeal the quota, you didn't have a copy to read, I guess - one of the flaws in Bill's otherwise excellent performance as OE was that he forgot to print the Constitution during his term. Moving out of the South is not grounds for dropping a person from membership. The rule is that non-Southerners can only join up to 25% of the membership - if a Southerner moves out of the South, or maybe the membership drops down by the loss of Southerners, so that more than 25% of the membership is non-Southern, the only result will be to close the membership to non-Southern members until the balance is righted somehow. Which I think is not unreasonable for something that is supposed to be a Southern apa.

As I said last time, I withdraw the statement that you are a klutz. You may be, of course, but on the average your fanac doesn't particularly indicate it. Only Nemesis 1 did, really. But as one who has recently eaten crow myself (see editorial), I'm not in much of a position to criticize anyone on the basis of a single mistake.

Probably my article on heraldry was written with the novice in mind mostly because I am a novice - I got interested enough to read a couple of books on the subject and refer to a few others for specific points, but it was new to me and I probably got to the difficult points more than Eney did because I had only recently come across them myself and they were fresh in my memory.

I am not, as you should know from comments in the last mailing and in PELF (which I assume you got OK), that I am hardly a gung-ho pro-Confederate; however, facing the facts, no symbol is so universally associated with the South, it is esthetically pleasing, and therefore I see no real objection to its usage. The design is sufficiently different from the original flag (with the addition of the four extra stars) that it isn't a duplication but rather a reference, if you dig the distinction.

There are several good books available in print on the subject of codes and ciphers - I'm a sort of amateur of cryptanalysis myself, although I haven't done any seriously in several years. Fletcher Pratt's Secret But Urgent is an excellent history of cryptanalysis and gives a good bit of information on the subject on the technical side; a better book for the serious cryptanalyst is Cryptanalysis, by Helen Fouche Gaines (wonder if she's descended from the Fouche who was Napoleon's Chief of Secret Police?), which is available from Dover for \$1.95. It gives just about everything you need to break any cipher except experience. You can crack almost any simple substitution cipher without even trying hard with the tables of two- and three-letter groups in order of frequency. Double-substitution and such are harder, of course.

Of course Lee Jacobs is a hoax. Just ask Elmer Perdue, Lee won some of his money in a bouree game last night (27 Feb), Of course, so did Ed Cox, both Pelzes, and old ich, but then Uncle Ghod was himself last night - i.e, four sheets to the wind. I should care,,,it's his money.



The rider was comparable with the rest of Judi Beatty Sephton's work. Yeah...

Zaje Zaculo 4 - Len Bailes: By the way, how do you pronounce your title?

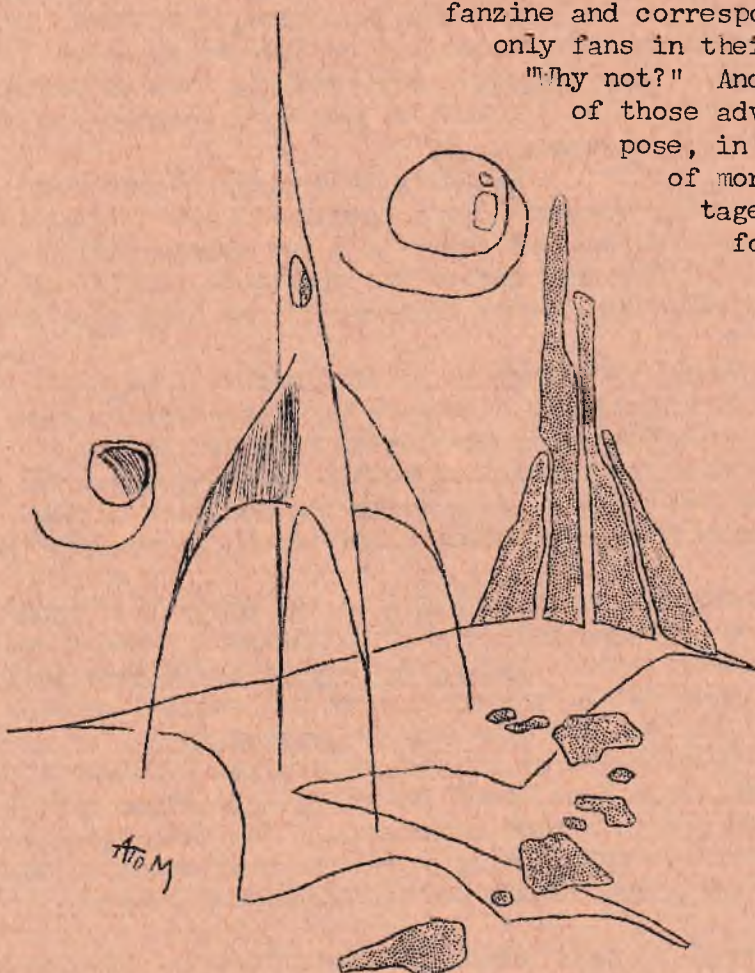
The non-pubbing member amendment was supposed to allow additional members in, not restrict the number of active members. If you will take a close look at the Constitution, you will find that there is nowhere specified the number of active members allowed. That is one of the things at the discretion of the OE. So the phrasing of the non-pubbing member amendment would have only provided that there could not be more than half the number of active members - whatever the OE decided that should be - on the non-pubbing member roster.

However, as I pointed out in a letter to Joe a short time back, the idea is flawed in the first place, because it's unnecessary - anyone who is willing to do the amount of activity required of non-pubbing members by the amendment is so close to doing the required minac for active membership that it's a distinction without a difference. After all, an active member doesn't have to publish a zine of his own - as long as he gets his required six pages in, they can be run in some other member's zine. So why have non-pubbers?

I got Dian to join - one time we were coming back down from Berkeley (I think after Pacificon), and she was talking about wishing she had an apa to belong to that Bruce didn't, so I asked her why she didn't join SFPA, pointing out its obvious advantages (small copy requirement, numerous monapans who gave closer attention to the mailings than multiapans can, the fact that most members fanac is perforce confined to fanzine and correspondence activity because they're the only fans in their locality, etc.), and she said, "Why not?" And so she joined. N'APA offers none of those advantages - it has advantages, I suppose, in the larger mailings and the presence of more "name" fans, but those are advantages that mean little to Dian - or me, for that matter. As I've said before, I can't see joining N'APA as long as I'm in SAPS already, because there is very little difference between the two except that SAPS is better quality.

I still read quite a bit, even quite a bit of SF, but mostly the paperbacks. I still get ANALOG, mostly because I'm working on a complete run of ASF since the Campbell era started, and I read it because I usually enjoy most of the stories, but I have bought about three other prozines since I moved to California.

I saw Cursed 3, I'm pretty sure, in N'APA. Please don't run it in SFPA - it was one of the reasons I left N'APA...





I name my fanzines, as must be obvious, from Norse mythology, preferring references to the Other Side rather than the Aesir. Gjallarhorn, which was published for the Neff Welcommittee, was an exception. Pelf, which is co-edited, is another one, but then I didn't choose the title for that one.

Sentinel 1 - Dave Locke: Your comments on fan-written stf mirror my own attitude very accurately.

I dunno - I don't think Al's comment to Joe that you quote was snide. An overdoing of the "cuteness", perhaps - depending on your taste; it didn't bother me any - but I wouldn't think it would be considered ill-natured. I don't know how Joe took it, of course, but from what I know of him I would be surprised if he took it in any way other than the way I'm sure Al meant it - which was not snidely. Cwell, I'd better get out of this business of explaining other people's motives; it's a good way to get burnt if you come out wrong...

Glanced at the fiction, but the first one didn't make sense except as pseudo-pornography and the second one was a variation on a joke so old that even the slight variation didn't redeem it.

Outre 3 - Kent McDaniel: The Civil Rights Bill, in the first place, said nothing about housing, although you seem to be among the many who think it did - the nearest it came to that was in saying that motels and hotels with more than a certain number of guest rooms (10 I think) could not discriminate on the basis of race, etc. What was most useful about the CR bill was the added powers it gave to the Federal Government in voting-rights cases; if the Negroes in the South ever get the right to vote it will be most difficult for the sort of activities you talk about (bombings, lynchings, etc.) to go unpunished much longer. And it is only the immunity from punishment that is causing such activities to be prevalent, anyhow. You can't legislate love, but I know relatively few Negroes who care that much whether or not they're loved - they want to be treated fairly, and that you can legislate to a considerable degree.

One of these days I may write up more thoroughly my thoughts on Negro rights and such; if I do, I'll be sure to send it through SPPA, where there is probably a more varied group of opinions than in most of fandom. I understand Montgomery is actually an admirer of George Wallace...

LOKI 9 - Dave Hulan: As mentioned in the editorial, LOKI is temporarily folding. I will probably bring out one more issue just before the next Westercon, but it will be composed almost entirely of a longish story that Joe Staton and I are collaborating on; expect it in the September mailing. I will try, as a result, to put a bit more effort into Utgard and Niflheim, writing something besides Mailing Comments for both apas; I may take to putting some outside contributions into them, too, although they will mostly be self-written. If any of you people want to submit anything...

Utgard 3 - Dave Hulan: So I did Mailing Comments...

And now to a couple of postmailings...

Manndate 2 - Richard Mann: Just think of the postage money you'll save if you vote me in as OE - Bruce can just hand me your zine. It'll give you a few extra days to get stuff done, too...

Warlock 6 - Larry Montgomery: Too bad you missed the mailing. I hope you were able to publish Warlock 7 and Endless Shadow 2 at least in time to make the 15th Mailing.

Which seems to end Mailing Comments for this issue. One more page - what to do...



## THE FAN OF BRONZE

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The sun was sinking behind the Alabama hills, and in the upper window of a house in a middle-class neighborhood in Opelika a brooding figure was waiting. Its gaze was fixed across twenty feet of space on an upstairs window of the house next door - the home of BILL PLOTT. Suddenly a light went on in the room and the watcher saw the famous features of the fabulous faan flash fury as he read the letter which had just arrived. The keen eyes quickly looked up from the letter, and on the instant there was a muted "thwack" from across the space between the houses and PLOTT dove to one side. Only his superhuman reflexes had saved him, for through the space where he had been standing only a split-second before had passed a plonker-bolt tipped with the deadly Bacillus Gafiensis which forever prevented any thought of fanac in those gripped with its deadly infection. Rebounding off the wall, PLOTT leaped through the door into the hallway outside his room, vaulted over the railing that guarded the stair-well, and, pausing only long enough to stop his motion before letting go, dropped to the floor below. He cushioned the shock with his powerful legs, and then raced out of his front door and into the house from which the shot had been fired.

So fast had he reacted that the would-be assassin was only halfway down the stairs when PLOTT reached the bottom. He loosed a wild shot which whizzed over PLOTT's head, but before he had time to reload or even turn around he was caught in a vice-like grip. PLOTT's steely fingers gripped his jaw and forced it open, but too late - out of the mouth of the plonker artist came the reek of Corflu Mentis, the drug which wipes out all conscious memories. He had managed to break the capsule which he kept in his mouth as a safeguard against revealing the names of his associates in crime.

PLOTT looked long and hard at the man he held. Man? Surely this was no more than a young lad in his early teens, one who must have been recruited by some nefarious fakefen straight from the NFFF - or even from non-fandom. Who could it be? The boy himself could obviously give no clue, his mind now being wiped as clean as a newborn child's - but perhaps one of PLOTT's associates had seen him before at some fan-gathering that PLOTT had missed. With the thought, PLOTT led the now-trusting and docile teenager over to his house and up to his room. Immediately he turned to his ham television rig and began calling. First to answer was DAVE LOCKE, brilliant fanzine humorist, who resembled nothing so much as a hairless gorilla, both in looks and in sheer muscular strength, although his temperament was calm and mild unless he was aroused by great provocation. No, he had never seen the attacker; yes, he would jet down to Opelika immediately, picking up DICK AMBROSE and AL ANDREWS on the way. LOCKE signed off and immediately AL ANDREWS's sensitive fannish face appeared. His fanzine reviews were renowned little less than his scholarly studies of old pulp fantasy. No, he had never seen PLOTT's assailant, either, but he would be prepared to come with LOCKE whenever the latter appeared in Birmingham. Third to answer was RICK NORWOOD, leading collector and fan-fiction writer, whose favorite pastime when not engaged in his writing or collecting was smashing his fists through outhouse walls. He, too, was ignorant of the identity of the mystery fan, but promised to be ready to be picked up by DAVE HULAN on the latter's way in from California. HULAN then made connections and was apprised of the situation. He whistled. "Something must be up, BILL," he said. "Yes, and I know what it is, but I can't tell you over the airwaves. Come to Opelika and pick up NORWOOD in New Orleans on your way." And then the last of the famous team, DICK AMBROSE, came in and PLOTT repeated his request for identification. AMBROSE looked closely and said, "Yes, I've seen him. His name's DAVID MITCHELL, and he's a member of the MONTGOMERY Mob."

(To be continued. Read Utgard 5 next mailing to see your Name In Print...and wonder, meanwhile, whether you'll be a Good Guy or a Bad Guy...)