



ATOM



UTGARD 5 is prepared by Dave Hulan, 19018 Bryant St., Apt. #2, Northridge, Calif., 91325, ph. 213-349-6922, for the 16th Mailing of the Southern Fandom Press Alliance. It is printed on the LASFSRex, and is Jotun Publication 97.

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Editorial Natterings  
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I suppose that this will turn out to be the biggest issue of UTGARD yet - yes, this is the twelfth stencil I'm typing and the longest one so far has run only 11 pages. This should be 15 or 17, depending on how carried away I get on "The Fan of Bronze", which is yet to be written. But at least 15 pages seems certain. If I can ever get the damn thing run off. There are Problems. Like, when I went out to the car this morning to take Katya to work (this is Saturday, you finks - I'm not living off her!) the left rear tire on the bus was flat. This wouldn't be so bad except that one night I forgot to lock up the back end and one of the neighborhood thieves stole my spare and my tools, so that I don't have any way to change the tire. We got one of her friends to take her to work, so that was OK, but now I have to wait till Edco gets here (he was coming over anyhow to pick up some ditto masters) and hope he has enough tools in his car to enable me to take off this tire and then he can take me to where I can get it fixed or replaced. If this can be done expeditiously enough I can get this run off this afternoon, but if it takes too long I'll be stuck. And I'm sure Fred has some N'APA stuff he'll be running off, and Ted Johnstone is supposed to be running off a SHAGGY sometime this week, so if I delay much I may not be able to get at the machine. We shall see...

Last Thursday Roy was admitted to Pacific State Hospital; so far we've been able to keep busy enough that it hasn't hit us too hard, and hopefully by the time we have a breathing space we'll have gotten sufficiently used to it that it won't be so bad...but we sure do miss the little fellow. One benefit that may be realized is that Katya is taking much more active interest in fandom since she doesn't have Roy to concentrate on, and I may be able to talk her into contributing to SFPA and giving us our first dual membership. (By "us" in that context I mean SFPA - Katya and I already have a dual membership in SAPS)

Maybe I'd better give art credits here while I'm thinking about it - cover is by ATom, as are the illos on pages 5, 8, 14, and 16. REGilbert did the one on 7, and Joe Staton the one on 11.

The 15th Mailing, taken as a whole, was fairish, but not really one of the better ones. The page-count was low and too much of that was non-apa-slanted material. However, there was a good deal of promise shown by several of the new members and waitlisters, and (to deviate slightly from the Code by making a general comment on the mailing this is in) I think the promise was borne out in the current mailing. The 16th looks to me like the best yet for SFPA; not quite the biggest, but the best. I'm hoping that this next year under my OEs ship will prove the best ever for SFPA; it would be a feather in my cap, and I also want to see the apa I helped found become a prosperous one, as it seems to be.

Also in this mailing are a couple of other items I've tossed in in hopes you'll enjoy them - LOKI 7 was originally intended for the 12th Mailing (well, it was begun for the 11th, actually), but I didn't get it off to the OE in time, and then I was going to postmail it (which is why your copy probably has a name on it, not necessarily your own), but I never got around to that, and finally after I'd put LOKI 9 into a mailing properly and still had #s 7 and 8 sitting around undistributed, I decided to pull a ploy and send them through in reverse order. I thought it was a good way to confuse the troops, or something - for the LoCs on #7 in this mlg, go back to mlg 15 and read the LoCs in LOKI 8...

Also in the mailing is ZinFANdel 1, a Fabulous Fannish One-Shot that the Trimbles and I put out for Apa-L - I ran off enough copies of it for SFFPA because I thought you might enjoy seeing the sort of thing we do out here in LA - some of us at least. The Drunken Crowd. Those of you in Apa-L or SFFPA already know what a Fabulous Fannish One-shot is, but for the rest of you, it's like this...

And I guess I'd better get in, before I run out of space, that ever-popular feature of UTGARD,

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
Atkins+	15	22
Bailes	11,12,13,14,15	57
Broyles*	7	6
Gentry*	1,3	18
Gibson	9,12	16
Harkness	9,10,11,13	145
Hickman	12,13	79
Hulan	1,3,4,5,6,7,8,10,13,14,15	276
Jennings*	1,3,4,6	80
Katz	11,13,14,15	73
Kurman*	2,4	11
Labowitz*	6	25
Locke	9,11,12,13,14	69
Luttrell	13,14,15	82
Mann	13,14,15	15
McDaniel	9,10,14	33
Mitchell**	13,15	12
Montgomery	9,10,11,12,13,15	95
Norwood	3,5,7,9,10,13	62
Padgett*	1	7
Pelz	14,15	28
Plott	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13	166
Staton	11,12,13,14,15	66

David Hall and Wally Weber have both been listed as members but have not contributed as of the 15th mailing.

By now Edco has come by and we've gotten my tire fixed, so hopefully I'll be able to get this run off today after all. While here he asked to have his name put on the SFFPA waitlist - and when he gets to be a member then you will probably see a Fabulous Fannish One-shot in every SFFPA mailing - if the screams don't get too loud. Actually I hadn't even suggested to Ed that he try to get into SFFPA - he was motivated by the quality of some of the SFFPAzines he's gotten. Of course, I didn't try to discourage him either, since I like his writings and think he'd be a distinct asset to the apa. He has lived in the South, too, although only while he was in the Army - he isn't claiming anything except the 25% rule.

I'm waiting for the mail to come - I know of at least two zines on their way that haven't arrived yet, and I'll wait till the 15th for them if necessary. In general that's how I'll enforce the rule - I will set a deadline and a mailing date, and if I haven't heard from you that your zine is in the mail by the deadline then I'll close the mailing off then. If anyone gets the word to me that he has a zine on the way I'll hold the mailing open until the mailing date if necessary, and if anyone else gets something in in the interim they're lucky. But the 0-0 will carry a full explanation...

# ...OF ECSTASY AND FRUSTRATION

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R I C H I E B E N Y O  
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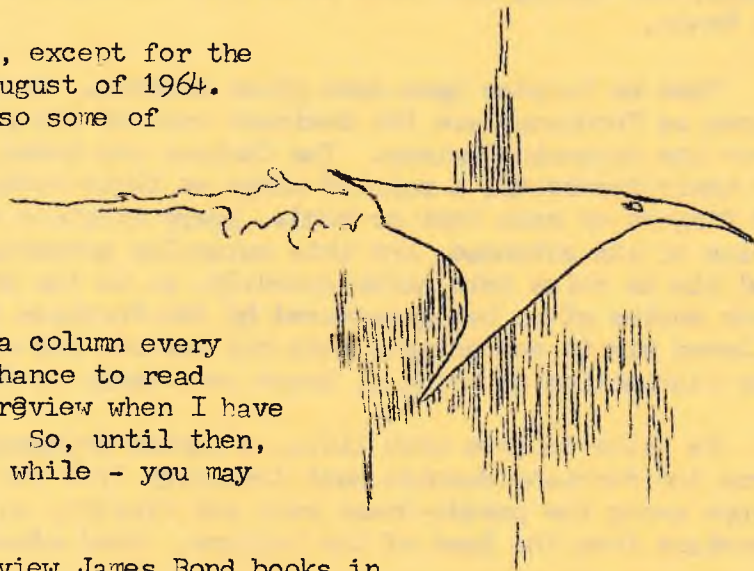
This book review column - or better yet, The Column of Rambling Review - was originally done for Rich Mann's MANNDERINGS, and that is where the first three installments went. However, as everyone in fandom realizes, Redd Boggs, that notorious Doing-Something-Else, has had the stencils for the first issue for about a year or so now, and Gretch just won't let him get around to running them off for poor Rich, who is hounded night and day (mostly at night, tho) by his eager readers, who clamour to know whatever happened to the thing. I mean, it isn't like it was years overdue - just one. And it is Rich's first genzine. All Redd will have to do, tho, is change the date from a 1964 to a 1965.

But, back to tricks: I sent Rich the first three installments, and he put the first one into MANNDERINGS #1, which I've been dying to see. He also used a couple of reviews, under the title of the column, in his SFPazine, MANNDATE #1. I did get to see that. Wow! It looked pretty good, too, even... But, some of the SFPAers complained to Rich that I reviewed books that weren't current. And Rich took this right to heart, and did what they wanted, rather than what we wanted; he told me to stow the column, unless I could review the current books. I had this column just about done, so I didn't know what to do with it until I read LOKI, and gold-of-my-heart Dave Hulan mentioned that he needed reviews of books that were not current, but that could be had by most fen. That's the premise that I wrote this column on at the onset: that I'd review some relatively current books and some older ones, mostly paperbacks, that the average fan could still lay hands on with little difficulty. Wait till SFPA sees the ones in MANNDERINGS #1, if it ever comes out... They'll be shocked by my stupidity! But, I do things my way, and I'm glad to see that there is someone (no offense meant, Dave...) who thinks the same as I do on this matter.

This column was almost completed, except for the review of the third Farley book, in August of 1964. It has been lying around ever since, so some of the material, especially so in the Andre Norton review, may be dated by the time this sees publication, if it does at all. But, let's face it: this column is really TIMELESS.

If this is used, don't look for a column every issue, as I don't get too much of a chance to read as many s-f books as I'd like. I'll review when I have the time to read something to review. So, until then, read a science fiction book once in a while - you may enjoy the experience.

POST SCRIPT of sorts: I also review James Bond books in this column when I read them, so, if you have an avirgin, you'd better skip those parts.



AN EARTH MAN ON VENUS (original title: THE RADIO MAN) - Ralph Milne Farley - Avon - #285 - Copyright 1950 by Avon - classification: interplanetary adventure.

Just about everyone knows of Edgar Rice Burroughs, and many if not all of these people know of his counterpart, Otis Adelbert Kline. But few of these same people - fans, rather - know of the existence of books by the third member of this group, Ralph Milne Farley. But be that as it may, he did exist, he did write in the same time period as Burroughs and Kline, and he did produce books with a flair for adventure. THE RADIO MAN is the first of a series of these books. Ace has just brought out the second book of the series, THE RADIO BEASTS.

From Don Wollheim (editor of Ace Books) I've learned of some trouble finding out exactly who owns the rights to various books of Mr. Farley. The negotiations with the estate are therefore not going as smoothly as could have been hoped. This may cause the holdup of the rest of the Farley novels. It would have been nice if Ace could have brought these books out in the proper order, as they did with the Kline works, but Don had to make a choice of waiting for the rights to be worked out or publishing what he had gotten contract for. Rather than waiting, he chose the latter alternative, so that we now have the second book on the racks instead of the first. I imagine that Avon still holds rights to it, and may have reprint plans of their own for this title.

In these novels Farley acts the part of go-between for one Myles Cabot, radio expert, and the people of Earth. Farley lives on a farm, and is most stunned when a meteorite lands on his property. He commences to open it, and finds a golden globe within which he proceeds to unscrew. Inside was a manuscript (shades of Caspak; shades of H.G. Wells), written by his old friend and classmate from Harvard, Myles, who had disappeared some five years before. From there, which takes up the first chapter, we go into the tale...

Myles Cabot, in one of his radio experiments - this time one of his greatest, involving transfer of matter - is "spirited" by his beams to a sandy beach, overcast with a cloudy sky. He tries to determine, by thinking out the problem, where he has been deposited by his rash delving into the unknown. Upon standing, he is quite surprised to find that he can leap much farther than he could on Earth. This gives him the idea that he is on another planet, either Mars or Venus, and taking the cloud cover into consideration, he determines that it must be Venus.

Then he happens upon some giant insects. Some of these (intelligent ants, known as Formians) are the dominant race of the planet, having rule, by force, over the humanoid Cupians. The Cupians are human, except for a pair of antennae on their foreheads, a pair of wings on their backs, a lack of ears, and six toes or fingers on each foot or hand. Every creature on the planet communicates by means of its antennae, and this naturally presents a problem for Myles. I expected him to solve this quite speedily, as in the Burroughs novels, but he actually took months after being captured by the Formians to bring about this marvel. It allowed him to communicate with his captors and with the Cupians, thus giving him the distinction of being at least semi-human in the eyes of the native inhabitants.

He falls in love with Lilla, a Cupian princess, and after helping her escape from the Formians despite much treachery from the "bad Cupians", he gains prominence among the pseudo-human race and finally, in a grand closing, routs the Formians from the land of the Cupians. Good adventure throughout.

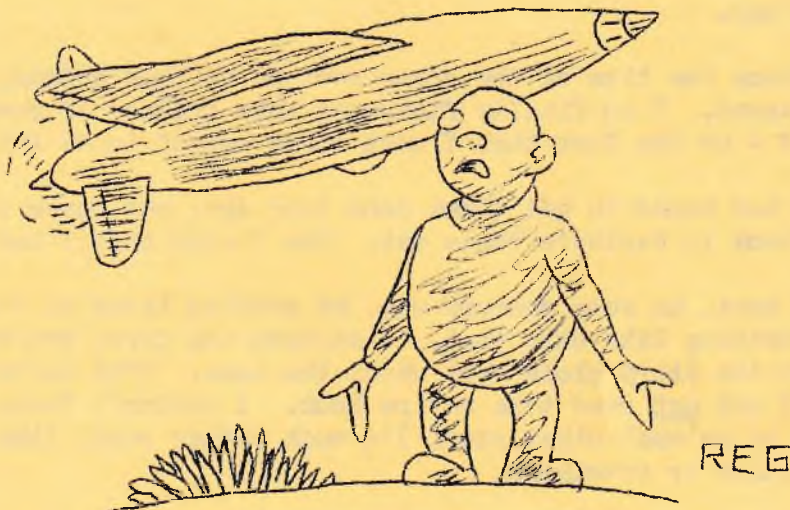
THE RADIO BEASTS - Ralph Milne Farley - Ace Books - #F-304 - 40¢ - Copyright 1925 by All-story - classification: interplanetary adventure.

Since I wrote the last review, that of THE RADIO MAN, I've heard from Don Wollheim, and have gotten the good news that Ace is pubbing THE RADIO PLANET, which is the third book of Farley's Venus series. Perhaps, to make this a trilogy type review, I'll order that book specially so that I can review it next. It comes out in December of '64.

THE RADIO BEASTS, of course, is the second novel of Farley's Venus series, and is somewhat better than the first.

It seems that Myles Cabot, famed Radio Man of Venus, has managed to transport himself back from Venus to Mother Earth, and has contacted his intermediary on his home planet, Mr. Farley. Myles spends some time on this planet, and tells the Farley household of his adventures since the falling of the meteor that held his former account of fantastic adventures.

He tells of tranquillity among the Cupians of Venus, his adopted home. And then he makes a startling announcement: the Formians had revolted against their conquerors, led by the usurper Prince Yuri.



He relates how his people have been overthrown by their former masters, recently vanquished by the leadership of Myles and the Cupian army he had armed with Earth-type rifles. He tells of his escapes from death at every turn, of the treachery of Prince Yuri, of the undying love of his Cupian Princess, Lilla.

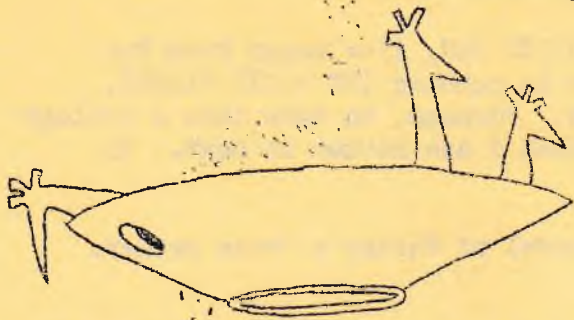
There is a definite pattern expressed in this book, sort of like the ERB escape-capture-escape sequences. But these books, in many senses, seem to lack some of the gusto which is present in those of the old master.

The description of the Formians is especially well-done, in the fact that the author presents the ant-men as possessing certain human qualities. The way, too, that Farley blends the Cupians into the picture as human, but possessing certain alien characteristics, tends to raise him a notch in my book.

The author seems to have quite a good sense of humor, too, which becomes quite evident in many of his adventure sequences. As well as a sense of humor, he has a sense of compulsion. His action picks up the reader and carries him along, flowing with the battles, rooting for the hero, hissing the villain, shouting encouragement with one breath, cussing with the next. It is a quality which ERB had in some small sense, but it is a quality well-developed here.

By all means if you are displeased with fare of books coming out today, try the

Ace reprints of ERB, Otis Adelbert Kline, Ray Cummings, Edmond Hamilton, and now Ralph Milne Farley. They offer that "escape" type of reading that has been lacking.



Not a prize winner, but then how many books are? Just a plain blood-and-thunder type of thing, full of spirit, skull-duggery, and bombshells dropping right and left.

Good, clean, exciting fun all the way.

THE RADIO PLANET - Ralph Milne Farley - Ace Books - F-312 - 40¢ - Copyright 1926 by Argosy All-Story Weekly - Classification: interplanetary skullduggery on a minor key.

Since the time of the other reviews in this column, a time span of nine months has passed. I am finally finishing this trilogy of reviews, at some expense to myself - by the fact that I must force myself to do this last one.

I had hoped to get these done long ago, but never really got around to the last book in Farley's Venus set. Now I wish that I had forgotten it entirely!

I must, in some obscure way, be getting tired of the blud-and-shudder revival, or something like unto that. I enjoyed the first two books in this series, even though the story plots were about the same. I'll admit before I even get started that I did not read this entire book. I couldn't force myself to right now, when there is so much other stuff I'd much rather read, like a few issues from my pulp collection or something.

This book picks up after the second - of course - wherein Hyles Cabot, our stout and worthy hero (they all are, of course) is back on his beloved Venus, but on the other side of the boiling seas from the continent whereon his kingdom, his wife, his child, and everything else he holds dear lies. He is among the remaining force of the Formians, but escapes; he is desperately trying to gain communication with his homeland on the other side of the sea of gasses, but cannot find out what is happening there; he is now among a race of humanoid inhabitants, warlike in nature, who are covered from toe to top with soft hair. While with them, from raw materials only, he hopes to build a radio with which to contact the Other Side. Truly an amazing feat, if he can do it...! I'll probably never know if he does or not - although I can guess - because that's where I quit reading.

As it looks to me, if you've read one Farley, you've read them all, ten-fold more so than with ERB. At least the covers for the Farley books are pretty good...

KEY OUT OF TIME - Andre Norton - Ace Books - F-287 - 40¢ - Copyright 1963 - classification: straight science-fiction.

To say the least, I'm peeved about the results of the Hugo awards this year. WAY STATION just did not deserve it. I'd have voted for GLORY ROAD before I'd have stooped to WAY STATION. But, that's the way the ballot turns, I guess...

Andre Norton had a place made for her in science-fiction with her first book - STAR MAN'S SON - some decade ago. However, it seems that she didn't get so much mention from her entire output as she did from two books: THE TIME TRADERS and GALACTIC DERELICT. These were the first two volumes of the Time Agent series, the third being THE DEFIANT AGENTS. There is hardly anyone today who reads science-



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 Being Comments on the 15th SFPA Mailing  
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The Southerner 15 - JOE: Lessee - aside from the fact that it's misdated 1964, and has Arnie's address wrong, and is illegible in spots, this isn't too bad. At least there is some interesting info in it. Joe did a damfine job as OE in many ways, especially considering the fact that he had never had the advantage of belonging to an apa with an efficient OE, but the 0-0 left a leetle something to be desired.

Damyankee 5 - Arnie Katz: If I may echo the words of Effem Busby in SAPS and the sentiments of other members of SFPA - "Your name and address - up front!" And you might put your title on the cover, too, or else the first thing in a colophon so that people don't have to search around in the zine to find out who and what you are...

You realize, of course, that here in your comments on LOKI 9 you said the 20 magick words and that I am just being friendly and like that in order to lull your suspicions so that I can Kill You the first time I get a chance...

Regarding Mitchell, see elsewhere in this mailing. I tole you I knew those Alabama fans...

As mentioned in a personal letter, the only thing Mike McInerney had done recently that I considered stupid he really didn't do - namely urging people to vote for Walter Breen for #1 fan. I didn't see Baricini or whatever it was until it went as a rider with FP 2 or 3 or something like that - or maybe it was just enclosed in my copy. You say he put it out right after the Fan Poll but I didn't see it till after I'd done a couple of apazines basing an opinion of him on the Eney error/lie. I had a brush with him when I was very new in fandom and he only a few months longer-time in which predisposed me to believe the worst, but that was four years ago now and no doubt both of us are very different now from the way we were then.

I don't mean that you are necessarily in grave danger of getting mugged walking around the streets of New York, but that I personally feel insecure there. I have a case of Neeboracophobia or something like that...

Since there aren't any Busty Blondes in SFPA (unless some of you guys are really Not What You Seem - I haven't met some of you...), it would be difficult for any SFPA to Make Your Dreams Come True. For that matter, there are very few Busty Blondes in fandom at all - and I look, because that's my type too. However, I'm married to the only one I know...

I don't really see what's so "new" about the "New Wave", if you're talking about Tiresome Norm and Co. - the "New Wave", the way I get it, is the Pete-Weston-centered group of Brifen, where serconnishness is new, but as far as I know Pete has nothing at all against fannishness per se; he just doesn't print fannish stuff in his zine. Hell, I didn't print fannish stuff in LOKI until about the 8th or 9th issue, but I hardly consider myself in the class of Metcalf and Wood. The Metcalf-Wood group was saying the same thing they're saying now before I got into fandom, and probably similar types were saying similar things when Harry Warner got into fandom. The only significant thing about the "New Wave" is that it is putting out at least one very good yet sercon fanzine - ZENITH. Or that's how I see it...

fiction who does not connect Andre Norton with Time Agent, and well may it be so, as these two initial novels were some of the best books of their time.

Since the publication of these two, though, Miss Norton has been developing into a somewhat more mature writer, changing from the blood and thunder of her earlier books to the suspense and psychological aura of her more recent releases. This, then, must be an experimental stage in her writing, and so it seems with A KEY OUT OF TIME.

The tale holds many of the qualities of her earlier works, especially so the human nature side of it, but it is lacking in the fact that the thread of interest is somewhat thin throughout. Yes, there is some suspense, but not enough to keep a dyed-in-the-wool Norton fan on the edge of his seat, as is usually the case. To me, the Time Agent series is exhausted. The only thing that could save it now would be the addition of an entirely new set of characters, and even that might not be enough.

It seems that Miss Norton defeated her purpose by waiting so long to write the third book in the series. The first two came out almost back to back - bang, bang - but there was a lapse of several years between these two and their follow-up. The author may have lost the thread of the environment herself. For some authors it proves best to wait a few years before writing a sequel to a book; for others a period of waiting brings about the destruction of the entire series, and such seems the case here.

Why is the WITCH WORLD series so good? I think it is because all three of the books were brought out of the author's mind within the period of two years.

To say the least, KEY OUT OF TIME holds nothing that I could hinge on to remember it by. To me it was a total letdown, as had been THE DEFIANT AGENTS to some extent before it. But, as I said, it may herald the transition period of Miss Norton's writing, and may be the preface to great things to come - right now I can't say.

Perhaps the author has concentrated on science-fiction too much in these past few years. Her jaunts into fantasy (WITCH WORLD, WEB OF THE WITCH WORLD, JUDGMENT ON JANUS, etc.) seem to have netted some notice. Perhaps a short stay in fantasy would be in order.

We can only wait to see the results of the forthcoming books from Miss Norton: THREE CONQUER THE WITCH WORLD (to be brought out by Ace in '65 //Ed. note - it is now out as THREE AGAINST THE WITCH WORLD, and is in my opinion the best of the trilogy - although if she doesn't write still another sequel I'll be most disappointed, as there are many loose ends still hanging. - dgh//), the sequel to CROSSROADS OF TIME (now finished), and the newly released NIGHT OF MASKS (the final story in the Dipple Trilogy).

TARZAN AND THE LION MAN - Edgar Rice Burroughs - Ace Books - F-212 - 40¢ - Original copyright 1934 - classification: fantastic jungle adventure.

This Tarzan novel, although written in the manner of the rest, seems to leave much to be desired. I'd been reading the Tarzan books in order, alternating other reading between, and I think that by the time I got to this one, I had just about exhausted my interest in the complex plots present in the Tarzan books. Not that they are so complex as to tax the mind, but because they are so common to every book. The action seems to be at a low ebb in this book, too.

The plot concerns a movie company sent to Africa to film a jungle-man movie. They, of course, bring along their own jungle-man, who, in the movie, will be called  
(concluded on last page)

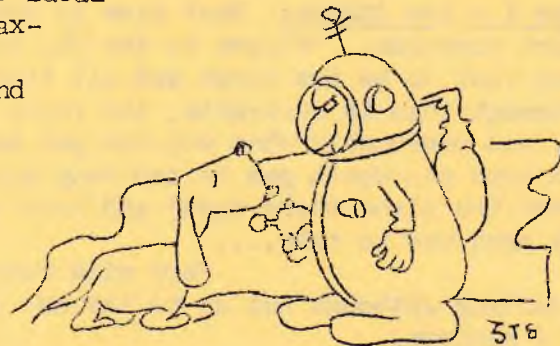
Endless Shadow 2 - Lamar Hollingsworth: "The Failing Fangs of Mr. Desmond" was better than I expected it to be. I approve of humorous fan-fiction like this - even if it isn't of professional quality, it can be well worth reading if there are a few good laughs - and I got a few from this. Serious fan-fiction is another kettle of fish and while I'll print it occasionally I don't feel too much like encouraging it.

Given a choice between getting a genzine and mailing comments (of adequate quantity) from each member, I think that probably 75% or more of the members would plump for the ICs. Genzines in an apa are good - I try to either have a genzine or put some general material in my regular apazine each time, and sometimes both - but mailing comments are essential. Without them, putting a fanzine into an apa is a waste of time, because you never find out what people thought about it.

Oh, you are "not a HOAX, by any stretch of the imagination"? How 'bout that!

Stop the Presses #1 - Joe Staton: Thanks for the support, which was valuable. And the heading cartoon was great!

Starling 4 - Hank Luttrell: The biggest thing in the mailing, and a good competent genzine which would be greatly improved by more editing in the lettercol. You will note, however, the so-called WARHOON syndrome with a zine of this size - most people read a mailing when they get it, and then three months or so later sit down at the last minute to do ICs. At that time they don't have time to read through a big thick genzine to garner comments; if anything was particularly memorable they may comment on it, but I didn't find anything in STARLING 4 that memorable, so you get a short dissertation on "Why Apas Don't Have Too Many Genzines Circulated Through Them". Short zines, if their material is interesting, get more comment than longer zines which are equally interesting, after a certain length is reached. I would put the ideal length of an apazine at about 12-20 pp for maximum return on your input in terms of return comments. STARLING was, however, enjoyed, and I hope you'll continue to put it thru SFPA even though it won't get as much comment as it deserves.



Such and Such 3 - Hank Luttrell: Now that you ask, yes, I do think that in order to be a Real Man you have to be able to kill people if it is necessary. I'm not saying that it is very often necessary, but I feel that anyone who is psychologically incapable of doing anything that might be necessary to insure his survival is defective in some way. I'm not saying that he has to actually take such action - he may, upon due consideration, decide that it isn't worthwhile to do so even to insure his own survival - but anyone who, like the Atlanteans in Joe's story, is incapable of killing anyone themselves although they agree that the killing is desirable and don't object to someone doing it for them - is not a Real Man. Argue with me, c'mon, you guys...

Kabumpo 2 - Dian Pelz: Lovely cover; one of the nicest things you've done in the line of fanzine art.

Since you're the Mrs. OE for SAPS I'll bet there've been times when you didn't even finish it on "midnight on the deadline for the next mailing". 'Fess up, now... (or maybe not, with all these SAPS W/Lers present...)

So that's where Belly Button Fandom got its name! Had any of you read de Camp's "The 'heels of If"? In the America of that story, the navel was the only part of the body

that had to be covered legally, as when swimming. The hero found this out when he saw everyone swimming in what, to him, seemed like no clothes at all, and stripped to go in himself. He was jugged for indecent exposure... A good story in many ways; why don't you all go read it...

Howcum all the runoff pages of odds and ends? It makes KABUPO look like one of Bruce's O'PAzines... (I'm not referring to the reprints from your Apa-L stuff, but to the "white pages".)

Utgard 4 - Old Ich: ~~Best title in the mailing!~~

Loki 8 - Hulan again: This was step 2 of a Ploy. You may recall that LOKI 9 was in the December Mailing. If you look closely in this one, you will find LOKI 7. Which completes running three issues of LOKI through SFPA in reverse order...

The project for which LOKI has been dropped is a new genzine, AUSLÄNDER, to be co-edited by Ed Cox and myself. The first issue should be out pretty soon now - we have all the material and some of it is on stencil. We're shooting for a first issue to be ready for distribution at the Westercon. All SFPA members will be on the initial mailing list, although some reaction will be necessary if you want to keep getting it.

Mandate 3 - Rich Mann: In case Dian doesn't get any ICs into this mailing, I'll answer your question by saying that yes, she pronounces her name in the plain old vanilla way.

Ted White is, the last I heard, a year younger than I am, which is to say 27. He may have turned 28 since the last time I heard, which was a few months ago, but anyhow he was born in '37. There were quite a few fans before that - Ackerman, Daugherty, Speer, Tucker, Warner, etc. etc. Maybe I exaggerated slightly in what I said, but not much.

Clarges 1 - Lon Atkins: Best zine in the mailing, really, this time, and a most pleasant surprise. Welcome to the WL, Lon and Al, and welcome to SFPA as of this mailing (let me be the first and all that...). While it's true that you have more showthrough than is desirable, the repro really is quite good aside from that one thing, and presumably when you can get some heavier paper it will become Perfect. I just hope you don't get in too many apas (I seem to see your name sprouting up all over the place these days) and burn yourself out before you get started well. (I'm a good one to talk...)

Very nice cover by Joe, one of his better efforts in this mailing although not up to the one he did for his own zine. Which is reasonable, I suppose.

I bet I know the fan you met back in '57. I bet it was James W. Ayers. I've never met him myself - fortunately, when I was looking about for a nearby fan, I passed up Ayers (who didn't sound too interesting in the lettercols) and chose Billy Joe Plott of Opelika to inquire as to whether there was some sort of fan activity going on in Alabama. Bill is, of course, a Neat Guy and he put me in touch with Bob Farnham and Al Andrews of the SFG, from whence I branched out into the Neff, SFPA, N'APA, SAPS, and am currently making very good progress in my campaign to Take Over Fandom. What I'll do with it when I have it is something else... But I was set wondering by your remark just what would have happened if instead of Bill I had written Ayers, as I considered doing. Bill has met him and describes him as rather strange...

I'm not interested in chess, sorry. But I'll write an article on bridge sometime to get even with you...

Sam Long does not succeed in being as funny as he's trying to be. His article is in spots mildly amusing, but it would be better were he not trying quite so hard.

The article on the TiNi experiments was fascinating to me, as an engineer. Negative damping per se

doesn't violate any laws - I could whip you up a circuit to exhibit negative damping in jig time - but I never heard of negative damping without an external source of power. Otherwise you're up against violations of both the First and Second Laws of ~~Thermodynamics~~ Thermodynamics. I'm very interested in how you did figure it was happening without violating either law - not the why, which you seem to say is yet unknown, but the possible loophole you found. Generally some sort of positive feedback or else an input at the resonant frequency is required, and the resonant frequency of a torsion pendulum of that sort, if your drawing is anywhere near to scale, I would guess to be around .001 cps which is an odd rate for anything to be moving.

Say, you remind me - what's the origin, or do you know, of the expression "Up jumped the Devil!" I've heard it all my life as a sort of exclamation of remembered surprise...well, that's not exactly it, but it's very familiar, and yet I don't place whether it's just a saying or if it's a quote from something. Do you know?

I don't intend to raise the membership limit in SPPA. I think that 20 is an excellent number of members for an apa - enough to insure respectable mailings, but not enough to either encourage goofing off (as in FAPA) or produce unwieldy mailings (as in, to some extent, SAPS a few years back and N'APA these days). 200-300 pages is about the ideal size for an apa mailing, if the material is reasonably good = or at least I think so. SPPA has been running a little under, but it has had a lot of deadwood - that should get cleared out shortly and we'll get to averaging around 250pp/ mailing, which is about right. This one should be about that, for instance.

I've read all the Doc Savage books so far. They are \*BAD\* as you say, but they are \*FUN\* too. They have that old Sense of Wonder that you just can't hardly find like that there no more. No, seriously, they do have Something, because I'm not that indiscriminating and while I see flaws all the time I don't really even care - I lap 'em up anyhow.

(Scott) If you'll notice the deadline has been changed. I agree that it's no good to have the SPPA and N'APA deadlines the same day - they have too much overlap. So from now on you'll have a couple of weeks to do your N'APazines after the SPPA deadline has pass@d.

Since you came in late, the definition of "atheist" in question was whether an atheist denied that that there was a God or asserted that there was no God, with the concept of God being agreed upon or at least not a point of contention. This argument has been going on between Locke and me for at least three years now, and new people keep getting into it here and there. In an article for YANDRO I once stated that an atheist, in the commonly accepted usage of the term as a person who asserts that there is no God, by that assertion takes upon himself the burden of proof of his contention, and that any atheist who was not willing to take up that burden was not really an atheist but some sort of agnostic (or, "chicken"). Locke maintains that an atheist simply denies the theistic premise that there is a God, and that it is up to the theist to prove his case. While I agree that the theist must prove his case (or admit that it is unprovable), I personally feel that the atheist takes on an equal burden. And that's the problem at hand - not that it's excruciatingly important or anything.

I haven't asked Edco, but I assume that the Aleta he's talking about is Prince Valiant's wife in the comix - that's the only Aleta I know of.

Invader 6 - Joe Staton: Beautiful cover - probably the most pleasing thing I've seen by you, and that's going some. The style is reminiscent of someone, but I can't place who - Barr, maybe. Anyhow, more like this would be welcomed (like for some of my zines...though I'd want to send you stencils so you could cut them yourself. Trouble is, I have an embarras de richesse when it comes to artwork - ATom keeps me well supplied, I have some good REGillos I don't know where I'll use, you produce anything I ask for, Bjo and Dian and Jack Harness and Don Simpson are local

artists whose work I admire and who have done work for me at one time or another - and as much as I publish I never can publish as much good artwork as I'd like to. Maybe one of these mailings gives an art supplement to Utgard...).

I've used Tower stencils a great deal, and they are good enough for typing. I've also tried to cut artwork on them with a singular lack of success - they don't bear, but they don't cut very well either. However, here in LA the LASFS has a deal with Duplicating Supply, the local Rex dealer, where we get a 40% discount on stencils, which gives a very good quality green stencil for \$1.95 a quire. There is only one disadvantage - they are quite opaque as stencils go, so that unless you have a very strong light in your mimeoscope, you have to have a darkened room to be able to see what you're stencilling. They also are just a little bit hard-surfaced. The very best stencils are Polychrome (or the best I've used) - if I take a notion to do an art supplement and send you stencils I'll send you one of those. I understand Gestetner brand stencils are also top-flight.

The little numbers up in the corners of the pages are date-time groups, which I sometimes put there so I can remember when I typed it. Lately I've been forgetting to, though.

Ipzik! 21 - Len Bailes: To ask again a question you never got around to answering in Apa-L, do you pronounce your name "Baylis"?

Warlock 7 - Larry Montgomery: Kent probably called your con the MidSouthCon because that's what I called mine the year before - and since you continued my numbering I imagine he didn't notice the change in name.

Zaje Zaculo 5 - Len Bailes: You don't keep promises of greater activity very well, do you? But as long as your SFPAC is as good in quality as it has been, you can be forgiven the small quantity - at least to some extent. If you do end up at UCLA, of course, I'll be able to go down and twist your arm until you get Lots of activity done for SFPA...

I intend to handle the problem of the Yankee waitlister essentially the way you suggest - he goes on the list in his normal place in order of application, but if, when he would normally be invited to membership, there is no Yankee vacancy, he will be passed over in favor of the highest-placed Southern waitlister. He will advance to membership the first time there is a Northern vacancy.

I've spent enough time in New York to dislike it from experience, not hearsay. You've already got this from Apa-L, but in case anyone else wondered...

Cliffhangers and Others 7 - Rick Norwood: Postmailed, but I'm glad you made it. You have a sort of kooky sensayuma that is one of the more enjoyable aspects of SFPA and one not available elsewhere.

Polonius not evil enough? I'd always thought of Polonius as a bumbling, well-intentioned old ass, not evil in any great degree.



Assorted campaign lit - Montgomery, Staton, and yhos: It was sort of fun - especially seeing Bruce Pelz's reactions to Larry's zines...

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THE FAN OF BRONZE  
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THE STORY SO FAR:

BILL PLOTT, fabulous faan, narrowly escaped being sent into permanent gafia by a shot from an unknown neofan. He captured the neo, but before he could question him the neo had swallowed a dose of corflu mentis, an amnesiac. Calling his band of friends on a ham television rig he had invented, PLOTT tried to determine the identity of the neo, and also asked the others - DAVE LOCKE, AL ANDREWS, DAVE HULAN, RICK NORWOOD, and DICK AMBROSE - to join him in Opelika to discuss some important developments. AMBROSE had been the last to be contacted, and he had indeed recognized the neo as DAVID MITCHELL, a new recruit of the MONTGOMERY mob.

+++++ PLOTT broke television contact with AMBROSE and ran his fine mind over what he knew of the MONTGOMERY Mob. They were a secretive lot, having relatively little to do with outside fandom, although they seemed to be trying in some ways to become more powerful. Only the leader, LARRY MONTGOMERY, a fast-talking, fast-acting right-winger was known to the fannish public; PLOTT of course knew more, and his friends were aware of still others, with AMBROSE being the most knowledgeable about this particular gang. PLOTT decided to wait until AMBROSE had showed up so he could find out the latest details.

The wait was not long. LOCKE was the first to arrive, despite his having to make more stops than HULAN; his plane was faster and he didn't have as far to go. ANDREWS was with him.

"Where's DICK, DAVE?" PLOTT asked when AMBROSE didn't appear.

"When I got there it was too late," LOCKE replied. "Someone had gotten to him with Gafiensis and he didn't even know me. You'll have to find a new man to replace him, I guess; that stuff is incurable."

"Not entirely," PLOTT said. "There's a technique that can remove the symptoms for a while, and in a few cases the effect has been fairly permanent. Gary Labowitz was one, and Frank Wilimczyk and Dave Van Arnam also come to mind. But it takes time, and that we haven't got."

"Why? What's going on?" ANDREWS asked.

"Well, you see, there's something I haven't told you guys that I guess I should have a while back - but I'm not going to lead you any more."

"That!" came from the door as HULAN and NORWOOD walked in. "What do you mean by that?"

"You all know how much trouble I've always had with girls. There's something about me that attracts them, apparently. But so far I've always felt that my life work of keeping fandom safe from evildoers was the most important thing in the world, and that I had to steer clear of entanglements."

"Sure, we know that."

"I still feel that I can't do my job right if I'm tied down, but I've lost my heart to Ann Tillotson, and I can't do my job right any more anyhow - I can't keep my mind on fannish things. So I've decided to turn you over now to a successor I have trained for this sort of eventuality - JOE, can you come out?"

The door into the main part of the house opened and a stocky, powerful-looking young fan came out. "This is JOE STATON, boys," PLOTT said. "I've trained him



in all my techniques - for two hours a day now for years he has devoted himself to the most rigorous fannish exercises imaginable - he can type 300 words a minute, read a fanzine by simply flipping the pages, detect the most disguised scent of crud in a foot-deep pile of FAPA mailings, and all the other necessities of fannish superiority. He can probably do the work I've been doing better than I have, and he certainly will be able to do it better than I will in the future."

The friends were beginning to recover now from their initial shock, and ANDREWS went over to STATON and shook his hand. "You look like a trufaan, JOE. I'm with you all the way - just as I was with BILL."

"I'm not," LOCKE said. "I became a member of this group because I was a friend of BILL's, and I've stuck with it ever since for that reason, but I've been wanting to get married myself now for some time and if BILL can quit to get married I can too."

"Sorry to hear that

"Sorry to hear that, DAVE," JOE said, his voice deep and vibrant with power. "What about you others?"

Both HULAN and NORWOOD assured him that they would stick with him right along - HULAN was a long-time married man, but his wife KATYA was herself a trufaan and was reconciled to his frequent departures on urgent assignments. "Then that leaves two places to be filled on the team, LOCKE's and AMBROSE's. To fill LOCKE's place we need someone in the Northeast, a humorist if possible, and a big man. For AMBROSE's replacement we need someone who can keep in contact with all aspects of fandom, to see what the MONTGOMERY Mob is doing, one who is especially active in Southern Fandom. Any suggestions?"

"How about ARNIE KATZ to fill LOCKE's place?" NORWOOD asked. "He isn't as funny as DAVE, but he's big, lives in the Northeast, and is a humorist. Maybe association with us would improve his humor."

"Not a bad idea, RICK," JOE answered. "And if we're going to get ARNIE in to replace DAVE, the most logical replacement for DICK would be LEN BAILLES, since he and ARNIE are Good Buddies already. Any objections to those two? If not, then I'll get in touch with them immediately and see if they'll join."

And he turned to PLOTT's television rig and began calling...

(To be continued practically forever.)