

June 9, 1958

FANAC #16

A weekly news and chatterzine from Ron Elliot and Terry Carr, 2315 Dwight Way, Berkeley 4, California. British agent is Archie Mercer, 434/4 Newark Rd., North Hykeham, Lincoln, England. News and commentary happily received. Cartoon this issue by Ray Nelson.



"You have pure type M blood, category 3, hemoglobin 7, classification raris avis, in layman's terms, mimeograph ink."

fight with anybody, anywhere. All we want to do is put on a convention. That's what the members paid their dollars for and that is what we intend to produce." Len goes on to say, "Nothing new from the east on this. We are waiting to hear further from Kyle and hope we can clear up the matter as to whether or not he owes WSFS money and if so settle it with him without benefit (?) of law suit. He has told Anna that he would clear it up with the WSFS directly and that he has no desire to fight the WSFS itself."

We've also heard from several other Solacon Committee members. Stan Woolston reiterates Len's words, saying that Anna's cease-and-desist letter to Raybin "reflected the views of the committee. All that going on takes time from what we want to do--promote the program with as much fannish verve as possible."

George W. Fields, another member of the committee, writes, "It appears you only have the portion of the argument in favor of withdrawing suit (against Kyle). I see no reason to withdraw it, if Kyle has a good defense--he shouldn't be worried. Yet he sends us a letter threatening (yes, that's the RIGHT word) to sue us! Which means, our entire con funds could be attached! NO CONVENTION BECAUSE DAVE KYLE HAPPENED TO WIN WHAT ENOUGH PEOPLE THINK IS A VALID CASE AGAINST HIM! ... The only reason Anna or the committee withdrew our support is because of Kyle's threat. As I remember, we did say to Dietz and Raybin that 'you should take what legal action you think necessary.' I know at least two or three other committee members who remember that when the case was put before us (before it got HOT), we gave them legal permission to take legal action. I cannot say definitely, for the sec'y does not seem to remember it. ... Seems to me (Kyle) sounds awfully guilty, threatening the extinction of South Gate in '58! because he doesn't want to go to court and win and then sue us. Boy, this is a big black mark whether he's guilty or not!" Fields overlooks the expense Kyle would incur should he have to go to court to present his case. Aside from that, there are too many other absurdities in Fields' letter to bother commenting on, both in the parts quoted and the parts mercifully not quoted.

Rick Sneary says, "The whole problem with the Kyle/Raybin/WSFS getting into print (via the Eastern zines, not just FANAC) is that it is really such a complicated situation that no one can get a clear picture of it from reading just a few pages...

(continued next page)

(Heavy, concluded)

no have enough letters and papers on hand to fill a whole FAPA mailing, and it still isn't clear to us... You people on the outside only hear part of what is happening, and your opinions are correspondingly slanted. We have tried to keep it quiet because it is a mess that should be better settled that way. We'd hoped that we could handel it all, and reach some sort of answer. But both Raybin and Gyle have forced it out of our hands, in a manner of speaking..."

THE BEST OF FANDOM--1957, Guy Terwilleger's anthology of the best items from fanzines of last year, chosen by the editor of each, is now out. It's a nearly-100-page thing, with a three-page introduction by Robert Bloch, and a selection which of necessity is not absolutely the "best" of all fandom last year, but which comes as close to it as one could hope. Selections by John Berry, Bob Shaw, Carl Brandon, Dean Grennell, Mal Ashworth, Bloch, Walt Willis, and many, many others. Nicely-produced, too, with excellent mimeography, and even-edging throughout. The price is 35¢, from Guy E. Terwilleger, 1412 Albright St., Boise, Idaho. Guy, we are happy to hear, plans to make this an annual affair. We hope he sells enough of this issue to keep up his determination to do so.

THE VINEGAR WORM #3 came along this week, too, from Bob Leman, 2701 South Vine St., Denver 10, Colorado. In case you haven't heard, Leman is rapidly becoming the Fair-Haired Boy in certain enlightened fannish circles, and in case you have heard this and are wondering why, we recommend that you write to him and ask for a copy of this. It's free. Aside from Bob's own highly-amusing contributions on subjects such as trying to sleep with a wife and 40 pounds of bulldog at once, and what to do until the tv repairman comes, ad deligtum, there are contributions here by Bob Bloch and Ron Smith, to say nothing of a cover by Dan Adkins. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

Robert E. Briney
Apt. 4-B, 165 East 49th St.
New York 17, New York

Stan Woolston
12832 Westlake St.
Garden Grove, Calif.

Lee Anne Tremper
3858 Forest Grove Drive
Apt. 3, Indianapolis 5, Indiana

Ted Serrill
9818 Kensington Pkwy
Kensington, Maryland

Otto Pfeifer
4736 40th NE
Seattle 5, Wash.

Don Thompson
R F D #1
Grand Valley, Pennsylvania

INFINITY SCIENCE FICTION, reports Leslie Gerber, will go monthly with the October issue. "Shaw says that it's because people get more used to buying a monthly magazine and they buy it more regularly."

DON FORD writes, "Ted Carnell writes me that he is sending a convention film of his (London-Con) to the Midwestcon. Alfred Prime (of the old Prime Press) is over in England & has looked up Ted & other fans. Due to return May 30th, Ted wrote. # The Midwestcon expects to have a number of Dollens originals for sale at \$10.00 each. # Bob Madle was in Cincinnati the weekend of the 17th & 18th. He is going to move to Indianapolis & expects to make the move the last weekend in June. Thus, he will stop at the Midwestcon on the way & if all works well will have a con and expenses paid."

THE SWINGING BORE #4 came this week from Wm. C. Rickhardt, 21175 Goldsmith, Farmington, Mich. This is another news-and-chatterzine, from which we acknowledge having lifted the changes of addresses for Lee Anne Tremper and Otto Pfeifer above. Bill also includes the news that Dave Rike had a cartoon in The Young Socialist. For the benefit of people who were intrigued by this news, check page 1 of RUF this issue, where you will see the item to which Rickhardt refers.

THE INCOMPLEAT BURBEE is still for sale, yes. 101 pages of Burbee material, including such legendary items as "Al Ashley, Galactic Observer," "The Variable Existence of Hyperfan," "Big Name Fan," "A Coinage for Fandom," "The Rise and Fall of the Fannish Empire," "The Wingless Rooster," and many, many more; almost fifty different articles and stories by one of fandom's top humorists. Eleven pages of Burbee's legendary editorials from SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES, too. Cover by Rotsler, bacover by Dave Rike. Only 75¢ a copy, from Ellick and Carr. What are you waiting for, you mad fools? BUY NOW! HALT THE RECESSION!

BILL ROTSLER says, "I am associate producer on a pilot film about an atom sub (set 'a few years in the future,' but not many) that is 'fighting for peace.' A kid's show but done 'straight.' The pilot may not sell, of course, but all I will have lost is a lot of time & running around. I get to design the sub, uniforms, guns, help write plot, think of gadgets & approaches, characters and such. I will try to name one character Dean Grennell. The producer wants to use me and (he says) my pirate-like beard for one part. I'm associate producer because this gives me much more leeway than just set designer, costs the company nothing, and they get more for their money. The money comes when it is sold...syndicated on tape, not film... and I should make \$125-150 a show...and I hope that means every show because it will be a serial. Also everything I design from subs and uniforms to tiny torpedo guns and underwater diving gear will be aimed at eventual kiddy merchandising. I get roughly 3% of that market, not much but not bad, either. We may never get off the ground (or to the surface) but it's fun. Will be a sexy dame aboard (wow, the casting!) and I want Greta Thyssen, Julie Redding or some junior Ekberg. "Up periscope!" will be the cry upon sighting her." So says Bill Rotsler, capitalistic fan. He adds, "Also started work on bronze 7 x 40, 15 x 32 foot sculpture for Bernard Rosenthal. Abney was on Matinee Theater. Two sculpture commissions are possibles, floating around nebulously. I just finished the June issue--my first--of art direction and layout for Arts & Architecture magazine. Out soon. And my greeting cards are selling modestly." Rotsler is doing clever little greeting-cards, with typical Rotsler-type drawings, for a Hollywood firm. Check your local stationery store. Start a new tradition: short-snorter Rotsler greeting cards.

MAL ASHWORTH writes that he is currently working on the last issue of BEM, "which should be out any month or two. Also, a oneshot which will probably go through FAPA as well as other places. And even another ROT (Mal's OMPazine)."

JIM CAUGHRAN is being followed back to the States by a stream of one-shots done at stopovers with fans on the way from Pakistan to Nebraska. Last week it was a one-shot with Pierre Versins, this week it's COMEDY OF ERRORS, produced with Inchmery Fandom: Vinç and Joy Clarke and Sandy Sanderson. Four pages, one page each by Sandy, Joy, Vinç, and Jim, in that order, recounting the harrowing circumstances preceding Jim's visit. Very pleasant reading.

STAN WOOLSTON says, "The geophysical effect of your Tower to the Moon is growing, I see. Now...what'd happen if you made it in the strongest form, a hollow tube (curved surface is stronger) and welded the edges. Then fill it with a slow-setting plastic, to seal both bases. It would take a strong, super-plastic, but if you could get one I can see that it might freeze the moon permanently in one hemisphere. You'd have to make sure the plastic sets fairly fast or it might wind the moon closer to the earth, though, in enfolding bands of beercans. I suppose you ought to specialize in Bock beer; tho not a drinker I hear it's the strongest. # Maybe I'll be able in a week or so to figure out a way you can use your Tower to transmit a British group of fen to the Gate."

THERE ARE STILL FANZINES FOR SALE from Terry Carr, despite several orders which have already come in. Like, the pile of fmz to be sold is big. Fifteen for \$1.00, grab-bag fashion. Highly recommended.

MISC. #2 (A.J.Reiss, 741 Westminster Road, Brooklyn 30, NY) bounced into our mail box the other day, along with a letter from Reiss in which he says he wants us to review this as a first issue, because it represents a radical change in policy, etc. Inside, it says that Henry Fonda, some sort of celebrity or other, plays some sort of anthropomorphic sublimation instrument, and that Jesse James Leaf, some sort of fan or other, is a thief, and that the fanzine costs nothing right now. What the hell, it's free, and they have a sense of humor.

RUMBLE (John Magnus, 6 S Franklinton Rd, Baltimore 23, Md) presents this week its thirteenth issue, with another half-page of capital letters speaking about fans who have no names but who do such unreasonable things for such unreasonable reasons. Funny that the newly-founded British SFA should have led into this discussion. Rumble is another quasi-piggy-back fanzine published quasi-weekly, and discusses lots of pertinent political questions and Big Topics in fandom. It's free, too.

IGNORE ADS. BELIEVE SHEPHERD. So says Dick Lupoff, currently making the rounds of New York City and looking for a job. He is speaking, it seems, of "Horror of Dracula," which he recommends as "Faithful to spirit of book, close to letter. Special effects restrained, fabulous. One or two bubbles ("Whatever his motives may be, I'm sure he has a good reason") but this is my nominee for best since 'Things to Come'." Unwilling to take one man's opinion, we go farther afield, and we pick up Bob Briney (see change of address section), who says, "Saw the British HORROR OF DRACULA the other night. Almost completely unrelated to the book, but except for that, a damn fine job. Some of the most beautifully grisly effects I've ever seen. In fact, it was so good it points up even more how much better it could have been. If only present-day techniques had been around when Lugosi first made the film in the early 30's.... (And if only someone would film the book as written!)" Seems you fellows didn't read the same book, or didn't see the same movie, or something. Anybody seen NOSFERATU? There's a vampire movie I'd recommend--special effects are bad, plot is absurdly simple, acting is crude--but with no talkie on the film and the continual references to something on the level of The Book of the Dead, special Vampyr Edition, it picks up a quickening page of unconscious humor that left Chuck Lear and me gasping for breath from laughter. Perhaps I was born sacreligious.

BSFA is the by-word in England now. Disgusted with the lack of new blood in fandom, the older fans have undertaken to Do Something About It, and that something is the British Science Fiction Association, "A non-profit org. of those interested in imaginative and speculative literature." Information on this can be had from the Hon. Secretary, Eric Bentcliffe, at 47 Alldis St, Grt Moore, Stockport, Cheshire, England. Bentcliffe, who wrote us a whole page and a half and managed to keep a straight face about it, says that the BSFA "shall encourage the reading, writing and publishing of good literature of this class (stf), shall assist and encourage contact between enthusiasts, shall provide liason between its members and the s-f profession, shall endeavor to present s-f and associated artforms to the press and general public in an advantageous manner, and shall provide such amenities as may prove desirable for the use of members." They have an OO, name of VECTOR, available at one pound sterling the annum, or half that for persons under 18. \$1.50 in the USA. You Britfen who like go-get-'em groups should hop in on this one, even if Bentcliffe is backing somebody besides Ron Bennett for TAFF.

BARBARIAN #1 (Barbara Wendy Lex, North Shimerville Road, Clarence, New York) says inside that it costs 50¢ for three issues, or is free for trade, contribution, or Confederate Money. Has artwork by Plato Jones, Metzger and Bourne, and literary contents by Terwilleger, Horrocks, Dodd, Skeberdis, Bourne and Ellik. Second ish is purported to be coming out right on top of this'n, so write the girl a note to get on her mailing list. Interesting facet about the zine: There's no WSFS info, she plugs nobody for TAFF, and there's no dirty Commie propaganda. A striking resemblance to a fanzine, for a change.

In a previous installment of this fine fannish column, I told you about speakers scheduled for the SOLACON Program. Editors of the various promags, Richard Matheson, Ray Bradbury... One of the aforementioned Editors will be kind of doubling in brass at the SOLACON and I can think of no man more suited for the task. Tony Boucher brings a double-quality of razor sharp wit and constructive seriousness to every convention he attends. He doesn't have to pack these qualities in a special bag to fetch to these gettogethers, either--it's obvious that he carries them with him at all times. Tony, as well as being a top-notch editor, writer, critic, reviewer, etc., is well known and well loved as a Toastmaster. Having him for our Toastmaster is like having still another great featured speaker on the program. He and Bob Bloch are the generally acknowledged top toastmasters of the s-f field and we are proud and happy to have one of the Two Best for our banquet's toastmaster.

Not that Bloch is being left out of the picture. He further endeared himself to our fannish hearts by suggesting an item for the program which, thanks to some guy named Ackerman, became known as the Auction Bloch. Lest the name be misleading, I'd better explain that Bloch isn't the only big name to be auctioned off at the SOLACON Slave Market. Several have volunteered their fair white bodies for your bidding. (The winning bidder gets an uninterrupted hour with his favorite pro...) Sam Moskowitz hopes to make it to the SOLACON and if he does he will gladly run the Auction Bloch. Each of the "slaves" will expound on his or her own virtues before the bidding begins.

Bradbury is not the only self-avowed "ham" on the SOLACON Program. Fritz Leibersays he dearly loves to ham it up and indicates that he will take advantage of the opportunity to do so when he acts as Judge for the Costume competition at the Ball. His fellow-judges are A.E.vanVogt (who looks like a high school teacher or college professor -- a young one, of course, and one who is certainly more interesting!) and Bjo, who isn't a fellow at all, but one of them girl type critturs, hoo boy. She is qualified to be a costume judge, tho, being in charge of the LASFS Fashion Show, another part of the Program. Naturally the fashions designed for this peek at the future's attire will not be competing in the Ball's costume contest.

Getting back to speakers, there will be one or two dealing with the strictly science or technical side, and the people on the panels will be speaking too, needless to say... More on these later. Join the SOLACON now, by simply sending \$1.00, or \$2.00 for full membership and attending privileges, to Rick Sneary, 2962 Santa Ana Street, South Gate, California, and get all the vital info about South Gate in '58!

--ljma

KAREN ANDERSON, 1906 Grove Street, Berkeley, California, is currently preparing a lengthy prose and art memorial to Henry Kuttner, with contributions from his friends and associates. She would like interested persons to write; the final edition will go on sale at the Solacon.

BJO, who is most assuredly not a fellow at all, wishes to thank all the people who offered her help with the LASFS Fashion Show in reply to her request in MIMSY. She is overwhelmed by your generosity, and has at this writing already picked all the help she will need and notified them personally. She wishes to point out that this is an almost-completely LASFS project, and that no one has been appointed as her representative in any other part of the country.

--rde.

Sample copy. Subscriptions are 6/25¢ from Ellik & Carr, or six for two shillings sterling from Archie Mercer, 434/4 Newark Rd, N Hykeham, Lincoln, England.

As things stand, you will not receive FANAC after issue number . A letter of comment or a subscription will keep you on our mailing list after that.

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