

# THE BEACON

DECEMBER  
1962



" L I G H T S   T H E   W A Y ! "

A POEM FOR  
YOUR FAVORITE  
MAN

Blessings on thee, little man,  
Always do the best you can;  
When you marry, be her guy  
Till the very day you die;  
Be her lover, be her slave,  
Listen to her and behave;  
Don't be skinny, don't be fat,  
Work to give her this and that;  
All her quirks must be endured-  
And be sure you're well insured;  
Shave and shower, comb your hair-  
Watch that little bald spot there!  
When in slacks, still look your best  
(Don't blame her if they're not pressed!);  
You may sometimes find that she  
Acts quite contradictory . . .  
For example: if you're fun  
She may wonder what you've done;  
If you fret and leave her be,  
She'll complain, "You don't love me!";  
Toil all night to make more dough -  
Don't be late for dinner though!  
You must know much more than she,  
Yet must never disagree;  
You must let her have her say,  
You must let her have her way.  
But you shouldn't curse your lot  
For there's something you forgot . . .  
If she didn't pick on you,  
She would miss it, you would too;  
Hers would be the dullest day  
If you weren't in her way;  
You're a man - no other sex  
Can make women nervous wrecks.  
So be glad, stick out your chin,  
It's her fault you're masculine;  
What's the good of being you  
Without her to prove it to?  
You can take it, yes you can,  
That's your duty . . . You're a man!

. . . . .

Editor's Note)

You men may let your wife read the above,  
but be sure you know how to cook your  
Christmas dinner, also have a dog house  
available. Emuf said!

. . . . .



WALKING BAREFOOT THRU  
THE MUD WHILE THE GOO  
SQUIRTS BETWEEN YOUR  
TOES! AIN'T IT A GLORIOUS FEELIN'?

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AW NUTS!:

'Tis three weeks before Christmas and all through the house your lazy editor (if you desire to call him that-but read on) isn't even stirring - so why should the kidds' pet mouse? Things look very gloomy at the present. As all of you will recall some three years ago the nationally known blood-and-thunder strike that took place at the concern where I have been employed for ny-om twenty four years. The three year contract signed is now up, and renewal time is here. From the very mouths of the management comes the words that they are not even interested in meeting with the Union committee, don't want any union, would be tickled to death if the boys would walk out, and bla,bla,bla. On the other hand- here is the words they feed the old timers (even tho we have an 'agency' shop - and we belong to the Union...that a walk out or strike would ruin them - they would loose a vast number of their contract orders, and never regain them. It has taken some two to three years to regain many of their contract orders due to the strike three years ago - BUT even though they know all this - to the committee they appear 'stone cold'...which makes one wonder what the county feeds a luckless cuss, if old Saint Nick will accept an IOU (payable when you return to work) and whether the church will give me the heave - ho for not paying the preacher.

Maybe I could get a little enlivement on the above if I would write to Dorothy Dix.

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SESQUICENTENNIAL COMING UP

Swinging into full speed come January 1963, the committees for the Sesquicentennial to be held here in our city this summer and fall are ready to 'get-on-the-ball'. Included in the huge celebration will be a grand parade and a historical pageant, the latter event being presented for a full weeks showing. As is the case of all centennials, the business district will be beautifully decorated, concessions will line every street, business establishments will have on display all sorts of old relics, and last-but not least - a 'beard-growing' contest. IF PLANS DO NOT GO ASTRAY - it may be possible to have on display a science-fiction and fantasy display, and I would very much like to receive help from fans at large throughout fandom. If you have on hand extra copies of science fiction-fantasy books, magazines, art work, etc and could spare the costs of mailing (looks like I'll be stuck for awhile due to the events taking place now at the concern where I work) forces me to request this- sorry. Looks like a good chance to have a day-or-two get-together here during the centennial. The Sesquicentennial comes into being as of June 1963.

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I may have left you up a blind alley in the above paragraph when I said:- "looks like a good chance to have a day-or-two get-together here during the sesquicentennial." Naturally I was referring to science fiction fans living in near by states- Ohio, Illinois, etc. who may desire to attend the sesquicentennial one day and evening. It could be that perhaps a little science fiction shin-dig could be hatched up. I'm not making any for sure promise at this time- but will see which way the wind blows. I can arrange to get the Local 918 Union Hall, with kitchen accommodations even...a small cafe is directly below the hall also a tavern. I have great hopes of securing enuf science fiction and fantasy material, fanzines, prozines, art work etc and etc to put on display through out the week. Naturally I would have to beg you fans to donate the zines, both old and new, also the artwork and other material. As I set here typing I am daydreaming of all these things, but I really think it would be a fine idea. Any approvals or disapprovals??

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SHOULD I TAKE A LITTLE SNUFF AND BLOW THE WHOLE IDEA OUT OF MY HEAD?

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LAFFS LAST LAFFS

Some time ago I merely mentioned the fact that it could be that the big science brains could and no doubt would come up with the idea of using some sort of ray to destroy missiles, planes, etc. that could and will clutter up the air-ways in the very near future. Folks (fans) laughed...but if they glance over the November issue of THIS WEEK they will note that the "brains" have come up with a device which they dubb the "laser". The article mentions that the device will be small enough to be worn as a side-arm, and that the Army is also thinking of laser uses, among them the "death-ray" that has long fascinated science-fiction writers.

As I say- they laffed when I said-

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NO! NO!

In recent issues of TIGHTBEAM some heated words have appeared that could bring on a full size feud. The debate is more or less based on the payments, acknowledgement of same, etc of certain members in the club. In our union activities we would have a "third-man" to step in and settle the matter, very peaceably, without hurting either side. Knowing all three of the fans in question for many, many years-true, fine friends and true, fine science fiction fans. In fairness to the fans involved that this incident be classed as a little 'misunderstanding' and everyone live happily ever after.

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It was approved by the Directorate that \$20 be appropriated for the publication of the winners of the 1961 story contest...in which we say was a very fine and noble decision. BRAVO!...but we may add: just when will this take place- the actual publishing of winners of the 1961 even. You know- winners of the 1962 writers contest have been decided- and with the 1963 event coming up- oh well- that will only make us three years in arrears. Surely some big hearted-science blooded fan can step forward and offer to mimeograph them...a better idea, why not three fans come up front and center with each of you a story contest zine for each year. It's as simple as that. Just look at the ego-boo



you will receive....of course there will be lots of eg(gs) thrown- and not fresh ones at that- also you're bound to receive boo's..but what the heck- you three fans would be doing it for the good of dear old NFFF. BLESS YOU CHILLUNS!

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They yelp and yoller about some of the off-color material that some fans use in their fanzines. TRUE - but they also preach good, clean sportsmanship, and turn around and do a about-face with their studio wrestling presentations. Wrestlers enter the ring loaded with bolders, knucks, canes and what have you - and they use them while the 'third' man stands against the ropes picking his teeth and humming "Will There Be A Tommorrow?"

DIDJA EVER SEE THIS HAPPEN WHILE YOU WATCHED STUDIO WRESTLING ON TV? DIDJA (Ha!)?

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- the above is driving us back to the movie theatres (if there is any left by then) fast. Outside of some westerns, sports such as football, baseball, basketball and some 'long-hair' music we would say that Pearl White was far, far ahead - and to think we stopped going to the movies - and think too - they have the nerve to mention PAY TV! QUICK JACKSON! FETCH ON THE LISTERINE!

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#### HAM RADIO - YOU ALLS

Ham radio operators and stations seem to be the up coming hobby and pastime for science fiction fans as well as numerous other hobby-est. Recently I read an article in a church paper whereas the church folk were attending a convention, and set up a ham radio station and not only contacted numerous stations, but presented complete plays for the many hamsters the world over.

Here, in fandom, more and more fans are getting the ham radio fever, and the old bug is really biting! A drive is now on within the NFFF to organize the ham radio fans, also to publish an official organ. This is a step in the right direction, and how well it fits into our program, especially for those fans who are far apart from other fans, their only contact being by letters and fanzines.

As the church folks did, why not the fans setting up a ham station at the next World convention, and converse with those fans who are hamsters and who are unable to atten the con? A good suggestion comes to mind- if you have a hamster in your neck of the woods, and those fans who are unable to attend the con, but who are so ininterested meet at this given spot. Wouldn'd it be wonderful to get first hand info direct from the World Convention, talk to the big name and little name fans - at least fans could attend via the air waves.

To the fans I would suggest you go all out for ham radio. You fans who live out in isolated places, not being able to meet other fans, and to you folks who have never met honest-to-goodness-fans in person - - wouldn't this be a golden opportunity? Go haming folks- go haming!

At the present, I publish a ham radio paper dubbed WATTS WHAT.

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BE ACTIVE! PUBLISH A FANZINE! DO SOME ART WORK FOR THE MANY FANZINES!  
POEMS, FICTION, HUMOROUS MATERIAL ALWAYS WELCOME BY FANZINE EDITORS!

HATS OFF!

Let's all take time out and sing praises and bow down three times toward Bancroft, Ontario, Canada - and you Mister Arthur Hayes - stand up and take a bow! Monthly you will find several of Art's zines in your mailbox. Included in the group is THRU THE HAZE, serving out all the latest news and info possible. Art presents all this to the membership of NFFF without cost. I for one would like to thank Art, and too, present this for egoboo purposes, which our friend should receive. What about you folks getting off your dead oscars and come out with a few kind words and praises for those who help NFFF? Don't you think fans like Art and others who are active should hear from you? I'm sure they would.

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Just received an invitation to become a member of a nudist camp.....well, if the strike continues as long as the last one, I'll probably be forced to borrow a gunny-sack to drape around me while hitchhiking to the bare skins camp.

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This strike could force me to let my hair and beard grow, in which case I'm sure I could win that cash prize offered by the Sesquicentennial committee. As you all know if you don't grow a beard you end up in the hoose-gow and pay a fine.

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N.F.F.F. & ROUND ROBINS

Some folks seem to think that all that the National Fantasy Fan Federation gives out with is just that of publishing fan-zines. Not so folks - 'taint so! Sure members of N3F are very interested in publishing and many edit, write and pub their own individual zines. Others accept contributions to their zines. Many NFFF members do art work, write poems, stories, essays, fiction - frankly, it's all in the game of "science-fiction" - and we have the folks to do any one or all of the different phases to make up publishing zines. You bet- and we have more than that....N3F is not just publishing by no means. Here is something that is very interesting and there are very few fans in the club that has not or is at the present time participating in ROUND ROBINS. Of the two most active "heads" of Round Robin groups - both SETH JOHNSON and FRED NORWOOD head the list. There are all sorts of RR's making the rounds- science fiction stories, fantasy stories, comic book-written, comic book-drawn, etc and etc- also there are many non-story RR's- literature, sciences, theology, art, etc. IF we don't have it- we'll start it for you. This RR buz is a mighty active phase of fandom and NFFF. Let me give you a little tip:-IF you are not a member of any RR group, and if you are interested (give it a try and find out) to get in one or more groups write to:-

SETH A. JOHNSON  
339 Stiles Street  
Vaux Hall, New Jersey

FREDERICK NORWOOD, Box 46, Bellingrath Hall,  
Southwestern at Memphis-Memphis 12, Tennessee.  
(these two fellers will take care of you)



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Getting back to RR's - wouldn't it be nice, in fact a very clever idea would be for each of the various Round Robin groups to publish a sorta fanzine about every three months (4 issues per year) containing the wares of the members of the group. Especially this would be a fine idea for the comic (drawn) groups, also the story groups. This would give NFFF and fandom a chance to see the material by the various RR folks, and too, liven up these RR fans since more than just a 'mere' group of fans had opportunity to obtain their contributions.

Just another pet idea of mine...but a goodun!! WHAT SAY?

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Understand thru the 'grapevine' that Fred Patten, 5156 Chealey Avenue, Los Angeles 43, California will be the next Official Editor for N'APA. Congrats Fred.

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This ish of THE BEACON which "Lights The Way" will hit the mails about and during the Christmas RUSH, so if it is delayed somehow, just blame it on Santa Clause and the over burdened postmen.

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WE'RE NOT JUST PUBBERS!

NEW TAPE BUREAU APPEARS!

I'm not a tape fan - cause I do not have a tape recording machine, but I think the idea a swell one, and if ever possible, I sure want to get the equipment and get in on the fun.

As I see it, this bureau wants to secure all the tapes they can, and have a sorta 'rental' service to those fans who have recorders. This could even go into the selling of tapes to fans who desire those they do not have. Wouldn't it be grand to have all the tapes of the World Conventions, and the smaller events that take place?

To you fans who have recorders I'd say join up, take a part in this. If you have tapes send them in and have recordings made so as other fans can enjoy them.

NO! - NFFF isn't just in the pubbing biz! We take in every hobby!

FANZINE CLEARING HOUSE

Brother and Sister pubbers- CAN YOU SPARE EXTRA COPIES OF YOUR FANZINE? They are urgently needed by Seth Johnson and the Fanzine Clearing House to mail out to those new fans (and old ones) and those interested in science-fiction-fantasy. Large bundles of fanzines (have yours in the next bundle) who send in one buck to purchase a bundle!

Here is a good way to get your zine 'out in the world', to a live audience interested in science fiction, and interested too in your zine.

Many, many fans (and non fans too) but fans to be IF they learn of your zine and fandom. This is a boon to fanzine editors and publishers, to various fan organizations. LET'S TELL THE WORLD WHAT WE HAVE. You are permitting them to miss a great hobby, you are loosing a contributor, a subscriber, a new member of your fan organization- YOU ARE holding down science fiction fandom!

In a brief period of time, the FCH has had over 150 purchasers of bundles - but they need YOUR zine to help fatten the bundles.

KEEP FANDOM AND FANPUBBING AND THE FANZINE CLEARING HOUSE ALIVE BY CONTRIBUTING FANZINES REGULARLY!

Seth will be pleased - so will NEFF - and so will YOU!

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FROM: Racy Higgs  
813 Eastern Ave.  
Connersville, Ind.



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Postmailed for the Neffer  
Amateur Press Alliance.

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Mailing 15



TED JOHNSTONE  
6295 LORCA DR.  
SAN DIEGO 15, CALIF.