

# LOOKING BACKWARD

-at <sup>SP</sup>FAPA mailing no. 59

LOOKING BACKWARD is edited and issued quarterly for FAPA by the two-headed editor, Peterry Carrahan; the left head (not to be confused with the leftist movement) being Peter Graham, and the right head (or possibly the wrong head) being Terry Carr. Poems of Praise may be sent to 134 Cambridge St., San Francisco, California; time bombs and copies of Analizing to 101 Wagner St., Savannah, Ga. Published "For the love of Ghu, Montessor!" on the Eyestrain Mimeo by the Optometrists And Oculists' Protective Association. # This issue will consist of mailing comments by the right head; next issue & subsequent issues will have the left head's mutterings. This is because the left head is not yet a member of FAPA. Vol. 1 No. 1. FAPA 6 0 mailing.

## LOOKING BACKWARD

Mailing Comments

by Terry Carr, Fapan

### F.A. NEWS MAGAZINE:

All in all one of the best zines in the mailing I think. We Take You Now To Bikini was about the best, the Bobloch's Letter was very humorous. There wasn't a bad thing in the mag, which leaves very little room for comments. Hey Dink, any chance of me getting the first twenty pages of this?

LAIKE

I don't want to make comments on comments, so I won't. Mimeographing far superior to last

letters. As to the spacing on pages 3-4, it don't  
make no difference to me.

NON-WART:

At long last I've run into a fanzine by someone  
I've met personally. No, not Bapp; I mean Steve  
Metchette, who stenciled this thing. He used to  
live here in San Francisco (in 1949) when I attend-  
ed occasional meetings of the CGFS. He no doubt  
has forgotten me (for that matter, all I can remem-  
ber about him is his name). I was just a neophyte  
the time, having been reading stf for less than a  
year. I'll never forget the DuCuFuC. I first ran  
into it with a correspondence with the secretary,  
Rose Davenport. Then I met a young fan named Bill  
Collins who succeeded in dragging me to one of the  
meetings. # Come to think of it, this isn't the  
first zine I've run into by a person I've met.

There was Jim Kepner's WeStar (Kepner also used to be in S. F.--in 1949. He also was a member of the GUGUFUS), and also Bill Knapheide's SEETEE. And, of course, I've held telephone conversations with Lee Riddle (plagued him for about two months, until he finally moved to Hawaii. Sometimes I wonder if there was any connection).

#### MANY SUNSETS:

Tho I usually don't like poetry that doesn't scan, I liked this set. Lee has a flair for good poetry that I like.

#### THE PUNKSUTAWNY, PITTSBURGH and MARE PICAYUNE INTELLIGENCE:

Noted. (Humm, more to the title than the comment.)

#### ILLUSTRATIONS BY VF:

A friend of mine here in S. F. has a couple of

these sets. I must admit they're beautiful.

**CHCOE:**

That letter you received from the youngfan has set me to speculating. One youngfan I ran into that that science fiction magazines were fanzines, spelled my name Terry, and did a lot of other things that immediately branded him neofan. When I met him, however, I found him to be a very bright guy. Which just goes to prove that even the brightest of us can be confused by sf-fan.

**FANTASY JACKASS:**

I wish my stuff that I wrote nine years ago read as good now as Tucker's does. Main trouble is that I was only six at the time (and now the truth about my age is out to all fan who can add six and nine--yes, I'm only twelve--?).

HEMIZON3:

O Pioneers was the best thing in the issue, tho It was all good. Reading of the Old Ones of fanzine has always interested me.

LIGHT:

Noted.

VIEWPOINTS:

Another excellent zine. I notice the cover is done in four colors. Sob. VULCAN only had three. # Weren't most of the quotes in A Place Of Words from the 58th FAPA mailing? I seemed to have recognized them, and FAPA 58 was my first mailing.

IRUSABEN:

I presume you wrote the piece on page 5, Sob. I liked it. Same for After 1939--This! I guess fanzine reprints will always interest me; my collection is so pitifully inadequate (for that mat-

ter, who can afford to have one that is?).

PAU:

I had read Hunter And The Jewels Of Cear in its original appearance (which seems to contradict the comment I made above, except that it appeared in either 1950 or '51, so it was no great feat to get it--especially since it appeared in such a well-known miz as PEON). I enjoyed rereading it, tho. The rest of the issue was pleasant reading. Nice.

FANSPEAK:

This, to my way of thinking, is the best item in the bundle. I don't know how much work Ice and Redd did aside from stenciling and mimecing, but I seem to detect a Hoffmanish flavor to the thing, such as in the definition of "eyetracks". Even after practically four years of fanning (however slight) I find many of these words and terms to be



entirely new to me. Believe it or not, I didn't know what a box was until about four months ago, when it was finally explained to me. Like I said before, even the brightest of us can be bewildered by stfidom--and fandom in particular.

#### TANGENT:

As far as I can remember, this is the only item in the bundle with a contents page (aside from my own VULCAN). I wonder why? Contents pages make a zine seem a lot neater; you don't have to go chasing halfway to Sirius looking for items. # Emma, Burbee. Wittifull, wittifal. I notice another fan I've run into in The Normal Manner, that being Jim Kepner. Those cracks about Jim's being a Communist remind me of something it seems to me that one of the main reasons the CGFS of San Francisco was disbanded was because of political issues.

There was Kepner, of course, and Bill Knapheile was (and still is) a Socialist. (All during the mimecing of the first issue of VULCAN Graham and I had to listen to Russian music. We got used to it after awhile. I had the Russian national anthem running through my head for two days, tho.)

#### WASSAW & OSSABAW BACKWATER JOURNAL

Well, well, once again we have WOB&J. This "unintentional fanzine" seems to keep right on schedule (which is a mite contradictory, since it prints off-schedule stuff).

#### AL LA EABOCM:

An excellent cover on this one, also excellent inside art. Max, is that couple on page five supposed to be Mussolini (is that how you spell it? I'm speaking of Italy's erstwhile leader) and his wife? The man sure resembles all photos I've seen

of him. (Come to think of it, did Moussetini have  
a wife? Mistress, maybe?)

ELFIN:

Not much of interest here. I'm not interested  
in The Popular Magazine, and the two reprints did  
not interest me, either. Bergeron's cover is very  
good; an eye-crosser, that. Just try and follow  
those lines around the thing's head. Don't if you  
have weak eyes, tho.

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A horrible thought just struck me. In the in-  
troduction to FANSPEAK Hoffman & Boggs mention one  
C. Stewart Metchette. Are there two Metchettes in  
fandom? Did I get them mixed up? C. Stewart Met-  
chette seems to be the one who used to live here in  
S. F., but it might have been Steve.

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SIGNIFICANT THING:

Low The Poor Indian was a touch of genius. I presume there will be more of the same type in future issues---? Who did this, anyhow--Donaldson, Bullard, Day, or G. M. Carr (for those who are interested, as far as I know we're not related)? Or did the whole editorial staff get together and work it out?

VULGAN:

Hum, my fanzine. - Lousy mimeographing.

OBSCURE:

That look at your room several years hence was interesting, Rich. I was thinking of doing one of my room for LB, but decided not to. Anyone interested?

SHADOWLAND:

Nothing much to comment on here...there was

more to the postmailed issue, but that's all ancient history now. # One thing this zine reminds me of is postmailings. Checking the FANTASY AFFAIR, I find that out of seven postmailed items I received four. I wonder if this was because I got into WAPA a little after the 58th mailing.

#### UNASKED OPINION:

Noted.

#### DUCKSPEAK:

About this "what poems do you know by heart?" question...I'm afraid I must admit that, tho I'm still in school, I don't know any except some that I wrote myself (I only know those because I've typed them so often). I remember that when I was in junior high I had to memorize "In Flander's Fields", which I did very easily, and forgot a few weeks later. One of Poe's things I memorized, too,

called "Valley Of The Shadow", I think. At least that phrase cropped up in almost every stanza. No, come to think of it, I think the title was "Eldorado". I have a faculty for memorizing things that is invaluable in school...I can memorize one in about a half-hour, but I'll forget most of it in a week. Easy-come, easy-go type of thing, you understand. The only piece I can even partially quote is Poe's "The Raven", of which I know about the first two stanzas. I might know the rest, except that I've never had the chance to read it. I'd like to, though...what I've seen of it (the first two or three stanzas) is wonderful. # What's that empty space below Autographs for on page 4? Planning to take this issue to a convention maybe? # About Stymie...I must admit that that was exactly my mood when I finished it. Very clever.

## MACABRE INDEX:

Hmmm, are we going to have an index every mailing? I'd like that. This index won't help me much I'm afraid, unless I start collecting that sort of thing, which I don't do now. I'd rather get a complete collection of Startling or Fantastic Novels.

## NAMELESS ESSENTIALS.

Another index, eh? This would be a very, very welcome addition to my collection but for one thing: the data is over a year old. Why did you distribute this thru WPA at this late date, Wm? You didn't need the credit (there were 30 pages in MACABRE INDEX, y'know). I'd like to see NAMELESS-ESSENTIALS again, with up-to-date info.

## SKY HOOK:

You have two of the four best wits in fandom

In this issue, Redd: WAW and Burdette. Only trouble is that neither article is very funny. # Dougherty's cover was excellent, and in two colors, yet. This boy is one of fandom's better artists, near as I can tell from what I've seen of his work (which includes the two items in this SKIK, some covers on PBCN, and other stuff that I've forgotten). # About the question of buying science fiction books exclusively or mags exclusively...I was long ago faced with that problem, Redd. I chose mags. For one thing, you can keep up with the sci-fic field that way, and not have to wait six months for reprints. Then too, at the time I made my decision (1948) there were far fewer magazines on the stands than there are today. Of course, I buy occasional books too; I'm going to get Weinbaum's "The Red Peri" when it comes out, for one. How-



ever, my mag collection, such as it is, far outshines my book collection.

#### THE FANTASY AMATEUR:

Hmmm, I'm listed as owing eight pages yet. Can this listing be up to date? I had at least three or four pages in VULCAN. I'm inclined to believe it isn't up to date, for I know that Peter Archon is sixth on the waiting list (or so said Riddle), and he's not even listed here. # I presume that

the constitution was mimeo'd up with a few hundred copies all at once, instead of restenciling it every three months. I notice there're no page nos. on those pages, while there are on the others.

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Well, the the mailing comments are thru, & I've found that it does take skill to write good comments. Well, maybe I'll improve with practice--C. C.

# LOOKING BACKWARD



TC.