

BLEEN-5

For the 71st FAPA Mailing
Spring, 1955
Dean A. Grennell,
402 Maple Avenue,
Fond du Lac, Wis.

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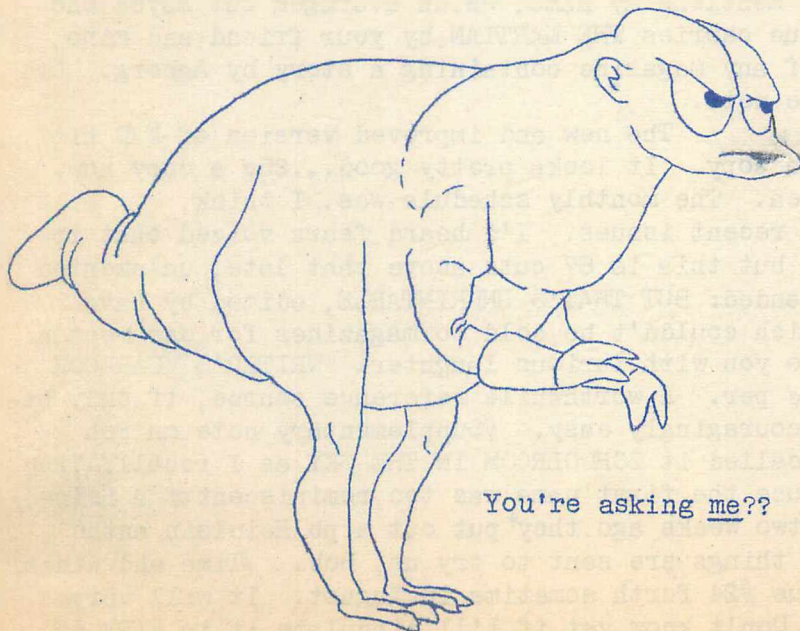
Powell, Francis Wilson

Probability 2.00

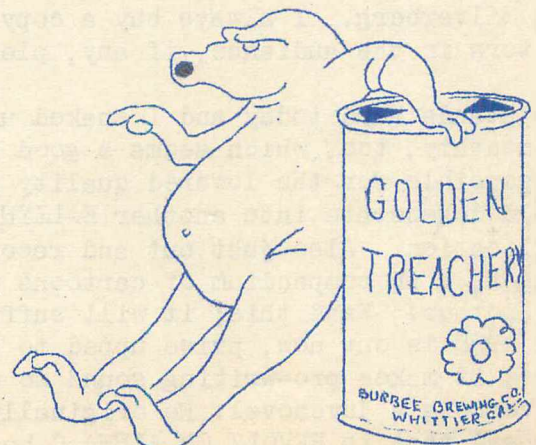
That's a lot of hot air... 3.5...

*451 Page 44
128*

"And what does Eney mean my women are not True To Fact? What he mean, what he mean?? They are The Essence of Finite Reality, Distillation of Damnable Desire, Reality ne plus ultra in two-D"



You're asking me??



Rotsler

MISCELLANIA or *****-Final for Bleen #5

(5 May 1955) Gotta get this thing put to bed and off to Whittier, having left this page till the last. Hasty, dehydrated comments on various things... Still horribly busy at this end, haven't had much chance for shooting, golfing, photo-work or any other non-essentials for some time. The current painting ("Newt Defending a Bear-Cage") is precisely where it was the last time I got a shot at it, New Year's Eve. But we're muddling through somehow. #Today's haul of mail was one of those rare & choice assortments. No crudzines, no bills, no ads, just a pactsarced from Bloch, an airletter from Chuck, a 5-page account of Evelyn Gold's trip to Mexico ("This is the only way I can tell you guys about it without being interrupted every sentence.") and a big WO3W not-letter from Boggs. All in all, as I say, a choice haul. Bloch says that the new trend started by SPACEWAY (Criswell and Mae West on cover--they deny the rumor that they contemplate a change of title to WIID (Mae) WEST WEEKLY) will be carried through by ORBIT's having Elsa Maxwell and Liberace on their cover; ASF with Joe McCarrthy and G M Carr...on Mars and Uranus respectively.

#Redd's letter says: "Isabel Burbee wrote me last week to say that Burb was very seriously ill -- one lung had collapsed and there was danger the other might too. But a letter received today from Leej (Jacobs) says that Burb left the hospital Sunday, and will be okay. I was worried about that boy." Hope this finds everyone at 7628 S. Pioneer Blvd. in good shape and getting better. Take good care of Our OE, Isabel, ma'am!!

Harris forgive me, I may be stealing the chief gem from a forthcoming con-report but I can't resist quoting one bit from Chuck's letter. They'd just gotten on the train after leaving the con at Kettering, and: "When we got on the carriage, a chap opposite was reading a tiny Bible. Madeleine noticed it and whispered to Walt: 'I think that hard-covered book he's reading is the Bible.' 'What!' said Himself, 'You're not telling me God is in hard covers?' Just professional jealousy, of course." Cheer up, Chuck—at least I didn't swipe that magnificent salaam gag of yours!

Our esteemed co-fapan, Harry Warner, Jr., is shameless. Forry Ackerman sends me the new SPACEWAY containing Harry's latest novelet (all kidding aside, it's a good 'un, too!) and I note this bit on the fifth line with a muffled snort: "...it caught the light filtered through the horizon's thin clouds." Couldn't wait to work that in, could you? #I had to break down and buy a copy of IMAGINATION again. I only buy this as a rule when Mari Wolf mentions my name, which averages out maybe one copy a year but the current (June) issue carries THE MARTIAN by your friend and mine, Bob Silverberg. I always buy a copy of any magazine containing a story by Agberg. Pro editors in the audience, if any, please note.

The new and improved version of MAD hit the stands here today and I snaked up a copy. It looks pretty good...25¢ a copy now. Bi-monthly, too, which seems a good idea. The monthly schedule was, I think, responsible for the lowered quality in recent issues. I'd heard fears voiced that it would degenerate into another BALLYHOO but this is 87 cuts above that late, unlamented publication. Also just out and recommended: BUT THAT'S UNPRINTABLE, edited by Dave Breger, a pb compendium of cartoons which couldn't be sold to magazines for one reason or another. Read this; it will suffuse you with furious laughter. WRITER'S YEARBOOK for 1955 is out now, price upped to 60¢ per. A worthwhile reference source, if only because it makes pro-writing sound so encouragingly easy. #Supplementary note on Bob Silverberg's juvenovel: He originally called it SCHOOLROOM IN THE SKY as I recall. They changed that to REVOLT ON ALPHA C because the first name was too reminiscent of a Heinlein title. So wha'happen? So about two weeks ago they* put out a pb Heinlein antho under the title REVOLT IN 2100. These things are sent to try us, Bob. #Time and other factors permitting, I hope to bring Grue #24 forth sometime in August. It will very probably be slimmed down to 20 pages. Don't know yet if I'll circulate it in FAPA or not. Time will tell. See you in August. #The Titanic is Unsinkable!

* Signet

Caveat lector, DAG

Comments on Mailing #70:

There's a thick stack here to review, what with premailings, postmailings, and all. Time grows short as things get under way (the date, for the benefit of archeologists in the year 2375, is 22 April 1955) so I may have to skip a few items. Failure to mention your publication by no means implies that I didn't like it...only that I had nothing to say about it of any great importance. Sharp-eyed readers may point out that this could be said of some of the magazines reviewed here. But that's the way it goes, no? You may interpret silence as approbation.

THE FANTASY AMATEUR (OO)

Saw Bloch last Monday and he mentioned that he'd got the nod from Martinez to join up. This indicates that a healthy bite has been taken from that bulging waiting-list. Deducing from the XF-whammy signs after the names of members, it looks like farewell to these: Bergeron, Calkins, Drummond, Joseph Miller, Rapp, Slater, Splawn, Stewart, plus at least one other who can't be spotted from here. So it's hail and farewell to the departing ones and cordial greetings to the new faces: Schaffer, Corey, Anderson, Raeburn, Kidder, White, Ashworth, Young, Dunn and--of course--my distinguished colleague from Weyauwega, Mr. Bloch. Wisconsin FAPAns now constitute a 2/65ths minority in fapdom. Cheers.

As for the poll results: I'm a little puzzled by the fact that my own card, which I carefully filled out and mailed to Chas. Wells, didn't seem to arrive in Savannah. This is deducible by the fact that there weren't any votes for Rapp as best post and there would have been if my card had arrived. Outside of that, my card wouldn't have materially altered the way things shaped up except that it would have boosted Bill Danner a few steps up the ladder in some categories and it would have helped Economou, Willis, Harris and some others. Permit me to quietly disagree with the membership's slighting of Danner...if I were Bill, I think I'd feel more than a little rankled at such scant reward for all the work that he's obviously put into STEFANTASY, LARK and the miscellaneous other things he puts out. What is it with this hoodoo that plagues the printed fanzine? Why do people comment on the reproduction of a mimeoed mag like Grue, even when often as not it's blurry and shows offset, yet rarely ever say a word about the impeccable printing boasted by STEFANTASY and SIAMESE STANDPIPE? How come?

/who gave/

My grateful thanks, though, to the people! #2 spot to the Grue-Bleen-DAG combo. I have a feeling that will be something of a highwater-mark for the three of us.

THROUGH DARKEST IRELAND (Harris)

Certainly, for my dough, one of the best items ever to turn up in FAPA---and if it isn't the best, then I'm at a loss to name the magazine that tops it. As I said before, it was like taking a trip to Belfast without the attendant inconveniences of seasickness, customs, and the stomach-wrenching horror of riding in cars driven on the wrong side of the road. This is Top-Drawer Harristuff. I can't pay a higher compliment. Perfectly duplicated (the Mafia Press Gestetner turned quite green and mutters to itself nowadays), delightfully illustrated---I can testify that Thomson's portraits are fiendishly lifelike!---and superbly written.

ENCORE!!!!!!

PHLOTSAM (Economou)

Oh shucks, ma'am, it wasn't any trouble at all. You see, I knew that if we lost you for FAPA, we'd never see any of these sparkly little things in the mailing and that was a contretemps to 'orrible to contemplate. Somebody drew a red-pencilled circle around the phrase "is being offset professionally"---wuzzat you? #Your mention of the "Veni, vidi, potato soup" lino is pleasant but faintly humiliating.

PHLOTSAM (continued)

You see, I have the belief that if one is going to toss around words like "vichyssoise," one should spell them correctly. And, having dreamed up that interlineation in a moment of madness, the problem arose of how in blazes do you spell it. The language seems to fairly bristle with words that aren't to be found in the dictionary. I checked Webster, my 50¢ pb French-English dictionary, and any number of Jean's cookbooks...no luck at all. So I crowsed my fingers and tried my luck with vichyssoise, which looked like the way it should be spelled. I should have known better...French words are never spelled the way they should be spelled (I recently came to grief on souvenir too, having spelled it for years with a wholly superfluous e). So, about 6 weeks later, I ran across the word in the SatEvePost, dashed down to check it with the file copy of Bleem and swore a great round Air-Force oath when I saw that I'd missed the mark with the double s. I haven't felt so oafish since the time I confused opprobrium with approbation for a brief space of time...you can imagine the results of such a mixup. I prefer not to remember. #Your expressed disdain for The Common Man puts me in mind of Philip Wylie's observation which ran something like, "God must have hated the common man for he made him so unspeakably common." That's from "Generation of Vipers," but I haven't a copy handy to quote from. #We'll be looking forward to much more of the same, Phyl!

SKYHOOK (Boggs)

Alas...I've yet to read my first Oz book and I suspect I may have waited too long to commence. The accepted children's books which I didn't read as a child would fill a large book case, more's the pity. #You had good results from your Steno-faxed stuff, though I'd have been interested to see how a photo turned out on your machine. #If you get "ten times as much fun" from reading SKYHOOK as I do, I don't see how you stand it, really I don't. #Didn't read "The Pastures of Heaven" and, after your review, I somehow doubt if I will. #I am holding one short-snorter-quote-card here but it's not an official wo3w card but, rather, one of Eney's. It bears such diverse signatures as:Eney, Boggs, knight, Silverberg, Bloch, Eneyer, Willis, Harris, and Tucker. It is also "signed" by Claude Degler but the handwriting looks suspiciously like Bloch's. I have it in a frame with numerous other items of fannish significance. #Lowndes' article took its point quite well, I thought. #Farmer's article and the rebuttal---no, that's not the word, is it?---commentary by Tim Howler (who he?) are beyond my judgment since Dostoyevsky shares with Baum the dubious distinction of being an author whose works I have yet to read.

#Liked Our Bill's cover even better---VFB! #Atheling: "The Darfstellar" was one of those dreary pots of glop which I read through hopefully in a moment of boredom, hoping it would get interesting, and came to the end before it did. It's always a bit of a surprise to find WA Jr's opinion gentler than my own. But then I'll have to confess that any story illustrated by van Dongen has two strikes against it before I start. I know you disagree but I consider his black-and-white stuff the worst that ASF has used since Kramer of the foul-tasting memory. Those petulant stares, those spidery wrists... Question: When is Atheling going to discuss one of those John the Ballard (sic) Singer epics? Or have I missed this tid-bit somehow? #I wondered about those Rotsler signatures but Bill never said a word. #If you think a bomber's landing, viewed from the outside, is fun to watch, you should have observed a B-17's takeoff through the plexiglas window in the nose. I used to go down there on takeoff (in stark defiance of Air Force regs) and press my nose to the cool plastic, imagining away the tons of mechanism behind me. It wasn't much of a trick to be a bird, soaring gull-like up, up and outward. The sensation is indescribable and it would be worth the trouble to buy a surplus B-17 just to experience it once. I never tried it on landings...my schnozz is beat-up enough as it is. #Alas for Sam M. and I---DICTAPHAN has been temporarily discontinued due to the decrepitude of the Dictaphone at this end. Since the machine does not belong to me, there isn't much I can do unless I feel like investing \$6-700 in one of my own, which I don't as yet. #Loved the lino at the bottom of page 28---and I can attest that it takes a heap o' beer to float a Silverberg! Yesindeedsir.

MASQUE (Rotsler)

Pardon me just a second, Bill. I stuck this stencil in the typer last night just before I went to bed. This morning I stopped downtown at Wegner's and they had a nice-looking Underwood office*there...elite and apparently in good shape. I casually asked them how much they have to have for it and they said \$35. Now I paid \$50 for this cripple of an L C Smif which, at the moment, won't even write on paper as it doesn't drag its ribbon through at a steady pace. I am fairly sure that I can swap this for the Underwood and, if so, this will--in all likelihood--be the last fan-talking this machine ever does. I sort of pity it...back to invoices, claims, business letters...if typers have feelings (and can you prove they don't?) the poor thing may mourn this happy interlude and faunch to write just one more interlineation. Life is crool...

*office-model typer, that is

"He's one of Nature's Commoners."

Good-bye to Elsie with her jagged margin, her carefree tabulator, her cockeyed "q" and everything. The next voice you hear will be an Underwood, as approved by the Boggs Institute of Fansmanship. Transition accomplished. What do you think, Bill? Of course, I won't be able to tell much about it till I get this stencil run off but I think the letters look just a little bit nicer...sort of cleaner and more airy-like. Hmm--it can make typos though...well, I suppose that would be too much to hope for! No more can Danner take me task because my elite q's don't line up. Witness: quaint quips quail quizzical quaffers. Hokay, Danner?

Back to MASQUE, that Good Fanzine. You certainly chose the right mailing to put this out, Bill. It fair dominated the mailing, it did. Liked the cover---you should do more of those silk-screen things as on this and one of the first KMs. #What is a "kackneyed kingdom of reality"? And why don't you number your pages...or MASQUE's?? #There are some pictures of Harry Warner Jr in either Le Zombie or The Immortal Storm--maybe both. But I haven't seen any of recent vintage so any description I could give would be less than valid. But I'll echo your wish: I, too, would like to see a recent picture of Harry Warner Junior. #I would never have guessed that Port Hueneme is pronounced "Why-knee-me!" #It is nice to know that, in the highly unlikely (dammit) event that the Grennells ever get to Camarillo, they can drop in at Rancho Santa Rosa. I presume this is non-transferable? #I suppose a "Cultivated palette" is something possessed by people with artistic tastes? But, speaking of champagne, the only time we--Jean and I--ever drank any of the stuff was once when we had a glass apiece out of curiosity. To me it tasted precisely like sauterne, only carbonated. So, some time later, I latched onto a seltzer siphon and Kincannon and I bought a couple fifths of sauterne (089¢ each) and tried it. The first fifth lacked something...we decided it needed to be chilled and carbonated more heavily so we hastily chugalugged the first fifth of warm, carbonated sauterne. Then we iced the second bottle and charged it twice. That was definitely better. In fact, with no champagne to compare it with, sip for sip, it tasted precisely as I'd remembered the expensive stuff. So we happily downed that with much song and wassail. Trouble was, this was a Friday night and it squeezed all the joy out of Saturday morning. Like champagne, it had the unpleasant property of striking back at you when you drank water. Kincannon, who had a full slate of patients that day, later termed it one of the toughest days of his life. Said every time he hung his head down into a patient's maw he wanted to fwow up. But he didn't. #Liked the rogue's gallery and we spent many a happy hour in trying to puzzle out the scrambled names. Of course, I've long known what "Llennerg" spells backwards and I suspected that you'd thrown in some meaningless bits so didn't grind my gears worrying about it. Not so, Jean, who tried to make something of all of them. You hit your best likeness with the one of Boggs, methinks. Also loved poring over the stamp album--has Laney seen this? #Les Petit Fauves is the little wild beasts, aprossimately, non? #Of the page of quotes 'n stuff, my favorite was "I never eat on an empty stomach." Wish I'd written that! #Flattered to hear that Abney thinks I look interesting. The feeling is mutual! #Your ole fanzine is just chockful of limbrous brancitudes and I manolate every scrap of calucity, every morsel of orilignous penebrixity---yowzah. Rowrbazzle.

LARK 23 (Danner)

I'm glad to see you abandon the $\frac{1}{2}$ size for LARK. This format gives us more of time and space to listen to Danner in...more time for you, that is. #Yes, I'm aware that there was considerable offsetting in both Grue and Bleen. I balked at slip-sheeting them. I sternly reminded the Gestetner that Norman Browne said that it wasn't supposed to offset but it just chuckled throatily to itself and went on offsetting. I think it has delusions of being a Multilith. But now I've adopted the Janke Process for avoiding offset. This consists of grabbing each sheet as it comes from the machine and laying them alternately on each of about six different stacks. The extra time allows the surplus ink to dry a little, soak a little and avoid 87% of the offset. Patent applied for. #More on melting-points: Rubidium melts at 100°F and Caesium at 79°F. The other low-pointers wouldn't be suitable for cores--Potassium, Phosphorus and Sodium, for example. #For the record, the Olds--with overdrive--went a little over 78,000 miles before it needed new brake linings. Of course, that wasn't all city driving. #Give thanks that you're out of range of WGN's Saxie Dowell...a disc-jackass with perhaps the most atrocious southern accent I've ever heard. He makes Phil Harris sound like Anthony Eden. #I hope you appreciate the fact that I swapped typers just to get one with a conformist lowercase "q". Watch: racquet See?

TARGET: FAPA! (Eney)

You misunderstood me, sir. I don't shoot movies at 1/10th second, I shoot movies at...o hell, let's try again. I did not endeavor to convey the impression that I made cinematographic replicas of theater-projected cinemas at 1/10th sec. No, rather, I takes muh li'l ole Bolkey 35mm still camera and expose single frames, one at a time, of scenes I fancy on the screen. For this purpose, I shot approx 1/10th @ f3.5, hand-held and got fair results. Clear? I haven't gotten so balled up in my grammar since that time (remember, Redd & Bob?) in the wo3w when I became ensnarled on "model kit for making a model of a Military Model Mauser." Brrk. #Admire the neolex, "slinch"--vey-vey good. #Ed Cox has/had a typer that wrote script. I don't recall one that wrote italics. I know a party who has a new Olympia in elite italics but I'm not able to get at it. Did you know the difference between italics and regular letters? No, it's not the slant of the things. Italics can be straight up and down while the slanting letters that pass for italics in GALAXY are not true italics at all. The main difference is in the lowercase "a". Check this next time you see some printer's italics. #Not was 'the original Arion's treatment'????

HORIZONS (Paramount)

Television (ptui!) has certainly knocked the bottom out of the market for big, elaborate console-type radios hereabouts. One of my dealers in Watertown recently bought an enormous Philco for his shop that must have cost a young fortune--if not a middle-aged one--back about 1938. Among other things, it has a remote control; a little box perhaps 8"x8"x6" high with a telephone-type dial on it with which you can turn the radio on or off, the volume up or down and the tuning to any of about a dozen stations from anywhere within about 75 feet of the set...all of this being done without wires or anything. Big consoles go begging at 10 or 15 dollars but he's paying \$50 for that one. #Last time I saw Bloch he'd just completed negotiations for the rights to Yours Truly, Jack the Ripper, to be translated into some obscure dialect spoken by the aborigines in Brazil's Matto Grosso region. He was wondering what to do with the payment he'd received: seven earthenware pots of curare and an ashtray made from a shrunken head, painted with luminous paint to make it glow in the dark. #I've seen some of Marconette's stuff--in the bound LeZombies, I think--but prefer the results that damon knight used to get with hekto. #Somebody gave one of our children a robot guitar for Xmas (whee, Danner) which will play "Oh, Susannah" at the turn of a crank. I promptly played it backwards and can definitely say that I think it sounds better that way. Daughter Pat had a lesson for piano which was a palindrome of sorts...you turned it upside down and played a different tune from it that way. Well, not a palindrome, but--

SPACESHIP (Silverberg)

I read Larry's article through from end to end and enjoyed it very much. It's a very scholarly, very nice item and I, for one, appreciate the amount of research and thought that must have went into it...to say nothing of the work of dummyming, stencilling, and producing it. As I well know, even the best material gets pretty stale by the time you drop the completed issues into the mail...reading it over as you copy, run and collate. #This morning, at your suggestion, I tried playing a Vaughn Monroe record--45rpm--at first 33 1/3 and then 78. Conclusion: Vaughn stinks at all speeds! #Despite going about with my eyes ever raking the skies, I've yet to see a flying saucer. However, I bump into some interesting people that way, kick do_gs, fall down open manholes and occasionally step in chewing-gum. Thank Foo the horse has finally vanished from the streets of America! #Well, I'll quote from the ever-handly Webster's Collegiate: "cf., Calf (binding); confer (L., compare). Do you suppo_se the "L." stands for Lithuanian? #Do you suppose you will ever get those last four ASF's??

LAGGARD #2 (Wrai the Ballard-Singer)

Easily the funniest thing in this slice of FAPA was found in your review of HORIZONS. For the benefit of our 10 new Faps, I take pride in quoting your own words back at you:

You give good reasons for making Speer a member of FAPA forever, not that I needed them. But that just takes care of his lifetime. What about afterwards? If this comes to pass, don't you think in appreciation Speer should direct that after death his body be turned over to a taxidermist, be stuffed and presented to FAPA as a trophy? Could you think of a better token to give the winner of each years FAPA poll? At least his skin should be used to bind a complete collection of the fan writings of Jack Speer. Jack I suggest you get the title tatooed on now.

#Well, if I still have a bit of time and space left when I've finished the mailing, I will try to womp up another gun-bug's corner for you and Rotsler. We'll fix them hi-fi addicts!

BIRDSMITH (McCain)

Alas, when you protested about my disclaimer of belligerence toward Degler in a previous Grue, I'd already irrevocably stencilled and printed the note prefacing the Speer piece in the current issue. You certainly have a point there, Vernon, old compeer. But my theory was that, since Claude is no longer with us--actively, that is--I wanted to make it clear that references to him were in the nature of historical notes, not hysterical attacks. In other words, I wasn't sure if there might have been a pocket of pro-Degler sentiment lurking so_mewhere among the readership and I didn't want them to write in saying that he was retired from the fray so for cripe's sake, let the poor guy alone. Follow me? #Can I bag an appointment as applicator or something in this Society for the Preservation of Robert Bloch? If so, ship me three cases of scotch (pref. Black & White) for a starter. #1044 was a long time ago too. #Wouldn't you rather have Alexis? #Charles Beaumont, of whom much is heard in sf circles lately, is another laborer in the celluloid sweatshop. His comments on Disney's Rodent and others are truly inspiring. #No, but someone recently called Grue "the LIFE magazine of SF." #All this talk of friction-type belt-buckles (are you still with us, BILL DANNER?), reminds me of another nearly-vanished and scarcely-missed aspect of male attire: the button closure or fly for trousers. These are seldom found today outside of military issue uniforms and expensive custom-made slacks. But when I was a mere tad starting high school (Campbellsport, Wis., 19-ought-36) zipper flies were quite new and seldom found on the J. C. Penney specials I perforce wore. It was the fiendish practice in those days to sneak up on some guy standing peacefully in the corridor--if he was talking to members of the opposite sex, that was all the better--and, with a deft swipe, rip all his trouser buttons open. The poor chap would almost melt with embarrassment as turned to the wall, curling inward like a fried moth, and re-buttoned himself. Since I was more often the victim than the perpetrator, I detested this practice and I shall always recall that sublime day when I got my first pair of pants with a zipper fly.

NEO-FAN'S GUIDE (Tucker)

It was not until 18 April 1955 that I finally got around to sending out the rest of the issues of this. Tucker, with the patience of a saint, said never a word, bless his kindly heart. Well...better Lait than Mortimer...

FANZINES ARE NO D--N GOOD..... (Clyde)

William, you ole fake-fan, you, I am proud of you! I like this much better than these little collections of bathroom doggerel, most of which I've heard anyway. However, I'd have to go a long ways to find a more inscru-table review than that one for STEFANTASY (Hell, Danner, you might just as well stay with us till the end now) which is the sort of thing that glazes the eyes of new members. #What I meant was, you can't tell much about a guy by reading fiction that he's written. There's little in Jack the Ripper, for example, to prepare you for Robert Bloch. And--to me at least--one of the pleasantest things about FAPA is getting to know the other members. #That Steig man made a fine cover. Do this again, eh?

SEGMENT (Burbee, Miller, Jacobs, Rotsler)

The thing I liked best was Rotsler's fullpage cartoon on the backpage (wonder why). As for the rest, the only thing worse than miserable material, impeccably mimeoed, is fascinating material mimeoed in such a manner as to be almost completely indecipherable in spots. That Golden Treachery must be potent.

SCHIZO (Geis)

Yeah. Blitz is one of our lesser-known Milwaukee brands (NOT Milwaukie, Oregon!!!) and then there's Schlitz. May one dare to hope, REG-bwañ, that now that PSY has gone all serious and constructive, we still may see your incomparable effervescing in this publication? With Kellogg coming into FAPA too, it presages brightly for stuff to come. #My two current un-favorite tunes are Tweedlee-Dee and Sincerely. I grotch. #Lean a little closer, Rich and I tal you wan secret. All the FAPAns got copy #6 of Le Zombie. When I told Chuck Harris about this, he read the letter while finishing eating and this amused him so he sprayed his sister with half-chewed baked apple. Thought you'd like to know. Chuck was an exception, by the by--he got #225.

MAMBO (Martinez)

This's certainly one of the snazziest things in FAPA...everything about the repro was perfect and the material was dogged good too. #But, as I told you, Sam'l, our Dictaphone is hors de caput at the moment. Mayhap they'll get it fixed this summer. You recall how it used to wowdle up and down while I talked? Maahn, you should hear it now! #This was muchly enjoyed, Sam.

DREAM QUEST (Wilson)

I figure there must be around 150,000,000 people in the USA alone who would care but little for Grue. The fact that you're included doesn't particularly surprise me, nor does it make me feel badly. It's apparent from a scanning of DQ that our interests are somewhat diverse and I'm surprised only to hear that there are as much as 6 or 8 pages to the issue that mean something to you. Sorry I can't honestly say the same for DQ but Isabel Burbee's article was about all I read (and liked) this issue. Pablo Picasso impresses me as a sort of poor man's Rotsler, making me appreciate the rich Man's Rotsler all the more.

TORRENTS (Nancy "Dimples" Share)

Don't worry...you're on the mailing list for some time to come, despite your "no-swap" policy with HODGE-PODGE. Your comments on DREAM QUEST were...pleasing to hear. Good gal.

THE BRINDLED BEM (Johnson) Noted.

ELMURMURINGS (Perdue)

Are you sure this is Number One, Elmer? I remember getting a copy of Elmurmurings last year about this time, equally enjoyable. It was the one where you told about playing music from a painting on the wall and other fascinating matters. I've come to sort of look forward to these annual affairs, Elmer, and if I seem to splutter now and then about people who always wait till the last minute before turning in their 8 pages you are hereby advised that I don't refer to you. I hope you manage to hang around for a long time yet and if you ever manage to contribute a little oftener, that'll be fine. Surprised to see that you are/were an Operator #5 fan...must see if I can't scrape up a bit of rambling on the subject for you.

Z,S,S'n 2 (Rhyke)

The duplicating on this, Dave--at least in places--is as good as anyone might ask for. #How could your cousin buy gas on her father's credit card? I have one of those and it bears my signature and the signature on the charge-slip must match that on the card. Otherwise there's nothing to protect the holder of the card in case of loss. One gets the cold sweats at the thought of someone finding your card right after a new one comes out and merrily driving on it for the whole quarter. Yow. #Hokkum you use capital "H" is writing Him, His, etc., when referring to Gerald FitzGerald--and "His" (sic) brother? Has the boy been beatified or something? And how do you tell somebody about burb in "a few short words"? I'd be curious to hear what they were. This all makes for fab'lous reading...we once found ourselves going against traffic in a one-way street in NY last summer but what we almost ran into wasn't a sausage factory!

SATYRIC (Martin)

These emanations from the mundane apa's always interest me because they give me an idea of how FAPA material must strike an outsider. At least, at mundane apa conventions, they appear to behave with a bit more decorum...no hurtling beer-cans.

COSWALZINE 119 (Coslet)

That "Who's Where" is moving along very slowly indeed but if it ever materializes, I'll send you a copy. Too blasted many claims on my time these days to permit accomplishment of anything not of the most urgent sort...and some of that gets neglected too!

FIENDETTA (Wells)

Since an electric current is generally regarded as a flow of electrons and since electricity travels at substantially the speed of light, I don't get the significance of "their" having gotten electrons going at $\frac{1}{2}$ the speed of light--wot's remarkable about that? #Very well, I'll ask you--how do you weigh an electron going at half the speed of light? And don't say that you take a bathroom scales and run very fast. #The "BNF of Sinatra Fandom" was an editorial goof, & I'm sorry. Bergeron's picture was of Ava Gardner (you've heard of her?) and, since there was at one time a very recognizable clump of Sinatra fans (this may have been before your time, Chas) I---well, you get it, don't you? Only thing was, I spelled it wrong. Sinatra is another of those words/names which yo_u can't check in the dictionary and I didn't have a single place where I could look it up. #Oberlin, Ohio, probably holds the record for high ratio of acti-fans to humans...at least while school is in session. At last report there were four different fan-publishers there with more being turned up every day. #I'm now using a shade of ink called Royal Blue rather than the lighter just-plain-blue used formerly. Hope this is easier for you to read. #Remember the research we used to do on onomotopoeia, Chas? Well, I think I've isolated the sound that comes when the straw starts sucking air in the bottom of a malted-milk. Try this: schpplurrrckk. Done any of this lately?

REVOLTIN' DEVELOPMENT (Alger)

Enjoyed muchly, as always. Many nice linos, much interesting gunbuggery. How many more issues till you reach the .357 Smith & Wesson Magnum???

ISOMER (Graham)

You don't have any slip-sheets? MiFoo. You should see mine---I have closets full. For some reason, I've never mastered the art of printing exactly the same number of copies of every page and I always come out at the end of the issue with a stack of extra pages. These go onto the slip-sheet stack, now about 14 inches high. Whenever I slip-sheet, my entire publishing past flashes before my eyes and I catch myself now & then stopping to read through some fondly-femembered page, all gunked up with offset. #Last summer Rich Bergeron had me buy an Old A B Dick machine here for him--got it for \$10--but it was the devil's own job to crate it for shipment and get it off. For one thing, the express office is open only during the hours when I'm at work, for another, it was a brute of a job to find a box and get it packed so it might make the trip intact. But I got it sent off last October and haven't heard a word out of Bergeron since. I don't know whether he feels gypped with the machine or what. But I know I'll not serve as a broker in used mimeos again.

GEMZINE 4:6 (GM Carr)

I heard somewhere that "\$son" was pronounced Jackson. Not sure. Didn't particularly care for your rather sanctimonious comments on SAPS, morality, biology, etc. Judge not lest ye be judged and all that sort of thing, huh?

FAPA SNOOZE (Myers)

This is an improvement on Boy's Herald--anything would have to be--but your comments on LeZombie will make you a strong contender for the 1955 Fugghead of the Year Award. Your chief competition appears to be Glasgow's Douglas Millar, whose letter on page 31 of the current (#13) Hyphen moves strong men to tears. Why don't you go crottle a greap or something?

KM (Rotsler)

I would have given anything ("anything," he sighed, breathlessly) to have heard Gerald C. FitzGerald give that speech on "What Arbor Day Means to Me." #And what's wrong with living on Maple avenue? It is an easy street to remember (though hard to find) and nearly everybody spells it right--which would be more than you could say for Clemenceau Boulevard. Tucker, for your info, lives on Wood Street in Bloomington, Don Ford also lives on Maple Avenue--#129 in Sharonville, Ohio--and Wilfie-boy lives on Walnut Street --#69 to be exact. There is a sort of alley uptown, running through the block between Forest Avenue and First street, that is called Darling Place but there is only one address on it--a publishing house that puts out something called All-Pets Magazine. Green Bay has a Crooks street and a Velp avenue. I admire the sound of the latter. Haven't noticed much of any other high-sounding street names hereabouts, except for High street in Fort Mudge (on a map, you'll find this listed as Ft Atkinson but it's Fort Mudge to us). #That's quite a collection of rubberstamps you have but you should see Eney's. #You can unload a lot of your gags on Walt Willis without damaging their marketability. All you need to do is to mail him the gag and he'll have Bob Shaw draw them up and put your name on them. Easier egoboo would be hard to find. That \$-on-typer gag that I mentioned in Hoog found a home there, among others. Try him, why don't you? #We wanted to go see "Mr. Hulot's Holiday" when it showed in Milwaukee but never got around to it. Did go to see "Karamoja" when it played here in Fondy. Don't miss this if you get the chance. #Do you really get letters from Corinne Calvet? Gee, dad! #On that full page of Abney photos, we both liked the one in the lower right-hand corner the best. That's the page of portraits, I mean. On the page of pin-ups, it's hard to make a choice though I like the one just above center (which I'd tentatively caption, "Mmmm--scratch muh back, boy.") #Yes, I also noticed that you had two #8's but was too polite to comment. #We had a building at Tonopah that had a sign on it saying "Wharehouse" too...I suppose it was where the PX stored their stock of wharing apparel. #In view of some of the stuff that comes thru, I shudder to think what you must have said about Cynthia Pennell to get it censored! #We went to see Chief Crazy Quilt too and also thought it stank. Keep up the good work!!