

This, I suppose, will be considered the fifth issue of CALIBAN, the first under a new policy, tossed to the Fapa wolves in the June 1944 mailing by Larry T Shaw, VBI, THOS, STC, TFF, etc, aso, ktp, an.....

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TURNABOUT

A lot of things influenced my decision to make the bulk of my Fapa publishing material written by fans other than myself. I considered BANSHEE the best vehicle for such material and converted it into a regular magazine. CALIBAN, therefore, will appear off and on, and will be written entirely by myself, except in special cases such as the quotes from Juffus' letter and the new department immediately following them.

CHIP

Say what you will, I like single sheeters. Wanna argue?

SCHEDULE

The March BANSHEE, unavoidably, is an entire three months late. I hope to get the June issue out by post-mailing within a month after the regular package (June 10, prob'ly, sez RDS). It will be, I suspect, larger than the one you're getting now. For September I have big plans. Another BANSHEE, o' course. And a very special item, THE FAPA INDEX, listing the complete contents of every mailing from the beginning right up to this one. Probably, in addition, THE FANTASY AMATEUR itself. A nice neat one, naturally, and maybe even with a front cover.

PLATFORM

I am convinced that Lowndes is the man for president. I talked to him at Wollheim's about a month ago, and he impressed me as having ideas, enthusiasm, experience, and maturity. What more could you ask? No doubt Chauvenet has all these qualities, too, but I think Doc deserves a chance, and that the organization will really go places under him. Michel is up for vice-president, and I will vote for him because I think a straight ticket is best in an association of this type. Also, I like the guy, in spite of the indisputable fact that he is a dog, a louse, and several other things which I won't endanger this sheet's mailability by printing. (Sorry, Norm. You are, of course, released from any possible obligation you might feel to vote for me.) Then there is the very important office of official editor; I'll probably be stuck with that, as no one else seems to be running. Some of you may have misgivings due to the fact that my past contributions have been inclined to come bunched together at intervals. I'm cutting down on activity outside of FAPA, tho, and can promise you to give the job the very best I have. In fact, I think I'll be the best damned one the club has ever seen. I guarantee at least one on-time mailing during the year, that the FA will be one to be proud of, and that the constitution will be adhered to in all respects. I'll probably move to NYC again after September, and then I'll be able to work nicely with the other officers. Okay? And we must have a secretary-treasurer, too, mustn't we? Is anybody running?

STATEMENT

Tho I have taken the responsibility of doing the actual printing of Jack Speer's "Investigation in Newcastle," I cannot guarantee anything about the truth or reliability of the report. If President Ashley calls a special vote on the matter of expelling Degler from membership, I do not intend to vote either way. I have disqualified myself.

I apologize in advance, but I can't think of any name for this but:

SUSTAINING SPEERGRAM

On May 31 I received a letter from Jack Speer, written on five V-mail forms and different dates from the 16th of May to the 20th. Most of it consisted of the results of Jack's fan poll, which I think I will present in the June BANSHEET. I quote from the rest of the letter:

"Please inform Beulah's subscribers of my new address ((Jack Speer, Civil Affairs MAEB, APO 534, New York NY)), without mentioning the location, even tho you and they probably know, from what I said before coming over. Ask correspondents to write me V-mail, and editors to send their rags air mail. I'll gladly pay for this special service on fanzines that I subscribe to; will not pay for it on Space Tales, Cosmic Circle stuff, or the like.

Other news: You probably know but haven't published that Suddsy won't go to LA till September, preferring to stay in Oldslum and learn fotografy. I'll not have anything but Decimal Classification in the June mailing. Fancyclopedia has been stencilled and sent to Bronson for publication. Best wishes on yer FAPA candidacy. A Widner chain is on its way around a second time.

This place stinks, but looks tolerably interesting. I can't imagine how Omar Khayyam came out of the race that rots in the native sections. The Europeans are a pretty enlightened lot, tho the city they built is typically European. I'm not as outraged by the senselessness of the street plan as I am with Boston, New York, and similar cities where they have a basic regular idea and depart from it. ((Sir! You are speaking of the city I love! The plan of NYC—meaning Manhattan, of course—has been carried out very nicely, not counting the section built before the plan was conceived; the only irregularity is Broadway, which gives just the right amount of variety.)) Here the inefficiency is so abysmal that one simply doesn't consider it in passing judgement. Comes the helicopter, or a-g rather (see Campbell editorial), it won't matter much anyway, except in finding addresses.

((Came the poll results, then on the last page:)) On second thought, I don't think Omar Khayyam belonged to the local race. The non-aboriginal portion came from no farther away than Arabia, and in Persia, where Omar held forth, the conquering class was probably a minority, and Omar most likely a native Aryan Iranian.

Now, as one of the first fruits of my new program of diversified reading, allow me to fall in line and present my very first QUOTABLE

For many years now we have been readjusting our education to the debased new concept we have of ourselves as excessively clever primates. We have been finding wisdom increasingly unnecessary as our emphasis on trained technicians and administrators has increased. More and more advocates have been found for the view that a knowledge of the classics is useless, at best an ornament, that an education designed to acquaint men with the best thought of their predecessors is a luxury that we can no longer afford if we are to give our undivided attention to our material objectives. When our civilization needs the guidance of wisdom as never before to ride out the flood that threatens to engulf it, we are planning to dump all that is left of wisdom to make room for the technical skills which by themselves cannot save us.

--Louis J. Halle

(Saturday Review of Literature,

with whom I am in complete agreement.

May 27 1944)

Oi, Oi! I just went to New York yesterday (which was June 4) and saw the Futurians. To my dismay I was informed that it is not Umbriago Michel who is up for vice-president, but his partner in crime Don Wallheim. So it's DAW you want a vote for, obviously. Methinks he'll make a perfect

V.P. I still dunno who's up for sec-treas, but apparently it's no one in NYawk. 'Stoo bad, we might have had an all-NYC administration.

And now this isn't even a single sheet of paper any more. Horribly slipshod, aren't I is?

—pshaw—

