

# WE NEED YOUR BLOOD

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"Let's wait until all the attendees are properly pickled, then rush down to the American Red Cross and sell a quart or two of their blood - this will make enough money to get rid of the convention debt."

Unfortunately this didn't come off because the plotters themselves got rather pickled, and the scheme was left without leaders.

It would crop up again though at the LASPS meeting, when Audrey Clinton mentioned the fact of her mother's illness and the urgent need for a bloodtransfussion to Ron Ellik. Having had a similar urgent case in the family only a year ago, Ron thought back to this blood-donor scheme. We would like to add that although no relatives of Audrey could donate the blood for one or the other reason, the two pints needed were supplied by a (full-blooded?) American fan.

Ron's idea now is that 1/ All fans 18 years or older in good physical condition (no jaundice, heart trouble, contagious diseases or recent colds, etc.) should contribute blood to the American Red Cross under the name of this fan blood bank; although we would certainly have to think of a better title for it than that.

2/ Any fan could draw blood in any needed quantity through the board of directors of this f.b.b. (sounds very cockeyed that way!) for himself or anyone he knew who needed it. The only criterion - the request would HAVE to come through a fan.

As Ron Ellik so eloquently describes: " Just why in hell should all these fat, healthy fans I see wandering about conventions guzzling beer mind losing a pint of blood? I've done it, and it certainly doesn't HURT!"

One final administrative note: Ron is offering his services as a committee of One to organize this fan blood bank, but before anything concrete can be done he wants at least ten pints of blood promised. To quote: " I am not going to have to supply some poor fan all by myself --- not if he needs sixteen pints, I'm not." RE

Published twice monthly by the Contact Group  
Ron Bennett  
John Hitchcock  
Ellis Mills  
Jan Jansen

The first three issues will be distributed free of charge to members of ISFCC, NFFF, OMPA, FAPA & SAPS and the mailing lists of Alpha Ploy and Umbra

YOU HAVE ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT FEN ARE DIFFERENT DON'T SUFFER FANNISH BLOOD TO BE DILUTED- SEND YOUR OK FOR A PINT TO FBB - RON ELLIK 277 POMONA BEACH LONG BEACH 3 CALIF.

# THE EDITORIAL 'WE'

## CONTACT YOU

Subscriptions have started coming in, and we would like to thank you for this show of trust and appreciation. Others have expressed sorrow for their lack of funds, but promised to sub at the earliest possible moment. To repeat an earlier statement in CONTACT: We are fans too, and your copies will be mailed out together with the subs'. Just as these people trust us to publish the copies they subscribe for, we will trust you to pay for the copies you receive.

We have done our best with the limited resources available to us to produce a newsmag for fandom as a whole. We have addressed ourselves to what should be the most active part, the fanzine editors, the APA and club members. We trust our judgment proves correct.

There is little likelihood of all 384 recipients of the free issues subscribing, but nevertheless, due to the timelag especially for USfans, we are printing enough copies of issues 4 & 5 to supply all who subscribe. Sorry, but our treasury is in too poor shape to permit us to continue mailing out free copies. Your sub, (or, as has been mentioned: your promise to sub in the near future) will bring you more. And that alone.

For US fans especially, if you feel that CONTACT is dated by the time you receive it, due to the overlong delivery delay: our air-mail sub is there for your benefit and even then, CONTACT only costs you 10 cents per issue while you will have it five or six days after mailing out.

# FRANKFURT MASS PRODUCTION.

Duplicators are meant to be used and rather than have one resting idle in between issues of Void, the Benford twins have turned to Ellis Mills, Woody and Pete Reischer to ensure full use of costly equipment. At their chola sessions they plan to turn out a variety of fan publications without rhyme or reason if we are to believe the Benford statement: "putting out as much as possible". GAB

## ONCE IN A BLUE MOON = THIS XMAS.

The Manchester group show signs of once again coming alive as far as fan publications are concerned. If it takes all this time to recover from a national convention what is going to happen when the Worldcon hits London?

Dave Cohen, Frank Simpson, Cyril Evans and Ken Smith are indeed planning to publish a fmz called Once in a Blue Moon, statement of schedule unnecessary.

The lead article will be from Frank, and the topic: Diarrhea. Perhaps as cause of the breakdown? EB

## FIRST AND LAST FEN EXPORTED!

Eric Bentcliffe reports that he and Terry Jeeves have recently sent a tape Stateside containing beside idle chatter, the Kettering tapeplay: First and Last Fen.

Anyone with a 3 ips taperecorder who would like to hear this tape is invited to contact either Eric or Terry who will arrange for them to be put in the tape's way. EB

## FANEDS NEED NURSING.

Ethel Lindsay has been appointed fanzine reviewer for Retribution. We trust we will receive the same gentle care said to be bestowed on hospital patients.

## REMOVAL UNC.

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# WHITSUN ALL WORK - CON NO PLAY CON

First issue's statement that a con would be held over Easter next year in England seems to have been hasty. Indeed Harrogate has declined the honour (or rather the hotels have decided they like nice quiet roomers), and hence the sponsoring body has faded away. Poor Ron.

Discussions are however under way to hold a business con over Whitsun in order to clear the path for the September World Con and although there will be bheer around the place, time will be devoted mainly to arranging the

programme of the larger event.

The location of this Whitsun meeting has not yet been decided but will most likely be made public after the Liverpool group visit to London.

Other than the con committee, a small body of active fans will be invited to attend the Whitsun affair, mainly those who will in one way or another be responsible for part of the convention activities.

CONTACT wonders whether the customary free tickets for press reporters will be available. RB/KB

## SYMBIOSIS

Sixteen fanzine editors have been contacted this last fortnight by a new professional venture in the sf field.

Because a fan couldn't afford to buy outright all the hardcover sf he wanted to read, and grew more and more fed up searching for sf on the shelves of public and commercial libraries, a postal library has been started, operating from London.

The deciding factor was the casual information handed out by a public library attendant that an unobtainable out-of-print Asimov edition had been disposed of as waste paper in a routine clear out.

Headed SYMBIOSIS? a circular was sent to several faneditors requesting them to publicise the new library, and offering in exchange to send such sample copies of fanmags as were supplied, to library readers. A lithoed sheet containing adverts for the various fanmags is planned for circulation with the library's catalogue.

Our faith in the fannishness of fanzine editors has been shaken by the fact that not one of them has deemed it worthy of sending a ploy 'Parasite' letter as answer.

Details and the free catalogue will be sent to anyone who drops a postcard or letter to:

"Science Fiction Postal Library"  
46 St. Augustine's Avenue, London W5

## JYPO new mag in Jan

A new fanzine should have seen publication this month, but publisher Mike Moorcock was snowed under preparing a bumper issue of Burroughsania for Xmas.

This latter magazine has gained a new outlook with ATOM's illos on the E.R. Burroughs characters and scenes.

The new magazine, titles TYPO (and that title must surely have been used before in fandom?) is a coop job by Mike and Netherfield fan Jhim (his spelling) Linwood.

Other than two editorials, an article by Jhim plus an analysis of the 'average' fan, by Mike, are featured. There will also be some extras by other fans.

Articles will be welcomed at 36, Semley Road, London SW16, and a letter showing interest in the mag will undoubtedly get you a sample.

That some fans do try and interest the general public for fanac is proven by Mike, who, returning home rather tipsy, handed out free copies of Burroughsania to all bus passengers. No new subscriptions have been noted down. MM

Liverpool fan John Owen, 22 Alton Road, Tuebrook, L'pool 6, is thinking of emigrating to Canada and would like to hear from Canadian fen who can give him a little gen on things over there.

# FALLEN IDOL

Lynn Hickman after his period of moving around seems to have come to rest, in order to take up fanac again. With issues 23 & 24 (marred by too much segregation) out in a short period, news is that n<sup>o</sup> 25 is printed as well and will be mailed out shortly.

Worries now are mainly about the title of the magazine. As you will know, his mag is titled JD in worship of "Jack Daniels", infinitely preferable to the common fan's bheer.

As the JD distillery has been taken over by another firm, he is afraid the taste may go with it, which will force him to select another name for his mag.

Unconfirmed rumours mention that the Toronto section is clamouring for Canadian Club.

Lynn has filed for membership in OMPA and plans to revive Argassy for this organisation. LH

# LONDON TOWN

EYE has been cut on stencil since August, and much of the chattering will as a result have to be cut out. Holding up publication are a couple of stencils sent for illustrating, and mislaid.

FEZ is promised to arrive before the end of the year, and will carry news about the Bulmer TAFFzine. We suppose that fans still vaguely remember this project?

The LONDON O is putting a play on during the convention. Cast so far consists of Ving & Joy Clarke, Sandies Sanderson and Sandfield & John Brunner.

The "SPACE CLUB" will probably open on or about December 6. This is not definite, so check with Helen before visiting. Although Sint Nicholas will be visiting children on the 6th, here in Belgium and in Holland, no sidetrip to the Space Club has been organised to our knowledge. X

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## SQUIRREL WITH HABITS OF ALICE'S HARE!

The Marines, still worried over the loss of Gregg Calkins, have decided to enrol another actifan and their choice has fallen on Ron Ellik.

Ron leaves in February for active duty until August next year. In true fannish style he will endeavour to get FAFHRD 5, promised for the August '56 FAP mailing, out before Christmas, and even intends to have a further issue ready when he leaves us civilians.

Issue 5 has been delayed due to Ron's transcontinental trip to attend the New York Convention, and his resumption of college work having piled up since before the holidays and correspondence getting more and more tangled up, have made another Hare out of him.

Remembering Malignant and learning that so far only two stencils of FAFHRD 5 have been cut we tend to wonder whether Ron's hopes will be realised.

However, we wish him the best and even hope he carries out his plans for a special Loncon issue to be published on his release. Planning ahead has its merits.

## FEN IN ARMS the wrong ones

Times change, as the saying goes, and recently it hasn't been going so good. We therefore hope that the following mentions need not be repeated with other names.

Tony KLEIN, young London fan, was posted to Cyprus within two hours when the crisis cropped up.

From NY comes mention that Karl Olson, formerly well-known fan, is now in the Air Force and taking basic in Texas.

Richard Billings, member of ISFCC has also left civilian life behind and has donned the Air Force uniform. His current address appears elsewhere in the issue.

First official British Publicity on the London 1957 convention will be out within a few weeks!  
Did YOU send in your registration?

## BRITAIN'S FIRST PSIONICS MACHINE

### CHELTENHAM FAN PROJECT SUCCESS

Probably the first working model of J.W.Campbell's version of the Hieronymus Psionic Machine has been constructed and tested in Cheltenham, England, by Eric Jones. Possibly the first European model rather.

It was displayed on the Cheltenham SF Circle's stand at the local Hobbies Exhibition last September and drew vast crowds of the public. All results were noted and conform roughly to those published in the August Asf by J.W.Campbell.

Unfortunately a great deal of difficulty was experienced in persuading the younger people to try the machine out, but 38% of the people who did 'have a go' got results ranging from mild to startling!

One specific instance was a member of the Civil Defence who was literally 'glued' to the plate AND UNABLE TO MOVE A MUSCLE until the moving electrode was 'off-tuned'. Said he felt as though something was flowing through him down to 'ground', though totally unlike an electric shock.

No one was told what they might experience - which made things rather difficult when persuading people to try it out, as it evoked the usual question "What happens?"

Later investigations provided two new developments. With the prism in two different positions from that shown in the Psionic article, a saucer-shaped depression was felt on the plate, also a definite lump with the prism in the second position.

Further investigations are proceeding and investigators might like to know that Eric Jones has a copy of the original patent specifications. Should sufficient fen be interested in seeing this, arrangements will be made to get them a copy. Write to Eric Jones at: "Xanadu", 44 Barbridge Rd, Hesters Way, CHELTENHAM, Glos., England.

## UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL

Eric Bentcliffe: CONTACT is a good thing...sorry, A Good Thing.

Ray Van Houten: CONTACT gives promise of covering the fan field in the manner which we hope FT is covering the pro, and both Jimmy and I ---and I'm sure all our staff---wishes you the best of all possible luck with it..... We'd like to see it continue side-by-side with FT for years and years to come.

Archie Mercer: Certainly I'll help inasmuch as I deem it my fannish duty to pass along any newsworthy info, but that's simply the natural way to act, surely to goodness?

Laurence Sandfield: Thanks very much for CONTACT. It's just what we need, and should serve well to keep us 'au fait' with pre-con news and the activities of fen over a good part of Tellus.

Joy Clarke: Jolly good luck with the thing anyway - you've started off wonderfully and we are very impressed.

Jan Jansen: I've been very pleased with the two issues of CONTACT so far published, and everything seems to point out that it is well on the way to permanency. I can only hope that you will receive the support you are crying for so that your plans can be carried out. Stop quoting those letters of egoboo, fans will have realised by now you are willing and able to take on this enormous task.

# F A F I A

Have you been worried in the past because after a temporary lapse in fanactivity you wouldn't be able to catch up with the new crowd?

Have you been worried lately of being left ignorant of fan activities because you haven't been able to indulge in a large correspondence?

Have you been worried because for some personal reason you have not been able to keep up with the pace and a relaxation is threatening to isolate you?

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