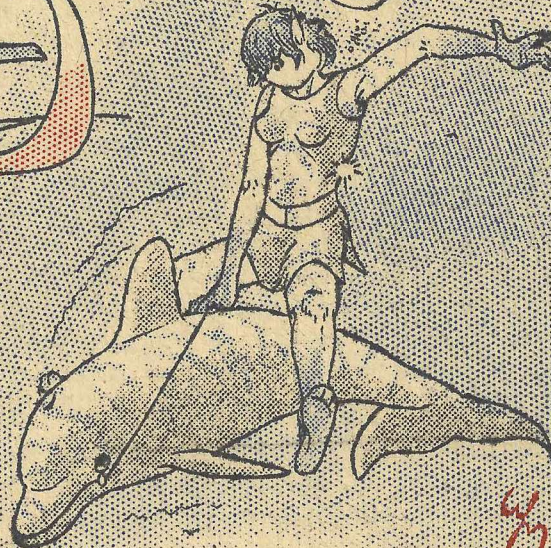


TYPO



TYPO 4 - a rider with DNQ 15 - © Taral Wayne, 1812-415 Willowdale ave, Willowdale Ontario m2n 5b4, (416) 221 3517, Feb. 79. This ish seems mostly letters to Victoria, and cleans out our files, so this is the last TYPO for a while... How long a while is up to you characters... Special thanks to BOSKONE for the ream of yellow twiltone, which we lusted for. Replies to all correspondence by Taral unless otherwise specified. Are we not fen? Chilw!

JAN HOWARD FINDER - PO BOX 428 LATHAM NY 12110

I'd like to clear up some possible misconceptions, which you inadvertently raised a few issues ago. The full name of the con is NOVACON 9 (West)! Being a British fan, I decided to put together a British con over here. Since November is not a month filled with cons, it looked like a good time slot. Since NOVACON is regularly held in the Birmingham area the first weekend in November I thought what-the-hell, let's call it NOVACON West. When I was at SKYCON, the 1978 EASTERCON, I approached and received permission to use the NOVACON name from the Birm. SF Group. My con is being billed as the west half of their convention. The east half will be held the same weekend. Some of the British fen were chagrined to find I had pre-empted their best speaker by getting Bob Shaw as my GoH, and Jack Cohen as my FGaH. However, they had to admit I had good taste.

So the upshot is that the World's first two continent con will be held on 2-4 November 1979. The west half in Albany, NY, the east half in Birmingham.

NOVACON's are a laid-back con, light on programming, heavy on chatting around the bar and in endless room parties. This will be the motif for N9W. Maybe 10 program items, plus films. There will be 3 bars in the hotel, and, if possible, Newcastle Brown on tap in the con suite. The theme of the Fancy Dress Parade will be works by British authors. To widen the assortment, we'll be pointing out that Beowulf was written by a "British" author. **THIS IS NOT A JOKE OR HOAX CON!!!**

I've got 40 members already, only 260 to go to break even. As to the freebies, anyone who comes all the way over here for the con, deserves to get in free. Hell, I'm thinking of giving \$5 memberships to ALL non-North American fen who show up. They do fill a room at the Inn... Also coming as of now is Jacqueline Lichtenberg and Marion Zimmer Bradley, who'll be hosting the Fancy Dress Parade. It looks as if Jim Barker, one of the UK's best humourous illustrators will be over for the con as well.

oWell, as long as there's some way for us tea-totalling fen to have a good time too. Hanging around in a stuffy, dark bar while people around me are getting plastered on overpriced booze is not particularly my idea of a good time. I doubt you can recreate a good pub atmosphere in an American bar... Also, theer-

types always stock their parties with the worst roach killers (instead of The Real Thing), while lavishing all their money on just the right ale. Be warned that soft drink fans are working at materializing their own faanish delity to protect them. If UK fans can afford to come all the way over here, then they can bloody well afford a \$5 membership. Much more than I can, at least. If I could afford to go to their cons, I'd expect to pay a membership. But don't mind me, I'll probably never go to a British con to prove my point anyway... N9W sounds okay. o

DAVE LANGFORD - 22 NORTHUMBERLAND AVE. READING, BERKS. UK RG2 7PW

I haven't been in a real feud as yet, but can be quite adequately shattered by, say, a rotten review: a recent one in FOUNDATION showed conclusively that the reviewer hadn't even finished reading the story, since he complained about the lack of an ending which was in fact there! I lay in a high fever for days, of course, and was only being slowly weaned back to health when I read in TYPO about some chap who thinks TD is among the three worst fanzines of all time (funny, I'd never heard of him. Maybe he'd only seen the first one! Or maybe he doesn't like That Sort of Thing...) After sustained IV feeding had rendered me almost able to walk again, along came SCIENTIFRICTION and a sample FILE 770, in both of which I heard of some fanzine called TWILL DUU. Never heard of it, boss. It's all Too Much. The doctor says I may never play the piano again.

Thanks too for reassuring comments on extension of DNA ((Never heard of it, boss... Taral.)) sub! I've been getting my CHECKPOINTS that way for so long I can't remember when I last gave Peter any money: nice to know that the same enlightened policy is pursued in secret by your good selves. I keep thinking of putting "arranged trade" or some such on the TD masthead, to mean "everybody, really, but I'm damned if I'll be obliged to trade". Perhaps it would be better to use "this fanzine is not available" - everyone who received it could then congratulate themselves on having broken the veil of total secrecy.

Gosh, it's getting late. Must work in a quick bit about MAYA. You are perhaps right to say it isn't the favoured zine of UK fandom. Not so much because it's "American" as that it seems to lack the cutting edge of other UK zines. Bland is the commonest term used. You don't seem to see axes being ground with the same sort of passion that can be found in many UK fannish zines - or, across the water, things like ROTHNIUM and SFR. The "American" charge, then, might be translated as meaning that MAYA shares with some States zines a sort of "niceness" - rose-tinted spectacles look - the really savage controversy brushed under the carpet. That's what I think the complaints boil down to.

Will be running a TWILL DDU fan poll next year, which for one reason or another will not resemble any current UK poll. Results will be rushed to DNQ as soon as available. Meanwhile, I have 13 Hugo awards in my front room. Pity I've got to pass them on at SEACON...

o Gregg Pickersgill seems to go one step further than you contemplate by making first STOP BREAKING DOWN then SEA MONSTERS actually unavailable, so that if you get his zine other people know you've broken the veil of secrecy too... The only thing harder to get than a Pickersgill zine is Susan Wood's AMOR. I don't seem to be very popular in N.A. fandom, maybe I ought to become a British fan, as which I may seem more bland in comparison. However, don't rule out fen on this side of the Big Pond as hopelessly "nice". Roused to passion, a North American fan is probably far nastier than you're used to - just mention "Jessica Amanda Salmonson" to someone and notice the reaction; if you aren't assaulted - as such I think the average fan here keeps his fueds for private places, like apas, possibly realizing how unreasonable the whole thing is. Poke among the embers of Iggy for a nasty start. Ask me about certain unmentionable fen if you want an irrational reaction. Talk to Harlan Ellison about anything...o

MICHAEL V. MACKAY - 1587 WESTBROOK DR. PETERBOROUGH ONT, K9J 6R6

There's some evidence in DNQ that suggests that you aren't real Canadians. First, you make we Canadians pay more for subscriptions. Even more incriminating is your desire for people to pay for SIMULACRUM in US funds. What! is Canadian money no longer acceptable, even in Canada?

Seriously, this kind of thing bothers me a bit. I don't like buying American fanzines, preferring to trade instead; and I've put off renewing any dead or dying subscriptions. (\$10 for LOCUS, or about \$15 if I want the news

before it gets stale.) I would rather you rigure your prices in Canadian funds and consider any US money a bonus. In short, I'd rather you rip off the Americans.

- Okay, from now on, DNQ is \$1.20 Canadian or the Canadian equivalent of .85¢ US only if paid in US funds. It means precisely the same thing as \$1 US or \$1.20 Canadian, but it may sound more patriotic. Because, no, Canadian currency is not acceptable at the rate it's devalueing. I guess that makes us unreal Canadians, but it was all an accident of birth in the first place, and in the second place being real these days is nothing to boast about. Ask Saara.

GREG BENFORD-1105 LAGUNA BEACH CA 92651

Thanks for DNQ. Good to see an informal newszine with something interesting in it for an old fan & tired as myself...

Liked Ted's summary of the distant 50's & 60's. His history of VOID is correct. What's hard to convey about fandom & fanzines then is, as he notes, the much higher quality of writing, overall, and also the feeling one had: of each new issue as an Event, an opening. There was a genuine dialog going on. Arrival of a fanzine was an occasion for a pleasurable communication with friends - many of whom you hadn't met, but knew well. I think the fans of today seldom get this feeling. Fanzines are too easy to produce. (There's a correlation of difficulty with quality, I think. Some of the best prose came from Willis's hand-set SLANT.) The Hugo ballot for fanwriter astonishes me these days, with people getting nominated who do humdrum work. Not a one of them equals Shaw, Willis, White, Grennell, McCain, Boggs, Carr, etc etc etc.

But I must say DNQ does have a good feel to it, and I'd appreciate your sending further copies to me.

PS: Could you reprint that list of top 10 fmz? I'd be glad to compare it with my memory - which may not be the same as Ted's.

- Proud to have stirred up a Faanish Elemental, I is. The list I produced in DNQ 6 ran QUANDRY, HYPHEN/SLANT, WARHOON, OUTWORLDS/DOUBLE BILL, INNUENDO/LIGHTHOUSE, CHANTICLEER, CARANDAITH, PSYCHOTIC/SFR/REG/TAC/SFR/ETC, VOID, SHAGGY, and as a joke a tacked on an eleventh, expecting no one to count and see I was not serious about including one of my zines among the top ten. I also offered a list of the next top ten: MAYA, KHATRU, SPACEWAYS, GRANFALLOON, SPAN INQ, QUIP/FOCAL POINT, CRY, MOTA, ZERO, and OOPSLA. And another possible 10: MYTHOLOGIES, FANAC, APPORHETA, MASQUE, STELLAR, HABBUKUK, LE ZOMBIE, SKYHOOK, BEABOHEMA, KIPPLE. And started another: ASP, ODD, IS, ~~STYLING~~, PREHENSILE/SCIENTIFRICTION... Then I gave up. By all means feel welcome to reminisce about your favourite zines in our ~~happy~~ self-conscious pages. Part of the problem with DNQ is having to do everything ourselves.

ED MEŠKYS-RFD/BOX 63 CENTER HARBOUR NH 03226

That last DNQ was strange. The history of Klein reminded me a bit of Bok and Cartier, both of whom did leave the field with some bitterness. Bok came out of fandom, though I don't think Cartier did. One the other hand, Cartier loved the field and had to force himself to stay away, and stick to the high paying wall paper design field. Some of the surrealistic twists in the prozine history aspects of the Klein article were amusing.

- Without styling Paul Klein after any particular artist, I nevertheless had both Bok and Cartier on my mind when I wrote the alternate-world history of an sf artist, as well as others you left unnamed such as Partch and Finley. Being God is fun.○

IAN MAULE-18 HILLSIDE, 163 CARSHALTON RD. SUTTON SURREY, UK SMI 4NG

The Hitler joke /about the SEACON chairman/ came into being at SILICON in August. During a charades panel involving fans' names, Rog Peyton stood up, put his finger above his upper lip and took a few goosesteps. The whole audience immediately shouted "Pete Weston".

- I thought this might interest some of the fans who thought the Adolf Hitler reference to Weston in DNQ 11 was a joke of ours and made in bad taste. It seemed clear to me that the joke refers to Pete's supposed authoritarian tendencies, and not to Hitler's genocidal ones. Fans can be so sensitive! Are we forgiven?

RICK SNEARY-2826 SANTA ANA ST. SOUTH GATE CA

Your first pages have been mostly a waste of space, as I can't believe such a small fanzine needs such a large colophon ((and so we xerox reduced it from DNQ 11 on)). Also, I don't feel any need for artwork in a newszine... Of course, this results from your

interest in art, so you are more interested in how it looks than I would be. I, with my limited contacts with fandom, am mainly interested in news. I was rather grumpy to Linda Bushyager, and she informed me correctly that she was publishing the type of fanzine she liked. But as a paying subscriber I feel that I have the right and maybe the duty to relay to you what interests me and what doesn't. I don't get LOCUS now, because the amount of fannish news carried is not worth the cost. This doesn't mean Brown isn't doing a good job. And it doesn't mean that I think you are doing a bad job with DNQ. I do expect you to take some interest in the opinions of your readers, and make such changes as seem good to you.

I don't believe that anyone should refuse a Hugo, (I really don't think some one should be able to withdraw their name from nomination.) To refuse a Hugo, to me, would appear to be grandstanding, such as Brando and Scott did with the Oscars. It is an undeserved slap in the face of the con committee (who are after all not responsible for the vote) and those fans who honestly voted for one. It would also carry an implied condemnation of the other candidates, who didn't have the refuser's supposed integrity. For, to me, there is a suggestion that the refuser thinks he is better than others, regardless of his real feelings and high ideals. I have been writing critical things about the Hugos for nearly 20 years. Yet I've been amazed how seriously many people take the awards, either working to win one or feeling that a major effort is needed to reform them. I do not see how they can ever become more than a popularity poll. There is no way that everyone will be able to see everything that appeared in the year, so even if you grant everyone equal judgement, the result cannot be a critical judgement of the "best" in the field. It can only be the thing that the most people saw and liked.

Why do I say you shouldn't refuse it? Because I feel that the Hugo's, like TAFF and DUFF, are symbols that are bigger than the event. The Hugo's are just about the only thing that all of fandom can or does participate in. It creates a feeling of unity between the neo fan casting his first ballot and the pro who has been in fandom since the 30's. It has the charm of participatory democracy, which in government rarely elects the best person but seems to be the best system anyone has worked out. Seeing as we can't make the system work better I think one should accept the results in good humour and not rain on anyone else's parade. South Gate Again in 2010!

○It's simple to say you don't take the Hugo's seriously, but most people do. Publishers wave wads of money under Hugo winner's noses, and winning or losing becomes a serious thing. Less so among the fan awards, but a Hugo to your credit can still carry social distinction in the eyes of some people. And while no-one can know the entire field, you can know enough that a number of fans can aggregately cover 99% of the field. So the problem is that 90% of the voters have knowledge of 2% of the field, which is far from the optimum achievable, and has little to do with the inherent limitations of a peer-system such as you imagine. We are not all peers. And maybe the refuser who condemns other Hugo winners is better than they are... Toronto don't jive for 85!○

DAVE LANGFORD.

The Nova Award. The BSFA has absolutely nothing to do with it. The fact is that the BSFA has never run a con in this country: a couple have been called BSFA cons for "publicity purposes", but all have been run by fannish fans, with one small exception. NOVACON is run annually in Birmingham by the Birmingham SF Group, first weekend of November as a rule. It's not a particularly fannish con - more like a small version of our EASTERCON, but you get a close to 100% turnout of UK fannish fans in attendance. For the first few years of its life, the award was presented by a Select Committee, who chose the winner all on their own; this led to some controversy and the closest thing to a feud I recall in this country. "Should be a popular poll," I said as soon as I got on the Novacon committee. "You write the rules," they said. I wrote them; we argued about them; it ended up as I wanted, peer-vote like the FAAns but without any (expletive deleted) voting fee. Embarrassingly, TD got it first year (the committee is allowed to win, which is just as well as all the likely zines were produced by Nova Committee members: me, Pickersgill, Jackson.

○Without (expletive deleted) voting fees, who pays for the awards? As a matter of fact, there is a strong movement from within the FAAn Committee to eliminate the fees, but other sources of financial support will be needed after the expected grants from yet-to-be revealed sources run out a couple of years from now.