

EMERGENCY FLARE

This, he said with a tremor in his voice, is an apology. Yet we do feel that we have some excuse for our negligence, as circumstances brought about most of our inability to properly participate in each and every Papa mailing. Our regular mag is LIFEBOAT, and it will not appear until next mailing, unless we just aren't allowed to take part in it, or Uncle Sam changes his mind about us again. Odd, too, because the cover for Lifeboat No. 1 has been litho'd for three months. Writing for that break.

We had several ideas to propose, among them this item of every Papa reviewing the previous mailing. This seemed an unnecessary and tedious procedure, notwithstanding the fact that it is one of long standing and tradition. Of course, we admit we are lazy, but it seems the official critics handle the job very nicely. Their comments are a bit short, but to the point. We feel that comments on the mailing should be limited to interesting points brought out by others, and needing airing by the membership. A Papa mag should be like any other fmz. Contain articles, stories, poetry, and debates on every phase of fandom and its problems. An example of this last is the plans, tentative as they have been for the most part, for Stan Center. The idea of a corporation seems to us the most feasible, and it should be gotten under way as soon as possible. The moment it goes into effect, I plan to begin putting money into it for my share of the spoils. The name? A short one seems the best; Fandom, inc., or come might like the full title of National Fantasy Fan Federation, inc. (Or, sotto voce, Casworms, inc.) How about a committee in the NFFF for a little investigation and action along these lines?

The best location should have the best climate. This points out none other than So. Cal. Let's see, the hills near Monterey Park. That's practically in L.A., which gives the biggest drawing power to fans of any city we can name. Of course, there's always Hoquiam. A good sized piece of property should be purchased, with optional rights to annex any immediate property as it should be needed. A hill on the place, an observatory, you know, with fandoms 500 inch reflector. Or would that be theoretically impractical? The only pipe dream in that last. Why can't we get this under way?

We have been watching this business concerning the decimal classification of fan literature with interest, and would like to see it completed in order to apply it to our own filing system. If everybody used it, there would be no more confusion in dealing with any and all stories, articles, etc. Just another and important step in the unification of fandom.

The first and main step in the final try for unification is the proper organization of fandom. ESE seems to be the one to give the benevolent dictatorship to, and he will handle it wisely and prudently. When he asks the help of some one fan, or group of fan, it should be given without argument or rancor. ²⁰ This you can see that it is the only way to successfully promulgate fandom ^B whole. Keep this in mind when it comes your turn!