

FAN-DANGO

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Whole No. 7a

AN ILLEGAL MAILING.

A careful perusal of the FAPA constitution leads me to the conclusion that the so-called "special mailing" is completely unconstitutional. Article 6 states clearly that the Fantasy Amateur "shall be issued QUARTERLY by the Official Editor". (The capitalization is mine.) Then article 9d says, "The mailing dates shall be the first Saturday in March, June, September, and December of each year". The recent amendment of course changes this to January, April, July, and October; but it certainly does not provide for 5-times a-year mailings. It is true that the constitution does not forbid pre- or post-mailings--in fact, there is a precedent in favor of official postmailings--but such a special effusion is not authorized to contain a copy of the Fantasy Amateur, nor is it entitled to a special number of its own.

Ordinarily I am not one to split hairs over technicalities. It so happens, however, that this particular mailing was a cheap and foul trick, unworthy of any officer holding the least claim to being "the best OE ever". My Fan-Dango (Vol. II, No. 3, Whole No. 7) represents a considerable amount of thought and work, and was intended for the mailing, not for some unofficial effusion. Not only does this premature issuance of Fan-Dango permit comments to be made on it appearing in the same mailing as it does, but it caused it to appear incomplete. The postal cards for my music poll were not prepared at the time this issue was mailed to Wollheim (no one knew Shaw's address!) Editor Shaw presumably reads the submissions to the mailing under Lowndes' orders as set forth in paragraph 3 of page 1 of the unofficial FA. Therefore he had no excuse for not being well aware that F-D was incomplete. Yet he mailed it, forcing me to prepare this explanatory leaflet to accompany my cards.

It is true that the cards should have gone into Shaw before this. Unfortunately, no one in Los Angeles knew Shaw's address. Shangri-L'Affaires came back marked "Moved. Left no address." What sort of OE is it that does not even keep the membership informed of his whereabouts? And he wants to Lynch Laney!

----ooOoo----

THE FTLANIAC MUSIC POLL.

Please refer to page 2 of the Fan-Dango to which this is a supplement. You will find a full explanation of the attached card therein. Please fill out your card and return to me as soon as possible.

----ooOoo----

IS A FEUD BREWING?

I should like to ask, candidly and publicly, just what reasons underly the apparent hatred born by Futurians toward Los Angeles fandom in general, and towards myself in particular. Donald A. Wollheim wrote last summer a letter to Ackerman which castigated him in no uncertain language for "permitting" me to rejoin the LASFS. Had this letter been successful, it would have set the LA feud to going all over again, and would have permanently smashed any reunion, would probably have sounded the death-knell for organized fandom in this area. The Michel-written "The Works", published in FAPA, and the Wollheim-written "Vertigo" both attacked the LASFS strongly and with no apparent reason or justification. Self-styled Futurian yes-man Shaw now wants to "lynch Laney".

Just what the hell is this all about? We in Los Angeles have (or should I have said had?) no quarrel with the Futurians either as individuals or as a group. Though some of us have differed with certain Futurian FAPA legislation, we have not done so antagonistically. Is an objective difference of opinion sufficient grounds for a violent feud? Is FAPA too small for an honest opposition party?

I ignored this letter from Wollheim much against my inclinations. I considered that to be the most completely uncalled-for piece of snide chicanry that has ever been directed towards me. I let it pass simply because of my unwillingness to be dragged into any more feuds with anyone. The LASFS has ignored the repeated attacks made upon it for much the same reason.

If, however, the present continual sniping and digging at the LASFS and its individual members continues, there is certain to be an eventual explosion. For the sake of peace, and for the sake of our mutual hobby, won't the Futurians please clear the air? We'd like to see an itemization of the reasons for this continual bushwhacking. If there is some justification for it, we shall attempt to mend our ways. If, on the other hand, this is no more than petty malice and cheap ego-boosting, we suggest that Messrs. Wollheim, Shaw, et al direct their vindictive spite elsewhere.

FRANCIS T. LANEY

