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NUMBER TWENTY-TWO
June 17, 1981
Your Editor
Dave Kyle

It's getting to be about that time of year when your annual or bi-annual First Fandom News Letter appears. This is your editor's simple attempt to keep us in touch and to bring us up to date on what has been happening during the preceding eight or ten or twelve or whatever months between our personal get-togethers.

How this FFNL is going to look is a question your editor is wondering about even as this is being typed. For the first time in uncountable years, the fancy, automatic mimeo up at "Skylee" in Potomac, N.Y. is not being used. Instead, a simple, basic duplicator -- not much more than a drum with a handle -- will be used. The site of this operation is Hobe Sound, Florida, as the Kyle family has not yet fled north. So the rust has been taken off, the old, dried ink removed, a new blanket (not the right size) fitted, and the ink (not for open mimeos, it says) has been sparingly applied. A blue stencil (somewhat dried out with no modern thing plastic flimsy covering) is at this very moment in the typewriter (about which there are no complaints). The first words written were "NUMBER TWENTY-TWO" (in the upper right) and the first indication of trouble was the disappearance of the middle of the "O". Thereafter, as the carriage moved across the stencil began to lose the insides of "o's" and even "c's" and such. And your compositor has patiently been pushing the tiny pieces back in place when they can be found. If this page looks as bad as it has been made to sound, please forgive us. (And trying to correct types as almost impossible without causing more flaws.)

THE PURPOSE OF THIS ISSUE is to tell you the bad news, if you haven't already heard it. Our esteemed friend, and the glue which has for so long held First Fandom into some kind of coherent piece, has passed on into our immortal Hall of Fame. This happened last month and we will attempt further details on the other side of this sheet if the mechanics of this will permit us. It was not unexpected, as so many of us know personally, but the loss was none the less felt. This is the eve of the historical MidwestCon and we of First Fandom who will be there will live with his memory and remember him well. We sent his family flowers for us to express our grief and sympathy, as well as other expressions of concern. Would you want to drop a comforting line to his son Phil Tabakow and Mary at 3053 St. Johns Terrace, Cincinnati, Ohio 45236, it will be appreciated.

AND THEN THERE WERE TWO: Word has come from Fred Pohl that George O. Smith has died. Just as Lou received an award from us last year at con time for recognition of his services, George received our First Fandom Hall of Fame Award.

AND THREE: Janie Lamb died in May. Janie was a stalwart in the promotion of N3F, the National Fantasy Fan Federation, and a true First Fandomite. She died on May 5, never having recovered consciousness from her stroke of a few days before. She was 73.

YOUR EDITOR would appreciate some news of your activities to counter these sad reports. There will be another FFNL out in August, prior to the World Con in Denver. Write me P.O. Box 1587, Hobe Sound, Florida 33455