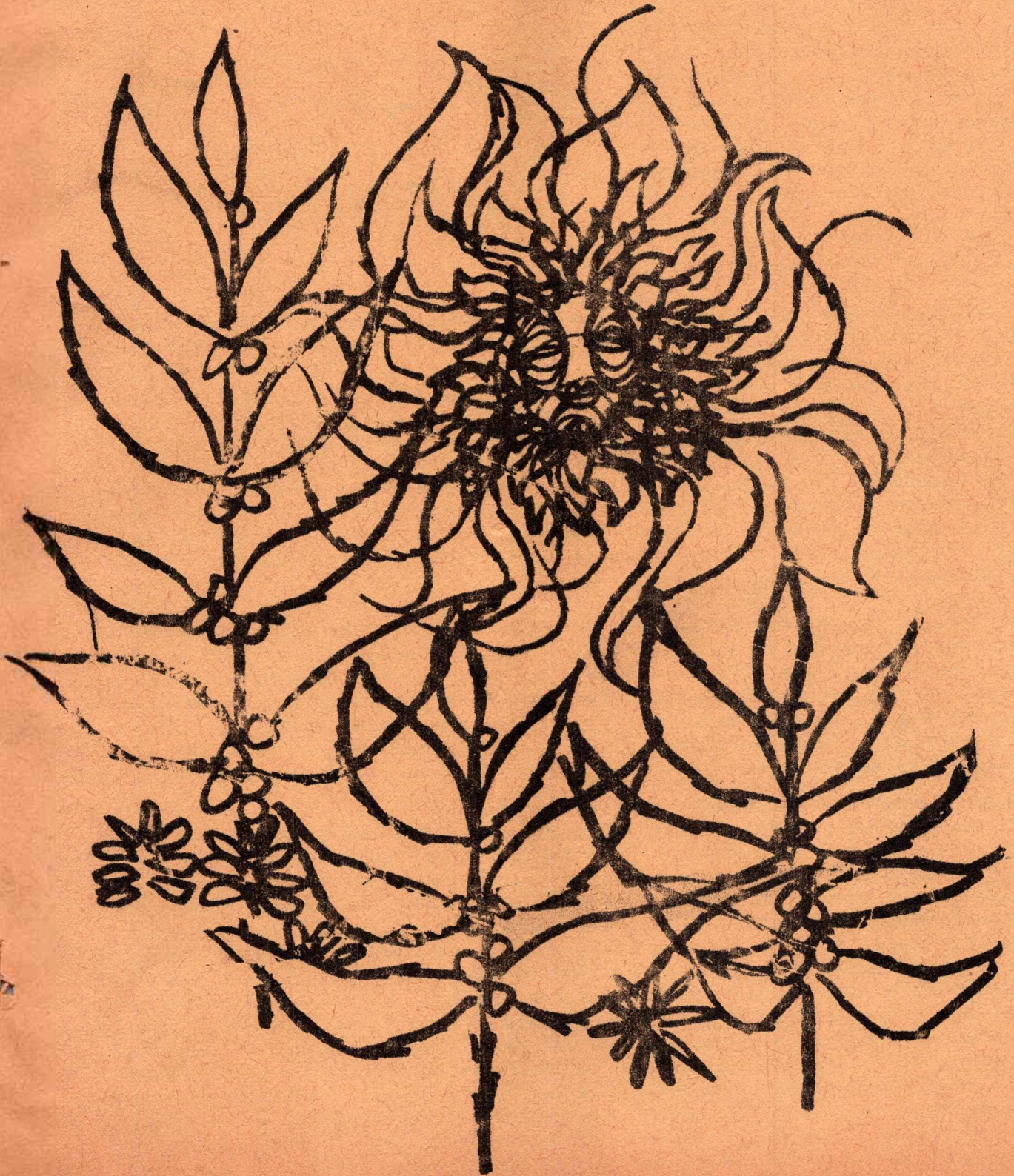


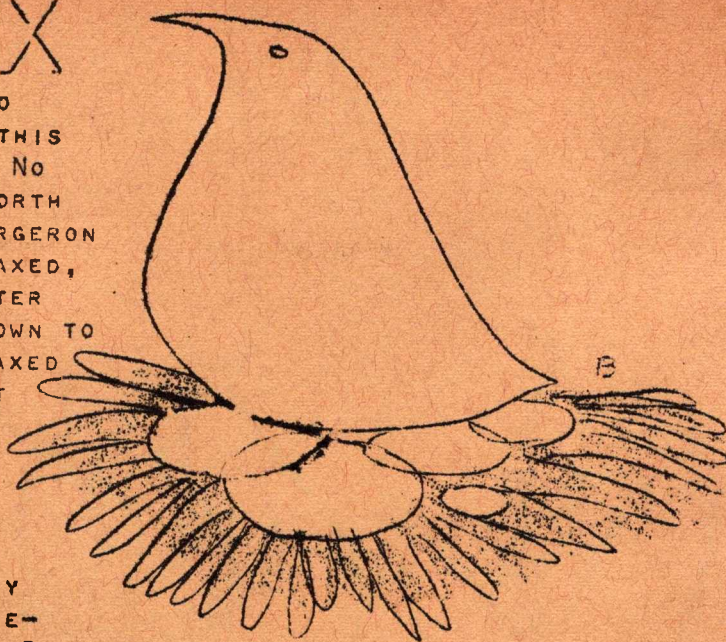
GEMZINE 4:22

PRODUCED FOR FAPA MAILING 86 BY G.M. CARR : 5319
BALLIARD AVE : SEATTLE 7 : WASH : CONTENTS: BAITBOX
UNASKED OPINION : MONSOON : EPISTLES AND EGOBOO



BAITBOX

"IT'S A WOMAN'S PREROGATIVE TO CHANGE HER MIND" THEY SAY, BUT IN THIS CASE I HAD MINE CHANGED FOR ME... NO SOONER HAD I ANNOUNCED THAT HENCEFORTH I SHOULD NO LONGER TRY TO TRACE BERGERON ILLOS MYSELF, BUT HAVE THEM STENAFAXED, THAN I FIND MYSELF TRACING THEM AFTER ALL. I TOOK ABOUT A DOZEN ILLOS DOWN TO THE LOCAL FIRM TO HAVE THEM STENAFAXED FOR THISH GZ, ONLY TO DISCOVER THAT I HAD MOUNTED THEM INCORRECTLY AND THEY COULD NOT BE RUN. NOT ONLY THAT, I'D MOUNTED THEM SO FIRMLY THEY COULD NOT BE REMOVED FROM THE BACKING SHEET WITHOUT TEARING -- SO HERE I AM BACK WHERE I STARTED, ONLY WORSE, BECAUSE SOME OF THEM ARE IRRETRIEVABLY LOST, I'M AFRAID. SORRY, RICHARD.

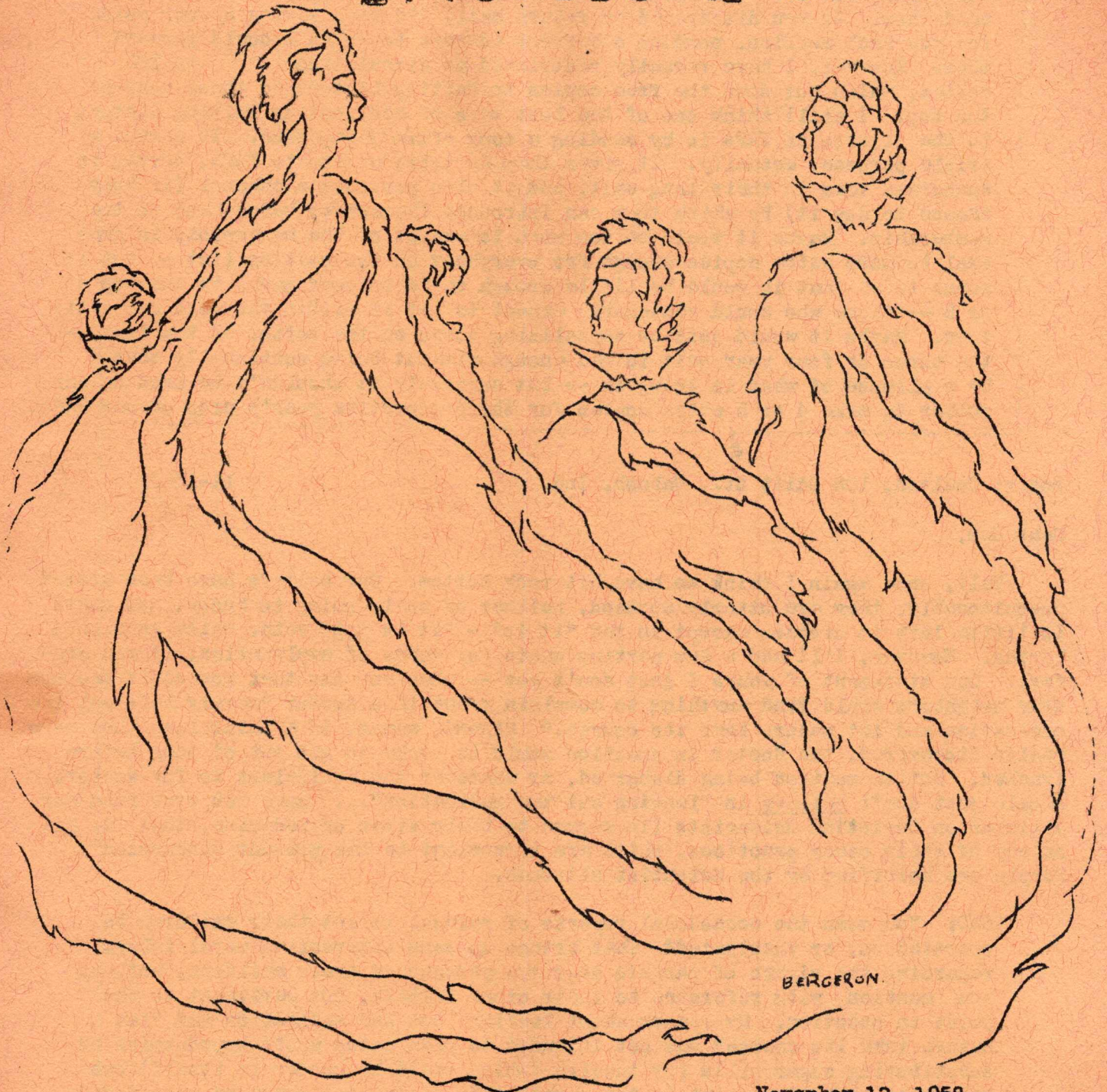


I DUNNO WHETHER DAT OL' DEBBIL 'FLU HAS BEFRIENDED OR BETRAYED MY READERS THISH... I HAD ABOUT 7 OR 8 PAGES OF BAITBOX MATERIAL ROUGHED OUT FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT, BUT I'LL BE LUCKY IF I GET EVEN THIS PAGE TYPED. SUCH INTERESTING SUBJECTS I HAD LINED UP FOR COMMENT, TOO: SAINTS, ESP, & FRANCES PARKINSON KEYES; GREEN & WHITE CHRISTMAS; SAMUEL PEPYS; MOOMAW & THE BEAT GENERATION; MORE COMMENTS ON THE FAPA WAITING LIST; AND THE PROBLEM OF VERBAL COMMUNICATION TOGETHER WITH SEVERAL CHOICE EXAMPLES OF NITWIT THINKING CULLED FROM FAPA'S PAGES -- INCLUDING ONE ESPECIALLY ASININE COMMENT WHICH APPARENTLY INDICATES THAT THE WRITER SEES NO DIFFERENCE WHATSOEVER BETWEEN MEDICAL TREATMENT OF A TOOTH THAT NEEDS FILLING, A TERMINAL CANCER OR A BABY BORN WITHOUT HEARTVALVES. (IF THAT BE 'LOGIC', THEN JIM CAUGHRAN IS CERTAINLY RIGHT -- I SURE DON'T RECOGNIZE LOGIC WHEN I SEE IT!)

AS A RESULT OF MY 'FLU-WEAKENED INDIFFERENCE, I TOSS ALL THIS MATERIAL OUT WITH THE REFLECTION THAT, AFTER ALL, I HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO FAPANS TO TRY AND PERSUADE THEM TO USE THEIR INTELLECTS TO SWOT OUT THE MEANING OF A NEW IDEA COINED IN TERMS OTHER THAN THOSE WITH WHICH THEY ARE FAMILIAR. IF THEY HAVE NOT LEARNED HOW TO GRAPPLE WITH A DIFFICULT CONCEPT BEFORE THIS, THE LOSS IS THEIRS, NOT MINE. I CAN ONLY OPEN A NEW AVENUE OF THOUGHT -- THE EFFORT OF EXPLORING IT IS UP TO THEM. SO I CONCLUDE WITH A QUOTATION FROM JOSEPH BREIG:

"EVEN A NEWSPAPER COLUMNIST SURELY IS ENTITLED TO AT LEAST ONE NEW YEAR'S WISH. IF THAT BE SO, THEN I DEVOUTLY DESIRE THAT CERTAIN PERSONS AMONG MY READERS WILL MAKE-AND KEEP-THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION FOR 1959: 'UPON MY HONOR I WILL NEVER JUMP TO THE CONCLUSION THAT BECAUSE BREIG PRAISES RAIN, HE CONSIDERS SUNSHINE INFERIOR, AND IS OPPOSED TO ALL STATEMENTS CONCERNING ITS BEAUTY.' ..MUST A WRITER, IF HE SAYS HE LIKES CANADA VERY MUCH, HASTEN TO EXPLAIN THAT HE DOES NOT LOOK DOWN HIS NOSE AT GERMANY AND IRELAND AND ENGLAND.. -- NOT ONE OF WHICH HE HAS EVER LAID EYES ON? THE SIMPLE FACT IS THAT NOBODY HAS EVER REALLY LEARNED HOW TO READ UNTIL HE HAS CONSENTED, CONSCIOUSLY OR UNCONSCIOUSLY, TO REFRAIN FROM ATTRIBUTING TO A WRITER VIEWS WHICH THE WRITER HAS NOT EXPRESSED AT ALL. A WRITER, IN OTHER WORDS, HAS GOT TO HAVE SOME FREEDOM. HE HAS A RIGHT TO EXPECT REASONABLE UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION FROM READERS. OTHERWISE HE MUST FALL INTO TOTAL SILENCE, LEST EVERYTHING HE SAYS BE MISINTERPRETED... AND SO I REPEAT -- MY DESIRE FOR 1959 IS THAT READERS STERNLY PUT DOWN THIS TENDENCY TO ASSUME THAT BECAUSE I SAY THAT ICE CREAM IS TASTY, THEREFORE I CONSIDER ALL OTHER DESSERTS REVOLTING. IT IS UNFAIR TO TREAT A WRITER LIKE THAT."

EPISTLES & EGOBOO



Richard Geis, 19 Wave Crest Ave., Venice, Calif.

November 12, 1958

Dear Gert;

I'm in FAPA now. Sent in my credentials and dues and should receive the November mailing. Thing is, Tho, I miss your fulminations very much, and for some reason I've been cut off your list. Probably because I didn't comment on the last issue of GEMZINE I did receive. I'm humbly sorry. Could you possibly send me a copy, posthaste, of GEMZINE 4/20? I'm enclosing postage. And I promise to comment.

SINCerely,

/s/ Dick Geis

(GMC: The 'cut-off' was purely functional, Dick -- I didn't know where to send them. As you discovered by return mail, I'd been laying a copy aside for you each mailing, pending a current address to which I could forward them. However, I have recently restricted my circulation to 100 copies, which cut down the free copies to Waiting Listers to those nearest the top. I still think one of the best ways of acclimating Waiting Listers to the climate of FAPA is by sending a copy of one's Fapazine. It serves a triple purpose, actually. It gives them an introduction to FAPA, serves to encourage them in their long wait, and it also provides a channel (if they choose to use it) by which they can introduce themselves beforehand to the membership. Maybe it would be too much to expect of the membership in general to make extra copies enough for everybody on the waiting list -- but it seems to me that it would be little enough to do to send maybe to the top 4 or 5 -- those who could reasonably expect to get in within the next few mailings. Maybe it would just be tantalizing those on the bottom of the list -- the three or four year wait is bad enough without being continually teased by a glimpse of what is going on -- but certainly it shouldn't be hard on any member to make 4 or 5 extra copies for the prospective year's crop of new FAPs.)

Robert Coulson, 105 Stitt St., Wabash, Ind.

11-15-58

Dear Gem,

Well, once again I think we have hit rock bottom. Our beliefs have been stated unequivocally, they are utterly opposed, neither of us is going to budge, and there is little left to discuss except in the "it is" - "it is not" vein, which soon gets boring. However, I'll add a few parting shots (or words of explanation, if you prefer). One statement of yours I just don't get -- when you say that you can't see how nosy neighbors could find anything to complain about if a doctor "merely left out the medication and let nature take its course." Migawd, woman, if a thing like that were really discovered, the doctor in question would be lucky to get out of town before lynched. Not to mention being disbarred, or whatever the equivalent is for doctors. People just don't believe in "leaving out the medication"... have you ever read any articles on Christian Scientists (in regard to their views on medicine, that is, not on any of their other practices, which are irrelevant to the present discussion?) People are horrified by the Scientist attitude.

(GMC: You mean the occasional reports of refusal to let their children be operated on, or vaccinated? That brings up some interesting moral values regarding the rights of parents over the persons of their children, but, as you mention with reference to their other beliefs, not pertinent to the point in question. My remark about leaving out the medication and "let nature take its course" was not intended to mean using empty hypodermics or substituting sugar pills for insulin (which would be murder in itself) but rather to that fine point in the physician's discretion where he must decide on what further steps to take to keep the moribund patient alive for a few days or weeks or months longer... Suppose he just didn't recommend any further treatment when he saw there was no chance of a real cure? For instance, on Thanksgiving Day my son's Mother-in-Law was late to dinner (with us -- we all met together at our home this year, solving the tussle about who goes to which set of In-Laws by joining both sets in one fell swoop) because she works in the kitchen of a Government hospital and had to mix the special diets for the tube-fed patients. She mentioned that one of these patients had been lying there "like a vegetable" for 18 months. He was alive -- but that was all. He was in a coma, was incurable, and there was no question that he could

Coulson

ever recover. The only question was how long they could keep the spark of life from dying out altogether... For a year and a half all the resources of the Hospital staff were concentrated on preventing a man from dying, a man that was to all intents and purposes, already dead. For what gain? Why? At the time she described how they kept this man alive, she also mentioned the desperate condition of many of the other patients. She was deeply and genuinely grieved because the limited number of beds available in proportion to the numbers of patients awaiting admission, meant that most of them were "too sick" by the time they were admitted for hospitalization, that the treatment could do them little good. "If only they could get them in early enough," she wailed, "they could cure more of them..." But even she, quite obviously, saw no connection between the "vegetable" occupying a bed for 18 months, and the sick applicant for admission who was growing sicker by the minute until by the time there was a bed available, it would be too late to help him.... Possibly in a Government hospital the Doctors have to experiment with these living corpses and see how long they can survive -- a human version of Dr. Alexis Carrel's chicken-heart tissue, so to speak. But in private practice, I see no reason at all for this cruel prolongation of a terminal illness. Why should a doctor eat up the family's savings and take up all their energies (including their emotional expenditure in anxiety and love) by ever-increasing medication? To cure a patient is one thing -- I'm all in favor of any means that will restore a patient to health and usefulness again -- but merely to prevent them from their normal death is something else again, and, in my opinion at least, is thoroughly immoral. Better to let the patient die honorably in the fullness of years as the natural result of his age and/(or - in the case of congenital, incorrectible defects) infirmity, than to torture him and his entire family by needlessly prolonging the futile agony. That's the way I see it, and God knows that when my time comes to die, I only hope I don't fall into the hands of some impersonal routine that will strip me of my identity as a human being and keep me alive 'like a vegetable' for months and years on end, just to see how long they can do it!)

Are you implying that the people who are sneered at as "do-gooders" are actually high-minded idealists? You should live in a small town for a while -- you might learn the difference. There are high-minded idealists, and there are nosy-parkers who enjoy prying into other people's private lives under the guise of "doing good" and there are a hell of a lot more of the latter than there are of the former.

(GMC: True - very true indeed. But you overlook the point that formerly these so-called 'nosy-parkers' were respected for trying to do good (even though sometimes their idea of what was 'good' for people was plenty weird) whereas now, even the high-minded idealists are sneered at and scorned and told to mind their own business if they attempt to alleviate human misery or want without going through the proper charitable channels! I can't help but think that the nosy-parkers who were tolerated for the good they tried to do -- and, for all we know, actually DID do -- were preferable to the cruel cynicism which now denies the ordinary human being the right to express his compassion for the needs of his fellow-men by direct action, and insists, instead, that all charity be conducted by the State Welfare Board!)

Most of the nosy brand operate on a local rather than a national level, and therefore don't get the individual attention of someone like Father Damien -- or Father Flanagan, for that matter. But I can think of one well-known example of a do-gooder who should better have been strangled at birth; Anthony Comstock. He's the shining example of everything that is wrong with censorship; if you call him a high-minded idealist I can only say that you have rocks in your head.

Coulson

(GMC: Poor Comstock! -- he's been the bugaboo of all the anti-censorship boys ever since Freud revealed the nature of his motivation! No, I don't call him a high-minded idealist -- although, according to the best of his torn, twisted personality, that is what he tried to be. I call him a sick neurotic who struggled with a sense of sin and shame which was more than he was able to handle. Like many another so-called "hypocrite", he tried to project his own moral weakness onto others, and by curbing them, he attempted to expiate his own sins. He isn't typical of anybody except himself -- and yet, this one weak, sick crusader against his own evil is being used as an excuse for throwing off all curbs against the unbridled abuse of the "freedom of the press". The argument, so often advanced, that laws to prevent the spread of moral filth would encourage people like Anthony Comstock, seems as ridiculous to me as it would be to say that laws to prevent the spread of Smallpox will encourage the number of people who have been horribly disfigured with its scars...)

Right and wrong are unalterable

(GMC: I said "..unalterable as moral values.."

but are affected by social environment.

You're right there; I'm quite unable to realize the alleged facts in that statement. For one thing, I suspect that you just threw Christianity out of the window.

(GMC: Look, Bob, "right" and "wrong" are human concepts -- they are the measure of man's difference from an animal. Animals can recognize "good" and "bad" as it pertains to their own comfort or safety, but no one has yet discovered an animal capable of conceiving of "Right" as an abstract principle, or of making the moral judgement that a thing is "wrong" in itself -- no matter how desirable or advantageous to himself, personally. [A dog comes pretty close, at times, since instances have been found of dogs who would obey an order that meant their own death, or starve to death rather than leave a post or eat forbidden food.] But, as we discussed several mailings ago in FAPA, "right" and "wrong" are moral judgements, and it is impossible to form a moral judgement without some standard of values by which to judge. Standards of value are determined by the culture or the environment. "Right" was just as right, and "Wrong" was just as wrong to the ancient Babylonians as it is to us today, but the specific instances of their concept of "right" might well seem the basest "wrong" to us.... There have been many standards of values -- in fact, there still are -- but in all of them there is always a "Right" and a "Wrong" for humans to follow or reject. These values are unalterable in the human conscience, and, as I said above, are the measure of a human being's difference from a mere animal.

Well, maybe not, either; Christian morals are accepted in some places as standard, even though not one person in 100 actually practices them. Of course, I'm wrong in one respect; just because I regard martyrs as unlucky fanatics I shouldn't expect others to do so.

(GMC: You're entitled to your opinion, even as I am entitled to mine -- and in my opinion I can't see what is so "unlucky" about dying in the full expectation of immediate bliss in Paradise... People have to die in any event, whether they go willingly or fight protesting to the last breath. Dying as a martyr for one's Faith seems to me as good a way as any, for sound psychological reasons that have nothing at all to do with whether or not their expectations would be fulfilled. In fact, the ones that seem pitiable to me are those who cling desperately to a few more days or years of life -- giving up all hope of future happiness for a mere continuation of the present humiliation and discomfort. I wonder how an apostate who saved his own life at the expense of his Faith can endure living under any conditions....)

Coulson

Any war of aggression is waged against the entire human race, if you want to argue that way, because the entire human race suffers, in some respect, because of it. So it's a general condition; I never said that it wasn't. You say our nation is less aggressive than most, therefore we should all support the country when it does pick on Panama or Nicaragua... That's nonsense, and you ought to know it.

"When a felon's not engaged in his employment,

Or maturing his felonious little plans,

His capacity for innocent enjoyment

Is just as great as any honest man's."

I can't see that just because the U.S. Doesn't attack every nation that comes handy, as Germany is prone to do, that it should be patriotically supported when it does attack one. Should we applaud a murderer because he only kills someone on rare occasions?

(GMC: Hmm.. So you regard the nation's Statesmen as "murders" do you? Well, my opinion of the recent brand of statesmanship isn't much better -- but so long as they are the heads of our Government, I believe we should support them in their judgement. We elect them for the purpose of determining the "right" and "wrong" of any matter, including when war is justified or justifiable, and therefore, in the last analysis, it is the fault of those who elected them. I, personally, believe that the late FDR was definitely wrong in embroiling this nation in a war that was none of our business, and I bitterly resent the political meddling that is currently going on... but this does not mean that I condone disloyalty to this nation merely because it is not being conducted according to my whims and fancies, nor that I would betray my nation's leaders to its enemies merely because I like their brand of politics. Loyalty to a nation, like loyalty to anything else, means sticking by it and trying to help even when it isn't doing just exactly what you want it to.)

As for the rest of it, I happen to actually believe in "to thine own self be true" and you believe in "...right or wrong, my country". That seems to be the basic disagreement, and I doubt if we'll ever get any farther along with it.

(GMC: Actually, it is a disagreement as to the relative importance of "thine own self.." If I understand you correctly, you are saying that the part (that is, your own ego) is more important than the whole (ie, the nation). If the nation does not conduct itself according to your personal whims, you feel free to betray or reject it on the grounds that your own "self" is the more important. I do not place such an egotistic value on my own opinions. As in the case I cited, where I felt that FDR was morally wrong in bringing us into war, nevertheless I supported this nation in its war effort in every way I could, regardless of how little I wanted the war or sympathized with the motives which caused it. To me, the welfare of the nation as a whole was more important than my personal prejudices. Naturally, I expect that same definition of "loyalty" from others. The spectacle of a person who goes off and sulks because he can't get his own way looks very bad to me at any time -- but when it reaches the point of refusal to uphold his own nation because he doesn't like the way it is being run, it looks especially revolting. I certainly hope that is not what you mean by your comments.)

You seem to be remarkably obtuse in RAITBOX, or were you just fishing for letters of comment? Anyway, it seems fairly certain that what Evans meant by "not be applicable to one person only" is that you simply can't keep out W_____ just because he's W_____ because if you start blackballing waiting-listers, there's no logical place to stop.

Coulson

(GMC: As Curt Janke says, "Why not?" If W_____ is the one we do not want, why not come to the point and say so, without any blathering around about it? As for fear of discriminating against other WLrs as a result, I think there's less danger of that if we set a precedent of rejecting a waiting lister by name because of his obnoxiousness, than if we attempt to set up some impersonal screening system. After all, it takes an awful lot of obnoxiousness to create the shocked disgust certain FAPAns feel toward W_____. If any other fan could create that same amount of ill-will toward himself that would stir us from our lethargy as W_____ has done, he too, would deserve to be blackballed.)

What is needed is a valid legal amendment to the constitution which will keep out W_____ without referring to him specifically, but which cannot be used as a precedent to keep out other waiting-listers who are not liked but who aren't so absolutely nauseating. It's a good problem, actually. And while you've mentioned W_____ 's undesirability, have you ever actually produced a plan for keeping him out? Quite possibly you have, but I don't recall any, offhand.

(GMC: As a new member, naturally you wouldn't. I doubt if there is any member that hasn't produced a plan of one sort or another for keeping W_____ out without screening other fans, as well. I think this is a foolish technicality to insist on a "valid legal amendment" -- who do we think we are, Congress? Besides, how could you? What excuse could you give? What measurement of obnoxiousness would you use? That he has been clamped down on by the Postal Authorities for sending vicious and obscene matter through the mail? Both DAG and our late Vernon L. were hauled on the carpet by the Postoffice, too. Would you want to take a chance on screening out fans of their calibre, just because you don't want to discriminate against W_____? In short, there just ISN'T any way of protecting FAPA from individuals like W_____. The only thing we can do, in my opinion, is just refuse to accept him on the Waiting List by general acclaim. By petition, if anyone insists on being "legal" about it.)

HORIZON is a beautiful magazine. Bev DeWeese got a free copy (schoolteachers get all sorts of literary plums, I've discovered) and I spent part of an evening admiring it. It isn't worth the money, though, to me.

I enjoyed "A Fable" very much. If I get a chance I'll show it to Dad; he does not dig science fiction, but he's an old CHICAGO TRIBUNE man and should like it. Of course, it is wishful thinking in more than one sense; not only is such a change of attitude unlikely, but the results given are pretty unlikely, too. (I don't think anything is likely to change France, for example; two world wars fought mainly on French soil have finished that nation as a political force.)

When you're fulminating against "generalities", you might consider that neither Trimble nor I (nor any other writer in GEMZINE that I've seen) has accused the Government of being 'a bunch of bloated blood-suckers, greedy Capitalists' etc. I don't object to your arguing against generalities, but I do object to your arguing against them, and producing them yourself, in the same paragraph.

(GMC: A point well taken. I should perhaps have made the sentence read, "those kids who.." instead of "you kids..." Actually, I had in mind the type of argument advanced by the "liberals" among my readers, those of a mind with Dave Rike and Dick Ellington (neither of which, incidentally, have used that particular phraseology as far as I know, but certainly reflect the type of propaganda that does use it). And, although it was indeed you who mentioned the 'disloyalty to the human race' issue, I was thinking more of the so-called "Peace-Marchers" and the other fellow-travellers who enjoy the benefits of the US while pandering to its enemies by their excessive gullability.)

Coulson

.....(Later - Nov. 25, 1958)....
I'm sitting around with a cold (not enough to put me in bed but enough to make me feel miserable), it's cold and rainy outside, and the mail consisted of a premium catalog, an advertising catalog from a local toy store, and a rather astounding leaflet from one H.R. Frye, regarding OMEGA.

I don't know if you ever received this fanzine; it's a little half-sized deal, reproduced legibly but without any inspiration, and pretty cruddy in general. Thus, several phrases in the ad are pretty funny....."we plan your ad through our commercial art staff for the best possible LAYOUT and DESIGN for READER APPEAL." "...send in your subscription to the BEST S-F Fanzine...OMEGA."

I'm rejoicing.... Honeywell has purchased a multilith. Now if they'll just get it set up (it's sitting in the hallway getting in everyone's way at the moment), if I can learn to use it, and if I can get permission to use it for private matter (or figure a way of using it without permission), we can start using up all those beautiful illos we've glommed onto during the years which won't reproduce on mimeo,

Bruce is busily engaged in tearing up the toy catalog which arrived today... none of the toys in it would amuse him half as long as the catalog itself does. After being with him for an entire day, I am coming to have a high regard for Juanita, who has to put up with him every day.

Yours, /s/ Buck

(GMC: Now that you are a full-fledged FAPAN, I suppose these long (and, to me, at least, delightful) letter-conversations will be at an end. But I have enjoyed them and I hope they have served as an adequate introduction of you to the rest of the membership, so that you can take your place in the current bull-sessions with a minimum of jarring re-adjustment. Best of luck to you both, and welcome to FAPA.)

George Nims Raybin, Attorney At Law, 1326 Grand Concourse, New York 56, NY. Nov. 24

Dear Gem:

I just finished reading Belle's copy of Gemsine 4/21 and, although I disagreed with much of the contents, enjoyed reading it very much.

I would like to make one small addition to your comment concerning the fanzines distributed at the Solacon on the WSFS controversy. Neither Belle and Frank Diets nor I brought any fanzines to distribute on this controversy because the three of us feel very strongly that such distribution at a convention has a detrimental effect on the spirit of the conventioners.

(GMC: Nobody said you did. The names "George Nims Raybin" or "Belle and/or Frank Diets" were not mentioned at all -- neither in connection with distributing fanzines, nor anywhere else in GZ 4/21. The names of the fanzines in question were listed, together (in most instances) with the names of the editors who distributed them. It was neither stated nor implied that you 3 had any.)

It is more than a little confusing to be blamed for the actions of others. I always see to it that my own actions conform to certain ethical standards -- but I have never insisted that others must also follow my standards.

When you blame a group of fans for the actions of a few you are violating a fundamental principle of Americanism, i.e., that each person is responsible only for his own actions. As a past Commander of the American Legion, I consider this quite important.

Raybin

I respect your right to condemn any acts you believe to be morally or legally wrong but I expect you to condemn only the persons actually responsible for those acts.
With justice for all,

/s/ George

GEORGE NIMS RAYBIN

GNR:bcd

(GMC: Good God! This guy must be jittery as a wounded rattler -- he strikes at anything that even moves! Far from "blaming" him for "the actions of others", he wasn't even mentioned in GZ! /Come to think of it, maybe that's what is eating him....])

Belle Dietz, 1721 Grand Avenue, Bronx 53, N.Y.

Nov. 25, 1958

Dear Gem;

Thank you very much for the issue of Gemzine 4/21. I found it to be a very well written, well-laid out fanzine. Personally, I do not agree with your political views, but you set them forth interestingly and I enjoyed reading them.

As to the WSFS "getting in anyone's hair", quite frankly I do not think you have to worry about that. I have in my possession letters from the Solacon committee stating that the assistance they received from the WSFS officials was very valuable. They were perfectly willing to accept the memberships collected by the WSFS officials, or information furnished and they said so, frequently and even publicly. The only thing they were not willing to do was to become involved in the problems of the WSFS. To that extent I think they kept the WSFS very nicely out of their hair.

(GMC: Yes, I agree they did. It took a determined (and public) brushoff to do it, but I think they made a very good job of drawing the line between official assistance and officious interference.)

Although I am no longer an officer or director of the WSFS, somehow I think that the Detroiters will not have too much to worry about with reference to the WSFS getting in their hair, that is, unless Dave Kyle does the getting. All of the directors have resigned but Newman and Kyle; that leaves only Kyle in this country to take any action. Of course there's still Frank as Recorder-Historian but the Detroiters have no problems on that score.

Yes, unless something arises from the Potsdam direction, I think Detroit can put on its Worldcon in peace, incorporation and quiet.

By the way, Ground Zero #3 is in the works just now and should be out soon, with a Solacon report as the feature.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

/s/ Belle

Tomas Cronholm, Sjovagen 10, Solna 1, Sweden

23 November 1958

Dear Mr. (sic!) Carr,

I'm very interested in your fanzine GEMZINE, and should be very much obliged if you sent me a copy of the latest issue of it.

(GMC: "Mr." ???)

Yours sincerely,
Tomas Cronholm

Martin Fleischman, 90-09 153rd Ave., Howard Beach 14, New York.

Dec. 1, 1959

Dear G.M.:

Now that I'm moving up the fapa w-1, I'd like to get a little more familiar with the organization (I am familiar with the fapa of the past couple years thru the surplus stock I've bought).. sooo, could you send me the latest GEMZINE? I'd muchly appreciate same.

Best--

/s/ marty

(GMC: At the rate of fapa turnover, Marty, I'd say there is no particular hurry.. you've got about a year ahead of you to get acquainted with what's going on. However, here's a copy for your information, and if you want to use the lettercol for commenting, go ahead...)

George Nims Raybin, 1326 Grand Concourse, New York 56, N.Y.

December 5, 1958

Dear G M Carr;

I just received your post card and hasten to correct my previous letter. It is my fault for not making myself clear -- on re-reading, I can see that my letter could have been easily misunderstood.

I did not mean to imply that you said we had distributed any fanzines at the Solacon; it was merely that you had mentioned that fanzines in the Kyle and WSFS controversies were distributed there. The distribution of such things at any convention is a sore point with us. At every big fan gathering since last May, we have arrived to find the place divided into two camps. Instead of merely being able to attend a conference in peace we immediately have to defend ourselves from some sort of attack (justified or unjustified) because someone is distributing something pro, con, or a-plague-on-both-your-houses type. As I say, this has been happening with such monotonous regularity that we have become overly sensitive.

I did not mean to imply that you had accused us of being guilty of this -- I was only voicing our own very strong views against this sort of behavior (and hoping you might print it, incidentally). I certainly do not wish to start any argument with you; I have more than enough troubles now.

I am, therefore, very sorry if I have offended you in any way and please consider this letter as my apology for doing so.

(GMC: No apology is necessary for an honest mistake, and I certainly am in no position to point a finger at somebody else for ambiguity of language! Now that we understand each other, let's hope that fandom in general does!)

Very sincerely,

/s/ George Nims Raybin

Alan J. Lewis, Box 37, East Aurora, N.Y.

December, 1958

Gem --

On my claims of FANTASY ASPECTS being Fandom's only reprint fanzine; at that time, and now, it is. I do not count REMEMBRANCES OF THINGS PAST because it is NOT available for general distribution, as far as I know. If it were, I'd throw in the towel right now since it really has FA beat...all, all, ALL the way...

Lewis

Thanks for your zine, I really do enjoy them, and I'll of course, reciprocate in kind.

Merry Christmas!

Alan J. Lewis

(GMC: Oh, you meant FA is Fandom's only reprint subzine -- well why didn't you say so? Actually, ROTP is fandom's only currently-published reprint fanzine, because any mag which is sold for money is technically a prozine and not a true fanzine in the sense of being an amateur publication only. Furthermore, until Ron Ellick states absolutely and positively that he isn't ever going to put out another ish of FANTastic Story Mag, you can't say for certain that yours is the only subzine dedicated to reprints... In short, Allan, my boy, to be completely truthful, your statement should have read, "Fandom's only currently published reprint subzine". Thanks for the very pretty Christmas card. ...and don't take me too seriously, I'm only kidding!)

Archie Mercer, 434/4, Newark Road, North Hykeham, Lincoln, Eng. 21 Dec. 1958

Dear GMC (pronounced "Gemsie" *I think):

GEMZINE 4/21 received with thanks and like that as usual. I won't say much about it on this occasion (which isn't QUITE as usual) but just an odd mention or two here and there.

"Crumpet" for instance. (In these parts, as well as ever further north, crumpets are known as "pikelets". Very small pikers, maybe?) Anyway, the idea he moots might well be possible, and if it was tried, might conceivably work. However, it'd be playing with a hell of a sight more than simply fire. It strikes me as what is nowadays termed "brinkmanship" of an extreme order. The trouble with brinkmanship of course is that the brink always remains strictly invisible - and is not necessarily where you think it is. So if you go too near where you think it is, you may well find that you've gone over the edge without realising it. Which procedure is not recommended.

The procedure outlined by "Crumpet" assumes that the Russians are mainly bluffing, and calls their bluff. But supposing that they weren't bluffing in the least? Or even worse possibly, they thought the West was, and tried to call OUR bluff in turn? (No - Crumpet separated America from the rest of the West, didn't he. In which case the American bluff would have to be even bigger still).

(GMC: Ah - but that was the exact point that made this bit of wishful-thinking so exquisitely soul-satisfying to us Conservatives! In this fantasy, America wasn't bluffing, and didn't give a Damn whether the Russians thought we were or not! Peter Crumpet gave vent to the exasperated impatience of some of our citizens who would just as soon fight as not...)

Come to think of it, I think that's all I WILL say on this occasion. I could plunge up to the elbows into this "loyalty" argument, but I don't think I'd be able to add anything particularly fresh to the proceedings - which continue to interest, nevertheless. And is Springmaid Mills any relation of Ellis Mills?

(GMC: Dunno - I never thought to ask him. But I hope, for his sake, that there might be. I wouldn't mind having a good slug of Springmaid Mills stock even if I am disappointed in Percale Sheets....)

Mercatorially as ever,

/s/ Archie

(*GMC: "Gemsie - Gemsie" - Hmm, that's kind of cute. I think I like it... Sounds real cozy, like, man.... Grandmotherish..warm cookies, rocking chair, et

Bruce Pelz, 4010 Leona St., Tampa 9, Florida.

December 17, 1958

Dear Gem,

Glad you liked the Nonsense Departments in Prof. Readers Guide to Periodic Illiterature is a new 'un, for which the entire blame falls on yo editor. It was built around the Does item, primarily. Re-authored Books has been getting help from all over; besides my own items, the others were supplied by Al Andrews (AMA) and THE Esmond Adams (EA).

Just for the record, ("Which record"? Damfino -- any record, I guess) I don't know the half of what went on between Ballard Ave and Upper Newtownards Rd -- and I have no intention of siding, even if I did know. I prefer to sit back and take pot shots at both sides, and risk getting caught in the middle. The "Effects of Gem Cutting" item was the result of a copy of PAMPHREY 7 which found its way down here. (Which reminds me, have you seen HYPHEN 21?)

(GMC: Nope -- He's not speaking to de any nose. -- not even that much).

Also, thanks for the copy of GEMZINE 4/21. Hmm -- appropriate or not, GEMZINE and PAMPHREY are the only zines I have from FAPA 85, and there they are all by themselves in the "85" folder. Oh well, come February, I hopw to be able to buy the entire mailing from Mr. Ted Does; I've joined the FAPA waiting list and started the long road to the "Elephants' Graveyard." Or at least I think I've joined -- haven't heard from Evans yet. See you there one of these years.

Erratically,

/s/ Bruce

$C_{23}H_{26}N_2O_4$ (none genuine w/o this)

(GMC: I like that "joined the Waiting List" -- that just about expresses it! Don't worry about taking sides in the recent fray -- that's old stuff now. Fandom's got lots of new feuds either coming up or on their way out already that are far more interesting...)

Lynn Hickman, 304 N. 11th, Mt. Vernon, Ill.

Jan. 11, 1959

Dear GM,

... Received GEMZINE. I'll be in FAPA with the next mailing. Am in 3 apas now but haven't decided for sure to drop any. If I do, it will be SAPS. It has never held my interest very well. Sorry to just send a card again, but I'm still up at 2:00 AM to write this. Just too much to do in too little time. Being gone all week the family has to come first on the week ends. Kent Corey is married now and living in Tulsa.

Yo's

/s/ Lynn

(GMC: Will somebody please give my congratulations to Kent when or if they see him. Wedding bells are ringing out all over fandom lately -- and making a pleasant contrast to the loud clamour of the recent Knells that have been tolling... The world goes on, replenishing itself after every loss, and GMC is all in favor of it!)

Thanks to all of you who sent us Christmas and New Years Greetings. We appreciate them all the more knowing they came spontaneously from your good wishes, and not in a perhaps unwilling response to one from us... The enclosed card (for those of you who receive one -- FAPAns, mostly) is Richard Bergeron's greeting to his friends and enclosed at his request. My wishes for your happiness include a prayer for your temporal and spiritual welfare during the coming year. May God bless you all.

Pierre Versins and Martine Thome, being twisted-minded persons, have chosen the more difficult way to have a baby of their own. They have at last succeeded and they are now willing to announce that they have adopted a little girl, born the 26th of January, 1958, whose Christian name is

DOMINIQUE

Her soft brown eyes are now open at Primerose 38, Lausanne, Switzerland, the colour which surrounds her is yellow with a trifle of blue here and there, and if she doesn't love books, it'll be for she has too much of them to see everywhere; then she'll hate them; she has a bed, a chair, some clothes, a mother, toys, food, a she-cat, drawings, a bath-room and other rooms, a name, a land and a father, all her own possessions. And she hopes to have you, too.

(GMC: Parenthood is a precious thing, whether voluntary or involuntary. But doubly fortunate is the child whose parents loved her so much as to hunt through the world until they found the only one who could be their own. Congratulations to all three of you for finding each other.)

Roger Horrocks, 18 Hazelmere Rd, Mount Albert, Auckland SW1, New Zed.

Dear Gem,

I'm sorry I've been so tardy in answering your fanzines. But I did enjoy 'em both, and owe you a special word of thanks for the way you publicised N.Z. fandom in No. 20. Kia ora koutou katea, as Honi would say.

Good covers. They (19 & 20) are two of the best fanzine covers I've ever seen. If you don't mind me saying so, tho, 19 does seem a cover worthy of much better things, particularly worthy of carefully drawn issue and volume numbers, so that the neat effect of the illustration is not spoiled by sloppy numbering. Still, they are very fine drawings, and I hope you'll be publishing more by Bergeron.

(GMC: I agree wholeheartedly -- especially on GZ 4/19. I tried in vain to give the stencil of that illo to a group of local fans with a Gestetner, so that they could give it the fine repro it deserved. Unfortunately, they prefer L. Garcone illustrations... I'll continue to use Bergeron illos as long as he remains patient with the kind of treatment they get, but I can recognize my own inadequacies as a publisher much better than I can correct them! My equipment is incredibly primitive -- it is not only hand cranked, hand slip-sheeted, but even hand fed! Every time I run an illo, I sigh with regret at what DAG or TEW could have done with it...)

What are Stenafax stencils? Do you use some sort of photographic method to transfer drawings onto stencil? Over here we have a process called "Electronic stencilling" (not to be confused with ELLIKtRONic stencilling, the process used by the publishing giants of Berkeley). E.S. is promoted by the Roneo company. That's how Kiwifan covers are done. (The gold used on No. 8 is an additional gimmick, used in conjunction with E.S.)

(GMC: It is probably the same thing. "Stenafax" is the trade name for an electronic process that burns out the black portions from a master sheet onto a corresponding rubber stencil by means of an electric eye. This rubber stencil is impervious to typewriter keys or stencilling tools and can only be altered by a razor cut or by an inserted patch of wax stencil -- which accounts for the poor quality of the lettering on the early covers. Later covers (as in the present cover) will have the lettering right on the master -- I hope!)

I was intrigued by the question you asked on the first page of Unmasked Opinion, in Gemzine 19. Question was: why do Christians pray for the dying to be kept alive? No one has been able to give me a satisfactory answer. I can only guess that it's all got something to do with the idea of devout Christians dedicating their lives to serving as God's witnesses on earth. The longer a Christian is alive, the longer he can serve his cause on Earth and be an example to his fellow mortals. Thus the world may be left just a teeny bit better for his extra month or so of life on Earth. It's a lousy explanation --- but no one has been able to give me a better.

(GMC: Your guess is as good as mine --- maybe so. But as for me, I suspect that when you come right down to it, many a Christian is afraid to die no matter how great the promise of Paradise, nor how firmly he believes in it. But that is a socially unacceptable confession of human weakness, which might have a deleterious effect on the faith of other Christians, if known (or admitted) and so I suppose they have to come up with some such rationalization in excuse.)

Was also intrigued by the discussion about Pygmalians (not -ions?) worshipping a statue, etc. I think this sort of argument can be quite easily resolved if everybody realises that music can give two distinct kinds of pleasure. Good music can, at any rate. On the one hand, there's the kind of thrill to be had from actually attending a concert --- the aura of excitement that surrounds a live session. On the other hand, there's the pleasure intrinsic in the music itself (the sounds and rhythms, blended and contrasted) which is better enjoyed away from the distractions of an audience.

If you want an example of these two separate kinds of pleasure you can probably get one from your analogy of the beautiful woman's kiss. A perfect wife (if there was such a creature) would be beautiful and would give pleasure with her physical charms. But she should offer more than that. She should also be able to give pleasure with her conversation, or to be more general, with her personality. It is a common saying (in Dorothy Dix columns) that a couple shouldn't marry only for sex. They should be able to enjoy each other's company, apart from physical pleasure.

(GMC: I suspect you missed the whole point of that simile. I referred to the difference between kissing a live woman and kissing a photograph as an example of the futility of attempting to re-create the Jazz of the Twenties by listening to a phonograph recording of it. Certainly recorded music has its place -- after all, why do lonely men hang up "Pin-up Girls" to look at, and carry snapshots of their sweetheart in their wallet? But to anyone who lived thro the Jazz Era, as I did, the spectacle of modern-day Jazz addicts hunched over a hi-fi set is as ridiculous as it would be to a Don Juan with a wench in his arms to see a youth mooning over a statue... True, you make the point that music appreciation is both a matter of intellectual appreciation of the esthetic qualities, and a physical reaction to the sensual appeal to the emotions. But Jazz, as it was experienced and played in the Twenties, was a striking phenomenon of an emotional hysteria. Certainly they listened to phonograph recordings --- but not for any pretended intellectual or esthetic appeal. It was strictly a make-shift until they could get to the real thing -- a "real thing" which included a player-to-listener empathy which had nothing at all to do with its esthetic appeal. Today's "Beat Generation" going glassy-eyed into a group trance over the Bongo Drums is perhaps an illustration of it --- but instead of being a screwball minority of esoterics hiding in dim cellars, it was an entire population infected with the Jazz craze. The "Flaming Youth" of the Twenties really DID "flame" with an all-out blaze that made the present-day esoterics look like a sullen smoulder. To try and capture this from a phonograph recording is sheer absurdity -- and to pretend that one can do it by an "intellectual" appreciation is not only absurd, it is an utterly asinine affectation which is excusable only because of the blatant ignorance which pretends to.)

Well, then's my theories: good jazz can be appreciated two ways, and it would be silly to say that either one of the ways is better than t'other.

Hope there will be more discussion on this subject because I do have a personal interest in it. That is, in this remote corner of the globe I don't have the opportunity of attending good jazz concerts. Recorded jazz is virtually the only good stuff available.

(GMC: This discussion has been running for over a year now, and I suspect it is just about over -- after all, there's only so much that can be said on the subject without starting all over again. However, maybe some of my readers and fellow-FAPans who have commented on this subject in the past may still have a copy left of their fnz containing their remarks that they might send you, for your information and/or comment. How about it, kids -- could you dig up an extra copy of your mag for Roger so as to give him a picture of what has already been said on this subject? Unfortunately, Vernon L. McCain -- whose comments really started all this hassel -- is dead, and there is no way of knowing where his fanzines may be. However, it might be that someone has an extra copy of that, too, which could be sent. Aside from Vernon, the most vociferous disputants in this discussion were (as I recall) Ted White, Harry Warner, Boyd Raeburn and Richard Eney. But anybody else who said anything at all on the subject would undoubtedly be just as welcomed.)

The one other comment on Gemzine that I would like to make is that you'd have one of the best lettercolumns in fandom --- if only you could cut down your own commentary. Lettercolumns are the place where readers get their say.

(GMC: Not in MY fanzine, it isn't!!!!) Some editors may prefer the concept of a lettercolumn as a lecturing podium from which the guest-speaker may spout his opinions with a minimum of heckling from the audience, but I regard it -- at least in my fanzine -- as a conversation wherein the writer and I indulge in a pro-and-con discussion. I have the edge, admittedly, since I know what he is going to say and can shape my side of the argument accordingly. But, even so, it does give somewhat the effect of a conversation. At least, that is the effect that I intend it to have -- even if I do do most of the talking....)

Editorial interjections seem too much like unwarranted interruptions.

(GMC: Only when you cannot clearly distinguish them from the text of the letter. I, myself, become extremely irked at editorial interjections which are so blatantly crowded into the body of the letter itself that it requires an effort to distinguish who is saying what. I particularly dislike having to trace back to the beginning of the sentence to discover who is speaking -- the writer or the editor -- and I admit that it is impossible to follow a line of thought that is continually being chopped up with impertinent wisecracks by the editor. But I do not think that is the case in GZ. Here the comments are clearly indented and prefaced for what they are. If any reader wishes to read the body of the letter - uninterrupted by editorial comment - it is easy enough to do. Just ignore the indented portions, it's as simple as that....)

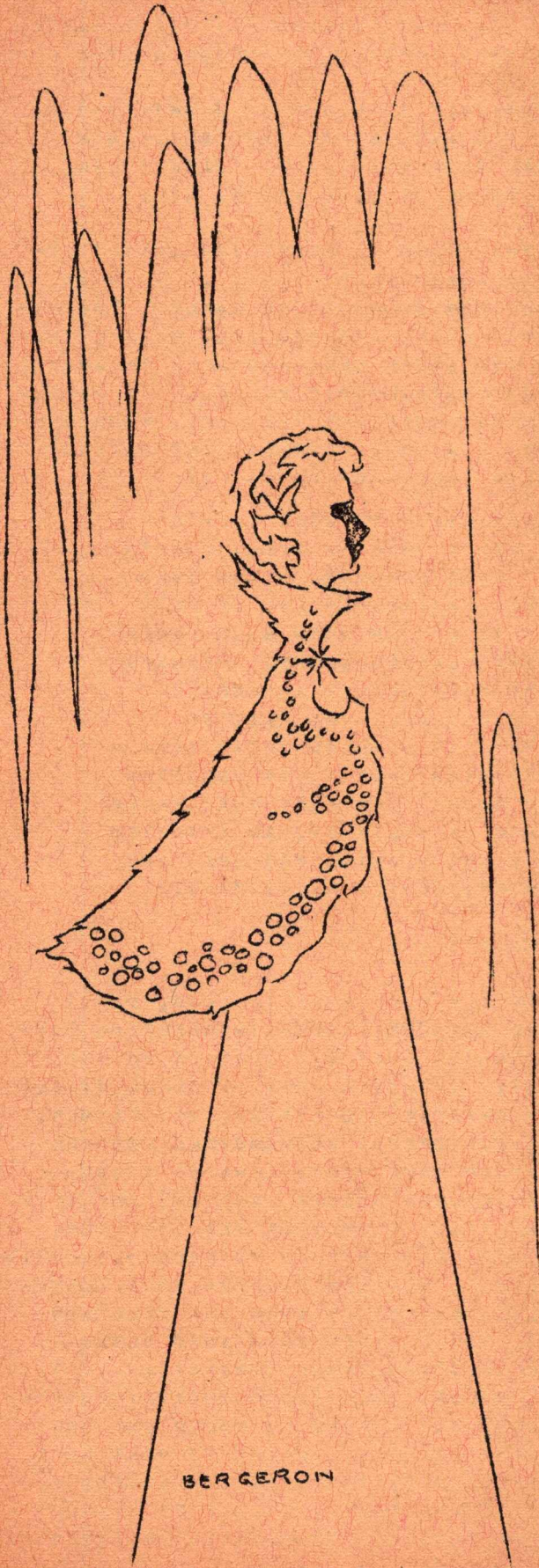
But it would be a pity to close on an unpleasant note, because I did enjoy the fanzines and do look forward to future issues...

Nga whaka nihi,

(GMC: I don't know what it means, but it certainly sounds interesting and the same to you, too... I wish I had room to show the clever card you sent, captioned, "To a Gem...of a femme..!" My birthday is April 18, so you missed it en-ly by 3 months instead of 6. Thanks for writing. I hope you get lots of fnz.)

/s/ Roger Horrocks

UNASKED OPINION



BERGERON

HORIZONS - WARNER. I'VE TRIED TO ANALYZE THE DIFFERENCE IN ATTITUDE BETWEEN SAPS AND FAPA (AND WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO MY OWN CHANGED ATTITUDE TOWARD THEM) BUT THE CLOSEST I CAN COME IS TO LIKEN IT TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BHEER SESSION VS A LADIES TEA-PARTY. SAPS SEEM DETERMINED TO AVOID SERCON DISCUSSIONS, PREFERRING LIGHT CHITTER-CHATTER OF THE MUTUAL ADMIRATION VARIETY, WHEREAS FAPA TENDS TOWARD ARGUING OVER ABSTRACTIONS ON A NO-HOLDS-BARRED LEVEL. SERIOUS-MINDED SAPS (NAN GERDING, FOR ONE) HAVE FROM TIME TO TIME ENDEAVORED TO INTRODUCE THE FAPA-TYPE SERCON DISCUSSION, BUT GOT NO TAKERS. HOWEVER, AS YOU POINT OUT, THE RECENT DECLINE IN PAGE-COUNT DOES SEEM TO INDICATE THAT WE MIGHT BE IN FOR A LESSENING OF THE ALMOST FEVERISH ACTIVITY OF THE PAST FEW YEARS BUT THERE IS NO CLEAR INDICATION THAT THE LAURELS WILL RETURN TO SAPS. I RATHER SUSPECT IT MAY SWING TOWARD THE CULT IF IT MUST GO SOMEWHERE.

DIFFERENT - SAM MOSKOWITZ. I DIDN'T SEE THE ARTICLE ON POE IN SATELLITE SCIENCE FICTION TO WHICH YOU REFER, BUT I ENJOYED THIS BRIEF ITEM DELETED THEREFROM. I THINK THE REASON POE'S HUMOROUS STORIES FAILED TO CATCH ON LIKE HIS HORROR AND WHODUNNITS DID, IS BECAUSE HE DEPENDED TOO MUCH ON THE HUMOR CURRENT AT THAT PERIOD. FOR INSTANCE, IN THAT SATIRE YOU MENTIONED, "SOME WORDS WITH A MUMMY", THE SATIRE IS WELL DONE, BUT DEPENDS FOR EFFECT ON THE READER'S FAMILIARITY WITH CURRENT EVENTS. WHO, NOWADAYS, KNOWS WHY IT WOULD BE FUNNY TO THINK OF AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN PRIEST AS A "PROTOTYPE OF GALL AND SPURZHEIM" -- AND, IN VIEW OF THE CURRENT ESPERIMENTATION, THE "MANOEUVERS OF MESMER.." DO NOT STRIKE US AS PARTICULARLY ODD. TO POE'S CONTEMPORARIES, THE CURRENT EXPERIMENTS WITH ELECTRICITY WERE HIGHLY LUDICROUS, AND THE MENTION OF A GALVANIC BATTERY APT TO STRIKE AS MANY SPARKS OF LAUGHTER AS A MENTION OF BOB HOPE'S NOSE DOES NOW.. BUT TO US, ACCUSTOMED TO ELECTRICITY IN EVERY PART OF OUR ENVIRONMENT, THERE IS NOTHING PARTICULARLY FUNNY EXCEPT, POSSIBLY, THAT THE EXPERIMENTATION WAS CONDUCTED SO CRUELY... IT WOULD

SEEM THAT POE'S INSTINCT FOR THE REAL AND GENUINE FAILED HIM WHEN IT CAME TO WRITING HUMOR, OR MAYBE IT WAS NOT HIS INSTINCT THAT FAILED, BUT HIS CYNICISM THAT GAINED THE UPPER HAND WHEN WRITING FOR THIS PARTICULAR PORTION OF THE PUBLIC

APROPOS DE RIEN - JIM CAUGHRAN. NOPE, FORTUNATELY I AM NOT IN JACK'S VOTING DISTRICT. CANDIDLY, IT IS A RELIEF TO ME. I'D HATE TO BE TORN BETWEEN MY LOYALTY TO A PERSONAL FRIEND AND MY POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY. JACK I LIKE, BUT HIS POLITICAL OPINIONS ARE AS OBNOXIOUS TO ME AS MINE ARE TO HIM.

ATAVISTA #1 & INVOLUTIA #2 - CURT JANKE. HAH! THIS IS MORE LIKE WHAT I EXPECTED FROM THE EDITOR OF THOSE WITTY WADS OF A FEW YEARS BACK... I THINK YOU'LL BE SORRY, CURT, FOR HAVING PRE-MAILED YOUR COMMENTS SO EARLY. THE MAILING WILL SEEM AWFULLY BLANK WITHOUT SOMETHING IN IT, AND YOU WILL MOST LIKELY MISS OUT ON A GREAT DEAL OF EGOBOO. I HOPE YOU BREAK DOWN AND SEND IN ANOTHER PAGE OR TWO, JUST TO FOOL US. I ENJOYED YOUR MISANTHROPIC VERSE... I WONDER HOW MANY OTHER READERS NOTICED THAT IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT THE RYME, YOUR SYNONYM FOR FEMALE CAME OUT "WOE-MAN". HOWEVER, I WISH TO COMMEND THE SUCCINCT PITHINESS OF YOUR INVECTIVE. I AM STRUCK WITH SHEER ADMIRATION AT:

"..I SYMPATHIZE WITH YOUR EFFORTS, UNAVAILING, TO KEEP ENEY'S TAILFEATHERS UNSINGED, BUT AS FOR ME, AS OF THIS MAILING, ENEY'S MAGS JOIN IN THE WASTEBASKET, UNREAD, THOSE OF HARNESS AND SANDERSON. THERE ARE ENOUGH PLEASANT, STIMULATING MEMBERS OF FAPA SO THAT I DO NOT CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO PUT UP WITH SUCH HYPER-SENSITIVE, CHIP-ON-SHOULDER, OVERBEARING FLANNELMOUTHS. PERHAPS YOU MAY CONSIDER IT WORTH YOUR WHILE TO CONTINUALLY APOLOGIZE FOR FANCIED INSULTS IN THE HOPES THAT EVENTUALLY THE HEAT OF THEIR CHILDISH ANGERS WILL MELT DOWN THE FAT BETWEEN THEIR EARS - I AM NOT THAT SANGUINE, BEING OF THE OPINION THAT IT IS MUCH TOO WELL SURROUNDED AND PROTECTED BY SOLID BONE. THE FACT THAT THESE GENTRY ARE NOT WHOLLY WITHOUT SOME SENSE OF DELICACY, AS ATTESTED TO BY THE FACT THAT THEY OBVIOUSLY WERE NOT PLAYING HOG WHEN THE BRAINS WERE BEING PASSED OUT, IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY MITIGATING."

BEAUTIFUL! I WISH I HAD SAID THAT!!!

MOONSHINE - STAN WOOLSTON. MY COPY WAS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO READ, BUT I MANAGED TO SEE WHAT RICK HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE SOLACON. VERY INTERESTING CONREP, ONLY I MUST SAY I HAVEN'T YET SEEN ANY CONREP THAT DID JUSTICE TO THE HORROR OF THAT SO-CALLED TEA-DRINKING CONTEST. IT WAS A MOST DREADFUL FIASCO FROM START (BELATED, UNPREPARED & HOPELESSLY CHAOTIC) TO FINISH, OR, RATHER, IT'S STRAGGLING END... THE PERSONS WHO WERE SUPPOSEDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ARRANGEMENTS HAD GONE BLITHELY OFF TO SOME OTHER AMUSEMENT, LEAVING A ROOM FULL OF BEWILDERED CONTESTANTS, EVEN MORE BEWILDERED JUDGES, AND ONE SMALL POT OF TEA! NO ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE FOR A STEADY SUPPLY OF TEA, NO MILK, NOBODY TO BREW THE TEA OR FETCH ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES. NOBODY TO POUR -- NOTHING. THE JUDGES SAT LOOKING AT CONTESTANTS, WHO LOOKED BLANKLY BACK IN BEWILDERMENT. FINALLY BOB BLOCH (AS CHIEF JUDGE, APPARENTLY) DASHED OUT INTO THE HALL AND GRABBED WHATEVER FANS HAPPENED TO BE PASSING, AND PRESSED THEM INTO SERVICE. I HAPPENED TO BE CLOSEST, SO I GOT THE JOB OF GETTING THINGS ORGANIZED... I, IN TURN, SNAGGED MIKE HINGE AS HE FLED THE CONTEST TABLE (HE'D JUST DISCOVERED HE WAS EXPECTED TO DRINK TEA MADE WITH TEABAGS) AND BEFORE HE COULD GET OFF THE HOOK, HE WAS OUT IN THE PANTRY TEARING OPEN TEABAGS, TRYING TO MAKE SOME (WHAT HE CONSIDERED SUITABLE) TEA. AS IT TURNED OUT, THAT WAS A MISTAKE, BECAUSE THERE WERE NO STRAINERS, EITHER, SO THE CONTESTANTS, WHEN THEY FINALLY DID GET SOME TEA, WERE FACED WITH A PROBLEM OF GARBAGE DISPOSAL IN ADDITION TO ALL THE REST... BUT EVERYBODY WAS A GOOD SPORT ABOUT IT AND EVERYTHING TURNED OUT OK, THANKS TO BLOCH'S PRESS-GANG TACTICS AND THE WILLING COOPERATION OF WALLY WEBER, MIKE HINGE, MONETTE CUMMINGS, PAULA SALO AND PAT MAULDIN.

RAMBLING FAP #15 - CALKINS. THE POLL RESULTS CERTAINLY WERE INTRIGUING. ES-
PECIALLY THE LINE-UP OF RELIGIOUS FAITHS. REALLY, THE "AGNOSTICS" AND "NONE"
CATEGORIES OUGHT TO BE CONSIDERED A RELIGION IN THEMSELVES -- CERTAINLY THEY
ARE THE ONLY GROUPS WHO COULD CLAIM ANY CLEAR-CUT FOLLOWING IN FANDOM. I, TOO,
WONDER AT THE ABSENCE OF GHUISTS, FOOFOOISTS OR ROSCOITES. COWARDS.

PHLOTSAM - PHEconomou. ENJOYED EVERY WORD OF THIS, BUT FIND LITTLE COMMENT TO
MAKE. I AM FASCINATED BY OLD HOUSES AND WISH I COULD (LIKE BRADBURY'S CECY)
INHABIT EVERY ONE I SEE... NOT CURRENTLY, BUT IN A SORT OF TIME-TRAVELLISH WAY.

V---Y - ANONYMOUS - OUTSIDE OF FAPA. WELCOME, KIDS. GLAD TO SEE YOU FINALLY
MADE IT, UNGAFIATED BY THE LONG WAIT AND ALL... HOPE FUTURE ISSUES WILL BE
FATTER, EVEN THOUGH NOT COMPETING WITH GEMZINE IN SIZE AND/OR CONTENTIOUSNESS.
DULY NOTED IS THE DISINCLINATION FOR ARGUING... JUST WONDER HOW LONG THIS
PEACEABLE DISPOSITION WILL LAST... SNICKER.

PHANTASY PRESS - MCPHAIL. I HASTILY HUNTED UP GZ 4/20 TO SEE WHAT IT WAS IN
THE REVIEW OF VERMGERICHT THAT IRKED YOU... SORRY, MY MISTAKE ABOUT THE MIXUP
IN DATES. AS NOTED LAST ISH IN MONSOON, LYNN HICKMAN TAKES THE BLAME FOR USURP-
ING THE DATES YOU HAD PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED FOR YOUR CON. I STILL THINK, HOW-
EVER, THAT IF THE WSFS, INC. HADN'T TURNED OUT INTO A LEGAL-BEAGLE DOG-FIGHT,
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A GOOD THING FOR FANDOM TO HAVE ONE CENTRAL CLEARING HOUSE
FOR SCHEDULING LOCAL GET-TOGETHERS SO THEY WOULDN'T CONFLICT WITH ONE ANOTHER,
JUST IN CASE....

LARK - DANNER. NOTHING CONTROVERSIAL TO SNICKER OVER THIS TIME. DANNER MUST
BE MELLOWING (OR IS HE JUST WATER-LOGGED?) AWFUL LOT OF TECHNICAL STUFF THISH.

GALLERY, ETC. - CHICK DERRY. "...HAS IT OCCURRED TO YOU, AS IT HAS TO ME, THAT
NEITHER ROBERT H. NOR GERTIE C. HAVE ANY CHILDREN?" I DON'T KNOW ABOUT ROBERT
HEINLEIN, BUT "GERTIE C." CERTAINLY HAS -- I'VE EVEN GOT A CROP OF GRANDCHILDREN
AS WELL! LIKE MANY ANOTHER LOVING PARENT BEFORE ME, CHICK, I HAPPEN TO THINK
THERE ARE WORSE THINGS THAN DEATH THAT CAN BEFALL MY OFFSPRING -- WORSE THINGS
EVEN THAN THE POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT. COWARDICE IS ONE
OF THEM, CHICK -- SHEER, PANICKY, UNREASONING COWARDICE. THE CRAVEN KNUCKLING
UNDER TO ANY DEMAND RATHER THAN STAND UP TO DANGER IN ORDER TO FIGHT FOR WHAT
ONE BELIEVES TO BE RIGHT. IT WASN'T I WHO INVENTED THE SLOGAN, "BETTER DEATH
THAN DISHONOR"; NEITHER WAS I THE FIRST PERSON TO ADMONISH 'DO NOT BE AFRAID OF
OF WHAT CAN KILL THE BODY..BUT RATHER FEAR THAT WHICH CAN KILL THE SOUL!' MAYBE
YOU SUBSCRIBE TO THE THEORY THAT IT IS BETTER TO BE A LIVE CUR THAN A DEAD LION,
BUT I DON'T -- NOT FOR MYSELF NOR FOR MY CHILDREN. IF THE ONLY WAY THE HUMAN
RACE CAN REMAIN HUMAN IS BY CRAWLING ON THEIR BELLIES AND WHIMPERING WITH FEAR,
THEN MAYBE THEY DON'T DESERVE TO SURVIVE AS HUMANS. MAYBE IT IS TIME TO WIPE
THEM OUT AND START ALL OVER AGAIN....

CELEPHAIS & REMEMBRANCE OF THINGS PAST - EVANS. YOU'RE RIGHT ON ONE POINT, BILL,
I HAVEN'T BEEN READING THE MYSTERY MAGS VERY LONG. JUST DISCOVERED REGENTLY
WHAT I HAVE BEEN MISSING, AND AM TRYING TO CATCH UP. I BOUGHT SOME OF THE EL-
LERY QUEEN MYSTERY MAGS THAT MZB OFFERED, AND AM PLUNGED INTO AN ORGY OF COLLECT-
ING BACKISSUES. I FIND PLENTY OF CRAIG RICE, ALSO MARGERY ALLINGHAM AND CHAR-
LOTTE ARMSTRONG (WHO BOOK-LENGTH WHODUNNITS HAVE BEEN FAVORITES OF MINE) AND
AM DISCOVERING A GREAT MANY OTHER AUTHORS WHOSE EXISTENCE I NEVER EVEN SUSPECTED.
I HAVE A STRONG PREFERENCE FOR FEMALE WHODUNNIT WRITERS. I DISLIKE THE SADISM
AND SEX OF THE SPILLANE-TYPES, ALSO THE LEGAL INTRICICIES OF THE EARL STANLEY
GARDNER VARIETY. WOMEN WRITERS SEEM TO PRESENT MORE SUBTLE AND CREDIBLE MOTIVA-
TION FOR THEIR PLOTS, AND TAKE GREATER CARE WITH THE BACKGROUND DETAILS. THE
MANNERS AND MORES OF THEIR CHARACTERS COME THROUGH WITH GREATER CLARITY, CONSE-
QUENTLY THEY CAN BE RE-READ WITH ENJOYMENT. RE THE REST OF YOUR COMMENTS, SEE
BAITBOX,

THE WILD FRONT EAR BURIED IN THE ATTIC - COSLET. WAKE YOU UP -- WHAT FOR? IF THIS BE SLEEPWALKING, KEEP RIGHT ON DREAMING... I LIKE YOUR SENTENCE--SHORT REVIEWS, BUT I MUST CONFESS I HAVE NEVER BEEN PARTICULARLY ENTHRALLED BY PROOF-SHEETS. AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THEY ARE JUST ANOTHER STAGE OF ROUGH DRAFT. HOWEVER, IN YOUR COMMENTS TO BILL MORSE RE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION, I NOTE YOU MENTION THE EXCLUSION OF THE SELF-EMPLOYED. PROBABLY IT IS THE SAME HERE IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON, BUT I FIND IT INTERESTING TO NOTE HOW CAPRICIOUS THE LAWS ARE WITH REGARD TO SELF-EMPLOYMENT VS STATE MEDICAL COMPENSATION. SEVERAL YEARS AGO WE EMPLOYED MECHANICS, BUT FOUND THAT IN A SMALL BUSINESS SUCH AS OURS, WE COULD NOT BRING IN ENOUGH RETURNS, OVER AND ABOVE THE ACTUAL OPERATING EXPENSES (THE UNION WAGES WERE ARBITRARILY DICTATED BY OUTSIDE AUTHORITY WITHOUT REGARD TO OUR JOB SHEETS) TO COVER THE EXTRA TAXES ENTAILED. WE FOUND WE MADE A GREATER NET INCOME FROM TURNING AWAY WHATEVER WORK MR. CARR COULDN'T HANDLE BY HIMSELF, THAN WE DID BY HIRING HELP. BUT THE WIERD THING ABOUT THIS SITUATION WAS THAT WHEN MR. CARR TURNED IN HIS FIRST TAX REPORT AFTER DISCHARGING HIS EMPLOYEES, THE STATE NOTIFIED HIM HE COULD NOT BE COVERED AS A SELF-EMPLOYED WORKMAN UNLESS HE HAD EMPLOYEES WORKING UNDER HIM. OK, SO WE LET IT DROP -- GLAD ENOUGH TO BE SHUT OF AT LEAST ONE TAX. BUT THEN LATER WE TOOK ON A HELPER FOR A WHILE, AND SO STARTED SENDING IN THE MEDICAL DEDUCTIONS AGAIN. WHEN THIS EMPLOYEE TERMINATED, NATURALLY MR. CARR ASSUMED THAT HIS COVERAGE TERMINATED, TOO -- AS IT HAD BEFORE. BUT NOT SO! A PEREMPTORY NOTE INFORMED US THAT WE WERE LATE WITH THE SELF-EMPLOYED MEDICAL PREMIUM FOR THE QUARTER, AND WHETHER WE HAD ANY EMPLOYEES OR NOT, WE'D BETTER GET IT IN WITHIN SO MANY DAYS, OR ELSE!! Soooo, we sent it in -- BUT I ONLY HOPE WE NEVER HAVE ANY OCCASION TO DISCOVER WHETHER OR NOT WE COULD COLLECT ON IT. (INASMUCH AS WE ARE COVERED BY A PRIVATE MEDICAL INSURANCE, THIS IS A TAX WHICH IS EXTORTED FROM US NEEDLESSLY, AND OF DUBIOUS VALUE, AT BEST, IN MY OPINION.)

TARGET: FAPA - ENEY. "...LET'S RULE OUT ALL THE ARGUMENT BETWEEN THE AUDITORS OVER WHETHER A GIVEN PIECE IS OR IS NOT JAZZ, AND SIMPLY DECLARE THAT ANY GROUP WHICH PLAYS MUSIC IT THINKS IS JAZZ, WITH THE INTENTION OF PLAYING JAZZ, IS PLAYING JAZZ." WHY, RICHARD! DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU SAID!!!! YOU JUST AS MUCH AS ADMITTED THAT GMC WAS RIGHT IN CALLING THE DANCE MUSIC OF THE TWENTIES "JAZZ" BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT THEY, THEMSELVES, CALLED WHAT THEY WERE PLAYING... AH HAH! HERE WE GO AGAIN... I HAVE NEVER USED THE EXPRESSION "CRYPTO-COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZER" (PRINCIPALLY BECAUSE I NEVER HEARD OF SUCH A THING -- WHAT IS IT? AN EGGHEAD WHO SPECIALIZES IN CODES?) YOU'D BETTER BE V-E-R-Y CAREFUL HOW YOU USE THOSE SEMI-QUOTES, BOY! DON'T YOU KNOW THAT BOYD RAEBURN SIMPLY HATES PEOPLE (OTHER THAN HIMSELF, THAT IS,) WHO PUT WORDS IN OTHER PEOPLE'S MOUTHS? HMMMM? BY THE WAY, DICK, HOW COME YOU INSIST WITH SUCH FURY THAT THE N3F "...IS DEAD, STAN; FOR GHOD'S SAKE, LET IT LIE DOWN AND BE COVERED UP"? WHAT MAKES YOU SO POSITIVE OF ITS "DEATH"? COULD IT BE THAT YOU ARE RELUCTANT TO ADMIT IT COULD SURVIVE YOUR DEPARTURE? DON'T BE SO NAIVELY EGOTISTICAL, DICK. FAR FROM GRIEVING TO DEATH AT YOUR LOSS, IT IS LIVELIER THAN IT HAS BEEN FOR A LONG TIME -- IN FACT, IT IS EVEN BEING THREATENED WITH TALK OF A LAW SUIT OF ITS OWN BY A DISGRUNTLED LOSER IN THE LAST ELECTION... N3F WILL DOUBTLESS BE AROUND LONG AFTER YOU'VE GAFIATED AND BECOME JUST A MEMORY IN FANDOM....

LIGHT - CROUTCH. YOU FORGOT TO MENTION THE CUSTOMER WHO SEEMS TO THINK YOU HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO FIX HIS OLD CLUNKER RIGHT AWAY, NO MATTER HOW MANY OTHER MORE URGENT JOBS YOU HAVE ON HAND. YOU'D THINK, TO HEAR THEM HOLLER FOR SERVICE, THAT THE REFRIGERATION INDUSTRY WAS BOUND BY AN OATH OF HIPPOCRATES. A HOUSEWIFE CAN SCREAM LOUDER OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF LOSING A QUART OF MILK AND A HEAD OF LETTUCE, THAN MOST BUTCHER SHOPS DO OVER A WALK-IN FULL OF MEAT. AND THE ONES THAT HOLLER FOR THE QUICKEST SERVICE, ARE USUALLY THE ONES TO TAKE THE LONGEST ABOUT PAYING FOR IT.

FAPA POLL & BALLOT - OFFICIALDOM. Tsk, tsk! HERE IT IS THE MIDDLE OF JANUARY AND I JUST DISCOVERED I FORGOT TO VOTE... I FULLY INTENDED TO VOTE, BUT PUT IT ASIDE FOR A WHILE BECAUSE I FELT A STRANGE RELUCTANCE TO MAKE UP MY MIND. IT WAS NOT UNTIL I READ TCARRS REMARKS IN THE POSTMAILED FANAC #31, ABOUT THE APPARENT APATHY OF THE FAPA MEMBERS AS INDICATED BY THE LACK OF RESPONSE WHEN IT CAME TO VOTING FOR THIS PROPOSAL, THAT IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT THIS STRANGE RELUCTANCE I FELT MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOMETHING MORE THAN THE USUAL PROCRASTINATION. IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE THAT OTHER FAPANS, TOO, MIGHT HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO A MENTAL CONFLICT -- ONE THEY WOULD BE ASHAMED TO ADMIT CONSCIOUSLY -- BETWEEN THEIR DESIRE TO BE GENEROUS AND OPEN-HANDED IN THIS MATTER, AND DOUBT AS TO THE JUSTICE OF THE PROPOSAL THAT ONE GROUP OF MEMBERS SHOULD BE TAXED AN ADDITIONAL DOLLAR ON THEIR DUES IN ORDER TO SUBSIDIZE ANOTHER GROUP. THAT'S ACTUALLY WHAT IT AMOUNTS TO, YOU KNOW. TRUE, IT MAY WELL BE THAT THE INCREASED COST OF FANNING IS MORE SEVERE ON THE OVERSEAS MEMBERS THAN IT IS ON US -- BUT THAT IS BESIDE THE POINT. THE REAL POINT OF THIS MATTER IS THAT FAPA IS AN EXPENSIVE HOBBY FOR ALL OF US. WHAT WITH THE INCREASED POSTAL RATES, THE STEADILY INCREASING COST OF SUPPLIES, ETC., IT IS NOT SO EASY FOR ANY OF US TO SCRAPE UP THE NECESSARY DUES AS IT USED TO BE. IT IS UP TO EACH ONE OF US TO DECIDE FOR HIMSELF IF HE CAN AFFORD TO CONTINUE THIS HOBBY -- AND THOSE OF US WHO HONESTLY CANNOT AFFORD IT, SHOULD MAKE THAT DECISION FOR THEMSELVES. SURELY THERE ARE LESS EXPENSIVE APAS FOR FANS WHO CAN'T AFFORD FAPA. IF A FAN CAN'T AFFORD FAPA, SO WHAT? THAT'S NO DISGRACE. ^{BUT} SO LONG AS THERE ARE FANS WHO CAN AFFORD THE DUES, AND ARE WILLING TO PAY THEM, IT DOES NOT SEEM FAIR TO EXPECT SOME OF US TO CARRY OTHERS. LET'S FACE IT, FAPA IS A LUXURY, AND, LIKE ALL LUXURIES, THE MORE EXPENSIVE IT IS, THE MORE DESIRABLE IT BECOMES. SUBSIDIES ARE NOT THE ANSWER TO THIS PROBLEM....

POSTMAILINGS

NULL-F - TEWHITE: "AT NO TIME WAS GAFIA/STELLAR/GAMBIT 'ENCLOSED IN MAGNUS' MAGS.' BOTH ZINES WERE FOLDED SEPARATELY AND MAILED IN A COMMON ENVELOPE. THE SUGGESTIONS IN GAFIA, THEREFORE, UNDER NO STRETCH OF YOUR FANCIFUL IMAGINATION 'WERE IN...RUMBLE'" HAH, TED, YOU OVERLOOK THE FACT THAT THE, AS YOU PUT IT, "COMMON ENVELOPE" WAS STAMPED WITH A HUGE GREEN RUBBER STAMP, "JOHN MAGNUS" AND CONSEQUENTLY TO MY "FANCIFUL IMAGINATION" IMPLIED THAT THE MAG INSIDE WAS THE PUBLICATION OF THE FAN WHOSE NAME IT ADVERTISED. YOURS, BEING INSIDE WITH IT, QUITE NATURALLY WERE CONSIDERED MERELY ENCLOSURES TO THE PRINCIPAL MATTER... IF YOU'D HAD YOUR NAME ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE ENVELOPE, IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE OTHER WAY AROUND -- BUT YOU DIDN'T. YOU WERE MERELY ALONG FOR THE RIDE ON THE OTHER FELLOW'S POSTAGE, FOR ALL I COULD SEE TO THE CONTRARY.

THE BARRINGTON BULL, FAPA EDITION. TCARR/ELLIK. SOMEHOW THE YOUTHFUL JOLLITY AND CAREFREE SPIRITS OF THIS MAG FAILED TO MAKE THE GRADE WITH ME... I JUST DON'T SEEM TO CARE WHO STOLE THE CUPS OR WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PEANUT BUTTER...

IBIDEM #5 - LYONS. "...IN EVERY COMMUNITY PERSONS AND GROUPS WITH A VESTED INTEREST IN, OR IT MAY BE A GENUINE ADMIRATION FOR, THINGS AS THEY ARE, WILL USE THE CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE WHICH SUCH PERSONS AND GROUPS CUSTOMARILY POSSESS TO OPPOSE AND DISCREDIT THE EXTENSIVE USE OF SO POWERFUL A STIMULUS TO CHANGE.." HAH! SO THAT'S THE RUB... I'M CREDITED WITH "CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE" IN THE MATTER OF MAINTAINING THE STATUS QUO, WHICH IS WHY IT MAKES MY OPPONENTS SO FROTHINGLY FURIOUS WHEN THEY CAN'T MAKE ANY HEADWAY IN REMAKING THE WORLD TO THEIR HEART'S DESIRE. IT'S ALL US NASTY, OLD CONSERVATIVE "VESTED INTERESTS" FAULT THAT THEY CAN'T GET ANYWHERE WITH THEIR SCREWBALL NOTIONS....

LE MOINDRE 13 - RAEBURN. "I CARE NOT WHAT GMC HAS SAID OR MAY SAY, FAPA IS A PRIVATE CLUB AND PERSONS WHOM THE MAJORITY CONSIDER WOULD BE UNDESIRABLE AS MEMBERS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO JOIN." WHAT! YOU MEAN YOU ACTUALLY DON'T CARE THAT YOU ARE SAYING THE SAME THING AS I ADVOCATED BACK IN 1957 IN MY GZ 4/14 BAITBOX EDITORIAL ON G_____ W_____? WONDERS WILL NEVER CEASE!! (THO I DOUBT VERY MUCH THAT BOYD EVEN KNOWS WHAT GMC HAS SAID ON THE SUBJECT... INASMUCH AS HE NEVER BOTHERS TO CHECK HER STATEMENTS BUT CONTENTS HIMSELF WITH FLYING OFF THE HANDLE ABOUT THE THINGS HE THINKS SHE MIGHT BE LIKELY TO SAY...) HE'S THE FAN WHO IS SO VERY UNHAPPY ABOUT OTHER FANS PUTTING WORDS IN SOMEBODY ELSE'S MOUTH, YOU KNOW... APPARENTLY THAT'S A PREROGATIVE HE RESERVES EXCLUSIVELY TO HIMSELF!

THETA - JACK HARNESS. ONCE MY EYEBALLS ADJUSTED TO THE VIRULENT TONES OF SHOCKING PINK AND FLUORESCENT YELLOW PAPER, I DISCOVERED THAT CALIFORNIA EVIDENTLY SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN SALUTARY FOR JACK. I COULD UNDERSTAND PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING HE WROTE. A MOST REFRESHING CHANGE FROM THE ECHOLALIA OF A FEW MAILINGS AGO... ESPECIALLY NOTED IS A HIGHLY APROPO OPEN LETTER TO DAVE KYLE WHICH SAID ABOUT THE MOST SENSIBLE COMMENT I'VE SEEN TO DATE ABOUT HIS POSITION IN THE WSFS MESS.

BACK BLAST - A. YOUNG. THIS RATHER SMEARY-LOOKING LITTLE TWO-SHEETER IS, FOR ALL ITS UNPREPOSSESSING APPEARANCE, ONE OF THE LIVELIEST AND MOST ENTERTAINING THINGS I'VE READ FROM ANDY. IT IS THE FIRST THING, IN MY OPINION AT ANY RATE, WHICH MAKES HIM SOUND LIKE A HUMAN BEING INSTEAD OF A JUNIOR GRADE STUFFED SHIRT. GOOD STUFF, ANDY, AND I HOPE NOW THAT YOU'VE BROKEN THE ICE, YOU COME UP WITH MORE LIKE IT. NATURALLY, THAT WILL DEPEND ON WHETHER OR NOT YOU HAVE THE NECESSARY COURAGE TO BACK UP YOUR OPINIONS, SHOULD THEY PROVE UNPOPULAR...

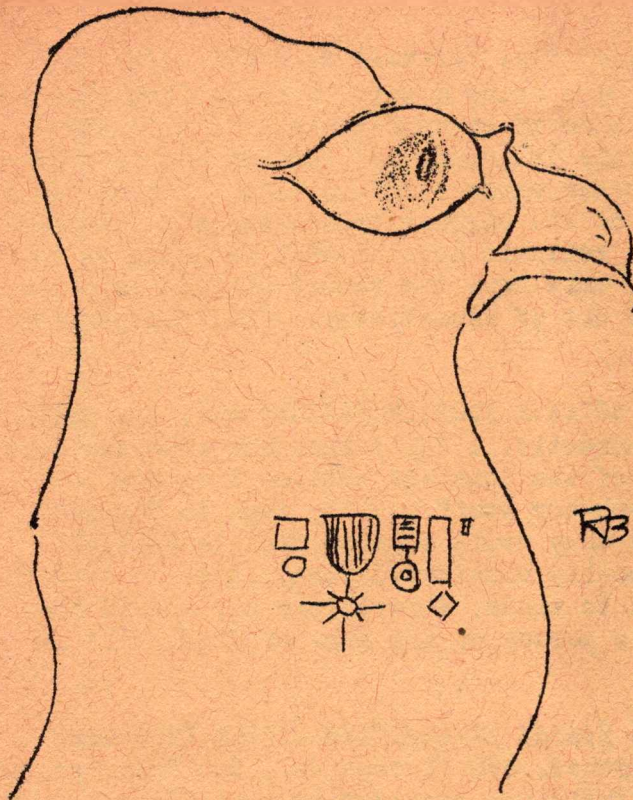
VARIOSO 18 - JOHN MAGNUS (COURTESY TEW?) THE WORM TURN^S ISSUE. INDEED IT DOES, AND MOST ENTERTAININGLY, TOO. DOUBTLESS A TEAPOT WOULD HAVE BEEN A MORE SUITABLE CONTAINER FOR THIS TEMPEST, BUT VARIOSO MAKES AN IMPECCABLE SUBSTITUTE. I'D SAY A YOUNG SCIENTIST SHOULD CONSIDER HIMSELF MOST THOROUGHLY SLAPPED DOWN FOR DARING TO EXPRESS AN OPINION DEROGATORY IN NATURE ON ENGINEERS -- EVEN THO, IN FAPA, HE IS THEORETICALLY ENTITLED TO EXPRESS ANY OPINION HE PLEASURES -- EVEN ABOUT ENGINEERS. BUT I SHALL ENJOY SEEING THE OUTCOME OF THIS VOCIFEROUS DEBATE. I DON'T HAPPEN TO CARE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, SO I'M ROOTING FOR BOTH SIDES... COME ON, BOYS! LET'S YOU AND HIM FIGHT!!

QUAGMIRE #2 - JOHN QUAGLIANO. CAN'T QUITE MAKE OUT IF THIS IS INTENDED TO BE A FAPAZINE, POSTMAILED, OR MERELY A GENERALZINE BY A FAPN. AT ANY RATE, HE CALLS IT "THE SNOBISME OBLIGE FANZINE" AND IT APPEARS TO BE APTLY TITLED IN THAT REGARD... IT SOUNDS LIKE A SNOBBISHLY AFFECTED SORT OF EGOBOOZINE PUT OUT SOLELY TO IMPRESS FANS. ALTHOUGH WHAT WE SHOULD BE IMPRESSED BY IS NOT SO CLEAR, INASMUCH AS LARS BOURNE APPARENTLY DID THE EXCELLENT PUBLISHING JOB,

DIS AND DAT - RACY HIGGS. APPARENTLY THIS IS INTENDED AS A FAPA POSTMAILING, ALTHOUGH IT ARRIVED INSIDE AN OFFICIAL N3F MAILING WRAPPER. THIS ISSUE CONTAINS SOME HIGHLY INTERESTING INFORMATION, BUT SO KITTENISHLY EXPRESSED THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO ASSIMILATE. I DO WISH RACY COULD OVERCOME THAT SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS OF HIS THAT COMPELLS HIM TO RESORT TO BABY-TALK WHENEVER HE REFERS TO HIMSELF OR HIS OWN EXPERIENCES. THERE IS NO NEED TO GO ALL COY AND SIMPERING ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCES, NOR ANY NEED TO TRY AND BE OH, SO CUTE! ALL THE TIME. HE'S GOT PLENTY TO TALK ABOUT IF HE COULD ONLY BRING HIMSELF TO DISCUSS IT OBJECTIVELY. THE SAME WAY WITH HIS MAILING REVIEWS -- THEY ARE INTERESTING ENOUGH TO STAND ON THEIR OWN MERITS, WITHOUT BEING EMBROIDERED WITH IMITATION DIALECT...

A LA ABANDON #3 - JIM CAUGHRAN. SORRY -- THIS IS HIS OMPAZINE. GOT IN THE RIGHT CHURCH BUT THE WRONG PEW, SO TO SPEAK... SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN MONSOON. BUT I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT HE FINALLY GOT IT STRAIGHTENED OUT ABOUT THE IDENTITY OF THE "WEST COAST FEMME" WHO DOESN'T FORWARD QCS.. IT'S HONEY WOOD GRAHAM.

MONSOON



APORRHETA #3, #4 & #5; Harry Sanderson. Inchmery Fandom in full bloom; violently defending the indefensible, setting up hollow strawmen to hurl charges and accusations at, snapping and snarling at all and sundry... These 3 APEs are very handsome specimens of their kind, indeed, and in spite of their bad tempers come neatly mimeographed and ATom-illo'd in the best of the British tradition. Highly diverting, too, (provided you don't place too much credence on what you read, there.)

RB BEM #6, Mal Ashworth & Tom White, 17, Larch Hill Crescent, Odsal, Bradford, Yorks. Engl. Final Issue, it says here... Publishing schedule (I quote) "BEM No. 1 was published in Spring 1954; BEM No. 5..in September 1955. This stencil for BEM No. 6 is being cut in January 1957. Just when this issue will finally issue forth is still unpredictable but it seems possible that it may be in the first half of 1957. Or perhaps the second half. Or

even 1958..." That's what I like in fanpubbers... durability and perseverance! Unfortunately, a review in 1959 of a fms stencilled in 1957 is apt to have a somewhat "dated" interest -- interesting only in a sort of "...where are the snows of yesterday..." fashion.

CAMBER #10, Alan Dodd, 77 Stanstead Road, Hoddesdon, Herts. Eng. The hardcover fms with the binding on the back... Nice job on the cover, Cyclops & Spacegirl. The bacover was even better; two beanieclad fans at an Art Gallery viewing a violent mural evidently supposed to represent Rubens' "Rape of the Sabine Women" or something, says one to the other: "By the way, did you get to the Worldcon?" Contents neatly mimeo'd, amply illo'd, but ran toward movie reviews and fan-fiction, neither of which subjects are likely to evoke firey cries of wild acclaim....

CANADIAN FANDOM #37, William D. Grant, 47 Saguenay Ave., Toronto 12, Ont. Canada. Rather slim compared with his usual size, but impeccably neat as usual. Contents mostly about his hobby (old movies) but breaks into contemporary comment with a moderate rebuke for the immoderate actions of the pro/anti-WSFS, Inc. feuders and ends with a plug for Detroit in '59. It would help, in reading this, if one really cared about Hollywood....

THE DEVIL'S MOTOR BOAT - Falascas, 5612 Warwick Drive, Parma 29, Ohio. "The Official Organ of the 2NF" it says here... Nick and Noreen venture into amateur publishing on a non-feuding basis. Neatly typed and mimeo'd, but they could do with a couple of good lettering guides. The contents, tho witty and varied, lack the usual pungency -- no bite to them, if you get what I mean. Most noteworthy thing about this fanzine, to me, is that it constitutes another straw in the wind of fannish "togetherness"...ie, husband-and-wife teams are the coming thing in fandom, it seems, what with the Shaws, Youngs (both of 'em), Coulsons, Falascas, Whites, etc. etc. Before long, if this keeps up, it will be the singleton who is the exception in publishing circles, instead of the other way around...

FANACs # 27 to #31 TCarr & R. Ellik, 2315 Dwight Way, Berkeley 4, Calif. 4/25 or comment. Let's not kid ourselves, these boys are doing a service to us fans that we really need and appreciate. That is, we need them if we hope to keep up with the fast-moving activities of our own favorite little in-group, ie, fandom; and we appreciate (or, at any rate, some of us do) the conscientious effort that is required in getting this information out to us. In spite of the carping criticisms of a certain segment of fandom, these boys give us the most reliable news of what is going on that fandom has available anywhere at any price! I only hope the recent silence is a temporary gafia, and not the end of this valuable bit of fanactivity. With the pealing of Wedding Bells, one never knows....

INSIDE SCIENCE FICTION, alias THE MAGAZINE OF SCIENCE FICTION FANTASY AND, Ron Smith, Box 356, Times Square Station, NY 36. 30¢. Honestly, I don't know how come the boys offered me a trade on this, because it is one of the funniest satires I've seen -- subtle humor with none of the Gosh-wow-oh-boy-oh-boy stuff usually seen in fannish satire, and certainly far better than anything they could hope to find in GEMZINE (although I understand that GEMZINE is occasionally considered funny, too, in certain quarters...) At any rate, if they are content to trade, I certainly am, and if the future issues are anything near as good as this parody of the Mag. of F&SF, I'll be happy...

MOOREPARK (is-Krap-Room-spelled-backwards). ~~The Girl With The Golden Goojies~~ Miriam (The Girl With The Golden Goojies - whatever they are) Dyches, 882 Florida St., San Francisco 10, Calif. 2/25¢ or trade. Not bad at all (not surprising, considering that TCarr is the boyfriend and anything she doesn't know about ampubbing she can probably find out from him). As Terry says in FANAC #30, "Fans should marry fans" and this is one way of doing it. Besides which, she's very pretty and able to obtain a lot of high-powered fanac from such BNFs as Rosler, Bloch, Ackerman, etc... But the girl did all right with an article of her own, and I hope she keeps it up. Promising newcomer to the fanpubbing field. (I guess I'd better treat her gently, since if she marries TCarr as announced, she'll be faced with me as her un-official Grandmother-In-Law, which is a horrible enough prospect for any fanpubber, let alone a newlywed Neo!)

NATIONAL FANTASY FAN - Racy Higgs. Ugh! Thirty disappointing pages, proving again that the chief trouble with the Old Dying Monster is lack of lifeblood... If prompt committee reports and current news items are the chief purpose of an Official Organ -- which they undoubtedly are, and without which a club cannot function efficiently -- then this Official Editor is slowly murdering the club. It speaks well for the tender nursing of the other NSF Officers that they have managed to keep the club alive in spite of this chronic anemia. Racy -- For Ghu's sake, wake up, williya? Either get TNFF out on time, each time, or else turn it over to somebody else that might! Take over POSTIE if you have to have the egoboo of being an NSF Official Editor -- it does not make any difference how old or out of date the letters are in that mag -- but give the club OO over to somebody that can keep it up to date before the club dies altogether from leukemia induced by "fall-out" of membership....

PROFANITY, Bruce Peltz, 4010 Leona, Tampa 9, Florida. 15¢ or trade. This #4 ish is much better than the last I saw... Legible, if nothing else. Layout and illos mediocre, but the boy shows excellent promise as a humorist. It's a rare 'zine that evokes a hearty guffaw from GMC, but I did get a genuine laugh out of the "Reader's Guide to Periodic Illiterature" and the "Reauthored Books". Also, he shows talent for getting good material from others; a review column from Coulson, an article from Dodd, etc. If he keeps up at this rate, I think we may have a darn good fanzine on our hands. It's a little too early to tell, though.

NEFFAN NEWS SERVICE - Stan Woolstan. Valiant try, but after the example of such newszines as FANAC, GAMBIT, RUMBLE, etc. it looks pretty sick... With news, the slogan, "Better late than never" just doesn't seem to work. Maybe if it were the only newszine available....

SHANGRI L'AFFAIRES #39, Djinn Faine, 2548 West 12th St., Los Angeles 6, Calif. Nominally the OO of the LASFS, this issue is a personal triumph for the Champion Tea (US) Drinker of Fandom... Multilithed cover with pix of prominent masqueraders; articles by Burbee, Bloch, Elik, Snerry, etc. The real significance of this fanzine is not its resurrection from an apparently permanent eclipse, but the emergence of Djinn Faine as a potential ampubber to be watched. Of course, with the quality and quantity of ampublishing assistance available, it would be difficult to miss, but this gal shows an editorial touch above and beyond the usual guest-editing neo who manages to wangle weary BNFs into supplying material for her venture...

SOLACON BOOKLET, Final Report. Anna Moffat discharges her responsibilities with decisiveness and dignity. Nicely multilithed job, including a final treasurer's report and the full text of Richard Matheson's speech plus a double page spread of Con photos. One significant thing to notice: Anna Moffat makes the point quite deftly that, although the SOLACON is the 16th World Science Fiction Convention, it is an entity in itself and in no way dependent on or subject to the WSFS, Inc. The WSFS, Inc. may "represent fandom" if it wishes, but it quite obviously did not "represent" the majority of the fans who attended the SOLACON who obviously wanted nothing whatsoever to do with it. It is my personal opinion that fandom as a whole owes the SOLACON Committee a vote of thanks for the way they handled this difficult situation, and to my way of thinking, they also deserve credit for almost single-handedly dislodging this incubus which threatened to saddle itself forever on Fandom like Sinbad's "Old Man Of The Sea"....

SIGBO #6, Jerry DeMuth, 3223 Ernst St., Franklin Park, Ill. Forty-two pages of fair-to-middling ditto repro, legible and colorfully illo'd, but otherwise not in any way outstanding. The contents, likewise, were fair-to-middling -- and the chief interest this mag held for me was the fact that the editor is that tall, dark youth who wore a shaved-out "59" in his beard at the SOLACON. Chicago lost -- which seemed a pity in view of the itching torment he must have undergone in advertising it. (Not that I cared otherwise who got the Con next summer, inasmuch as it is highly unlikely I'll be there.) Enjoyable fanzine review column by Joe Sanders -- less of the stuffy flavor which seems to have a habit of creeping into fannish reviewing styles. Or maybe it is just that Joe is still individualist enough to say what he thinks without worrying about how he is saying it...

UR #5 - TI Sgt. E. T. Mills, PO Box 244, Carswell AFB, TEXAS. Apparently an annual-zine, inasmuch as UP #4 had MERRY CHRISTMAS from 1957, and this one brings MERRY CHRISTMAS for 1958. Twenty four pages of very attractive mimeography -- Mills breaks up the eyestrain pattern by using several type faces -- a neat trick if you've got enough typers to do it. Illustrations rather crudely drawn, but otherwise the layout is neat. Contents are somewhat undertain in humor -- as though he isn't quite sure what's funny and what isn't. However, some of his contributors make up for it... and those readers who found "The Enema from Spice" unlaughable, will no doubt laugh heartily at the courtship of the "inscrutable" girl.

VECTOR #1 & #2 - OO BSFA, Terry Jeeves, OE. Ah, ha! Two issues only, and already the BSFA is suffering from the chronic complaint which has made a semi-helpless invalid of the N3F all these years -- Official Editor Trouble. Terry Jeeves did a bang-up job with issues #1 and #2 -- but the sheer amount of work involved burned him out and already they are looking for another Official Editor. These are beautiful publishing jobs, sercon as all billyhell...and I, for one, hope they are able to recruit another OE that can keep up the good work. It won't be easy - and a thankless job (as Racy Higgs can testify, since his faithful years of service and his impeccable publishing of the N3F OO bring him nothing but complaints about its dullness and tardiness...) I note that many BSFA members resent being compared with N3F, but, if the truth be told, they can be thankful if they do as well for as long. Both are worthwhile (in my opinion, but I admit I'm prejudiced) and I hope BSFA makes out OK.

YANDRO #70 & 71 - Bob & Juanita Coulson, 105 Stitt St., Wabash, Indiana. 12/\$1.50
Now that Bob & Juanita are in FAPA, I will have nothing to offer them in trade so probably won't see YANDRO much longer (unless they're willing to settle for a letter of comment!) This fanzine is pleasant to receive and enjoyable to read, although it never seems to get more than a pleasant pat on the head when it comes to reviews. One thing I have noticed about it -- the editorials share top billing with me, even more interesting than the lettercol (with its potential egoboo). This is a quality rarely seen in publications, pro or amateur. Among the prozines, only John Campbell has been able to produce Editorials with more interest and drawing-power than the fiction and articles. (Maybe Bob & Juanita may take a dim view of being compared with J.C. - I wouldn't know - but I, personally, consider his editorials the best thing in the mag).

JD combined with **ARGASSY** - Lynn A. Hickman, 304 N. 11th St., Mt. Vernon, Ill. Lynn announces that he, like others in fandom, is pruning his mailing to only those sufficiently interested in his mag to acknowledge it in kind or in cash. \$ for 12 issues, or your fmz or letter of comment in trade. With Lynn so high on the FAPA W/L, I dare say I'll be one of those pruned out unless I keep my typer limbered .. which, frankly, would be a pity since these fmz, although slim and not particularly exciting, are also pleasant to receive and interesting to read. Besides which, Lynn is one of the very few fans who isn't afraid to admit that he occasionally agrees with my opinions, unpopular as they are with the rest of fandom!

BRILLIG #13 - Lars Bourne, 2436 1/2 Portland St., Eugene, Ore. 20¢ Beautifully silk-screened cover, lovely mimeo wrk. Like any editor worth his salt, Lars is developing the ability to draw around him the kind of writers who think as he does and see eye to eye with him... In this case, it is a strictly down-beat viewpoint. Lars (and his contributors) gives the impression of wading through deep waters, mentally, struggling to keep his footing in a swirling current of ideas -- reaching out blindly for something to cling to before he is swept away into a maelstrom of confusion and despair. They give the impression of searching, groping, reaching-out for some standard of values that can explain the existence of evil and suffering and degradation. Geis, particularly, gives a graphic voice to this feeling in his comments on Kent Moomaw's suicide, as also does Jim Weber in his savage satire on TV, "Your Chance To Live". These boys give me the impression of trying to put together a jig-saw puzzle with most of the key pieces missing -- as indeed, they are trying to do, in attempting to piece together any philosophy for living which rejects the key pieces of God and Man's responsibility to Him.... A most interesting development, I must say, and quite a relief after all the brothelling they've been indulging in verbally.

FANNEWSIE #2 & 3 - Bernard Cook, 2714 1/2 Randolph, Huntington Park, Calif. Singlesheet newszines with little to commend them except that they are a good try -- and everybody has to begin somewhere.

SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES #40, LASFS, 4548 W. 12th St. Los Angeles 6. A disappointment after the brilliant #39 which revived the apparently moribund publication -- additional proof, if proof be needed, of the excellence of the Djinn Faine editorial promise, since the only thing missing in this issue from the one previously is the Editor. Difficult to read (under-inking) and somewhat in-grown as to subject matter, with a preponderance of mutual back-patting in their merry-go-round of mutual admiration and congratulations over their new acquisition (a Gestetner). The most outstanding item, to my mind, is the advertisement of a rival candidate for EAFP. It seems that LASFS is not joining the TERRY GALT NOR EAFP bandwagon, already rolling so merrily across fandom, but is promoting their local candidate, Bjo Wells. I wonder, is this indicative of a split in Califandom -- or just a LASFS jest?

SCIENCE FICTION PARADE - Len Moffatt (next ish by Stan Woolston, it says here...) Wind up reports on the SOLAJOM. Interesting in a sort of Postmortemish way, but barely worth the effort of deciphering the faint and blurry mimeo.

* SAUCERIAN PUBLICATIONS. I don't know about the rest of you, but I find myself getting impatient with this Buller... It was merely funny for a while, but now that space-travel is becoming so close a reality, I find myself hungry for facts. These driveling fad-fancies merely annoy me. Superstition and wishful thinking have their place in life, but I doubt that using "Unidentified Flying Objects" as the subject of a full-scale religion is an adequate answer to the challenge of what these Objects may be....

SATELLITE, Don Allen, 34a Cumberland St., Gateshead 8, Co. Durham, Eng. Don proclaims this as "The International Fanzine" on the grounds that it contains material from all over the world -- true. But, to me, I found something far more significant: In the lettercol, a philosophical discussion with some genuine meat to it! I quote one statement that particularly impressed me, partly because it came from Ray Nelson, and partly because I consider it a most profound statement. I agree that this is the only criterion by which any religion can be judged, and happy is the person who has found those answers for himself:

"Christianity is not the only religion in the world, it is only a minority religion compared with, say, Buddhism. There are thousands of others. One is tempted to say that there are as many different religions as there are people. For instance, your religion, which was once mine, the worship of the human mind. Every religion, yours included, stands or falls not on its abstract theological dogmas, but on its answers to my two questions asked of every waking moment of life. "Why?" and "Why not?".."

GROUND ZERO, M&F Diets, Raybin; 1721 Grand Ave., Bronx 53, NY. Now that the sound of ax-grinding has died away, this is a very interesting little booklet on its own. A sort of inside-conrep by Ted Johnstone (one of the SOLACON Committee), a diverting book review by Belle, and a couple of other items of more or less newsworthy interest, depending on how you look at it. Now that the ice has been broken (the publishing 'ice', that is, on the pond of general fanatic) I hope that Frank & Belle Diets join the other husband-and-wife publishing teams which seem to be the coming thing in fandom and make their genuine a regular publication.

JOE-JIM #1, Sarno & O'Meara, 1223 W. 97th Place, Chicago 43, Ill. 15¢ 2/25¢ Nice format and mines; BNFish names on the T of G; adequate illos. Ambitious try for a #1 ish, and remarkable for the literate quality of the spelling.

FIJAGH #2 - Dick Ellington, PO Box 104, Cooper Station, New York 3, NY. This is so beautifully reproduced with such professional-looking type face, that it is difficult to remember it is a fansine. Probably the mature humor and adult viewpoint also contribute to the illusion of reading a promag; only the fan-type name-dropping (for reader-ego-boost purposes, no doubt) breaks the spell. This is an ompazine with no price listed, but worth sending a coin or two for a sample, just in case it is for sale.

POSTWARP - Edited thish by Alan J. Lewis. Lettersine more interesting than usual thish, due to current controversy over editorial policy. NCF has had to clamp down with a mild form of censorship due to an apparently incurable verbal diarrhoea with complications of paranoia on the part of a certain member, which sanitary measures, mild as they are, prove necessarily distasteful to the uninfected members who patronize its columns... (Idle thought while on the subject of paranoia... I wonder just what it is about H.P. Lovecraft's writings that has such an appeal for the paranoid personality? First G _____ W _____ publishes panygerics to HPL, and now another admirer alternately praises HPL and spews venom in the same manner... Let's hope he doesn't apply for the FAPA W/L along with GW!) Incidentally, the hymn to HPL did NOT appear in POSTWARP nor was it the subject of the censorship. Just a coincidence I noted in passing....

APORRHETA #6, Harry Sanderson, "Inchmery" 236 Queen's Rd, New Cross, London SE 14. 44 Hilarious pages that get funnier and funnier the less they intend to. Harry's fulminations re the anti-Dietz's seems to be winding up, naturally, since the whole WSFS feud seems about to do the same, but his waspish defense of his own mistakes continues in other ways. Highly recommended as one of the liveliest Britazines currently pubbed.

ATOM'S 1959 FAN CALENDAR, Produced & Published by HP Sanderson, Joy & Vince Clarke, & Arthur Thomson at "Inchmery" (see above). Very neat job of publishing, and I must remark that with the flux of Art-Folios fandom has produced this past year, this is the most sensible utilization of this flood of artwork of any. I look forward to at least one year of daily pleasure from Atom's Illos -- which is more than can be said for the artwork buried in Art-Folio Covers....

UNEVEN, Miriam Dyches, 882 Florida St., San Francisco 10, Calif. This gal is rapidly approaching a definite fanstatus as a publisher on her own (unless, of course, Terry Carr is ghosting for her -- a possibility always in the offing in a case like this). This #3 ish shows remarkable strides, editorially speaking, and if (as thish announces) she becomes Mrs. Terry Carr on January 20 (today, incidentally, as I stencil this...) there is every reason to hope that fandom will have another husband-and-wife team. FAPA, particularly, may rejoice in the hope of another active publisher admitted under the new change in the Constitution regarding joint-memberships of husbands and wives. Let us hope it is a genuine manifestation of talent and not merely the unconscious protective coloration of courtship which so often creates an illusion of interest, sometimes even fooling the person who holds it!

"TH" -- Jean & Annie Linard, 24 rue Petit, Vesoul, Hte Saone, France. Charmingly unintelligible, as usual. I note one painful misunderstanding: Apparently Jean did not intend his Pogo-Parody for publication, but I did not clearly understand his intention. (Frankly, I would much preferred not have have published it -- I didn't really think it did him much credit, except for remarkable fluency in a translated tongue!!) However, I erred on the side of good nature, inasmuch as I though he submitted it for all of FAPA to see, and not my eyes only.. Too bad. Now he'll have to send some good poetry to prove he really CAN write it -- if he can! -- which I'll gladly provide equal publishing space for.

HELEVINOTE -- James Hevelin, 309 Lark St., Scotia, N.Y. Three uninteresting pages of sercounish compilations re 1958 Ast.SF. To me, this doesn't augur well for his future value as a FAPA member, if this is evidence of the best he can do. It looks very much as though we have another Myers or Coslet on our hands, ie, an ampubber who is aspiring to FAPA for what he can get out of it, rather than as an outlet for the fan-ec he is bursting to give... Any Waiting Lister that hibernates for several years on the WL and merely stirs fitfully to the extent of 3 pages of qualifications in order to maintain his eligibility, doesn't sound very promising... Let's hope he fools me and turns out to be an eager-beaver once he gets in. You never know....

GAMBITs #23 to 28 (incl. 24 $\frac{1}{2}$, the FAPA-circulated Moomaw obituary) -- Ted E. White. There doesn't seem to be any adequate comment about his publishing Niagara, except to note the sudden cessation of same -- apparently as a result of matrimony. Extremely interesting while it lasted, controversial, informative, and chatty, Ted's marriage has seemingly dried up the flow.. or maybe it is his duties as OE that dammed it! I certainly hope this fountain of fannish current-events, like the west-coast counterpart FANAC, does not dry up permanently, leaving fandom parched and thirsty for the fannews they so long and so pleasantly provided for us. Sure nice while it lasted!
