

GRIST

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T E X A S

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GRIST: VOLUME 2, Nr. 3, SMR1960

THE FLOUR OF THE 23rd

OFF-TRAILS; Bennett: You clot! Where is my copy of OOLONG? You can't appease me by sending me 38 pages of material not listed in Off-Trails in trying to cover up your dereliction, I'll not allow it. Send me post-chaise OOLONG, or I'll tell everyone you're trying payola to hide your transgressions.

I doubt the legality of the vote on the proposed amendment since it is obviously misworded. Also, the advisability of electing the new president in this manner is to be deplored. So, each past TAFF candidate has been president of OMPA. What of it. I'm perfectly willing to vote for any of the current TAFF candidates for president of OMPA, but to put it in the way you propose is saying to the fanworld that we care so little about who gets the job that we'd rather not make the choice and will generously let the fans-at-large pick our man for us. Next thing you know, the TAFF candidate won't be an OMPAn, and we'll have to grant him membership just to get a president. Bah!

Congratulations on the striking cover. It is indeed a welcome change of format.

A L'ABANDON; Caughran:

Eric is Bentcliffe's first name, as you should know by now and I've never heard him referred to as 'Ron'. When I hear our British cousins refer to 'Ron & Terry', I assume they mean Bennett and Jeeves. In the current SAPS mailing Bob Leman reports that he had to drill his younger daughter in phonetics, particularly in mastering vowel sounds, at home, but he supposes that the nomadic life they led during her pre-school years may have affected her. But you've probably read that all ready. I thought maybe the non-SAPS in the crowd would like to know. One of the members of my class can't seem to grasp that $3.1416\dots$ does not equal $3 \text{ \& } 1/7$.

The mescaline bit was interesting but I haven't changed my mind about trying it. ((Hello, out there, in magazine land!)))

AMBLE; Mercer:

I think

A I like lethARCHIE or The Swilthy Fine much better but will bow & accept AMBLE for the time being.

G I find that I have generally the same trouble with your L zines that you have with Hickman's.

G The Autobahn Society? Could that be the N Audubon Society? That group's for the birds.

G aNIMuS curiae; Raybin:

I feel that the decedent should have the say as to the manner of his departure, if he is able to enforce it himself. Personally, I look forward to completing an honourable term of service, a few (quite a few, I hope) years of moderately active retirement, and a quiet burial in one of our national cemeteries in a comfortable box provided by a government grateful for my years of service.

AtoZ; Atom:

Thanks Art, for speaking up and out. Bighod, I like AtoZ, particularly the Illo Idea department. When I manage to think of some very appropriate paragraphs I'll let you know, and hope that you'll see fit to give it the treatment. I've long admired your talented pen and, of course, styli.

CYRILLE; Evans:

Welcome

home, Bill Evans. Many thanks, too, for CELEPHAI3 which arrived about a month ago. I remarked at the time that I wished you'd write like that for OMFA, and Lo and Behold!, you have. It is evident that whether or not you have been missing out in the past, we certainly have. Thanks for your lengthy comment on IBM, and sundry other subjects.

ERG 4; Jeeves:

Thanks for the enlightenment on your slang terms. I hope that you liked the crossword in UR #7. Quite a number of OMPAns recieved it because they had commented upon #6 in their zines, but some of you out there are out of luck.

I have

GRIST V2#3p2 Continuing ERG #4; Jeeves: an aversion to no-vote NOs, or YESes. I consider missing one's chance to have a say in an election the height of immorality, while confessing my iniquitous behaviour at times on that account, and I'd like to see provision made in the constitution requiring members to VOTE, or else!

EYE TRACKS #1; Locke:

Welcome to the mob, George. I heartily enjoyed the issues of SMOKE I've received, and with the expectation of similar pleasure I started on this zine. I was not disappointed. While I am not much of a collector myself, the bibliographical data you present is so agreeably sugar-coated that I can't complain. 10 Bob! Cor! Wonder how much you might have been enabled to knock down the price had not your acquisitive nature overruled your economic sense? It turns out good work in the bargain.

Are we to presume that the artwork gracing your covers is conceived and executed by your fine hand? The subliminal TAFF exhortation was a fine touch and I believe I can detect an 'L' hiding on the bacover also which I assume is in lieu of signature.

I look forward to a long and enjoyable membership for you.

OOLONG & S-Z; Pavlat:

As I said to George, above, I've not the bug of collectism and while such comprehensive compendiums fill me with awe I see not much use for them in my files. This is not to imply that the fanzine index will not remain in my files for it will and it may even be put to use. I'm all puffed up with Mr. Eney's suggestion that I am secretly engaged in providing crossword puzzles for the mundane masses. While this is not the case, I am an avid fan of crosswords and contemplate referring to the fanzine index to create a puzzle just for OMPA.

Incidentally, your dodge of stuffing OOLONG inside the Index caused me to think harsh thoughts about our OE, since when I first got the mailing and was frantically searching for the missing zine, I didn't find it, even though I thumbed through the Index in my quest.

FANZINE REVIEW #1; Madle:

I find it impossible to comment on this, other than to say Hi!

HUNGRY #2; Rispin; About all I can say here is that I'm confused, legibly but nonetheless so. the new depraved MORPH; Roles;

Alas, poor Yorrick... While I can sympathize with your feeling of time pressure, I can only deplore this lowering of standards. I have greatly admired the variety of techniques on your covers and trust we shall see them not too infrequently in the future.+ I generally draft my editorial commentary in 40 or 41 letter columns with justifying virgules in place/so that all I have to do before stenciling is to count the number of lines and mark the end of each column. Since I only put one column to a sheet of paper I can then align the appropriate lines and go to work.

As for precise and careful instructions, the Encyclopedia Britannica has an informative article on the Papaver somniferum with quite workable directions on how to extract the active ingredients. I knew a chap who followed the directions, utilizing the plants found in his neighbour's yard and who obtained a small amount which he tested on laboratory mice. He destroyed the remainder after having satisfied himself that it was potent enough to work on the mice. He had no desire to try it himself, having far too much respect for his nervous system.

Some time ago I spotted an unusual review of LCL in Field & Stream, Ed Zern's column. Exit Laughing. That it was worthy of a wider audience has been recognized by the editor's of the Reader's Digest in the April, 1960 issue. For the edification of those who won't see either F&S or RD I'll reprint it here:

"Although written many years ago, LADY CHATTERLEY'S LOVER has just been reissued by Grove Press, and this fictional account of the day-by-day life of an English gamekeeper is still of considerable interest to outdoor-minded readers, as it contains many passages on pheasant raising, the apprehending of poachers, ways to control vermin, and other chores and duties of

the professional gamekeeper. Unfortunately one is obliged to wade through many pages of extraneous material in order to discover and savor these side-lights on the management of a Midlands shooting estate, and in this reviewer's opinion this book cannot take the place of J.R. Miller's PRACTICAL GAMEKEEPING." I quite agree that just as 'beauty is in the eye of the beholder' so is obscenity, but I am not condemning LCL as obscene, I am merely pointing out that I feel that the publicity campaign being waged would seem calculated to give the impression that it was not quite pure, thus selling copies to the great mass of clods who feel that sex is obscene and who provide the market for all the garbage that clutters the news-stands nowadays.

PIPRESS; Bjo:

I know, you call it PiPress because of your circumferential discursive manner. Or perhaps because it's 3.1416...times better than any other cereal. If you gave us the benefit of your anatomical studies and drew some shapely leg joints we could call them Pipress Knees. Wooden you like that?

I find your everyday experiences quite interesting, there's nothing quite so nosy as other people and I'm one of them. For myself, I've been living a rather drab existence since the Detention, as per usual. When I got back from leave I was put on a new job as a Night planner in the "Job Control" section. This involved sorting the work orders prepared by the various crew chiefs for their airplanes by personell required to do the work, then trying to schedule the available people, and necessary power equipment, to the aircraft according to priorities set up by the day shift. We also had to keep tabs on any night work being done, insuring that all needed support was available, plus refueling all the aircraft that had flown and getting them moved to the proper parking spaces.

After two months of that, I was informed that the school I had applied for was open and that I had five days to clear the base and get to Lowry. 2

Since the first day was spent in getting my orders cut and the second day was a holiday, I didn't have as much time as I'd have liked. However, I not only got here on time, I arrived early enough to contact Norm Metcalf and to get steered to a meeting of the Colorado Fantasy Society that evening. The CFS is composed mostly of old-time fans who haven't been active in our microcosmos for many moons. Since Metcalf's stay here they have begun to emerge and are currently publishing a book, under their alter ego, the Council of Four, (scion society of THE BAKER STREET IRREGULARS) entitled "THE SCIENCE FICTIONAL SHERLOCK HOLMES" (plug, plug). The book should be in print by the time you read this, so I'll suggest that copies may be obtained by contacting Robert Peterson, 2845 S. Gilpin Ave., Denver 10, Colorado, with \$3.00. The book contains several pastiches of The Master's style that are associated in some way with SF, "The Martian Crown Jewels", "The Anomaly of the Empty Man", "The Greatest Tertian", "The Ball of Nostradamus", all share the stage with an introduction by Anthony Boucher, "Half A Hoka" from the Detention Program booklet and others. I advise you to get this book if you like either SF or Sherlock Holmes. Aficionados of both should be doubly pleased. If any profits are realized from the enterprise the authors will be distributed among them.

Norm and I managed a trip to Rawlins before he headed south, but most of you will have seen the result of it, (Xanadu Review) by now so I shan't enlarge upon the visit which was mostly fannish chatter about a multitude of subjects. Of course it was Norm's gentle reminders, "Procrastination is the thief of UR's", dinned into my ears over and over that led to the timely issuance of that zine. (Send your bombs to Box 1360-S, Tyndall AFB, Florida. The nice thing about having not published UR#7 was that I had the material nearly all ready to go. Now I've got to start all over again. I have gotten several interesting letters and it looks as tho I'll have another letter-column. That's a pretty easy way to fill the pages, if

G one has enough good letters.

R I am on 'B'
I Shift here, which means that I am sup-
S posed to attend school from 1200 to 18-
T 00 hours. We are supposed to start the
V clean-up at 1730 but often get away ear-
2 lier. The course is to teach the field-
maintenance techniques for overhaul and
3 repair of the fire-control system on B-
P 52 aircraft. This does not mean we fill
4 fire-extinguishers nor do we mow lawns
P or repair the runways. I find the work
P can be quite challenging and I rather
I like it but am not too happy with the
P (lack of) career opportunity it affords.
R Congratulations on your forthcoming APA
E merger.

S Don't you ever show your mother
S a SAPS mailing, lest the first thing you
B know there will be no more Bob Leman in
j fandom. How to get rid of Nematodes in-
o deed!

POOKA #10 & 11; Ford;

Your con rep-
ort was interesting and fun to read, al-
though a bit blush making. It's probab-
ly good that the CFG only sees me once
or twice a year since they can cherish
such fond memories of the occasions rat-
her than suffer my intrusions frequent-
ly.

SAND IN THE BEER; Eney:

QED.

SCOTTISHE;

Lindsay:

Ethel, I'm hurt. You should know
I'll never ignore you. I may forget to
put in the bit about how I liked your
zine, or you may forget to put in your
zine, but I'm not ignoring you. Such a
short Natterings shouldn't be allowed.
I'd be the first to agree with anyone
who started admitting his faults, just
to see how mad he'd get. I admit that
that is a dangerous habit for a devout
coward to have but there you are. Each
little fault of temper and each social
defect in my erring fellow creatures I
endeavour to correct...

WALDO; Bentcliffe:

They don't write stories like that any
more, and am I glad!

I'm doing these mc's
upon the first reading, composing as I
indicated in the Morph comment. The mail-
ing arrived on April 2nd and today is
the fifth. I started at the top of the
stack and worked down to ERG on Satur-
day. Sunday I saw the Museum with CFS

member Chuck Hansen. The museum is wide-
ly known for the manner in which its ex-
hibits are displayed, within ecological
groups with terrifically realistic art-
ificial foliage and all sorts of clever
touches like butterflies on the flowers
and, in one exhibit, a rattlesnake coil-
ed threateningly while a big-horn sheep
regards it suspiciously. The displays
are completed by background murals, many
of which blend so cleverly into the
foreground that one feels as though one
could walk straight away into it. Chuck
is a member of the Denver astronomical
group which set up and maintained the
planetarium at the museum for many years
and Chuck did yeoman duty there, there-
fore we took in the show, having gone
in beforehand to talk to the lecturer
and forgetting to go back for tickets.
This month's show was entitled "Desert
Night" and depicted the sky as seen in
the neighbourhood of Tucson, some ten or
twelve degrees south of here. One of the
highlights was a thunder & lightning
storm. I am determined to save up all
the rest of the month so that I'll be
able to spend the quarter to see next
month's show. Before we left the museum
Chuck talked one of the guards into ad-
mitting us into a wing which is being
set up with the South American exhibits.
Most of the background paintings have
been completed and several of the larg-
er animals have been located in some of
the niches, but the foliage was all in
boxes. Every bit of perishable foliage
is reproduced in sturdy, lifelike plas-
tic form in the museum workshops which
Chuck proposed to show me. The museum
director's son-in-law spotted us as we
drifted through a door marked 'Not Open
To The Public' and pointed out that we
shouldn't be there. We didn't press the
point as it was getting rather late..

If
you ever get to Denver be sure to visit
the Museum of Natural History..

ZOUNDS!;

Lichtman:

I was spared the dancing until
my first year in college when I filled
the P.E. requirements with a quarter of
volleyball and one of 'social and square
dancing. I never was good in gym nor did
I do much better in college PE.

I file
the mailings in manila folders, one per
mailing. The other zines and correspon-

GRIST V2#3p5 Continuing ZOUNDS; Blob: dence are also in manila folders filed alphabetically in a cardboard apple box. The correspondence pertaining to UR #6 is still in two separate folders as I haven't gotten around to refileing it since making up the lettercol and mailing list. The early replies to #7 including your letter which arrived today, still April 5th, are filed in a separate folder pending completion of #8.

As I see it, having officers on both sides of the pond would vastly complicate the problems of getting anything done right and I'm sure we don't want to take the entire state away from the founders. You go talking like that and they'll amend the constitution to bar all us furriners from membership. The solution is simple, anyone really faunching to be an officer can go settle in England. Believe me, I know wherepf I speak in the matter of too widespread an officialdom. When I was stationed in Germany Jan Jansen, Terry Jeeves, Eve Firestone, and myself held offices in the ISFOC. I don't believe the organization has recovered yet. As for postage, I realize quite well that it is cheaper to mail zines from here to England than to any other place in the States.

For mimeography I charge purely nominal rates: The Labour I assess at 50% per hundred sides, the Cost of Materiel varies some as my Source of Supply changes. Right now I've a stock of Mimeotone at \$1.90 per ream and the INK is Sear's Special Black at \$1.22 per can. You pay all the Postage except that on my Bill to you. I quoted Leman a figure once for cutting stencils and headings but forget the details now and prefer to go by individual cases on that. When I get back to Fort Worth, I should be able to get paper more cheaply.

I'm rather confused by your remarks about biAPA duplication in your comment on Marsolo. Did forget few words?

I got several coupons back on UR #6, mostly from the initial mailing, not from the OMPA distribution. I did get one from England which stated that the sender of the coupon "did not like UR #6 because: 'I didn't get it.'" Since the coupon was unsigned and there was

nothing about the envelope to identify the sender, he/she won't like UR #7 for the same reason.

The logical ploy for Bulmer to use is to print the birth announcements on tobacco leaves. Then the recipients will be able to roll their own cigars.

You and your wet cover thing drive me crazy. You should have seen an earlier Morph, I don't recall which one off hand, but it still has to be slip-sheeted to keep from marking the rest of the mailing it's in after two years or so.

FRINGE #2; Brown:

I'm looking forward to #1, why, I'm not sure.

BLUNT;

SANDERSON:

One of the prime tenets of our government, since you got rid of the b----- colonials has been that the military men should stay out of politics. Of late, there has been a tendency to overlook this. I could pull a Leman and go into a tirade about the loss of constitutional liberties, etc. but, 'you yourself have said it, and it's greatly to your credit,' "we military types..."

I'm rather on the outside looking in at the BSFA and think I've made my position clear on drugs so will proceed to Mr. Garrett.

I always show respectt to everyone unless I know them better.

As I still consider myself in many ways as a neo, I encourage other heos unless they happen to step on my toes. Incidentally, the neo who ruffled me so much by his offer of any amount, up to a nickel, for UR #5, is back on my good books. He forgot he'd ever written me and several months after the event, wrote a nice letter of comment and we struck up a correspondence that would still be active were I not so lazy. This particular neo has published a very fine first issue, and has been promising the second for some months.

I still read SF but not in magazine form, much. The only zine I currently get is Science Fantasy, and I blush to admit that I probably wouldn't be getting it if I hadn't won it in the Detention raffle. I fully intend to renew that sub, however, for I enjoy the

GRIST V2#3p6 Continuing BLUNT; S&erson:
zine muchly. I've plowed through most of
the SF books in the library at every
base I've been at.

Yes, I know Apartheid
has a special meaning, at this time it
is big news, rather the policies stem-
ming from it are. You got your pass, boy?
However, I am using it in my own special
way as the opposite of Togetherness, as
dirty a word to me as Apartheid may be
to you.

ADDENDA; Clarke:

I'll thank you
for this valuable correction sheet for
the even more valuable APATHY, lest you
should feel I'm ignoring you.

TLF; Clarke:

You're quite right about the South Af-
rican Apartheid. It's quite possible the
current massacres may be turned around
and really get out of hand. If ever the
black and yellow races get together, us
light-coloured peoples had better watch
out. The sheer weight of numbers could
do for us. Soon the 'Dark Continent' may
be completely dark as far as the inhab-
itants.

The obtuseness of the reviewer
of 'The World...' does not surprise me,
he obviously wasn't an SF fan and a lot
of people still have the idea that #1
is the man that counts.

As you may have
gathered from my comments to Sandy, the
turnover I referred to was of books in
the library. Since I haven't been fol-
lowing the magazines, I'm not sure what
they are (or were) doing. Presumably
some of the book-readers also read mag-
azines.

I'm still cheerful even if not
quite so roundish. At that I don't in-
tend to carry things to the beanpole
stage, or even very near it.

I note that
your government has dropped the tax on
cinema tickets but has added tuppence
to the cost of cigarettes which should
offset the loss of revenue with a com-
fortable bit left over. According to my
source, the 5 April issue of The Rocky
Mountain News, under the heading 'News
of the World' is the two column header,
"Briton pays 57 Cents For Pack of Cigar-
ets." At that rate, the working classes
will soon be weaned of the tobacco hab-

it. Do you people have any equivalent
to our 'Bull Durham' tobacco, which is
used primarily for roll-your-owns? I've
heard various comments (all unprintable)
as to the main ingredient of Bull Dur-
ham, but it makes a good cheap smoke if
one has a strong palate.

I can say a few
words about the difference between draw-
ing on stencil and on multilith masters.
I alluded to it in URanalysis, but a few
of the recipients of UR 7, including
some OMPans, have had difficulty in un-
derstanding that the cover of UR 7 was
stencilled and not multilithed, coupon-
index to the contrary, because a multi-
lith master is extremely partial to any
sort of grease, including the natural
oils secreted in the skin. I hadn't put
enough stress on this point when I gave
Roy the masters and the pencil and the
painstaking cross-hatching around the
borders of the cover was matched by an
ugly smear across the center of the il-
lustration. Stray fingermarks may, if
one is lucky and adept, be removed by el-
bow grease and wetting solution, however
the damage was too extensive on my poor
cover. The devilish thing about it is
that the grease stains do not show up
until ink is applied. Multilith is a
development of the art of lithography
IN WHICH paper or metal plates replace
the stones which gave the process its
name. One uses a specially impregnated
ribbon or pencil to type or write/draw
on the master, forming a positive image
which is transferred in the press to a
rubber mat and thence to the paper. The
metal plates are etched, usually through
a photographic process.

The quote sounds
as though it might apply to SF but I'll
not take any bets on it since you Inch-
Even were I right you'd probably say
merians are so sneaky and underhanded.
"No, it refers to the detective story."
MARSOLO # 6; Hayes:

I must say that the
article by Tune is easier to understand
than the sample of simplified spelling
I got after sending in the quiz.

Red ink
on yellow paper gets rather eyestrain-
ing, in fact, it's a genuine relief to
sit here at the typer looking at the
good old black on white.

GRIST V2#3p7 Cont. with:

PEALS & SKIMMERS GUIDE; Dietz:

The Inchmery Appreciation is a fine tribute to a deserving group. The photos of Nicola certainly came out well and the captions were indeed chucklesome. Sid Birchby just about broke me up, but then I'm partial to his writings. I really wish that I'd had a bit more time to get acquainted with Inchmery and hope some day to get back over there with time to get to know a lot of you OMPans better.

Warner raises some excellent points. Unfortunately, I am vulnerable from the work standpoint and I've got too much time and effort invested in this job to drop it now. It is also getting much harder to earn a living, I'm told, without certifying as to the purity of one's political belief. Personally I go along with Leman when he says, in Nematode #6, that the best government is the least government, although it should be understood that I'm not advocating anarchy. An enlightened populace that exercised its franchise is the only sound basis for a democratic government. When the people stop voting, they start down the road to totalitarianism. This is the main thing that ails the labour unions today, the members were convinced, by a variety of methods, that voting on matters was just a bore and that let the people who were doing the persuasive bit gain control and keep it. It is every franchised citizen's duty to inform himself of the issues in question and to exercise his vote, whether it be in a national election for the government of the country or the burning question be that the SF-Club of Podunk (assuming that the voter is a member of that august body as he would be were he franchised in that organization) should pay \$4.00 to Joy for her squelching of the WSFS.

Roy Hunt had a birthday last week and the CFS decided that since he'd admired Chuck Hansen's skull, his spare that is, we'd get him one. Woolworths provided a fine plastic model which had obviously been made from casts of a real skull. The skull shows all the bone structure and even shows the convolutions inside the skull where the brain fits. The top is designed to snap off, the lower jaw may

be removed and the teeth come in groups of three. The lower teeth may be glued to a removable piece in the lower jaw and this snap in and out also. A mount is provided which leaves the lower jaw free to waggle. We placed a red candle on top of the skull and ran the drippings down onto the top in a very artistic manner and presented it with appropriate ceremony at the last meeting. Roy was quite pleased. We had weathered the skull first by painting it with a black model paint then removing the wet paint with lighter fluid. This imparted a lovely yellowed patina to the surface and limned the crevices with black. The skull only cost \$5.00.

Unfortunately, so far I've only seen "Men Into Space" but have had good reports on both "Twilight Zone" & "Alcoa Presents." Somehow something has always seemed to come up the evenings the latter two are on.

Thanks also for the Detention Issue of GROUND ZERO.

Well, that about winds up the mailing, including the postmailings to date except for a two page OPEN LETTER from Bill Donaho, who is not being ignored by me, it's just that I've said all I intend to say on that subject.

I seem to have done quite a lengthy set of comments this time, for which I hope you're as pleased as I. I attribute this to the care I took not to skim through to see who had something to say about me before I was able to get to the typer. These comments might almost be considered to have been done on stencil since all the dummieing necessary has been accomplished as I went along and I'd have to retype the whole thing if I wanted to make any changes.

I have passed this mailing on to Charles Ford (Chuck) Hansen, asking him to try his hand at writing mcs as part of my plot to introduce the waiting listers to the assembled OMPAns and he came through.

This has been GRIST; Volume 2, Number 3, a publication of the U R P press for T/Sgt Ellis Mills of P.O. Box 244, Carswell AFB, Ft. Worth, TEXAS. That's right, by the time you see this I'll be back at the old stand.

May
Your House Be Safe From Typos. *Ellis*

HANSEN'S DISEASE

Good friend and stout fellow Ellis Mills has lent me his 23rd mailing bundle and suggested I type up some comments on same. It is to be feared that he didn't know what he was letting himself in for. Ellis, old pal, this is a longish batch of bull to saddle a good man with, and you have my permission to file it in the wastebasket if you think best. I really don't intend to take over your magazine.

Anyhow, you asked for it amigo, and can do with this tripe as seems best to you. I really enjoyed reading the bundle and commenting on it. Just like old times. Made me realize how rusty my typing has become. Ah to be in an apa once again. Do you suppose OMPA would open its doors to this one-time fan? Well, on to the mailing:

OFF
TRAILS - Officialdom - Interesting and adequate. There is not too much an outsider can say about this. I see there has been a considerable invasion from the U.S. tho' the roster is still preponderantly British and Canadian. President's message interesting, tho I foresee an unfortunate precedent in selecting the TAFF winner for president. This year the TAFF candidates may all be OMPA members and all qualified, that would not always necessarily be true, however. Were the trend to continue I envision the possibility of having a prexy of OMPA who is not a member at all and is quite unqualified for the job, just to have an OMPA president who is the TAFF winner.

A L'ABANDON - Caughran - I like the Atom cover mucho. I like most of his work I've seen, but this entirely different from the others, very nice is. Enjoy the mailing comments despite not having seen the mailing commented upon. Miri's comment re: cats interested in spite of the fact that I am a dog lover myself. I don't dislike cats, quite the contrary, just like dogs better, one dog in particular, a red Dachshund of noble and celebrated ancestry who is sometimes facetiously referred to as Anheuser Busch (the breeder's name was Busch) but whose official title on AKC records is Budweiser XVI. When the subject of a name was being discussed Mother opined that inasmuch as his Dam was named Sieglinde, he should properly be called Siegfried. I assented, but thinking the AKC records probably bulged with Dachshunds named Siegfried allowed my warped sense of humor to have its way. Thought Budweiser might be original, the AKC number indicates I was original 15 times too late. ((Chuck is now sadder, Budweiser--etm))

Carr's "Basic Works of Aristotle" almost spurred me to going into the basement to see if W.S. Houston were on the mailing list of the old Alchemist. Remembered I had finally thrown out the old records some time ago. Found Bill Donaho's article on Peyote very interesting. Regret not reading the first one. Tho I have studied some of the alkaloid drugs due to an intense interest, I have never studied peyote. Understand there was considerable legal trouble about the Indians using it for a time, apparently the objections have been overcome. This could come under the heading of freedom of religion. I don't believe that deliberately taking any narcotic, alkaloid or other hypnotic or hallucinatory drug is very wise, peyote is little understood and may eventually produce morbid pathological changes in the brain cells or others, tho it doesn't seem to cause any harm. I would be very reluctant to interfere with religious use but equally unwilling to experiment myself or recommend anyone else do so. Cannabis (marijuana) produces no withdrawal symptoms but does produce a strong psychological dependency with prolonged use. Despite lack of absolute proof there is much evidence that cannabis is involved in early addiction of stronger drugs. Marijuana is cheaper and easier to obtain and most of our teen-age addicts begin that way. They soon become dissatisfied with it and look for something with a bigger 'kick'... This usually leads to Heroin which is pure HELL in bold faced caps. Admittedly, only the weak or faulty character looks for such a crutch in the first place.

AMBLE - Mercer - Digested and enjoyed.

curiae - Raybin - Your discussion of ethical and moral right in the disposition of deceased relatives was interesting. I admit perhaps the pressure of social opinion would influence the decision of the heirs yet I think the wishes of the deceased should be honored unless they are way way out. Personally I am leaving orders to cremate the remains. I admit, being trained as an anthropologist myself, that if cremation becomes general it might well be a serious problem to anthropology in the future but practicality and hygienic considerations overrule the claim of science. It will be stated in my will that the arrangements be as simple and economical as is compatible with reasonable taste, the funds that might otherwise be spent upon unnecessary funeral expense being donated to medical research. Of course if the people arranging the disposal are foolish enough to spend their own money on a fancy burial that is their affair, but if they spend mine for a lot of foolishness b'Ghod I'll haunt 'em.

AtoZ - Thomson - Enjoyed it Arthur. I have always liked your artwork and enjoyed reading your slant on things. Your mailing comment was solid, man, solid. The Illodea is the best and most original new idea I've seen in quite a while. I'll have to cudgel the brains for an illodea submission.

Cyrille - Evans - For some reason a Bill Evans publication is always neat, readable, and downright interesting. If you ever get as close as Durango again Bill, look us up or give us a holler. Enjoyed the discussion of mysteries, great mystery hound myself. We recently formed a scion society of the Baker Street Irregulars here in Denver.

Erg - Jeeves - Neat and readable, excellent duplication and nice artwork. Nothing stirred me to comment.

Eyetracks - Locke - Enjoyed it but have no particular comment.

Fanzine Index - Pavlat - What can one say about a project of this magnitude except that devotion above and beyond the call of duty is plainly indicated. A hackneyed expression but this is truly a labor of love.

Fanzine Review - Madle - First zine of yours, Bob, that I have seen in many a year. Like old times. Your opening statement, "...Within the space of one mailing..." etc., fills me with envy of a very green hue. I'm currently nr. 40 on the FAPA waiting list - I should live so long - and before this sees print I will have sent in my application to OMPA.

Grist - Mills - Ellis's expressed views on child ~~bedtime~~ raising would lead one to think him a cruel and bloodthirsty fellow, ((only where children are concerned - etm)) while I know him to be a pleasant, warm-hearted lad whose bark is worse... Good to see reviews by my old pal Norm Metcalf too.

Hungry - Rispin - Liked the cover very much, very nice technique. I see friend Rotsler is still much preoccupied with pulchritudinous & buxom female figures, as who isn't. Some of his are a bit too buxom, look like a dairy ad.

..Sand
In The Beer - Rapp ((Eney)) - Art, I sure did enjoy your poetry. Why not shed your inspiring light in FAPA and OMPA regularly instead of hiding your light under a barrel (beer)? Good clean faanish fun.

Morph - Roles - Enjoyed it but don't find any notes to comment on.

Scottishe - Lindsay - Very neat and readable, liked the illos very much, especially the Atom cover. Interested in the discussion of John Masters' books and movie. I am trying to round up a collection of Masters myself. Sounds like the movie was from 'THE DECEIVERS'. I liked Masters but never began hunting him out till I read 'BUGLES AND A TIGER'.

Oolong - Pavlat - I like your pro-tem title Bob, too bad it won't grace a regular pub. Your work on the Fanzine Index is monumental.

Pipress - Wells - Thoroughly enjoyed from bushy-tail on the cover to signature on back. No special comment, but very enjoyable.

Correction, I did make a note or two after all. ((Hal etm)) Glad to hear you are one of the people who enjoy visiting a planetarium. Seems to me that is something nearly all fans should go for. I have never seen the one at Griffith Park tho I know about the installation. We have a very nice planetarium here in Denver, not nearly so big as the LA job, but we are quite proud of it. The Denver Astronomical Society, of which I am a past president and an active member, is responsible for ours. We got the interest and cooperation of the school board and Natural History Museum and installed a Spitz job at the museum. We assembled it, serviced it, wrote the lectures, did the lecturing and made the special effects in cooperation with the museum which put up the money. I lectured there regularly for over three years, but now it is so popular the museum director hired a full-time curator to run it since few of us have free time on working days. The new boss is one of our Society lads, however, so we still have a controlling hand. There is no telescope there, but the big 20" Chamberlain refractor at Denver University Observatory is open to the public two nights a week. I seldom go out for observing any more tho, since I have a very fine 6" Newtonian reflector which I made several years ago. I put it on a new mounting last year, setting circles, drive and the works and spend many hours at the eyepiece.

Pooka - Ford - Your Odyssey sounds like fun, tho tiring. The Chinese food I could go for gladly, the Italian food I view with suspicion. I like some of it very much but so many places use much too heavy a hand on the spices and herbs for my own taste. I'd rather have them hint than floor me with it. I must say 'amen' to your remarks about Ellis Mills. He was here in Denver and met with us each Saturday night. A gentleman of the old school. I'd sing his praises louder but as he will have to run this I don't want to embarrass the boy. ((I have too fine a conscience to deliberately rewrite a contributor's work so will faithfully reproduce any egoboo, however embarrassing, I come across in a contribution - etm)) He is a helluva nice guy. Con report much enjoyed.

Pooka - Ford - What, again? Quite a record list. I turned to it eagerly enough but as I dislike Jazz, and all the other odd forms of the modern idiom, a disorganized noise frequently mislabeled music, no comment. No further comment, that is.

Waldo - Bentcliffe - As you said yourself, Eric, mailing comments don't give one much to comment on, particularly as I have not seen the zines commented upon. On the other hand, I enjoy reading them. I liked your cover, real neat and workmanlike job. I am no art authority but I'd call it a design, and a good one. Think that wraps it up. Oh yes, one other comment -

BENTCLIFFE 4 TAFF!

Zounds - Lichtman - Very good looking issue, Bob. Ditto does have certain advantages. Have never used it so have no experience. Your plea for more publishing activity will draw heartfelt 'amens' from the more active fen, mutterings from the rest. I personally wouldn't have the courage to launch such a campaign and such promises on a first issue. I know my lethargy. I'm on FAPA's waiting list and applying for OMPA's - I mean to do much better in the matter of activity in FAPA this time than I did before but wouldn't dare to promise something every mailing. Maybe you have fewer responsibilities and interests than I.

- Well, end of the trail.

A very enjoyable mailing. Special thanks to Ellis for lending me his bundle and publishing these rambling comments. Who knows, maybe he'll be foolish enough to invite me to do it again sometime.

((Opinions expressed in these three pages are those of Charles Ford Hansen /unless bracketed (())/ and do not necessarily coincide with the publisher's. Many thanks, Chuck, and we'll see you again, soon.))

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