

Grant

NO. 55

JUL. 53

L I G H T

LIGHT is mimeographed by Leslie A. Croutch, Box 121, Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada, for issuance through the FAPA and to a few friends, whenever the mood inspires. Payment for material published is by means of a free copy in which said material appears.

I have here a flyer, what else could you call it? from one Burbee and one Rotsler campaigning for votes in the forthcoming election.

I herewith take issue with Burbee for running for TWO offices at once. I won't accept that on the basis that it is contrary to accepted parliamentary procedure. And besides, I think for one member to hold two offices would smack of monopolism, a state of affairs with which I disagree unless I happen to be the monopolist! But seriously, I for one will refuse to vote for any members for two offices. Therefor Burbee stands a chance of getting one vote from me for whichever office he runs for that I feel he is best suited for, but I will NOT vote for him for two!

If Burbee happens to be elected as Prexy and OE then I venture to suggest that a dangerous precedent will have been set, in which it is conceivable that some time ONE member might run for EVERY office, and conceivably be elected! You can imagine what could be the result if some undesirable got in, or some apparant desirable who immediately turned out to be a wolf in sheep's clothing!

In other words, to set a dangerous precedent NOW can end in dicatorship in the future.

+ LOOKING OVER THE 62ND MAILING +

LARK-- February 1953

RCA Victor, in Canada, advertising a new car radio, says it has a large speaker, for "real-life studio tone". In another section of the same ad, RCA tells the reader the speaker is a "large size 5 1/2" speaker"! Large size? First time I knew 5 1/2" could be had in different sizes! . . . Nope, that 3 stages of rf IS a superhet and there is ONLY ONE stage of preselection. I've seen the schematic! . . . Saw your pic in one of the American car-fan magazines. Ugh! . . . The reason I am not using a blank line between paragraphs is not because it might look like hell, but because I hate to waste the space! According to what I read, the main advantage of the "square" engine is the less piston travel means less wear on the rings and cylinder walls, hence less piston travel per mile and longer life. (That is turned around-- I meant less piston travel means less wear etc.) It could also mean shorter rods. I'm beginning to wonder if there is all the advantage there is supposed to be in aluminum pistons in the average passenger car. High speed crates, yes. But with aluminum pistons, after you have a little wear in rings and cylinder walls, the slap is very pronounced until heat causes expansion and the pistons tighten up. The castiron piston sounds a lot quieter when cold. . . Humph! Here Lee kicks up a big ruckus and gets us all to vote her in as prexy. Then what happens? Having achieved her goal she quits and decides to be a

body hermit. Just like a politician. All
mess and lather until he is voted in, then
he sits back and grins!

BRIEFAPAC NUMBER 2

Nope, I didn't suggest we give 10% of our
income to the churches. I don't. But
what is wrong with it if that is what you
believe in and feel is right? If it is
part of your religion to tithe, then
tithe. . . So what is wrong with sex in
fiction? Either a little sex or great
big gobs of sex? Those that don't want it
don't have to read it, any more than
those that don't smoke don't have to. But
why prevent those that DO want it in any
manner shape or form from enjoying them-
selves? McCoy wants some magazines, or
ONE magazine with lots of it in. I know
some others who think the same way. That
doesn't mean you have to buy the mag.,
does it? Ernest Hemingway? For my dough
that guy just can't write. Same with
Shaver. I read the first two or three
Shaver sludge-yarns and never anything
after. Yet he had plenty of sex.

Apparently you read the yarns anyway?

. . . So those people deserved to be
gypped by taking their radios to a fly-
by-night to be repaired. And why judge
the rest of the repairmen by the doings
of a guy who admittedly wasn't a pro-
fessional? That is the same as judging
the medical profession by the antics of
the first-aid man. I say any person who
tries to save a dime by taking anything to
a non-professional who doesn't know all
the facts deserves to be taken. And those
very same people probably thought they
were being canny and smart by going to
a side-line artist who would fix their
sets cheaper than the professional.

Actually, HE didn't do the gypping, THEY
did-- they cheated themselves. Quite
likely the fellow who paid \$15. for having
a condenser replaced would have squawked
like hell if a regular repair shop had
billed him that much. Why pick on the
radiomen? What about the auto mechanics?
Do YOU know whether you needed that new
set of rings, or bearings? You had only
the mechanic's word to go on. Even if
you saw him make the bearings would you
know whether the reading was wrong or
right? Same with the guy who fixes your

watch. In fact, same with almost any
repair profession.

THE FANTASY AMATEUR

I want to thank all those members who
voted for me and LIGHT, resulting in the
surprising and unexpected standings
achieved. It is appreciated.

BOB TUCKER

Tucker always gives me so much pleasure
that I have meritted him by name instead
of by magazine. For this I will expect a
suitable gift by return mail. Preferably
spendable. . . I saw those movies Bill
Grant took, Bob. God, what a ham you
are. If you ever get up this way again,
I am going to pint MY lens at that awful
map of yours! . . Hey you! The Go-dowd
was also to Ontario. You forgot that!
Faa on you sive for being such a snark.

. . . Nineteen guys have a crush on Lee
Hoffman? Make it 20, Bub! . . . Wosson-
male took the kids downtown to be
greased? Whatever for? . . Parry Island
doesn't squat plunk in the middle of
Cergian Bay, Old Scout. It plugs up
the entrance to Parry Sound, on the
east shore of Georgian Bay. Gotta be
precise about these things you know.
Some poor fan-aviatrix might be hunting
all over Georgian Bay hunting for a spot
to crash land and she would be going
by your information. You'd have her
death on your soul! I recall you looking
fondly at that Island and wanting to know
if the Indian Girls were beautiful and
whether the Bucks could run very fast.
I never did make up my mind just what
you might be planning!

FEBRUARY 1953

Maybe I am old fashioned, but I still
believe anything worth printing is
worth naming. . . That was a misprint.
Naturally I meant 78 RPM records.
Canada isn't out of step with the rest
of the continent, even if we do want
to build the St. Lawrence Seaway some-
time within the present millenium! . . .
Even better results (better?) can be
had if you are fortunate enough to
own or have access to a turntable with
variable speeds-- that is, it can be
used at any speed btween 10 rpm and
120 rpm. Such units are available.
Then you have speeds greater than 78,
and less than 33 1/3. . .

THE MAIL BOX

NORMAN V. LAMB, SIMCOE, ONTARIO

As far as the English cars are concerned, it is the old argument: do you want a heavy car that is large and holds the road good, or a light car that is smaller, cheaper, but does not have the same comfort. I will admit my knowledge of the postwar English cars is small, but I had one ride on the Queen Elizabeth Highway-- for 40-odd miles. To begin with my legs were slightly cramped-- and I am definitely not a six-footer-- it was an Austin-- and each time the car hit a crack in the pavement at about 50, I'll swear it never hit the road for 20 feet. I recall a ride I had in a Studebaker convertible about 3 years ago-- we did 98 an hour along #3 Highway and it hugged the road like it was glued there. That was some ride, I can tell you-- the buggy really went like mad. Of course the car over here would cost about 3 times as much as an Austin, but for the comfort of the ride it would be worth it. Personally I like the bigger, heavier cars to ride in-- now if I could find one that ran cheaper . . .

Your comments regarding the statements made by a U. S. Senator (in LIGHT 54) only bring to light the one essential difference between the type of government performed in the USA and in other democratic countries. Over there the powers that be have the nauseous habit of testing out trial balloons in the papers-- and seeing how the wind blows before doing anything concrete about the matter concerned-- whereas over here the first thing we know about it is when somebody is arrested for breaking an Order in Council that has never even been published. I'll give you your choice of which is best. Personally, I like the first-- as long as something is done after all the ballyhoo-- like the time this spring the American Minister of State Dulles went over to Europe. According to the papers he was going over with a big stick-- to tell Europe to hurry and get an Army together pronto or else the USA would cut off all their funds so they

would starve to death. Did he do that? Hell no, he went over and tried to argue the different countries into doing what the USA wants-- a vastly different thing

Now for censorship-- it isn't necessary to use it to conceal what is going on. The different outlooks possessed by different papers does the trick quite effectively-- and the people are no wiser after they have finished reading than they were before. For example of that, compare the Toronto Telegram and the Toronto Star on the same event-- not on one that came over the wires, A.D., U. P., etc.), but on the local stuff. You'd never know they were writing about the same thing. Censorship coloring the war news from Korea-- nonsense-- why everybody who can count over four can easily see by the papers that so far the Americans-- oops, pardon me--the U.N. Armies-- have so far, 1- killed somewhat more enemies than have ever been in arms; 2- destroyed more ~~enemies~~ than 10-years production of enemy trucks; 3- shot down somewhat more planes than the enemy had had or will have for some time; etc and etc, ad nauseum. How can you read material like that and then have the audacity to believe that you don't get the truth? the whole truth? and nothing but the truth? Aren't you ashamed of yourself?

Sale-- for some reason or other I detect the subtle hand of you in that list. You made a serious mistake though in the Sweetheart Special: if things are as they appear to be, a 10¢ jar of vaseline would prove to be ample-- indeed maybe a Five Lb. Packet of Alum would be necessary. Does that canned horse meat come from Army Surplus Horses and if so when did they get taken off the payroll? The prefab Waacs might be interesting to your Quebecker readers where large families are the rule.

OR. . .if Warner won't run for Prexy how about giving the honor to Boggs as a reward for duties as OE well and honorably done? Or, just for the hell of it-- why not Robert Sextimus Tucker? Look at the gals he will probably introduce to us slavering males!

 + LET US LOOK AT "FUTURE FICTION" FOR +
 + JULY 1953 +

By Norman V. Lamb.

The lead off-- and announced as the "Feature"-- story is "Graveyard". It runs for 13½ pages-- approximately 7,000 words. A story of a man who is not wholly a man and a dog that is not wholly a dog. The female interest is practically that of a voice "off stage". While announced as the story of the month it would be far better to have decently interred it in its name-sake.

"The Aeropause"-- the wicked plotters ruined the entire Solar System for 2,000 years. Brains of man and girl extracted and made into cybernetic mechanism. Oh brother!

"Strike"-- replace references to rocket ships with trains or airplanes. A wonderful take of labor versus capital-- circa 1920. The plot is somewhat boring after having read it in its multitudinous guises about 93 times before.

"Road to Rome"-- thanks to Earth's unknowing generosity Mars obtains atom bombs. Quite an oddity-- best story in the issue.

"Martian Ritual"-- superstition extrapolated into the nonsense brought about by a million years of civilization on Mars. Perhaps the writer should stick to his factual articles in ASF. Oh phew!

"Where or When"-- the female character "received" the male via telepathy-- or what have you. Today people who "hear" voices are stacked away in looney bins!

"Utopias in Contrast"-- an article; "Men Like Gods" compared to "Brave New World". Both are utopias, hence comparable. Suggested item for another article-- a mountain and a grain of sand-- both consist of sand hence are comparable. If the article had been honest it would have been labelled "Book Reviews".

"Prisoner of the Skull" book review. First favorable review I've seen of this title. I disagree with RML. He states story isn't totally incoherent-- I claim it is "Ulyssian" after J. Moyo of that

ilk.

"Four Hundred Blackbirds"-- telepathy, here we go again. This time from nan to man via the brain of a bird. Oh goody, look, I'm a wod wed wobin! How the meek scientist foiled the bad bad dictator. Oh read this for sure-- it's so ----- !

When "Future" came back in 1950 after its lengthy hibernation it started running Bergey covers-- those babes-- WOW! Slowly, oh so slowly-- the babes started wearing more and more voluminous costumes-- and then vanished. Alas.

Today it rivals ASF for its chaste tone. Alas and a half a dozen alacks. Why, everyone, except the very "Letter writing to the editor" type, seemed to enjoy the covers and interior illustrations, dull and blotched and blurry as the latter were. Now the illustrations are somewhat clearer, but with ample room for improvement. I am not criticizing the art work as such, merely the reproduction of same. They still have those charming paragraph headings, which do help to cover the blank spaces on a page, and they are still as inane as ever.

The advertisements are still the same as ever; don't mention that the poor editor can't help them, I know it, and I can't help seeing them. Now I listen to "Spicy Party Records" as I gaze at my booklets, "The Kind Grwonups Like", and then proceed to enjoy "rollicking bedside funn". Of course the girls can still reduce with chewing gum or else wear the new slimming girlde: "slims three inches off your figure". Naturally if any one suffers from hernia that is easily remedied by the "Rupture-easers"-- of course they could also take advantage of the "No Time Limit Hospital Plan". Presumably while there they could choose between the two types of "Illustrated Booklets and Novelties", and the females could possibly learn from them how to become "A Hotel Hostess".

Now it might be thought that the July issue of Future was not thought well of by me. Why, how did you ever get that idea? By all means rush right out and buy one-- if you insist on

having complete files of fantasy magazines. Otherwise look again at that quarter. Why, it will almost buy you an extra package of smokes.



MAY 30-- yesterday morning I received the new Mailing-- postage 20¢. Last night I read it through, every blinking word of it. Tonight I will comment, while things are fresh in mind, on certain items therein. The magazines not mentioned were read and enjoyed, but I just don't have anything to say in return. So don't feel slighted, fellers. Everything was appreciated most highly.

OFFICIAL ORGAN

There are supposed to be 65 members. Right? Yet the list this month has only 64. Where is the 65th? Not the invisible man, I trust?

TARGET: FAPA!

Here's another item in the Canadian news for you to put in your pipe and smoke awhile, Enoy. Ottawa, Canada's capital, has a woman mayor, one Charlotte Whitton. This Miss Whitton is quite a card, chock full of Imperliastic attitudes such as snotty ermine robes for the mayor, a great brassy-lloking chain across her stomach, et al. Anyway, in a fairly recent council meeting in Ottawa, television and television aerials came up, and Miss Whitton said she wasn't going to allow Ottawa's skyline get into the awful mess Toronto's is-- that outside aerials would not be allowed to be erected without the owner first getting the council's permission! One of the councillors then asked Miss Whitton if that also applied to HERaerial. (Apparently she has one up.) Miss Whitton came back with the remark that that was

not the matter being questioned and therefore was not in order! Apparently what is all right for Charlotte Whitton IS NOT all right for the common herd. . . Well, at the time I typed that down I didn't know about shot revolvers, but when I read your comment it seemed to me that I had, sometime or other, somewhere or other, seen something about such a contraption. . . By the way, if a shot gun is loaded with shot, would a deer rifle be loaded with deer?

LARK

Oh dear me-- the fun you guys are having with my typo-- "salts the highways are covered with during the winter". But I do admit "slats" sounds much fñnnier. . . The G.M. Vauxhall 4-cylinder sedan sells for \$1925.00 here, including air-conditioning which is just a heater with a shut-off so you can pump outside air into the car during hot weather. The wholesalers also had something to do with the public's dissatisfaction with radiomen. It used to be any Joe could walk into a wholesale outlet and buy a part at wholesale price. So if he purchased a part for 33¢, and later on had one put in his set or saw a bill where one had been put in somebody else's set, and the serviceman charged 55¢ for it, the civilian thought he was making a helluva big profit. And then the average owner just refuses to understand why it may take \$5. labor to put in a two-bit part! I agree with you that \$1.25 for an .05 mfd capacitor is too much. But actually the public has asked for such charges. A serviceman went into the home in the "good old days" and spent two hours to find a .05 mfd capacitor, and then made out a bill for, we'll say, 35¢ for the part, plus \$4. for the labor. The customer yelled bloody murder-- "WHAT, you crook, \$4. to put in a 35¢ part? I won't pay it." So soon the poor serviceman said to himself, "All right, so they want cheap labor-- so next time I'll charge them \$1.50 for the capacitor, and only \$3.00 for the part." So he does and because the part is half as much as the labor the customer doesn't say anything. If you think this is a lot of guff, I'm speaking from experience. I had such experiences during the early

Days of the war when I was still dopey enough to lug all my equipment around to the customer's home. He hung over your shoulder and watched every move you made, and kept one eye on the clock. And if you tried to get more than \$1. or \$1.25 an hour he acted as though you had seduced his cat and gave her pups or something! . . . Your pint-sized treatise on printing was very informative and highly enjoyable. Such dope, right from the Danner's mouth, is worth its weight in type metal.

HALLUCINATIONS

The way I see it, the trouble with McCarthyism is that it gives rise to the development of false accusation to a fine art. McCarthyism has grown to such a dangerous state that people are practising it to further their own selfish ends. It appears to me that certain people, wishing to smear a competitor, or a rival, or anyone they do not for some reason like and want out of the way, only have to point the finger and yell "Communist" or "Communist sympathizer" or "Communist thinker", and immediately the mass hysteria that appears to be rampant among the average people who do not bother to think for themselves, causes the smeared man or woman to appear as something worse than a criminal. Their lives are disrupted. They lose their jobs, their positions, they are hounded and persecuted. And why? If they were actually Communists or even non-Communists who were acting treasonably, then they would deserve their fate. But instead innocent people are smeared, I think, in many cases by careless people who only wish to use this tactic to remove someone they do not like, or to wish harm on somebody for some personal reason. And McCarthy is not keeping his filth home to himself. He is starting to bandy is internationally, causing his country loss of prestige, and forever gumming up the works: making more able men spend much time undoing the harm he has caused, time that could be more profitably spent otherwise.

THE POLAROID DIARY

From what I have been reading anent "B'Wana Devil", it is a very poor effort. More than a few places it has been pulled out right in the middle of the run. One

such story had to do with a theatre in Toronto. Seems this show house had the picture scheduled for a week. It was pulled out during the evening of the second day and another feature substituted. Reason given was lack of patronage. . . . The "Biltmore" in Toronto scheduled a THREE FEATURE program, one of the features being a 3-D called "The Great Panty Raid"! . . . So this voice on the phone says it wants a power tube for its radio-- it's a Philco, or GE or Westinghouse or whatever the case may be, and it's that big glass one in the corner and it knows it's a power tube because the set has no power and last time it went the same way they went down town and bought a new power tube and then the radio worked fine, and the tube cost a \$1.50, and no they don't know any number but the radio was bought in 1940, and no it wasn't a new one it was second hand and surely if I am a radioman I know what tube it is! So I try to tell the voice I have a stock of about 400 different types of tubes, and the one she wants might be any one of those, and it would be best to bring the radio in so I can test the tubes and then I'd know what tube it was, if it was a tube. So finally after wasting about 15 minutes the voice says it will do that and can I fix it right away and will I be there all afternoon and I say yes I'll be there all after noon and I'll try to give immediate service. So about a week later in comes a guy with an AC-DC radio and says his wife phoned for a tube a week ago, and he wants it yesterday if not the day before because he wants to hear the fights that night and he'll be back for it in half an hour. So I test the tubes and this is one time the peasant happens to be right, it needs a 35L6GT. So I have the set playing again in less than half an hour and what happens? A month later a woman comes in and asks if the radio her husband left is fixed and when she finds out it is, before asking how much it is, she hands over a buck and wants a receipt! So I explain the tube is \$1.70 plus \$1.50 (Philco rates) service charge and she doesn't kick on the 1.50 but wants to know why the tube is 1.70 and it turns out she figures ALL tubes cost about \$1.00! Yessir, radio is the crazeeeist game. I see you have them down there too,

lee. Then there is the guy who refuses to accept a 6F6GT for a 6F6G because he is certain the smaller tube won't be as strong and will wear out faster! Or the guy who has read one too many books and figures he is an electronics expert and is fixing the neighbor's radio. As said radio is weak, and uses a 6K6GT in the output, said big genius demands a 6L6G as a replacement because he KNOWS the bigger the tube the more the output and that is all that is wrong with the set-- it just needs a bigger tube! Ah yes, one wonder's where the Good Lord was the day He left it to His Assistants to hand out the brains! . . . Right now, the ONLY magazine that I buy that gets road cover to cover without exception month after month is The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction.

BIRDSMITH

I disagree with Rosco E. Wright: "People are no darn good." People ARE good-- but what for damned if I know! . . . But the reason Tucker is good at biographing, or at least I think this is the reason, is because Tuck doesn't bother with fanning and science fiction to the exclusion of all else. Tucker's stuff can be read by anyone and enjoyed. It is HUMAN, had wide appeal, and makes one to chuckle, if not to guffaw. In other words, if you are writing your autobiog, for Gawd's sake remember, 20% fandom and fantasy et al at the most is more than enough. Mention fans as PEOPLE and FRIENDS, not as fans. . . Do you mean Rotsler might have come bottled? Just think-- pickled before he was delivered! . . . Square-muzzled six-shooters would, I think, come in handy for shooting squares. . . You should see some of the things Norm Lamb has to say concerning people who come to the postoffice. It'd make an angel weep! . . . I do as well as a laborer, usually better on the average, Vernon. . . Marlon Brando is natural? I read your reasons for liking this person and disliking that one (mostly Gary Cooper) on the screen. Though I don't agree with you on Cooper I still enjoyed reading the article. I very seldom analyze my reasons for liking or disliking a particular actor or actress. If I don't like his or her work I let it go at that.

Sometimes analyse certain pictures to see where they fell down in my opinion. Personally I haven't liked anything to date that Marlon Brando has done. He is uncomfortable to watch. His diction is atrocious and painful to me. He acts more like a sullen spoiled brat than anything else. I like Gary Cooper though I am forced to admit some of his traits which you mention are true. Yet I have always enjoyed his work and probably always will. John Wayne is more versatile and actually a better actor. Randolph Scott, I doubt, will ever make a Class A picture though anything can happen. I agree with everyone who rates "The Quiet Man" as their favorite film. I enjoyed it more than I have enjoyed any other recent offering. Of course, the fact that the three top stars were all favorites of mine had a lot to do with it. John Wayne I always like, though he did get sucked into the most God-awful mess when he made "Big Jim McClean" Barry Fitzgerald is a likeable old cuss that always makes me chuckle, while Maureen O'Hara-- now there is a broth of a lass and good at more things than actin', I'll be after thinkin'! Now if we could only get HER in the Fapa and at a few fan conventions!!!!!! Marilyn Monroe is alright but there are some many others in Hollywood that are so much better. In my opinion, Monroe isn't even as good looking or as sexy as such stars as Betty Grable, Joan ~~Grumm~~ Crawford, to name but two. After all, it takes more than swivel hips to make an actress, and if you want to look at swivel hips why pay the admission price to see a movie-- go to your local beach and look at the local fauna.

FLOP

Only difference between standard or conventional screen and Cinerama is Cinerama makes the Hollywood brand of color three times as broad. . . You like BOTH Loes? Lee Hoffman and Peggy Lee? Is it my imagination or not, but in "The Jazz Singer" I thought Peggy looked like a younger sister of Ginger Rogers. . . . Oh you narsty minded pusson-- you used that doity doity word-- "sex-tilis"! . . . Nuts on the OE only being able to serve two terms at a time. I

maintain that if we get a good editor, and he wants to continue in office, then let him run for as many times as he wishes. The members can always vote him down, you know. Which is why I hope the report isn't true that Boggs is tired of his job and wants out. Who will we get who will be better than he has been? In fact, can we get someone else who will be as good?

GROTESQUE

As you can well see-- I haven't any correction fluid. . . I liked your ads. Hope you can manage a repeat in the near future? . . . A recent poll among camels showed that 99 out of every 100 camels who tried doctors for 100 days preferred female camels.

UNASKED OPINION

Lookie-- if Hoffman doesn't run for the Proxy's Chair again, how about G. M. Carr taking a fling ding at it? I read a technical report on "B'Wana Duvill" and it said that the photography in the film was disappointing. Apparently the producer, director, everybody, tried too hard to work the novelty of 3-D to the bone for its novel and unusual effects, and didn't give a damn about anything else. Hollywood is reported to think that 3-D will be the gift of the Gods to pull the picture industry out of the slump and combat the now evil of television. Hell, all Hollywood needed was better stories, better acting, and less formula. Haven't seen "Hans Christain Anderson yet so can't say anything one way or the other about it. The picture hasn't been to Parry Sound yet. . . But stop and consider: certainly the Russian peasant was helped tremendously by the advent of Communism and the overthrow of the Czarist Regime. Certain Russia has come a long way since then. It may even be possible that Russia since the Revolution has progressed farther than any other nation! But that doesn't prove anything. It doesn't necessarily say the average Ivan is better off today than we are. Nor does it imply Russia is more progressive.) Because what do we have to compare it all with? Pre-Revolutionary Russia, and it was so blasted rotten, so poor, its people so down-trodden and spat upon,

that almost any change would have to be an improvement. Russia today, compared to Russia yesterday, is probably a vast improvement, but compared to the rest of the world? Don't forget, Russia had to start almost from scratch-- she was literally decades behind the times-- heck, it's like saying a barrel of rotten apples is a big improvement over two barrels of rotten apples. It certainly is, but it is still damned poor produce just the same. . . . Not being a female I can't evaluate your preferences for the 5 male movie stars. From the male standpoint, though, I do agree that James Mason is more of a man than some of the cinematic pantywaists. Now, if I had 5 movie queens to pick for my little private harem, I think I might pick Maureen O'Hara, Joan Crawford, Deborah Kerr, Doris Day, and Alexis Smith. Now let all you amateur psychiatrists and psychologists try to analyze the guy who'd pick that ensemble! . . . Seems to me I've heard or read of "scallops" but blessed if I am any the wiser right now. I may just THINK the word is familiar. Maybe one of LIGHT's more erudite readers can help us out. Normr Inab might-- he's full of the gosh@dingest bits of odd information. Well, you don't have to go as far from home as England to find out what other people think of the United States! Right now Canada is pretty well fed up with all the dog in the mangerish goings on in Washington anent the St. Lawrence Seaway. It's seems sort of amusing to us that a country supposed to be as rich and powerful as the U.S. still carps at a share in the project when you have so much to gain, while Canada, much smaller in population, much poorer in wealth, is ready and willing to build the whole shebang all by herself. That's what is going to happen one of these days. Ottawa is going to go it alone and then your government will be weeping in its beer for decades to come about having to pay the ~~port~~ toll charges for its shipping!. . . My experience in advertising has made me wonder if the average citizen deserves a fair deal! John Citizen is always wailing about being taken-- about unfair advertising-- and so on, and yet when an honest deal is

offered him, he sometimes makes it so difficult for the merchant that it just isn't worth it. For instance-- when Canada ended price control last year, I started selling an Eveready radio battery pack for \$9.75 and advertising it. The normal "suggested" retail price is \$9.95. I bet a good half of the people who have enquired about the battery have wanted to know whether it was a used one-- inferior grade-- or what. They suggested that it must be one of those or else I wouldn't be willing to lose 20¢ on each battery. When I finally managed to assure them it was an honest deal, that I was just giving a better price, they then suggested that there must be a big profit in them to be able to do that, that I must have been making an extra 20¢ profit on top of the big profit when price control was on. For awhile there I was tempted to say to hell with it all, and soak the bastards the full price. But I stuck it out. I don't advertise them anymore. I rely on people who have bought them coming back, and telling their friends. It's working out all right. But I never offer bargains or reduced prices on anything any more. Let them pay the full freight. They don't gripe any more or ask any more fool questions. This wasn't my only experience along this line either. It has happened before in other things. (Correction: "price control" is the wrong term. This was a war-time practise put into effect by the govt. to control prices and reduce the possibilities of inflation. What was ended was "price maintenance" by the manufacturers. A manufacturer could set the price at which his product was sold. He no longer can. He can only suggest. The dealer can sell at any price he likes, PROVIDING it isn't MORE than the maximum suggested retail price. Lousy deal! You can give it away and lose your shirt in the process but you mustn't make too much money! Nuts!). . . Well, I don't like most poetry, but I wouldn't suggest burning poets! To try to prevent other people from having or enjoying what YOU dislike, is DICTATORSHIP. . . Everybody seems to be in a self-congratulatory mood-- now they are bragging about eating black-market butter during the war. What is so

wonderful about that? I suspect almost all of us side-stepped the law and war-time regs now and then. I know I did, and not only in the procurement of butter without ration stamps either!

CHAPTER PLAY

I was starting to wonder whether I'd have room for this magazine. A long time ago I decided on a 10-page LIGHT every issue, and I don't like to slide into sinful ways. . . I for one sincerely hope that Lee doesn't quit the ship. If she places Quandry on an "if and when" basis, however, that doesn't mean anything. LIGHT has been on a sort of "if and when" basis for a long time now, and it appears hearty and healthy as most of the FAPazines. If Lee is tiring of the fannish game, one of the contributing causes may be the pace she set herself. I think if she slowed down somewhat, appeared less frequently, or as frequently but with smaller offerings, she would regain most of her enthusiasm. That is one reason I hold LIGHT to 10 pages. I refuse to splurge on giant issues because the work might prove too much of a burden, take up too much time, and rob the publishing of any glimmer of gold it had. There is no sense in eating too much of a good thing at one meal and making yourself sick! Take it slow. Take it easy. And like a man with a weak heart, you can last as long as the athlete who won't spare himself and winds up broken and ruined and headed for an early grave. There isn't much to comment on here. I really enjoyed the whole gambit though. . . YOU have a daughter of 16? Poor unfortunate lass. If she ever turns out to be like her old man, then God Help all Men!

OF COURSE. . . who knows-- now that Lee set the pace, maybe Gertrude M. Carr will try to fill her shoes! Or is this suggestion too dangerous? After Lee's Withdrawal, it appears as though Proxyism is where Loyal Members Crawl away to Die! BUT EVEN SO. I'LL POUND THE DRUM FOR HARRY WARNER JR. HOW ABOUT IT HARRY? CARE TO TAKE A CRACK AT IT?