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Thankee, people, for putting on a fine, fun-filled Westercon. . . and you, Bruce, for your hospitality Thursday night. Looking at it one way, it seems almost not worth it from the committees viewpoint. They work for a whole year, planning things, fighting with the hotel, putting up with bitching and senseless suggestions from the fans, etc. , simply to provide a weekend of entertainment and parties for a mob of people, most of whom will never give a second thought to the work that went into it.

One thing that surprised me about this con was the rediculously early hours at which all the parties ended. Every night by about 4 things were pretty much dead, even on the last night of the con. For instance, I had been counting on a party on the last night to stay at until it was time to leave for the ariport at 5:30, but no such luck. Charlie Brown kicked his party out about 4:15, and LASFS & NY were shut down. About 3 people were busy packing in the Las Vegas room, and nothing else was to be found. Daniels. . . is that Dick? . . . was driving home and volunteered to drop me off at the airport. I took him up on it and slept for a couple of hours in the waiting room, and even managed to find a bug in my program when I got back to work! I expected to do little more than occupy my desk that day.

Could you people answer a few questions about the con for me? What was the total membership? How mahy of these were actually present at the con? In the art-show, the popular-award winner was Dian Pelz' "Khazad-Dum". What were the two posted runners-up? What was the total take on the auction? Are there any other figures that you have which you are willing to release at this time? Stuff like profit/loss, amount turned over to San Diego, etc.

#### THEATER PARTY!!!

The next Bay Area party will be in three weeks, for Strauss' comic operetta "Die Fledermaus" done in English by the Lamplighters. It will be on Saturday, July 24th, and as usual tickets will be \$1.50. This will be a small party as I am not pushing the tickets very hard, will put up with less nonsense from the purchasers, and only ordered 42 from the LL (tho as usual, more can be gotten later on in another block further back in the theater). Here's the deal. . . I gotta know by the previous Friday (the 16th) how many are coming, will make the last pitch that night at the Little Men, and return unsold ones next morning. I also want the money in advance, this time, if humanly possible tho in some few cases I might grant credit to the time of the performance. After I returned the tickets, if you can't make it it is up to YOU to find a substitute, for you will be financially responsible for the ticket regardless of whether or not you go. Of course if someone comes to me at the last minute asking for a ticket, I will help make the exchange, but will no longer go to great pains in order to do so.

I just finished the last NIEKAS, #12, the night before I left for the con and took every collated copy with me. . . and came back with none. I didn't count them, but must have had 75 or so along. A lot went to my usual trade-letterhack list, plus the N'APA members I was postmailing to. On the other hand, I sold a fair number of copies to people who I had never sent copies before. . . more than I expected to. Two peo le came back saying that their copies had been lost/swiped during parties, but then I too lost something that way. . . my copy of Bruce Pelz' new filk-song manual which someone swiped from Charlie Brown's room Friday night. Sigh. . . I suppose I'll eventually get around to getting another.

Met a large number of new people at this con, and got to know a lot better some others that I barely knew. For instance, I had - met Arnie Katz on a number of occasions before, but this was the first time I talked with him at length. (A New Yorker meeting another in LA. . .) A surprizing number of people from the Bay area weren't present. Redd Baggs, Norm Metcalf, Lauren Exter, Jerry & Miri Knight, Emil Petaja & Lief Ayem were among those I missed at the con.

Good grief, but that Duperman strip is old. Wheatly, Henstell, Durward, Kary, all bng gone frmo the LA fan scene. Wonder what the new LASFns will think of this.

I'm afraid that's about it for now. Guess I should have used the elite typer to avoid the big blanks/space, but Jim Quigg has it right now and is putting in a permanent speed controll for me. I shouldn't have contributed to this disty at all, as I am gonig in to work an hour late in order to do so Wednesday morning. Last night after I got home from work and ate I simply collapsed and slept for 12 hours. . . something I'd never done before. Guess my impending middle-age is catching up with me. Well, I wanted to put in an announcement for the theater party, and that's out of the way. Hope some of you make it up here. If you do come, check with Bjo about some trophies she wants setup for me to take to NY when I go there about Aug 1.

I've read a good bit of the new Disty, and some parts, like Squirrel in Europe, were very amusing.

Anyhow, 'til next time. . . . .



Oh yes. . . Barry, when you run off Felice's issues of Mayhem Annex, could you please send me a dozen or so extra copies? I'd like to have a few extra copies of each ; issue both for file copies and to send to a few friends. Got the first one. . . thanks. . . and I forgot to ask about the second. I would appreciate it very much if you automatically did this for all of them from now on.