

NOTES
FROM
ARINAM

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teur Press Association.

A Marinated Publication ✕

It is, he said semi-enthusiastically, time to get started on some-
thing for the NovFAPA, particularly since the stencils for the AugFAPA
are still here unblackened by the touch of Sears Special Mimeograph Ink.
If I get this on stencil and finished sometime soon I'll have them both
in the 149 mailing.

A little mailing comment music, maestro.

FA: I have on hand a missive from Rosemary Hickey which informs me (and,
I presume, the rest of FAPA) that either Redd Boggs has been elected to
everything or else nobody has been elected to anything. Fantastic. I
am no expert on the matter but I would opine that nobody has been elect-
ed to anything since Rosemary would seem to be correct in her opinion
that the election was unconstitutional because ballots were not included
as required by 7.2. Fortunately 6.2 would seem to cover this sort of
thing and 6.11 would seem to give Boggs the power to decree another e-
lection.

Heh. It appears that Calkins's idea for saving FAPA money will
end up costing three times as much as if he had followed the constitu-
tion.

It is too bad that Rosemary didn't include the names of those who
did send in ballots. One wonders who participated in this rather amus-
ing prank.

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SNICKERSNEE: In regards to the weather you ask "what the hell's going on
here?". Ah, Bob, if you kept up with fanzines, where in, as you know,
all the world's knowledge is to be found, you would not have to ask that
question. There has been a running report in (ahem) Dynatron, for ex-
ample, which would have informed you that the north polar air mass has
expanded (reason unknown at the moment) driving other atmospheric phenom-
ena southwards and generally disrupting what we think of as normal wea-
ther patterns. A number of climatologists have suggested that we are in
for some rather severe and long winters.

And that, in view of the assort-
ed crises in fuel and food and whatall the government tells us about,
leads to interesting speculations.

Your gardening efforts give me the
shudders when I think about the work involved but, of course, there you
can get results. It just wouldn't be worth it here--too much variation
in climate and the Bermuda grass would choke out everything within three
months anyway.

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SYNAPSE: Egad! The pulling powers of the protagonist's present is a revolting idea. 4,000,000,000 separate primary time lines plus an infinite number of alternates? Granted, of course, that we all live in our own subjective present but I should think there would be only one objective time line. Frankly the whole thing is beyond me. I am, after all, only a poor old fat man who's simple brain finds these concepts difficult. The whole thing begins to border on the metaphysical.

I thought "shortfall" was when summer departed in September and winter arrived in November.

Certainly God intended us to run on a dozenal system. Why else would doughnuts come that way? A recent book tried to convince me that the Sumerians adopted the dozenal system because the multiples of 12 are all so handy-dandy. But 10 is simpler, no?

I remember a neighbor in Colorado who used a "Wincharger" to power his house. The wind spun a generator which kept a series of storage batteries charged. The problem with these alternate energy proposals is the costs involved in converting over to them. (Converting???) I think I mentioned before that while using the sun for heating is feasible here the cost of converting over is not. But you know that.

File, I say. What's a usufruct robot, indeed. A Bouchertale titled, I think, QUR. And Mike the Computer is from RAH's The Moon Is a Hard Mistress.

I started to comment last time on Willis's statement concerning the ancientness of Gaelic as a spoken language. Gaelic is one of the surviving Keltic dialects and I suppose Willis's error comes from his assumption that because Keltic predated Germanic in western Europe it was the more ancient. I think Willis has a narrow view of what constitutes Europe. Both Keltic and Germanic derive from the old "Indo-European" tongue and if that is to be used as the root in this instance then Lithuanian would probably have to be called the oldest spoken language in Europe as it seems to be closer to the original than any of the others. Actually, the oldest spoken language in Europe is probably Basque which apparently pre-dates the Indo-European tongue...the remoteness and isolation of the Basque people kept them from inundation by the Indo-European tide.

(Indo-European is such a cumbersome term. "Aryan" is preferable and more accurate.)

In your comments on reincarnation, what do you mean by "this generation"? There are probably more adherents to that non-Christian doctrine among the devoutly Christian senior citizens than there are among the younger generation.

The thoughts of Dick Patten (a backslid Catholic) on the success of the Church of Rome make a great deal of sense. Dick says the big selling point is that the priest will tell you all you have to do is believe as we do and GOD will take care of the rest. That, you must admit, is hard to beat. It is difficult to disagree with a man who has a direct line to God.

Difficult, but I manage.

I thought that "Speer will be extinguished" had reference to the fact that Speer is distinguished.

DEBAXA: You may well be right, Chuck, that I am in for a "lonely later life" but I really wouldn't make book on it. Firstly, the chances are quite good that my "later life" isn't going to be all that much later. I figure I'm good for maybe 20 more years and that really doesn't give me a hell of a lot of time for feeling lonely. Quite frankly, Chuck, there are damned few people in this world with whom I wish to become involved.

Tsk, you are too kind in your attempt to take issue with Foyster over the statement "gross ignorance can be defined as 144 science fiction fans." I would have said "Foyster is an ass," and let it go at that.

I think you are right on the eventual disposition of stf collections. They are more likely to be preserved by some other fan than in the hands of a library. Nexttime I see Rusty Hevelin I'll have to talk to him about some of the stuff I've got here. (Hmmm. Anybody want to swap some 1930s ASTOUNDINGS for an autographed first edition of THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES? For an Arkham edition of SKULLFACE?)

PHILISTINE QUARREBY: Somehow I can't imagine THE WRITER'S MARKET listing fanzines as a potential market. We don't pay, you know.

DESCANT: "Does 'Little Rock'", you ask, "mean anything to anyone under 30." Outside of a few obscure history majors, does anything mean anything to anyone under thirty?

Or to anyone over thirty?

And, if so,

who cares?

Don't joke, ol' Norm, there are vast numbers this side of the line who look on Canada as a semi-state and would just as soon incorporate it as a territory...the rest of the western hemisphere should be colonies, they say.

#####TIME PASSES#####INDEED#####

Ah, yes, well....I'll tell you what we'll do. We'll just call the rest of this #3.5, OK?

It happens to have somehow become January, 1975 and I seem to have gotten more than one mailing behind. I'd probably be even more so if an acquaintance hadn't stopped by a couple of days ago.

"Hey," he said, "do you still have your mimeograph?"

"Yeah," I said. "It's over there somewhere under that pile of stuff."

"You want to run off some flyers for me?"

"Uh."

"I'd appreciate it. I need a thousand copies of this flyer."

"Ummm. Oh, hell yes, why not."

So as long as I had to get the mimeo back in operating condition I decided I might as well catch up on some neglected fanac. Dug out the stencils for NfA #2 and the partially completed #3 as well as DYNATRON #61.

I may just get back into the swing of things here.

I was tempted to scrap these stencils and start all over but Speer told me once that Foo-Foo considered cut stencils as sacred and they should be used no matter how outdated.

All the more reason to consider Juffus as our official archivist.

Reading these over I note that I should comment on some of my comments.

The job here that I mentioned in #2 didn't pan out which is just as well because Uncle's latest economy axe disestablished the organization that would have put me in. Things being what they are these days I'll just be happy to remain with what I've got.

I note that in my comments to Dikini on his poll I greatly overestimated Tricky Dick's staying power. I thought he'd brazen it out.

....Egad! STAR TREK just came on the tube. And I was expecting CREEPY CREATURE FEATURE. Or is this tonight's feature???? A few comments on the 149 mailing, hmmm? Yah.

THE FA: My zipcode is 87107.

OF CABBAGES ETC: I can't cast much light on your questions about vegetables. Corn was originally domesticated in Mexico and the yam is, I think, from South America. Squash, pumpkins and most of what we think of as "dry" beans are from this side of the pond. The potato was introduced to the U.S. from Europe, true, but it also comes from South America...was taken to Europe by the Spanish.

Your campaign brochure was interesting. It seems to contain all of the usual inconsequential items that politicians talk about. There is nothing in your brochure, though, Peggy which would have made me want to vote for you.

Consider trash collection...that's a problem in any community. It, and roving dogs, are the hottest issues in Albuquerque...hmmm, I note you didn't say anything about animal control....and not one about which I get all charged up since I live outside the city and take care of trash myself. The solution to the trash problem, however, calls for action on the national level that will either make recycling mandatory or profitable. Somehow, though, I just can picture the Congress of the United States passing a law that says all trash will be recycled.Peggy, what was your program for providing money for the poor? For getting people out of the slums?

It isn't his pardon of Nixon--did anyone really expect anything else?--that bothers me about Our Ford. No, what bothers me is the fact that his program to handle the current crisis, not to be confused with the one an hour ago or the one an hour from now, is designed to take more money out of my pocket and give it to the big industrialists.

AMOR DE SUSANZINE or somesuch: "Informal charm", eh? Yes, well, perhaps. There certainly is nothing else here.....

TEN YEARS IN LIMBO: could have stayed another 10 or 20 even. Well, OK, for the record and the historians, I suppose. Important to the participants but otherwise...n'importe.

MOONSHINE: Len, you go ahead and tell them when you were born; let them know how ancient you are. What will kids like Glicksohn, Varle- man and Carr have to say about that?...That lettering guide you used on page 2 almost misled me. I was trying to figure out who Fokkr was when I realized it should be Forry. Reminds me of the Fokker who was flying a Messerschmitt. Is Roger Elwood a spiritual descendent of the Christian Sciencefictionist? Shine your light on that....There is something of a distinction in having been rejected by the NFFF. I don't believe you're a member now, are you? If you'd like to apply I'll see if I can work something out with Stan to reject your applica- tion. Think of the distinction--twice rejected by the N3F.

June,
maybe Jeeves will give us all the story of Ashby de la Zooch. I would but you wouldn't believe me.

And there's no reason why you should.

ON THE BRINK: I wonder, Tom, with all the people such organizations as NAPA and UAPA have to draw from, how their volume compares with fandom. The sheer mass of fanzines published in the past 40 years or so is croggling and I'm dubious that any mundane organization could come close. I doubt that anyone in fandom has any idea, really, of the number of titles and issues that have been published. It is some- what distressing, too, to think of those that may have been lost along the line.

Historians and archivists like Warner and Speer must gnash their teth when they think of the fannish material forever lost.

FAPABOOK: Again, valuable for historical information. Thanx. Hmmm, there is a general impression in fandom that Ah! Sweet Idiocy was FTL's farewell to fandom but he seems to have continued quite active for some time after its publication.

HORIZONS: This and SYNAPSE make it all worth while.

There are some of us, I think, who still suffer from the Great Depression. I often find myself on the verge of making a purchase of some special item I want and feel I can afford and then drawing back and walking away be- cause I feel the cost is excessive. As has been pointed out repeated- ly by people more knowledgeable than myself, the Great Depression left a lot of invisible scars on those of us who were there.

The main reason, Harry, for choosing perked coffee over instant or brewed tea over instant is taste. Most instants taste terrible. The only in- stant coffee I've found to be palatable is one called Taster's Choice. It isn't bad. Not good but not bad. The ultimate test is how does it taste made with "hot" tap water in a motel room.

I've never been able (new word there) to fathom all of the verbal garbage that goes with wine. Wine comes in two categories--drinkable and nondrinkable.

Yeah, there is that about modern cars. Overall the average height of Ameri- cans has increased but the cars are being built for midgets. It is more difficult for me to get into the new Plymouth than it is the old Toyota. Just some more of the wonders of American know-how.

I always had difficulty keeping track of my glasses until I got a spare. Now

I always know where both sets are.

Retirement. Ummmm. What do you plan to do Harry, move to Sun City or some other retirement community? I'll be eligible to retire in 1980 and am giving it very serious thought. If it works out that I'll be able to live on the retirement pay along with, perhaps, a part time job, I'll take it. The girls will be on their own and Chrystal and I should be able to make do with considerably less than is required now.

The sooner I can quit the game the better I'll feel about it. Get me a new typer and a new mimeo and spend the sunset years pubbing vast amounts of crudzines. Which, if postage keeps going up, I'll probably have to hand deliver.

There are no Dahlhamers or Lovecrafts listed in the Aq fone directory.

Harry, I wonder if the fickleness of libraries isn't due more to lack of financing than anything else? Here in the Duke City a bond issue financed a new main library building but there is still no money with which to buy books.

Crime, Harry, the increase of same is like the shortage of medical personnel...it's part of the system. Crime is an integral part of western society--where would we be without it? The reason for the shortage of medical personnel, I am told by unreliable authority, is because the AMA limits the number of students accepted into the medical schools.

I believe it, too.

We are running out of direct ties to the XIX Century. I recommember back when I was a youngster at the old Inn in Fountain, Colorado, one of our regular customers was an old codger name of, hmmm, Charlie Love, I think it was, who had come to Colorado in the late 1860s who would tell us tales of what it was like when the wild west was. Continuity. If we take the conventional 3 score and 10 it takes the lifetimes of only 14 men to stretch across a millenium. The past presses on us.

You've never attended a drive-in movie, Harry, because you are an old bachelor. When one has small children, drive-in movies are most convenient. Put the kids in the back seat, no need to hire a sitter or any of that.

Much enjoyed your con report--delightful but you can, at times, be infuriating. Like mentioning that you had confirmed your suspicions as to why the Evers left fandom and leaving it hanging.

TARGET: FAPA: is another one of those that makes FAPA worth while. Hello, Dikini. To answer your cover question, the reason we are not having as much fun as the ancient Romans did is because we do not have that old Roman know-how. There are many similarities, of course. The Romans were faced with a Monolithic Christian Conspiracy and they knew how to handle it. They threw the Christians to the lions. But I ask you, just how many Christians have been thrown to the lions recently? Other than Roger Elwood? The Romans knew that the only way to handle those conspiratorial Christians and their simpering fellow-travellers was to hang them up in the arena. Trouble was there got to be too many bleeding heart liberals who wanted to stop hanging them up. Take them to your hearts, they said. You know what happens when you do

that. They take over the damned Empire.

I will have to second what you say about those who enjoy violence as a spectator sport (Egad! We're back with the Romans again.) which is, I suppose, why I cannot abide Marion Morrison, Leslie Townes Hope and others of that ilk who constantly mouth off about "our brave boys" but have never been there. Somehow I wonder about all this preaching against "violence" on the screen (large or small). Do these clowns who get their kicks from watching simulated violence on the tube really get a taste for it? How would they react in the face of the real thing?

Just asking, you know,

I am just a peaceable old fat man meditating in my sunset years.

Gad, but you are dipping away back into the mailings. Harry's mention of Evers leaving fandom and your comments on FAPAZEEN just caused a great dawning on me--Evers is gone, isn't he? I didn't even notice. I wonder, Dick, do you suppose he was just sounding off or was he really scared shitless of you? Dikini the bogeyman.

In re Aquarians (see your comments on the 143 mailing if you've forgotten), as I recall from my highschool chem one usually spoke of "precipitating out". Yess. Really, I am in favor of all these submissive, non-violent types. They make it easier for the rest of us.

Heh, you're slipping. You left an opening. "The only destruction our side caused was in an effort to Do Something about individuals who were trying to kill the population of Viet Nam." I seem to recall that our side was doing a pretty good job of trying to kill the population of Viet Nam. Losing track of the modifiers, eh?

And what with all the worries about the population explosion why should we worry about the population of Viet Nam? That many less to feed.

Surely, Richard, you are aware--or else you haven't been keeping up--that the criminal is really the victim. We all know that society is the real criminal.

: You mean deCamp really did come up with a Babylonian demon called "Ghu"????

Hmmmm. There is this archaeologist poking around the ruins of Babylon. He carelessly breaks an earthen jar which had been stoppered with a cabalistic seal. A short time later back in the States a young neo suddenly finds his mimeo acting strangely and printing obscene fanzines. What to do. After much thought he sends for a FAPAN.

Take it, Terry, this is the sort of thing you used to do.

✕

What page is this? Seven. Another page of this crap to go. And let's face it, these comments, like the fanzines they comment on, are 99% trivial crap. The other 1% is semi-trivial crap. Ah, well...onward.

DIASPAR: If you think you are in the backwaters, babe, you ought to be in this li'l neck of the desert. If stf and fandom were to fold up and disappear we wouldn't know about it until next Bubonic.

I commented once to Mike Montgomery that there sure was getting to be a lot of Mikes in fandom. "Getting to be a lot of them in the rooms, too," he said.

I give up. Which one was the drawing by William Rotsler? I'm glad to know that Trina was then a fabulous fannish cartoonist. The only question which remains is who's Trina? The item by Fritz was enjoyed and I suppose you must have seen some merit in the artificial imitation Carlos Casteñada thing by Grania Davis.

Owell...

PHILISTINE QUARTERLY: Why is it, do you suppose, that anyone with a surname of Mullins is nicknamed "Moon"? Or anyone with a surname of Rhodes is nicknamed "Dusty"? Or anyone named von Turk is called "Faruk"? Or why would Barbra Streisand appeal to those who like genuine talent? Or who's army were you within inches of being inducted into five years ago? Or if "Hunky Dory" might not be a small boat for a Hungarian? Or whether pigs have wings?

DAMBALLA: By Ghu, Chuck, all this time I thought I lived in the Duke City and now you tell me it is the Shire of al-Barran. Fantastic. Should I put that in my return address? al-Barran, New Mexico? I knew the Arabs were buying up whatever they could get their hands on but I wasn't aware, until now, that they had purchased the city. I wonder if the gov knows? I said we had a sneaky mayor. By Jesus.... oops...By the Beard of the Profit.

Yes.

Gad, this grows tiresome. Hi Don, Hi Sam, Hi Dan, Hi Rosemary. Hi Anybody I missed.

One for the road, babe.

R