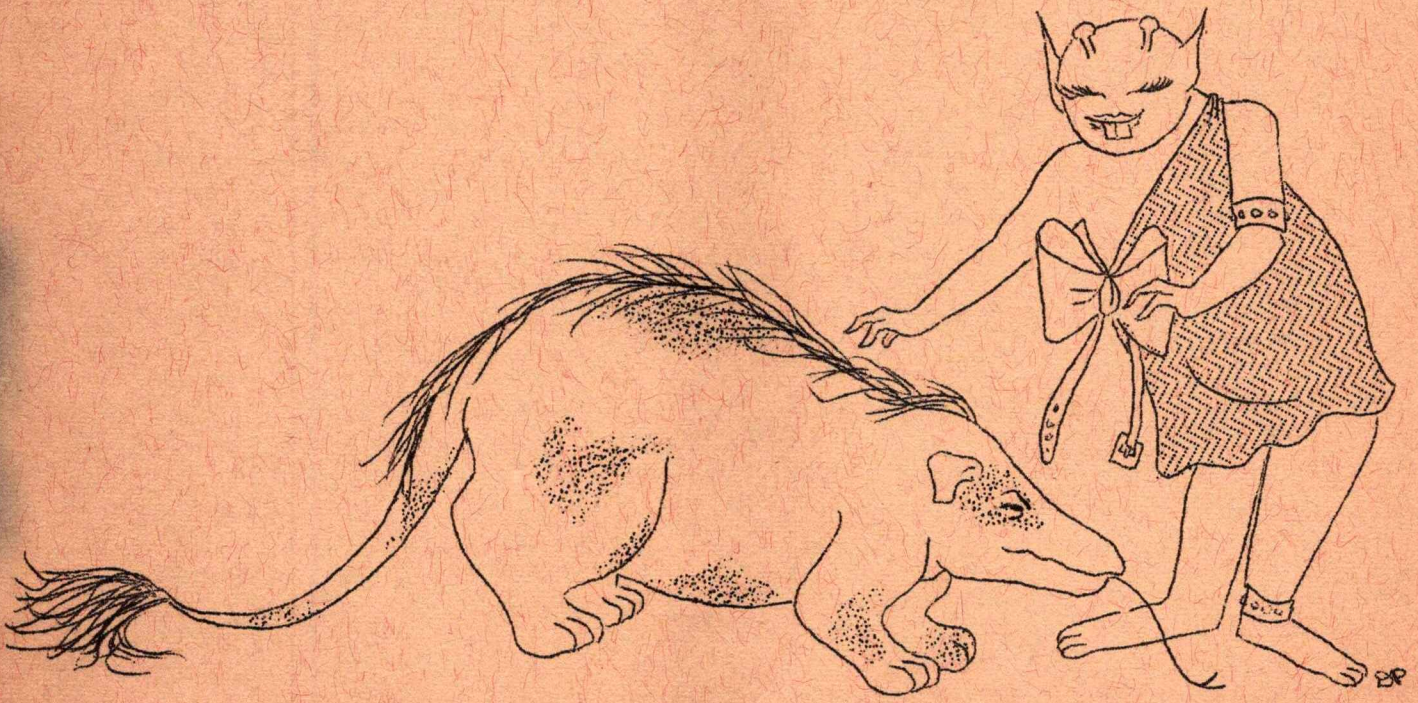


RACHE 13



A MONOGRAPH ON ASHES

MICKEY (Kusske) I would like to do some discussing on the matter of the Right of Ownership, but I can't quite decide what your attitude is from your editorial. You begin by objecting to corporation ownership of iron mines, continue with the question of whether Man in general owns the earth and whether one man could claim a planet, and wind up with the idea that the use of a commodity is more important than its actual ownership. Um....

Well, let's take the last point first. If one could be absolutely certain that he would continue to have the use of the commodity as long as he wished, and no one would try to take it away from him, then I might agree with you that the use was more important than the ownership. But if there is any possibility that the owner may show up some sweet day to claim the commodity, then having its use is not enough. The user could, of course, refuse the owner and fight him for the commodity; but in our present-day civilization, Ownership, backed by laws which are themselves backed by force, is a recognized right, and the user would have to battle not only the owner, but the laws, and probably his own conscience, since he, living in these present circumstances, would realize that ownership was a right, no matter how he fought.

Second question, dealing with ownership of planets: When space travel arrives, space laws will have to be formulated to deal with the procedures for claiming planets, planetoids, and so on. If a person claims an uninhabited planet under these laws, registering the claim properly with the right authorities [i.e., those who can back him up against any claim-jumpers, and will themselves be backed up by the space judiciaries], then he can certainly claim an entire planet. The problem of an inhabited planet is somewhat different: Assuming that the space laws did not forbid claiming a planet already populated by the race of Goutsnarfs, a man could claim such a planet if he registered his claim correctly, as above, and if he could muster the force to keep back the Goutsnarfs. It is simply a question of expanding the present and past laws (homesteading, free land, etc) into the future and its new situations which will arise with the advent of space travel.

The question of private ownership itself is much more complicated. I'm all in favor of it myself, but to work right, the private ownership system requires the assumption that the lawmakers who superintend the system are fair and impartial to a great degree. It may be fair for a man to own (by claim) 500 square miles of terrestrial land, but it would not be fair for him to own 500,000 square miles; it may be fair for a man to own by claim one or two planets, but it would not be fair for him to own one or two solar systems -- depends on the amount of land or other property available. As for ownership by purchase....well, a man buys things either for his own use, or to make money. If he is using the thing, he should certainly be allowed to own it (assuming, also, that he can afford to buy it). If he is buying it to rent, lease, sell, or whatever, then either he is trying to make money fairly or he is trying to cheat -gouge-bilk someone; in the first case, once more he should be allowed to own whatever he can buy. In the second, I'm not sure. There are many-man-many laws regulating commerce these days, and I have often considered that there are too many-many-many of them, and government is telling the individuals what they can or cannot do to far too great a degree. But the world is getting crowded, and there is less opportunity these days for someone to kick over the rutted traces and start again where the gouging and bilking is not in process, so I must admit that some regulatory laws are necessary. Where to draw the line, I

have no idea. But I'm willing to conjecture, if you -- or anyone -- decide to continue the discussion.

(Kirkpatrick) The question of having to join the convention in order to vote for the Hugos came up several years ago. The counter-argument was that it was the convention that had to buy the Hugos, the money coming from the memberships bought -- therefore, "he who pays the piper may call the tune." Objections to the current Hugo nomination and election system should be sent to Dick Lupoff, Chairman of the Hugo Study Committee. His address is "Merry Hell, Poughkeepsie, New York." I would suggest, however, that you first find out what the Hugos cost and come up with an alternate means of paying for them, before suggesting a change in the elections.

(Kusske) The point to the rule that material circulated in N'APA for credit be previously uncirculated is that, without it someone could write six pages and continue to hand in the same six pages every other mailing for his credit.

I have looked for the bit about Elmer and his fine mind several times, and I can't remember where it was published -- having gone thru my copy of THE INCOMPLETE BURBEE, and my set of FANDANGO, and several other sources of Insurgent writing, I'll have to give up until I rediscover it through some serendipitous accident. Sorry.

NATTERJACK 3 (Bailes) I'd much rather read someone else's N'APA-fiction than write my own, especially when it is funny, and yours is. This episode is better than the last, and I hope you continue it.

I'm not in the least surprised that you couldn't find any strategies in the WITDIP game. I played the thing, and I'm not sure there were any. There was so much double-crossing and goffing around there wasn't time to develop strategies.

Yes, Charlton (aka Charlatan) Comics is still going (gag, puke)... Trouble is, Dian is getting to like "Gorgo"... Marvel Comics are by far the best being published today, but I don't know how long they can keep up the pace; my bets are that DC will continue to plod along, and eventually Marvel will begin to fold its zines again. But until then, I'm buying every Marvel comic short of the Westerns. And did you see in the lettercol of "Justice League" that the April "Showcase" will feature the old Hour Man and Dr. Fate against Solomon Grundy (a villainous name that will mean nothing to anyone who doesn't remember the O*L*D "All-Star" and "Green Lantern" Comics), with a 'guest appearance' of the original Green Lantern. For comic fans, even ones like me who aren't extremely gung-ho, that's Sense Of Wonder.

ACHERNER (Tackett) We thought of adapting "Diplomacy" to SF themes, or at least to fannish themes, but after considering the possibilities of a Coventry Diplomacy and a NFFF Diplomacy (based on the 48 contiguous states) and a couple others, we gave it up as a bad job.

The Joe Gibson bacover on RACHE 14 was indeed obtained from 4e's garage. Originally used on SHANGRI-LA, I also used them on one of my JMPazines a couple years ago. I still have a "CENTAURI" cover I picked up at the same time I got the Gibson; maybe I'll use it as a bacover for this ish.

SOCIABLE GROSBEAK 1 (Lerner) The numbers at the top of my pages (usually) indicate when the page was started. I

swiped the idea from Johnstone -- the above numbers indicate 10:40 PM
7 December 1964.

The idea of holding a brag game by mail isn't so far-fetched; if you trust the other player, two people can play brag by mail in a show-down style: #1 shuffles and deals himself three cards, then writes to #2 and tells him what his draw is. #2 shuffles and deals to himself against #1's declared hand, and writes his own hand down. He then reshuffles and deals another hand, and writes to #1 to tell him (1) what he drew against #1's first hand, and (2) what he drew as a starter hand. #1 then shuffles and deals twice, the first against #2's declared hand, the second as another starter hand, etc. The betting should be standard -- something like a dime a hand, maybe. Rons Ellick and Bennett were doing this for quite some time, and were never more than several dimes apart (I think -- my knowledge of their games isn't too expert.)

If you want to write about Gene Stratton Porter, writer of schlocky stories, do it where Dian can read it, as she reads all those books.

GEMZINE 4/41 (GMC) I'm curious: where did you get the bit about your being "the wicked witch of the west"? And were there witches for the other directions? (There were in Oz.)

There is nothing in the By-Laws preventing a member from writing six pages of letters-of-comment as his credit; after all, they can always be retyped as small articles, or whatever. As far as I know, only FAPA outlaws such a means of credit.

Um, Gem, would you care to reconcile your p.3 ["THANK YOU FOR REMEMBERING ME IN THE EGOBOO POLL - Bjo. Thank YOU, Bjo, for giving us so much to remember you for."] with your p.14 (E&E p.4): "Whereas the instructions state 'Voting for ex-members and non-members is perfectly all right,' I, personally, don't see any point to it." ??? Or do you consider your remark later that you would ok ex- or non-members in a Most Valuable Contributor category as long as they stayed out of the Most Valuable Member category as sufficient reconciliation?

HIPPICALORIC 7 (Johnstone) I'm glad you dug up that series of comic book story slides and got them published -- they were a Fun Thing, and One of These Years maybe something could be done....

ZZZ 5 (Hill) 5½ years of N'APA, during which a motion to change the name to NAPS was rather soundly defeated, should indicate that the members are satisfied with the name they have and want to keep it. It is strange that the "formal official protest" never got as far as the apa itself, if "Ralph Holland notified all officials." What happened to the Representative from N'APA to the Directorate? In any case, I am once more going on record as being opposed to a name change. The National has been in existence for 70 years or so, and its path seldom crossed ours during the five we have been here. [The exceptions: Bob Lichtman, Don Fitch, myself for one year, maybe one or two others.] The National is far too interested in format (as opposed to content), and the N'APA too interested in content. Conflict, pfui.

EILAT FOR EARLY RISERS (Kohn) First: The opening line of Scaramouche is "He was born with a gift of laughter and a sense that the world was mad." As I do have the sense mentioned, I try to have also the gift of laughter.

Second, under the above idea plus the Galtist pledge, I still do not see why I must get interested in the things about which you bleat. My theme is Personal Survival, my motto is "I Seek," and my attitude is

that my "interest" in political and social matters will do no good, as my few "abilities" lie elsewhere; I'll do my seeking where I please, and let's see who survives the longest.

And third: Who are you to say what is the hour's and what belongs to the centuries? It is quite possible that the monks of the Middle Ages considered some of the things they copied and saved as not worth the attention of the future, but they copied and saved them anyway -- what a lot had been lost otherwise! As I think I've mentioned, I'm a librarian by profession and a bibliomane by choice -- so when it comes to collecting fanzines, I follow the librarianship policy of being an omnium gatherum -- I collect everything in the fanzine line, from the lowest crudzine to the Hugo winners; who knows what will be important to the future searchers of literature? I don't know, nor do you. One can only collect everything and hope that the important material is included.

The recent election of Johnson sort of cut off that limb you went out on with your prediction about Goldwater and Wallece. So we've got a ratio of about 41:26::sane Americans:nuts. [Warning to Goldwaterites among us: I am utterly unwilling to argue politics at all. I simply decided that Goldwater's nuclear and Civil Rights attitudes were enough to make me join the Republicans who voted for Johnson. Stet.]

If you want to challenge Creath Thorne, challenge him to a blithering contest, and get either Mark Irwin or Irvin Koch for your second.

THE RIBBLER'S RAM 1 & 2 (Benyo) The history of "The LASFS Marching Hymn" you request was published in a previous issue of RACHE; if I can find a copy I'll send it to you -- but don't hold your breath. My collection is in excellent order, but the four boxes of duplicates aren't.

PHOENIX information you want. OK, try this cataloging:

Phoenix. No.1- 1961-
Indian Lake, N.Y.,
v. in 30cm. Irregular.

Title varies: No. 1-3, Heptagon.
Editor, Dave Locke, P.O. Box 207, Indian Lake.
No. 6 never published.

1.Science fiction - Periodicals. 2.Amateur journalism -
Periodicals. I.Locke, Dave, ed. II.Title: Heptagon.

Oh, well, Fred Patten and Ed Baker ought to get a kick out of this, anyway. And if you want to know how PHOENIX -- or, as he intends to call the next issue, Nix -- may be obtained, try sending him tradezines. Any other zines anyone wants information on?

SOCIABLE GROSBEAK #1.5 (Lerner) The idea of a Reader's Guide to the Fanzines is an excellent one, but it would require (1)a hyperactive fan who gets all the fmz, (2)a librarian or bibliophile who knows how to go about indexing periodicals, and knows what is important in the fanzines, and (3)someone with lots of spare time to devote to the project (including the indexing, compiling, and monthly -- or at least quarterly -- publication and distribution of the thing. Can you think of anyone who fits those qualifications -- all of them at once? I can't.

If the Fanoclasts have no connection with the NYCon III Committee,

exactly who comprises the latter. First time I heard there are two groups in New York wanting the 1967 convention.

Public libraries do subscribe to the SFBC -- at least the one in Tampa, Florida did.

ALLIANCE ASSEMBLER 1 (Lerner & Co.) I find I do not like the fractional mailings, Fred. It is very disconcerting to go through the mailing commenting on the various zines and run across several zines commenting on the very ones I have been commenting on -- sometimes with the same comments, making the ones I have stencilled (and perhaps already run off) superfluous. I guess the only solution is for me to comment on the mailing and let the fractional mailing go until the following mailing. Of course, by then the fractional mailing will probably be tied up with the regular mailing for binding, but that's the way things go... . It seemed like a good idea, too... .

NON-LIBRARIANS CAN IGNORE THIS:

In the couple of hours since I cataloged PHOENIX, I have been having some second thoughts, especially about the tracings. Since this type of cataloging would be only for a fanzine file, the subject headings would be too general -- almost all fanzines would have the same ones. How about, instead, something like: 1. Fanzines, General (as opposed to: Fanzines, APA; Fanzines, Advertising; Fanzines, News; Fanzines, Club...)? We could subdivide Fanzines, General by place [- New York], but I would recommend having both the undivided s.h. and the divided one -- use the latter as 2. Fanzines, General - New York.

Fanzines, APA would be subdivided by APA, of course, and Fanzines, Club would be subdivided by club. The rest would be subdivided by place again. All fanzines should be entered under title. Names of editors, clubs, etc. would be added entries. Class numbers are close to useless, but it might help to have Cutter numbers to be able to keep a shelf list with a record of holdings. Anyone for setting up a Fannish Librarians' Association? The more I think about it, the more I like the idea -- it should be good for a short trial, at least. And where would be a better place to try it out than N'APA?

Suggestions from the rest of you characters would be welcome, but if there are no disagreements, I'll set up the cards along the above lines.

Who else out there is interested in librarianship (you don't have to be a professional librarian to be interested)? Fred Patten and I are both catalog librarians, Ed Baker has mentioned trying to go into librarianship.... who else?

1815-120964

Some final thoughts on fanzine cataloging: As Library of Congress catalogs most books, and sells the catalog cards to participating libraries for their own files, perhaps we can set up some sort of a deal like that. LC charges 7¢ for the first copy of a card, and 4¢ for each following copy. Discussion of prices is in order. Meantime, I shall get my sixth page of credit by putting in the first of the LF [Library of Fandom] Catalog Cards.

This has been RACHE 16 from Bruce Pelz, Box 100, 308 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, Calif 90024. Incunebulous Publication 311, for N'APA Mailing 23, December 1964.

Library
of Fandom

Catalog Cards

S796 Starspinkle. no.1-50, 1962-1964.
Los Angeles.
50 no. 30cm. Biweekly.

Editor: Ronald Davis Ellik; Publisher:
Bruce Edward Pelz.
No.28 misnumbered 26.
Mimeographed.

I.Fanzines, News - Los Angeles.
I.Ellik, Ronald Davis. II.Pelz, Bruce
Edward.

○ LF 64-1

F739 Foofaraw. no.1- , 1961-
Los Angeles.
no. 30cm. Quarterly.

Editor: Frederick James Walter
Patten.
Published for the Neffer Amateur
Press Alliance, mlg.9 (6/61)-
Mimeographed.

I.Fanzines, APA - N'APA. I.Patten,
Frederick James Walter.

○ LF 64-2

A436 The Alliance amateur. no.1-
1959-
Boise, Idaho [and others].
no. 30cm. Quarterly.

Official organ of the Neffer Ama-
teur Press Alliance, mlg.1 (7/59)-
Title varies: No. 1-11, N'APA YAP.
Edited by N'APA Official Editor.
Duplicated, mimeographed.

I.Fanzines, APA - N'APA. I.Neffer
Amateur Press Alliance. II.
N'APA Yap. ○

LF 64-3

