

3 December 1964

RATATOSK 2



A news and gossip zine from Bruce Pelz, Box 100, 308 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, California. 3 issues for 25¢; 9 for 7/6 overseas. British agent, Ella Parker, Flat 43, Wm. Dunbar House, West Kilburn, London NW 6.

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LITTLE FUZZY'S FATHER, as H. Beam Piper liked to sign himself, is dead. According to the New York Times of 19 November, he was found shot to death Nov. 9, and the Altoona police listed the death as suicide. According to the paper, he left a note, but it did not give any reason for his death. He will be sorely missed by all who have

enjoyed his stories of Fuzzies and Paratime Police, as well as by those who met him at conventions and could enjoy his company too.

LONDON FANDOM's clubhouse plans have been set back, as the organizers of the idea couldn't get together the required four months' advance rent in time. The idea is still alive, though, and another opportunity will be sought. ++ The Guest of Honor for the small BSFA Eastercon in Birmingham will be Harry Harrison, author of Deathworld.

HATCHED, MATCHED, ATTACHED: Jhim and Marion Linwood gave birth to a baby girl, Eleanor Miriam, on 14 Nov. Weighing in at 5 pounds 6 oz., the baby was four weeks premature, and had to be rushed from Nottingham to Sheffield for emergency operation, but both mother and daughter are doing well. ++ Robert Bloch was remarried in Los Angeles on 16 October, to Mrs. Eleanor Alexander. ++ Recently adopted by Joe and Anne Patrizio is a baby girl, half Chinese, named Lisa. ++ Congratulations all around!

WORLDCON 1966 may be the most hotly contested bid in the last five years -- mostly because it may be the only contested bid since Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Washington battled it out in Detroit in 1959. A letter from Ben Jason advises that Detroit and Cleveland have decided to make a joint bid for the Con, and a flyer from Dave Kyle sets forth the reasons for Syracuse, New York -- which is in the Eastern zone established by the Rotation Plan instead of the Central zone, whose turn would ordinarily come in 1966 -- entering a bid for the Con, too. There are logical arguments on both sides, and although I have personally made up my mind as to which I will support, RATATOSK is strictly neutral on the matter, and will be glad to receive information from both sides as to their plans for their proposed Cons.

CON-SEQUENTLY it should be mentioned that the DISCON ANNUAL is finally out, and is excellent. For the first time, the identifications are placed near the pictures they identify (as much as possible) instead of in a separate booklet. Some copies of this are still available from Jay Klein, 219 Sabine St, Syracuse, NY 13204, at \$2.50 each. Highly recommended. ++ And Dick Eney says that the Discon Proceedings should be ready by the end of February. The editing is finished, and the MS is being retyped and shipped to Earl Kemp for publication ; Eney takes all credit for the delay. ++ Now what about Pacificon II?

Your subscription expires with issue _____

INC NEB 310

APAc: Dwain Kaiser reports that Kris Carey, founder of InterAPA, has given the proposed APA over to him lock, stock, and barrel. The Constitution is being done over, and anyone interested in joining this 3-times-a-year APA (dues: \$2.50, first mailing scheduled for March 15, 1965) should write to Dwain (5321 Mountain View Dr., Las Vegas, Nevada). ++ From Sweden comes news that the Scandinavian Amateur Press Alliance has become a working organization. Though the first mailing (June 1964) had only 3 zines totalling 26 pages, six zines, totalling about 87 pages had been received for the second mailing by early September. What happened after that, Carl Brandon? Anyway, SAPA had 14 members from Scandinavia and an application from Andy Main, who "wrote a pleading letter in wonderfully bad Swedish." (Which is a lot more than I could do, even to join another APA.) ++ Nichts neu im Kult..wie gewöhnlich... .

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

- Bill Bowers, c/o Bill Mallardi, 214 Mackinaw Ave, Akron, Ohio 44313
- Calvin W. Demmon, 3204 Ramona Ave, Apt. F, Alhambra, Calif.
- 418 7447 Sgt. Freeman, Keith H., Sergeants' Mess, R.A.F. Shinfield Park, Reading, Berkshire, England
- Dick & Pat Lupoff, Merry Hell, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

HUGO'S WHERE? As those of you who received STARSPINKLE 50 know, the Hugo nomination ballot for this year has several non-standard (i.e., not according to the Rules adopted by Discon) items: no Drama award is provided for; an award for Best Publisher is included. Also, in spite of the fact that Pacificon II set up a procedure for nomination-by-committee, LonCon is going back to nomination-by-everyone. The result seems to be a many-sided hassle: (1)Harlan Ellison, trying for a Drama Hugo with several shows on "Outer Limits," phoned Ella Parker at 3 AM her time, to protest; he then phoned several others on the matter, ending with Ron Elik, to whom he read a draft of a letter with several possible courses of action, including the withholding of the physical Hugos from LonCon. (2)Ron, in the midst of a last-minute FAPA session before moving, wrote up Harlan's call as a definite thing: the Hugos would be withheld! (3) Harlan finally called Ben Jason, found that Jason had not made either the Pacificon II or LonCon Hugos, and so would have no connection with the problem. (4)Several mimeod discussions have been circulating among those interested, with little agreement. The general attitudes on the Drama Award are: London should stick to the rules for continuity of Convention rules; London should drop the Drama Award as (1) it got so little response in the past, (2) American dramatics don't usually show in England; London should do this or that because.... . There is agreement on one main item: London can do anything it wants. Same for the nominating committee and the Best Publisher Award. RATATOSK will solicit statements of opinion on these subjects -- but keep them to extremely brief ones.

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TO:

