

RATATOSK

42

12 JANUARY 1967

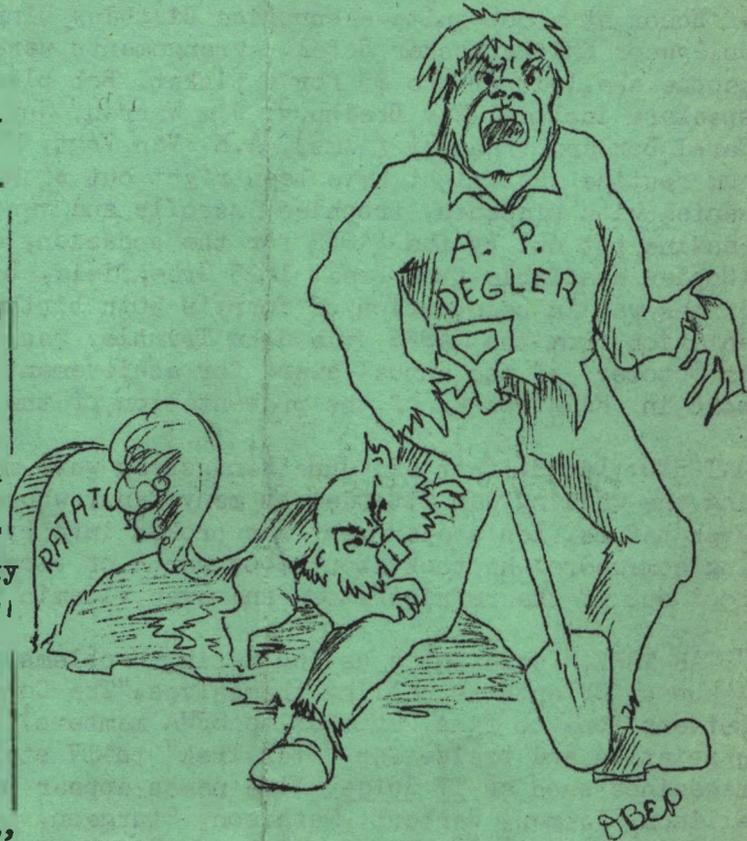
Published by Bruce Pelz, Box 100, 308 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, Calif 90024. Available for news or 3/25¢. Seattle in 1967!

NO FANZINE HUGO IN 1967

THE FIRST PROGRESS REPORT OF THE NYCON III is now available, having been held up from its originally scheduled November publication by lack of the final Tricon Report information from Ben Jason. (As of 1 January neither the information nor the pass-on of funds had been received by NYcon.) Fliers with the Report include NYCON COMICS 2, an Ace advert, a TAFF Progress Report, entry blank for the 2d Galaxy of Fashion show, an Official Apology, and the Nomination Blank for Hugos...and Pongs. The Pong is the Fan Achievement Award, and three of them will be presented at NYcon: Best Fan Writer, Best Fan Artist, and Best Fanzine. In addition, 6 Science Fiction Achievement Awards (Hugos) will be given: Best Novel, Best Novelette, Best Short Story, Best Artist, Magazine, and Dramatic. No Fanzine Hugo is provided for.

I feel that NYcon is being unfair to fanzine editors, and fobbing them off with a secondary prize or 3 instead of giving a Hugo for Best Fanzine as has been done since 1956 (except for '58). As the 1968 Convention Committee will almost certainly revert to a Fanzine Hugo, it will leave someone -- perhaps Tom Reamy, Ed Meskys, Bill Mallardi, Bill Donaho -- with a one-shot Pong to try to explain to people. (Explaining a Hugo is sometimes difficult enough.) If you agree that the Fanzine Hugo should be restored, WRITE IT IN ON THE NOMINATION BALLOT -- after all, if Loncon restored the Drama Hugo... (Or maybe I should get Harlan to phone Ted White at 4AM.)

In regard to the other categories, the Tricon Business Meeting adopted story lengths of less than 10,000 words (short story), between 10,000 and 35,000 (novelette), and over 35,000 (novel), allowing the concom to shift a story to a more appropriate category if it is within 5,000 words of the limit. Stories in any category are eligible for one year only; for serials, first appearance is year in which final installment appears. If story is published in multiple versions, author may designate which version is for Hugo competition.



Reports of our demise are greatly exaggerated. We regret the passing of two months between issue #41 and this, but various mundac and other more pressing fanac combined with a two-week Xmas visit to Florida... you know how it goes. We hope to adhere to schedule again from here on. ## In spite of its premature announcement of our folding, the other reliable (usually) newszine now being published is DEGLER!, 3/25¢ from Andy Porter, 24 East 82nd St, NYC, NY 10028. Published weekly, and slanted toward New York news, it is well worth getting. ## RALLY, the Southern news-slanted zine from Al Andrews and Lon Atkins, is still appearing, though its future is in doubt since Lon will be moving to the Los Angeles area around March. (4/25¢ from Lon Atkins, Box 660, Huntsville, Ala. 35804). ## The old sort-of-reliable SCIENCE FICTION TIMES is being revived by James and Anne Ashe, after a lapse under the old Taurasi-Prieto regime of a year or so. Inquire to R.D. #1, Freeville, New York 13068. ## The newszine of Britain, Ron Bennett's SKY-RACK, has come out with issue 93 after a 3 month delay. Ron says he may have to fold SKY in 1967 because of FAFIA and a possible change of job. Meantime, copies are 6/50¢ from Buck Coulson, Route 3, Hartford City, Indiana 47348. ## And that's Newszine news.

FORRY ACKERMAN, recently recovered from the heart blockage reported last issue, was Guest of Honor at a not-quite-a-surprise Birthday Dinner and Testimonial on 2 December at the Hollywood Knickerbocker Hotel. Arrangements were made by Walt Daugherty, and about 185 people shelled out the \$5 for a ticket. Bob Bloch was Toastmaster, and the testimonial speakers included Ray Bradbury, Jim Warren, Guy Gifford (old-time pulp mag cartoonist), Carol Borland (fantasy films), A.E. Van Vogt, Walt Leibscher (whose speech was a Spoonerism routine that might have been right out of CHANTICLER), and many others. Forry was presented with placques, trophies, scrolls and various other stuff, as well as a special fanzine put out by the LASFS for the occasion, with Fred Patten as editor and originator. (Copies available from Fred, 1825 Greenfield, Los Angeles, Cal 90025, for \$1.50.) The dinner was in celebration of Forry's 50th birthday and 40th year in the SF field. The presentation from the LASFS, via John Trimble, was a placque commemorating the establishment, in October, of the annual award for achievement in the SF field -- the "Forry." (See report in RATATOSK 41 of the presentation of the award, to Bradbury.)

MATCHED: Len Moffatt and June Konigsberg were married December 10th. The reception following the wedding was attended by many fans, who ate and drank up everything in sight. ## A week before, Len's apartment was broken into by a burglar apparently setting up housekeeping somewhere: he took about \$400 worth of clocks, radios, dishes, ashtrays, cooking ware, food out of the refrigerator, and even vitamin pills.

"STAR TREK," apparently having Rating Problems, has gained the somewhat dubious aid of a group of SF authors calling themselves "The Committee." The Committee has sent out form letters (one to fans, another to SFWA members) urging recipients to write letters of appreciation and praise for "Star Trek" to TV stations, sponsors, TV columnists, and TV magazines such as TV Guide. Nine names appear on the masthead -- Anderson, Bloch, Del Rey, Ellison, Farmer, Herbert, Matheson, Sturgeon, and Van Vogt -- but Harlan Ellison seems to be the spearhead for The Committee. (Van Vogt gives the impression that he's letting them use his name and that's all.) While admitting that the Vox Populi can be quite useful in saving TV shows that might go down the Neilson drain, I tend to be a bit cynical about The Committee, which obviously has its eye on the \$12,000 story money, and which is using convention mailing lists for its form letters to fans (my 10-month-old daughter got a copy). If you are in a mood to write letters, by all means do so -- it is an excellent show. You can also write Ellison, at 3484 Coy Drive, Sherman Oaks, Cal 91403, if you want.

ACE BOOKS RELEASES for January include Dune by Frank Herbert (95¢); Series 12 of The Best From Fantasy and Science Fiction (Avram Davidson, ed.); The Planet of the Double Sun, by Neil R. Jones ("Professor Jameson Space Adventure #1"); Anarchaos, by Curt Clark; The Sword of Rhiannon, by Leigh Brackett, reissued as a single; and the doublebacked Reality Forbidden (Philip E. High)/Contraband From Outer Space (A. Bertram Chandler).

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

Demmon, Calvin - 1600A Landa St, Los Angeles, Calif 90026
 Harness, Jack - 910 S. Grandview, Apt. 1A, Los Angeles, Calif 90005
 Harrell, Phil - 3021 Tait Terrace, #2, Norfolk, Virginia 23509
 Hulan, Dave and Katya - Box 1032, Canoga Park, Calif 91304
 Kuskke, John - Box 373, U.M.M., Morris, Minnesota 56267
 Moffatt, Len and June - 9826 Paramount Blvd., Downey, Calif 90240
 Norwood, Rick - 640 Linden, Riverside, Calif. 92507
 Weber, Wally - 5422 - 16th Ave SW, Seattle, Wash. 98106
 Yerke, T. Bruce - 2832 Prince St., Berkeley, Calif 94705

HATCHED: A seventh Grennellet was born to Dean and Jean Grennell on 8 October: William Wesley. ## Further population explosions are expected from Don and Maggie Thompson (about 10 July) and Bob and Barbara Silverberg (early May).

TED JOHNSTONE is collecting recipes to go into a fannish/stefnic Bar Guide. Send them to him at 619 S. Hobart, Los Angeles, Calif 90005, if you know any good fan or SF drinks.