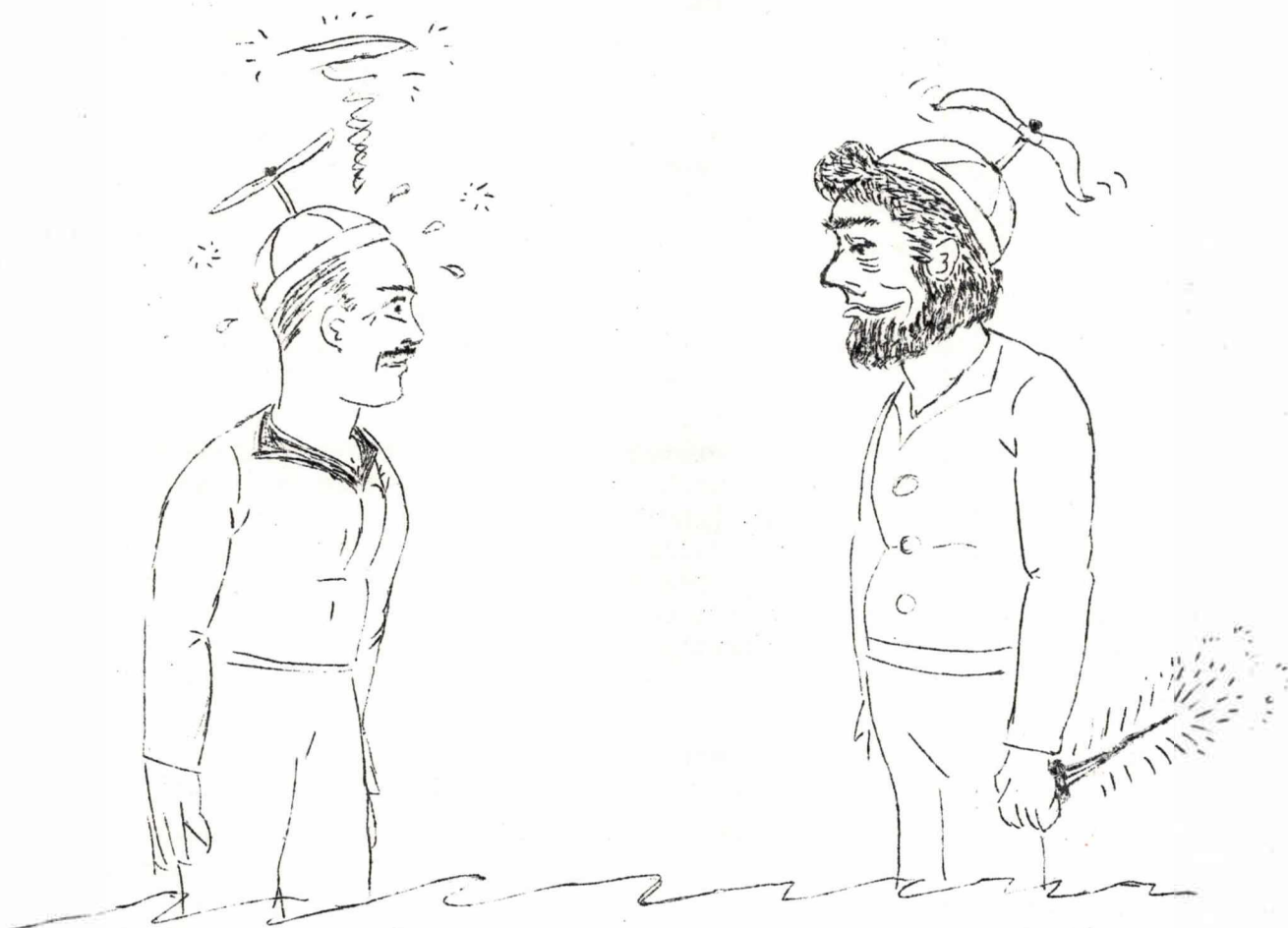


RETRO 40

SAPS
75

APR
'66



"WELL, SURE I WANT
MY TEN-YEAR PIN--
BUT WHY DO I HAVE TO
TURN MY BACK?"

-Buz-

S a p s 7 5

A p r i l 1 9 6 6

F M Busby, 2852 14th Ave W, Seattle 98119.

Forty issues? That does pretty well shoot ten years, at that.

I do hope that Wrai is our new OE. Not only do I disagree thoroughly with Fred's plans for the group, but I see by Bruce's N'APAZine that Fred did not get his final mailing as OE of that group in the mail until nearly a month past the deadline. Too bad N'APA never heard about the right of Insurrection, hey?

Enough chitchat, for now; let's look at the January mailing:

Spectator 74: Finally the w-1 is larger than the roster; well, that's all right. Sorry to see Wally Weber hit the skids again, dammit.

Deadwood Sap 5: Ha; so you're the one who scared Wally out of SAPS, you ol' Wheaties Kid, you. (Yes, I know that was a Factual Article..)

Probably I should have said re Banff "it is impossible to recommend this scene too highly", but that would be an exaggeration, and I never exaggerate, as you know. Sometimes I lie a little, but I never exaggerate.

I saw a fella at Long Beach (Westercon) whose nametag read "Barry Gold"; he claimed it was for real, but didn't show me his birth certificate.

Pot Pourri 42 & 43: I think you have a nice thing going, with the Inspector Connery story: in particular, a unique situation for your leading character and one that seems to have a lot of possibilities, for a series of short stories or for a paperback-length book, for that matter. The business of having to work through Jameson is particularly well-chosen.

Your archeological methods do sound a bit drastic, but considering the circumstances it's probably better to salvage parts than leave the whole to rot.

Sapsafeld 1: Only trouble with your quover is that some of the snippets are just too short to have much flavor on their own; note how the longer bits carry the flavor better. (And I never said it is easy, man...)

Our Green Lake ducks only occasionally set out across the highway on foot; then, either there is a squib in the paper about how the nice truck driver came to a stop and flagged down traffic, or else there is a splat on the pavement. Meanwhile we've been spotting weird critturs like cormorants and (down on the salt-waterfront) surf scoters and mergansers, besides new ducks and grebes.

Oh, yes-- welcome to SAPS, there!

Spy Ray: Also it could be said that Kennedy's behavior during Cuba Week was ideal for any poker player holding a pat hand: keep 'em guessing.

Ibex III/1: Perhaps you see by now why I do not agree with the Syracon group that competition in Con-bidding is necessarily such a helluva Good Thing. Your back-page propaganda is quite OK, but the series of squibs arguing with the opposition or saying why you aren't (ha!) arguing with the opposition, merely show you sinking deeper and deeper into the quicksand, which is normal in that situation. Personally I'm sticking to poolside Cons/^{or none} for the next few years, but good luck to all you Competitive Types, meanwhile. (Seattle in '??)

Yopgm 7: Actually it is ROTCorps, pronounced "rot-core" in the Old Ethnic.

I think your zine comes on quite jolly, with or without pot or ale.

Adams and Leman were each in SAPS maybe 2 years, I'd guess. Ray Schaffer taught high-school in Ohio; we met him at the 1957 Midwestcon and I believe he was about 24 at the time-- a quiet pleasant fella. "Retromingent"?? Oh, well: "mingere" is Latin for "to urinate" and everyone in this Space Age knows that "retro" means "backwards". The combined form refers to the naive method by which primitive artists indicated the maleness of animals in cave paintings, etc; I'm sure everyone can visualize this without artwork, Artless or otherwise.

All this research comes close to qualifying you as an oldtimer, Rich. Yes.

No, there's nothing particularly difficult about cutting 20 stencils if you let yourself go. I, however, am inhibited by the thought that each and every such cut stencil must be run off onto virgin paper, sorted, assembled, stapled, wrapped, mailed and postpaid; since about mid-1961 this tends to slow me down.

Donald Hamilton: you have hit on one of my enthusiasms (and you'll probably hear from Wrai, also, on this). Besides the nine (to date) Matt Helm pabacks, there are four Westerns (Mad River, Texas Fever, Smoky Valley, and The Big Country, from which the movie of same name was made) and five miscellaneous hard-nose adventure (Steel Mirror, Night Walker, Line of Fire, Assassins Have Starry Eneys ((let that stand, but it's really Eyes)), and Murder Told Twice, a pair of his early novelettes making up one paback). Hardcover edition of Steel Mirror mentions (on flyleaf) an earlier book, Death Something-or-other, which we haven't seen; otherwise we have all the above-mentioned except Big Country. Matt Helm makes James Bond look like a posturing clown, I do think.

Hot'n'humid in Puerto Rico, isn't it? That hike sounds *rough*.

I wouldn't want to try to stop a determined man with a BB gun; all he has to do is shield his eyes and charge in. Depends on where he starts; maybe at fifty feet you could sting him enough to slow him down and stop him, but how many shots would you have time to get off if he started from ten feet? Hoog.

Burlingame is a suburb just south of San Francisco about 20 minutes' drive.

My "cartooning talent" has more like mildewed through the years. Y'see, I used to draw all the time when I was bored in class, and I was bored in class a great deal of the time, what with the slow pace of everything. In college, when I had to buy my own paper, I switched to sleeping when I was bored. So in recent years I have much more talent for sleeping than for cartooning. The main points about sleeping in class are to lean over your notebook, shield your eyes from the view of the instructor, set your pencil down so it doesn't roll off onto the floor, and brace on one elbow, only, as two tend to "walk" as you doze.

Aha! Now (your page 27) you see what I mean about doing Big Zines. Yes.

Glad to see you on the Right Side of the issues in the OElection.

Creath Thorn: Gee, I have nothing against Lewis' "Screwtape Letters"; I rather enjoy them. I assume you've read the Perelandra trilogy? For a real powerhouse of a Lewis book, though, I recommend his "Till We Have Faces".

I'll check for duplicate pre-'50 aSFs when you respond re those back CRYs.

Excelsior 6: "Toskey Returns" is a Fine Story and I have just subscribed \$75 to a bond issue so that Seattle can build a domed stadium and join the Nat'l Zuzzball League. Now is there anything else I can do for you??

What I said about Long Beach, I think, was that it was "a nice little Con", meaning in my usual fumbling fashion to include both regional and world Cons in the term. I think both Long Beach and Burlingame ('63) cracked 200, which is a big Westercon (Oakland'61 & LA'62 were both about 150). These are all nice-sized pleasant gatherings, to my mind, compared to mammoth 5-600 at Worldcons. Thus I said "a nice little Con" and meant "as compared to those big overcrowded deals".

I stand corrected by the Baltimore contention that in their universe the NYConII was held in 1957. To each his own (universe), I guess.

On the other hand, your bitching at Chalker makes him look good, just as his bitching makes your gang look good. Can't you all just kind of cool it, man? (Probably not, now that the whole brouhaha has escalated as far as it has...)

Ignatz 39: Hope your move home settled down and wasn't too hectic, Nancy. And congratulations for your greenspeckler of eyeglasses, there, too.

Art: But isn't "Rakete" Deutscher for "rocket"? I can't think of any English word it could be typed-from. (And I can't find my own goof there, either..)

Gordon: (oh hell, there goes whatever format was surviving in this zine; make that Pleasure Units 13): If you aren't an Angry Young Man I'd hate to see you get riled.

On the other hand you are only Angry in spots lately, like leopards. Did I tell you about our new leopard? He is black & his name is Martin Luther King.

drei

Patten doesn't want to see the effect of roster-reduction; he just thinks Bigger is Better, or something, so Up the Roster & hooray for Fredding, he sez. (Fredding is what used to be called Franking.) I hope he's in the minority...

I had a psychiatrist once; he always said The Hell with being sensitive and easily hurt. "Don't get ulcers; give 'em!" he said. "Don't let the bastards know you're hurt," he said; "just smile and kick 'em in the nuts." One day two MPs came and took him away. It turned out he wasn't a psychiatrist after all; he was a DI and Brig Sgt who was AWOL from the Marines. But he surely did know his Psychology; just ask anyone around here with sore nuts. (How is it that you inspire me to Lie so much, Gordon Eklund?)

The Affluent SAPSiety: True or not, it's a comforting idea, Lee.

Outsiders 62 (*Gala 100th Ballardzine*): That was a fine party, celebrating this zine (and you have the pictures to prove it, too). Too late for me to have the party celebrating the end of my 10th year in SAPS, so perhaps we'd better celebrate my 10th Annish instead. The weather should be better then, anyway, so we can have the party outdoors like last year when Gordon was in town.

I'm enjoying these smaller mailings, too; they allow me to browse through and find things that call up a response, without having to skim desperately in order to get some kind, any kind, of comment written and then Plunge On. Gad; in the Old (1956-61, for me) Days I used to ramble on uninhibitedly, and felt a little guilty at having any zine under 20 pages. I wonder if I could toss out a big one again. I suppose the 10th Annish next time would be a good place to try.

How many mailings (from the beginning) did Coswal hit? 55? 56?? I forget. (oops-- must be 55, as you mention you've passed him & completed 14 years nonstop.)

Yeh, too bad so many newer members don't know that the OE is Ghod in SAPS. If you are the new OE as I hope, put the fear of Ghod into them; will you??

Actually, all we need to hold another Con in Seattle (besides another big Snow Job to 'all fandom) is to get Wally Weber back up here to be Chairman (now that he is out of SAPS it is safe to say this). Jim and I figure that as long as Charles Andrew is still Mgr at Hyatt House, the hotel arrangements could be made with about one-tenth of the usual sweat involved, and last time (with Li'l Doris the Hatchet Lady working there) that bit took a lot out of us all.

But what's wrong with your holding the Blanchard Convention in Seattle???

Gee, here you tell the folks about Kiddie Cars, and since then there was the Black Russian kick, and lately our card-parties are on Martinis. Hoo boy.

Wild Colonial Boy 15: Condolences on illness, congratulations on romance, and

I'm not quite sure of the proper response to your "having" to keep your s-f collection, spend two years in Yur'p (why is this?), etc...

You mean Oscar thought Sweet Unspoiled Miz Corelli was, like, a Lez?? Tsk.

Where Have All the Misfits Gone?: This has the makings of a good series, Howard.

Parts of it are rendered in an unbelievably restrained fashion, but wot the hell. Next time: Teddybear, Fred Prophet, Aggie, the Brodericks, Rickhardt, etc?? Well, maybe that would be two more issues.

TTTR #2 #4 (#?): Well, did Lee-baby need to use the airplane to get home?

TTTTTR #2 (who?): I'd like to say that I am drinking beer right now in express honor of this zine, but as a matter of fact I have been drinking beer all along in here, as usual when cutting stencils, in honor of the whole mailing. I dunno about "drinking 4 qts of beer in one afternoon of fanac and still being able to type" but one CRYday Eve I stayed up to do a Pemberton column and cut 6 stencils at a Mileage of one stencil per quart. Felt like all hell the next day but all the stencils were usable and duly-published that day. Hoog!

Speaking (more) of good ol' booze, that set of wine-samples (the birthday set) sounds great, though my taste-recalls respond only to about half of the labels.

Or it could be that I "need a new roller and planet" too, Edco. Cheers.

vier

Ballard For OE! (yes, I'll buy that!) and Niflheim 14: It'll be disappointing if you guys don't make San Diego, Dave, but I see the problem.

SAPS ages of members: I joined with Mlg 36 (July '56). Karen, Wrai, Howard, Jack (Harness) and Art all have unbroken memberships from before that. Eney also, except that he was out for a year or two, later. EdCo, LeeJ and Nancy had been members earlier but were out as of Mlg 36. Tosk joined with 38, John Berry in 44, Bruce in 45, TAJ with 50, and that's all the Spectators I have handy.

However, I do find in an old oneshot the first-mailing numbers of some of our "elder" members: A.Rapp 5, Ballard 10, Devore 21, Anderson 23, Harness 28. Also a couple of in&outers: Eney 12, Nancy 22, the first times around. No scoop on Ed or Lee, unfortunately; I guess they were out at that time: just fickle??

The similarity between the Evil Ones of That Hideous Strength, Atlas Shrugged and also the Tolkien Trilogy lies not in their "types" or circumstances but that all are anti-enjoyment, anti-beauty and even anti-life-- and each of the three authors makes this very point, come to think of it.

The Army .45 Auto isn't the most accurate handgun in the world but it does have the advantage that even if you miss at close range the muzzle blast will jolt hell out of your target. As for "moving human beings"-- that sounds hard until we realize that your only concern is with those moving toward you; right? Revolvers are simpler but with an automatic you can spray like a hose if you wish; 'sall a matter of choice. Don't mess with small calibers because while you can kill with them you probably can't stop anyone with them nonfatally; a .38 is about the smallest you should consider, I'd guess. (Today's paper tells of a 19-year-old kid who thought his .38 wasn't loaded; the slug went in his chest and came out his back but missed all organs and bones; the doc swabbed him up and sent him home, no hospitalization being necessary. I read that same thing in a story once and thought it was a put-on.) The trick of hitting something with a pistol is just to let it point at the target, not trying to hold it there, by main force.

My "first prozine off the stands" was a stack of 3 or 4: the Aug '39 ASF and Amazing plus the current Startling, probably with a Sept dateline, and (I forget)..

I quite agree with your anti-franking remarks: if material is not good enough for a member to include in his own zine, who needs it in the mailing?

For Que? 28: Having seen your new house on the occasion of the Nameless meeting earlier this month (March, people, if I haven't put dates in here), we dig it, as you know. The floor plan may be a little out of proportion but the layout is recognizable and clear. Doesn't give the flavor at all, of course-- the high slanting roof-as-ceiling, the high windows-for-light, and all; whyn'cha get JerWal to run a photosheet of house pics for you next time?

Yah, but-- the Dec 23rd-24th snow was about all the Real Snow we had this year.

Stumping 15: Yes, I'm sure you'd like the Canadian Rockies up around Banff, Lake Louise, etc. It's an extremely pleasant and interesting area, and luckily the roads are getting better all the time.

Heck, Jim, you and I would gladly compromise with the anti-gun people-- we won't insist that they own guns if they won't insist that we don't. Right??

And I can't help wondering what kind of alternate universe some of these jokers live in, who seem to feel that nothing will ever happen that cannot be left to The Law to handle in due course. You can get dead that way... and if it has to come to the choice I'd rather have to explain why I blew some idiot's head off than have him explaining why he did the same to me. If this be narrow-minded...

A Fanzine... (from Don Fitch): "last successful overthrow of the OE?" I think the successful attempt was the only one, and this would have been a little before my time, between mailings 30 and 31 when Karen and Howard and some other each volunteered to relieve Coswal of the burden and Karen got the nod, say in the quarter between Dec'54 and Mar'55 if I have the earlier schedule straight.

But now if Fred got in and pulled his expansion&franking schemes-- well, I just don't know-- I'd feel like working to pull off an Insurrection as the only

funf

reasonable response to such foolishments, but likely I'd take another look at the time&effort involved in producing&mailing the necessary call to arms,

SAPS has the Insurrection; with FAPA it is Blitzkriegs, in which a rescue squad saves the mailing from a derelict OE in order to get it mailed out. Perhaps the funniest of these was in 1959 when various patriots tried to liberate mailing #88 from Ted White but the first few attempts failed because they could not seem to catch him at home. Finally the Youngs et al accomplished the mission.

I think it was 1940 that the 3-issue Amazing "quarterlies" came out: my, you did get a lot for your money/with those, didn't you though?

Siderial (sp) Son... But this is perfect; any comment would only spoil it.

Retro 39: Hoog; I see I'm repeating myself a li'l bit this time around.

Resin #?: Right; Brunner's "The Whole Man" suffered from condensation of some of the original component stories. "City of the Tiger", for instance, was more powerful in the magazine version than was the whole furshluggin' book.

I don't think I could take a flying saucer con; I really don't.

Saprise 5: Oh Damn; I wuz gonna try to find a page 2 or a whole Retro 38 for you and I haven't done this yet, at this writing. Let's both hope I manage it before you come to read&comment on this issue.

As to being willing to mitigate Hostilities: sure, any time anyone wants to meet me halfway, I'll give it a try. There are certain exceptions, of course; like I've given up on the Illiterate PhD in your city: he can't read and he won't try to learn, so the hell with it. I don't go looking for trouble with Boardman. but any time he sticks his neck out I don't mind having a cut at it just for practice. On any subject, by now: he can lead and I'll follow suit, sort of. But in general I'd just as soon let anyone off the hook who wants off the hook; it gets to the point where I've said everything (or nearly) that I might feel to be worth saying on The Mess, and to repeat it indefinitely is wasteful, inefficient and the like. It's not quite true to say I Don't Really Care any more, but the emotional content of the hassle has long since been exhausted, and Just As Well.

Damn right; let's all us beerhounds do some extensive research at San Diego. Actually, Canadian *becr* is not all that strong, except for such as the Calgary Stock Ale (which really is potent as hell; I treated it with respect); it is the choice flavor of the beer there that had me rhapsodizing about it.

Didn't I mention African Genesis (or Killer Apes, at least) in comment to John Foyster's anti-gun remarks? Should have, certainly. Thanks for reminder.

No, my "support" of any '67 Worldcon bidder would be essentially meaningless because (1) I no longer have a genzine audience of my very own, (2) it's no secret that I won't be at Tricon to vote or at the '67 Con wherever it is; I've always been rather bugged by people who stick their oar in under such conditions (like backseat driving from the cheap seats, as it were). So color me neutral; hey?

Maine-iac 30: Collecting is a snare and delusion. Ask nearly anybody. At best you have this thing going and here comes some great ol' good ol' buddy faunching and whinging to borrow something out of the middle of it: now you either shoot the collection or lose one great ol' good ol' buddy, or of course both, depending. I got the string of TWS back; the comic-size MADS are gone forever, some years ago; I've lost the address of my June 1951 Astounding. Sh

Ugad, that was quite some Mutated Ballard Chronicle there, man. Just when did Ballard mutate, by the way? That's a point that has always puzzled me.

The Good Boyd sent us some Van Ronk also, on tape: "Salvation Army" and "Talkin' Stalin Blues" and "They Gave Him His Orders Down At Party Headquarters" which is the first line; I have no idea what the *title* is. Hilarious stuff.

Hiking isn't really all that much work, mainly because it can start out as merely extended strolling, and work up gradually. You'll be surprised how fast the legs Come Back after a few bouts of next-day stiffness, though.

Canasta? Tried Samba, the 3-deck crossgrained variant, yet? 'swild, Ed.

sex

(How quit snorting; in Deutscher, that's mere the numeral after fünf.)

Just today I saw a New Tarzan Book, by F Leiber, on the stands. I guess I will have to buy it, just to see for sure, but Ruth Plumly Thompson comes to mind, along with Norman Matson who utterly ruined an uncompleted Thorne Smith book. I mean, Leiber is Leiber and Burroughs was Burroughs and I hope I'm wrong, but...

I don't think Burb hit the bar at Long Beach more than about once if at all. (Re your correction to TAJ.) As you say, he certainly wasn't sloshing it up-- howcome this odd tendency for some folks to assume that no one ever eases off?

Have you read any of Hamilton's Matt Helm or Richard Stark's Parker books?

Charlottan 7: I can't understand, either, the mania for pro football or even baseball, where there is no Hometown Team to be chauvinistic about-- or an Old School or something. Having a home team to root for does provide a certain harmless fillip of interest; without that, it's sorta blah.

Yes; reading old mailing does make SAPS more interesting, doesn't it tho?

Comics: the Times here has Pogo, Peanuts, Wizard of Id, Andy Capp, Smith Family; Li'l Abner, Fred Bassett, and Tumbleweeds, out of 22 strips in all plus a lot of single-panel stuff scattered here and there. Among the 15 strips in the "Pee-Eye" are Hi & Lois, Beetle Bailey, Blondie, Tiger, The Moose (sort of a dud). We don't get B.C., Miss Peach, or Sir Whoever-it-was that Al Lewis used to send bundles of, years ago. Nor Loomin, of course. (Yeh, I forgot some.)

Mistily Meandering 15: I'm really quite violently opposed to your OE Platform, and the worst of it is that if you are elected you will naturally feel that the Platform did it, whereas more likely it would be the local "Look, Ma; No Postage!" vote to some considerable extent. For this reason I'd like to urge you, in the event that you win the OEsip, to take a separate Poll on the two questions involved: (1)raising the membership, gradually or suddenly or not at all, and (2)franking, under what limitations if any. You probably wouldn't want to do this, but the suggestion needed making so I made it.

Tell y'what, Fred: you throw the election & I'll buy ya a drink at SD.

And whatever did happen to Sandy Ego's 1st PR, anyway??? I haven't even been able to get hotel reservation-cards out of them, sending a pc and all. Poop.

Yezidee 14: I too still think the Sketchbook is funny. Funny as all hell i'fact.

Speleobem 30: You kinda finked out on us there, Bruce. I seem to recall two years in a row that you made phonecalls asking for Seattle support for you as OE. Both times we said like "Sure, if you'll support a Seattle candidate when we finally run one." Now perhaps you can maintain that you cleverly fobbed me off with clever Semantic Nothings; I was not about to run up your phone bill by insisting that you recite the Scout Oath or anything, and figured that if you were unwilling to make the deal you'd speak up loud and clear, and say so, which you did not. So we thought we could depend on your support, but it turns out that not only are you voting Home Town: you've also been armtwisting for Fred. In the early stages of the campaign, at least. If'n I were a Roscoite or a Ghuist I'd prob'ly put a curse on you for that; you're lucky I'm a Klootean, as we Klooteans do not put curses on people-- we just point a finger at them and they change into a jelly doughnut. And as a matter of fact I don't even like doughnuts, jelly or otherwise. I need a faanish religion that allows me to point the finger and turn people into rare steaks or plates of fried prawns.

No, I doubt it would be worthwhile for Seattle to bid Westercon when the Worldcon also comes west; usually they're combined in that case, and if not, who would traipse up here for a Westercon with a Worldcon available close to home? (Well, not "who?", but "how many?") No, for a Westercon in Seattle, the Worldcon should be on the east coast or Vienna or like that. From our viewpoint, that is. So obviously it's unlikely that we'll have a Westercon up here in future, though we might throw a bid sometime for the hell of it. But the '68 Worldcon sounds like a possibility-- or maybe '71, on the Ten Years Later theme. Stay tuned...

It Is A Loud And Prolix Thing To Be, A Fan...

Don't attach any great esoteric meaning to the above title; it is just to let you know that you made it through the Mailing Comments into this area of general natter, minefields and pungi stakes. Cons are still the next subject...

Prime reason for moving Worldcons around is to spread the burden and also the interest and attendance. Otherwise the whole schtick might as well have stayed in New York since 1939 and become a Local Phenomenon. As is, although the Rotation Plan did not start until '54, rotation itself has occurred from '52 on. Mark the 2 Loncons ('57 and '65) and then note: Midwest in '52, '55, '59, '62, and now '66. East in '53, '56, '60, '63, and upcoming bids for '67. West in '54, '58, '61, '64, and (barring Acts of Kyle) '68. Considering only the '52-66 period (15-Cons) we find 11 sites involved, with 4 of them (Chicago, Bay Area, London and Cleveland) encoring once each at intervals of 8 to 11 years, which is about right, I guess, in terms of adequate convalescence.

Now, that's fine; we do seem to be getting good distribution, both between and within Regions; I'm all for that. Note that the Midwest went from Chicago to Cleveland to Detroit to Chicago to Cleveland. The East went from Philly to New York to Pittsburgh to Wash DC, and the West from SanFran to Los Angeles to Seattle to Oakland, another BArea salient. I'm all for that, too; there is nothing like Spreading It Around so as not to saturate anyone. In fact, with a backhand to all who plump for Spirited Contests in bidding, I think it would be to the best interests of one and all if some informal understanding about Taking Turns held good within the Regions. I don't expect it to happen but I think it would be a good thing. It can't happen because no one can venture to speak for a possible Consite over the necessary period of time. (Like, I have it on good authority that 3 eastern sites were set to play "keep-away" indefinitely vs NY, ever since the 1956 debacle, but one of them folded after awhile; c'est le guerre.)

But it would certainly be nice if Cons were more like publishing-dates in the Cult, where you meet your turn or find someone to trade with, or drop out. Because for instance I think we have one more Con in our blood up here in Seattle, but if it doesn't come off in '68 (LA's "turn"), it probably won't, at all. However, that's the breaks; I won't brood about it more than this half-stencil.

* * * * *

This zine has gone slower with me than most. For 3 days I did one each and only stencil per day. Then a gap of 2-3 days and then 2+ stencils, and now this night most of page *sex* and to here, so far. Reading for hooks is slow work.

* * * * *

Anyone out there looking for a new low-priced small sedan in the solidly-built class with lotsa muscle like the Sports-Sedan type? Well, we had in mind a second-car, and tested out the Volks, the Ford Cortina and the Toyota Corona, and now have owned the latter for about 5½ weeks. The Toyota Corona weighs 1/3 more than a Volks but carries 90 or 95 HP, depending on which magazines you read. It has just the 3 column-shift gears and that is all that it needs, believe me; it makes it in city traffic or on freeways equally well, needing no long slow buildup of speed such as the VW-class buggies require, with their 40-65 horses. It maneuvers like a turpented jackrabbit, even with this new tight engine at less than 1000 miles wear on it. To put it in the simplest possible terms, any one who is considering a car anywhere near this size-class, who does not at least test out the Corona, is missing a good bet.

It retails here for only \$60 more than the standard Volks, but what with a little histrionic dickering I got mine (including two necessary modifications: larger tires and some surgery on the angle of the backrest of the front seat) for \$25 less, instead. This is because Toyota is all-out right now to penetrate the VW market vigorously; next year they pro'llly won't give an inch.

At any rate, if you just like to go drive demonstrators, go drive one of these little bombs; you'll have a ball at it, I assure you. They go, like.