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6 March 1975: I've lost track of the numbering of this publication, but I know I haven't used 69 yet, so that's the number of this issue. Or ish, as some do say. Call me Ishpostmail. Sorry.

I've also lost track of FAPA. I don't even know whether I am still a member. I have written to Gregg about this several times during the past few months, and twice to Bill Evans. So far I have had no answer, probably because all my mail, in and out, goes to Kingston, Nebraska or Kingston, Burundi.

The last FAPA bundle I got was 147, last May. Gregg accidentally left out the Fantasy Amateur, so I didn't know I had won the Egoboo Poll until Leigh Edmonds told me. Leigh also lent me his November bundle, which was very kind of him. Every day I go to Box 357 hoping that I will find my missing mailings, or at least a letter from Gregg or Bill, and every day I am disappointed. Maybe there's a clause somewhere in the constitution that says 'When a member not normally resident in the United States of America wins the Egoboo Poll he shall be immediately ostracized, dismembered and unmailed.'

Anyway, until normal transmission is restored I will be communicating with members of FAPA by means of postmailings. I sent some stuff for the February mailing many months ago, but I have no idea whether it appeared in that mailing, and I don't feel like risking sending stuff to Gregg again until I know that I am a member still, and that my rubbish is reaching you. Nothing personal in this - Gregg Calkins is a great man, and I'll clobber the first person who says he's not - but I've had some odd experiences with the Post Office (about two years ago, for example, I got a terse note to the effect that there's no such place as Walnut Creek, California) and I don't feel like taking any more chances.

About half of FAPA's members will eventually receive First Draft 1 (the only issue published) and Philosophical Gas 29 and 30 (29 was posted to everyone outside FAPA about three weeks ago, and 30 will be finished this week). These are not postmailings. I am trying to publish PG every month now; I'm not at all sure how long I will last at this insane enterprise, but if you want to see what I'm doing, and if you think I might not automatically include you on the mailing list, please get in touch.

Did you know that the only English word that starts with the letters FAP is 'fap'? It means 'drunk', and it's used by Shakespeare in THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR. Of course you knew that. See yez.