

RATATOSK: ON AGAIN, OFF AGAIN, FINNEGAN: Ratatosk, a bi-weekly newszine formerly published by Bruce Pelz, has died for the third time in the past six months. It's first death occurred in November; it saw one issue in January, and then two issues in April. No further issues have been received since then, so it must be assumed that it's once again folded. Or Maybe Not...

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AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATIONS: The 119th mailing of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association contained 236½ pages, with the largest zines in the mailing being Jack Speer's Synapse (26 pp.) and Horizons 110 by Harry Warner (24 pp.). Dropped from membership was George Locke, activity. New member was Don Fitch. The waiting-list (ah yes, the waiting-list...) was down to only 54, with Roy Tackett heading the list and John Bangsund bringing up the rear.

The 30th Terrean of the Terrean Amateur Press Society (TAPS) was only 13 pages. Dropped from membership were Elliot Shorter, rich brown, Milton Stevens, and Rich Mann (activity), Jerry Ljung (resigned) and Lord Triffid III (failure to tell the membership his real name...). Advanced to membership were Earl Evers, Tom Bulmer, and Dwain Kaiser. This is the last month I'll be reporting on TAPS; I resigned two days ago... The waiting-list stands now at 1.

The 6th Snob of the Snobbish Amateur Press Association (SNapa) was a giant 8 pages, with Ross Chamberlain dropped (activity). The membership now consists of 8, with 3 vacancies, and Associate membership stands at 2, with 9 vacancies. The same for Snapa as for Taps; I resigned two days ago. I don't mind carrying an albatross around my neck, as long as it's not dead and beginning to smell...

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BALLANTINE TO PUSH ERB AGAIN THIS SUMMER: Ballantine Books will re-issue all ten Barsoom books this July, and will couple the re-release with an attractive ad and promotion campaign. Posters include an attractive letter-size, heavy stock poster of all ten Barsoom covers, with the blurb "Back in Stock! Edgar Rice Burroughs' Famous Mars Books" The reverse side includes the information that the Barsoom books have sold more than 2,000,000 copies in Ballantine editions alone.

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MISCELLANEOUS DEPT.: Syracuse University Press is advertising a book entitled The Technocrats, Prophets of Automation, by Henry Elsner, Jr. (illustrated, \$7.00). It is, presumably, the very same Henry Elsner who published the fanzine, Scientifictionist, circa 1947, writing numerous articles on Technocracy for it and other fanzines of the period.

Robert Bloch spoke on the tradition of the Gothic novel at the February 21st Initiation and Dinner Meeting of Beta Chapter, Beta Phi Mu, the National Library Honor Society, at the University of Southern California.

Norm

Metcalf was hit by a hit-and-run driver while riding his bicycle on May 20th, in Berkeley, California. Metcalf was hit by a young woman driving a red VW the wrong way down a one-way street. Metcalf, who was thrown against the brick wall of the corner building, suffered numerous bruises and a broken collarbone.

Isaac Asimov has an article ("Future Fun") in the current issue (#6) of Lithopinion, which is published by Local One of the Amalgamated Lithographers of America. The current issue, which seems to be aimed at the high-brow printer, also features the artwork of Noel Sickles, who used to do Scorchy Smith in the newspapers. (thanks, Redd Boggs, John L. Robinson, Bill Donaho and Frank Wilimczyk!)

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THESE SUBSCRIBERS MUST RENEW IMMEDIATELY: Darrell Pardoe, Alex Panshin, JT Mansfield.