

FAN WORLD

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** Asterisks above are errors inadvertently placed there by the editor and publisher, Dale Harr-1349 Scott, Gov. Ky.

EDITORIAL ***

With the advent of forty six each of the incoming officers of the organization should have at least one idea of sufficient merit to warrant being included among the year's activities. As this is written I have not yet received an outline from Dunkelberger concerning his ideas but I guess we'll have that shortly after the first of the year. We'll all be interested in Dunk's "projects coordinator" and if it's anything near what I surmise it will be it ought to be good.

It seems to me that those fans who run for office, in drawing up their platforms, would have some definiteness so I was surprised to discover a singular lack of direction among the platforms of the past election. Candidates were uniformly secretive about their aims, if any, and, in effect, said only that they thought that they would be good as officers. Which doubtless they will be.

One of the things which we should perhaps get started on in the coming year is that matter of a professional writer's award. For a starter just a scroll to be awarded to the author of the best all-fantasy magazine story of the year past. Construction of the board might be a problem. The president might nominate ten fans who would undertake reading of all worthy stories brought to their attention and at the end of the year the board's vote would decide the best. Another plan would be to poll the entire membership.

It is not too early for a number of up-to-now inactive fans to begin considering a run for office next year. Among the older and better known fans we should be able to expect a good turnout next time and a correspondingly full slate.

It's a devil of a lot more fun and suspense to race against plenty of competition and lose than to run with a mere few and be dropped into office. And don't forget that a full slate makes for more interest and discussion in the membership at large.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Both Tanner and myself have been pretty busy working these past few months beside living pretty far apart. It is regrettable that the forthcoming and long awaited issue of SCIENCE FICTION WORLD has been held up so long but after the first we'll get it finished up and then we'll probably be in a better position and have more know-how for handling subsequent numbers.

There'll be a short article by Brazier in the January number and another by ~~Bob~~ him booked for later. We would like to get hold of another luckless contributor or six.

MARTIN CARLSON WRITES

"This my viewpoint on the election mess. You are right in stating that the officials (and the fen) were to blame. More time should have been given, in fact, official publication should have run three times in TNFF. I note that mention of it did start in August.

I still believe that Pres. Bob Tucker had the authority to extend the deadline in view of the facts at hand. If a situation like this was not an emergency I would like to know what to call it and the constitution gave him the power to act even if he had to call a special election. In other words enough time should have been given to guarantee a full slate. My sole purpose in jumping around was correctly stated by Pres. Bob Tucker in the last TNFF. Being a new fan I had no thought of officership but at the last moment tried to fill in. Personally, I would have liked to see Ackerman on the ballot for Vice President.

As I've said before, Spear, personally is okay as far as I'm concerned. I will admit that I dont like his use of Ditto duplication in the official organ when practically all fanzines are mimeced.

Dale, Why dont you try to patch this up with Spear. I'll do my part with Dunk. I hate to see two good fans fight like this.

Sincerely yours for Fandom

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From KayMar's letter, partially reproduced above, we fen can draw a few valuable conclusions.

The first is that fans dont like having other fen becoming involved in unpleasantries. If we keep on having incidents like the NY affair popping up one of these days the collective face will turn as red as the proverbial beet and we fen will be ashamed to admit our identity in public. Let's watch our step, lay down a few rules as we discover their necessity in conducting our organizational activities and let's be willing to cede a little to the desires of others.

It seems that one of our little rules should be the understanding that from now on the OO should be mimeced or better. Thirdly, June is not too early to begin thinking, writing and acting about the October deadline for candidacies.

We hope that a great many of our membership will respond with KayMar's willingness to the needs of the organization as they may arise.

COMMENT IN GENERAL

The Spring issue of Planet and the January issue of Astounding offer an unusual amount of comparative basis as both Kuttner and McDowell have a story in each mag. The difference between the covers is directly proportional to the difference between the stories in the two mags. Astounding has presented an issue in which all the stories are likable. Weinster does better than he has been doing.

Received a copy of Taurus from Yeager and after reading it I realized what he meant when he said "edited and published in his cell". Kennedy tries to define the diff between fantasy and science fiction or perhaps I should say that he points out that you can only try. His work is unconvincingly run of the mill. You can have this first issue.

Received TNRFF: Tucker disagree with the vote of the Directorate on Daugherty's fan census and wonders whether the NFFF wasnt founded upon the principle of aiding fans in worthwhile pursuits. The reason that I voted 'no' was because I thought the idea was to aid fandom in worthwhile pursuits whereas the Daugherty proposal seemed to be one of aiding a fan in a worthwhile pursuit of his. Beneficial results to fandom as a whole were secondary.

An analysis of the election with respect to Dunk's campaigning leads us to this conclusion; regardless of Dunk's recommendations for the directorate the result would have been substantially the same because there were so few names on the ballot. Write in candidates are notoriously unsuccessful. The only case in which we can partially judge fandom's reactions to Dunk's recs is in Laney versus Sneary where Laney won by only seven votes. Sneary probably benefitted under the set up but if there had been more names on the ballot I doubt whether he would have been so close.

Speer, in Stefnws, says that 126 ballots out of around 180 wasnt so bad. At present it isnt but when servifen are back and things are more nearly normal 126 returns out of 180 will be bad. Very bad. Ken Krueger in his latest QX subscribes to the idea that the election was a farce. Well, I'll tell you right now that there's not very much for a director to do so let's see about ten or fifteen fans come forward next year for those offices. Constitutionally Warner and I will be ineligible next year. One thing I'm glad of and that is that at least one man came forward this time for the presidency. If executive candidacies continue to be as scarce we'll have to amend the succession clause.

The number Four Vampire is fair and has a playlet by Speer. A book collecting article by Laney is nice.

A DISCUSSION OF PHILOSOPHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

In philosophizing about man and men's relations with other men Nietzsche, the German philosopher, looked for a fundamental base and thought that he had discovered it when he promulgated his world renowned concept "the will to power". On this basic idea he erected a strongly individualistic philosophy which is believed to be the philosophical background of Nazism by many of our contemporaries. The fact is, I believe, that Nietzsche made a mistake in selecting too narrow a basis for his concept of human motivation and erred further in ascribing the definite value of a basic desire to the will to power when it is more generally a satisfaction than a drive.

Could it be that the basis of a rational being such as man is conscious desire and that such desire is divisible into two parts --- desire to live and desire for happiness.

Conscious desire is a product of the faculty of realization and is not to be confused with 'instinct' or what might otherwise be called natural impulse or natural desire. For instance, the 'conscious' desire exhibited by man is not the same as the 'survival instinct' of lower animals. This is not to say that man does not have the natural impulse toward survival. The survival instinct is a natural impulse independent of conscious realization.

Man has a developed sense of identity and it is this identity which he consciously seeks to preserve as life. This powerful compulsion toward preservation of identity is the underlying motivation of religion.

The desire for happiness is not a single factor as is the desire to live because happiness is a compound abstract varying with different individuals. An example showing the difference between a simple desire in a man and the same one in a lower animal:

In a dog the sex instinct is completely natural and therefore normal and unperverted; in man the sex instinct is transformed by the faculty of realization into conscious desire which is subject to the intellect and its reactions to ideological environment. Consequently, man has sex perversions.

We see evidence of the complementary nature of the two elementary conscious desires in the observed fact that as man's desire for happiness is frustrated to the breaking point he loses simultaneously the conscious desire to live. In probably the majority of cases the resultant impulse to suicide (conscious compulsion) is sidetracked by the natural (subconscious) instinct for preservation of the life which accomplishment is achieved by loss of the faculty of realization, i.e. becoming insane.

TEST YOUR FBQ*

1. What was the title of the first 'Nova' story published in Astounding. The title of the first 'Mutant' story.
2. Name the Scotch character in the Arthur J. Burks series which ran in Astounding.
3. Who wrote 'Fear', 'None But Lucifer', the 'Adam Link' stories, 'Wings of the Storm'.
4. Tremaine, former editor of Astounding, had a story in one of the pros. Which mag and what story.
5. Name fifteen all fantasy or science fiction promags that have been or are being published in the U.S..
6. What two authors collaborated on the first Unknown novel to see book publication. What was the title of it.
7. The 'Via' stories were written by whom. Under what name. Appeared in what mag. How many in the series.
8. Who wrote the Jules DeGrandin stories. What mag carried them.
9. Name the most favored woman fantasy illustrator. What magazine carried her covers.
10. Name two stories by John W Campbell Jr. not written under a pen name.

Each full question counts ten points. Each part of a question counts its proportional part of ten. For instance the fifth question has fifteen parts each of which counts two-thirds of a point. Tarr-par is sixty nine and a third. Can you beat me.

*FBQ --- fantasy background quotient.

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GET IT OFF YOUR CHEST *--- A POLL

1. What was the most outstandingly poor story that you ever regretted having read.
2. What was the poorest issue of a fanmag that ever graced your mailbox.
3. Which pro author consistently turns out work with the least appeal for you. In other words, nominate a hack.

If you're going to be writing me a letter dont forget to include your vote in this poll. Just think what fun you'll have reading the results. Name three of each if you wish, but try to put them in order.

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Write for SCIENCE FICTION WORLD and FAN WORLD. Write and read the Best

ONCE ---

I received a letter from a fan, at the time numbered among the first ten. In effect he stated: "Perdue came to visit me and he had long hair; Widner came to visit me and he had that goatee. My family was wondering what kind of a crew I was mixed up with until your friends, Buck and Myers, visited me. They were normal."

I received a letter from Catherine Moore, now the wife of Henry Kuttner. She stated that E.S. Smith was engaged in work on a non-fantasy novel. Does anyone know of such published work of Smith's.

I received a postcard from a well-known fan and author. It was on the occasion of Ross Rocklynne's picture being printed in Wonder Stories' dept. "Story Behind the Story". The postcard consisted solely of a reproduction of the magazine photo and this hilarious comment repeated time after time

"Ho-ho, ha-ha, he-he. Ho-ho, ha-ha, he-he."

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Future Fan: "So you can read minds. Bet you cant read mine."

Lovely Girl Telepath; after hesitating a moment: "No, I cant. I cant read the minds of lower animals."

Future Fan, astounded: "What's lower animals got to do with me."

LGT: "Wolf."

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1st Future Man: "I hear Benny's newly established matrimonial agency is doing a whale of a business. Where's he located."

2nd Ditto: "In an orbit ten thousand miles from the moon. You just cant beat that lunar lunacy."

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Venus Resident: "Isay, Jackson, where'd you get that Jupiter-sized bump on your noggin."

Jackson: "I came home at three a.m. last night and discovered that my wife had bought one of those new atom-powered rolling pins."

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1st Future Woman: "I went out with Fraser last week and did I regret it!"

2nd Ditto: "How Come."

1st again: He took me to his banded fruit plantation on Jupiter and under three gravities, earth normal, I didnt stand a chance of keeping out of his clutches."

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