

UL #7 from Norm Metcalf, P.O. Box 336, Berkeley 1, California, USA. This is in-
Jun62 tended for the 32nd OMPA mailing, June, 1962, B.C.. Crudpub #42.

Amble #9 - Archie Mercer

Your belief that a central authority (with its attendant greater publicity) will look after individual rights better than local authorities is debateable. My personal opinion is that there is maximum individual freedom under anarchy. But since there aren't a sufficient number of people actually interested in having their freedom to make anarchy feasible we have to delegate authority to government. And here's where I part company with your preference for a central authority. I'd rather what authority government has over the individual split several ways so that no one group has absolute or near-absolute power. To use the U.S. for examples we've had quite a few abuses from government agencies on all levels. Federal seizure of private land in violation of the law (the Fallbrook case), state resistance to Federal law (pick a southern state), corrupt county government (Duval County, Texas, por ejemplo), corrupt city government (New York City), etc. Sure, there are abuses in the division of government but they're not a result so much of the form of government as they are a function of the integrity (or rather, the lack of integrity) of the official. And I don't want a system where a dishonest official has the temptation and the use of enormous power.

As for Training Instructors in basic training not allowing us to read newspapers it seemed to be part of the brain-washing program. Cut off as many non-

There's no reason for it. It's just policy.

Air Force stimuli as possible, supplant them with AF stimuli, incant "Pavlov" and presto -- an A/3C.

Envoy #4 - Ken Cheslin

Making a decent bicycle in medieval times would probably be too much. You'd have quality-control problems with refining iron, making tubular steel so that the bicycle wouldn't be too heavy to pedal up a hill, either forging chains with uniform links or else building one of the old bone-breakers (one large wheel, with direct drive, and a small, trailing wheel), etc. I'm not saying that you can't do it but you'd have plenty of problems. One thing you wouldn't have to worry about is importing rubber from the Amazon. Wooden tires would do fairly well and could have been replaced in the nearest forest.

This general attitude of going back in time and whipping out a railway engine (to use Clemens' reductio ad absurdum) shows carelessness on the part of some authors. de Camp is the only author I can recall at the moment who was aware of all the concomitant problems, yet had his hero starting up technology.

As for going back to the court of the Khakhans at Karakorum that would be quite risky, instead of fairly safe. If I correctly recall William of Rubrik's narrative various envoys departed this life in spite of diplomatic immunity. But you'd have done better with the Mongol khans than you would at some courts where Moslems ruled (or Christians for that matter). My own favorite project for getting in good with an eastern potentate is Baber when he was on his way to conquer Hind. Even though Baber was a Turk (Jagatai, not Ottoman) he was civilized. He even had a few foreigners manning his artillery. So you wouldn't have been given the boot or decapitated upon first sight.

Your idea that the dividing line between history and archeology possibly oc-

curred at 1. A.D. is fallacious. Archeology and history do not conveniently divide at some point in time. They are not uniformly coterminous throughout the earth. For example, recorded history in Britain starts around 55 B.C. (though Pythias wrote an account of Britain, the Shetlands, Faeroes, and Iceland as he saw them c. 325 B.C. his account has been lost and only quotes remain) and there are probably other descriptions of Britain with which I'm unfamiliar); recorded history on Melville Island, N.W.T., Canada in 1819 A.D.. Archeology has pushed our knowledge of man further back into time in each area. Yet, in the case of Britain (or any other area ever inhabited by human beings before comparatively thorough documentation began) archeology has helped fill in the gaps and contradict errors in recorded history. So archeology need not stop with the beginning of history nor did history come into being at 0900 hours, 1 Sep 4004 B.C. or 0001 hours, 1 Jan 1 A.D.

There are simple means of jamming TV receivers but they depend on the make and model. Since Britain seems to have stricter laws governing electromagnetic radiation those devices which are legal here for jamming may not be legal in Britain. Find a local ham and ask him.

If you're interested in pre-historic Australian cultures try Erle Cox's sf novel, Out of the Silence. You won't learn anything factual about pre-historic Australia but it's one of the all-time great sf novels.

Packrat #4 - Jim Groves

I don't know about gravity in Oregon but that state has a large area of magnetic disturbance, a 20° E isogonic line forms an island in southwestern Oregon. The main 20° E isogonic line passes some distance away.

Binary #1 - Joe Patrizio

As for untidiness of U.S. forces compared to those of other nations the ones I've had contact with were mostly Canadian Air Force men and they seem to have approximately the same standards. They're certainly closer to the U.S. Air Force standards than say what I've seen of the U.S. Army.

Zounds! #7 - Bob Lichtman

Heigh ho, another poll:

1. Ignoring salary and practicality the full-time job I'd like to have would be doing what I felt like at the moment. As for why it's because I'm bored by routine.

2. If I were given one week's authority to change the world and sufficient troops to do so I would have the troops dump all of their equipment in the Challenger Deep and then go home. (The psychological gain outweighs the material loss, I hope.)

3. As for what I consider good, attractive formats I have no quarrel with quarto, half-quarto, etc. but anything larger than 8.5 by 11 inches irritates me even though I'll still read it. But if you meant layout then solid pages of type annoy me. People who haven't learned to paragraph should be shot. Illustrations which break up the text such as

Now is the time for
aid of their govern-

((illustration here))

all good anarchists to come to the
ment muy pronto.

Of course, the crowning deterrent is illegibility, especially hecto and ditto.

Who says mailing comments don't introduce new material? Try checking some mailing comment zines against the zines being commented upon and see if you don't find new material (and even new topics).

Olia Podzida #4 - Walter Breen

Corrections to your corrections to Bennett's Fan Directory

413. Shapiro is fasia but he'll be back before long, meanwhile c/o Vick
500. Mrs. William A. Lokke, 4139 Stanford Way, Livermore, California

Outpost #1 - Fred Hunter

My comments on the vagueness of certain phrases in our new constitution may have sounded like hair-splitting to you and Lichtman. They were to me also. However, one of these days the chances are that some character is going to try and finagle an OMPA membership by citing those phrases. If you're going to have a rule by law and not by men you have to expect that sort of thing. SAPS avoids it very neatly by decreeing that the OE is Ghod. But other apas have been plagued by nit-pickers trying to retain their unwarranted membership.

Scottishe #27 - Ethel Lindsay

The main reason I feel insulted when someone thinks I was in the Army is that I went to all the trouble of joining the AF to avoid the Army. Add to that many civilians not knowing what service I was in by looking at the uniform. They asked me all the details of life in the Army and were surprised to find that I was as ignorant as they. So perhaps you can see why I joked about your insult in thinking was in the Army.

If you want to know everything about me I suggest you read Rich Brown's book, Lives of the World's Most Unimportant People, 103 pages, mimeo, Zotz Press. This is an excellent source book for finding details of over 1,000,013 lives.

Sizar #6 - Bruce Burn

Re the difference between Great Britain, the United Kingdom, etc. I ran across John Sack's Report From Practically Nowhere. This is a book dealing with thirteen of the most unimportant countries of the world, Lundy, Little Sark, Andorra, Monaco, Leichenstein, San Marino, SMOM, Mt. Athos, Sharja, Swat, Amb, Punial and Sikkim. Sack discusses the case of the King of Lundy vs. the Crown over whether or not Lundy was a separate country. It ended more-or-less in a draw. Lundy can't continue to mint coins but is still allowed to print its own postage stamps. A sample line "I found the smallest country there is, next door to a haberdashery shop". The smallest country is SMOM (the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, alias the Knights of Malta, alias the Knights of Rhodes, alias the Knights Hospitallers, alias the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem of the Hospital) who have an enclave in Rome similar to the Vatican, diplomatic relations with twenty countries, and a 120-plane air force (to arms, the Saracens are coming). Or Amb which is being washed into the Indian Ocean so that it will soon cease to exist.

Eliminating your neighbor's radio.

R. F. amplifiers amplify the signal, narrow the received bandwidth (so that instead of receiving, say, all signals within ± 10 kilocycles of the center frequency, only signals within ± 5 KC, ± 250 cycles, etc. are received) and isolating the antenna from the mixer and local oscillator. Therefore it's hard to jam a communications receiver by transmitting a signal on its IF frequency. (Further, most communications receivers of the better type have multiple conversion (two or more IF stages) on frequencies other than 456 KC.) And since R. F. amplifiers increase the cost of a radio they're dispensed with in the usual home standard AM broadcast receiver. Therefore they have a ready-made Achilles' heel.

Referring back to the previous page you'll note the Local Oscillator feeding a signal to the Mixer stage. This signal is at a constant difference of 456 KC, hence the IF stages are tuned to 456 KC (on the usual home radio). Since efficient mixers of this type have little selectivity and don't isolate the local oscillator to any great degree here's a simple method of sabotaging a nearby receiver on some frequencies. You merely tune your radio so that its local oscillator is 456 KC away from the annoying station. If the other receiver is close enough and lacks selectivity the offender will hear a squeal in his radio and retune. You should be able to see another limitation. It isn't always possible to tune your receiver to the proper frequency.

So back to the 456 KC oscillator. A receiver loses selectivity proportionately to signal strength. Without an rf amplifier this effect is even more pronounced. So you build an oscillator tuned to 456 KC. This is fed through the mixer and if it's powerful enough it will block out any station tuned to by the cheap AM receiver (if it's sufficiently powerful it will also block out expensive receivers but then you'd be in legal difficulties). Furthermore, it's perfectly legal in the U.S. as long as the field strength radiated by your oscillator doesn't exceed a certain value for which I can't find the formula. This stunt may not be legal in Britain and IF frequencies may be different. So check with a British ham if you want to try it.

Thanks for pointing out that The World's Desire actually belongs to the Ayesha series. I hadn't realized the connection when reading Haggard. I've still to find "reasonably" priced copies of such titles as The Mahatma and the Hare, Smith and the Pharaohs and about three other titles I'm missing (excluding his non-fiction titles). But Ken Chapman and Dick Witter are good sources and my collection of Haggard's fiction should be complete soon. The University library has the Scott bibliography of Haggard (500-copy edition) which I'll check out when I have some spare time. I'd like to be surer that I haven't overlooked any titles. I'd run it through OMPA except for the automatic copyright which might place me in difficulty.

Your commentary on the U.S. legal system brought out two very sore points. a) Yes, a lawyer can only practice in a state for which he has passed the bar exams. However, this isn't an insurmountable obstacle. b) Regardless of the fifty-states with fifty-sets of laws ignorance of the law is still no excuse (except in military law). But this isn't quite as calamitous as it sounds. If you mind your own business and pay attention to traffic signs it's fairly uncommon to be arrested in another state for odd variations of the law.

Compadre #1 - Jack Harness

To answer your poll:

1) If I had a strings-free income of 2¢ per month I'd buy up the world's supply of bubble-gum.

2) If I weren't an atomic war survivor I'd gripe about it to Elmer Perdue.

Archie Mercer Apropos Quote-Card:

PARLIAMENT Monday, April 2 ((1962))

FISHING RIGHTS OFF LUNDY ISLAND

Mr. Hayman (Falmouth and Camborne, Lab.) asked for a statement on the infringement of fishing rights involved in the recent incident when a fishing boat near Lundy Island was fired at from the island.

Mr. Vane. -- The person claiming to be the present owner of Lundy Island also claims exclusive rights of fishing within three miles of the coast. I have no evidence of the validity of this claim. This is a matter for the courts. I am unable to acknowledge that there has been any infringement of fishing rights.

Mr. Hayman. - That seems a very unsatisfactory answer. Newspaper reports allege that the owner has admitted he fired at least one shot; that a shot was embodied in the mast of one boat; and that one of the Crown authorities had said that fishing rights belonged to the ordinary fishermen below medium-high tide, whatever that may be. Has the Minister taken no action in regard to this illegal act of firing on what the owner may call trespassers?

Mr. Vane.- This was unsatisfactory, I agree. It is a curious case. Irregular use of a firearm is a matter for the police.

((Very curious. Since the King of Lundy is named Hayman I'm wondering if this is the same person. If so what's Hayman doing arguing for the fisherman. Unless he's been deposed and feels bitter, I'm still wondering. Does anyone have any further information on this Ruritanian farce?))

Ul #7 from

Norm Metcalf
P.O. Box 336
Berkeley 1,
California,
USA

RETURN REQUESTED

TO:

Printed Matter Only

May Be Opened For Postal Inspection