





Donald Warren Bratton:

Mathematics student and amateur publisher. b. 3 May 1926 in Los Angeles, where he has lived most of his life. Single, and lives with his parents. Showed an early interest in science and tinkered with electricity, although lack of knowledge of even Ohm's law restricted the latter to combinatorial problems. Thus an interest was built up around control and organization that eventually centered his attention on mathematics. Started reading Astounding Science Fiction in 1939, collecting magazines in this field, and assembling a card catalog of them, in the next five years. While attending Hollywood High School (1944) he met artist Ronald Clyne, then an active fantasy fan, and learned of fandom and the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society in particular. Wrote articles on fantasy cataloging in Burbee's Sham-ri-L'Af-faires 1944-1946. Worked for a year part-time as a messenger-clerk at a local branch library and became familiar with library theory.

Entered the Navy in 1944 as a radio technician. Began corresponding with fantasy fans and subscribing to fanzines. Met Paul Carter, fan and author, and Henry Spelman, who later has become prominent in fandom. The cerebral cortex must have become fully developed at this time, and his interest in general semantics started with studying Lorzyski's Science and Sanity, stimulating his latent interest in mathematics and epistemology and opening a vista of world social problems. Became an instructor in the radar training program. Discharged in 1946.

A short civilian vacation was terminated with entrance in an undergraduate school of engineering and experimental physics in Pasadena, where he attempted to learn mathematics. He found his college work there very occupying and narrowly-demanding, and his correspondence was thus forced to lapse dreadfully. Member of the Pasadena and Los Angeles chapters of the Society for General Semantics, and did some minor teaching in the latter's Development Group. Became librarian of the Fantasy Foundation in 1947 and joined the Fantasy Amateur Press Society later that year, in which he has published the titles Gostak and Hypothesis. No fan pseudonyms used to date.

By dint of extra-curricular reading and bull sessions at college, he became interested in modern mathematics, and at present is attempting to transfer to the upper divisions in the University of Chicago.

Robert Flavie Carson:

Dossier of one Robert Flavie Carson

Date of Birth: 17 May 1919

Home Town: Rich Hill, Missouri

Marital Status: One each wife. Period

Education: 3 years elementary schooling; 4 years high school; 1 year college; 4 month course at University of Mo. in Linotype operating.

Occupations: Moonman 5 days per week for the African Journal, Adrian,



No. (a weekly). Weekends I'm a farmer raising purebred Black Angus cattle on a tract of some 265 acres.

I like books. The hard cover variety. However, my collection is not very extensive. I have 111 volumes, 62 of which are non-fiction or reference books. In addition to the 111 there is a 19 volume set of the Encyclopedia Britannica (1911 vintage) and a 20 volume set of Authors Digest (1900 edition). And also there are uncounted numbers of magazines and fanzines, pocketbooks and periodicals. My favorite books of the non-fiction class are those dealing seriously with occult sciences, such as witchcraft, spiritualism, telepathy, and all manner of psychic phenomena. Favorite authors include William Seabrook, Jack London, Joseph Conrad, Will Durant, William James, Sax Rohmer, A. Conan Doyle and Edgar Rice Burroughs.

I've always thought I'd like to be a writer of fiction. And, upon numerous occasions, I have tried my hand at the business of writing. But writing comes hard to me. I have to struggle for every word, for every phrase and sentence, and must rewrite and rewrite, and then when I am all through it seems that I don't have much of anything. But I still get a large charge out of trying.

Atmosphere rates high with me. I mean that kind of atmosphere that is found in old book shops, second hand stores, dark movie houses, dim cocktail lounges (quiet ones), the interior of my car when it is raining, the solace of my book-lined shelves close at hand in my study nook. Then, also, I enjoy tremendously the more violent moods of nature, storms, thunder, lightening, wind, dark brooding clouds, and rain.

Back in my high school days I dreamed of being a recluse and, in those days, came mighty near being one. However, I grew out of it, but the idea still remains and I find that I still like to get away by myself about as often as the business of living will permit. It is my opinion that no person can really think in a deep and philosophical manner about life and the universe or what-have-you unless he is off to himself, free from any interruptions or distractions. And in this world of today, most of us do all too little thinking.

Walter Allen Coslet:

Technically, the name is Walter Allen Coslet, but I've never cared for--and fortunately never had to accept--the nickname "Walt". I'm only slightly older than Weird Tales, having been born in Lewistown, Montana, on October 31, 1928. Due to a complex series of misfortunes culminating in blood-poisoning in my right arm shortly before I entered the first grade in 1928, I became left-handed and eventually 4-F. I discovered Buck Rogers in the spring of 1932, and graduated to pulp with the March 1933 ASTOUNDING STORIES OF SUPER SCIENCE, the last of the Claytons. We moved from Lewistown to Denton that summer, so from the sixth grade until I graduated from high school, I lived in a small town of about 400 population. There was little connection with sf during this period--a few Amazings and a Wonder were obtained in

the spring of 1935 before the drugstore went out of business, and in the summer of '38 or '39 I had opportunity to peruse a few back issues in a hotel; besides these, there was only some scattered 1925-27 SCIENCE AND INVENTIONS that Dad had saved. The next contact with stf occurred in late 1942 when I obtained some back issues and read a few others when I was in the county seat (Lewistown). I never had an opportunity to go to college.

In January 1943 my state civil service appointment came through, and I became a junior clerk for the state office of the U. S. Employment Service, which necessitated a move to Helena. For about a month I worked as a Key Punch Operator, then took over the mimeograph and mail duties. This continued until the Employment Service was transferred back to state control under the Unemployment Compensation Commission, in November 1946. Under the new management, it was not long before I was transferred to the claims receiving unit, and promoted to senior clerk, at which job I slave every winter and relax every summer.

Having an assured income, I commenced obtaining and reading back-issue stf in 1943. When the paper drives dried up this supply, I started buying current issues and in the fall of 1944 contacted Henry Elsner and joined the SISFA, which shortly became SASFA and died. In June 1945, I joined the NFFF and soon organized their Mes. Bureau. October arrived and I took my vacation in Los Angeles, purchased 550 old prozines, and met the LASFS. Never since have I been able to catch up with my prozine reading nor my correspondence. December saw the publication of my first fanzine, WOPPLE-KIT. 1946 saw me listed as Vice President of the NFFF, obtaining my first near-complete run of amazing, meeting my first Montanan interested in fantasy, and finally, being admitted into FAPA. Two more issues of Wopple-Kit and an issue of Flash! were published in 1946. 1947 saw the organization of SAPS and my publishing of two issues of 'Tator for it. In FAPA, I published three issues of SNIX and one MOLECULE. 1948 saw the purchase of a duplicator of my own, from which rolled three issues of PLOOR, a second FLASH!, DIMENSIONAL LOOPHOLE, VANGUARD BA-A-AP!!!, "GR-RUNK", and SOLAR PHOENIX for SAPS; a 4th SNIX, GALACTIC ISLAND, THE WABBLER, 8 METEOR SHOWERS, HYPER-SPACE TUBE, and STELLAR BULLSEYE for FAPA, besides advertising broadsides and various publications for others. When the Philcon Memory Book finally appeared, it contained a combined issue of Snix-'Tator which was also supplied--in variant--to ECITON.

At the present time, my prozine collection of stf-fsy magazines numbers over 1600 different issues, my accumulation of fanzines is nearing the 15 foot mark, and my fantasy books number some 430 volumes. Good thing I have an attic!

Married in 1947 to a non-femme whose home town was Amherst, Ohio. No children.

Ed Cox

Birthdate: November 6, 1929

Occupation: Work in Cox's Bakery.



Marital Status: Unmarried and batchelor-to-stay.  
 Education: All up to high school diploma.  
 Home Town: Cambridge, Massachusetts  
 Fanzines: FAPA- and SAPS-zines ziz all.

What else does this guy want to know? Hmmm...well, my favorite month is October. My favorite day is November 6th... I am a Braves-Red Sox rooter and stay up till all hours listening to night games (is this a true fan writing?).

Then I suppose I must say that I loff Astounding bestovall and also like most of the others. Prefer stf, then fantasy, with weird bringing up the rear (of what, I wonder...).

Ever since 1943 when I first started reading this stuff, I have liked van Vogt mostly. Even Bradbury. Since then with the ever growing piles of old and new stfzines, I find I like Heinlein, Simak, Sturgeon, and so many others that I'll not try to list. For art? Bok, Cartier, Stevens, Finlay (when he's good; same goes for Stevens), Urban, McWilliams, and some others. Wesso, Scheeman and Dold to be specific.

Get and read most of the fanzines and then continue to get only those I prefer after first issues. Contribute to several. Joined FAPA in 1943 and intend to stay joined for quite a long time. Intend, also, to publish a zine someday that will look and read like a FAPazine (sneers from skeptics can be dispensed with please). Belong to NEFF, YF, Honorary OUTLANDER and others too.

Now what do I write? This guy Spelman (III) keeps hounding us, so I write this. What does he expect anyhow? Does he expect me to say I like to dabble in photography? Also in radio and that I have far-future ambition of becoming a ham? Or that I am more than dabbling in music and loff Stan Kenton, Les Brown, Harry James, Dorseys, and many others (but only instrumentally; dislike the love-crap that spoils opposite sides of so many discs). Like jazz, swing, anything like that, but have few records.

Well, this must be 250 words. What does this guy expect anyhow, a book?

Leslie Alfred Crouch

Canadian of English stock on both sides of the family. Born April 25, 1915, in White River, Ontario, reputed to be the coldest spot in Ontario. As a result I have disliked the cold ever since and hold little sympathy for those poor benighted souls who claim with pride Eskimo blood in their veins. Have lived in Brandon Manitoba; Kamloops, British Columbia; Hanna, Alberta; Powasson, Ontario; Parry Sound, Ontario since then, for varying lengths of time. Moved here in 1924 and have lived here ever since.

Don't happen to be married, so that takes care of wives, children, and grand-kids.

Make my living as a radio service technician. Am at present studying an advanced course which I hope will take me up the ladder a couple of rungs or so.

Have numerous hobbies, main among them being 8MM moving pictures. Others include going to the movies, reading everything under the sun, music, and making money!

Collect only ASTOUNDING and UNKNOWN. Have an almost complete set of the latter, mint; and a complete set of the former, 99% mint, starting with February of 1933, and a good many copies before that. Have a file, mint, of only Canadian fanzines, LIGHT, CANFAN, MACABRE, CENSORED. Publish LIGHT and have written a fairish number of fan crud.

Have appeared professionally in print 8 times, stf and weird. Latest and one I'm most proud of was in FFM.

Eligible statistics: Respectable bank account--owe nobody--lots of people owe me, though!--235 pounds--5'9"--46"chest--42"waist--any women interested must be young and pretty and able to tell A from Z and have blood warmer than nice-water.

Believe in free-enterprise. Dislike commies and commie-style socialism. Believe in free-speech, free-religion, free-thinking, but NOT free money or anything that goes with getting something for nothing.

Am not a joiner so clubs need not apply. Membership only in the Fantasy Amateur Press Association. That's in the stfish line.

In radio, member Philco Service Association; service branch Radio Manufacturers Association in Canada; Radio Electronic Technicians Association; official auto radio service station and manufacturers' service representative, Philco Corporation--Rogers-Majestic.

What's that got to do with stf? Nothing. But advertising never hurts and why hide my LIGHT under a bushel?

E Everett Evans:

E Everett Evans, sometimes known as Th' Ol' Foo of Fandom, was born in Coldwater, Michigan, on November 30, 1893. His father was an attorney who later became a newspaper editor, and EEE learned to set type when he was eight.

Even as a boy EEE read every bit of off-trail literature he could get his hands on, as well as almost everything else contained in his father's and the public library. Thus, when STF got a mag of its own, he was already sold on the stuff, and has been loving it ever since.

Did not get into Fandom until he attended the Chicon, both to see Doc Smith, and to have a week-end with his elder daughter who was at school there. Then he jumped in with both feet, and has been very active ever since.



As for fanzines, Evans became a member of FAPA in 1941, and his first publication was dated June 1, 1941--eight years ago. He also worked with Ashley and Weidenbeck on NOVA, and later published eight issues of THE TIME-BINDER. Still publishes his FAPA magazine, A TALE OF THE 'EVANS.

At the Denvention Evans made a talk urging fans to plan ahead for the future, and as a result was made chairman of the Long-Range Planning Committee of the new NFFF. Near the end of that year the then President of NFFF, Louis Russell Chauvenet, wrote Evans suggesting that he run for President for the following year. After getting advice from his fellow members of The Galactic Patrol, a Southern Michigan fan-club, of which he was Communications Officer (secretary), Evans announced his candidacy for the job of NFFF Prexy.

But, somehow, things slowed down before the election. The issue of the Official Organ which was supposed to name the candidates never appeared. The ballots were never sent out. Evans felt that conditions, not persons, were at fault, and that fans still wanted a national organization. He decided on a bold coup.

Without asking then if they liked the idea or would accept if elected, Evans made out a slate with three candidates for each job, including himself as one of the three for President. He sent ballots for this, together with a mimeoed letter, to all members as shown on the latest NFFF Official Organ. The response was very heartening--officers were elected, and they accepted. There started intensive work of building up the NFFF, and it apparently was solid work, for the organization is still running, and stronger than ever.

Right now Evans is trying to write professionally, in addition to his regular job. Has had some little success in sales, and hopes and works towards more. Is still active in the LASFS (he moved to California just as the war closed), and has attended every World Convention except the first one in New York. Already has his tickets for Cincy.

Everett was married for 19 years, and has two daughters and a son, and four grandchildren. His younger daughter, Jonne (Mrs. William G. Hanlon), is something of a fanne, and is often known as Th' Youn' Foo. Evans expects to be a fan for at least fifty more years.

#### Thomas Samuel Gardner:

Thomas S. Gardner, born July 31, 1908, Kingsport, Tenn. B.S. (Chemistry) State College, Tenn., 1931; M.S. (Chemistry) Univ. of Tenn., 1936; Ph.D. OChemistry--Carbohydrates) Ohio State Univ., 1941; duPont Post-doctoral Fellow, Mass. Inst. of Technology, 1941-2. Married Blanche Leavitt, Springfield, Vt., 1942. 1 child, Cecile Winifred, born Feb. 16, 1947.

Experience: Tenn. Eastman Corp., research in chemistry on wood distillation products, alcohols, detergents, carburizers, cellulose chemistry plastics and yarn 1933-46, with interruptions. Hoffman-La Roche, Inc.,



Nutley, N. J., senior research chemist, Synthetic Organic in Pharmaceutical line, 1946-

About thirty scientific publications on molecular structure, cellulose chemistry, carbohydrates, rocketry (thermodynamics), gerontology, synthetic organic, biochemistry and physiological chemistry. Patents on cellulose chemistry and pharmaceutical chemistry.

Avocation: Reading and collecting science fiction, movies, hiking, and friendly discussions of everything.

Ambition: To solve the problem of aging and eventually work on gerontology full time.

Fan Activity: Contributions to fan magazines. No fanzines published by myself.

Philip Gray:

I didn't go to college and have never seen the inside of a high-school, so if I don't approximate that pattern laid down by 'class reports' I hope I may beg off on the grounds of superficiality.

No one except the inhabitants have ever heard of Cape Rozier, Maine. Just because I was born there twenty-three years ago is no reason why it should be on the map, so I don't feel slighted. Nor do I harbor delusions about everybody celebrating the 4th of July because it is my birthday.

As a child I displayed only two abnormal traits: a desire to rummage in old magazines, and a dangerous habit of playing with guns, particularly the old sheriff's revolver for whom my mother kept house. Books and guns remain my first-loves. I hasten to add that I am not married.

I was eight years old when I crossed the path of a Packard. As a consequence, I've never since been able to throw anything far or straight except activated hand-grenades---which testifies for the theory of mind over matter; the foot grew together well enough so I could rat-race with the average; and army medical examiners missed the two inch dent in my head. I tell few people about the latter---they usually add that fact to my behavior and reach a logical, to them, conclusion.

Grammar school was the end of formal education, but not learning. I've studied correspondence courses, typing and German in army schools, and six months at Coyne Electrical School. This explains my lop-sided education.

I had infantry training---the paratroopers wouldn't accept me because I didn't memorize enough of the eye-chart---and was transferred to the 303rd Engineer Combat Battalion, 78th Division, in Belgium. From the Siegfried Line to Wuppertal I assisted in digging up personal mines, blowing pill-boxes, disarming booby-traps; graciously did my part in throwing up combat foot-bridges so the infantry wouldn't get

wet feet; helped dig blue-faced, non-swimming doggies out of rivers when their assault boats went down; cursed the Air Force to hell when they bombed us by mistake; was second gunner on the 50 calibre that knocked down a P-38 at Remagen Bridgehead, also by mistake, the pilot parachutes; got the name of "character" because I wished to finish a Philo Vance p-b in the lulls of a particular engagement; and all around thoroughly enjoyed myself as only an eighteen year old kid who doesn't know any better can.

I was out of the army at the age of nineteen and before and since have held a queer assortment of jobs from lumberjack to switch-board operator, including radio servicing, soda-jerking, stock clerk, etc. At present am "manager" of a tool shop for Acadia National Park. Own my own home, a dubious thing called 'car', typewriter, a modest fantasy collection, six guns, and several ambitions---of which none of the latter are anywhere near original.

Raymond C. Higgs:

Better known to fandom as Ray or Racy. Born---yes, I was---born that is---Nov. 8, 1906 at Greensburg, Indiana---"where the tree grows on the court house tower". This fact is known the world over---and people drive for miles to see this oddity. Later, when I was still an infant, moved to Rushville, Indiana. Here I attended grade school, and I recall very clearly running across Fantasy books---"pulp mags"---when I was a kid around 9 or 10, and I recall too throwing them in the bonfire because they contained "nothing" to interest me. Give me a kick in the breeches, fellows! If I just had them now I could be rich--\$ thrown away! Oh, well! What will be, will be---and it's sure been! Have been interested in printing and newspaper work since I was old enough to read. My first newspaper (amateur, that is) was published around 1917-18. I issued it by hand-printing in all in pen and ink. Many of these were sent to my older brothers who were serving in the 1st World War in France. I did a lot of drawing and cartoon work then---and these too went across the water---and I believe every French soldier had a sample of my art work hung up in his tent or in the dug-outs.

When I was about 14, I went to live with a married sister at Connersville, Indiana (where Dale Tarr, Pres. of NFFF, 1947-48 came from) and here I still exist, to pester all fan with sapzines, fapazines and n3fzines.

When I was in high school, I served three terms on the Clarion, semi-monthly newspaper, also served on the year-book, the Cohiscan. All during my high school years I worked on various local papers---selling advertising and writing sports news.

About seven years ago I heard of organized amateur journalism, and I fell into it waist high. For these seven years I have been and still am a member of the National Amateur Press Association; United Amateur Press Ass'n.; American Amateur Press Ass'n.; Commercial Amateur Press Ass'n.; United Amateur Press Alumni Ass'n.; United Amateur Press Ass'n of America. I have served many offices---and have no doubt published some 500 amateur journals and newspapers for these ass'n. About this same



time I became a member of the Lone Indian Fraternity. I started writing a column for their official mag and within six months I made editor and in less than two years became President---and for over six months served as Editor-Business Manager, Pres., and Vice-Pres.---till I was worn down to a nubbin and told them I'd remain only as editor, which I am.

About three years ago became member of NFFF and published my first zine FANMAG for the Philcon. Have issued two since, running about 25-30 pages each on the average. Became official editor of NFFF a short time after joining this group. I've served about 2½ years as editor, and two years as director.

Around two years ago joined up with FAPA and also SAPS, and have issued something like six-eight zines for each.

All this I do in my spare time, after work 10-12-14 hours per day--but this is not all---I have other hobbies including home movies. Have both 8mm and 16mm---also develop the movies. Tinker with stills---also slides. Oh well, busy little me!

I may never be the best, but I'll always be right there with the rest of us amateurs---I simply love it.

Joseph Charles Kennedy:

In August 1929, Joseph Charles Kennedy was dropped by a careless stork into the little industrial town of Dover, New Jersey, where he (Kennedy, not the stork) is yet. By an odd coincidence, shortly after he was born the stock market crashed. His mongrel ancestry is 50% Irish, 25% English, 25% German.

At the age of 12, he published sloppy little comic books on his Sears-Roebuck hektograph, which he vended for three cents apiece to suckers at his high school. He discovered stf early in 1943. The first pulp scientitale he read was "The Flame Breathers" by Cummings, in a Planet of the period, which made him feel like stout Cortez, silent upon a peak in Darien and all that. When Degler left fandom, Kennedy came in, thus balancing things neatly.

He scribbled letters to the prozines. When Thrilling Wonder printed one in August '43, he felt as important as God-Almighty-on-an-opium-binge. He scribbled more letters to the prozines. He started corresponding with people left and right. He joined Hank Elsner's old miniature NFFF, the Society for the Improvement of Science Fiction in America. (Later, all the members objected to the club's horrible name, so they changed it to Society for the Advancement of Science Fiction in America.)

Fandom absorbed him as quicksand might gobble up a struggling mule. He sent dimes away and got fanzines. He read Le Zombie, starting with the one with science-fiction stickers reproduced all over the cover, and Unger's Fantasy Fiction Field, back in the days when Dunk was mineoing it on yellow second sheets. He spawned 20 or so issues of QX THE CARD.

ZINE, a hand-lettered imitation of Renewscard. He published an issue of Terrifying Test Tube Tales. In January 1945 appeared the first Vampire, which ran nine issues during its two-and-a-half years life span. Local mailmen began calling him The Vamp. In 1946 and '47 he also knocked himself out publishing two fat annuals which attempted to review the whole fantasy field.

He lost his starry-eyed awe of rockets and rayguns. He attended a couple of world conventions. He helped organize The Spectators (the poor young fan's Futurian Society), and also SAPS.

He is currently a senior of Seton Hall College, South Orange, N.J. Eventually he plans to teach high-school English.

He likes to read modern American fiction, eat Chinese and Italian food, sleep, ogle females, publish fanzines, listen to jazz and symphonic music, and collect old rhinoceros skeletons.

Thyril L. Ladd:

Name: Thyril L. Ladd

Born in Batavia, New York, Nov. 21, 1902.

Education: Hamilton College, A. B. (1925)

Occupation: Employed by the State of New York: Department of Audit and control

Married; 3 children

Began collecting Fantasy and Weird Fiction in 1922, though had read it since about eleven years old. Am interested in all types of Fantasy, with special interest in stories involving Ancient Egypt or its influence: the "Lost Race" Theme, and tales of Atlantis. Collection is something in excess of one thousand volumes, not including magazine material. In magazines, I am especially fond of "Weird Tales" of which I have a nearly complete series. Also have FFM and FN complete, and regard them highly. Excerpt desired material from the other magazines, and retain it bound.

I am a Contributing Editor to "Fantasy Commentator" (published by Dr. A. Langley Searles) and have had a number of articles published in this magazine, as well as in certain other fantasy publications, such as "The Fanscient"---"Sky Hook"---etc. Am member of FAPA.

The collecting of Fantastic Literature, and especially the reading of it, has been my chief hobby for many years. I believe it presents an interest and a variety not found in other fields.

I am a personal friend of the author, Ray Cummings.

Francis Towner Laney:

Born at Denver, Colorado, March 11, 1914. Parents: Francis B. and Minnie T. Laney. No siblings. Resided: Berkeley, Calif. 1914-15;



Salt Lake City, Utah, 1915-20; Moscow, Idaho, 1920-35; Spokane, Washington, 1935-36; Lewiston, Idaho, 1936-39; Clarkston, Washington, 1939-43; Los Angeles (and environs), 1943-date. Attended public schools and high school, Moscow, Idaho; graduated University of Idaho (BS-Ed) 1936; business college, 1935-36.

Married February 14, 1948, Las Vegas, Nevada, to Cecile Barham. Two children (by a previous marriage): Sandra Rae (b. 4/8/40) and Sonya Lynn (b. 11/11/42).

Occupational interest: a reformed office worker who might be called a machinist of the back-yard variety. Rode the war boom into a machine shop in 1943, and have been there ever since.

Hobby interest: Chief avocation centers around that type of music known as jazz. Plays no instruments, but has a collection of somewhere around 1400-1500 records, and spends a deplorable amount of both time and money searching for more. Also spends a good deal of time listening to the good stuff in the flesh. Detests bop, and considers Kid Ory's Creole Jazz Band to be the best active jazz group of the present day, and Louis Armstrong's Hot Seven (circa 1927) the greatest jazz group of all time. Is also a great admirer of Bunk Johnson, Muggsy Spanier, Wingy Malone, and other exponents of that three-way style of playing which in various manifestations is called New Orleans, Chicago, or Dixieland. The Laney record collection is not limited to dixieland, but includes samples of nearly every type of jazz, and large quantities of blues (race) records, and the more conventional big band stuff such as Goodman, Ellington, Basie, et al. Strictly speaking, it is not a collection, but a group of records which gets played a great deal.

Second-favorite avocation is amateur journalism, chiefly in its phase of written self-expression. To further this interest, he has belonged to the Fantasy Amateur Press Association since 1943, and publishes through its mailings a very personalized amateur magazine, "Fan-Dango".

Other avocations include home workshop shenanigans (an avocation which grew into a means of livelihood), reading (particularly hard-boiled realistic novels, and factual stuff about seafaring and naval affairs), and on down through the usual gamut of spare-time interests and activities followed by the usual gamut of usual people.

All in all, one would scarcely say that Francis T. Laney is worth devoting a biographical sketch to.

Leonard J. Moffatt:

Born: Nov 20, 1923. Phoenix, Arizona.

Raised in western Pennsylvania. High School Graduate. Liked to read sf/fantasy long before he ever heard of the term or of fandom, etc., or that the stuff was pub'd in pulp mags. First promag, Amazing. First fanmag, Le Zombie.

Helped to organize and was director of Western Pennsy Sci-Fictioneers (under the Sci-Fictioneers dept. in pre-war Super Science. WPSF folded during the war. Edited 2nd ish of Dunmire's Stellar Tales (not to be confused with Space Tales...)).

Joined FAPA in 42...pub'd 3 hecto'd issues of Moonshine before draft board put him in Navy. Hospital Corps. Shanghaied into Marines as "Field Technician" (advanced first-aid man is what that means). Little or no fan activity while in service and overseas. Back to civvies by end of 1945 and moved from Pennsy to Calif. in Feb. 46. Attended Pacificon, revived Moonshine. Been a semi-active fan since.

Present occupation: wage slave in paperbox factory.

Member: NFFF, LASFS, Portland SFS, Cinvention Societu, FF subscriber, and the happygolucky fanclub, The Outlander Society.

Assistant editor of First Person Singular and---of course---one of the 8 co-publishers of The Outlander.

Supporter of the Activity Party in the NFFF.

Favorite stf mag: Astounding SCIENCE FICTION.

Favorite fantasy mags: FN and FFM.

Hobbies include stfanng, history, people, show biz and on into the night. For more info on the man Moffatt read Len's Den in Moonshine #15. (I hope it gets ditto'd OK.)

Single. Willing to marry if gal is smart as I am---which isn't asking much. Ambition: writing and traveling.

S'nuff.

Oh yes. My phone number is TOpaz 27642.

"SOUTH GATE IN '58!"

Arthur H. Rapp:

Born Chicago 29 Dec 24, which makes me about  $\frac{1}{2}$ -century old now. Despite a morbid preoccupation for climbing trees, roofs, and phonepoles, I survived to move to Saginaw, Mich., when I was about 12. Took a ~~com~~ social course in high school, although my consuming interest was journalism. Used to hang around the newsroom after school every afternoon, planning wild and awesome projects to brighten up the school paper, until the janitor threw us out. Finished high school in 1942. Immediately went to work for the U. S. Corps of Engineers as a stenographer. After a year, just when I was set to make some dough off the wartime boom, the draft board tagged me. This was in November, 1943.



Infantry, heavy-weapons battalion. Trained as a machine-gunner. Camp Wolters, Texas. After I absorbed all the technical points of this job, Hq Co grabbed me, put me behind a typer again. Merciful curtain drops over the next two years, from which I gained much skill in typing, but little else. Comes V-J day. In a moment of weakness I sign up for a year in the Regular Army. Comes a trip to Germany.

Secretary to the Commanding General, Third Infantry Division, Bad Wildungen, Germany. Third returns to the States, I get transferred to the U. S. Constabulary. Secretary to Maj. Gen. E. N. Harman, Constab's commander, at Bamberg, Germany.

Back to the States and a free man again, in early 1947. (Began reading stf in '42, but not until now did I become a fan.) Tried free-lance writing. No sale.

Entered college. Graduated from Bay City Junior College this spring. Will get the final two years someday. Still trying free-lance writing. Still no sale.

Started my own fanzine after having seen one. SPACEWARP, April 1947. Published monthly ever since. Met some of the other Michigan fan about that same time, organized the Michigan Science-Fantasy Society. Have been stuck with the secretary's job for two years now.

Published a one-shot, BEEBOOK, in the summer of '47. Published a couple of issues of THE MUTANT, MSFS official organ. Someone else doing that, thank Ghod.

Went to the Torcon. Pounced upon by a mob of SAPS. Publish TIMEWARP and WANIGAS in SAPS. Recruited for FAPA by constant SPACEWARP-reader-and-contribber Redd Boggs. Publish MINDWARP in FAPA. Publish THE MICHIFAN, a more-or-less bi-weekly bulletin for MSFS members and other Michigan fan.

Ran for Director of NFFF last year. Elected. Running for re-election. Should have my head examined. Launching POSTWARP, a monthly letterzine for NFFF members.

Published DARK WISDOM, a book of stories by William James. I sold you a copy at Cincy, remember?

Live alone in a big house full of books, mostly non-fantasy, and mags, mostly fantasy. Don't particularly like it, but at least I can pound a typer at 1:00 a.m. without outraged howls from a family.

Like screwballs. Hate people. Too damn many people in the world. Favorite pastime: watching as screwballs tangle with people.

When I get fed up with fandom I'll quit it. No danger yet. World's greatest collection of screwballs gathered together in fandom. More damn fun.

Milton A. Rothman:

Single; no children (known). Born, Philadelphia, Pa., 30 November, 1919. Schools: Central High School, Philadelphia, 1936-38. (B.A.) Philadelphia College of Pharmacy & Science, 1936-38. (Chemistry). George Washington University, 1940-41. (Chemistry). Oregon State College, 1943-44. (B.S., Electrical Engineering). University of Pennsylvania, 1946 to present. (M.S., Physics). U. S. Army, 1942-46. (Ordnance & Signal Corps).

Early reading: Oz books, Tom Swift, and Book of Knowledge (except French lessons).

First Magazine: March, 1929 Weird Tales. Bought Science Wonder Stories continuously beginning with March, 1931.

Began writing Letters to Editor in 1934. Formed Philadelphia Science Fiction League (later Society) in 1935. Member SPWSSTFM. Archbishop of Philadelphia for GnuGnu. Member Washington Worry-Warts. Member NFFF (expired). Member Hydra Club. Chairman of Philcon. Member FAPA. Member American Physical Society.

Publications: Science Fiction Debater, Milt's Mag, Plenum (all FAPA).

Fic ion published: Five (count them) stories all told in Astounding, Astonishing, and Adventures in Time and Space.

Non-fiction published: portion of "Atomic Physics for Engineers," by Ufford et al. (Mimeographed edition, September, 1948. Printed edition, October, 1949.)

Present occupation: research on gamma ray reactions for PhD thesis.

William Rotsler:

The physical 1949 me is 5'10" tall, weighs 195 pounds and has dark brown hair and eyes. I have several minor scars, sleep nude, attended high school, one year in Army, one in junior college, and am now in my third year at the Los Angeles County Art Institute.

I'm primarily of Irish extraction (3rd generation) with enough German and English to give the Teutonic name and certain characteristics. My father is a rancher---walnuts, citrus. We just finished a new California ranch house type home, swimming pool, own a couple trucks and tractors, Cad, couple de Sotos---one of which is mine. I have a sister in high school and one in college.

My all encompassing interest is art. Modern and/or contemporary art is my meat...Picasso and the boys. I breathe, eat, think, live art. Or would like to. As much as possible I do. I am unmarried and think I shall remain so for some time. Camarillo is my home town and I'm a native son, born 3 July 1926.

I like reading very, very much. In the fantasy field I like CASmith,



Chan Davis, van Vogt, de Camp, Hubbard, Ted Sturgeon, REHoward, Outside fantasy I like Philip Wylie, van Wyck Mason, John Hope Burns, Mailer, Shaw, Hemingway, Steinbeck, and others of "the modern novel."

Among fantasy artists I like Cartier, Norman Lindsay, Coyo and a few of Rogers' things. Burblings, Fandango, Sky Hook, Burbee, Lacey, Boggs, Manning, Tucker, Condra, and me are my favorite fanzines and fans; not to mention Wild Hair and Masque, the gaudy fanzine.

I've published NEOPHYTE, DISTURBING ELEMENT, WILD HAIR (co-ed) and others, but my first love is my FAPA mag, MASQUE, the gaudy fanzine.

My non-fan friends are mainly Fitzgerald, Syd Stibbard, Ed McCormick, Gene Coe, Marjorie Chambers and one or two others.

I like foreign movies, amateur publishing, needling people, sex, talking to my friends, books, drawing, sex, ceramics, Richard Flu (a teacher), Ast., hamburgers, and sculpture. I like to stay up late at The Keg talking to Group Eleven (our circle of intimate friends), music (Prokofieff, Stravinsky, Bernstein and Khachaturian, Ibert, Glenn Miller, the old Dorsey and Shaw, Ellington, Rose and "Long Ago") and the theater, dramatics and stage sets.

I like to drive fast and think I'm a good driver. I love Wild Hair sessions and especially talking (or rather listening) to Burbee. I like Barnaby and love Steve Canyon. I like ice cream and Thurber. Steinberg, Steig and Olivier. Ballet and Prince Valiant. I love silly stationery, Levi's, modern architecture, and KFAC. I hate stuffy, dull people and funerals. I dislike stupidity, slow and careful drivers (does this indicate anything do you think?) and politics.

The dream of a group of us (which we call Group Eleven because there aren't eleven of us) is to learn French and go to Paris. We've even started saving towards that day which is in April of 1951.

It would make me quite happy some day to do pictures for Astounding or some stf mag, to do Pell Melton for \$\$\$ and fun, and to read and watch the comic strip Syd Stibbard is working on. I wish to live a simple life---my friends, books, talk, movies, sex, no sports, no manual labor if I can help it and plenty, plenty of time to talk, read, draw, paint, have sex and sleep.

Richard Sneary:

First off, let's get something straight. My name is pronounced snäre---and does not rhyme with sneery. Sneary was once spelled Schneary, when it was a good German name, some four or five generations ago,

As for this member of the Sneary clan, I was born right here in South Gate, on July 6, 1927. Parents names are Wesley and Flora Sneary, who were born in Mo. and Kan.

I came into this world a little short of parts, in that my left arm

is missing a number of bones, and there is a kink somewhere in my spine. To add to these little blessings, when I was two I showed the first signs of asthma, which I still have in a non-lessing degree. This weakness of physique, rather than intellect made attending school impossible. I tried, but I averaged about two out of five days at home with colds.

The only answer was home teachers. After I was eight, the city sent out home teachers who, though they came but once a week, tried bravely to impart a few crumbs of wisdom into my thick, and not overly interested head.

Two years ago I became overage for home schools. So was shoved out after only finishing the tenth grade. While I missed two years of school while on the desert, the thing that held me back was the fact that home teachers are only allowed to give two high school subjects instead of four, so it takes eight years to get through, if you live that long. I didn't.

As for Hank's other questions, I got no job, for the same as above. No girl, as I've never been able to talk to them on anything but a pluv tonic ((sic)) level. ---As for fanzines, well there are the long gone Fanzine Readers Review and G-G. I've had a SAPS zine named Arcturus, and FAPA zine that was to be MI SCRIBAS but never got far. I was co-editor of MORPHEUS, and now 1/3 editor of Moonshine.

I have been reading and active in fandom since the spring of 1944, the first story being "Trophy" in TWS. Due to my lack of outside friends and interests, and vast amount of time, I have devoted most of my time to fandom in the past few years. Been something of a letter-hack up to the first of the year, and have done a little fan writing, but not anything much. I have joined most clubs, and helped to start Young Fandom and The Outlander Society. I have been a member of the NFFF Board of Directors two years; Advisor and Sec-Treas of Young Fandom; and President of FAPA.

My ambitions are to become President of the NFFF, hold the 1958 Convention in South Gate, and to serve my fanish Ghod, FooFoo; my leader, Ackerman; my matters, the Hersheys.

John Bristol Spear:

Aka Jack F Spear, Juffus, John A Bristol. Born 9 Aug 20 Comanche Okla, a middle of four siblings, lawyer father. In Washington 1938-44; Algiers 1944-45; Seattle 1945-49; now North Bend Wn. AB Geo Wn U, LI B U of Wn. Formerly Government worker, now lawyer. Single. Outside interests include politics, philosophy, photography, philosophy, geography. First read s-f 1927, entered fandom 1934. Attended four world s-f conventions, and visited extensively. Special interests in the microcosm: Scientificomics, sociological s-f, stefnic strife, deep discussions. Published no subzines. Various convention publications; Stefnews; and FAPA pubs, of which the chief are Sustaining Program-Matters of Opinion/Synapse, and Full Length Articles. Some articles etc and many letters in others' magazines. Compiled Fencyclopedia. Introduced polls. his-



tory, individzines, decimal classification, ktp. Orgs of consequence: SFL, Okla Stf A, SFA, FAPA, NF, NFFft, PorSPanS. Vicepresident, president and OE of FAPA, and OE of NFFF in 1945. Peaks of activity mid-1938 and late 1945. Became inactive 1948, due to increase of other interests.

David John Thomas:

Born Arlington, Mass. on May 5, 1930. Moved to Cambridge a few months later and have resided there, with brief intermissions, ever since. Attended Walker School, Cambridge Lower School, Russell School, Peabody School, Cambridge Academy, and Harvard College, the last of which institutions I am currently half way through. Read scattered science-fiction from 1938 on; ran across the Pocket Book of STF in 1943 and was a votee. Collection strong on ASF, 1940-49; FFM and FN all the way; weak on most other stuff, as are my tastes. Interest currently declining. Joined FAPA year before last at Henry Spelman's urging. Joined VAPA last year, thrown out for lack of activity. Joined NFFF three years ago, didn't renew last time it came around. Joined Stranger Club two years ago and am in the process of leaving. Marital status still in the wish-fulfillment stage. Published KLUGG, two issues (one for FAPA credentials, the other to avoid the category of "fanzine publisher for one issue"). Fiction published---under various pseudonyms---in all major stf and non-stf books and magazines. Ambition: to resign from fandom, simultaneously exposing the Cambridge clique for what it is. But what is it?

Oswald Train:

I was born, as is the custom, on a fine June day (the eighth, to be exact) back in 1915. There was a war going on at the time, and I howled my disapproval of the whole thing. And I howled and howled--they say that I was the howlingest kid on record. The blessed event took place in the small town of Haswell, County Durham, England. I was as bratty as the rest of them over there, till I was eight years old, at which time the family came over to the United States. I continued being a brat until I got the hang of American ways and customs. We lived for years in a small town in Western Pennsylvania, Barnesboro (know where it is, Albert Toth? I know where Portage is.) where I went to school, graduated from high school without honors. I discovered my first science fiction magazines in the fall of 1929, some Amazing Stories monthlies for the early part of that year, and the second quarterly. I still consider one of the first stories I read, The Second Swarm by J. Schlossel to be one of the most colossal things that has appeared in any stf magazine. I was fourteen at the time, and became an addict from that time on. I had been reading Burroughs and Verne since I was nine, but I didn't really become a fan till I discovered those magazines.

After I graduated from high school, I loafed around for a good many months. Anyone who lives in a small town knows that you have to wait till someone dies before you can get a job, and then there are sixty more applying for it before the gut is cold. Of course, if your father owns a business or is a foreman, you don't have that trouble.

My father had no business, nor was he a boss. Eventually, I got my first real job. I became a coal miner, which I remained for nearly a year, then got fed up with it and came to Philadelphia where I have been ever since. Worked in restaurants and clubs for several years, then got a job in a cabinet maker's shop, where I learned hardwood finishing which trade I still follow.

I corresponded with Milton Rothman for a couple of months before I came to Philadelphia, and when I finally arrived here joined the PSFS almost immediately, on the same night that Madle and Baltadonis first joined. The club had been formed earlier in the year, but was dormant after one or two meetings. We gave it a shot in the arm, and we had a great deal of fun in those days. We never did have a big club then---ten members at a meeting was a crowd---but we were plenty active. Look back in the files of your fanzines for the late thirties and you'll see that we were heard from plenty. Came the war, and the other fellows all went into the service. I was rejected and stayed behind, and kept the club going by correspondence and issued the PSFS News. In the meantime, another club was formed by a group of new fans, the Philadelphia Futurians, and after I got in touch with them, they all became members of the PSFS---with the exception of one person who was kicked out of the Futurian club before the merger. The result was that we had a strong club going when the war was over and the rest of the boys came home. Strong enough to put on a big Philadelphia Conference in 1946 and make a bid for the big convention for the following year---the Philcon of 1947 which was a huge success.

Early in 1946 I met James A. Williams for the first time. We didn't know it then, but it lead eventually to a big change in the lives of both of us. We formed the Prime Press later that year, with Alfred C. Prime and Armand E. Waldo (Bud, he prefers) as the other two partners. After about a year, Waldo and Prime had to drop out of the partnership, and Jim and I have been carrying on alone ever since. Plenty of headaches, plenty of worries, plenty of bills, and plenty of hard work. But it is worth it all. It gives one a great deal of satisfaction after months of negotiations, planning and work to finally hold the finished book and admire it. There is no thrill to compare to it, but I wouldn't advise anyone to go ahead and publish a book or books unless they know exactly what they are doing and have plenty of the folding stuff to help out.

Since the fall of 1929, when I got those first magazines I mentioned earlier, I have been a collector. I have complete files of most of the magazines, and have a huge collection of books which numbers something like 2300 volumes of science fiction and fantasy. I am proud of my library, but the one thing that I prize most is my separate collection of H. Rider Haggard. I believe that I have a collection of Haggard second to none in this country, consisting of many inscribed first editions, rare special editions, letters, and even a couple of manuscripts.

I am not married, in case anyone wants to know. That's how I get away with having so many books, I guess. Hobbies are collecting books, Prime Press, and bookbinding.



## Stanley Woolston:

I left my private universe on July 16, 1920, and set about making acquaintance with a curious world of inconsistencies that I learned was called mundane. It was in Owensville, Indiana that I was born. The family traveled around a bit, and then a doctor broke both ankles and stuck them in a plaster cast for six months or thereabouts; after that I was ready to walk. This was my first big break.

For twelve years we lived in Illinois, next to the sedimentary Wabash. Then in a restless period we moved successively to Seattle, Los Angeles, and other less known places, finally ending up in Orange County. A colorful other-worldish picture of dinosaurs attacking a spaceship, on the cover of a 1934 Wonder Stories enticed me into the realm of science fiction.

After two and a half years at Santa Ana Junior College I did a bit of press agenting and ended up as a job printer. A short time ago I bought a press and a small selection of type with the intention of putting out a printed fanzine, as well as fanbooklets. So far one issue of First Person Singular has appeared.

Attendance at Outlander meets and work on The OUTLANDER magazine has kept me hopping lately. I've printed the covers, and the other members mimeographed the interior. Other amateur journalistic experiences include co-editorship of Moonshine, The Magazine with a Glow, with Len J. Moffatt and Rick Sneary.

Hobbies include stamp collecting, cryptography, prestidigitation, and the joint collecting-reading of books and magazines. I'm unwed, unbratted. Fantasy Foundation and NSF get my support and pushing when I get the chance. FAPA and the Outlander meetings and round robin rank about equally in enjoyment. (Len, Rick, and Con add their conversational relish to the meetings, in a personal way.)

## Clifton Bennett:

31. Married. Pub "Catalyst." Last half dozen occupations: commercial artist, ranch hand, ditch digger, private secretary, warehouse carpenter, printer. Hobbies: Leather tooling, amateur publishing, water colors. Favorite fantasy books are unorthodox, HENless: "Crock of Gold", "Return of the Hero", "Jurgen", "Heavenly Discourse." Does not write letters to magazines or individuals. Occasionally bats out a postcard. Address at time of writing this: 2106 - 19 St., San Francisco, Calif.

## Henry Munson Spelman IIIF

The poor fool who decided to put out this compedium of the luminaries of fandom was born in Boston Mass. on 26 September 1926. He can't find out the hour and minute, so will never know what the future holds in store for him until it happens. He grieves. Moved at the age of a few days to the home of his parents in Cambridge. Has lived there ever

since, with the exception of a brief hitch in the USNR.

Graduated high school with honors in 1943; entered Harvard. After a brief term there, left to enlist in the Navy. Served two years, less a few days. He emerged in July 1946, an Electronic Technician's Mate, second class. Real high grade stuff. Returned to college, made the mistake of graduating (AB, Physics, 1948 as of 1947). Has worked since then, first as an accounting clerk, now as a file clerk. Bah. Is looking for something better, in the line of anything leading to the rank of Capitalist in the next few centuries.

Exposed to the normal pre-fan influences of Tom Swift, Oz, Verne, Dr. Doolittle. Liked them. Then, while an innocent little Boy Scout was foully besmirched with the first baleful taint of stf. One Harry Stubbs (alias Hal Clement) was in the habit of telling tall tales. Now he knows that Harry was retelling such things as the Lensman series, the Legion of Space etc., and, most important of all, Who Goes There? Finally the poor young innocent was formally introduced to ASF. That was the beginning of the end. Collector from the first. Then, in the summer of 1944 one Don Bratton took over. Spelman was sprawled in his bunk devouring (at Great Lakes Naval Training Station) the latest ASF "You like that magazine?" Enough said. When Don and Harry were en route from Great Lakes to Del Monte, Cal. they share a section in a Pullman. The former had about 8½" of fanzines with him. Hooked. Rest is routine. Visit to LA. Hour in the LASPS clubroom. Met 4E, Daugherty, others. Bought and read Fancyclopedia. Published first fanzine in early 1946 by remote control from Midway. I think that SPARX 1 is the only fanzine ever published thusly.

Rest of his fan history is obvious and normal. NFFF, fanzine subs, fanzine, local club (Stranger Club), Philcon, FAPA, SAPS, Cinvention. Is currently OE (Dictator) of SAPS, VP of FAPA.

Single, lives at home. Recently acquired the legal right to operate a motor vehicle, solo. Previously was limited to the bicycle. Is somewhat of a dilettante with a camera. Has more equipment than he can ever use, but he has fun trying. Also plays with the running of a Scout Troop. For revenge. Is converting the little innocents. Even got them to buy a mimeo machine for him to use for fanzines.

Publications include nine issues of SPARX, several of THREE EYE, one CHRONICLER, one COUNTER-PROCLAMATION, a number of NANLEPS, one YRNEH, three THE SPECTATOR (OO of SAPS) one SPARKETTE.

Fanish ambition just about played out with the production of this epic fanzine, which he hopes will see the light of day in the 49th mailing. Will probably be with us for quite a while longer.

Rock-ribbed Republican Reactionary who believes that a little socialism is like a little pregnancy.

Ambition in life is to make enough money to have a complete collection of fantasia.