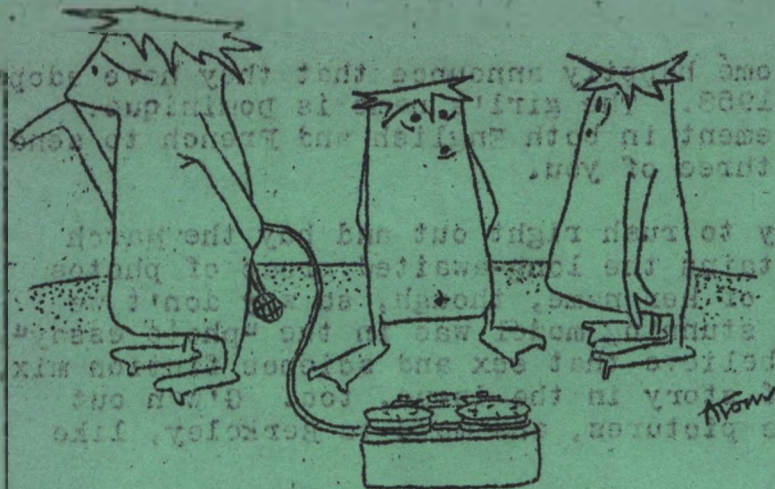


January 18, 1959

FANAC

#32

FANAC is a news and commentary zine, published every other week by Terry Carr and Ron Ellick, Apt. #7, 2144 Virginia Street, Berkeley 4, Calif. Four for 25¢, nine for 50¢, or four for two shillings sterling from Archie Mercer, 434/4 Newark Rd., North Hykeham, Lincoln, England. News and comments are always welcome. Our heading this issue is by Atom, a welcome addition to our staff.



"I asked him to say a few profound words on the WSFS and he's been like that for three days."

NEW YEAR, SAME NEWS

A few days after New Years, the body of Bill Courval was found in his 1949 Hudson, which was parked by the side of the road. He had died of apparently self-inflicted bullet wounds. He had been returning to Army base after the holidays.

We have this story from Dave Rike, who received a phone-call from Courval's mother. Dave says Courval had found Army life too much for him, apparently. He had volunteered for the draft and had said he was looking forward to being in the Army. After eight days of boot camp he had said he couldn't stand it. After sixteen days of it he got leave for the holidays, and never returned to camp.

Bill was the editor of the fanzine MANA a couple of years ago, and had been inactive in fandom recently.

Ted White, upon hearing the news, said, "Apparently this seige of death has not stopped with the new year, and this bothers me. I had rather superstitiously hoped--even assumed--that when the calendar year of 1958 was gone, this sort of thing would cease." I'd had much the same feelings, myself.

Ron Ellick found it difficult to understand Bill's taking his own life. "Bill never seemed bothered by anything," Ron said. "He was one-fourth Indian, you know, and we always called him the Cigar-Store Indian, because he was always so impassive."

Bill had been a guest at my home in San Francisco. My mother, hearing the news and Ron's comment, said, "Sometimes the guy who seems calmest is the one who is most bothered, inside."

I knew Bill Courval, and I liked him. I don't know what to say.

WE HAVE BETTER NEWS, though. There's been a rumor going around that Hannes Bok died recently. We checked it with Dick Ellington, who air-mailed back that the rumor was untrue. "Was silly rumor started by silly fan at silly meeting," he says. "Typical New Yorkish ha-ha. So ha-ha, I suppose."

Toronto fan Gerald Steward had a near brush with death recently, too. He was working on his car in his garage, and forgot to open the door for ventilation. He almost died from carbon monoxide poisoning. Five more minutes, he says, and he would have been listed as a suicide case, since no one would think him capable of such an oversight as to forget the ventilation.

PIERRE VERSINS and Martine Thomé happily announce that they have adopted a baby girl, born Jan 26, 1958. The girl's name is Dominique. They've mimeographed up an announcement in both English and French to send out. Congratulations to the three of you.

TRINA CASTILLO wants everybody to rush right out and buy the March 1959 issue of DUDE, which contains the long-awaited group of photos of Trina. There's no mention of her name, though, so why don't we all write in and ask who that stunning model was in the "photo essay". And for you people who don't believe that sex and science fiction mix, there's an Arthur C. Clark sf story in the issue, too. G'wan out and buy the issue, look at the pictures, and move to Berkeley, like everybody else is doing.

FOR EXAMPLE, Tom Condit has set up residence in the area, and Dan Curran is on his way--he's going at a leisurely pace by way of New Orleans, and doesn't expect to get here till Spring or even Summer. Next month--February--will see the arrival in Berkeley of Bill Donaho, Chuck Freudenthal, and Phyllis Scott. Seems like all of New York fandom is moving here. We're happy. And we promise: no lawsuits.

TRIODE #15 arrived recently, from Eric Bentcliffe (47, Alldis St., Great Moor, Stockport, Cheshire, England) and Terry Jeeves (58, Shar-rard Grove, Intake, Sheffield 12, Yorkshire, England). This is a very nicely laid-out fanzine, with some striking artwork by Eddie Jones. Material consists of editorials by both Bentcliffe and Jeeves (who tells the story of his life), a piece called "The Man Who Sold The Goon" by Archie Mercer, a lettercolumn, a piece of veddy veddy British slapstick melodrama which went over my head, and one of Mal Ashworth's dependably fine humorous articles. A nice fanzine.

HARRY WARNER sends along the saddening news that his Doubledouble-toilandtrouble Mimeograph is sick, sick, sick. "It broke down before it was fairly started on the Fall issue of HORIZONS," he says, "and I have grave doubts that I can nurse it back to health in time for the Winter edition. There has always been a psychic bond between that machine and me, and I gravely doubt that I'm long for fandom, if the old inkslinger has wrinkled its last stencil." Good grief, if Warner has to start using a different mimeo, that'll be a greater change on the face of fandom than when Bob Tucker moved from Box 260!

GROUND ZERO #3 is now out, available for 15¢ from Belle and Frank Dietz and George Nims Raybin at 1721 Grand Ave., Bronx 53, New York. This issue is mostly concerned with Solacon coverage, and features Ted Johnstone's admirably concise and witty report on the program of the con. There's also a brief resume of the WSFS situation, concluding that the organization is obviously unwanted and may as well lie dormant and unused, since disincorporation procedures, under the circumstances, would be quite involved and troublesome. Belle reviews "The Space-Child's Mother Goose" quite adequately, there's an "In Memoriam" for E. Everett Evans, and Inchmerry Fandom contributes a page of British news, including the fact that the BSFA is undergoing difficulties due to the gaffiation of its President, Dave Newman, and the resignation of Ted Tubb as editor of the club's fanzine.

This is a much better issue than previous ones have been, and leads me to wonder if perhaps we haven't been a bit premature in judging these people. After all, they haven't been really active in fandom until recently, and neofans--even neofans who are officers of the WSFS Inc.--deserve a little patience until they can get acclimated to fandom and understand it.

NORTH AMERICAN INDEX to Science Fiction Magazines, 1951-1957 is now completed and will be published sometime this Spring by Don Day, Box 5007, Portland 13, Oregon. It's indexed by author and title, with a checklist of the magazines covered. No British magazines are covered. It's interesting to note that this volume, covering seven years, is about as thick as Day's preceding volume covering science fiction mags from 1926 to 1950. Price on this new volume is \$6.50 pre-publication, \$8.50 thereafter.

PSYCHOTIC #25 is out from Dick Geis (Apt. 7, 19 Wave Crest Ave., Venice, Calif.), but I don't recommend that you dash out to get it. You see, this isn't a revival of Geis' famous fanzine of a few years ago, but just an open-letter type thing with the same name. In it, Geis says he's sick of the way fans keep writing silly fannish stuff when the world is falling apart around them, and explains that what he's doing is writing pornography because he just loves it and can't get enough of it. No comment, except Bah.

A REMINDER: In the last issue of FANAC we distributed a fan poll for you fine people to fill out and return. Please do so. Do it now, while you think of it!

CHRISTMAS CARDS poured into 2315 Dwight Way here, and we thank each and every one of you fine people. Thanks especially to Walt Willis for his annual Peace on Sol III, Goodwill to Mellow Fen card (Ejo read it aloud to LASFS, Walt, amid chuckles), to Archie Mercer for his Mercatorial Annual, and to Lou and Cynthia Goldstone for their card, which consisted of a linoleum-block figure of Santa Claus, shouting "HUMBUG!"

OLON F. WIGGINS GAFIATES!: Yes, it's true. You may not have known (well, we didn't) that he's remained active in the Colorado Fantasy Society (in Denver) all these years, but he has. Until last July, anyhow. At that time he left his wife and family, moved three blocks down the street, and set up housekeeping with a mistress. His wife is trying to sue him for support, a bookseller in England wants to sue him for unpaid bills, and he owes something like \$500 to various fans.

THE NEW REPUBLIC Magazine recently held an essay contest, reports Will J. Jenkins. Ten prizes of \$100.00 each were given for the best five on any aspect of literature, and five on the popular media of television and radio. One of the winners is Thomas E. Purdom, Philadelphia science fiction author and PSFS member. Tom's essay is titled, "In Defense of Science Fiction." He doesn't know yet if they will print his essay--they do plan to print some of them.

Will also mentions that he and Purdom were interviewed on a late nighttime radio show. They spent about an hour plugging stf and the PSFS in particular.

FANZINES: Jim Caughran, who leaves a string of one-shots behind him wherever he travels, produced one in Portland with Lars Bourne on his recent trip Northward. Titled ROAD BASH, it contains some nice humor, particularly by Jim. (unpaid advt.)

QUIXOTIC is Don Durward's new fanzine. This first issue features Don's editorial, a poor humor story by Guy Terwilleger, a Ted Johnstone story that's so old it sheds gray hairs on the page, and fanzine reviews by Bob Lichtman. Not very good, but I expect much better in the future. (6033 Garth Ave., Los Angeles 56, Calif.--10¢ per.)

NOTE FANAC'S NEW ADDRESS.

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FANAC ANNISH 24 FEBRUARY: Next month will mark one year of publishing for Room 104, and we're planning an impressive publication. It will go at no extra cost to subscribers, and as per usual to trades, letter-writers, and reviewers. We would like to include the results of last issue's Poll in the Annish, however, which necessitates upping the final return date. Therefore: No Poll-sheets returned after Midnight, Saturday, 21 February, 1959, will be counted. Suggestions as to other material we might include in the Annish are welcome. NOTE NEW ADDRESS.

THE FANARCON was held over Christmas vacation, reports Dick Eney. Eney himself was the fan from farthest away, but other conferees included Bill Donaho, Dan Curran (who are coming to the West Coast), Pat & Dick Ellington, Larry Shaw, Lin Carter, Sylvia & Ted White, and Martha Cohen. Total attendance at the Nunnery for this event was over 50. "Like wow, man," says Eney.

SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES #40 (ed: Djinn Faine, c/o LASFS, 2548 W 12th St, Los Angeles 6, California). This is the second issue of the L.A. Sci-Fantasy Socy's Official Organ to appear within two months, which heralds a frightening burst of activity from the southland since there were only three or four issues in the five preceding years. Editress Faine must needs print everything she receives--even in the letter section, for crying out loud--but she presents a 38-page fanzine with some excellent material inside. There's a two-color cover by Bjo, a Bloch reprint from New Purposes, a masterfully misspelled article by Sneary, and a report of Forry Ackerman's birthday party by three people. The Club has a Gestetnor 120 now, and when they learn to cut a decent stencil will doubtless be turning out mimeography to equal that of Grennell or those crazy Canadian fans. 20¢ per, 6/\$1.00.

FANZINES--PILES OF 'EM: Fijagh #2 (Dick Ellington, POBox 104, Cooper Stn, NYC 3 NY) contains laughable material and worthwhile reading for the most part; sent to friends and OMPA. VARIOSO #18 (John Magnus, 2712 No Charles St, Baltimore 18, Md) signifies renewed publishing interest on Magnus' part, but that is as sporadic as he is, so don't count on it; sent largely to FAPA and a wealthy crew of fans with a quarter to spend for each issue. This issue largely about Andy Young. UNEVEN (Goojie Pubetn #3, from Miriam Dyches, see mailing page for address); excellently mimeographed fanzine containing better-than-average material; available 15¢ per, 2/25¢. S F PARADE #8 (Len Moffatt, 10202 Belcher St, Downey, Calif). This issue contains a rundown on the Solacon and the information that future issues of PARADE will be edited by Stan Woolston, 12832 Westlake Ave, Garden Grove, California.

V. PAUL NOWELL has returned. See mailing page for his address--he wants to get in touch with people he knew last time he was a fan, and to hear from anybody interested or interesting. ##Don Allen (34a Cumberland St, Gateshead, Co. Durham, England) announces that his family has a new Grundig taper, playing 3.75 ips tapes and that he welcomes tape exchanges. ##Dave Rike (2431 Dwight Way, Berkeley 4, Cal) is starting RUR again. The New RUR will be larger and will appear approximately monthly, containing reviews and comments; it will probably not be circulated with FANAC due to its size, so write Dave if you want copies. ##Marion Z. Bradley (Box 246, Rochester, Texas) is working on a new fanzine called (tentatively) MICROCOSM, to consist of fanzine reviews. ##Art and Trina Castillo totalled their car going to Forry Ackerman's birthday party last November--but they weren't at fault, so somebody else's insurance bought them a new Hillman Minx. Shortly after New Year's, they drove the Hillman Minx into the side of a deer, which effectively took care of both deer and Minx. "A wonder he didn't step over us," says the undamaged but slightly annoyed Trina.

DETROIT SPEAKS: Ad copy deadline for the 2nd Progress Report of the 17th World SF Convention is 1 Feb. 1959. You have damned little time--write to Roger Sims, 16880 Fairfield, Detroit 21, Michigan, for this issue of the ProgRep only. Persons writing for copies of this report will get the first issue free, says Howard DeVore.

GOING TO DETROIT? If you need a ride from the West Coast or points between, write to Bjo, 2548 W 12th St, LA 6, Calif, for information about Los Angeles' Motorcade.

_____ Write

_____ Sub expires within two issues

THEO. R. COGSWELL (Dept. of English, Ball State Teachers' College, Muncie, Indiana) wants somebody to help him find foreign repints of his stories; just title of magazine, country and publishing date would help—but he would also like to find somebody who could sell him the magazines.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

Everybody will please note that FANAC's address is changed as of 31 January 1959. Addresses for Berkeley fen on this page are to be considered permanent until June 1959, and possibly thereafter.

Vincent P. Nowell
Hq Sq Sec AFMDC, Box 361
Holloman AFB, New Mexico

A/3c Norman C. Matcalf
AF 19 606 033
Box 033, 3419th Sturon
Lowry AFB, Colorado

Ray Capella
395 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn 38, New York

Cato Lindberg, W.-opr.
SS "Mataura", c/o Boyd, Weir, Inc.
24 State Street
New York 4, New York

Wm C. McCain, c/o LtCol McCain 36600A
6000th Installations Squadron
APO 925, San Francisco, Calif.

FANAC, From
Terry Carr & Ron Ellik
Apt.#7, 2444 Virginia Street
Berkeley 4, California

PRINTED MATTER ONLY
RETURN POSTAGE GNTD

NOTE NEW RETURN ADDRESS

Mr & Mrs Terry G. Carr (as of 31 Jan)
3320 A 21st Street
San Francisco 10, California

Private Noocey Alex Bratmon
RA 19 63 28 55
Co "B", 10th Battle Group
3rd Brigade, Fort Ord, California

Sandy Cutrell home: Apt 4
POBox 971 41 SW Sheridan St.
Portland 7, Oregon

STOP DUPER: Danny Curran, New Yorkian,
is to arrive at Oakland Municipal
Airport 1:30 am Wed 21 January 1959.
More information next issue.

Steve Tolliver MIMSY, c/o Bjo
909 S. Madison 2548 West 12th St.
Pasadena, Calif. Los Angeles 6, Cal.

A/3c Larry D. Windham, AF 19617171
5th Platoon, Co"B", ALS
Presidio of Monterey, California

Jack Hanness

NOTE FANAC'S NEW RETURN ADDRESS