

21st April, 1959

FANAC #37

A news and chit terchatter fanzine published every other week by Terry Carr and Ron Ellick, Apt. 7, 2444 Virginia St, Berkeley 4, Calif. Subs go at 4 for a quarter, 9 for 50¢, or 4 for two shillings fm Archie Mercer, 434 1/4 Newark Rd, N Hykeham, Linc., England. Heading cartoon this issue is not by William Rotsler. News and comment gratefully received.

FIRST BSFA CON REPORT
by Ron Bennett

The first national sf convention to take place under the auspices of the British Science Fiction Association was held at the Imperial Hotel, Birmingham, over Easter weekend: 27th-30th Apr., 1959. This was the first full scale national con to be held for three years, and with over fifty attendees was

a success both financially and socially. Items on the programme included a science fiction twenty question panel game, a tea drinking contest, a fancy dress party, and a talk by Dr Arthur R Weir who put forward the theory that the lost city of Atlantis was situated in the Mediterranean regions. There were also several different competitions involving book and magazine covers and the usual raffles and auctions, both for the Convention treasury and for the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund.

The BSFA Committee for 1959/60 was elected as follows: Secretary, Doc Weir; Publications Officer, Bobbio Wild; Assistant Pubetns Officer, Sandra Hall; Treasurer, Archie Mercer (incumbent); and Ken Slater was offered the chair. Harrogate was the only site mentioned in connection with the 1960 Nat'l Con. Astounding was voted best US professional magazine of the year; New Worlds the best British pro mag, and Triode the best British fanzine.

First place in Art was won by Eddie Jones, with Terry Jooes gaining a Highly Commended second. Eric Jones won Ken Slater's cover competition and Peter Davis took the tea drinking award by consuming ten cups in half an hour. Most Original Fancy Dress was worn by Sandra Hall who also organised a play presented by London Circelites present.

--rmb.

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME MAGAZINE of the first BSFA con available from Norman Shorrock (2 Arndt Way, Hr. Bobington, Wirral, Cheshire, Eng). This is not strictly for sale, but I think for a small consideration Shorrock might part with copies. Highly readable program booklet.

--rdo.

WHAT DO WE DO FOR AN ENCORE? "Amazing!" says Bob Tucker. "The Fannish, I mean. I'm gonna quote it in the next Neo-Fan's Guide. Thank you." Bob Pavlat says, "I'm satisfied with the Fannish as is--more than satisfied. With a lot more work it could be made into a real yearbook of fandom. I imagine you thought of (this and other possibilities) and discarded them as too much work. I'd like to see someone do it, but I doubt anyone ever will." Gregg Calkins says, "By all means do it again next year and in much the same, lengthy way. After all, what do you do with your time when you're not cutting stencils? Nothing important, I'm sure." John Trimble and Bjo complained that the "rules" weren't explained before the compilation, and that the wording of the written parts was not well done. Many people have written saying they would like to see a "Fugghoad of the Year" award given next poll.

HUMAN INTEREST DEPT: Fran Light, who is a directress of the N3F, says that Barbi Johnson is her discovery. A rootboery cheer to Fran-- Barbi is an artist we'd like to see in more fanzines. Does she do sub-tle cartoons for rumor-mongering newszines? #/Larry Sokol is leaving Omaha, so don't write to him there. As of 6 July 1959, he will be Private Lawrence Sokol, of the U.S. Marine Corps. He will undergo basic training at M.C. Recruit Depot in San Diego, same as I did two years ago (only he'll be a better Marine, I hope) and his military address will appear in FANAC as soon as possible. #/Bob Lichtman says people ought not to call serious s-f "prowriting." They should call it "procreation," he says. He also claims that Arv Underman does too exist. We remain, as ever dubious. Torry says he believes in Underman; he always had a childlike faith about him.

HOCUS #6 (Mike Deckinger, 85 Locust Av, Millburn, NJersey). As usual, I loafed through this fanzine looking for egoboo before I read it as a unit. I found some, in a review of F33: "You won't find any fiction here, but the contents more than make up for it," says Deckinger.

APORRHETA #8 (Clarkes & Sanderson, "Inchmory," 236 Queen's Rd, New Cross, London SE 14, Eng; 1/- or 15¢ per copy, a letteracomment, or for trade with other fmz). #8 has been here for some time now--it missed the last issue of FANAC because that'n was produced in LA. APE is perhaps the most outstanding fanzine of the latter parts of 1958, and is holding its own better than well this year. In line with our "Let's be fair about this" policy, we recommend that you write for a sample copy of APE, and read it well. It's some of the best (if also the most one-sided) writing in current fandom.

CRY OF THE NAMELESS #126 and YANDRO #74 are here. CRY is getting better as usual; YANDRO, while it presents a rather poor issue, has more art by B. Johnson. Neither fanzine wants more circulation, so we refrain from printing addresses.

VANISHING FANS: Jim Broschart is a classical scholar at St. John's College. Jim F. Cooper, Jr., is a Scoutmaster in Roanoke, Virginia. Alex Kirs writes that he is living at 5359 W 99th Place, Los Angeles 45, California, and what's all this about him being lost? His phone is ORchard 3-4197.

CONTEST * CONTEST * CONTEST. Andy Young wants to help out the Berry Fund, so he is willing to auction off his upper left wisdom tooth (genuine ivory) through the pages of FANAC. Bidders are to write to us. The winner will be notified in writing by us, and told to send his money to Nick Falasca, 5612 Warwick Dr, Parma 29, OHIO, who is taking care of the Bring Berry to Detroit Fund. Do I hear one dollar? (Tooth is genuine, and slightly used, says Young).

A BAS #11 (Boyd Raeburn, 9 Glenvalley Dr, Toronto 15, Ont, Canada; 25¢ per issue.) I hesitate to comment enthusiastically about A BAS for fear it will be taken as a retreat within my quivering shell of fannish non compos scribos. I recommend to you the sections of Boyd's Solacon report which deal with his tour of San Francisco, and Loman's and Willis' sections, dealing with patriotism and subtle innuendo, respectively.

CORRECTION: Archie Mercer points out that while I was stencilling his article on Anglofandom for the FANNISH, I inserted that Ella Parker was editing Orion in Sherrock's place. Fact is, Encever used to edit Orion, and Ella has taken it over from him. Sherrock is part of the Space Diversions crew, and still going. ##Mercer also says FANAC funds mount up to one pound, seven shillings and two pence, or approximately \$3.80.

GIBSON FANDOM (a subdivision of fabulous Berkeley fandom) has done three things recently which are printworthy. They have moved (see the Change of Address section), they have bought a FIAT 500, and Roberta is taking judo lessons (so she can break the arms of fans who laugh at their car). From time to time Joe claims that FANAC doesn't report the Berkeley Scene authentically, and that he will, someday, write an article explaining it to people. We wait.

--rde

VOID #15 got here awhile ago, and we hear #16 is in the mails already, so there's little point in giving a long review to this issue. It contains the first half of a longish fannish story by Kent Hoomaw (good), an acid three-page critique of TWIG, and the Prologue to my Brandonized version of the Canterbury Tales. Also letters. This fmz is designed as an ideal fannish monthly, and may develop into just that. Ted White is publisher, but he's moving to New York, so try co-editor Greg Benford, whose address (10521 Allegheny Dr., Dallas, Texas) is more stable at the moment.

THE LONDON CIRCLE, reports Joy Clarke, is undergoing a renaissance. A recent reorganization meeting had 43 members in attendance. Officers were elected: Ted Tubb, Chairman; Sandra Hall, Secretary; Charlie Duncombe, Treasurer; Pete Taylor, Publicity Officer; and Ron Bulmor, Vin Clarke and Ella Parker as committee members with no special status. A news sheet will eventually be put out, and discussions are being held on the possibility of getting a clubroom.

WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF SPACE, and still have a lot of fanzines to review, so we'll have to squeeze 'em in:

THE COLE FAX #2 (W. R. Cole, 307 Newkirk Ave., Brooklyn 30, N.Y.) is interesting almost solely for its bibliography of the works and pennames of Bob Silverberg.

FANTASY ASPECTS #2 (Alan J. Lewis, 129 Jewett-Holmwood, East Aurora, N.Y.) is an excellent collection of reprints from old fanzines.

FOCUS #7 (Mervyn Barrett, 6 Doctors Commons, Wellington Ch, New Zealand) contains fairly readable fannish stuff by such as John Trimble, arranged in a chaotic format.

GRR #31 came as a rider with FOCUS, and seems to be intended as a satire on Dave Rike's RUR. It's very funny, but not very satirical.

DISJECTA MEMBRA #1 (Ted Pauls, 1448 Meridene Dr., Baltimore 12, Md.) deserves more than three lines, since it heralds the beginning of a new fannish letterzine--a very worthwhile project, and well done.

NORTHLIGHT #5 (Alan Burns, Goldspink House, Goldspink Lane, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.2., Northumberland, England) is another chaotic fmz written mostly by the editor. Not bad.

--tgc

DICK ENEY writes that "Stupefying DC Fandom foregathered for a month-end party at the home of WSF President John Magnus. A cable was sent to the BSFA Easter convention at Birmingham, England: RUMOR MACMILLAN INVITES BSFA SPONSOR SUMMIT CON X PLEASE SUBSTANTIATE /signed/ STUPEFYING DC FANDOM. The WSFA presentation for the Detention was rehearsed amid cries of 'I'll sue!' '25000!' 'See that and raise you ten!' Our contribution to the program, despite the conclusion you just leaped to, does not refer to the NYFeuders."

Last we heard, the WSFA group was wanting to do Bob Leman's "Casper Follicle" play from UNEVEN--is that it, Eney?

RUMORS SPIKED--FREE: Bob Madle wants it known that the undercover comments which are going around to the effect that he is opposed to the Berry Fund are the result of a misunderstanding. He says, "I am not opposed to the Berry Fund--in fact, never was. I wish the group conducting the campaign only the best and hope to see the Goon at the Detention."

We hope to see Berry there too, and urge all of you who haven't already to send a contribution to Nick Falasca, 5612 Warwick Dr., Parma 29, Ohio.

SO THERE! DEPT.: "We like and enjoy reading FANAC even if we are only the Convention-type fans. So there!" --Stan & Jean Skirvin.

RUTH KYLE (c/o WPDN, Potsdam, New York) would like it known that the deadline for all recipes for her FANDOM'S COOKBOOK will be June 30. "Recipes for drinks, party snacks, meat dishes and vegetables gratefully accepted," she says. "It will be photo-offset by Ellington and we hope it will be available at the Detention."

About the de-incorporation of the WSFS, she writes, "The wheels of justice grind slowly sometimes and this is one of the times. David's lawyer has the de-incing in hand and is working on it. When it will be all over, I do not know, but trust it will be soon."

She and Dave hope to put out a fanzine soon. "Nothing to do with WSFS or even mentioning it," she promises.

WILL F. JENKINS, the writer, is just home from the hospital, after suffering from burst capillaries in his legs, reports Les Gerber. Jenkins' address is 160-15 Seventh Ave., Beechurst, N.Y., and Gerber thinks get-well cards would be in order.

HARLAN ELLISON (who is not a penname for Bob Silverberg) is now out of the Army and working as an associate editor of Rogue. He and Charlotte have got an apartment in Evanston, Ill., into which they'll be moving presently. Until then, they are living with Sally and Roger Brues in Chicago.

COURAGEOUS NEWSREPORTING DEPT.: In which it is exposed that the fan known as "Art Lee" is in reality a hoax perpetrated by Dan Adkins, apparently aided and abetted now by one Claude R. Hall.

Ted White did our research for us. He mentions the fact that he was introduced to "Lee" and recognized him as Claude Hall from the latter's photos. Adkins' middle name is Lee. "Lee" said he was staying at the YMCA in N.Y.: Ted checked and found that a Claude Hall was staying there, but no "Art Lee".

It seems from this and other evidence that Adkins originated the hoax, just doing artwork, and of late Hall has come in on it, doing the writing and posing as "Lee".

Exposing hoaxes is just another FANAC service, ma'am.

EDWIN BALMER, co-author with Philip Wylie of "When" and "After Worlds Collide," died Saturday March 21 of a heart attack in Phelps Memorial Hospital, North Tarrytown, N. Y. He was 75.

This report came from Jerry De Muth, who also tells us that "Michael Myerberg, who produced the plays 'Compulsion' and 'Waiting for Godot,' is now writing a musical adaptation of Thorne Smith's 'The Bishop's Jaegers,' which he will also produce. The lyrics will be by Gladys Shelley, the music by Milton Kaye, and it will be re-titled 'Jo'."

SPEAKING OF JERRY DE MUTH, he too is now working for Rogue, doing a column called "Evening in Chicago," which as I recall is a column about jazz. Jerry has also made a sale to another of the Playboy-imitation men's mags, 21--an article titled "Jazz: Concert Hall or Night Club". This article originally appeared in Lars Bourne's fmz BRILLIG about a year ago. Jerry got \$32 for it.

21 wasn't so nice to Bob Madle and Sam Moskowitz, whose article "Did Science Fiction Predict Atomic Energy?" (Science Fiction Quarterly, Nov. 1952) appeared in the April 21 in an almost word-for-word plagiarization under the title of "Predictions of Atomic Science," by Professor A. M. Low. Bob and Sam got nothing.

Incidentally, Lars Bourne reports that 21 almost reprinted from BRILLIG a piece by Kent Moomaw, but decided not to at the last minute.

LESLIE GERBER says that he recently saw three flying saucers through a telescope. He says he got "a good, long look," and "they were silvery colored, and shaped like inverted saucers; disks with a rounded hump on top. I saw windows on the humps, so I suppose that they must be piloted from inside the humps. I couldn't judge their speed very well because I didn't know their size."

Les says he's joined a New York group called the Civilians for Research of Aeronautican Phenomena. "One of the group's primary functions," he says, "is the spreading of educational material to people who might be interested. I think fandom comes under that heading, and I would like to see fans get their hands on some of our publications, so I'll send a free assortment of our literature to any interested fan who writes." Les's address is 201 Linden Blvd., Brooklyn 26, N. Y., in case you're interested.

But we warn you--the initials of the Civilians for Research of Aeronautican Phenomena are **CRAP**.

FANZINES FOR SALE, 15 for \$1.00. Terry Carr, 3320A 21st St., San Francisco 24, Calif. Grab-bag fashion; a lot of good stuff.

DETENTION PROGRESS REPORT #2 is now out. Most important news contained in it is that Isaac Asimov is to be Master of Ceremonies at the banquet. Get the Reports and membership card by sending \$2.00 membership fee to Jim Broderick, 12011 Kilbourne St., Detroit 13, Mich.

JD-ARGASSY nos. 42 and 43 arrived recently, with editor Lynn Hickman (304 N. 11th, Mt. Vernon, Ill.) hitting his stride in presenting a potpourri of fan- and pro-news gathered in the Midwest area. Other material includes the serialized Loncon report by Bob Madle, fmz reviews by Adkins, and an upcoming column on fans-I-have-met by Jim Harmon. Pretty good stuff, selling at 10¢ apiece. Monthly.

DAN MC PHAIL says there is some doubt whether or not Ted Wagoner will manage to get the Southwestercon 7 underweigh at Houston this summer.

Write

Finis

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

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Yardley, Penna

John G. Trimble
5201 East Carson St
Long Beach 8, Cal.

Ted White & wife
(to move 5 May 59;
watch this space)

Bill Rickhardt
c/o Bill Donaho
14 Cooper Square
New York 3, NY

VISITING BERKELEY? You are invited.
to attend a meeting of the Elves,
Gnomes and Little Men's Science
Fiction, Chowder and Marching Soc'y.

Meetings on alternate Friday nights
at the home of Poul and Karen And-
erson, 1906 Grove St, Berkeley 4.

May 15: Guest speaker to be Ron
Ellick. Topic: Fans and fandom.

You think I'm kidding? Show up.



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