

HOT MEMBERSHIP POLICY FLASHES

Dateline: New Rochelle

The Primal Nut, Arthur D. Hlavaty, writes: "Please inform Mr. Douglas Wright that he is ineligible for membership in the ILLUMINATUS! Nut Cult for at least 24 months. We hope that in the intervening time he will develop a more positive attitude & give up writing dumb pledges."

Dateline: Los Angeles

Buzz Dixon's motion to mail the Ayatollah Khomeini a copy of SLAVE BOYS OF GOR, in Doug Wright's name, and that the Ayatollah be permanently banned from ever holding membership in the LASFS was passed unanimously November 8. A copy of this issue will be mailed to Iran for comment.

NORTH- AMERICAN

From NORTHAMERICAN: A REVIEW, published for The Cult by Yale F. Edeiken. The author is well-known in midwestern fandom as a Windycon committeeman, member of the Chicago in '82 bid, and a practicing attorney. The following are selected excerpts: the article will be reprinted in full in STFR 12.

Despite empirical evidence to the contrary, the techniques for planning and operating a convention are, with few exceptions, simple to deduce and can be mastered with a minimum of experience. Most of these techniques are nothing more than matters of common sense or personal integrity and the rest are matters of experience that any sharp observer should understand



FILE 770:17 is edited (at least once each issue) by Mike Glycer - 14974 Osceola St., Sylmar CA 91342. This newzine is available for cold cash (4/\$2 US, and seamail overseas, or \$1 an issue air mail overseas); and also available for hot rumors, hard news, soft promises and general connivance (trades with club and news zines). All others are invited to trade for STFR, my genzine.

December 10, 1979

after attending a few conventions, or working in any capacity at one or two. Putting these simple precepts into action can be hard work but ~~not~~ being on a convention committee involves more than acting important and basking in such heartfelt compliments as "It wasn't the best run convention but I had a good time." A recent example about which comments such as these have been made was Northamericon held over Labor Day Weekend in Louisville, Kentucky. If there was a Lousy Convnetion Hall of Fame this barker would be a charter member.

A heavily programmed convention demands, strange as it may seem, a lot of programming and a good deal of diversity in the programming so that everyone will have several items that they can attend and enjoy. Northamericon had neither a great deal of programming, and with few exceptions, all of the programming was of a single type. Northamericon planned but a single track of programming even though there were several rooms in the facility, most poorly used or left unused, suitable for alternate programming. Since all of the programming was in the main ballroom there was no programming scheduled for periods when that room was closed for furniture rearrangement. Further there was a long art auction held in the main ballroom on two afternoons and if you were not interested in the antics of the auctioneers or uninterested in bidding on art you were SOL.

The programming itself was almost entirely composed of tired and cliched panels manned by the pros who happened to be at the con; the type of programming in short that is used as filler when the committee runs out of good ideas.

If the programming was a failure as far as a "big" convention concept was concerned, the failure of the convention as a "party" concept was even more dismal. A party convention needs, first, a hotel that is suited for parties and management that is sympathetic and cooperative. Second, a party convention requires some effort on the part of the committee to either provide or encourage such parties.

There was no hospitality suite provided by the convention, and, according to at least one person on the committee, none had ever been considered.... While conventions can survive without open parties, they do provide a focus and a gathering place for those not wishing to go to private parties or uninvited to them. In large part these are the newcomers to fandom and the very group that the convention committee should address its efforts for these are the people whose convention experience will be diminished if the committee fails to provide something for them.

As far as the facilities were concerned the hotel could have been worse: it could have shut down the parties completely. Although very nicely furnished the rooms at the Galt House were small and the corridors narrow. Not very good for parties. Further the dearth of elevators discouraged traditional party hopping. But no hotels are perfect and defects such as these are common enough that fandom has learned to live with them. A bit more irksome was the hotel's policy of charging for ice. To properly stock a party takes a bathtub full of ice and to pay for it at hotel rates is ludicrous. When one considers that this committee was faced with the same problem when they bid for the NASFic at Suncon in 1977, their failure to come to some arrangement with the hotel on this point was not just stupidity and apathy, it is stupidity and apathy squared. Most of this style of inattention was demonstrated by the gutless manner in which the committee tolerated the obnoxious behavior of the hotel's ~~security~~ security staff. Most of these people acted in a heavy-handed and patronizing fashion towards fandom and several seemed to delight in harassing or insulting fans. An able committee will always try to interface between hotel and fans, especially fan parties. Hotel security people should not be allowed by the committee to visit parties without

the committee knowing about it and being present; this is doubly true when the security people have an obvious negative attitude about the convention. At Northamericon the committee, without appreciable duties in the evening, were "too busy" to complain to the hotel or even check with fandom about what was happening. While many parties did go off the committee, except ex post facto, seemed neither to care about or appreciate the value of parties to their convention.

Even the notable success of the committee in planning for this convention had its darker side. The committee arranged for an excellent river boat cruise at minimal price as part of the convention; for those who went it was a highlight of the convention. A lot of people did not go, and the choice was not theirs. The original intention was to sell 400 tickets and reserve 100 as freebies for the committee and their chosen guests (and estimates of the number on the cruise tallies with this figure). Since the advance registration for the convention was about 1400, the committee knew in advance that two-thirds or more of the attendees could not go. Apparently they did not care. The entire committee took off for the cruise. No convention item was planned or took place for those abandoned on shore as, for all intents and purposes, the convention closed down while the committee played Huckleberry Finn ignoring the responsibility they had for the entire membership of the convention.

/Another illuminating example of how the committee operated is the situation they precipitated relative to Rick Gellman./ Gellman, a huckster from Minneapolis, was denied space in the huckster room due to the limited space available. As an alternative he contacted the hotel prior to the convention, informed them that he wished to huckster out of his sleeping room and requested a room on the lobby level of the hotel. The hotel complied with his requests (as a matter of fact Gellman frequently does operate in this fashion) and he opened for business. On Friday night he was forcibly closed; on Saturday he wished to protest this apparent decision of the hotel and, to that end, met with the hotel manager. The meeting, to which I was the only witness was, to say the least, an interesting one.

Rick had asked me to accompany him as an attorney but I was forcibly prevented by the hotel from attending the meeting although I was allowed to hear all of it. The chairman of the convention was not present nor was any member of the committee there to discover what was happening or to explain their position. Gellman had requested that Cliff Amos, the chairman, be there, but were were informed that Amos knew of the meeting and did not feel that he needed to be there (he was in fact waiting outside and met with the hotel manager after Gellman had left.) The manager conducted the meeting with three armed men standing over Gellman and

MEMBERSHIP
CARDS?

TAKES ONE
TO KNOW
ONE



the meeting itself consisted entirely of Gellman being harangued, ridiculed, berated and threatened (at one point Gellman was told that the manager would have him arrested for disorderly conduct immediately, saying "In this town, disorderly conduct is anything we say it is." The armed security guards were off-duty police who agreed with the manager.) Gellman was not allowed to say anything; if he tried he was interrupted and shouted down. Although the manager stated that it was against hotel policy to sell out of hotel rooms, this was probably an out-and-out lie. There had been a comics and beer can conventions in the hotel shortly before we arrived and I was informed by two hotel employees that such huckstering was common at both conventions. Further, one of the gorillas with the manager later inspected our room party and did not object to our open selling of t-shirts and hot dogs. The point that the manager constantly reiterated was that Gellman had been closed down at the specific request of the committee in general and the chairman in particular. This point was made more than once and often amplified with the comment that "According to the committee and the hucksters you are cheating everybody."

Patently, physical threats and verbal abuse is not the manner in which to treat a hotel guest. Even more patently, this is not the manner in which a convention committee should allow a guest to be treated even by passive behavior. Here, since the word of the manager stands un rebutted, the committee was involved in active collusion with the hotel to abuse one of the convention's attendees. The routine mode of behavior for any convention committee should have been to make sure that Gellman was treated with some courtesy and at least allowed to state his position without guns being flashed at him. If Gellman was wrong there were ways of dealing with the situation without threats and abuse and the committee should have been working for them. Period. And any con committee that aids and abets such behavior as was displayed here are a contemptible lot with no responsibility to the duties they have assumed. Again, period.

The preceding represents the observations and opinion of Yale Edeiken. Although such reputable fans as Cliff Biggers found the committee to be competent and the convention smoothly run, sufficient elements in Edeiken's account have been corroborated by attendees to satisfy me that his account merits public consideration. Rebuttal by the committee or attendees is solicited. A xerox of the full article is available for SASE if you wish to comment at length for publication in STFR

willis collection compiled

According to its publisher, Richard Bergeron, the historic collection of Walt Willis' fanwriting known as the WASH (Willis Issue of WARHOON) will be complete in a matter of days. He adds that the price is \$25 -- he is honoring all paid orders at the old price, but justifies the hike for new orders not only by pointing out the rise in costs, but the fact that 40 fewer copies were produced than he anticipated. A mailing service in Philadelphia is handling the dispersal of the actual book -- not cheap. Arrangements have been made to provide readers of F770 with sample sheets from the collection in the forthcoming YEARBOOK. (1 West 72nd St., NYC NY 10023.)

SCIENTIFRICTION 10TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE: As long as I have five lines: I'm now accepting orders for STFR 12, which will include original material by Lee Gold, Dave Langford, Jon Gustafson, Ted White, Dave Minch, Avedon Carol, Dan Goodman, Arthur D. Hlavaty, Norm Hollyn, Taral, Paul Skelton, Richard Wadholm, Dave Locke, Stan Burns, Jeanne Gomoll, Richard Harter, Bruce Pelz and Mike Glycer. \$1.00 apiece.

ARREST

Roger Lovin, 38, has been charged by New Orleans police with possession of pornography, two counts of aggravated crime against nature, one count of carnal knowledge of a juvenile and four counts of contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile, plus four counts of indecent behavior with a juvenile.

Lovin is the author of THE COMPLETE MOTORCYCLE NOMAD (semi-autobiographical), some pornography, and genre novels THE PRESENCE (as Rodgers Clement), and APOSTLE, a Starblaze book. Two other of his sf novels were announced by Harper & Row in 1974, but evidently withdrawn. Known in New Orleans fan and convention-going circles, Lovin's arrest and subsequent charges have reportedly stunned local fans. (One fan providing information for this article insisted on anonymity, and a second New Orleans fan had only one comment on the matter: he was glad he'd moved out.) Lovin's attendance at sf cons has been described in New Orleans' papers as giving him an opportunity to contact underaged girls who became subjects for his alleged pornographic photo collection.

On October 21 Lovin was first arrested for possession of at least 500 photographs depicting nude girls, some in sexual acts. This prompted an investigation in several Southern States by the New Orleans Child Abuse Section to locate the girls photographed and obtain their testimony against Lovin. Some of the photos dated back to 1974. Evidence seized by the police included names and addresses of persons with whom Lovin supposedly traded or dealt in nude photos. (The police are eager to connect this in any way possible to what they describe as a nationwide pornography-dealing network.) Also taken was "a publication devoted to enabling men and women to meet through the mail, in which Lovin had circled the names of the women who had female children."

Police were tipped by their own Special Operations Division (SOD) and the Child Protection Center of the Welfare Department.

Lovin was released on \$2500 bail after his initial arrest. But Police investigation yielded two girls willing to testify about their voluntary sexual involvement with Lovin at age 16. Lovin was also charged in connection with an 11-year-old boy. Informed by his lawyer, Thomas



[illegible]

The meeting elected Mike Walsh chairman, Charlie Ellis vice-chairman, Scott Dennis secretary, and Shirley Avery treasurer. Notes Gilliland, "Peggy Rae /Pavlat/ appears to be supporting Ted Manekin. Manekin, Walsh, Scott Dennis and Lee Smoire seem to have been actively promoting the Baltimore in '83 bid the earliest. It should be noted that most of the BSFS-WSFA membership in common is on the committee. When it became evident that DC in '84 wasn't going to fly, Kent Bloom stepped down and Mike Walsh was elected to head the rump DC in '84 bid. More miscellany: This year's Unicon sent out a 30,000 piece mailin, to pull 2000 people...about 150 more than the breakeven point...about 15% above last year. Clearly somebody was aiming for a big and profitable con, very probably intending to use the nut so picked for the worldcon bid now in progress. They didn't get it. The /Unicon/ crowd was media-oriented, young and there was enough malicious mischief so that the hotel, the Shoreham, won't have further to do with science fiction conventions."

E770:17

fusion bid of the 3 area groups (all large with little overlap), WSFA (Disclæ, Discons), University of Maryland (Unicons) and BSFS (Baltimore). They are bidding on the Regency Hyatt Baltimore (under construction and on schedule) with direct connection to the inner harbor, Harborplace restaurants, etc. and managed by the Hyatt and currently running large conventions. Subsidiary hotels, if needed, are linked to the Inner Harbor by overhead walkways and the worst of them is within 3 blocks. In addition there's the historic district, maritime museum, National Aquarium, and Maryland Science Center right there as well." Hopefully that will put a healthy dent in my ignorance of the Baltimore bid.

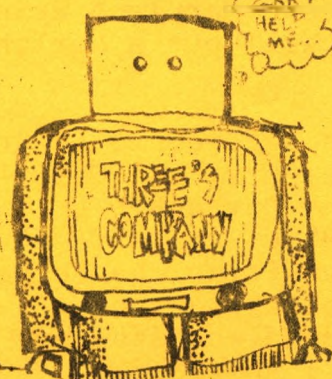
AUSTRALIA IN '83: In CHUNDER! John Foyster has offered to serve as intermediary for obtaining Shire of Burke passports, and Certificatea of Honorary Citizenship of the Shire and of the Outback. It is proposed that a Passport and Certificate be available for \$5 (Australian). They will entitle you, when visiting the Shire, to have a free beer or soft drink and three hostelries and a free take-away meal at the Saltpan Store. Descend en masse on John Foyster, GPO Box 4039, Melbourne Vic 3001 Australia.

COPENHAGEN IN '83: A contest is proposed to seek out someone with a favorable word to say about the Scandinavian bid, including the Swedes. Anders Bellis, of Stockholm, wrote the following testimonial to a recent Swedish con, on personal letterhead emblazoned "Scandinavia You See - In 1983": "Recently we had the yearly big con in Sverifandom, this year arranged by Sam J. Lundwall and his publishing house Delta Forlags AB. ...It was the eleventh con I attended, and it was the worst. The most boring con I've been to, actually. It has already gotten the name Fiascon among the Sverifen. Not to mention that it was more expensive fees for this two-day con with about 150 attendees than for SeaCon, and that Lundwall actually, on purpose mind you, cheated all those who payed for the dinner out of about seven dollars through not serving all the food he had promised. And it was his order that the hotel should not serve it - we asked the Hotel Management." Recalling the bidding activities at Brighton, Jack Chalker writes: "The Scandinavians at SeaCon made an impression, all right. Loud-mouthed, nasty drunks, they raided the Baltimore party, upset the table, turned out the lights and screamed 'Scandinavia, ya! Get out! Get out! Go to Scandinavia party only!' They stole booze from the Australian party, threw objects (one of which struck and injured a spectator in the audience) at the Australia in '83 skit in the masquerade tried to trip Australians, and generally behaved very much like Hitler's brownshirts might have in similar circumstances. Merv Binns of Australia and Mike Walsh of Baltimore discussed possibly bringing them over on a tour of the US to totally wipe out any chance Scandinavia might have."

UPDATE: NEW YORK IN 86: In addition to the committee listed last issue should be Elliot Shorter, Art Saha and Moshe Feder.

JACK CHALKER INQUIRES: "has anybody but me noticed that nobody on the Chicago committee lives in Chicago, and nobody on the Detroit Committee lives in Detroit? Or that neither chairman lives within 150 miles of the city he's bidding?" While Jack's latter observation is correct, many Chicago committee live there, and of 7 principal Detroit bidders, one is in the suburbs and two more within a reasonably close drive (Dearborn Heights and Ann Arbor.)

ROBOT IN DISGRACE



roundfile

*Secret Agent Double-Oh Seven-Seventy
Beards the Turkey In His Den*

Doug Wright and company staged their Thanksgiving Weekend sf convention with a little extra help this year. I worked the registration table Thursday, Friday and Saturday, in tasteful armband and Wrightcon t-shirt...

Although Wright sent dozens of letters (see p.2 F770:16) to California fans instructing them they were not welcome at his conventions, I had never received

one despite these bimonthly homages to him in F770. Consequently when his preconvention publicity was shown to me, including a call for gofers, I began to explore the possibilities of infiltrating his volunteer staff. Having written so often about Wright's business tactics, I wanted an inside look to determine (1) his total membership, (2) cashflow, (3) quality of the con, (4) security methods. His publicity said that volunteers received a free daily membership on each day worked -- a fair exchange. On October 15 Wright received a letter from John Braziman, care of 14974 Osecola St. Promptly I was sent a form to list my skills and availability. I dispatched them October 19 and soon was accepted as a volunteer. A volunteer's meeting took place November 17 -- I attended.

Arriving at the Marriott about 12:30, I found my way to the Atlanta Room. Experienced staffers clustered in the hallway, identifiable by their blue t-shirts bearing in black the Science Fiction, Horr & Fantasy con logo. I overheard one staffer say these would be required by regulation. The Atlanta Room was dark: a showing of "Amok Time" was in progress. A cannon-ball-shaped lady in a red muu-muu checked in newcomers by flashlight, flipping through a file of paperwork. I presented my skills form -- absent the requested driver's license number. Nobody noticed. I was given a copy of the loyalty oath and a volunteers form (per the labor board, after their brush with Wright). John Braziman signed un oath of undying loyalty to der fuhrer.

As "Amok Time" ended I heard one staffer, a bulky unshaven fellow in ragged t-shirt and blue cap rapping to a newcomer about running theater projection equipment. He sprinted back to the projector as it finished rewinding and the tail end of the film shredded itself beating against the housing. By ironic chance I also overheard a fellow (who turned out to be Wright) claiming that he had lost \$20,000 in the previous year's attempt to run a Bay Area

convention, and had been required to borrow money to keep going. An interesting story, if true. For then, who did he borrow the money from? Who were or are his fellow entrepreneurs? Is he actually incorporated?

Wright turned out to be about 6 ft tall, approximately 180. He was in his 40s -- average-length salt-and-pepper gray hair. Glasses. Wore one of his blue con t-shirts and jeans with a ripped back pocket. While fearless leader looked like an insurance executive, most of his staff was indistinguishable from other fans in LA -- indeed, because they had been around other cons.

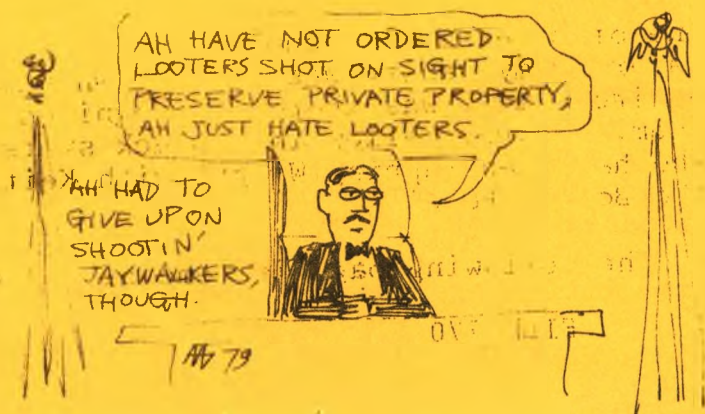
At 1;20 an assistant started reading the names of those who had completed their forms. These were passed through a door into the adjoining room. A second assistant checked my name. I corrected her pronunciation of Braziman.

Wright's message to the volunteers, at least half of whom were first-timers, was simple. He outlined available crash space and parties. "If you're not volunteering that day, we don't want you to starve, but..." Alia Walter Brennan in Rio Bravo, Wright encouraged those sharing crash space to please bathe. There would be no booze served to the underage and no pot parties at all, since certain people "who appear to have a vendetta against us" would be seeking reasons to write them up. He predicted 3000 members. He introduced the staff, described the facility and split us up into groups for department heads to further inform us. Little more took place than that I slipped over to join the registration cadre (although arbitrarily assigned to security) and signed up for my shifts.

At the convention I encountered a major adjustment to my point of view. Witnessing Wright's staff at work, rather than deducing its methods from published material and judging it by my assumptions, I found to be irrelevant my criticism that Wright exploited volunteer labor to boost his personal profits.

Wright's committee heads, certainly, had no illusions on that count. The two I worked with said that Wright would keep putting on cons as long as he made money at it, and they would keep attending them as long as they found them enjoyable. However there was criticism of Wright's stinginess with operational supplies (eg, a death of pencils, no adequate sharpener and the cheapest mini-staplers were sources of irritation at the registration area).

Without an economic stake in a successful convention, why were staff people such workaholics, standing 8 and 12 hour shifts? Their motives evidently were competition for status within the committee, and fear of the master's displeasure. Whenever there was a slack point in the



work, staff gossip turned to (1) the incompetence of one's rivals for status in the committee, (2) prospects for advancement, (3) committee who quit in pique and what gap they left in the table of order, and (4) the staff's side deal to run their own specialty (Dr. Who) con and whether that might get them canned by Wright who "has such an aversion to other cons." There was something utterly Eddorian about the atmosphere of jealousy between peers and apprehension about Wright's temper. These elements were suspended only long enough to offer self-righteous putdowns of the pickets in front of the hotel.

That weekend had locally been designated "Picketcon." A group of fans, particularly those who had received Wright's letters, began picketing the hotel Friday night with signs and dressed in stfnal costumes. The picketing took place on the sidewalk about 50 yards from the hotel's actual entrance to avoid trespassing charges. The costumes worn by most concealed their identity (and it was claimed some of these, when they finished picketing, joined the costume contest at the con that evening.) The two dozen pickets lasted from 5 to 8, virtually ignored and invisible from the con area. It was suggested that the only way they were going to get the desired tv coverage was if we called the network to say that a group of Iranian students was picketing against science fiction in front of the Marriott.

So frequently warned against Wright's "fits" when I manned registration, I could hardly wait to witness one. When I omitted to initial a membership card, I was helped to cover my ass by a friendly staffer, and warned about my fate if Wright caught it. When I lifted a sheaf of wristbands above table level (to separate them for distribution) I was chastized that somebody could sprint over and snatch them from me, and that dire consequences would follow should Wright see the armbands being so carelessly handled. But when it came to that legendary temper, far from seeing any demonstration of it, I was treated with reasonable courtesy by the man in my role of a gofer.

I helped unload his Buick. I noted the plate numbers. I was up and down to the "Hospitality Suite" (on the Marriott's 17th floor is a presidential suite) hauling boxes of forms, and generally encountered Wright up there. He had the good taste to be using the same bedroom I used when i co-chaired Westercon 31... In fact I had to stifle a smartass inclination to clue the committee in to various details of the suite's layout (phones, access doors) as they stumbled around the first night. Having penetrated this far, why blow it by raising suspicion now? One time, on my way down in the elevator, Wright looked at me and remarked to the head of registration, "We need all the big guys we can get."

One of my earliest concerns was that somebody would recognize me. Later on my vanity was pricked when no one recognized me. In the entire time I was there I recognized only four people, and one of them, a burly fellow in a black stetson, I recognized as someone who had been rapping Wright with Keith Williams the year before in the Boycott Room!

On the following page is some of the benchmark data I gathered.

FRIDAY: Estimated pre-reg. attendees: 400. One days sold: 990.
SATURDAY: Estimated pre-reg. 10. One days: 500 by noon. Available
armbands: 2000
DEALER'S TABLES. Approximately 48 frontage tables, and a like number
of tables behind.

ESTIMATED CASHFLOW:

PRE REG: 500 x \$14 (3-day membership)	= 7000
ONE DAYS: 1000 x \$7x3	= 21000
HUCKSTERS (EST) 48 x 100	= 4800
	<u>32800</u>

Given Wright's film program was good (CLOSE ENCOUNTERS, SUPERMAN, LOVE AT FIRST BITE etc), and he had a variety of actors from BS Galactica, and assorted horror films, this man is obviously making money, and a substantial amount.

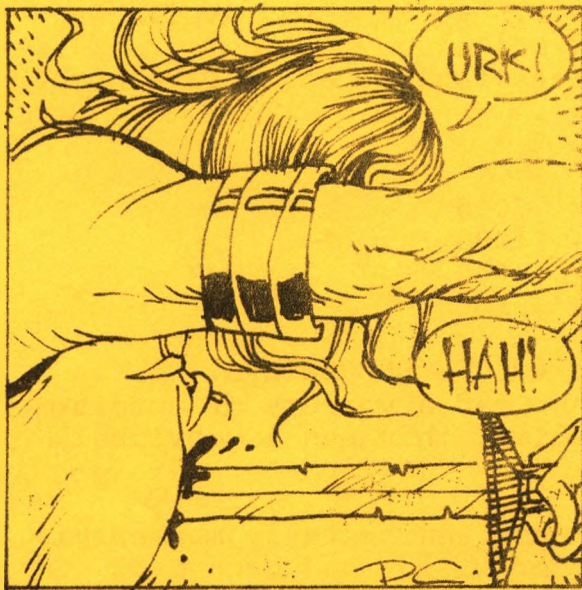
Although many people had been sent letters banning their membership in the convention, I discovered that no provision had been made to prevent them from joining. (Reverse psychology, perhaps?) The wristband distribution station where I worked had no list. The cashiers had no list. I ventured into security's watch station, and they had no list. What existed was name-labeled photographs of 25 "known troublemakers". Although a couple were notorious thieves, the majority had attended Loscon just 2 weeks before without incident. The "rogues gallery" consisted of the following:
Rebecca Boyer, Sue Clejan, Paula Crist, Gayle Gordon, Eric Greene, Kim Hyde, James T. Kirk, Michael Liebmann, Sue Lufkin, Duncan McEwan, Dr. J. Blake Mitchell, Theresa Ann O'Bray, Violet O'Melvaney, Jim Pillsbury, Larry Pollack, Peggy Richter, Jeff Roady, Lyn Robinson, Paul J. Ross, Martin Spizman, Kenneth Stuart-Mackenzie, Tracy Templin, James R. Terry, and Jatona P. Walker.

In conclusion, Wright's ambitions about dominating local convention activity seem strengthened by the increasing quality of his conventions and the utter disinterest of attendees and staff about his tactics. While there is a dictum about Mussolini and trains, the Thanksgiving Weekend event was better run than either the '78 worldcon or the '79 Westercon. It will be necessary to do more than pay lip service to the quality of fannishness.

WESTERCON 34: corrected address: PO Box 161719, Sacramento CA 95816.
Laurine White also states that the con planned for the May 23 weekend has been cancelled because no room rate break could be gotten.

:FROM ATARANTES: (ed. Cliff Biggers) Atlanta fan Janet Lyons' announcement earlier this year that she still was not pregnant was erroneous. Janet and Vince will be adding to their family (no they're not getting another cat) as of mid-May 1980. // In that same issue Mike Glicksohn officially announced that Mike Glycer is not a BNF. However, he said as much for Taral and Victoria, so the man's credibility is obvious...

ADD ROUNDFILINGS: F770 hit 194 subs last issue, which was breakeven. It hit 215 at presstime this time. The cumulative percentage of renewed subscriptions of those which expired from 13 to 16 is .67



APAPLEXY

((Much of the following information is provided by Harry Andruschak 6933 N. Rosemead Blvd. #31, San Gabriel CA 91775 - he is now preparing SOUTH OF THE MOON, the apa information zine, to run as an inclusion with the YEARBOOK. Send your updates to us both.))

CANDAPA has room for non-Canadians on its roster. Write Barbara Przeklasa, 11220 Bird Rd. Richmond BC V6X 1N8 Canada. ...APA 50 will be holding elections in the December mailing, ...APA 69's 18th mailing broke 100 pages. There are sixteen members and openings still available. Contact Arthur D.

Hlavaty 250 Coligni Ave., New Rochelle NY 10801...THE LIBERTARIAN CONNECTION, listed as defunct in SOTM #15, is in fact alive and well under the new name of THE CONNECTION. Send \$5 for a subscription to Erwin S. Strauss c/o CRC 4020 Williamsburg Ct., Fairfax VA 22032.

MAILING #1 of AOTEARAPA, the bimonthly New Zealand apa, had 14 members and 29 pages. Current OE is Greg Hills, Box 770, Wanganui, New Zealand...Remember Larry Dunning (46 Holmesdale Rd., West Midland, 6056 AUSTRALIA) ?? He was starting two apas, a hexaweekly comics apa called THE PHANTOM ZINE and a quarterly sf apa called SON OF TAU CETI? Well, the first mailing of THE PHANTOM ZINE has come out, and SOTC has been incorporated into it. Also, the combined apa is bimonthly, the copy count is 50, and minac is 12 pages a year. The first mailing had 47 pages. This brings the number of Australian and New Zealand apas to 7: APPLESAUCE, APES, MORNINGSTAR, ZAPA, AEOTERAPA and now THE PHANTOM ZINE.

The merger between British Columbia apas VANAPA and BCAPA, proposed by Fran Skene, has been defeated...The 16th mailing of PHOENIX was its largest ever: 359 pages...CAPRA, the quarterly apa devoted to films, has a new OE. Jon Liggett 1611 Adams St., Denver CO 80206. There are open spots on its roster. Sample copy \$1.00...CAPA-alpha, the comics/graphic story apa will have a new CM as of January 1: Robert Bronstein 20027-54 Community St., Winnetka CA 91306...The new OE of Hawaii's BACKGROUND NOISE is Mike Okuda, 3069 Hiehie St., Honolulu HI 96822. Copy count 25. Free postage for out of towners!

APANAGE as raised its yearly dues to \$4. A few memberships remain available in this apa oriented towards Juvenile Fantasy. Request a sample mailing for \$1 from Dave Hulan, 3313 S. Park Dr., Santa Ana CA 92707...The comics genzine coop, The United Fanzine Organization, has a new OE, Chris Rock PO Box 14, West Plains MO 65775. Sample copy for 75¢, copy count 50...GAPA is a Swedish apa operated by OEs Anders Bellis (Vanadisvagen 13, 113 46 Stockholm, and Ahrvid

Engholm (Flotviksvagen 39, 162 40 Vallingby). Details are vague, consisting of "There are four or more mailings each year and every mailing is guaranteed to contain at least hundred pages...When this is written EAPA has about 40 members. Not all of them are faneds since you can sub on the mailings if you don't want to make fanzines."

Eric Scalzi writes about APA:CENTAURI, a bimonthly apa for those interested in films, music, comics and sf. Minac is 2 pages for your-first three mailings. Copy count presently is 15. Dues \$1.50

The FAPA elections, tabulated by Len and June Moffatt, resulted in Ed Cox winning the Presidency, Lester Boutillier the Vice-Presidency, Bob & Peggy Rae Pavlat the Secretary-Treasury, and Bruce Pelz the Official Ediocy. Jack Speer's challenge to the candidacy of Glycer and Andruschak for two offices was thereby mooted. A motion to expand membership of FAPA to 80 was annihilated 27-8 against.

According to Doug Hoylman, APAL00SA has been sent to the glue factory, The August mailing #49 was its last.

CLUBS

Announcing THE DOCTOR WHO CLUB, originated by Adrienne Losin (15 Lockhart Rd., Ringwood North 3134 Australia.) The impetus came from a visit by series star Tom Baker to Australia in February. Meetings are once each three weeks. Publication and a convention are in the works. Overseas rates are \$7 AUST seamail, \$12 AUST airmail.

ISTA WEYR represents McCaffrey fandom in the Deep South. Harry and Marilyn Alm (2911 Eton St., New Orleans LA 70114) are Weyrleaders. The Alms' flyer indicate interest in all manner of esoteric data related to McCaffrey's stories -- but don't forget that SASE! Says Marilyn, "I have 'dragon eggs' for those who want a dragonrider persona. Write me and I will send you one. It will tell you your dragon's color, but you will have to tell me the dragon's name. I'm not one who can hear all dragons talk!"

(Excuse me while I dust off this one...) Following a successful Bubonicon 11, the Albuquerque Science Fiction Society turned its attention to annual elections, reports Roy Tackett. Jack Speer was once again chosen club Moderator by unanimous acclamation roaring down his protest that he would only accept if someone would occasionally adjourn a meeting: (The April 1977 meeting is still officially in session despite repeated attempts by Speer to have it adjourned. Other meetings are adjourned by fiat from the Moderator.) The race for Alternator was, as usual, hotly contested, but Horrible Old Roy Tackett beat out California's Governor Jerry Brown by a vote of 12 to 0. After two ballots, Dennis Virzi succeeded Mike Kring as Secretary-Treasurer.

The WEST SUBURBAN SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY meets the first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 8 pm in the Paperback Exchange, 508 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park IL 60302. Ken Manson is president and founder (1344 S. Grove, Berwyn IL 60402).



The High Desert Science Fiction Society disbanded some months ago, says Bill Thomas. The group had been meeting in Lancaster CA.

According to David Singer, The Coral Springs Science Fiction League, Social Drinking Society and Travelling Fan Variety Show (in exile) meets sporadically somewhere in Palm Beach County (FL), usually on the second or third Saturday night of the month. Contact Singer at 732 Heron Dr., Delray Bch FL 33444.

Meanwhile, in the Florida panhandle Nova Odysseus (United Gulf Coast Fandom) is into its third year of existence. Membership holds steady at 14, meeting every second Wednesday. Contact Robert Teague at 1900 Clay Ave., Panama City FL 32405.

The Ames Science Fiction Association, now a registered campus organization at Iowa State University,

can be contacted through Steven Tait, 407 Welch, Ames IA 50010. The idea germinated last Minicon, in expectation that they could bid for worldcons or maybe trade old DAW paperbacks. But Tait says, "Already we have gone beyond Allan Beatty's paltry expectations and are branching out into trading Dell and Ace pb's."

The Science Fiction Association of Victoria (Victoria BC, Canada) publishes a newsletter, PHOENIX. Contact: 4173 Carey Rd., Victoria BC V8Z 4G9 Canada.

The Ohio State University Terran League of Science Fiction and Fantasy (Terran League) meets alternate Thursdays. Activities include alternate social and programmed meetings, discussions, D&D, film attendance, and the occasional speaker. Contact: Tom Van Horne, 1576 Guilford, Columbus OH 43221.

YOUR FORSEEABLE FUTURE

CHATTACON 5: (Jan. 4-6) Downtown Sheraton, 4th & Chestnut St., Chattanooga TN. \$25.50/sgl; \$34/dbl; GOH: Joan Vinge, MC Wilson Tucker, SPECIAL GUEST: Hal Clement, PLUS: Jack Chalker. PROGRAM: "The Last Whole Earth Bob Tucker Roast", art show, auction, hospitality suite, game room, masquerade, hucksters, videotape room. Art Show Info to Norman Michal c/o Tim Bolgeo 8514 Dunhill Ln., Hixson TN 37343. Dealers info: Janet Sue Caruth 250 Central Ave NE #1, Cleveland TN 37311. MEMBERSHIPS: \$10. Banquet \$10. Huckster tables \$10. To: Chattanooga PO Box 21173 Chattanooga TN 37421.

HEXACON 2: (Jan. 11-13) Host Town, 30 Keller Ave. at Rt. 222, Lancaster PA. Pro: Donald Benson. Art show, hucksters, films, game room, 24-hour consuite. Room rates: \$23/sgl; \$32/dbl; meal plan \$13/day extra. MEMBERSHIPS: \$7.00 now and at the door. To: Bruce and Flo Newrock, Box 270-A R.D. 2, Flemington NJ 08822.

CONFUSION 6/7: (Jan. 18-20) Plymouth Hilton, 14707 Northville Rd., Plymouth MI 48170. \$33/sgl; \$40/dbl. PRO: Stanley Schmidt. FAN: Elliot Shorter. 24-hour films, art show, hucksters, sex. Huckster-\$10 first table \$15 additional contact Howard DeVore 4705 Weddel St., Dearborn Hts MI 48125. MEMBERSHIPS: \$10 now and at door, to Ann Arbor SF Assoc., mail to Karen Persello 1115 Granger, Ann Arbor MI 48104. Banquet \$11. Art show or auction, contact Dan Story, Box 8022 Ann Arbor MI 48107

RAIN TOO: (Feb. 15-17) Rembrandt Hotel, Vancouver BC. SPECIAL PARTY GUEST: John Varley. Rooms: \$28/sgl, \$32/dbl. Party relaxacon. Masque Ball, art show, auction, video tapes, dance, Sunday brunch. MEMBERSHIPS: \$6 til 2/12, \$7 at door. To: Rain Too, PO Box 48478 Bentall Centre, Vancouver BC V7X 1A2 Canada.

BOSKLONE: (Feb. 15-17) Radisson Ferncroft, I-95 and Rt. 1, Danvers MA. GOH: Spider and Jeanne Robinson. Rooms: \$32/sgl, \$34/dbl. Films, games, filksings, Punday, Costume Party. MEMBERSHIPS \$7 to 1/14, \$10 after and at door. TO: NESFA, Box G MIT Br. PO, Cambridge MA 02139. A modified Boskone will have a set for artists and hucksters to display their wares, and replace the play with Tall Tales night, conducted by Spider Robinson.

DUNDRACON V: (Feb. 16-18) Villa Hotel, 4000 South El Camino Real, San Mateo CA 94403. Rooms ets. \$28/sgl, \$33/dbl. Sf, fantasy and role-playing game convention. Dealers, films, all-night games. MEMBERSHIPS: \$10 now and at door. No one-days. To: DunDraCon V, 386 Alcatraz, Oakland CA 94618.

FANTASY WORLDS MIDWINTER FESTIVAL: (Feb. 16-17) Finnish Brotherhood Hall, University & Chestnut, Berkeley CA. PROS: Katherine Kurtz, Marion Zimmer Bradley, Diana Paxson. FAN: Anji Valenza. MEMBERSHIP: Was \$5 before 12/1, no current info. TO: Hilary of Arilinn c/o Friends of Darkover Box 72, Berkeley CA 94701.

PENULTICON 3: (Feb. 22-24) Denver Hilton 16th at Court Pl., COLO PROS: Vonda McIntyre, Hal Clement. FAN: Marty Massoglia. TM: Edward Bryant. Films, art show, masquerade. MEMBERSHIP: \$10 to 2/1, \$15 after. \$5 supporting. with SASE to Box 11545, Denver CO 80211.

LEAPCON: (Feb. 29-30)(?) Crystal City Marriott, Arlington VA. Info: WSFA c/o Alexis Gilliland 4030 8th St S, Arlington VA 22204

COAS

Daryl Marnell 21 Carlyn St., Ormond Victoria 3204 Australia
Ron Harris PO Box 42085, Los Angeles CA 90042
Alan Turniansky 148 Broadway Apt 3B, Lynbrook NY 11563
Stu Shiffman 19 Broadway Terrace Apt. 1D, NYC NY 10040
Alan Bostick, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Teresa Nielsen Hayden: 5022 Ninth Ave. NE,
Seattle WA 98105. PHONE: (206) 632-1029
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Walter A. Smart 4450 Lakeshore Rd., Manistee MI 49660
carl juarez PO Box 3219 Eugene OR 97403
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Terry Whittier 2265 McLaughlin Ave Apt. 3, San Jose CA 95122
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Nancy Northcott Apt. 12P Kingswood Apts., Chapel Hill NC 27514
Strick, Lot 55, Pineview Trailer Ct., Greenville NC 27834
Rick Taylor 1112 Royal St. George, Naperville IL 60172
Jay Zilber 315 E. 5th St. Apt 4A, NY NY 10003
Dennis Roy, 207 Hildreth St Apt 13, Lowell MA 01850
AB Jeffrey Siegel 545377833 PSC #4 Sqdn. 3743 Flt. 363, Lackland AFB TX 78236
Asenath Hammond & Rick Sternbach 209 W. Yale Loop, Irvine CA 92714

FRIERSON ABDICATES SAPS: The Spectator Amateur Press Society is
fandom's second longest-surviving apa, and for some time has been
held together through the efforts of el supremo, Meade Frierson III.
Frierson, in the midst of stencilling another member's zine we are
told, decided to turn the operation of the apa over to the only
other candidate for the job, Nicki Lynch of Chattanooga.

NEW AUSSIE CLUB: SPECTRUM is a media-oriented club in Sydney,
publishers of CLOSED CIRCUIT. Contact address: PO Box A96, Sydney
South 2000 Australia.

FANZINE "PHOENIX": The California Science-Fantasy Organization
has announced a magazine to publish the first of the year. Its
contents appear to be fan fiction set in the Star Wars universe (Craig?)
plus Millenium Falcon blueprints. The price is \$7.95. Contact
1617 Peck Ave., San Mateo CA 94401.

RUNE FANS ATTENTION: Carol Kennedy (see CoAs) writes: "Lee Pelton
and I have split up as a couple, but not as coeditors of RUNE -- we
continue as partners in that." Although who subscribes to this
zine is usually of no interest to anyone but me, Carol's action in
the wise will be news in some circles. And appreciated by me.

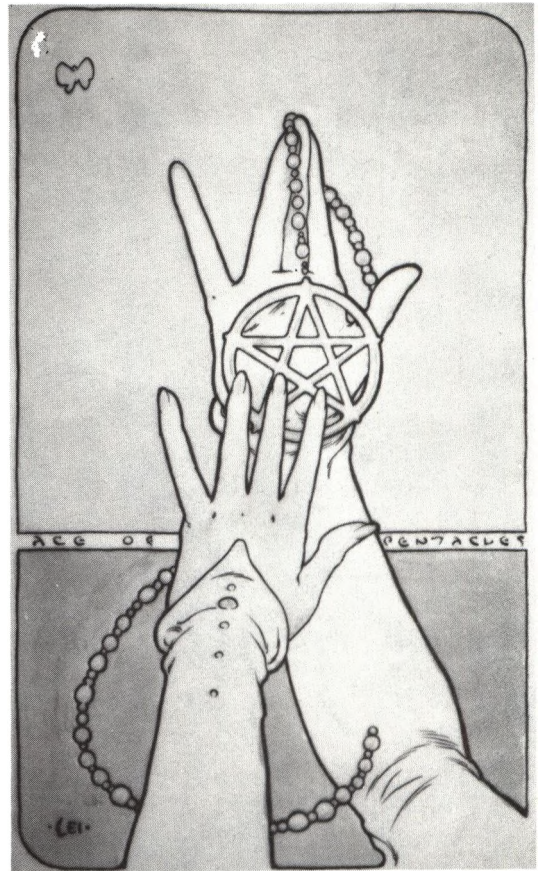
FROM ANSIBLE: (ed. Dave Langford - the new UK fanewzine): John
Piggott married Pat Douglas at Southend Registry Office 7/28. The
baby was due around 11/15....D. West has been trying for a Civil
Service job in order to feed the kids while the family breadwinner goes
off to college: Previously he'd been turned down as unwilling to
make a true career of driving a van...



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FAN TAROT DECK

Don Simpson was on leave from the army... Yes, that's how far back you can trace the origin of the Fan Tarot Deck now nearing completion. For those who don't know how long ago that was, let us pick up the story. Simpson persuaded Bruce Pelz to visit Bullock's Wilshire, at the time a West Coast distributor for Steuben crystal ware. - Simpson convinced Pelz to buy a Steuben goblet, only one, as that was one more than he could afford, and promised to engrave the design of Pelz' choice thereon. - About 5 years later Bruce settled on The Tower from the Tarot deck, which Simpson engraved and Pelz still has on display in his living room. Although the local outlet for Steuben had discontinued it, killing off Pelz' ambition to have a goblet for every card in the deck, he transferred the concept to drawing/painting. Before St. Louiscon in 1969 he began signing up artists to contribute to the project -- and in some cases their cards have outlasted them in fandom. Ie, Doug Lovenstein was the first to turn in a card. Now, a decade afterwards, the project is scheduled for delivery to buyers by Noreascon II. Below is a list of the contributors to this fanhistoric (in the sense of epochal) effort. Their originals range from 3x5 to 24x40.

CUPS

- A. C. Lee Healy*
2. Josh Kirby*
3. Ellen Greene *
4. Ross Chamberlain*
5. Debra Bean*
6. Kara Dalkey*
7. Judy Blish*
8. Bill Rotsler*
9. Gary Anderson*
10. Randy Bathurst*
- P. Freff*
- Kt. Jackie Causgrove*
- L. Ann Chancellor*
- Q. Kathy Sanders*
- K. Andrew Stephenson*

PENTACLES

- Steve Leialoha*
- Harry Bell
- Chris Holmes*
- Ken Fletcher*
- Reed Waller*
- Lee Hoffman*
- Jim Schumacher*
- Kurt Erichsen*
- Cathy Hill*
- Paula Marmor*
- Marti Lands*
- Eddie Jones*
- Stu Shiffman*
- Kathi Macmillan*
- John Pound*

SWORDS

- Blair Wilkins*
- Bea Barrio*
- Jim Odbert*
- Lee Nordling*
- Alicia Austin*
- George Metzger*
- George Jones*
- Alexis Gilliland*
- Arthur Thomson*
- Mike Symes
- Doug Lovenstein*
- Bjo Trimble
- Juanita Coulson*
- Mike Gilbert*

WANDS

- Ray Capella*
- Gary Benson*
- Evelyn Turner*
- David Higgins*
- Marc Schirmeister*
- Pat Ortega
- Steve Stiles*
- Rick Sternbach*
- Maureen Garrett*
- Jim Barker*
- Liz Danforth*
- Wendy Pini*
- Terry Austin*
- Bonnie Goodknight*
- Dan Steffan*

0. The Fool
- I. The Magician
- II. The High Priestess
- III. The Empress
- IV. The Emperor
- V. The Hierophant
- VI. The Lovers
- VII. The Chariot
- VIII. Strength
- IX. The Hermit
- X. The Wheel of Fortune
- XI. Justice
- XII. The Hanged Man

- Bruce Duncan*
 - Taral*
 - George Barr*
 - Maxine Miller*
 - Helmut Pesch*
 - Karen Kuykendall*
 - Connie Faddis*
 - Joe Wehrle*
 - SuFord Lewis*
 - James Patrick*
 - Linda Miller*
 - Joan Hanke-Woods
 - Greg Bear*
- (continued)

The asterisk
denotes card
completed and
turned in.

BOX SCORE:

Finished: 78
In Process: 7
85

XIII. Death	-Tim Kirk*	
XIV. Temperance	-Kate Wadey*	
XV. The Devil	-Chris Baker*	
XVI. The Tower	-Don Simpson*	
XVII. The Star	-Kelly Freas*	
XVIII. The Moon	-Mary Jane Hertz*	Verso: Walt Liebscher*
XIX. The Sun	-Inger Edelfeldt*	
XX. Judgement	-Tina Bear	
XXI. The World	-Victoria Poyser*	
XXII. Separation	-Gordon Monson*	
XXIII. The Farrier	-Dian Crayne*	

WORLD CON WORDS

NOREASCON 2: The Hugo nominations ballot has been released. I considered distributing a copy through FILE 770, but have concluded that all of you who are eligible to vote will receive one with the forthcoming Progress Report 3. // As of 11/7/79 the con had 2405 members. // At the committee's annual elections in October Leslie Turek (chairman), Jill Eastlake (treasurer) and George Flynn (secretary) all retained their offices. Rick Katze has been appointed to head committee sales, and Peggy Rae Pavlat will head press relations. // 20% of the dealer's room is already full.

DENVENTION II: A new issue of DENVISIONS/THIN AIR WONDER STORIES is in circulation, as is DENotations, a brief personalzine by cochair of the convention Don C. Thompson. From it I pass on his request for the whereabouts of Denvention I (1941) attendees who are all entitled to free memberships under the present scheme. Don also explained his absence from SeaCon -- he missed connections with the rest of his family at O'Hare, and as they had his passport with them he had no alternative but to return to Denver. Upon arrival he contracted viral meningitis, which laid him low for about a week.

PRO BEAT: Tim Marion drops a line to announce that he has been made Assistant Editor of WORLD CONSTRUCTION and MINING EQUIPMENT INTERNATIONAL. After six months he expects to be made Managing Editor; at present he is learning magazine production. Tim also reports that the following have been made columnists for HEAVY METAL: Steve Brown (sf), Bob Stewart (film), and Lou Stathis (rock). Incidentally, Locus reports Stathis has been terminated at Dell.

Bill Rotsler has received the go-ahead from Ted White at HM to produce a fumetti (a photo graphic-story). Bill has started accumulating plastic odds and ends to shape into miniature sets. He has recruited actors and aides. In fact he has already done some shooting "on board" Bob Burns' ALIEN set -- with Bruce Pelz as the chief villain and Tom Stern as his sleazy assistant. The Alien set is built down Burns' driveway and into his backyard.

Joe Pearson and Jim Shull have collaborated to illustrate the Underwood/Miller edition of Vance's SERVANTS OF THE WONKH, second of four in the Planet of Adventure series. Involved were five full page illos, 3 spots and a 2-page map.

• FIRST IMPRESSIONS

RUSTY HEVELIN



Edmond Hamilton became the first new name destined for prolonged recognition and honor in the new field of magazine sf when his "The Monster-God of Mamurth" appeared in the Aug 1926 issue of WEIRD TALES. Hamilton had entered Westminster College after graduating from high school at age 14! In his second year he became bored with classes and increasingly fascinated by the fantasies of writers like A. Merritt and Edgar Rice Burroughs. When he cut chapel too consistently, Westminster expelled him and he became a yard clerk for the Pennsylvania Railroad. That job was eliminated in 1924 and Hamilton began his first story; the world lost a physicist and sf gained a major innovator.

Hamilton used A. Merritt's "People of the Pit" as a model and his first story had to be rewritten to suit Farnsworth Wright, but by the time it was published Wright had bought a serial which went into the Sep-Nov 1926 issues as "Across Space". WEIRD TALES' December cover story was "The Metal Giants" which proved to be the readers' favorite. "Monster God" had been second choice to Merritt's "Woman of the Wood", beating out other favorites including HP Lovecraft and August Derleth. The Feb 1927 WEIRD TALES had Hamilton's "The Atomic Conquerors" for the readers' favorite and in March his "Evolution Island" was only a few votes out of first place. Hamilton was off and running with seven appearances in eight months and already a top favorite with WT readers.

Hamilton developed and popularized the intergalactic super science space opera which became the hallmark of sf in the 1930s, along with EE Smith, John Campbell and Jack Williamson. He became affectionately known as "World Saver" Hamilton. His reputation suffered after he did the Captain Future stories and other consignment work in the 40s. In recent years, however, he has received increasing recognition for his professional competency and versatility for works including "City at World's End", "Haunted Stars" and "The Star Kings", as well as from reassessment of his early contributions.

Other writers became well-known for using ideas Hamilton developed in 1926-30. He dramatically handled the problem of fighting an invisible airship in his 1927 serial "The Time Raider"; John Campbell handled it his way in "Solarite" (1930). In "The Moon Menace" matter transmitters were used for interplanetary transport.

Hamilton's Interstellar Patrol in "Within the Nebula" preceded Doc Smith's "Galactic Patrol" by more than eight years. His "Cities in the Air" were not to be used as well until James Blish began his "Space Okies" series (CITIES IN FLIGHT). Even Murray Leinster's use of impenetrable darkness as a weapon in "The Darkness on 5th Avenue" may have come from "The Moon Menace." The odds are, though, that Hamilton's ideas were appearing in a primarily fantasy and horror magazine (WEIRD TALES) and were unseen by the other writers and by most of their readers.

He never won a Hugo, though "What's It Like Out There?" and "He That Hath Wings" are considered award-level work. Like Murray Leinster Ed Hamilton had to wait and watch while worldcon committees named less deserving guests of honor and three committees chose to repeat someone previously honored. The 22nd worldcon selected him and he shared the GoH spot with his wife and fellow-writer, Leigh Brackett, at Pacificon II, at Oakland in 1954, forty years after he began writing.

LATE COA:

John Berry 3310 19th Ave South, Seattle WA 98144.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF MISHAP: February 1, 1980 marks the fifth birthday of this Michigan-based apa. Denise Hudspeth-Brown is urging all ex-members and friends of Mishap to do a contribution. Copy count is 75, and include \$1.50 for postage and scamology. Dealind is April 1. (16711 Burt Rd. Apt 207, Detroit MI 48219)

FILE 770 YEARBOOK will be issue #19, and be mailed bulk rate most likely. All persons whose subscriptions are valid at mailing time will receive a copy. Issue #18 will go first class in January to keep you current while the post office works its will on the slower-posted yearbook. If your sub is up before #19, consider accordingly.

ART CREDITS: Taral: 1 - Bill Rotsler: 3 - Jason Keehn: 5 - Bill Kunkel: 8,21 - Alexis Gilliland: 9 - Paul Chadwick: 12 - Victoria Poyser: 14 - Maureen Garrett: 20 -



Mark L. Olson (10)
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