

FOCAL POINT, Volume 2, Number 27, a fanzine of news, views, and reviews, is edited by Arnie Katz (59 Livingston St., Apt. 6B, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201). Invaluable Help: Joyce Fisher. Editors Emeritus: Rich Brown & Mike McInerney. Australian Agent: John Bangsund (1/8 Bundalohn Ct., St. Kilda, Vict. 3182, Australia 12/A\$3.) Published bi-weekly, it is available for news, all-for-all trades, of 6/\$1. Illustrations by Jay Kinney and Bill Rotsler. March 29, 1971.

TERRY CARR LEAVES ACE IN STAFF CUT Ace Books, feeling the sharp teeth of the recession on its corporate neck, has had to eliminate one of its full-time editors. Terry Carr, youngest of the Ace editors and lowest in seniority, was chosen as the one to go.

This doesn't mean the end of Terry's association with Ace, though. After some negotiation it has been decided that Terry will continue to edit the Ace Specials on a reduced-salary basis at home.

And, of course, he still has a contract for <u>Universe</u>, an anthology of all-new stories which will be fully illustrated by Alicia Austin.

U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL William Hamling,
INDICTS HAMLING, KEMP Earl Kemp, Greenleaf Classics and

Reading Enterprises & Library Services were indicted in San Diego and Dallas, Tex., by none other than U.S. Attorney General Mitchell on charges of mailing obscene literature The book in question was "The Illustrated Presidential Report of the Commission on Obscenity and Pornograph," a 352pp graphically illustrated extract from the 656pp U.S. Government-printed (and unillustrated) "Report of the President's Commission on Obscenity and Pornography." The Attorney General's contention is that the illustrated version, by virtue of its illustrations, is obscene. William Hamling, president of Greenleaf Classics, is known to science fiction as the former editor of IMAGINATION and IMAGINATIVE TALES, undistinguished and unlamented prozines save for the fact that the former carried Mari Wolf's, and then Robert Bloch's fanzine review column, "Pandora's Box". Earl Kemp, vice president of Reading



Enterprises & Library Service, was publisher of the Hugo-winning fanzine WHO KILLED SCIENCE FICTION and was chairman of ChiCon III.

RICH BROWN WITHDRAWS FROM FOCAL POINT A shortage of time has caused rich brown, friend and esteemed co-editor, to withdraw from active participation in FOCAL POINT. Besides his work on The Daily Bond-Puyer, rich has a weekend job and a freelance financial column to fill the time that used to be devoted to news views, and reviews.

This was not a sudden decision on rich's part. We discussed the matter at New Years, at which time rich informed me he would be withdrawing after the FOCAL POINT FANNUAL (FP #26), unless things improved in the spare time department. The situation didn't improve, unfortunately, and rich informed me after FP 25 that the FANNUAL would have to be It.

Rich was the co-founder of Focal Point (with Mike McInerney) and co-edited it through its initial incarnation as well as the first year of the current run.

Rich will continue to be listed on the masthead in the honorary position of Editor Emeritus, but I guess I'll be doing FP solo from now on, with the generous aid of local fans, Joyce, and FP's regular contributors. I hope I can keep the issues on the high level attained by the editorial teams of McInerney-Brown and Brown-Katz.

Incidently, while faneds are no longer obligated to send rich trade copies, I hope you'll all send him at least one more issue of your fanzines, to give him a chance to do something so he can earn future issues.

HARRY WARNER ALL RIGHT A note from the Hagerstown Hermit assured us that he'd come through his operation in fine style and that not a hint of the cancer he'd feared had been discovered. Recovery is proceding nicely, though it may be a little while before his correspondents and faneds eagerly awaiting LoCs hear from him. Harry also asked us to pass along his thanks to all those who wrote him notes or sent him cards when he took ill.

IF YOU MARRY ANOTHER FANOCLAST, IS IT INCEST? Arnie Katz and Joyce Fisher, and Steve
Stiles and Gale Burnick will soon have a
chance to find out. Both couples have announced their engagements. There will be a
Katz-Fisher wedding in late April, and a Stiles-Burnick knot-tying in the fall.

BOSKONE DRAWS MIXED NOTICES Reports on the Boskone 8, held at the Sheraton Rolling Green in Andover, Mass., March 12-14 are conflicting. Those who could drive there or who had patience to compute the complicated logistics of getting to the hotel by public transport give conflicting accounts concerning the quality of the event.

FOCAL POINT's own valiant reporters, Steve Stiles and Gale Burnick, were among those who rolled over and went back to bed rather than figure the complexities of the Boston to Andover bus.

In fairness, though, many of those who did go had an excellent time as NESFA tried out some new ideas, perhaps in preparation for the Noreascon. 211 attended the con and heard such luminaries of the scientifiction field as Larry Niven, Ben Bova, and Hal Clement speak.

The "My World and Welcome To It" competition to illustrate the works of Larry Niven was won by Mike Gilbert.

A video feed to each hotel room was tried, but, as I understand it, there wasn't enough power to make it work, once all the room sets were turned on. So the programming was shown on a screen in the main meeting hall. (Source: divers people, including LOCUS)

LUNACON 71 The Lunacon 1971, April 16-18 at the Hotel Commodore in New York, will be trying to add the touches one would expect to find at a con equal in size to the worldcons of just a few years ago. For the first time Lunacon activities will include a banquet, art show, and costume ball.

The Pro Guest of Honor is John W. Campbell, who will address the multitudes on Sunday afternoon. The Fan Guest of Honor is Howard DeVore, who will sell you John's books and magazines at Very Reasonable Prices in the Huckster Room.

The banquet, \$6.50, will have Isaac Asimov as Toastmaster. Howard will speak, and Isaac will tell his joke. Membership is \$2.50 in advance, \$3 at the door. Further information from: Devra Langsam, 250 Crown Street, Brooklyn, NY 11225.

MIDWESTCON June 25-27 are the dates for the 22nd edition of fandom's favorite lay-about convention, the Midwestcon. Another hotel change has been made this year, and the new site, Quality Courts Motel in Cincinnati, sounds most appealing.

The only official activities are a poolside buffet banquet and the collection of the \$2 admission by Lou Tabakow, also at poolside, if you wish.

Room rates are \$14-\$16 for a single, \$10-\$20 for a double.

LARRY NIVEN SYMPOSIUM GOH Featuring minimal programming and plenty of poolside socializing, the Symposium 1971 will be held May 28-31 at the Edgewater Hyatt House, Long Beach, Ca., under the direction of Lee and Barry Gold.

A banquet luncheon (\$4.50 in advance, \$5 at the door) is scheduled for Saturday, May 29, with Larry Niven as GoH and Dave (Ted Johnstone) McDaniel as Toastmaster. The other official function planned for the Symposium is a costume ball, seemingly the fixed star. of West Coast conventions.

Membership is \$1 before April 1, \$1.50 from then to May 27, and \$2 at the door. Further info: Lee and Barry Gold, 11969 Iowa Ave., #6, Los Angeles, Calif. 90025.

SFWA BANQUETS The winners of the 1971 Nebula Awards will be announced as part of the festivities of the SFWA banquets scheduled for New York, San Francisco, and New Orleans for April 3.

The New York banquet will be held at Les Champs restaurant; the West Coast affair will be a buffet at the Hotel Claremont (site of the Baycon), and SFWAns will also gather at the Burbon Hotel in New Orleans.

RETURN OF THE NAMELESS? The Nameless Ones, dead as an open-membership club as reported in a previous FOCAL POINT, may not go gently into that good night. The club may be revived by Paul Stanberry and a core group of the original members on an invitational basis.

NYC Ross Chamberlain's lower east side apartment was burglarized recently; he lost a good stereo rig, and a movie projector, among other things. ::: Joe Staton got a script to illustrate for the Warren Mags.

(News continued at end of Bob Shaw column.)

## SHAW FUND

\$1,207.00 is the new total in the Bosh Fund, "down" from \$1,221.00 last issue because of poor addition by rich brown. (It should have read \$1,121.00" last issue.) \*sigh\*

SPECIAL BOSH FMZ The following zines are those which have been or soon will be published to benefit the Fund. Asterisked fmz have already been published and will be sent as soon as you send \$\$.

\*MICROCOSM #14, 50¢, Dave Burton, 5422 Kenyon Dr., Indianapolis, Ind.

\*FOCAL POINT 12.5, \$1, rich brown, 410-61st St., Apt. D4, Brooklyn, NY 11220.

\*APA-L #289, \$2, Fred Patton, 11863 W. Jefferson Blvd., LA, Calif. 90230

\*BEABOHEMA #13, \$1, Frank Lunney, Box 551, Lehigh Univ., Bethlehem, Pa.

<u>The Enchanted Duplicator</u>, \$1, Arnie Katz, Apt. 6B, 59 Livingston St., Brook-lyn, NY 11201

INNUENDO, \$2, Terry Carr, 35 Pierrepont St., Brooklyn, NY 11201
METANOIA #9, 50¢, Greg & Suzy Shaw, 64 Taylor Dr, Fairfax, Calif. 94930.
INFINITUM #5, 50¢, Dave Lewton, 735 E.Kessler Blvd, Indianapolis, Ind. 46220.
NOPE #12, 50¢, Jay Kinney, 215 Willoughby Ave, Apt 1212, Brooklyn NY 11205.
TRANSLATIONS #2, \$1, John-Henri Holmberg, c/o Thomas Mellgren, Nedre Slottsgaten 16, 752 20 Uppsala, SWEDEN.

SEND YOUR BIDS for the following auctions to Colleen Brown (410-61st St., Apt. D4, Brooklyn, NY 11220). We ask that bids be submitted in increments of 50¢ on items under \$10, \$1 on items over that.

CLOSED AUCTIONS Lenny Kaye still owes ups \$8.50 for MOJO NAVIGATOR R&R NEWS. :: Joseph Pate owes the fund \$4 for WARHOON 15 & 17. :: Bruce Robins owes us \$28 for WILD HAIR #3, FANTASY MAGAZINE and "THRU THE DRAGON GLASS". :: Robert Whitaker owes the fund \$76 for SPACESHIP 21, THE ARKHAM SAMPLER, a complete set of LIGHTHOUSE, THE WHITE SYBIL/MEN OF AVALON, HOWARD PHILLIPS LOVECRAFT: A TENTATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY and FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND #2. :: Joanne Burger has bid and won FEN CRITTUR COMICAL BOOKS for \$4.

AUCTIONS STILL ON The following items are still receiving bids. ALL items will be closed at these bid prices unless we receive further bids by April 6.

THE MAGAZINE OF F&SF, donated by Andy Main. The set is complete from the first issue in Fall, 1949, through March, 1958. 1959 is complete but the set has only 8 issues from 1960 through May, 1963. From May 1963 to the end of '68 only 4 issues are missing. Al Schuster has bid \$68 for the set.

SCIENCE FICTION FIVE-YEARLY #4, donated by Lee Hoffman. Robert Whitaker is the current high bidder @ \$5.

UNKNOWN WORLDS, June, August, October, 1943, sewn together, donated by Robert Whitaker. Chuck Chapman has bid \$5.50.

THREE pen & ink drawings by Vincent DiFate, framed, contributed by the artist. One appeared in ANALOG. Chester E. Lee has bid \$5.

REMEMBRANCE OF THINGS PAST VII, 182pp from the pages of SPACEWAYS. Chester E. Lee has bid \$10.

FIVE COPIES of Don Ford's TAFF report, two volumes, donated by Lynn Hickman. We have bids from Paul Anderson (\$8), Joanne Burger (\$5), Chester E. Lee (\$5), Robert Whitaker (\$5) and Joseph Pate (\$4.50).

QUANDRY #14, donated by Lee Hoffman. Robert Whitaker has bid \$4.50.

THREE COPIES of THE GOON GOES WEST, donated by F.M. & Elinor Busby. The top three bids are from Paul Anderson (\$10), Chester E. Lee (\$9.50) and Robert Whitaker.

QUANDRY #13, donated by Richard Bergeron. Missing page 40, "A Dream" by Dave English. Robert Whitaker is top bidder @ \$13.

FANCIFUL TALES, V1N1, Fall, 1936, donated by Forry Ackerman. rich brown is top bidder at \$20.

TWO ORIGINAL Rotsler-Kirk collaborations, full page. Both of high fanzine quality. Neither have been published. Leeland Sapiro has bid \$10 for the pair.

WE REPEAT that ALL items will be closed out at the above prices to the above bidders unless further bids are received by Colleen Brown on or before April 6.

# MORE NEWS

BERRY TO EUROPE John Berry left for a six-month stay in France March 24, after having been properly feted by Barea Fandom. Personal letters can be sent to him at: 1, Place Anatole France, F37, Tours, France. Fanzines, unless you hear otherwise from John, should be sent to his address in Bronxville (35 Dusenberry, Bronxville, NY 10708.)

There will be no new "Club House" columns by John in AMAZING while he's away, so don't bother with fanzines for review.

SUPERGRAPHICS OFFERS Supergraphics (Box 445, Wyomissing, Pa. 19610) is offering -MIKE HINGE POSTERS among other things -- four beautiful Mike Hinge posters. "Parse
City Plug-in No. 1" is \$2.50; the other three ("Metamagic", "ExploLogical" and "Justice") are \$2. Also in production is a complete Mike Hinge book,
Hotrob, in collaboration with Harlan Ellison. :: Mike was also featured in a special
double issue of DESIGN QUARTERLY (78/79); that is, Mike's artwork was, along with a"selfportrait" of Mike as a robot. Everyone else whose work was featured in Mike's group is
an architect.

COA: John D. Berry, 1, Place Anatole France, F37, Tours, France Gale Burnick, 339 49th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Ron & Linda Bushyager, Apt.B211, Sutton Arms, 121 Macdade Blvd., Folsom, Pa.19033 Pat Clifton, 41-45 11th Ave. NE, #7, Seattle, Wash. 98105
Barry Malzberg, 948 Garrison Ave., Teaneck, N. J. 07666
Michael Padwee, "Benfey, 42 W. 65th St., New York, NY 10023



Anne McCaffrey and Chelsea Quinn Yarbro have both been putting forth the line lately that it's only in recent years that women sf writers have achieved any recognition of their talents. It was Anne who started it, with what struck me as a surprisingly silly acceptance speech at the Berkeley worldcon as she accepted her Hugo for Dragonrider or whatever it was and claimed that this was some kind of vindication of womankind in science fiction. Made it sound like Hugo Gernsback meets Women's Lib. With due respect to Anne, who's a nice person, Women's Lib doesn't need phony issues. Lady sf writers don't get paid lower word-rates than the males, and for every Anne McCaffrey who's testified that she had trouble writing when she had to watch over the kiddies there's a Piers Anthony who's said the same thing: it doesn't matter much what your sex is, if you're home all day you probably take your turn with the tykes. And as for women sf writers not having received recognition before Anne won her Hugo, I might give that some credence if nobody had ever heard of Leigh Brackett, Zenna Henderson, C. L. Moore, Nictzin Dyalis, Margaret St. Clair, Katherine MacLean, Wilmar Shiras, Judith Merril or, for that matter, Lee Hawkins Garby. (What do you mean, you never heard of Nictzin Dyalis or Lee Hawkins Garby? Fakefan. I'll bet you never heard of Mary Shelley either.)

Time magazine is researching an article on science fiction for publication sometime soon, and in connection with it I got interviewed for an hour and a half recently. The first thing I said when the interviewer came in the door was, "For god's sake, don't call it sci-fi!" When I later told this proudly to Bob Silverberg, he said, "You know what the article is going to be titled now? 'DON'T CALL IT SCI-FI!'" Oog.

Like most fan households, ours is somewhat overfilled with books, magazines, records, fanzines, unanswered letters and the like. The last time Sid Coleman visited us we spent an evening with the Silverbergs in their gassy house in Riverdale (the one that used to belong to Mayor LaGuardia). Sid admired the surroundings, and said, "I love your sunken living room. Of course, the Carrs may have a sunken living room, but if they do you can't tell because there's too much stuff on the floor." I don't know why we invited him back.

I was thinking the other day about the fact that people on acid evidently can see radically different worlds sometimes; I once heard,

for instance, of a Fascist Bastard who started taking acid and decided he was God. (Just him, nobody else.) So that led me to thinking of a group of paranoids all of whom do acid, and they have these wild paranoid trips and in their conversations they refer, as casually as someone else might refer to the "white light," to the "Black Hand." "Wow, man, what a heavy trip. I saw the Black Hand." "Hey, how was it?" "Oh, groovy -- everything I always worried about turned out to be true, so then I didn't have to worry about it anymore."

There's a "fannish revival" going on these days, in case you haven't heard, though in truth some of these new "fannish" fans seem to have odd ideas of what fannishness is all about. Chris Couch reviewed Earl Evers' zEEn in a recent LOCUS, for instance, and said, "...it's quite fannish, discussing things like rock music..." Rock is fannish? Since when? You mean Will Straw is really a hoax perpetrated by Mick Jagger?

Actually, it's beautifully ironic. A lot of the new-breed "fannish fans" say oh-urg-ugh to pages and pages of reviews of science fiction books, and swear up and down that that kind of space-waster will never appear in their fanmags. So instead they publish pages and pages of reviews of new rock albums.

### More Fan Polls:

You remember that in a couple of not-so-long-past issues of FP I published the results of various fan egoboo polls of twenty to thirty years ago. These were the results of an uncompleted effort I made a couple years ago to compile a reasonably complete listing of such polls, which I meant to publish in the form of a booklet.

Well, there are some more results that I haven't put into print here yet, and since I haven't heard of anyone canceling his subscription to FP because of these moldy old fan poll results I propose to put the rest of them in this installment of The Infinite Beanie. These are spotty and would hardly be a definitive guide to either quality or popularity even if they were complete, but I find them interesting nonetheless.

Somebody took a poll of "famous fans" in 1938, with the following results:

- 1) Donald A. Wollheim
- Forrest J Ackerman
   John V. Baltadonis
- 4) Olon F. Wiggins
- 5) Sam Moskowitz
- 6) Bob Madle
- 7) John B. Michel
- 8) James V. Taurasi
- 9) Ted Carnell
- 10) Walter Gillings

In the same poll, the top five fanzines were:

- 1) THE SCIENCE FICTION FAN
- 2) THE SCIENCE FICTION COLLECTOR
- 3) THE SCIENCE FICTION CRITIC
- 4) COSMIC TALES
- 5) NOVAE TERRAE

The New York Futurians were of course represented by Don Wollheim and John Michel, while British fandom snuck Carnell, Gillings and

Maurice K. Hanson's NOVAE TERRAE into the listings. ("Novae Terrae," of course, being Latin for "New Worlds," the title Carnell later used for the British of pro magazine he founded.) Of the top ten fans, John V. Baltadonis was the editor of THE SCIENCE FICTION COLLECTOR and Olon Wiggins edited THE SCIENCE FICTION FAN, generally considered the "focal point" of that era's fandom.

You've seen reprints of the results of fan polls taken during the early and middle forties in earlier Infinite Beanies, so now we skip to the first Tucker Fan Survey, conducted by Himself in late '47-

early-48. There were categories for pro magazines and fanzines:

1) Astounding

2) Fantastic Novels

3) Weird Tales

4) Famous Fantastic
Mysteries

1) THE GORGON

2) FANTASY COMMENTATOR
3) FANTASY ADVERTISER

4) British FANTASY REVIEW

FANTASY REVIEW is listed as the Eritish one to distinguish it from the fan publications of the same name published by Joe Kennedy as fan annuals in 1946 and 1947.

In 1954, Gregg Calkins ran a rather different fan poll through the pages of OOPSLA!: This one was listed as "For Faneds Only" (though Calkins also said the ballots had gone out to "faneds and other fen of distinction") and out of 50 ballots sent out, 40 were returned; among such familiar voters as Willis, Silverberg, Grennell, Tucker and McCain were such lesser lights as Stuart K. Nock, Raleigh Multog (who edited STAR ROCKETS, one of the great all-time crudzines), Sam Sackett and even someone named Stan Thomas, of whom I don't think I've ever heard. Most of the voters were well-known, active fans, though, and the top ten fanzines placed like this:

1) HYPHEN

2) PSYCHOTIC

3) OOPSLA!

4) GRUE

5) SKYHOOK

6) PEON

7) DESTINY

8) SCIENCE FICTION ADVERTISER

9) CONFUSION

10) SPACESHIP

Aha, you've heard of some of these! This was the first incarnation of Dick Geis's PSYCHOTIC, which became SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW and then folded for a dozen or more years, was resurrected as PSYCHOTIC and again changed to SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW. In '54 it was considered fandom's focal point, though the knowledgeable fans chose HYPHEN above it all the same: quality counts too. PEON was Charles Lee Riddle's very good generalzine, DESTINY and SF ADVERTISER were the lithographed fanmags of highly sercon tendencies on the list, and SPACESHIP was Bob Silverberg's fanzine, which was then just about folded, otherwise it would no doubt have placed higher.

The Second Tucker Fan Survey was conducted in 1955, with a distribution of 1800 ballots. Nobody said how many were actually returned, though Gerald Steward, who published the results in CANADIAN FANDOM #27, maintained that 600 distributed ballots would've been enough. The

best ten fanmags on this poll were:

1) PSYCHOTIC

2a) HYPHEN

2b) GRUE

3) PEON

- 4) CANADIAN FANDOM
- 5a) SKYHOOK
- 5b) DEVIANT
- 6) DESTINY
- 7) SCIENCE FICTION ADVERTISER
- 8) FANTASY TIMES

The possibly unfamiliar titles on this list would be CANADIAN FANDOM, a fanmag that had been founded in 1943 by Beak Taylor, taken over from 1947 to 1951 by Ned McKeown, from '51 to '53 by the (Toronto) Derelicts, finally edited from '53 onward by Gerald Steward, one of the Derelict Insurgents who became famous shortly after through Boyd Raeburn and his fanzine A BAS; the other unfamiliar title would be DEVIANT, published by Carol McKinney, which in all honesty I can't claim was a very good fanzine despite the fact that it published a regular column by me. Carol McKinney was pretty, though.

After that came things like the three FANAC Polls that I ran, and the results of which I printed in an earlier Beanie. There was a fourth FANAC Poll, though, conducted by Walter Breen after he'd taken over publication of FANAC. He ran it in early 1962, polling for the

best of 1961. The top ten fanzines went like this:

1) WARHOON

2) VOID

3) DISCORD

4a) HABAKKUK

4b) XERO

5) FANAC

6) AXE

7a) HYPHEN

7b) YANDRO

The Best Single Fan Publication was the XERO Willish. Walt Willis's The Harp That Once or Twice was the best column and Walter Breen's The Admirable CRYcon was the "Best Single Piece of Writing"; it was a long, detailed report on the worldcon of 1961 in Seattle -- published in the #1 fanzine WARHOON, as was Willis's #1 column.

The #1 Fan Face was actually two faces, Larry and Noreen Shaw, publishers of the newszine AXE, through whose pages the second Willis Fund was conducted, much as the Bob Shaw Fund happened in FOCAL POINT last year. Ted White, another prime mover of that Willis Fund, came in second in the Fan Face balloting, while Willis himself ironically placed third.

For Best New Fan, Avram Davidson beat out Calvin Demmon. Among the fan artists and cartoonists it went like this:

Artists

1) Arthur Thomson

2) Richard Bergeron

3) George Barr

4) Bjo

Cartoonists

1) Ray Nelson

2) Arthur Thomson

3) Bhob Stewart4) Steve Stiles

And the best writers were:

- 1) Walt Willis
- 2) Terry Carr
- 3) Harry Warner
- 4) Redd Boggs
- 5) Richard Bergeron

FANAC folded then, and to fill the gap an independent First Annual

Fan Poll was conducted under the aegis of Charles Wells in 1963, covering 1962's fan productions. Here were the top ten fanmags of 1962:

- 1) WARHOON
- 2) XERO
- 3) YANDRO
- 4) CRY
- 5) SHAMGRI-L'AFFAIRES
- 6) AXE
- 7) HORIZONS
- 8) HYPHEN
- 9) AMRA
- 10) BANE

New titles here are George Scithers's&s fanzine AMRA, which later won two fanzine Hugos, Vic Ryan's BANE, and, curiously, Harry Warner's HORIZONS. Harry's FAPAzine is always one of the best fanzines published, but its circulation seems to be restricted to FAPA, so it usually doesn't place on the fandom-wide polls. I think this was the only year it made it.

The Best Single Publication of '62 was Dick Eney's A SENSE OF FAPA, a massive compilation of some of the most representative good material from FAPA's history. Walt Willis's The Harp That Once or Twice again walked away with Best Column honors, beating Boggs's File 13 by almost a 4-to-1 margin. For #1 Fan Face, Willis had more than a 4-to-1 margin over the second-placers, Ron Ellik and Ethel Lindsay.

Best fan artist and cartoonist went like this:

#### Artists

- 1) Arthur Thomson
- 2) Bjo Trimble
- 3) Eddie Jones
- 4) George Barr
- 5) Roy Krenkel

#### Cartoonists

- 1) Arthur Thomson
- 2) Ray Nelson
- 3) Steve Stiles
- 4) Bjo Trimble
- 5) William Rotsler

Balloting for Best New Fan of 1962 was close, but Fred Patten beat out Paul Williams by 19 to 16. The Best Fan Writers placed as follow:

- 1) Walt Willis
- 2) Harry Warner
- 3) Walter Breen
- 4) Terry Carr
- 5) Redd Boggs
- 6) Richard Bergeron
- 7) Bob Tucker
- 8) Ron Ellik
- 9a) F.M. Busby
- 9b) John Berry
- 9c) Avram Davidson

The Second Annual Fan Poll was conducted the following year by Dick Eney as the head of a five-man committee elected the year before. I was on this committee, and Eney asked me to do the writeups of one or two winners about whom he felt he couldn't be impartial; one of these was MINAC, a fanzine published by Ted White and Les Gerber. In the fan poll coverage as published by Eney, one of my sentences goes like this: "White comments on fan and pro phenomena in his often highly charged style, usually lively and sometimes factual..." Those last three words are not mine; they were gratuitously inserted by Dick Eney, the fan who'd asked me to do this writeup because he himself

couldn't have been impartial to Ted White. It's a good example of the slimy tactics which endeared Eney to me and quite a few others, and though it may be a little late to call him on it after seven years I glee in doing so. (Speaking of things being "sometimes factual," Eney prefaced his presentation of these poll results with the note that they were "from the ballots of n\*i\*n\*e\*t\*y-t\*h\*r\*e\*e fans, the biggest turnout any fan poll except the Hugo voting has ever had!" This despite the fact that the second and third FANAC Polls just a few years before had had 125 and 126 ballots returned; I believe Eney was among the voters both times.)

But to the results. The top ten fanmags went like this:

- 1) YANDRO
- 2) CRY
- 3) STARSPINKLE
- 4) AMRA
- 5) SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES
- 6) HYPHEN
- 7) DOUBLE-BILL
- 8) XERO
- 9) MINAC
- 10) ENCLAVE

STARSPINKLE was Ron Ellik's newszine, a kind of successor to FANAC. ENCLAVE was Joe Pilati's fanzine, and DOUBLE-BILL, of course, was the zine in which Bowers and Mallardi conducted their Double-Bill Poll of pro writers' opinions on various stfnal topics.

Eney merged the artists and cartoonists together, with these re-

sults:

- 1) Arthur Thomson
- 2) Bjo Trimble
- 3) Steve Stiles
- 4) Bill Rotsler
- 5) Eddie Jones

The Best Fan Writers went like so:

- 1) Walt Willis
- 2) Harry Warner
- 3) John Berry
- 4) Wally Weber
- 5) Redd Boggs

- 6) Calvin Demmon
- 7) F.M. Busby 8) Bob Tucker
- 9) Buck Coulson
- 10) Norm Clarke

The Best Single Publication of 1963 was DOUBLE-BILL #7, the issue featuring the poll results mentioned above. Best Column was Buck Coulson's Strange Fruit, his fanzine review column in YANDRO, which was at its peak of popularity that year. The #1 Fan Face was again Walt Willis (beating Ron Ellik and Wally Weber, who won TAFF that year). And the Best New Fan of 1963 was someone named Arnold Katz, who made his debut as a writer of amateur sf fiction, articles on Analog and Keith Laumer, and reviews of books and fanzines; he also ran for the NFFF Directorate, though luckily he didn't win.

## Coming Next Issue:

Next issue there will be no installment of The Infinite Beanie. Next issue will be devoted to reporting the results of the FOCAL POINT Poll, and though I'd like to whisper a few of the exciting results in your ear I can't do it. I don't think the results are even counted yet, so we'll both have to wait two weeks.

# LATE NEWS

FINLAY ART AUCTION Gerry de la Ree is conducting an auction of vintage Finlay originals for Beverly Finlay. All profits from the sale will go to her to help defray expenses.

Many of the drawings are from Weird Tales, illustrating the works of such as Quinn, Bloch, Bender, Williamson, Howard, Keller, and Hamilton. A number of non-WT drawings are also up for sale, some of them unused.

A list of items can be obtained from Gerry de la Ree, 7 Cedarwood La., Saddle River, N.J. 07458

PERRY RHODAN MAGAZINE DUE Perry Rhodan--with editorials, letters, depts., and contests--will return to the stands in August on a monthly basis with Wendayne Ackerman retained as translator and Forrest Ackerman managing editor of the contents, which will include illustrations by Bill Nelson.

NO, WE DIDN'T SKIP AN ISSUE Well, not really, anyway. FP #26 is the FANNUAL, which will feature a complete write-up of the results of the highly-successful Second Annual Egoboo Poll.

Complete write-ups, however, take time, and the issue will probably come out between 27 and 28, if nothing goes wrong.

FOCAL POINT Arnie Katz 59 Livington Ct. Apt. 6-B Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201

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