

# Full Length Articles

NUMBER FOUR:

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Doc.

## THE SPEER-DUNKELBERGER FEUD

Page 54 BS  
Doc

This is an attempt to collect all exchanges, public and private, between the principals, and some other closely related material, which might be relevant to this feud. Where possible without becoming too tedious or fragmentary, some of the context has been included with the pertinent passages. Shotswaps in VoM and FAK have been omitted, being too widely spaced in time to fit comprehensibly into the arrangement of these extracts, the arrangement being at best a difficult problem. The dittoing is of dubious quality, but the dossier should be readable thruout. If any parts of your copy are illegible, they will be made good on request. --Jack Speer





... Okay, that Achary letter in the last Panews really annoyed me for a loop ... # Attacking me anonymously, I said: "Recently we had become rather discouraged by the great show of narrowmindedness as expressed by many, so-called, top flight fans." Ha. Well, tell I ask you to define your terms. # There has been one piece of news since I last wrote you, though it's rather old by now: 10 June Loren Sinn came over and McNutt dropped down, and we declared it the first Seattle Confabulation. ...

June 45 letter from Buckenberger to Speer, numbered 10 and 11

... I'm afraid that I'll have to disillusion you about that "crack" in FNO #166. It was intended exactly as it was written, in purely general terms. # You and I have not corresponded, talked or read each others work enough to become more than fleetingly acquainted. True we found onepoint on which we disagree (our choice of reading material) but I don't think that's worth scrapping about. After all if we all liked the same things it would be a pretty dull world. # When I take a "crack" at someone I'm perfectly frank about it, I name names and state reasons. I have never had occasion to take a "crack" at anyone in fandom. I don't believe in that sort of thing. I think people who feud are displaying their bad manners in public. # I'd be very happy to define the terms I used. They are not at all vague in definition. They are plain, clear cut and easily understandable. . . and, incidentally, they agree with the Dictionary. # My "crack", as you term it, had reference to the "forgetfulness" that seems prevalent in fandom recently. Forgetting that fandom has tacitly understood rules concerning the tolerance of ideas and personalities. Specifically I had reference to Kepner's article in TOWARD TOMORROW and the article we spoke of in FANTASY COMMENTATOR. # Chuck and I are friends of long standing, True it's been on a basis of correspondence, but nevertheless it predates my interest in fandom by a good many months. Why shouldn't I become enthused when an old friend shows up? # I suppose that you'll take offense at my criticism of the current NFFun, but the current FNC #170 was mimeod (except for one sheet of news) yesterday. Please accept the explanation that it is meant purely as constructive criticism. ...

June 45 National Fantasy Fan, President's Message of Welcome

... From the experiences which your President has had with the organization since it was first started, we feel that each and every provision of this Constitution is needed for its successful continuance. Each part of the proposed Constitution has been carefully worked out, and each dovetails with each other. # ... With all due respect for the ability of our Official Editor, Jack Speer, your President's long and daily work with the NFFF has clearly shown that such a short Constitution as Speer proposed does not have the necessary points contained therein that would make for a successful organization such as the NFFF. ...

I disapprove of the proposed constitution for much the same reasons that Jack Speer gives in his article. It is not necessary or desirable to give detailed procedure for conducting the organization in the Constitution. # A more desirable plan would be to state the general organization of the society in the constitution, and then to detail the procedure and policy in memorandums which would appear from time to time in the Official Organ. Thus it would be possible for each administration to decide how it wanted to do things, and allow leeway for a little initiative on the part of the officers. ... Milt

Concurring dissent of Juffus Speer: # Mr Rothman also is a veteran of constitutional crises in FAPA, New Fandom, and NFFF, and in addition has sat at the deathbed of ISA and SFL. # So if we're going to argue authorities rather than issues, the question is whether Evans' intensive experience with NFFF outweighs our extensive experience with various general fan organizations. I'd like to point out that the experience as President on which Evans bases his request for passage of the proposed constitution, is not experience under that or any similar constitution; the wartime constitution under which he has operated more or less is about as short as the one I suggested. Our only experience with a long and detailed constitution for NFFF is with the one which choked the organization in 1942 so that it had to be revived by extraordinary means on Evans' part, he then being Plancom Chairman, and the old constitution set aside. The selfsame possibilities are present in the one up for vote now: The multiplicity of offices, the requirement of endorsements for candidacies, the cumbersome machinery for getting little things done, and the discouragement of inexperienced members from standing for office. ...

July 25 Fanews 34 1-1001:

The new editor, Jack Speer, has taken over the NFFF NATIONAL FANTASY FAN. For some reason this issue doesn't seem up to par. # It's possible that the hectography (which is hardly the method to use to create a worthwhile impression or express the dignity such an official organ should) is only a temporary measure. We sincerely hope so. # Possibly it's the insertion of a page or two of the type of bickering (not logical sound discussion) that wrecked fandom's efforts toward organization some years back. We sincerely trust that this issue is not an example of the permanent policy of the new Official Editor who has great abilities at his command.

Included in the FAPA postmailing (just rec'd) was a copy of ... TOWARD TOMMOROW ... # Jimmy rather violently attacks Palmer and I REMEMBER LEMURIA in another article. # Jimmy has signed up with Communist Party. That is his privilege regardless of what anyone else may think of it. # We know from personal, across the table, conversations with Ray Palmer that in spite of expressed disbelief by members of his staff he firmly and wholeheartedly BELIEVES THE STORIES TO BE TRUE. That is his privilege. Whether you agree or disagree with the factual nature of the tales you will agree that they are good reading. Better than Burroughs, we think!

I plan to publish a weekly news-sheet for a year. I'm afraid it will be frankly stefnistic. The limit of a year is set because that seems sufficient to set certain standards that I think need to be set. ... # ... One principle to be followed is that the purpose of a newsie is to convey information that is worth most when presented immediately. literary productions, non-timely information, and extended comment we leave to other fanzines. ... # Another thing: Much news will be departmentalized, so you'll know where to look, now or years later, for club reports, fanzines' appearance, changes of address, &c. Other news will be put into separate stories. - There will be no columns like "News-notes" or "The Time Stream" in which all kinds of news are lumped together. # I also hope that the style of reporting may be clearer than much that we've had in the past. # But first we gotta have news! # Your help is earnestly solicited.

5 Jul 45 card from Dunkelberger:

Thank for STEFNEWS. It is Excellent. It's appearance calls for an immediate apology for the remark about hectoging. Shall make it in next Fanews. Evidently NFFan



was the first and an imperfect run. # Good luck to a long fan career.

5/31/45 note from Amelberger re copy of roster over-tolerance issue.

... I'm stenciling and mimeoing my report. It'll save you some work and I want the extra copies of the membership list. You'll get a surprise with a list of less than 100 members in good standing. # Love and "Dunk" # F.S. Can't quite agree with Tuck about Fans AFueding, but then if we all agreed what a dull world this would be.

Well! We seem to be hily misunderstanding each other. My reference to the "intolerance" passage was not made in anger (as a matter of fact, I've been wanting an occasion to write an article about tolerance, and you've deprived me of it), tho I did think you were referring to me. After all, when the shoe fits, I have to put it on. Similarly your remark in this letter that you think people who feud are displaying their bad manners in public, seems to apply to me whether you intended it or not. But shucks, as many scraps as I've been in, your anti-intolerance or anti-feuding remarks aren't enuf to raise the sugar content of my blood a bit. As for McNutt, I certainly have no objection to your liking him; I liked him myself, obviously. I am a little irritated when people say "My 'crack', as you term it," when I never used the word "crack". # Say, I was puzzled at your statement in the Fanews report of my visit, that you and I disagreed considerably on weird v suf. I remember our mildly disagreeing on several things, but don't remember that issue at all. I don't think I could defend science-fiction as being better literature than the weird that has been written. # Enuf of that for the moment.

Tucker sent me a carbon copy of that letter addressed to the two of us. Looks like you misunderstood his reference to "Fans a Feudin'". He has long used this as the name for his list of fans at war--i e, fan in the services. Did you think it was an account of fan feuds? # Less than 100. Gosh, that's even worse than I expected.

... What are you trying to forestall by saying "That is his privilege"? If a man has the right to join the Communists or believe in Lemuria, others certainly have the right to say what they think of them for doing so. It's not as if anybody was trying to make it illegal. But if a fellow feels strongly about it, I think he can risk reprisals and go the whole way in expressing disapproval. "That is his privilege." That's the point in saying so?--we all know it. ...

12/21/45 memo-

Under a date line of July 1st, 1945 comes a welcome addition to the field of newsies, a newsheet from Jack Spear, 5229 University Way, Seattle (5) Washington. It is sent to a gratin publication to a limited circulation. # This 3 paged direct process dittoed production comes well nigh to making us "eat everything we've said". We definitely would like to eat some "humble pie" concerning our remarks about June MFFan. This job is very nice. If this keeps up, who knows possibly our prejudice concerning "purple ink" publications may be completely revised because of

5/1/46

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Teams of the 10th arrived early. ~~When~~ we've been running around in circles.  
# Our disagreement was mentioned in Fanews as "mild arguments" on weird vs  
stf." and they resolved themselves, as I remember, on purely personal prefer-  
ences. # Guess I rather forget what Bob meant by Pen a'Feudin'. # I'm not  
trying to forestall any thing by my remarks "That is his privilege"----- One  
of the great troubles in fandom seems to be that fans can't see both sides of  
an argument. The side opposite their own has absolutely nothing correct about  
it according to them. ...

FANTASY COMMENTATOR #7 ... The otherwise perfect, issue was marred only by the  
savings of Thomas S. Gardner in CRACK-POW HEAVEN! He's become a psychopath in  
his attitude. The same arguments advanced more than are necessary make the whole  
matter ridiculous. ... # STEPHENS from Jack Spaer. 2nd issue dated July 8th.  
News and an editorial IS FANS NUTS?. The editorial is right in the groove.

.. In addressing the National Fantasy Fans I noticed a skip in num-  
bering the members between 150 and 140. Was there any reason for  
this, or was it oversight? # ... Since I believe you're a Com-  
munist sympathizer, I won't say anything about the FuSLA letter  
except to refer to Eleanor Roosevelt's disavowal of the Communists  
recently. # I haven't seen the latest Fantasy Commentator yet, but  
think it's a strange policy which leads you to defend Palmer's  
right to his own idios, and call Gardner psychopathic for his opin-  
ions of Palmer. Certainly if RFP is entitled to toleration, Dr  
Gardner is also. Perhaps you don't realize how strongly he may  
feel about this sort of thing. Science and the scientific way of  
thinking are his religion. # Just noticed the statement that  
Slam Shack is the first and only cooperative domicile operated in  
fandom. Refer to "science fiction house" in Fancyclopedia for others.

... While reading this week's Fanews, I was struck with the infre-  
quency of the dash - which Dunholberger used to use indiscriminately  
for all punctuation marks. Bob Tucker credits Dick Wilson with  
teaching him to spell and punctuate. Maybe criticism does play  
some part, but there are so many cases like this of fans' command  
of language improving with time, that the more practice, and self-  
criticism, seems the greatest factor. ...

STEPHENS out, almost a week late. Possibly Jack is working on the NPFan which  
should have been out two weeks ago.

... Whoa up there. The fact that Stephens may have reached Fargo  
nearly a week after the date on it, doesn't justify a remark that  
it's a week late. As for NPFan, it was delayed one week, in hopes  
that more material would come in (as it did in June). Nine pages  
is shamefully small. Then I was a couple of days addressing it, ...





wondering.....we didn't realize how far your influence extended, great god speer.

#### EVANS RESIGNS NFFF PRES.

Bearing a dateline of August 4th, 1945 we have just rec'd a letter from E.B. Evans tendering his resignation as President of the NFFF. ... # Personally, we lay his resignation at the door of one or possibly two fans who have suddenly become active in fandom again after remaining inactive themselves for sometime. # It is regrettable that individuals can be allowed to have as loud a voice, as these fans apparently do, merely because once upon a time they were top flight. # Evans denies that any one has influenced his decision. We prefer to think otherwise due to J's habit of never speaking ill of anyone. ...

#### RAMBLINGS

With the radio blaring forth conflicting reports behind us we're going to drop our formal format and start RAVELINE..... # Speaking of LIGHT reminds us that the controversial issue of LIGHT (was issue) came out in the summer mailing of FAPA. Tch Tch but there seems to be some prudes somewhere (possibly they only had evil minds). The cartoon that banned LIGHT was a VOMaiden sitting on an ink well on 4e's desk (this will give you an idea of her size) at the desk sat 4e (not looking at the VOMaiden) doing nothing but gold-brick (( Ed's note: Is that so fantastic - 4e we mean?)) The VOMaiden says, "Hey Boss - let's go to work!". Obviously, who ever banned this in the first place didn't get the intended meaning of the cartoon, the VOMaiden was 4e's conscience and wanted him to quit loafing and get his work done. Somehow a dirty double meaning which our "pure" mind fails to see must have been read into the cartoon somehow. Could it be the Speer touch? # On the whole the FAPA mailing was good (but why tantalize those who can't receive it by talking about it? # ... SPEFNEWS #5 & #6 at hand. Unfortunately Speer cannot keep his innuendoes to himself. It is very unbecoming an Official Editor to take cracks at his own organization in the general fan press unless he himself is trying to do something to remedy the situation....and if Jack Speer thinks that this statement is intended as a slap in his face he is correct. We are personally fed up with this alleged fan god and his innuendoes. Every so often we have, in the past, received a note from Jufus asking if we meant to take a crack at him by giving more space to McNutt's visit than we did to his, etc, little petty stuff that should be reserved for children and not indulged in by grown-up adults - you are an adult aren't you? To date no cracks have been made at any fan in FANews or FANESGARD, but Mr. Speer we are making an exception in your case. We believe that you should either wholeheartedly support the organization you are a member and officer of or GET OUT OF IT!

... # The wording of the first paragraph of that NFFF vote report was Kepner's. If you think there are innuendoes in it, kick to him. But as to the McNutt visit writeup-- I demand that you publish verbatim my alleged remark about this, or make a public retraction and apology. I'm not kidding.

FANews 10-14 Aug numbered 189-194 (Dunkelberger). Same collected notes anent the atomic bomb, more letters inre Gallet, various news and comment, and a completely false charge that Speer complained about Fanews giving more space to McNutt's visit than to his own. Dunk should learn to read.



PA 20 Aug - 3 Sep, numbered 199-204 (Dunelberger). Fotos of a number of scientific-fictionists; Palmer swears that he believes in Lemuria and all accessories; detailed description of stalinal and quasi-stalinal articles in mundane mags lately; LA and other fan news; letters from Cunningham and Gallet which hamburger any idea that the latter was pro-German.

#### LANEY SAYS "I'M NEUTRAL!!"

The following paragraphs are direct quotes from a letter just rec'd from Francis T. Laney. "I should like to make it clear to everyone concerned that I am purely neutral in the current FAPA election. Had I not been, I would not have accepted the position of ballot counting chairman. I should also like to point out to you that in my appointment I was given the power to make other appointments to my committee in the event that for any reason someone might be unable to serve. When Elmer Perdue decided to run as a sticker candidate he requested me to replace him on the committee, and I intend to do so. It seems a fairly well established principle of elections, such as this, that active candidates or active political partizans should not have anything to do with the counting of the ballots - at least this principle will be followed in any election with which I have anything to do in any official capacity." "I might state in passing that Elmer Perdue is one of my best friends in LA Fan-dom, and I believe that he would make a competent Official Editor for FAPA. I have not always been on the best of terms with Jack Speer, but there is no question in my mind but that he would make a first class OE. As far as I can judge, FAPA would do well to elect either." "Norman F. Stanley, whom we're sure will be the next FAPA President, tells us that changing votes is not legal. So no vote changing PLEASE!!!!!! Once cast - it stands.

#### DAUGHERTY'S LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!

##### P O S T      W A R      C O N

In the photo at the left are pictured George Colouris (left) and fan-dom's Walter J. Daugherty clowning abit for the photographer while Walt teaches George a few dance steps for his new Warner Brothers picture "Confidential Agent". Photo by Pat Clark of Warner Bros. "Walt is a feature writer for FARETS scribing the popular column LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! He's also a popular member of the LASTS and LA fan publisher. Not to mention being the lucky husband of Virginia "Jim-C" Laney Daugherty. ... CONVENTION NEWS! The first POST WAR CON is on it's way. The action committee is busy now with the working out of information services, programs and the campaign for the 1946 convention. Watch for details in your mail box within 30 days. ...

Kick: One complaint has been received. I believe the complaint was made in good faith, not a kick for kicking's sake. A member has objected to the official organ being holtographed; it being harder to read than a good mimeographed magazine, and it lacking something in dignity and appearance that a mimeographed magazine offers. "The complainant asked me to consider removing Editor Speer, or removing Editor Speer from the holtograph machine. I pointed out that removing Speer from the Editorship at this time would be very confusing, inasmuch as the coming elections could put into office still another man, ...

First off - I've been making a "blithering" ass of myself. Let's bury the hatchet. O.K.?? I'm a hot one to holler about fans exhibiting their bad manners in public.

... The following re-instatements have occurred: ... The state of the League as I write this is \$53.10. Now a personal note: In your late LASF mailing I am particularly grateful for your notes on your talks with people in Europe. I sincerely hope that the ideas expressed "aint in" with a lot of our "business as usual" individuals. I didn't mention it's receipt in any of the current LASF (s) as I wanted to make more than a passing comment on it. It's good to see fans recognizing that's there is a world outside of fandom and feel that they have a part in it and, above all, desire to do something about improving it. ...

OK. ...

#### BULLETIN

Fargo has again declared peace to usward. This being the second time, we are not optimistic.

#### THIRD PHASE

#### FAPA LETTER!

... May we add a word of comment? Whatever your political leanings have been before the election the above results are the "will of the majority". The best way for any organization to flourish is for everyone to "pull to-gether" and to present a united harmonious front. Let us all work together.

25 Sep 48 Fans (mailed 24 Sep)

#### OFFICIAL POST-WAR CON BULLETIN!

In answer to the request of many service men, the name "Pacificon" will be replaced by "Post War Con" in official-references to the 4th World Science Fiction Convention. It has been decided that the convention shall be held on either the 4th of July holidays or the Labor Day holidays. The date has not been set. Please send in your preferences, if you are interested, with your reasons for selecting the date you do. Frank R. Paul, E. C. Smith and Robert Heinlein are to be invited at ex-officio guests of honor but the guest of honor for this convention has not been named as yet. At the first meeting of the LASFS after V-J Day, I was given full powers to act on all Convention matters as I see fit. My first act was to appoint, from volunteers, members to serve on an Advisory Staff. Meetings of this group will be called to discuss matters of importance concerning the Convention. This Advisory Staff includes, (alphabetically): 1. 4-7 Acherman 2. Andy Anderson 3. Virginia Daugherty 4. L. S. Evans 5. Francis F. Laney. All items boosting the Convention will be appreciated. All items that concern the Convention plans will be forthcoming in POST WAR CON bulletins. Free to all members of the "4th World Science Fiction Convention Society". Convention memberships are now open so send in your dollar now! Membership cards are ready and will be in the return mail. Conventionally, Walter J. Daugherty, Convention Director.

FUZIES OUT: Stefnews #11 from Speer....Post FAPA mailing from Speer (no use tantalizing readers as this for limited circulation only) but contained in the mailing was a bulletin titled MATTERS OF OPINION #18. The main item in this bulletin was an article (strictly non-stf) STREET PEACE; THE GIFT OF GOD'S LOVE. The article dealt with observation by Speer on French attitudes in the European Theatre. This was of great interest to us and we recommend it to you. Speer's address: 5229 University Way, Seattle (5) Washington.



...THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN for Sept. is out. For some reason the mimeod copies of the CONSTITUTION were not included in the mailing. The issue is up to the usual high quality of Official Editor Speer. It might be well to note that our only disagreement with Speer concerning this Official Organ concerns only its duplication (we prefer mimeo as being better for money expended). It's amazing the amount of worthwhile material he manages to include. We trust that the coming election will furnish him with a better set up for gathering more material. # ... STEFNEWS #12 (from Jack Speer - 5229 University Way - Seattle (5) Wn. This free hcto'd ('cuse it please - ditto'd) free news sheet bearing concise items of stf interest.

#### NFFF

Dunkelberger is understood to be running for president of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. As previously noted, Warner may run for either president or directorate member. Ackerman will file for vice-president, asking to be elected only if there is no other candidate. The only certain candidates for the directorate that we have heard of are Laney and Speer. " In the last NFFF it was tentatively said that ballots would go out with the November issue. We have it straight from the horse's mouth that in writing that part of the constitution, it was intended that they should go out with the October issue. If President Tucker agrees and the world doesn't end before then, they will go out in October.

#### PACIFICON REPORT

Due to a mistake, Stefnews published several weeks ago some information on the Los Angeles 1945 world convention which was intended to be kept confidential. Director Daugherty desired to handle the publicity in a professional manner, releasing information bit by bit with appropriate fanfare. Reconsideration of the matters here reported makes the statements in that report no longer to be relied on. # It is the Director's intention to circulate publicity bulletins with Fanews to most of its large circulation list. In return for this and other considerations, it was the intention to give Fanews first look at news on the Convention. This accords fairly well with Stefnews's policy of not duplicating material adequately handled elsewhere, but Christensen, Burkhardt, and other newsie editors may feel differently. It does tend to remove competition from the editor who is most in need of it. # Barring blowups, the 1946 Convention shapes up to be one of the best yet, thanks to the energy of the people behind it and the special advantages of Los Angeles. It will learn from mistakes of past conventions, and provide lessons for future gatherings.

#### NFFF

Acting President Tucker directs that we hew as closely as possible to the ambiguous letter of the Constitution concerning election date; the ballots in the annual election of the National Fantasy Fan Federation will go out with the November number of the official organ. However, candidacies must still be in by 10 October. " The following candidates are now in the field: # For president: Dunkelberger # For vice-president: Ackerman # For members of the Board of Directors: Laney, Speer, Hevelin, Warner, Fortier, Tarr, Snary. # There is no candidate yet for Secretary, and the situation is made more difficult by the requirement that he be an adult. The Board may have to choose one. " An amendment is being offered to change the organization's name to The Fantasy League, but due to Constitutional requirements, cannot be voted on in this election.

Evans & Daugherty having objected to publication of a true and truthful comment, which linked them and feuds, I feel obliged to state Stefnews's policy concerning fan feuds. # Feuds are bad in themselves and should not be encouraged by publication of news on the commencement or progress of them. # But they are also an important influence on the course of events in our microcosm. To understand fully why the Foundation idea was activated when it was, for example, it is necessary to know of the anti-Daugherty feeling in the LASF. Then, frequently judgments of merit, as of a literary effort, may be influenced by personal antipathy. Or certain officers may not work together well in an administration. # The average actfan, such as makes up nearly all of Stefnews's readership, is entitled to know of these conditions, and his knowledge should not depend on visiting Los Angeles at the right time, or corresponding with the fellow who happens to be in the know. # When they influence organizational affairs or similar events, feuds are legitimate material for noting in a news sheet. # The policy of seeing no evil where it is, will not do for a news editor, and anyone following such a policy should not expect the news editor to fall in line with it. # Indeed, men who outspokenly deal in nothing but good will may be a greater cause of friction than the normal fantasist, for several reasons: # 1. Being inclined to look askance on controversy, they are prone to imagine a bitter feud where there is merely spirited disagreement. 2. They may refuse to bring out into the light a disagreement which would turn out to be due to a simple misapprehension. 3. Demanding that others refrain from expressing their feelings inhibits letting off steam. 4. More than one of the good will dispensers engages in intrigues for his supposedly laudable ends.

The Editor's Comments tell why the Constitution didn't go out with the September National Fantasy Fan. Actual, I waited thru the Monday following before assembling and mailing the magazine. (waited so late that I had to do most of the work in the railroad station in Portland!) # The mimeoed constitutions did arrive while I was in LA, though, and will go out with the next number. Tonite I noticed that the constitution requires that the candidacies and platforms be in our hands by today. Since I haven't yet received yours, and am only sending you mine herewith. I've suggested to Tucker that we quietly extend the deadline to 10 October. Since the ballots aren't going to go out for another month yet, there's no sense in any of these strict date deadlines. # This check came back today with an NSF note on it. Can fix? # They told me in LA that in the next Fanews Rap would admit that the whole Lemurian thing was a hoax. Your headline looks like it; Ray could almost sue you for misleading statement tending to damage his business. ... # PS: I understand you circulated to less than half a dozen people a mimeoed letter concerning your candidacy, and opposing my policies. I would like to have a copy of this. # F # PPS: I noticed a couple of cheap booklets on the magazine stands, that you might care to note: ...

I sincerely hope you had a nice trip to LA. Thank for the compliment in STEFNEWS! # ... New members: ... # Petitions for coming election rec'd as of today (I'm interpreting the Constitution to mean postmarked Oct. 1st - altho none have arrived since then): # President - Dunkelberger # Vice Pres. - # Sec'y-Treas. - K. Martin Carlson # Directors: # Harry Warner Dale Tarr Francis T. Lacey James Revelin Joe Fortier # I noted in STEFNEWS that you and Acky were filing so assume that your petitions will arrive shortly, but to date they haven't. # E

also note that I neglected to send in my platform (in as much as I didn't make up my mind until last week) I assume that all of the rest have sent theirs in. # Will forward ballots for mailing for will mail them out myself as soon as I get the order from Bob. Have written him for official list of candidates. (approval or some such) but there isn't any hurry we've got a whole month. # My Platform: # I sincerely hope that this election will bring forth a group of officers who will pledge themselves to a harmonious and energetic effort toward the enlargement and progress of Fantasy Fandom. # I personally pledge, if elected, to do all in my power to advance the organization and its ideals. # I pledge a harmonious administration, worthwhile projects ably coordinated and will try to find something for each fan to do of interest to himself for the benefit of the organization as a whole. # Carlson's platform: I pledge myself for a wholehearted cooperation for the advancement of the NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION. # My petition was signed by: Evans, Tucker and Warner # Carlson's was signed by: Evans and Dunkelberger # Joe Fortier's was signed by Carlson and myself (This petition was received from Joe via Don Wollheim with the request to forward it to Tucker and others.) As it arrived too late to send it out and have it signed by the October 1st deadline, Carlson & I signed it not because we know Joe and hence hesitantly endorse him, but because we believe that any member who shows willingness to work for the good of the organization (as Joe did) should be given the opportunity. ...

Have just rec'd orders from Tuck to hold up sending you official candidates until Oct. 6. Will send complete official list then.

Hi Ya gang: # Here's another one of those Round robin letters from Dunk. This time I can't even find a stencil so as to mimic the stuff. I hope you can read this. First: New members of NFFF: ... # As per Presidential Order of October 1st I delayed making up the official list of candidates until today. ... No petitions have appeared since Friday afternoon. All petitions on file were postmarked before October except that of Jack Speer which was mailed the afternoon of Oct. 2nd. ... The official candidates are as follows: # Presidency - Walter Dunkelberger Endorsed by: Tucker, Evans & Warner Vice Presidency - K. Martin Carlson " " Evans & Dunkelberger Soc'y-Treas. - Art Widner " " Tucker & Dunkelberger Directors: Larry Warner " " Croutch, Tucker & Dunkelberger Dale Parr " " Tanner & Chidsey Joe Fortier " " Tucker & Dunkelberger James "Rusty" Barron Hevelin " " Evans, Liebscher, & Dunk Rick Sneary " " Dave McGirr; Roger Rohr, & Dunk Francis T. Laney " " Speer, Evans and Dunk Jack Speer " " Laney & Ashley # Speer, the reason I didn't send you my official petition before the last week in September was because you were completely aware of everything it would contain and it seems useless to duplicate the effort before sending you the rest of the official list. I am not listing the platforms as they should have been forwarded to you by now. # CC: Speer, Tucker, Warner, Evans.

Your letter of 3 October says Carlson is running for secretary. Your sheet of 7 October lists him for vice president. Please clarify



... # A telegram from "Chuck" Speer (typographical error by WU we assume) asks for clarification of the switch in candidacy by Carlson. # Carlson felt that as a new fan he shouldn't run at all and finally Evans and I persuaded him to file for "any office that no one else files for". He preferred not to run at all. In as much as the candidacy of Acky was announced by Speer we assumed that Acky would file for the office of VP. So that left only the office of Sec'y-Treas. Marty filed for that so that the ballot could have one member, at least running for each office (a full ticket). The extension of time for filing as ordered by the President of NFFF brought out the filing of Widner for the office of Sec'y-Treas. As no one filed for VP, in spite of apparent intention to do so as announced in STEFNEWS. We assumed that STEFNEWS had been misinformed, and acted accordingly. It says in the Constitution that a person can only become a candidate by filing his intention, endorsements and platform with the Sec'y by Oct. 1st. The deadline was extended to Oct. 6th (to avoid any arguments we allowed a little extra time of approximately 18 hours) as this is written the day's mail is in and no other petitions have been filed. So - under the same extension of time as ordered by the President that allowed Widner's petition to file (it had been filed in time but to Tucker instead of Sec'y) and that allowed Speer's to be filed (it wasn't mailed until after the deadline). I believe my own (if one were to be strict wouldn't have been legal either as I didn't officially notify the CG until after the deadline. Under this ruling Carlson changed his candidacy to fill the vacancy left by no one filing for the office of VP. # If any petitions are received between now and the election date I shall immediately forward them to President Tucker for a ruling, but it is my own thought that no more official candidates can be listed, but I shall forward any petitions to Tuck for a ruling. # Hence the OFFICIAL LIST of candidates for publication in the official organ stands as sent Oct. 6th. Any other candidates have no legal or constitutional standing as they haven't fulfilled the Constitutional requirements.

#### NFFF

The President has changed his instructions, and ballots for the National Fantasy Fan Federation's annual election will be mailed out separately by the Secretary about 1 November. # Art Widner, bless his soul, has filed for secretary-treasurer, thus making a complete slate. A letter from Dunkelberger, quoting (the Editor has not received a direct copy of it) Carlson's platform, says that Duck's neighbor K Martin Carlson has also filed for secy-treas. Much to our confusion, then, we have received by special delivery the hektored sheet described under Fandemon: This Week, which lists him as running for vicepresident. Everything should be cleared up by Labor Day.

13 Nov card from Dunkelberger

Dear Official Editor: # As an officer and hence responsible to a degree for amount of integrity expressed by NFFF officialdom to the members, may I suggest that you hereafter read official communications before commenting upon them and then you crawl back into your office and act like a gentleman instead of a spoiled brat who's had his wrist slapped. # Fraternally yours # Walter Dunkelberger Sec'y-Treas. NFFF

#### STEFNEWS HONORS FANNEWS

We admit that the compliment was probably not intended as such, but considering all of the facts as known to your editor the compliment is there none the less. # STEFNEWS #13 announces in column 1 page two that FANNEWS is, in effect, the official publication of the POST WAR CON. Says STEFNEWS: "It is the Director's intention to circulate publicity bulletines with FANNEWS to most of its large subscription list." # This is the first news or word of this arrangement that has come to your Editor. We are very grateful for this honor. Altho we do not have anyone's official word for it and the item must be the opinion of the Editor of STEFNEWS. We thank the editor of STEFNEWS for the compliment. # The facts of the case are very interesting. When



Walter J. Daugherty, well liked Feature Writer for FANEWS and Director of the POST WAR CON, sent us his column LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! which appeared in the FANEWS #206 he questioned your editor as follows: "Would you be willing to assist in whatever way you could with the POST WAR CON? Would you be willing to publish items released to you, as sent to you? Do you place any restrictions on such items? Would you edit any remarks arriving from other sources to the extent of calling the convention POST WAR CON rather than whatever name the correspondent might use? Would you carry direct ads for the Convention? Is there anything you would be willing to do toward the Con??" # Our answers to all of these questions was YES and we qualified our answer to any "restrictions" by stating that we would print anything "as sent" if it were of a reasonable length. # As we are unable to contribute much financially to the Con and are not located in an advantageous position to assist with the actual work on the Con we offered to assist by addressing and mailing the Official Convention Fanzine, which - we were given to understand - was to be written and published in LOS ANGELES by the POST WAR CON COMMITTEE. # Then followed a page and a half of plans and "hope to be's" of the Committee. This later material was labeled "confidential". We have since observed that this material was added as a "test" to determine whether or not we could control our news gathering instincts and content ourselves with the "Official Releases" as sent to us by the Committee. # STEFNEWS #11 dated 9 Sep 45 carried a portion of this "confidential" material in column two, page one at the top under the title PACIFICON and bearing the code letters FTL, which - we assume - stands for FTLaney (apparent STEFNEWS correspondent and POST WAR CON committee member). # It is the publishing of this item for which STEFNEWS #13 apologizes. # The Editor of FANEWS has not heard directly or indirectly from the Director or any committeemember that FANEWS has been selected as official organ of the convention or that plans for an official organ, published in Los Angeles, have been abandoned, but - as shown in the past - STEFNEWS may be issuing somemore confidential information of which no one else is aware. # Continuing the quotes from STEFNEWS #13 .. "In return for this (this probably refers to official organ) and other considerations, it was the intention to give FANEWS first look at news on the convention. This accords fairly well with Stefnews's policy of not duplicating material adequately handled elsewhere, but Christenson, Burkhart, and other newsie editors may feel differently. It does tend to remove competition from the editor who is most in need of it." # In as much as we have never solicited the position which Speer credits us with achieving (this has not been mentioned to FANEWS by any source other than Stefnews) and hence could not possibly have tried to make a "deal" as Speer says we did. We publicly ask Speer to make an immediate retraction and apology. It is impossible for him to prove any such statements as he has made. # As to the remark that we need competition. We definitely agree that good trustworthy, truthful competition is the best thing for any fanzine. It makes for good healthy fanzines. # We offer Speer a suggestion. In as much as the item originally printed by you bears the initials FTL why not duck behind those and claim that you were "misinformed"?

5 Oct FaneWS (half-year photo magazine):

#### NFFF ELECTION

In an exclusive interview with our FANEWS reporter Walter Dunkelberger, incumbent Sedy-Treas and candidate for the Presidency of the NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION, stated - "I sincerely hope that the coming election will bring forth a group of officers who will pledge themselves to a harmonious and energetic effort toward the enlargement and progress of Fantasy Fandom." ... # "I believe it is each officers' duty to bear in mind that he is the SERVANT of the organization and should not try to bend the organization to his will. He should, at all times, check his opinion with the Directorate before embarking on a controversial course. ... # I believe the official organ should be expanded to include, besides reports on projects and reports from officers: articles of benefit to the organization (even if reprints); occasional worthwhile fan fiction and/or art; and a regular letters column. # To promote unity and harmony I believe that all material of a controversial nature should first be subject to the examination of the Board of Directors. # I believe that the task







desirable that an organization can do better than individuals. I have been trying to get a general fan organization for some time past, and have been an active member of the NFFF since it was launched in 1940. There is reason to believe that the experience so gained will be valuable in the work of the Directorate. # Informers: Laney, Ashley # (Speer lives in Seattle; formerly a "Robot" worker, his only painful occupation now is library work at the University law school which he is attending. First contacted Fandom in 1954, became active in 1957. Most of his publishing has been thru FAPA; he now issues Stefans. He is present Official Editor of FAPA and NFFF.) #

Harry Warner Jr. ... # James E. Hevelin ... (Marion G. Hevelin is stationed near Los Angeles, and is in his middle twenties. Most of his fan activity, beginning about the time of the 1941 Convention, has been under the pseudonym of Rusty Barron. It was under this name that he issued Nebula, a good news sheet, while a member of the Philadelphia SFS.) # Joe Fortier: ... # Dale Tarr: ... Rick Sneyary: ... (Sneyary lives near Los Angeles, has had letters in LA publications, and has visited the LASFS. He recently produced the first issue of Fanzine Readers Review. Other information lacking.)

#### ... THE ROSTER

... In making up the above list, I have usually chosen the full form of name and address available, ... I have also labored mightily to see that the addresses are correct to our latest knowledge, even plowing thru my file of Fanews to check changes. Please look at your own name, at least, to make sure the name and address are right. And for catsake, when your address changes, notify the Secretary. ... # A word about the raps which follow. ...

--Jack Speer

Errata: 174 Asa W. Hayter 2401 K St, Belleville, Kan  
And Speer is 25.

#### REPORT TO THE NFFF

Due to the tendencies of Official Editor Jack Speer to publish opinions rather than facts and to color all reports to fit his own ideas this report direct to the members has been deemed necessary by this office. # ELECTIONS: According to Article V Section (A) of the NFFF Constitution The election is to be held November first. No deviation from the prescribed date is intended or has been contemplated contrary to reports from Speer to the contrary. Election date: NOVEMBER 1st. # CANDIDATES: According to Article V Section (1), (a) & (b) of the NFFF Constitution each candidate shall submit to the Sec'y-Treas. a petition bearing a short platform and the signatures of two(2) members in good standing. This is to be done so that the petition will be in the hands of the Sec'y-Treas. before October first. Copies are to be forwarded to the Official Editor minus signatures. # The sec'y-Treas. had the following petitions on file October first and so notified the Official Editor (enclosing also the platform of one candidate who had sent both copies to the Sec'y-Treas.) President: W. Dunkelberger; Sec'y-Treas.: K. Martin Carlson; Directors: Harry Warner Jr. Dale Tarr, Joe Fortier, James "Rusty Barron" Hevelin, Rick Sneyary and Francis T. Laney. # Later, on October first, the President forwarded the petition of Art Vidner for the office of Sec'y-Treas. and authorized a holding up of the official qualification list (from the Sec'y-Treas) to accomodate anyone whose petition might have been delayed in the mail or other late filings. # Under this ruling, the petition of Jack Speer, mailed October 2nd and received by the Sec'y-Treas. late Oct. 5th. # Determining the latest AIR MAIL that would reach the Official Editor on Monday October 8th, your Sec'y-Treas. arranged with the post office to pick up all mail for him that arrived before six o'clock Sunday evening October 7th. One day after the extended deadline ordered by President Tucker. The deadline set by the President to accomodate this late filing was October 6th. # No petitions arrived after that of Jack Speer, that could be included in the official



report. # At the urging of several fans K. Martin Carlson took advantage of the "extension" to change his petition to file for Vice President so that a candidate would appear for that office (no one had filed for it). # So the OFFICIAL LIST OF CANDIDATES is comprised of: President: Walter Dunkelberger; Vice President: K. Martin Carlson; Sec'y-Treas.: Art Widner; Directors: Harry Warner, Jr., Dale Farr, Joe Fortier, James "Rusty Barron" Novelin, Francis P. Laney, Jack Speer. # One petition was received by the Sec'y-Treas. bearing the postmark Oct. 6th and was rec'd October 10th. In as much as the deadline had long since passed it was ruled that the petition was not valid. When the matter was referred to President Tucker, he upheld the ruling and has since referred the matter to the Board of Directors for final decision. # Respectfully submitted /s/ Walter Dunkelberger. Sec'y-Treas. of NFFF

FANEWS 8-14 Oct. numbered 223-26 (Dunkelberger). Detailed account of Mel Brown's visit to Fargo; news, some from Engerzorp, mostly in the form of Ramblings; ideas on using atomic power in rockets; Concentrated Opinion by Coslet reviewing Science Fiction World.

REPORT TO THE NFFF (Dunkelberger). Received with the above, but presumably sent to all NFFF members. Issuance of TNFF a few days earlier makes this sheet worse than pointless. He erroneously omits Rick Sneary's name as a candidate in one place.

#### NFFF

On motion of Board Chairman Warner in view of the confusion created by late filers, Acting President Tucker of the National Fantasy Fan Federation has directed that all candidacies received after the Constitutional deadline of 1 Oct be omitted from the ballot (this will probably be limited to those received after the deadline by the Secretary); and an explanatory accompanying sheet by Tucker will list the late filers and urge consideration of them as write-in candidates.

Inadvertently we omitted the name of Rick Sneary from our REPORT TO THE N.F.F.F. We apologize to Rick. His application rec'd & is Okay!!

#### ... RAMBLINGS

... Now for the NUZ. We have a letter from F.P. Laney which reads - "It, perhaps was a mistake to send that information to Speer. On the other hand, I can not see how any breach of faith could be implied when all that Speer was given was the barest outline of material which presumably would later be enlarged on in Daugherty's bulletines. It so happens that I, in common with 95% of other fans, am genuinely excited about the Pacificon. I do not regard this "World" convention as the exclusive property of any clique, but as the common enthusiasm of us all, and I believe that it is literally impossible for too much publicity to be sent out. Speer showed me the letter, of which I'd not kept a carbon (little realizing what a furor would be raised), and I see that I forgot to tack on a postscript telling Speer to publish nothing about the Pacificon until word was received from Daugherty. Perhaps it is just as well I didn't, since this resulted in letting some fresh air into an incipient abscess." # ((The underlining is ours))... It is obvious from the above that the fault was Laney's and that it was due to his ignorance of advertising methods. It is better not to shoot your bolt all in one shot but to build up to the final by a teaser campaign, especially when the thing you are advertising is so far in the future. # Well that takes care of that, but we are still left with the "deal" (as we call it) Speer says we made. Speer says that we imagine he wrote it. So we'll



educational positions. Left the teaching profession to return to the theatre during an all time low in teachers' salaries which hasn't been overcome in this area even yet. # Was recalled to the Army as an instructor in pre-flight school and served in that capacity during 1944 until the school and field were closed. In private life he is a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. Member of the NAPA, FAPA and subscriber to JAPA. # His held, at one time or another, all offices in the now dormant Minn-Dak Fantasy Society. # During college years he operated a "ghost" agency which serviced the students of 3 colleges with themes, stories and plays. This he continued into the technical field where he "ghosted" for a technical mag and also wrote under his own name. Occasionally, fan activities permitting, he still writes an occasional article. # At the present he is serving as Sec'y-Treas. of the NFFF for a second term. # K. Martin Carlson, ... # FANews, normally, would not take "sides" in an fan politics but has been forced into it by the attitude of two of the candidates. Their attitude, we believe, is detrimental to the healthy operation of the NFFF. Hence we have examined the platforms and perused letters from the candidates until we have formed the opinion that the following should be elected for the best good of the organization. President: Dunkelberger; Vice President: Carlson; Art Widner, Sec'y-Treas. Harry Warner, Board of Directors' Chairman; Board of Directors: Dale Tarr, James "Rusty" Hevelin; Rick Smeary and Joe Fortier. Votes for these individuals, we feel, would be votes for your own best interests and for the interests of fandom.

#### ... RAMBLINGS

... Milt Rothman writes a note from Paris 10/3/45 ... "... I ought to get home in January or February and my first purchase will be a mimeo machine, if I don't follow Speer with a Ditto machine ((Ghu forbid - One mess is enough in fandom)). ..."

#### Nov 45 Letter from Dunkelberger:

... I have been unable to find any copies of the September issue. I must have sent them all out. Sorry!

#### Nov 45 Dury Van's Report Card from Dunkelberger with the following sheet:

Hi, Mister, the .nineteenth. issue of your swell fanzine, ... STEFNEWS ... has arrived. My comments: # ... Just a fair issue, Fella. ... RUSH me the next issue. ... Suggest better material. ... Duplication below average ... Hurrah! And it was FREE! ... Come again soon, PLEASE! # --- la Tucker.

#### REJECTED --FANews

Of course we would prefer that the reply to a charge be published in the magazine where the charge was made, but hope that by this means it will reach most of the interested fan, and apologize to those readers who are not interested. I wrote the following in response to an article in the 1 Oct issue of Fanews. Thru channels, I hear that I was cut off the circulation list for a few weeks, during which Dunkelberger referred to this reply but did not publish it: # Since you're willing to run feuds in Fanews, please publish this: ... # One other matter of possible interest in this connection: After charges that I was in some way misrepresenting NFFF matters, I suggested to Dunkelberger that if he really thought he were in the right, we submit the question to the NFFF Board for decision. I further offered to submit the pertinent papers on the whole feud for the Board's adjudication. These offers still stand.

#### FANews THIS WEEK

... THE ELECTION (Dunkelberger; mimeoed sheet and postcard ballot). Roster changes are given on the sheet also. As predicted, Dunkelberger judged lateness only on the basis of time of filing with him. # FANews 3 Nov, numbered 250-252. (Dunkelberger). Biographical information on Dunkelberger and Carlson, and counsel on the right way to vote. Letter from the Utopians about something. More on atomic pow-



ering of rocketships. Adverse opinion on World of A, by Moskowitz.  
News of Rothman's furlough in England, ktp.

#### ACTING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

... "Several readers", and by that I mean three or four, have complained to me that the official organ isn't as much the official organ as it is Editor Speer's personal fanzine. They object to his inserted comments into the text of other matter, such as these messages. Editor Speer will henceforth kindly omit his personal comments, and confine them to a separate department. ...

#### EDITOR'S COMMENTS

A few more things about this unhappy election mixup. We should learn as much as possible from our mistakes. # I beg your attention to paragraph V-A-1-b of our lovely Constitution: "Nominating petitions and platforms must be in the hands of the Secretary-Treasurer by October 1st, with copies minus the endorsing signatures in the hands of the official editor by the same date;". As I read that, it means that a candidate is late in filing if his papers aren't in the official editor's hands by the deadline. Certainly the editor, who is required to put out the October organ by 10 October, is entitled to as much leeway as the secretary who issues ballots at the end of October. But several people have consistently overlooked this requirement, and when late filers were removed from the ballot, only those who filed late with the Secretary were so treated. It would be just as contrary to the requirements for me to say that Ackerman and I filed in time (i.e. with the editor) and Dunkelberger and Carlson were both late (along with several others; you can figure out the list from Stefnews's reports). In fact, all four of us, and more, were late in completing our filings. But late or not, we did offer our services to the NFFF, which is more than can be said for you and you and you. Harrumph. # I don't know what others may have said, but the kick I registered in re Carlson's candidacy was not that he changed it, but that I never heard from him direct. The constitution certainly intends, if it does not require, that the candidate himself shall send his papers to the two officials concerned. It would open the way for abuses to allow credit to someone else's statement that soandso is running. Nevertheless, the first notice I had of Carlson's candidacy was in the body of a letter from our ghostwriting expert, and his platform was a paragraph incorporated into said letter, all received the first week in October. The only notice I had before the 10 October deadline of his switch in candidacy, was in the form of a tabulation of candidates in a nektographed sheet from his neighbor, received 8 October, which for all I could tell might be a misprint (cf the omission of Rick Sneary from a list in "Report to the NFFF"). If Carlson had dropped me a postcard, this confusion would have been avoided. # The right remedy, of course, is to make the filing procedure simpler, and put it in the power of the Board of Directors to change the procedure as experience may indicate, rather than embodying the rules in an inflexible constitution. # Some members have suggested that the National Fantasy Fan have a regular reader's section and publish the best letters that come in during the month. TNFF and its predecessor Bonfire have always had the policy of allowing any member to speak at reasonable length on organizational matters. For recent examples, see the letters from Rothman and Fortier published this summer. But so far, there hasn't been a sufficient volume of such letters to make a regular letter section. The editor enjoys receiving comments on the magazine, but it doesn't seem right to take up space in the official organ printing such ego-boosting. If you have any opinions to express on things the NFFF is doing or should do, however, write them up and send them in. Please consider this a continuing request



from my and my successors in office. The suggestion has also been made in certain quarters that the official organ should blossom out as a glorified general fanzine, with fiction, book reviews, and the like. Availing myself of the right of every member to express opinions in these pages, I'd like to declare that many of us are dead set against this proposal, for good reasons. You'd have to take off your shoes and socks, chum, to count the organizations that have been overshadowed by their official organs, or lost control of them, when the organs became general fanzines and club "dues" became in effect merely subscriptions to the magazine. By all means subscribe to and read some of the fanzines reviewed by the Blatant Beast in these pages; that's the way to get articles, amateur stories, fancy artwork, discussions on steinal matters, etc. But let the National Fantasy Fan not compete with them, let our dues be used for other purposes. And if at times the organization should be doing little, let that condition be clearly reflected in these pages, not obscured by a mass of material unrelated to our functions as an organization.

#### ... SECRETARY'S SECTION

Sorry, still no Secretary-Treasurer's report. However, the following changes and additions on the Roster have come in from various sources:

Stet. Roster address is later than that on sheet circulated with the ballot.

11 Nov 45 Fanzine (received later indirectly):

... If Dunk is elected to Presidency of NFFF he has an appointment ready that should please fandom - a pro - science fiction author has tentatively agreed to edit the NATIONAL FANTASY FAN. ((Name withheld to prevent sabotage)).

VOTE NOW! If you haven't already voted in the NFFF Election. Do so AT ONCE And remember that votes for: Dunk Mart, Art Widner, Joe Fortier, Rusty Hevelin, Rick Sneary, Dale Farr and Harry Warner are votes to keep the NFFF an organization by and for FANDOM! VOTE - TODAY

... It's often very inconvenient to publish a weekly every week. Even more often, the time to do it in is limited. But we need weekly news sheets to perform services that less frequent magazines can't furnish. The thing to do, then, is use the weekly only for the purposes which larger fanzines can't satisfy. Keep it down to the minimum size consonant with adequate performance of the desired service, thus making it as little burdensome as possible on the editor, and perhaps on the reader who tends to lay larger fanzines by for attention "when I get the time". That's why I applauded the original Fanewscard. Brevity and adequacy. And if, some weeks, there should be virtually no real news in the editor's hands, why disguise the fact by filling in with material of the sort that a general fanzine carries--odd items about fan that are true any time, observations on non-current stuff, reminiscences, quizzes, book news, etc? ...

15 Nov 45 Fanzine (received indirectly):

... A mimeoed card from Benson Perry explains that CYCNI #4 has been delayed and will be out sometime - date indefinite. The card also urges that those who haven't voted do so at once in the NFFF election.

CYGNII TOO (sp?) #1 (Perry). Newscard format. Explains that Cygni #4 has been delayed, and urges votes for Speer in the NFFF.

5 Dec 45 card from Dunkelberger:

Scum of the Earth: # On first that I was going to register so that you couldn't say you didn't get it. As you stated last time. On second that I don't give a damn. # No new members. No address changes other than noted already. Treasury Balance \$23.82.

All fanpubs received are reviewed here. Fanows has not been mentioned for some time, except the one of 5 Nov, because it has not been received. Apparently we are under the royal displeasure.

The results of the NFFF vote are disappointing, but so be it. At any rate, all five directors-elect are good men. The secretary-elect is nice, too. ...

A COMMENT ON AN AFFAIR OR TWO (Tarr; heliked). Claims that the officers, not the members, were to blame for the election mess; and rebukes those who kicked about Speer's editorial interpolations in TNFF to others, but not to Speer.

do not include

#### SECRETARY'S SECTION

No new members. No address changes other than noted already. Treasury Balance \$23.82.

--Walter Dunkelberger

The following changes have come in from other sources:

#### FOURTH PHASE

... First, there's one thing I'd like to get straightened out. You assert that I "extracted" a pledge from you to stop feudin' with Jack Speer. This is a puzzle to me, as I can not recall any such incident. ... # Nor can I find, after a diligent search through a considerable stack of unanswered correspondence, any communication from you which contains any pledge or promise to exist and de cease. I do vaguely remember a card or something wherein you mentioned that you were going to seek peace, but I cannot recall that it contained any promise to do so come hell or high water. Back in August I wrote you about that erroneous Fanews item on the FAPA election and mentioned in passing that your feud at that time was not worth the gunpowder. Later I believe I expressed gratification at your report that the hatchet was being buried. That was all, was it not? # So the first I heard about this "pledge" of yours was via your card of Oct. 12, wherein you asked to be released therefrom. ... # I detest fan feuds, and I shall most certainly hate to see more of this one cluttering up Fanews, which is

otherwise, despite it's acknowledged mechanical shortcomings, a lot of fun to read. I shall be particularly unhappy if it comprises attacks of as low caliber as some which you have previously directed at Speer. (See Fanews 189-91, 192-4, 200-1, 230-2, for examples.) Frankly, and though you may want to hate me to death for saying this, it has been things like these, plus the generally indefinite nature of your charges, that have caused me to favor more the Speer side of the controversy as more reasonable and in agreement with the record. But if you believe you have been unjustly attacked, it is certainly fitting that you answer these attacks in whatever way you think best---short of murder and mayhem, of course. This is only one fan's opinion, but I think it's an honest opinion. # Now as to your kick about the Official Editor's Message in the Fall 1945 Fantasy Amateur. I find that Speer has made somewhat of a personal issue out of this censorship affair when he states that he handled the matter differently than he would ordinarily because you were the publisher of the questionable item. ... # It is all very well to call Speer a prude, but please bear in mind that it is not a question of this at all. It is simply a question of whether this item is mailable under the FL&R. I'm not enough of a legalist to know whether this is so or not; here I would respect Jack's opinion, as he has had some training in the law. ... Nor is it the purpose or desire of the members of the FAPA to see how closely we can skirt the fringe of illegality. We have been all through this before in FAPA, and I don't think it necessary to rehash the altogether obvious reasons for this stand here. In this respect Speer probably erred in admitting this item to the mailing and then making an issue of it. ... # If you really believe that Speer's "well-known prudishness" (I, for one, was not acutely aware of it) renders him unfit for the post of FAPA Official Editor, it is your right to get up a petition, under Article 12b of the FAPA constitution, for his impeachment. However, I am going to ask you personally, as one FAPA member to another, not to do so. You should be well aware of how the upheaval in the preceding administration has weakened and thrown off schedule our activities during the past year, ... # I hope you won't find it necessary to resign from FAPA and/or fandom. It would be a real loss. Of course you won't be immune to criticism, but you are perfectly free to reply to any if FAPA or out, as you may choose. ...

28 Dec 45 card from Dunkeltorg: the latter part of this was not entered.

Dear Speer: # Your bill for Nov. TNEF seems to have been misplaced either by Tuck or myself. Please send a duplicate and I'll pay both Nov & Dec. at once. # Hope Santa was good to you & that you have a happy 1946. # Would you consider a post of Legal Advisor for NFFT?? # Best # Dunk. # Dec. TNEF was best in last few months. # Thanks for Stefnews!

Fanews, we are told, has not appeared for some time.



Altho this letter is hoisted it must not be considered a publication. It is a personal letter written at the request of F.T. Laney who says that he will be "anti-Dunkelherger" unless an explanation as to why I don't like Speer is forth-coming. He states that my attitude is not understandable and that he believes that I should explain. So in the interests of unity in the N.F.F.F. in particular and fandom in general I am typing these lines.

First a word about my own opinions and beliefs. I believe that Fandom first came into being so that individuals who read "off trail" literature could join in presenting to an intolerant world a united front for the further enjoyment of their literary tastes. Such an organization, no matter how loosely united, presented a haven of tolerance from the intolerant critics. # Such an organization, founded on this tolerant and broadminded foundation, represents - to me - a refuge in which one may enjoy any type of literature that happens to fall within the broad confines of it. # Necessarily one must communicate his ideas and findings to others of this farflung brotherhood by the most expedient method at his command - letters and publications. Such a method entails a trust of each other founded on mutual understanding, tolerance and trustworthyness. A feeling of everything going to one end; the common good of fandom. # Rabid discussions pursued with the understanding that ideas and not personalities are the points under fire. That personal life remains sacred and inviolate. That each party allows the other his view and that sincerity of purpose is a prime requisite of both sides. # Organizations formed within the group should be developed for the common good and not for personal power. Any offices held should be filled to the utmost of one's ability for the good of the organization and not used to add additional weight to one's side of a discussion.

It is my opinion that Speer does not fill any of these points. Don't for a moment think that I do not consider him a capable and intelligent being. # Altho his own opinions are recognized as, supposedly, sincere; he denies the same rights to others that he expects. # To me, there seems no purpose in sighting cases as a quick glance at his publications during the last few months would furnish many examples of the points I am mentioning. # Mutual understanding is an impossibility with him as he prefers to deal in double meanings and without a frankness one has a right to expect. # Trustworthiness I have found not to be one of his virtues. His misquotes and disregard to instructions issued him cause my opinion. # I have found that in a discussion there is only one view, in his opinion, his own and any contrary to that is held in great contempt and is considered something of a sacrilege. # His violations of the rights of privacy can easily be attested to by anyone who has had the dubious pleasure of a couple of hours of "gossip" with him. The discussion would probably get into the field of fan morals and incomes in short order unless one were able to successfully steer away from the subject about every 10 minutes. # In fandom there should be no discrimination of race, color or creed. Financial standing or the type of job one has should never enter into the enjoyment of fandom. Forrie Ackerman represents, to me, the ideal fan example of lack of discrimination. Altho he proclaims to being an atheist he does not make an issue of it when choosing his fan friends. To Speer anyone who works in a job with overalls is something on the level of a dog. One who is graced with a high Dunn and Bradstreet rating is definitely lower class. Ditto with anyone not white. # There shouldn't be any need to go into his moral distinctions other than to say that he is so prudish that it borders on the fanatic. # His attitude toward organizational offices and personal power may be an incorrect conclusion on my part as his extreme ego may make everything he does seem so right to him that he may think he is doing the right thing altho he is doing everything in the improper manner. # In short Speer's attitude of trying to make guinea pigs out of fans rather disgusts me. Enough of Speer

Sometime ago Speer and I tried to have a discussion via Lurmage. I found that the procedure was a waste of time and effort that could be devoted more profitably elsewhere. When I quoted his words as published he tried that I was putting words into



his mouth that he hadn't said and finally when the matter was fully closed he asked for satisfaction by trial before a Board that had nothing what so ever to do with matter. When asked to ~~change Board~~ for a hearing to one that was fully acquainted with the facts he ignored the communication. Whenever it suits his convenience he denies receipt of an ~~letter~~ in attention and claims that he is injured. This and the fact that, about the same time, I received letters from several of the older fans pointing out the futility of a ~~thing~~ with Speer, caused me to sever all relations with him except that which I was compelled to have by reason of organizational business. Even then I failed to register my reports to him and found them appearing in the Official organ as "received from other sources" while elsewhere in the organ a reference would be made to a report that he couldn't possibly have obtained from any other source than myself. # I made a pledge to several fans that I would completely ignore Speer come hell or high water. A short time later an incident occurred which caused them to recind their request and a movement was started to oust Speer (I was not the originator) for his high handed methods of treating new fans. I was unable to do anything about the movement as I believed myself to still be held in check by a pledge to Norm Stanley. I have since been informed that I was incorrect in my belief that I was pledged to him. The ouster was dropped because of insufficient time to accomplish the move before he would be out of office by normal means. # I am glad that I believed myself to be pledged to refrain from feuding. I have discovered that it is a worthless time-wasting effort that accomplishes absolutely nothing...and it does create a feeling of disagreement in fandom as a whole. # Laney, this letter would not have been written if it had not been for your demand or "else". I sincerely hope that you can see my point of view. You need not agree with me but I hope that you can see my point of view. I have no intention of arguing any of the points with anyone. As far as I am concerned - I have my ideals of fandom and believe that they are the same as those held by the majority of fans. Speer does not fill any of the requirements and hence I have eliminated him from my intimates. If to be a friend of yours I must reverse all of my views and accept his ideas so that I may bow to the Great God Speer and become an intimate of his..... You are asking too much.

Dunk

... and a letter from Jack, dated

... Jack, How's about a truce? and I don't mean an armed truce. Laney seems bent on you and I continuing our feud. Personally I can't see that any useful purpose can be served by a continuation. For myself I've tried to ignore the matter completely for about two months but things keep coming up, such as Laney, demanding that it be kept going. # Obviously both of us have a certain amount of stubbornness and both are equally sold to his own particular ideas. # I can't see why we can't get along regardless of our differences without this eternal sniping. # If you are agreeable - let's call the whole thing off. # O.K.? # Best Wishes # Dunk # P.S. You may publish the above if you so desire.

Dunk: # When you have sent me copies of all the published sheets which concern me that you have sent to others, we may consider the possibility of peace. I don't like to be stabbed in the back. # JFS

