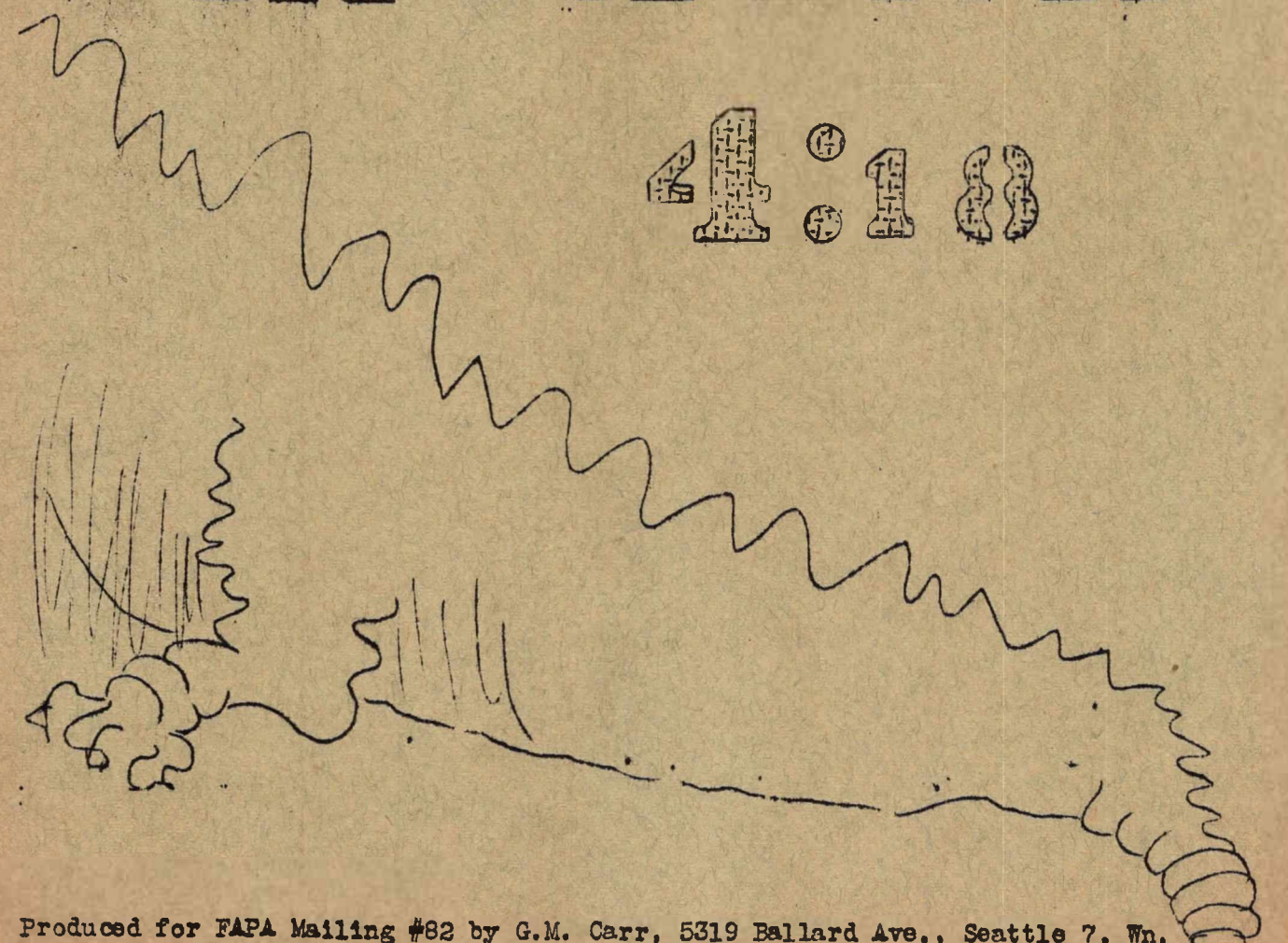


CONTENTS:
Unasked Opinion
Esperanto, Anyone?
Baitbox
Willis Replies
Epistles & Egoboo
Mr. Carr Says

GIMZINTI



41:188

UNASKED OPINION

(CREDIT FOR THE ART IN
THIS SECTION GOES TO
SOME ANONYMOUS ARTIST
WHOSE LOOSELEAF PAGE OF
PICASSO-LIKE DOODLINGS
FLUTTERED TO MY FEET ONE
WINDY DAY.. A GIFT OF AEOLUS?)



I'M STARTING OFF THIS UO WITH A REVIEW OF THE POSTMAILINGS FIRST IN ORDER THAT NORMAN WANSBOROUGH MAY FIND HIS REVIEW WITHOUT HAVING TO READ MORE THAN HIS CUSTOMARY TWO PAGES... AFTER ALL, THERE'S NO POINT IN BEING MEAN TO THE BOY BY MAKING HIM HUNT FOR HIS EGOBOO:

RUNE - NORMAN G. WANSBOROUGH. THERE- THAT WASN'T SO BAD, WAS IT? MERELY A MATTER OF FINDING SOME WILLING FAN WHO WOULD STENCIL AND PUBLISH YOUR COMMENTS SO THAT THEY COULD BE READ. CONSIDERING HOW FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE MOST FANS ARE, I'M SURPRISED YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO SOONER. I THINK YOU'LL FIND THAT THE DISAPPROVING COMMENTS YOU'VE BEEN GETTING WILL LET UP NOW THAT YOU ARE REALLY GIVING THE FANS SOMETHING THEY CAN READ -- ALTHOUGH, I WILL ADMIT IT IS DISAPPOINTING TO DISCOVER THAT YOUR REMARKS ARE AS INSIPID IN CLEAR REPRO AS THEY GAVE PROMISE OF BEING UNDER THOSE ILLEGIBLE SCRAWLS.

SUNDANCE #4 - JEAN YOUNG. NOW, THAT'S MORE LIKE IT! THIS, I ENJOY... THE WILL-BE THAT WAS -- OH..WELL.. AFTER ALL, I SUPPOSE IT'S ONLY FAIR TO REMEMBER THAT ONE FAN'S COVER ILLO IS ANOTHER FAN'S "ART"...

GARAGE FLOOR #2 - L. STARK III, ET AL. PARTICULARLY ENJOYED THE CONTINUATION OF THE SERIES OF ARTICLES ON ART. IT IS EASY TO READ AND YET MANAGES TO CONVEY (EVEN TO MY LITERAL MIND) AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE TREND AND FLOW OF PAINTING-THEORY. I WAS INTERESTED TO NOTE YOUR MENTION OF 'POINTILLISM'. ONE MODERN APPLICATION OF THIS TECHNIQUE (I WONDER IF I'VE MENTIONED THIS BEFORE IN FAPA?) IS THE TEST FOR COLOR-BLINDNESS, WHICH COMBINES ON A CHART TINY DOTS OF COLOR. THE COLORS ARE SO ARRANGED AS TO FORM OUTLINES OF FIGURES IN PROPORTION TO THE AMOUNT OF ^{THE} COLOR BEING TESTED WHICH IS PRESENT IN EACH DOT. A COLORBLIND PERSON MAY SEE NO FIGURE AT ALL, MERELY A PAGE OF DOTS, WHEREAS A PARTIALLY COLOR-BLIND INDIVIDUAL MAY SEE, PERHAPS, A NUMERAL "7" WHICH A MORE SENSITIVE EYE MAY PERCEIVE AS "2"... IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO KNOW WHETHER THE TEST GREW OUT OF THE "POINTILLISM" OR WAS INDEPENDENTLY CONCEIVED.

SATELLITE IN THE SKY & SPUTNIK STORIES - A. YOUNG. ENJOYED ANDY'S ENTHUSIASM ABOUT THE SATELLITE...IT IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE MOST ANIMATION HE HAS DISPLAYED IN FAPA TO DATE. BUT ALTHOUGH I ENJOYED HIS COMPARISON OF THE USA OF 1816 VS THE USSR OF TODAY (I FOUND IRRISISTIBLE THE MENTAL CONCEPT OF RUSSIAN COWBOYS WHOOPING ALONG THE STEPPES IN 10-GALLON HATS AND COSSACK BOOTS), MR. CARR

POINTED OUT THAT THE COMPARISON IS INVALID IN MANY RESPECTS. IN THE FIRST PLACE, RUSSIA IS NOT A YOUNG NATION ONLY 40 YEARS OLD... RUSSIA IS AGELESS. IT IS THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, WITH ITS ARBITRARY POLITICAL SYSTEM THAT IS ONLY 40 YEARS OLD. WHEREAS THE US CONSISTED OF AN EXPANDING MOVEMENT OF PEOPLES DRAWN FROM MANY OTHER COUNTRIES INTO A SORT OF CULTURAL VACUUM WHEREIN THEIR VARYING CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS WERE MODIFIED AND EXPANDED INTO AN ENVIRONMENTAL ADAPTATION FITTED TO THEIR NEEDS, IN RUSSIA THE CURRENT CULTURAL PATTERN IS BEING FORCIBLY SUPERIMPOSED OVER THE UNDERLYING SOCIAL PATTERN -- A REPRESSIVE MEASURE RATHER THAN AN EXPRESSION OF INTERNAL GROWTH. ABOUT THE SAME DIFFERENCE AS BETWEEN A WILD SEEDLING, GROWING UNOBSTRUCTED IN FAVORABLE SOIL AND SUN WHICH MATURES TO AN UNEXPECTEDLY RICH MUTATION OF FRUIT; VERSUS AN OLD TREE WHICH HAS BEEN CUT DOWN TO THE ROOTS WITH A CAREFULLY ESPALIERED NEW TOP GRAFTED ON. EVEN THE QUALITY OF THE "SLAVERY" HE MENTIONS IS DIFFERENT. IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE US, IT WAS MERELY THE UTILIZATION OF AN EXISTING COMMODITY PROVIDED BY AN INDUSTRY SPECIALIZING IN THAT CERTAIN TYPE OF CHATTEL; WHEREAS IN THE USSR IT IS AN OUTRIGHT SUBJUGATION OF FREE PEOPLE AGAINST THEIR WILL AND CONTRARY TO CUSTOM... OUTRIGHT AGGRESSION AND CONQUEST. I DO NOT DEFEND ANY KIND OF SLAVERY -- BUT I DO RECOGNIZE DEGREES OF INDIGNITY.

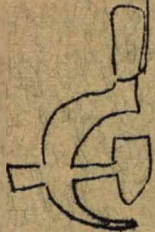
SONGS OF THE BOSSES ARTISTS - L. SHAW, LTD. GLAD TO SEE SAILBOATS SUPPLANTING FOLK-SONGS IN THE LEE HALF OF L. SHAW, LTD. I FREELY ADMIT THAT COSLET'S CHECK-LISTS HOLD JUST ABOUT AS MUCH INTEREST FOR ME AS THE FOLKMUSIC DID... WHICH IS STILL ANOTHER REASON FOR NOT CRACKING DOWN ON COSLET'S IDEA OF FANMANSHIP TOO HARD... SO WHAT? SO LONG AS HIS LISTS GIVE HIM PLEASURE IN THE DOING, AND CONFORM TO FAPA REGULATIONS, WHAT DOES IT MATTER IF ANYBODY ELSE LIKES THEM OR NOT? IT'S CERTAINLY NOT COSLET'S FAULT IF NOBODY BUT HE ENJOYS HIS HOBBY, AND IT IS CERTAINLY NOT LEE'S FAULT IF I FIND FOLKSONGS BORING AFTER A WHILE... BUT, AS I SAY, SAILBOATS ARE REFRESHING FOR A CHANGE.

DIMENSIONS 16 - L. SHAW, ET AL. THIS CURRENT KICK ABOUT CATS IS BECOMING SO PREVALENT THAT I'M AFRAID I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HOLD OFF MUCH LONGER FROM FIGURATIVELY BREAKING OUT MY WALLET AND PASSING AROUND VERBAL SNAPSHOTS OF THE GOLD-AND-WHITE FURPIECE THAT PERMITS US TO SHARE HIS HOME AND WAIT ON HIM.... (ACTUALLY, I HAVE A FULL PAGE OF COMMENTS -- SINGLE SPACED -- BUT I REALIZE THAT THEY ARE PROBABLY ONLY OF INTEREST TO ME...) I WONDER HOW MANY OF YOU REMEMBER



THE STORY ABOUT THE ANIMALS WHO HAD BEEN GIVEN THE ABILITY TO TALK? CATS HAD MENTALITIES UP TO 12 YEARS OLD, WHEREAS THE BABY APES WERE ARRESTED AT THE 2 YEAR LEVEL? A FASCINATING CONCEPT. I'VE OFTEN THOUGHT OF THAT STORY WHEN OUR CAT ATTEMPTS TO ARTICULATE WORDS... IT CERTAINLY IS NOT FOR LACK OF TRYING THAT HE CANNOT COMMUNICATE WITH US IN HUMAN SPEECH.

SIAMESE STANDPIPE - HELEN WESSON. THANK YOU FOR THE CHRISTMAS GREETING. THE SEQUINS WERE STILL ON THE COVER AND IT REALLY MUST HAVE BEEN QUIT A JOB TO GLUE THEM ON ALL THE CARDS... ENJOYED THE ACCOUNT OF LIFE IN JAPAN AS YOU LIVE IT. "...MAMA'S...NEW SAPPHIRE MINK STOLE..." UMMMMH! HELEN'S FANTASIA & THE FOSSIL. UNDOUBTEDLY RELATED TO FANTASY AND ESSENTIALLY THE WORK OF THE MEMBER...



DOLOR #1 - BRANDON, CARR, ELLIK, & RIKE. "WHEN YOU SAY SOMETHING ABOUT SOME HOARY STRUCTURE LIKE THE R.C., I FIGURE THAT WHILE THINGS THAT HAPPENED HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO MAY BE RELEVANT, IT IS NEVERTHELESS BETTER TO HAVE CONTEMPORARY FACTS." AGREED, BUT DEFINITELY. BUT WHAT MAKES YOU CONSIDER THAT A BOOK WRITTEN IN 1845 IS "CONTEMPORARY"? OR EVEN A BOOK FROM 1918? ALSO, WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO GAIN AN UNPREJUDICED VIEW FROM A BOOK WRITTEN BY AN ANTI-CATHOLIC WRITER? I CAN RESPECT AN ANTI-CATHOLIC PREJUDICE IF IT IS THE RESULT OF A GENUINE DISAGREEMENT WITH THE THINGS THE CATHOLICS STAND FOR; IF THE PERSON WHO HOLDS IT REALLY KNOWS WHAT THESE THINGS ARE AND DIFFERS ON PRINCIPLE. BUT I DO NOT THINK THAT A PREJUDICE WHICH IS GAINED FROM READING ONLY ONE SIDE OF THE PICTURE, IS LIKELY TO BE BASED ON MUCH MORE THAN GUESSWORK AND HERESAY. I CAN PARTICULARLY SAY THAT BECAUSE I KNOW FROM MY OWN EXPERIENCE. WHEN I ACTUALLY DISCOVERED WHAT THE R.C. REALLY DOES TEACH AND PRACTICE, I FOUND THAT IT WAS NOT ANYTHING AT ALL LIKE WHAT I HAD BEEN TOLD. IN FACT, I DISCOVERED THAT YOU CANNOT LEARN ANY MORE ABOUT THE R.C. BY READING ANTI-CATHOLIC PROPAGANDA, THAN EUROPE CAN LEARN ABOUT THE U.S. BY READING ANTI-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS. IF YOU REALLY WANT TO FORM AN OPINION OF THE R.C., WHY NOT READ WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT THEMSELVES? YOU PROBABLY WOULD NOT AGREE WITH IT, BUT AT LEAST YOUR ATTITUDE WOULD BE BASED ON A TRUE KNOWLEDGE INSTEAD OF A FALSE ONE. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO GAIN AN HONEST OPINION FROM DISHONEST PROPAGANDA. THE ONLY THING YOU CAN GET FROM ANTI-CATHOLIC LITERATURE SUCH AS THOSE YOU MENTIONED, IS KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HOW ANTI-CATHOLICS THINK....

TENSION #1 - DAVE RIKE. YOUR ACCOUNT OF THE DIFFICULTY OF FINDING A ROOM FOR YOURSELF AND CARL BRANDON IS A SHOCKING REVELATION OF THE EXTENT OF RACIAL PREJUDICE IN AREAS SUPPOSEDLY FREE OF RACE PREJUDICE. BUT WOULD CARL HAVE HAD THE SAME DIFFICULTY IN FINDING A ROOM FOR HIMSELF HAD HE BEEN ROOMING WITH ANOTHER OF HIS OWN RACE? WAS THE OBJECTION SO MUCH AGAINST ADMITTING CARL, AS IT WAS AGAINST ADMITTING THE BOTH OF YOU TOGETHER? NEVERTHELESS, WHATEVER THE REASON FOR THE REJECTION, IT IS SHOCKING JUST THE SAME AND IT MERELY POINTS UP WHY IT IS THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE SUCH STRIDES IN THE TENSION-AREAS. SINCE PROPERTY VALUES MEAN NOTHING TO THEM, THEY CAN AFFORD TO FLOUT LOCAL PREJUDICES.. IN FACT, THE MORE DISSENTION IT CREATES AMONG THE NEIGHBORS, THE BETTER IT SERVES THEIR PURPOSE. (I HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN, DAVE, THAT YOU PARTICULARLY MENTIONED THAT THE HOUSE YOU FINALLY FOUND IS NOT COMMUNIST...) HERE IN SEATTLE WE HAVE A GREAT MANY ORIENTAL AND NEGRO STUDENTS, BUT I HAVE NEVER BEFORE THOUGHT TO WONDER WHERE THEY LIVE AND/OR WHAT KIND OF TREATMENT THEY RECEIVE. JUST NEVER HAD ANY OCCASION TO. NOW THAT I DO THINK OF IT, I RECALL THAT THEIR CHIEF 'HANG-OUT' SEEMS TO BE THE 'INTERNATIONAL HOUSE' WHICH WAS BUILT BY A SOCIALIST-MINDED PREACHER HERE IN SEATTLE IN CONNECTION WITH CHURCH. ONE OF THOSE INDEPENDENT, UN-AFFILIATED CHURCHES... REV. SHORTER WAS THE NAME, AND I RECALL HE CAME IN FOR A GOOD DEAL OF ATTENTION DURING THE 'INVESTIGATIONS' AROUND THE CAMPUS A FEW YEARS AGO. (IT TURNED OUT THAT HE HAD APPLIED FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMUNIST PARTY BUT THEY TURNED HIM DOWN AS BEING UNRELIABLE IN VIEW OF HIS EXPRESSED BELIEF IN GOD. HIS WIFE WAS DECLARED ELIGIBLE, HOWEVER... MAYBE IT DIDN'T MATTER IF SHE BELIEVED IN GOD.) THIS 'INTERNATIONAL HOUSE' (WHICH IS STILL THERE AND STILL POPULAR WITH STUDENTS OF ALL RACES, ALTHOUGH I BELIEVE REV. SHORTER IS NO LONGER CONNECTED WITH IT) FEATURED EXCELLENT MEALS AT PRICES FAR MORE REASONABLE EVEN THAN THE CAMPUS COMMONS (WHICH MADE IT ATTRACTIVE TO THE STUDENTS WITH LIMITED MONEY), AND HAD AN ATTRACTIVE LOUNGE AND CLEAN AND COMFORTABLE SURROUNDINGS. I'M NOT SURE WHETHER THERE WERE ANY LIVING QUARTERS. ALL RACES WERE WELCOME AND THE EMPHASIS WAS DEFINITELY "ONE-WORLD"... BUT, WITH TYPICAL GMC REVERSE-LOGIC, I CANNOT HELP WONDERING WHY IT IS THAT THOSE FEW PEOPLE WHO BOTHER TO REALIZE THE PAIN CAUSED BY SOCIAL DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MINORITIES ENOUGH TO ATTEMPT TO DO SOMETHING TO ALLEVIATE IT, SHOULD BE THE VERY ONES TO URGE THE KIDS THEY COME IN CONTACT WITH TO GET THEMSELVES CAUGHT IN THE VERY SAME TRAP! I JUST DON'T GET IT -- YOU'D THINK THEY, OF ALL PEOPLE, WOULD TRY TO PREVENT THE KIDS FROM MARRYING OUTSIDE THEIR OWN RACE.

SCIENCE FICTION FIFTY YEARLY - BLOCH & TUCKER, ET AL.

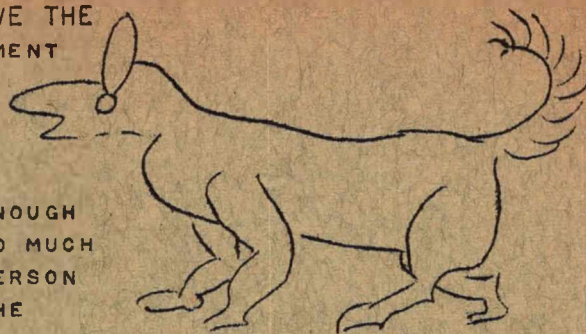
(I NEARLY REVIEWED THIS UNDER THE TITLE "SAVE THE WHISKEY!) MANY INTERESTING OPENINGS TO COMMENT THISH, BUT THE RECURRING NAME OF HANNES BOK

PROMPTS ME TO MENTION THAT HIS MOTHER, JULIA WOODARD (A MEMBER OF SEATTLE'S NAMELESS ONES) HAS SUFFERED A STROKE AND

ALTHOUGH SHE CAN STILL ARTICULATE CLEARLY ENOUGH TO USE THE TELEPHONE, SHE DOESN'T GET AROUND MUCH ANY MORE... TOO BAD. A VERY INTERESTING PERSON

IN HER OWN RIGHT, BESIDES BEING MOTHER TO THE FAMOUS HANNES BOK. LAST I HEARD, HANNES HAS

PRACTICALLY GIVEN UP WRITING AND PAINTING, AND IS LIVING ON THE PROCEEDS OF HIS COMMERCIAL HOROSCOPES AND THE OCCASIONAL SALE OF ONE OF THE PAINTINGS HE STILL HAS STACKED AGAINST THE WALLS OF HIS LITTLE APARTMENT. THIS SEEMS TO ME TO BE A WASTE OF TALENT SO PITIOUS AS TO BE PAINFUL TO CONTEMPLATE. AT ONE TIME BOK WAS RIGHT UP THERE WITH STURGEON AND FINLEY IN THE FIELDS OF BOTH WRITING AND ILLUSTRATING. NOW HE



HOROSCOPES FOR A LIVING...

SAMBO & CONBOY - MARTINEZ, ET AL. THERE'S ONE GOOD THING ABOUT THESE OKLA CON REPORTS -- IT'S SUCH A RELIEF TO KNOW WHAT I MISSED. MAKES IT A POSITIVE PLEASURE NOT TO HAVE ATTENDED....

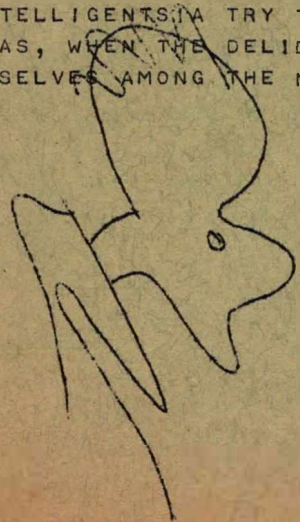
ALL THAT THERE JAZZ: TOUGH TOENAILS: REBOUND - RAY SCHAFER. LIKED YOUR POEMS, SOME OF THEM, THAT IS -- (THE LESS ESOTERIC) -- AND SAID SO VIA THE FAPA POLL. DUNNO IF YOUR COMMENTS RE FREAKS/MENTALISTS WERE BONAFIDE- OR TONGUE IN CHEEK-SOUR GRAPES, BUT THAT'S WHAT THEY SOUNDED LIKE... I DO NOT POO-POO A GOOD, RETENTIVE 'MEMORY BANK' -- ONLY WISH MINE WERE! WHETHER OR NOT THE INDIVIDUAL IS ABLE TO USE THE PIGEON-HOLED FACTS SO READILY AVAILABLE ON DEMAND, IT STILL IS AN ABILITY TO BE ADMIRABLE BY THOSE WHO DO NOT POSSESS IT. I SYMPATHIZE WITH YOUR AVERSION TO TELEPHONES. IT'S NOT QUITE THAT BAD WITH ME, BUT AFTER WORKING HOURS I NEVER USE THE PHONE IF I CAN HELP IT. IT'S BAD ENOUGH TO SPEND 8 HOURS PER DAY TIED TO THE OFFICE BY A TELEPHONE CORD LIKE A MEDIEVAL MONK CHAINED TO THE SCRIPTORIUM, WITHOUT BEING EXPECTED TO USE THE BLASTED THING AFTERWARDS FOR RECREATION. ..SPEAKING OF MEDIEVAL MONKS, HAVE YOU READ ANYTHING ON THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS? JUST FINISHED READING HALF-DOZEN PBS ON THE SUBJECT, INCLUDING GATSER'S TRANSLATION OF THE QUMRAN SCROLLS. IT SEEMS THAT THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALEOGRAPHICAL 'BRAINS' WENT INTO A GENUINE TIZZY OVER THEM -- SQUABBLING BACK AND FORTH LIKE ..CRAZY... EGGHEADS IN ACTION, NO LESS.

BIRDSMITH - VERNON L. MCCAIN. "NATURALLY, YOU CANNOT BLAME THOSE WHO HAVEN'T INVESTIGATED THE QUESTION AND ACCEPT THE WORD OF THE FIRST NOISY 'AUTHORITY' TO COME ALONG, BUT I CAN AND DO BLAME THEM FOR NOT INVESTIGATING FURTHER AND FINDING OUT THE ACTUAL FACTS..." SEEMS TO ME THIS IS A PARADOX, VERNON, BECAUSE IN A MATTER OF SUCH RESTRICTED TECHNICAL OPINION, ALL THE AVERAGE PERSON CAN DO IS RELY ON THE WORD OF WHATEVER "AUTHORITY" IS AVAILABLE. IT IS OBVIOUSLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE LAYMAN TO CHECK ON THE MASS EFFECTS OF FLUORIDATION OF WATER AT FIRST HAND, SO THE BEST HE CAN DO IS ATTEMPT TO EVALUATE THE CONCLUSIONS OF PERSONS WHO SAY THEY HAVE DONE SO.... AT LEAST TO ACCEPT THESE REPORTS AS VALID. PERSONALLY, I HAVE REACHED NO DECISION AS YET RE THE PRO-AND-CON OF THIS QUESTION, BUT WHAT I HAVE READ ON THE SUBJECT WOULD TEND TO INDICATE THAT THE VALUE OF FLUORIDATION IS UNPROVEN -- IE, MANY OF THE VIRTUES YOU ASCRIBE TO THE PRESENCE OF NATURAL FLUORIDATION IN THE WATER IS, IN FACT, DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF OTHER MINERALS AND CALCIUM PRESENT. IT HAS BEEN MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE BODY ABSORBS AND UTILIZES VARIOUS TYPES OF MINERALS, OF WHICH FLUORIDATION PROVIDES ONLY ONE -- AND ONE OF DUBIOUS VALUE, AT THAT. SUCH BEING THE CASE, HOW COULD ONE CHECK INTO THE SUBJECT FOR ONESELF AS YOU

RECOMMEND? WHEN EVEN THE EXPERTS DISAGREE, HOW CAN YOU BLAME THE LAITY FOR BEING UNINFORMED? IN YOUR REPLY TO CALKINS ABOUT THE UNDESIRABILITY OF USING "YOU'LL KNOW BETTER WHEN YOU GROW UP" AS AN ARGUMENT WITH CHILDREN, YOU MAY BE RIGHT THAT IT IS A PARTICULARLY INFURIATING THING TO SAY TO THEM, BUT I THINK YOU OVERLOOK THE FACT THAT MATURATION IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE LEARNING PROCESS. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL CHILDREN SOME THINGS BEFORE THEY HAVE REACHED THE POINT OF MATURATION WHICH WILL ENABLE THEM TO UNDERSTAND IT, AND NO AMOUNT OF REASONING ON A VERBAL LEVEL WILL HELP THEM TO COMPREHEND. IT LITERALLY IS A CASE OF "YOU'LL KNOW BETTER WHEN YOU GROW UP", WHETHER IT IS INFURIATING OR NOT. YOUR ALTERNATE SUGGESTION OF GRINNING AND SAYING NOTHING WOULD PROBABLY BE MORE SENSIBLE, BUT TO ME IT WOULD SEEM TO BE JUST AS INFURIATING.. PARTICULARLY IN RETROSPECT.

TARGET FAPA - RICHARD ENEY. DICK, WILL YOU -- JUST FOR THE SAKE OF THE RECORD -- ANSWER ME A QUESTION IF YOU CAN? SINCE WE HAVE YOUR PSYCHIATRIST-COUSIN'S WORD FOR IT THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE ANY TROUBLE WITH YOUR EYES, EITHER ORGANIC OR FUNCTIONAL, TO SCRAMBLE YOUR READING MATERIAL SO THAT YOU CANNOT PROPERLY ASSIMILATE IT, JUST WHAT DOES CAUSE YOU TO COME UP WITH STATEMENTS LIKE, "GMC IS SENDING YOU THOSE SATURDAY EVENING POSTS SO YOU'LL BE FORCED, ETC. ETC." (BOTTOM 6, TARGET FAPA)? TRUE, I OFFERED TO SEND SATEVEPOSTS TO ANYONE THAT WOULD READ THEM, BUT SANDY PLAINLY INDICATED HE ALREADY HAD A STEADY SOURCE AND OBVIOUSLY DID NOT NEED MINE. WHAT, THEN, CAUSED YOU TO MAKE THE CLEAR AND POSITIVE ASSERTION THAT I AM SENDING MY POSTS TO HIM? WAS IT THE SAME TYPE OF WEIRD MENTAL OPERATION THAT CAUSED YOU TO MAKE THE POSITIVE STATEMENT THAT I AM IN FAVOR OF SEGREGATION IN THE SOUTH JUST BECAUSE I CONSIDER MIXED MARRIAGES CRUEL TO THE CHILDREN? OR THAT CAUSED YOU TO REJECT MY SUGGESTION THAT TWO FANZINES COULD BE ROLLED TOGETHER AND TIED WITH TWINE AND MAILED FOR THE PRICE OF ONE BY PROTESTING THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF STAPLING THAT MANY PAGES? IT SEEMS INCREDIBLE TO ME THAT ANY PERSON COULD NOT IMMEDIATELY SEE THAT THE DIFFICULTY OF STAPLING SO MANY PAGES WOULD BE THE OBVIOUS REASON FOR SUGGESTING THE USE OF TWINE; THAT AN OBJECTION TO THE HUMILIATION SUFFERED BY THE CHILDREN OF MIXED MARRIAGES WOULD BE AN ADDITION^{AL} REASON FOR OBJECTING TO SEGREGATION, AND NOW IN THIS LATEST SNAFU, IT SEEMS INCREDIBLE TO ME THAT YOU SHOULD ASSUME I'D SEND THE MAGS TO SOME ONE WHO SAYS HE HAS ALREADY READ THEM! WHAT GIVES, ANYWAY... OR HASN'T YOUR PSYCHIATRIST-COUSIN GOT AROUND TO FIGURING THAT OUT YET?

GAVAGE #3 - CURT JANKE. "TOO OFTEN, THAT PROCESS WHICH WE CALL EDUCATION IS MERELY THE POLISHING TO A HIGH LUSTRE THE STUDENT'S NATIVE STUPIDITY AND IGNORANCE." YOUR DEFINITION OF AN EGGHEAD IS MORE ESOTERIC THAN MINE, BUT I THINK THEY BOTH BOIL DOWN TO "AN EDUCATED FOOL". IT IS ODD HOW INSISTENTLY THE INTELLIGENTSIA TRY TO EVADE ADMITTING THAT THERE ARE SUCH AMONG THEIR RANKS. JUST AS, WHEN THE DELIBERATELY SUBVERSIVE COMMUNISTS (PAID RUSSIAN AGENTS) HID THEMSELVES AMONG THE NATIVEDORN AMERICAN 'LIBERALS', THE LIBERALS MOVED OVER TO MAKE ROOM FOR THEM EVEN AT THE RISK OF THEIR OWN GOOD NAME, SO THE HIGH IQ RANKS HAVE VOLUNTARILY MOVED OVER TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE EGGHEADS AT THE RISK OF BEING THEMSELVES DISLIKED AND SCORNE. IT IS A MOST REMARKABLE SOCIAL PHENOMENON AND ONE THAT I WISH SOMEBODY COULD EXPLAIN TO ME. WHY DIDN'T THE LOYAL LIBERALS ADMIT THEIR LOYALTY TO THE UNITED STATES AND EXPOSE THEIR FELLOWS WHO WERE KNOWN TO THEM TO BE DISLOYAL? WHY DON'T THE HIGH IQ BOYS SHRUG OFF THE 'EGGHEADS' INSTEAD OF TAKING THE TITLE TO THEMSELVES AND BEATING THEIR BREASTS (FIGURATIVELY, OF COURSE) AT BEING 'PERSECUTED'? COULD IT BE THAT WHEN A 'BRAIN' GETS TOO HIGHLY EDUCATED, THE POLISH DAZZLES THEM TO THE POINT WHERE THEY CANNOT TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A WISE MAN AND A FOOL IF THEY BOTH HAVE A SHEEPSKIN SHEEN?




RAMBLING FAPS - GREGG CALKINS. ENJOYED THE POEMS. HUMOROUS. "LET'S TAKE SF AWAY FROM THE PEOPLE AND GIVE IT BACK TO THE FANS." EVEN THOUGH THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY ONLY A WISECRACK, IT CONTAINS WHAT IS PROBABLY THE WISTFUL WISH OF ALL US FANS... NOW THAT SF RIVALS HORSE-OPERA AND BOUDOIR BATTLES FOR NEWS-STAND SPACE, WITH ONLY THE WHODUNNITS OUT-DOING THEM, I FIND A LESSENING OF INTEREST. NO THRILL TO THE CHASE WHEN THE QUARRY ABOUNDS... YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT BIG CARS VS SMALL CARS MAKE ONE TELLING POINT THAT I CAN SEE: IE, "I'M A BIG BOY, 6' TALL AND AROUND 230 POUNDS. A GOOD FRIEND OF MINE HAS AN MG AND EVERY TIME I RIDE WITH HIM I PRACTICALLY RUPTURE SOMETHING GETTING IN AND OUT..." THE PHYSICAL DISCOMFORT OF TRYING TO RIDE IN A CAR THAT'S TOO SMALL WOULD CERTAINLY OUTWEIGH THE EGOBOO OF HAVING ONE. I DID NOT

THINK TOO MUCH OF YOUR OTHER REASON, IE, THAT A SMALL CAR SUFFERS MORE DAMAGE IN A COLLISION THAN A LARGER CAR DOES, BUT SINCE BEING INVOLVED IN A COLLISION MYSELF QUITE RECENTLY, I HAVE COME TO REGARD IT WITH A MORE CAREFUL SCRUTINY. CERTAINLY THE CAR IN WHICH I WAS RIDING, A FORD RANCH WAGON, SUFFERED LESS FROM THE COLLISION THAN THE OTHER CAR -- WHICH FLIPPED OVER FROM ITS OWN MOMENTUM AND LANDED UPSIDE DOWN CLEAR ACROSS THE STREET.... NO DOUBT THE RELATIVE SPEEDS HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT, TOO, INASMUCH AS I WAS TRAVELLING AT THE RELATIVE LOW SPEED OF ABOUT 25 MPH AND THE OTHER CAR WAS BOWLING ALONG AT AT LEAST HALF AGAIN THAT MUCH... (NEITHER ONE OF US WAS DAMAGED MUCH, CONSIDERING THE SPECTACULAR CIRCUMSTANCES. SORRY, I'D TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT BUT I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO DISCUSS IT UNTIL THE INSURANCE COMPANIES GET IT ALL SETTLED.)

TYKE - JACK HARNESS. GREAT IMPROVEMENT THISH. ONLY ONE OR TWO UNINTELLIGIBLE SPOTS IN THE WHOLE THING. DUNNO WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO JACK BETWEEN THESE PAST TWO MAILINGS, OR IF THE IMPROVEMENT IS PERMANENT (I HOPE SO), BUT IT LOOKS AS THOUGH HE IS COMING OUT OF WHATEVER VERBAL DISORIENTATION IT WAS THAT MADE HIS COMMENTS LOOK AS THOUGH HE HAD POURED WORDS INTO A MIXING BOWL AND TURNED ON THE MIXER... ORIENTAL COOKERY IS A FAMILIAR THING HERE IN SEATTLE AND ON THE WEST COAST. CHOP SUEY (CHINESE) OUTNUMBERS SUKI-YAKI (JAPANESE) ABOUT 6 TO 2 OR MORE (FOR NO REASON KNOWN TO ME) BUT THEY BOTH RANGE FROM MOM & POP STORES THE SIZE OF A HAMBURGER STAND TO ELABORATE COCKTAIL LOUNGES. (IN WASHINGTON, ALL COCKTAIL LOUNGES ARE RUN IN CONJUNCTION WITH RESTAURANTS, AND ONLY THE MOST ELABORATE EATING PLACES CAN AFFORD THEM. OR ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO GET A LICENSE.)

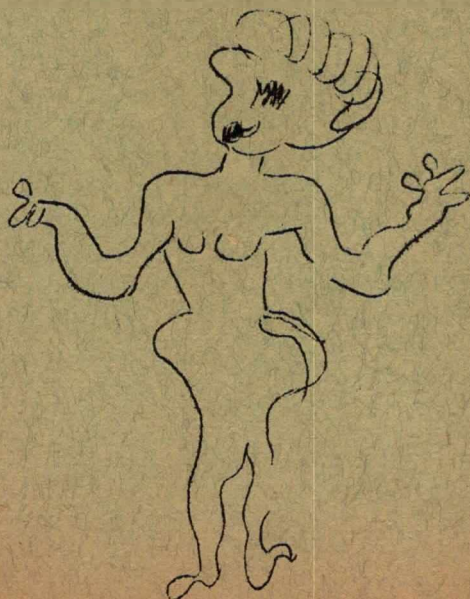
HAEMOGOBLIN #4 - FRED SMITH. "IT IS MENTALLY AND MORALLY INJURIOUS TO A MAN TO DO ANYTHING IN WHICH HE DOES NOT FIND PLEASURE" - OSCAR WILDE. THIS QUOTATION IS ANOTHER INSTANCE (LIKE THE VOLTAIRE QUOTATION DISCUSSED IN E&E) WHERE A CLEVER QUIP HAS BEEN TREATED LIKE A SENSIBLE STATEMENT OF FACT. I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING, OF COURSE, WHETHER OSCAR WILDE ACTUALLY MEANT WHAT HE SAID, OR WAS MERELY TOSSING OFF ANOTHER OF HIS BRILLIANT VERBAL FIRECRACKERS JUST FOR THE FUN OF LISTENING TO THE NOISE. NEITHER DO I KNOW WHETHER FRED QUOTES IT BECAUSE HE THINKS IT MEANS SOMETHING, OR WHETHER HE USED IT FOR AN INTERLINEATION BECAUSE HE THOUGHT IT LOOKED PRETTY. PERSONALLY, I THINK IT IS RATHER SILLY (NO REFLECTION ON FRED'S TASTE IN BON MOTS, HOWEVER).. TRYING TO TRACE THIS STATEMENT DOWN TO SOME PRACTICAL APPLICATION INVARIABLY FIZZLES OUT INTO MEANINGLESSNESS. FOR INSTANCE (SINCE IT HAPPENS TO BE LUNCH TIME AT THE MOMENT OF WRITING, THIS ILLUSTRATION COMES MOST READILY TO MIND) EATING IS PLEASANT -- IN FACT, IT IS SO VERY PLEASANT TO EAT THAT MANY PEOPLE EAT TOO MUCH AND BECOME ILL OR OBESE. ILLNESS AND OBESITY ARE UNPLEASANT BUT CAN BE OVERCOME ONLY BY REFRAINING FROM EATING -- AN ACT WHICH IS DEFINITELY SOMETHING "IN WHICH HE DOES NOT FIND PLEASURE"... BUT, AS ANYONE CAN TELL YOU WHO HAS EVER DONE IT, THIS 'UNPLEASANT THING' CAN HAVE A VERY HEALTHY EFFECT NOT ONLY ON THE PHYSICAL PERSON, BUT MENTALLY AND MORALLY AS WELL. IN SHORT, WILDE'S EPIGRAM IS NOT ONLY MEANINGLESS, IT IS ACTUALLY UNTRUE. BUT I WONDER HOW MANY EVER REALIZE IT?



CELEPHAIS - BILL EVANS. "IT SEEMS TO ME THAT GMC IS AGAINST AND FOR THE SAME THING. FIRST SHE IS AGAINST CENSORING THE MAILING MATERIAL IF THEY AREN'T CONCERNED WITH FANTASY AND SUCH; THEN SHE CASTIGATES THE OE BECAUSE HE DOESN'T REMOVE SUCH MATERIAL FROM THE MAILING." BILL, DIDN'T IT EVER OCCUR TO YOU THAT THERE MIGHT BE AN "IN-BETWEEN"? I AM OPPOSED TO ANY ATTEMPT AT THOUGHT CONTROL -- THE REMORSELESS REGIMENTATION OF WHAT WE CAN DISCUSS AND THE MINIMUM BRILLIANCE WITH WHICH WE CAN DISCUSS IT -- BUT I AM IN FAVOR OF REQUIRE-
THE OE TO EXERCISE THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN HIM TO PROTECT THE MAILING FROM MATERIAL WHICH SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED BY THE RULES OF FAPA. IF SUCH MATERIAL, IE, MATERIAL NOT "ESSENTIALLY THE WORK OF THE MEMBER" OR OF EVIDENT DUBIOUS VALUE (SUCH AS OUTDATED GOLDEN GLOVES TICKETS, OR OLD NEWSPAPERS FULL OF ADS) IS SUBMITTED BY A MEMBER WHO OBVIOUSLY WANTS IT DISTRIBUTED TO THE MEMBERS FOR SOME REASON, I SEE NO REASON WHY HE SHOULDN'T BE ASKED TO PAY THE ADDITIONAL POSTAGE. AFTER ALL, JUST HAVING THAT STUFF IN THE MAILING WASN'T THE CAUSE OF THE GRIPEs -- IT WAS HAVING TO PAY POSTAGE ON MATERIAL WHICH WAS CONTRARY TO THE CONSTITUTION THAT CAUSED THE DEEFS, IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY. COSLET'S BIBLE CHECKLISTS MAY NOT HAVE BEEN OF INTEREST TO ANYONE BUT COSLET, BUT THEY WERE OF INTEREST TO HIM AND IN CONFORMITY WITH FAPA REGULATIONS HE HAD A RIGHT TO SUBMIT WHAT WAS OF INTEREST TO HIM NO MATTER HOW LITTLE IT INTERESTED OTHERS. BUT MEYER'S PRINTING SAMPLES, AS McPHAIL POINTED OUT, "...ARE NOT IDENTICAL, ARE NOT PRODUCED AT HIS EXPENSE & THEY ARE NOT 'AMATEUR' IN THE SENSE INTENDED BY OUR CONSTITUTION" AND CONSEQUENTLY FAPA SHOULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO SPEND MONEY ON THEM. IF MEYERS WANTED US TO SEE THESE SAMPLES OF HIS PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT, HE COULD HAVE PAID EXTRA POSTAGE AND I SEE NO POSSIBLE REASON FOR OBJECTING TO THEM SO LONG AS HE ALSO SUBMITTED HIS 8 PAGES MINIMUM... PERSONALLY, I THINK THIS ENTIRE MESS HAS COME ABOUT BECAUSE THE VARIOUS OEs RESPONSIBLE HAVE BEEN NEGLIGENT IN EXERCISING THE GOOD JUDGEMENT WHICH THEIR DUTIES DEMANDED. AND THAT'S WHAT I SAID.

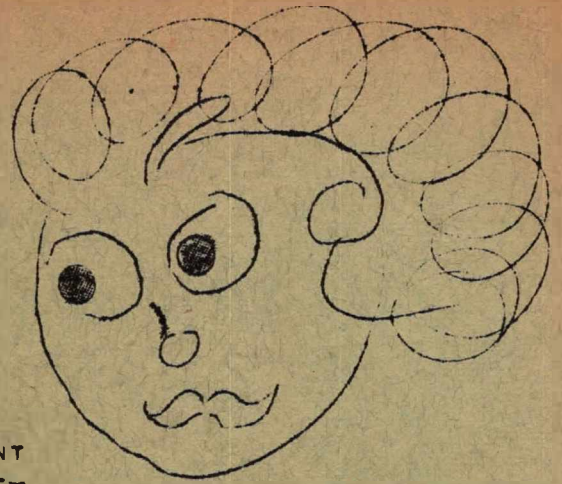
.....
HOMOSEXUALS ARE PEOPLE JUST LIKE ANYONE ELSE (ONLY, ONE PRESUMES, QUEERER).DAG
.....

SPUTNIK - PHYLLIS ECONOMOU. "...IF THE 5 & 10 CONTAINS NOTHING DESIRABLE AND OUT OF REACH, THERE'S ALWAYS BERGDORF-GOODMAN'S OR TIFFANY'S..." BUT THE WHOLE POINT OF THE MATTER IS THAT FOR THE MILLIONAIRE IN QUESTION, THERE WAS NO "TIFFANY'S" TO TURN TO. TRUE, WHEN I DISCOVERED (WITH A SENSE OF LOSS) THAT I HAD OUTGROWN THE 5 & 10, I HAD NO DIFFICULTY IN RAISING MY SIGHTS A NOTCH AND RECAPTURING THE LOST. BUT WHAT COULD THE MILLIONAIRE TURN TO? WHAT COULD "TIFFANY'S" OFFER HIM THAT HE DID NOT ALREADY HAVE?



LARK - DANNER. LOOKS AS THOUGH I'LL HAVE TO REVISE MY MENTAL CONCEPT OF DANNER HUDDLED UNTIDILY IN THE CENTER OF AN UNKEMPT LAWN FULL OF EVIDENCES OF RECENT VISITS BY THE NEIGHBORS' DOGS. 79 ACRES IS A LOT OF ROOM... MAYBE HE'LL KEEP COWS TO PROVIDE HIM WITH THE SAME TYPE OF SCENERY SO HE WON'T GET LONESOME? GEE...79 ACRES... HE COULD EVEN HAVE DEER AROUND THE PLACE. OR BEAR... WELL, ANYWAY, I ENJOYED HIS COMMENTS A COUPLE OF MAILINGS BACK ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SHAVING WITH A STRAIGHT RAZOR AND ELECTRIC CLIPPERS... WROTE A WHOLE PAGE OF COMMENTS, NICE POLITE ONES WITHOUT AN INSULT ANYWHERE, BUT UNFORTUNATELY IT GOT CROWDED OUT.. (I DIDN'T THINK D^ANNER WOULD MISS IT ANYWAY. I DON'T THINK HE READS GZ NOW.)

HORIZONS - HARRY WARNER. WELL, HARRY, IF YOU DO NOT CONSIDER PATHETIC THE TANTALUS-FIGURE WITH ITS UTTER FRUSTRATION IN HAVING WEALTH ENOUGH TO PURCHASE EVERY POSSIBLE MATERIAL TREASURE, BUT NEITHER HEALTH NOR ENERGY TO ENJOY IT, WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER A "PATHETIC CHARACTER IN LITERATURE"? ..YOUR ANALYSIS OF THE CREATIVE FUNCTION WAS VERY INTERESTING -- PARTICULARLY THE POINT YOU MAKE WHEN YOU SAY, "THEY PAINT LIKE THAT BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO ABILITY TO PAINT IN A MANNER THAT BESPEAKS DILIGENCE AND DISCIPLINE." FRANKLY, HOWEVER, THE MOST INTERESTING PART OF THE STATEMENT (TO ME, AT LEAST) IS THE REASON WHY A STATEMENT LIKE THIS COMING FROM YOU ^{WILL} UNDOUBTEDLY BE RECEIVED WITH ACCLAIM, BUT WHEN I SAY THE SAME THING IT ONLY PROVOKES LOUD AND ANGUISHED OPPOSITION.



LE MOINDRE #9 - BOYD RAEBURN. "...BECAUSE MANY PEOPLE IN THE TWENTIES REFERRED TO POPULAR DANCE MUSIC AS 'JAZZ' DOESN'T MAKE IT JAZZ.. READ IT OVER A FEW MORE TIMES. TRY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING. THINK!" BOYD, ARE YOU SURE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE SAYING? IT WOULD SEEM TO ME THAT THE MUSIC OF THE TWENTIES THAT THE PEOPLE DANCED TO AND LISTENED TO AND DESTOWED THE NAME 'JAZZ' ON, WOULD CERTAINLY BE THE REAL THING, RATHER THAN AN ART FORM THAT CAME ALONG 20 OR 30 YEARS LATER AND USURPED THE TITLE... NOW, WOULDN'T IT? READ IT OVER A FEW MORE TIMES. TRY TO UNDERSTAND (YOU, TOO, COULD BE WRONG, YOU KNOW.)

NULL-F #9 - TED WHITE. "...THE ONLY TIME YOU WILL CONCEDE AN ARGUMENT LOST IS WHEN YOU CONSIDER IT UNIMPORTANT. ANY OTHER ARGUMENTS WHICH YOU CANNOT WIN, WHEN THEY GROW TOO HOT, YOU IGNORE. THO I BELIEVE I HAVE MADE SOME TELLING POINTS IN THE LAST SEVERAL NULL-F'S IN ARGUMENTS WITH YOU, YOU HAVE STEADILY IGNORED ALL DIRECT COMMENT TO ME, PREFERRING OBLIQUE REFERENCES IN YOUR COMMENTS TO OTHERS." NOW DON'T BE GREEDY, TED. YOU GET YOUR SHARE OF EGODOO ALONG WITH THE REST, AND THE ONLY REASON I DO NOT REPLY TO EVERY POINT YOU ADVANCE IS BECAUSE THERE JUST SIMPLY ISN'T ROOM FOR ALL OF THEM. BESIDES, NOT ALL OF THEM ARE AS "TELLING" AS YOU SEEM TO THINK. THE ONES THAT DO HAVE SOME PERTINENCY, I ENDEAVOR TO ANSWER -- IF I HAVE TO DO SO IN CONJUNCTION WITH A COMMENT IN SOMEONE ELSE'S REVIEW... HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS THAT GZ IS UNWIELDY ALREADY WITHOUT ME GOING OVER THE SAME GROUND TWO OR THREE TIMES IN THE SAME ISH, LIKE A CHESS PLAYER MAKING THE SAME MOVE WITH A HALF-DOZEN OPPONENTS IN A HALF-DOZEN SEPARATE GAMES... SOME POINTS YOU ADVANCE DO NOT SEEM TO ME TO BE RELEVANT -- AS I MENTIONED LAST MAILING IN MY COMMENTS ON PHOSPHOR, A GREAT MANY APPARENTLY CLEVER ARGUMENTS UPON CLOSER ANALYSIS DO NOT ACTUALLY HAVE ANY BEARING ON THE DISCUSSION AT ALL. YOU, IN YOUR COMMENT TO ENEY, OBVIOUSLY NOTICED THE SAME THING WHEN YOU SAID, "...AND THEN SUPERCILIOUSLY SNEERING, 'THERE, SEE WHAT I MEAN?' WHEN ACTUALLY YOUR POINT ISN'T PROVEN AT ALL. I DOUBT EVEN YOU THINK YOU'VE PROVED SOMETHING, BUT OBVIOUSLY YOU HOPE EVERYONE ELSE WILL BE TAKEN IN BY YOUR OH-SO-SUBTLE CLEVERNESS." GOOD POINT YOU MAKE IN THAT COMMENT ABOUT THE FRAME-OF-REFERENCE BACKGROUNDS WHICH APPEAR TO BE THE SAME BUT ACTUALLY ARE NOT. THIS COULD BE THE CAUSE OF SOME OF THE WILDLY-DISORIENTED COMMENTS WHICH ARE SO DAFFLING BOTH TO ME AND TO OTHERS: IE, THOSE INSTANCES WHERE I GO BACK AND RE-READ WHAT I SAID AND SIMPLY CANNOT SEE HOW IN THE WORLD ANYBODY COULD POSSIBLY HAVE READ THAT INTO IT... AND WHERE OTHER FANS COMPLAIN (AS HARRY WARNER DID) OF MY 'DAD HADIT OF REPLYING TO THINGS THAT WERE NEVER SAID..' EVEN WHEN I AM QUOTING THE ACTUAL WORDS I AM REPLYING TO. ONE THING I HAVE NOTICED IN THIS REGARD: MANY FANS DRAW GENERALIZED CONCLUSIONS FROM STATEMENTS, CONCLUSIONS WHICH THEY CONSIDER TO BE IMPLICIT IN THE SENTENCE, ALTHOUGH NOT ACTUALLY IN THE LITERAL WORDING. HOWEVER, I TEND TO A LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF THE WORDS THEMSELVES, TAKING THE STATEMENT AT FACE VALUE WITH NOTHING EITHER ADDED OR IMPLIED.

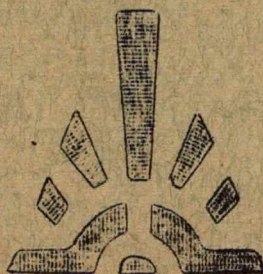
ESPERANTO, ANYONE?

GMC: "...And that brings up another subject that should never have been tossed into the laps of the members for decision. I refer to the suggestion...of a foreign language fanzine. Personally, it seems to me that this is a problem of courtesy and good will.. It is not a very courteous thing to do to submit a fanzine..which the majority of the fans cannot read -- particularly since the editor is capable...of one that the rest of the members can read and enjoy. However, if the member felt a strong desire to do so...I don't see why there should be any objections so long as said member...submitted his minimum mailing requirements in English. After all, it would be highly unfair if he didn't at least give the Mailing Comments in a language that the interested persons could understand!

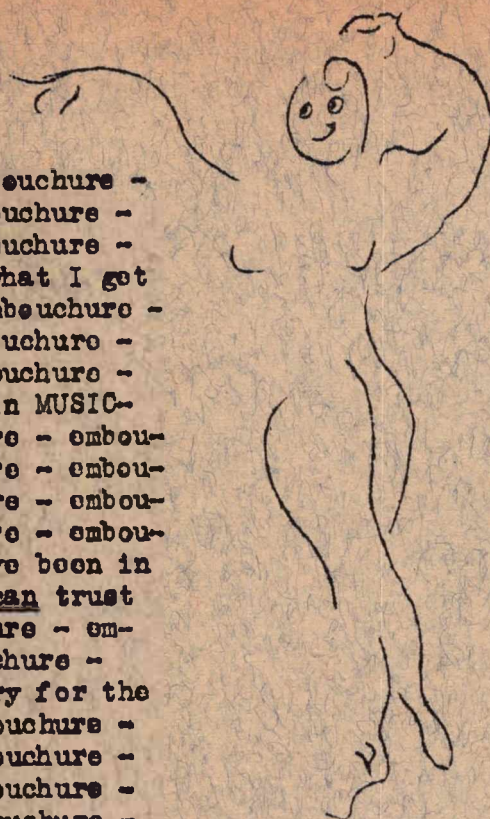
TED WHITE: "Now we come to the relative fairness and unfairness of certain zines. Tell me honestly, Gem, how much more fair Coswal's listing of Bibles was to the FAPate than a proposed zine in French would be. Neither would contain anything of interest to the average FAPAn. In fact, I'll bet more FAPAns can read French and could enjoy such a zine than are interested in Cos' listings. It's simply a matter that a zine in French would be unfair TO YOU which leads you to call it 'unfair'. I think Wansborough's illegible crap is equally unfair, and that Myer's blatherings are also spacewasting, and 'unfair'."

DAG: "I do not deny anyone the right to publish fapazines in any language they wish to but I reserve the right to comment on them in any language I may choose. I may, in fact, invent a language for the occasion."

J. YOUNG: "-- Aha, il dit, je vais vous dessiner."



BALTEX



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 for trying to spell by ear) embouchure - embouchure -
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 an advertisement for mouthpieces -- never can trust
 the spelling in ads!) embouchure - embouchure - em-
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 (I'll simply have to buy a better dictionary for the
 shop -- it isn't even in this one..) - embouchure -
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 embouchure - (there, I'll bet I never make that mistake again!)

Re JAZZ: Well, I certainly kicked up a furor when I challenged our Jazz fans by say-
 ing. (1) Present-day 'jazz' is entirely different from (and in my opinion, inferior
 to) Jazz as it was played in the Twenties; (2) Musicians in the Twenties tried to pre-
 duce as good tone as their ability permitted, thus the harsh tones so much admired by
 present-day jazz-fans evolved from lack of musical education on the part of some of the
 musicians rather than from deliberate intent, and (3) that the so-called Big Name
 Jazzmen of today were just the run of the mill musician during the heyday of the Jazz
 Era. It is interesting to note that the howls of vituperation and recrimination that
 resulted from my comments confirm rather than refute them. Boiled down, they add up
 to: (1) Present-day Jazz is entirely different from (and in their opinion, superior
 to) 'Jazz' in the Twenties; (2) Some of the early Jazz Musicians had excellent musical
 educations, but others played that way because they couldn't read music; (3), Paul
 Whiteman and the other name bands of the Thirties can't be considered Jazz Bands any-
 way, and (4) GMC is an ignorant, stupid fugghead, a smalltown girl, doesn't know what
 she is talking about, is of Scandinavian descent (I never did figure out what connec-
 tion that was supposed to have), stubborn, opinionated, senile, and a candidate for
 the title of 'Moldy-fig'.... What is particularly significant (to me, at least) is
 the extremely violent emotional rejection of any new idea about Jazz in the Twenties
 which might tend to disturb their conventional book-learning on the subject. To ques-
 tion the correctness of their concepts of the origin and nature of Jazz, is apparently
 equal to questioning the correctness of a Fundamentalists' concept of the Creation!
 In all the sputtering and fuming that resulted, only one clear fact has emerged: Jazz
 has evolved from the spontaneous "gut bucket" of the Twenties and has now become a
 highly stylized art form with a conventional mythos built around it.. and was to any-
 one who presumes to question any part of that mythos!

And speaking of Jazz, I wonder how many of you caught that first sponsored 'Jazz Concert' (TIMEX watches) on the Steve Allen show Monday night, December 30, 1957? Of all the dismal honking and horn-blowing that went on, there were only occasional snatches of the stuff I used to know as Jazz.. Once in a while Old Satchmo and Jack Teagarden managed to bring back a faint memory of that wild and wonderful wizardry I remember from the Twenties. Most of the time on this concert there was just a tortured sequence of solo performers gyrating with bored expressions in front of a row of equally bored-looking musicians who sat back with their instruments on their laps and gazed off into the distance. Only when Satchmo and Teagarden sparked some life into the performance did the rest of the orchestra liven up -- and it was significant to notice that when Satchmo and Teagarden wove their interplay of words and music, there was a continuous background of harmony and melody... Trombone gave way to Trumpet which gave way to Clarinet and back again, so smoothly that only the jumping of the camera from performer to performer indicated the change of lead. The boys in the back radiated enthusiasm instead of boredly leaving the soloist in a vacuum of silence like one lonely goose in an empty sky. The interplay of joking and laughter between Jack A and Jack T built up momentarily a glimpse of that symbiosis of sound and sympathy between listener and musicians which was the chief characteristic of the Golden Age Jazz I recall.

Re MORAL JUDGEMENTS: I wonder, also, how many FAPAns have noticed that for a seemingly convention-flouting group, FAPA is rigidly conventional? One of the most enjoyable aspects of FAPA is (or, at any rate, could be) the glimpse it affords into the 'frame-of-reference' backgrounds of the various members, and the opportunity it presumably provides for a broadening of viewpoints which would enable the individual members a wider flexibility in the matter of moral standards than would be the case if they were acquainted only with their own. But, oddly enough, the typical FAPate reaction to these varying frames of reference is a flexibility only in one direction. I mean that the average FAPAN will react tolerantly only to a frame of reference which has less moral scruples than his own. To a frame of reference with more moral scruples, the reaction is markedly intolerant. In fact, it is so rigidly intolerant of any restrictive moral/ethical values, that it becomes a moral judgement in itself.

For instance, Gregg Calkins, one of our FAPAns whose frame of reference background apparently includes a grounding in ethical and moral values, commented on his own reactions to Elvis Presley and Liberache. When I pointed out that reaction probably was motivated by a consideration of moral values and thus constituted, in effect, a moral judgement on the conduct of these persons, Gregg (figuratively speaking) drew himself up with a pained expression and said, "I get the feeling I have been GMCarr'd or something...."

To be sure, there is always a slight shock attached to having an unsuspected subconscious motivation uncovered to the conscious mind, but there is no reason why this should be considered (as one fan put it) "a slap across the chops". Unless, and this is the point I am trying to make, unless it is considered an insult to be suspected of making a moral judgement! But that is just exactly what the conventional FAPA mores imply... Apparently it is considered more reprehensible in FAPA to be suspected of making a moral judgement on the basis of a restrictive evaluation, than it is to be suspected of the actions which these restrictions would prohibit. FAPA 'morality' consists in repudiating the non-FAPA values; and in order to conform to this arbitrary moral code the individual FAPAN is expected to repudiate his on-FAPAN frame-of-reference. Instead of the group as a whole endeavoring to understand and



'tolerate' the mental backgrounds of each member, the members themselves are expected to slow down to the pace of the very slowest -- morally speaking -- and drop every frame-of-reference ethical concept except that of the least restrictive. FOR EXAMPLE: It is taken for granted that a chronic alcoholic, for instance, would be condoned in his drunkenness by FAPA, on the grounds that to condemn him would be making a "moral judgement" on his drunkenness. But would a Teetotaler -- a so-called Total Abstainer receive an equally lenient reception of his attitude? No, I suspect that FAPA would immediately form a 'moral judgement' on the non-drinker and accuse him of 'intolerance'. Any comment?

Re "WHAT MAKES GMC SO OBNOXIOUS": This year of discussion has been very interesting (if not very enlightening) to me, and I have finally concluded that probably the chief reason for the faulty communication is the vehemence of the style. Like a Hi-fi addict who keeps the volume tuned up because that's the way he enjoys it, I indulge in my penchant for aggressive language without realizing that the resulting din is practically ear-splitting to the listeners who do not hear the subtle nuances I find in it. No doubt I could overcome this effect by applying the old Japanese formula for successful flower arrangement, "Place flowers in vase. Remove half the flowers. Remove half of what is left. Arrange the rest." By leaving out half of the comments, and substituting milder words for all the rest, I could probably avoid this effect of "making and breaking affinity" -- but, somehow, it seems a sort of sneaky thing to do.... merely hinting at what I am saying instead of speaking out! What's more, I don't really know if I want to avoid all the side-effects of this verbal distortion. After all -- look at all the egoboo it has given me! If fans jump to the conclusion that I am much quicker on the verbal riposte than I really am, why break up a good thing? And then, too, it would seem so insipid -- like switching over from a noisy Rock 'n Roll Jam Session to a practice rehearsal of the Sunday School Nursery Choir.

There is one aspect of this faulty communication that has not been touched on but which, if I could isolate the factor involved, might prove to be the clue to the trouble. I refer to the widely different effect of my spoken word versus my written language. We have all heard of persons who write pleasingly, but when met in person prove very disappointing -- even disagreeable. With me, the situation is reversed. Every time I attend a Con, the resulting Conreps reflect astonishment at discovering that GMC is an ordinary, congenial-type human being whose only outstanding characteristic is how different she is from what she appears on paper. It has almost become a fannish tradition to assume that GMC is a fearsome dragon, a sour old grouch, a biting critic -- and I have gone along with the gag because I considered it so obviously a hoax. One of those fannish jests that the cognoscenti chuckle over and the neos fall for... But even a joke can build up beyond the point of humor, and when this empty jest is taken at face value and causes readers to interpret my remarks in a way that causes them real pain, I think the humor has gone out of it.

But what is this missing factor that makes my spoken words sound amusingly witty, "...talking in interlineations..." etc., but on paper makes them seem like bitter insult? As all of you know that have met me (and it is astonishing to total up how many of you have), I write just like I talk. But the arguments which evoke anger and resentment when presented in writing, when presented in person merely stimulate a lively discussion. Is there any way this missing element can be added-to or subtracted-from my GZ?

Re FAPA OFFICIALDOM: Several members apparently resented that in my remarks a couple of Mailings ago about the laxity on the part of recent Officialdoms, I called President Vernon L. McCain by name, but merely referred to other lax officials as OE. They pointed out that the offenses I castigated had occurred during the terms of several Official Editors, so why blame Richard Eney for them all? Well, the answer to that complaint is so obvious to me, that I am astonished the members themselves did not see it. I referred to Vernon because I was speaking about him personally -- about

those aspects of his personality which contributed to the snafu and confusion in FAPA. As a member, Vernon is a valuable (not to say valuable) asset to FAPA, but no one could possibly consider him The Executive Type... It was certainly no voluntary omission on Vernon's part that he could not summon up the decisive judgement necessary to a position of authority such as that of President. The fault lay with the foolishness of the members who would vote into office a person - however well liked personally - who did not have the necessary personal qualifications to administer the position. I intended to make drastically clear to the membership the need for voting into office a person capable of doing a good job in it. Election to office is a delegation of responsibility, not a popularity contest! On the other hand, I did not specify Richard Eney by name for the very reason these complaining members mention -- ie, Richard Eney merely happens to be the OE at this present time, and the offenses I castigated had been building up over a long series of terms of office. There was no need to go into detail in the matter of blaming individual OEs -- it was merely necessary to show what ill effects it could have on the organization to permit careless handling of any key position. Of course, if Eney had been completely guiltless of this increasing laxity, I would have made a point of it. But Eney was lumped in among the rest because his laxity was just as great a contributing factor to the unfortunate situation as any of the others'. What puzzles me is, how could the members who saw the remarks enough to comment on them, have failed to see this?

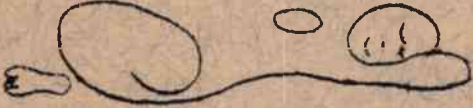
There was one comment, however, which was a good one and deserves an answer. It was the query whether I had ever held office myself -- and if not, why not? (Or words to that effect). Well, the answer to that is simple: I did not think FAPA would want to let me get my hands on the reins of office. The Traditional Image of GMC as a whip-cracking, consorious, prude-raking (the opposite of smut-raking) autocrat is so firmly imbedded in FAPA tradition that I do not believe the members would take a chance lest I turn out to be just exactly that! In fact, there have been jokes from time to time about the dire consequences should I get in a position of being able to enforce my ideas of how FAPA should be run.... Jokes which were amusingly meaningless so long as I held no office, but which could be blown up into a genuine resentment if I did. (Hold office, I mean). No matter how efficiently an Official may conduct the job, a few resentful or apprehensive members could produce as great snafu and snarl-up as the very poorest kind of administrator could... That is the first and chief reason. But since the past few mailings, I have gradually come to another reason, too.

In the past, I have mentioned that I considered the geographical location of the officials of little importance, so long as they worked at their job conscientiously. I have changed my mind on that. It seems to me that the chief reason for the recent anxieties and mix-ups in FAPA has been that it took so long for the officials to communicate with one another that they got all tangled up in Red Tape. When the Officials as at present, are able to get together for a FAPAcon, they are able to thresh out the problems and discuss the pro-and-cons of any particular course of action in person, while they are performing the far from inconsiderable physical task of helping get the mailing out. I have come to the conclusion that this is extremely important, so much so, in fact, that I think we might give consideration to the advisability of electing our Officers as teams, rather than as individuals. This need not be a rigid ruling, but merely that preference be given to candidates who propose themselves (as the GO DC team did) on a party platform rather than singly. At least, it is worth thinking about.

Re THE WAITING LIST: There is currently quite a bit of agitation about the problems proposed by our unwieldy Waiting List. And one of the wierdest facets of this agitation is the pressure to toss out current members in order to make room for the more desirable names on the Waiting List. I think FAPA could stand a thorough evaluation of the Waiting List and it's relationship to FAPA. What is the purpose of a WL? What responsibility does FAPA have to it, or vice versa? Is it more important to get new members of high talent from the WL, or to try and keep our membership stable?

Must we accept the WL as it comes, with no choice or control or do we have the right to pick and choose? Is it necessary to take fans of known or suspected undesirability in order to preserve fairness and impartiality? (NOTE: No present Waiting Lister is referred to here.) Should we begin a precedent and expel members of low calibre when a fan of higher calibre appears on the Waiting List?

In some degree, all of the above questions have been proposed in FAPA -- perhaps not in that exact wording, but with the same intent. There are many aspects to be considered -- not only the Waiting List alone, but also the problem of Deadwood which is the reverse side of the coin. Personally, I am and have been in favor of a get-tough policy that tempers strictness with mercy with regard to present members. I consider it highly unfair to talk of expelling fans like Wansborough, Coslet and Myers merely because their participation in FAPA, while regular and prompt, is relatively dull -- while at the same time coddling members who barely skirt by on an annual contribution which, while undoubtedly brilliant, is almost entirely devoid of any particularly FAPish angle... I have said before, and I say it again, that I have no objection to the highly delectable "fat and rare" FAPazine which is one of FAPA's traditions. Members who prefer to save their year's activity for one huge spasm of publishing, are certainly entitled to their preference. But any member who is so indifferent to the pulsing throb of FAPA's pro-and-con, and so uninterested in the efforts of the rest of the membership that he/she cannot spare even a couple of pages of comment -- say, no more than a letter in someone else's fanz -- each mailing, certainly does not show much interest in FAPA per se... It seems to me that FAPA is something more than just a publishing outlet for an annual generalzine...



On the other hand, when it comes to the problem of exercising some discrimination with regard to the Waiting List, it was a distinct surprise to me to see Boyd Raeburn state, "Need we subscribe to the GMC viewpoint that FAPA is a public organization open to any creep who can scrape up credentials?" -- particularly since it was I, as much as anyone, who protested just exactly that same attitude in the case of one recent Waiting Lister whose undesirability was so extremely evident that it gave rise to all sorts of proposals for screening procedures, ranging from Blackball measures on demand, to compulsory screening of all candidates! Fortunately, none of this ever became necessary but it did raise an important point which is not yet settled.

Probably what Boyd had in mind is my expressed opinion that it is not a good idea to attempt to limit FAPA to a hand-picked few... All other things being equal, I consider it much healthier for the organization to take its new members on a 'First-come, first-served' basis. There are several points to be considered, not the least of which is the danger of psychic in-breeding when any particular group attempts to limit admission only to the type of fan they find congenial. In every close-knit group, it is inevitable that sooner or later an element of snobbishness will develop; an element of 'exclusiveness' that attempts to discriminate against everyone that does not fit into their own coterie.. This element has cropped up several times in FAPA even in the years that I have been a member... The most recent being Andy Young's suggestion that the Top Fifty of FAPA go off and form an Elite of its own... No doubt he was only joking, but the attitude is one that needs to be checked because unless it is, there is the constant danger of the dead-end sterility of outlook which comes from stifling any viewpoint but that of the chosen few...

And then, too, any attempt to pick and choose the cream of the Waiting List is inevitably frustrated by the impossibility of predicting in advance just how any individual fan is going to turn out. One new member that I had looked forward to with the keenest anticipation as he worked his way up the WL (Curt Janke) has not had a very

impressive (for my expectations) record after he finally did become a member. On the other hand, Jean Young, who was not even a fan at all before entering FAPA as one half of her husband's membership, has turned out to be one of the most delightful and interesting personalities in the group. You just can't tell how the new members will pan out.

Elephants

FAPA already has the reputation of being the "graveyard of fandom -- where old Fans go to die..." and it is uncomfortably close to the truth. All too often the Gaffiating Greats of fandom turn instinctively to the Waiting List... If we were to pick these BNF's (as we would inevitably do) we would likely end up with a lot of brilliant annual sparkle which would merely add its phosphorescence to the Deadwood already on hand. Personally, I think the dangers of attempting to cull the prospective members for the choicest names is more likely to increase our deadwood problem than to decrease it. Since there just isn't any possible way to tell in advance how a member will turn out, I think the best thing is to take them as they come and hope for the best.

However, as Richard Geis has pointed out, it is definitely unfair to the Waiting Listers to keep on adding names which we know will have to be kept dangling for years before they can be admitted. Fresh new fans, who might add life and enthusiasm to the group if admitted when they first applied, might well be burned out by the time they do get in... Also, taking every name that applies for admission does expose us to the unsolved danger that we so narrowly escaped in the recent instance.

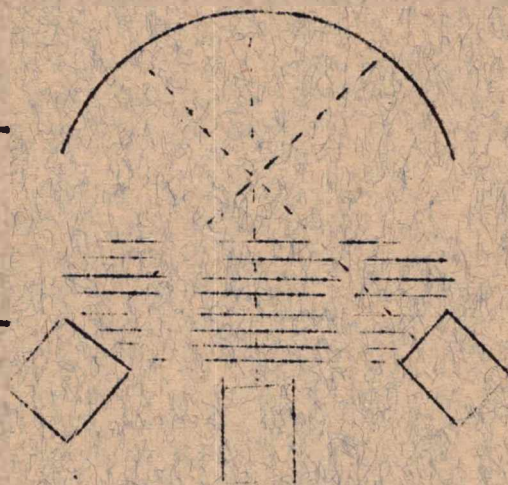
Whereas I think it is unfair and even dangerous for FAPA to attempt to hand-pick the candidates for the Waiting List, yet I do think that the Waiting List is the logical point at which screening should take place. I certainly agree with Boyd that FAPA has no obligation to fandom that we have to accept "every creep who can scrape up credentials". In my opinion, the Waiting List is definitely subordinate to FAPA and consists merely of a pool of potential material from which we can draw new members as the old members drop out. Naturally we prefer to have a fresh source of 'new blood' and, equally naturally, we prefer to have prospective fans who will be congenial.

I think we can probably achieve this result by doing a little housecleaning on the present attitudes toward the Waiting List. For instance, is there anything in the Constitution that says we must keep the same old WL year after year? Is there anything which forbids us from limiting the number of names we accept? Suppose we put a limit on the WL of approximately the number of fans we expect to replace during the year -- about 12 or so.... If we ran out of names earlier than expected, then the members could write to the fans they would like to invite to FAPA and propose them to fill in the gap. Or, if we had less turnover during the year so that names were left over, just dissolve the Waiting List and let the new OE make up a new list from the names submitted to him after he takes office. WLrs still interested could re-submit theirs and those who are gaffiated would automatically be dropped.

Maybe that isn't too good a suggestion, but it seems to me something of that order ought to be devised; some system which will permit a fresh supply of names each year, which will give equal opportunity to up and coming new fans and to the established HNs that FAPAns might wish to invite... But most of all, it would give the OE some jurisdiction over the WL so that if he sees some name which he definitely recognizes as a potential trouble maker, he can leave it off and not be forced to put us through another session like we had a few years ago... Even if FAPA had made the unfortunate choice of an OE so unethical as to pack the WL with his own friends and refuse the names of his 'enemies', it would only be for one year and at the end of his term of office the rejected applicants could try again with the next OE. It certainly wouldn't be any worse than waiting year after year on a seemingly endless Waiting List...

Re: CINERAMA: "Seven Wonders of the World" had been playing in Seattle for several months but I did not see it until just about three weeks before it left. I heard afterwards that it is the only Cinerama establishment within 1000 miles and when the engagement in Seattle was over, they removed it bodily, screen and all, and took it to Vancouver, B.C. I'd seen quite a few of the so-called "wide screen" movies, "3-D", etc, and assumed Cinerama was just some more of the same thing, but we were astonished to discover that it is quite different. For one thing, the price of admission was \$2.65 about the price of a real live performance. Inside the theatre, the "lounges" section seats had been ripped out and 3 projection booths were set up among the remaining seats. There was a wide, curving screen that extended from one wall to another in an almost complete semicircle, with the three booths arranged to throw about an 180° picture.

All seats were reserved on a "first-come, first served" basis which I did not understand at the time, but soon discovered the reason for! The entire purpose of Cinerama is to create the illusion of participation, and the center seats are the most desirable because the illusion is more perfect there. We were slightly to one side, but even so the illusion of actually being there was very strong. At the beginning we were supposed to be in an airplane taking off from New York, and the illusion was so complete that I actually felt the plane lift as we took off. However no matter how perfectly the 3 cameras are synchronized, sitting at one side causes the joining to be visible and the figures on the screen at that side seem somewhat flattened and elongated.



As to the subject matter of the film, I have only 3 complaints; 1, there was too much time spent in the air, zooming around at impossible angles so that the vision was distorted. No doubt this was deliberately done in order to increase the illusion of actually being in the airplane, but flying is nothing new to me so I would have preferred a closer look at the landscape below. 2, I thought there was too much time wasted on the "thrill" gimmicks; the runaway train in India; flying under bridges; horseplay with an Italian 'comic' on a motorcycle; charging camels, etc., and 3. they hurried us from place to place too quickly before we could see everything around us. The one place they did linger, Japan, was artificially staged and rather annoying. We would rather have seen the countryside than a Japanese Ziegfeld Chorus line...

Aside from these, the spectacle was tremendous beyond words! The illusion of participation -- of actually being there -- was so complete that I actually could smell the stench of the monkeys in Benares and got a little carsick on the runaway train! The "Seven Wonders" themselves were utterly fabulous: a brief view of the Sphinx and Pyramids at Gizeh (no close-up of the interior, however). The Igwasu (sp?) Falls in South America, the Avenida at Rio de Janeiro, Victoria Falls in Africa, the Taj Mahal in India and the ruins of Angkor Vat - I couldn't figure just which were the "7 Wonders" and which were just spectaculars - Benares, Holy City of India; Jerusalem and the Holy Land; Rome during the Marian Year, including a blessing from Pope Pius; the Colosseum (sp?) we flew over a live volcano and looked down into it...saw the core of cold lava resting on the red molten rock.. We saw an Arabian city far out in the middle of the desert, isolated from everything by endless miles of sand, with remarkably modern looking skyscrapers that looked for all the world like the apartment houses and office buildings of our own cities, but made of sun dried bricks...We saw an Arabian Sheik and the modern oil pipelines across the desert. There was an African Tribal Dance with the Watusi equivalent of Bojangles Robinson; and a Hindu Temple dancer -- several of them, in fact. The entire 3 hours was fascinating and highly recommended --- but be sure and sit in the center seats...it'll be worth the trouble of getting your reservations in advance!

Re WAW and the OPEN LETTER: Walt's reply to my "Open Letter" of last mailing is quoted verbatim (with exception of a PS marked DNQ) on the next page -- the E&E section -- on orange paper for easy identification. There's an old saying, "Jostle a full cup and the contents spill over..." and it looks as though I finally jostled WAW to the point of revealing quite clearly the inner attitude which has been glossed over by his habitual Irish charm... Don't be too surprised -- after all, it's a rare Ghod that doesn't come equipped with clay feet. Now that Walt needn't try to keep them hidden any longer, he can still dazzle us with his wit and brilliance, but we needn't be misled by it into thinking it means more than it does...

These rumors of bribery and vote-buying, however, ought not to be dismissed too lightly. Particularly now that WAW has named another fan in this connection. If such transactions did occur, it is as much to our interest to know it and expose it, as it is to Walt's... I contacted Don Ford about this matter and his reply is also in E&E. Both Madle and Stuart Hoffman have been smeared by these unfounded charges, and I, for one, feel that for the sake of their good name we should look into this matter.

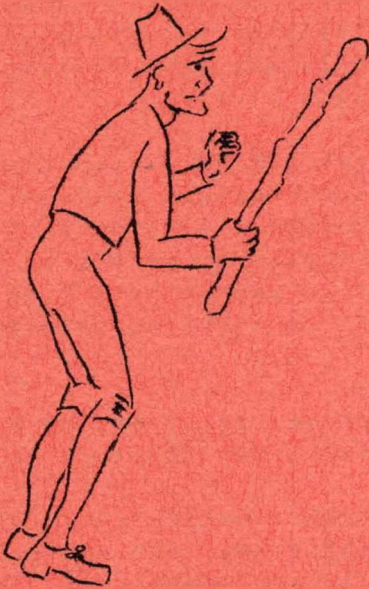
I voted for Stuart Hoffman. I had voted for him long before I attended the Midwestcon. I did so because I know him personally and because I consider him eligible from every angle -- even from WAW's limited view of eligibility. Stuart Hoffman has participated in N3F fanzines as contributor and Mailer for many years, and has published material on his own outside of N3F. Even had WAW succeeded in limiting eligibility to ampubbing fans, Hoffman would still have been eligible. Furthermore, I attended the Midwestcon and met the various candidates who were there -- including Hoffman, for whom I had already voted before I left home -- and I saw no evidence whatsoever of unethical campaigning or 'vote-buying'. I realize, of course, that it could have occurred without me seeing it, so the latter point is merely negative evidence. But the evidence disclosed by the report Don Ford distributed to all participants cannot be shrugged off as 'negative evidence' -- Don made a breakdown of the receipt of ballots as they came, and his report boils down as follows:

Candidate	Votes cast Prior to June 26 (Wed. before Con)	Total Votes Cast	Votes gained at Midwestcon and/or after June 26th.
Raybin	6	43	37
Ackerman	60	66	6
Hoffman	121	310	89
McNulty	44	54	10
Eney	277	287	10
Ellington	129	159	30
Raeburn	79	136	57
Madle	175	486	311

As you can see by looking at the last column, the most that Hoffman could possibly have "fought" at the Midwestcon was a measly 89 points, which had little effect on the outcome.... and the distribution of the arrival of these 89 points (as shown on Don's report) indicates that in all probability he did not get them as a result of the Midwestcon itself, but rather that they arrived in mails which came in after June 26th. But the figures DO indicate that Bob Madle picked up a huge gain in a last minute spurt of voting, which undoubtedly won the race for him. Does this mean it was Bob Madle who did the alleged skulduggery? WAW has publicly cleared Madle of the charge -- so obviously he does not believe it himself. But why, then, blame Hoffman? Stuart's heavy gains all occurred at the beginning of the campaign. Indeed, the report indicates that for a while Hoffman held the lead! Personally, I do not believe there was any such thing going on -- neither at the Midwestcon nor anywhere else among the US fans. It sounds to me like a bad case of particularly sour grapes -- the whining of a poor sport who will not admit that his side lost fair and square. If WAW has any evidence whatsoever to back up his ill-natured innuendoes, I suggest that he produce it. If he has none, I repeat what I said in my letter -- "Don't you think it is time you apologized for your unfounded accusations and your lack of confidence in the Amerifans? I do!"

WILLIS REPLIES

25TH DECEMBER 1957



DEAR MRS CARR,

SINCE GEMZINE HAS A CIRCULATION OUTSIDE FAPA I AM FORCED TO ASK YOU TO PRINT THE FOLLOWING IN THE NEXT ISSUE. IF YOU WON'T DO SO, PLEASE LET ME KNOW IMMEDIATELY SO THAT I CAN MAKE OTHER ARRANGEMENTS.

YOU ARE A FOOLISH WOMAN IN MANY WAYS, BUT I ALWAYS GAVE YOU CREDIT FOR BEING WELL-MEANING. ALAS, YOUR SLIP IS SHOWING. A VICIOUS STREAK SEVERAL INCHES WIDE IS HANGING DOWN BENEATH YOUR FLOWERED COTTON. I WON'T MAKE A FULL REPLY TO YOUR LETTER, PARTLY BECAUSE YOU KNOW QUITE WELL THAT YOU ARE BEING DISHONEST, BUT MAINLY BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT WORTH ARGUING WITH. BEING PSYCHOLOGIC-

ALLY INCAPABLE OF ASSIMILATING IDEAS WHICH DON'T COINCIDE WITH YOUR PRECONCEPTIONS. WHEN YOU COME ACROSS ONE, A STATE OF MENTAL PARALYSIS AFFLICTS YOU, FROM WHICH YOU EMERGE WITH ONLY THE VAGUEST IDEA OF WHAT HAS BEEN SAID, BUT WITH A FIERCE DETERMINATION TO AVENGE YOURSELF ON THE DISTURBER OF YOUR COMPLACENCY. YOUR MENTAL PROCESSES ARE IDENTICAL WITH THOSE OF MEDIAEVAL TYRANTS WHO EXECUTED MESSENGERS WHO BROUGHT BAD NEWS.

THIS BEING SO, ARGUING WITH YOU IS A WASTE OF TIME AND I SHALL FROM NOW ON TRY TO AVOID YOU AS I DO GEORGE WETZEL. ~~GOODBYE//IT/HAS/NOT/BEEN/PARTIALY//LARRY/HAVE/KNOWING/YOU~~

FOR THE READERS OF GEMZINE, MAY I DISPOSE BRIEFLY OF THE MORE IRRITATING OF THOSE ACCUSATIONS:

1. I AM NOT ANTI-AMERICAN, AS ANYONE WHO KNOWS ANYTHING OF MY RECORD IN FANDOM WILL ATTEST. THE "SNEER" GMC QUOTES FROM PLOY WAS, AS SHE KNOWS QUITE WELL FROM THE CONTEXT SHE TORE IT FROM, A JOKE ABOUT THE OVER-EXPLOITATION OF THE SNOG IN THE FOG SLOGAN. POOR GMC; SHE REALLY HAD TO SCRAPE THE BARREL FOR THAT ONE.
2. I DID NOT RAISE OR ADD TO ANY CLAMOUR THAT BOB MADLE BOUGHT HIS ELECTION, NOR DID I PASS ON ANY OF THE STORIES I HEARD ABOUT ANOTHER CANDIDATE. I KNOW WHO DID, BUT THERE'S NO POINT IN NAMING THE ORIGINATORS OF THAT LITTLE STORM NOW IT'S ALL BLOWN OVER. THE SEMI-TYPO WHICH GMC POUNCED ON IN THE COMMENTS ON GEMZINE IN PAMPHREY WAS AIMED AT HER AS A SUPPORTER OF STUART HOFFMAN.
3. I DID NOT ATTEMPT TO DICTATE TO US FANDOM HOW IT SHOULD CONDUCT ITS END OF TAFF. I RESIGNED FROM THE TAFF ADMINISTRATION PARTLY SO I SHOULDN'T BE ACCUSED OF THIS. AS AN ORDINARY FAN, AM I NOT ENTITLED TO EXPRESS AN OPINION LIKE ANYONE ELSE ON A MATTER OF GENERAL INTEREST?

/s/ WALT WILLIS

(OVER)

JANUARY 12, 1958

...ORDINARILY I WOULDN'T HAVE DOUBTED THAT YOU WOULD PUBLISH MY DEFENSE, BUT SINCE THE LAST GEMZINE, NOTHING YOU DO WOULD SURPRISE ME. WHAT ON EARTH HAS HAPPENED TO YOU? FOR YEARS WE WERE QUITE GOOD FRIENDS, I THOUGHT, AND THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU START SCREAMING ABUSE AND WHAT YOU MUST KNOW TO BE LIES. DO YOU REALLY NOT SEE ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS SORT OF THING AND A REASONABLE ARGUMENT OR EVEN A FAIR FIGHT? ..TO ME IT IS AS IF WE HAD BEEN PLAYING A FRIENDLY GAME OF CHECKERS WHEN YOU UPSET THE BOARD AND DRAW A KNIFE...

YOU MAY PRINT MY LETTER ALL RIGHT, BUT I'LL LAY 100 TO 1 YOU'LL SURROUND IT WITH ANOTHER MORASS OF LIES, DISTORTIONS AND ABUSE DREDGED UP FROM THE APPARENTLY BOTTOMLESS WELL OF YOUR UNREASONING MALEVOLENCE -- TO BE LEFT UNCORRECTED FOR ANOTHER 3 MONTHS. WHICH IS PARTLY WHY I SAID AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE. I HAVEN'T THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHAT YOU WILL DRAG UP OR INVENT THIS TIME AND I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE IT TO WHAT HONESTY YOU HAVE TO DECIDE WHETHER YOU SHOULD PRINT THIS LETTER.

(GMC: I ASSUME BY YOUR REMARKS YOU THINK I SHOULD PRINT IT, SO HERE IT IS... NEVER LET IT BE SAID I WOULDN'T GIVE A MAN ENOUGH ROPE!)

OBVIOUSLY YOU HAVE BEEN ANNOYED ABOUT THE LETTER I WROTE TO YOU SOME TIME AGO BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE MADE ANY OTHER IMPRESSION. YOU PERVERT A DISCUSSION ABOUT THE REPORTER INTO AN ARGUMENT THAT I'M ANTI-AMERICAN. YOU PERVERT A DISCUSSION ABOUT TAFF INTO AN ARGUMENT THAT I'M DICTATORIAL. YOU PERVERT A DISCUSSION ABOUT THE LAST TAFF ELECTION INTO AN ALLEGATION THAT I'M A SLANDERER... WHAT ON EARTH HAS MY CHARACTER GOT TO DO WITH THESE TOPICS?

(GMC: WHY, AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, EVERYTHING. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THE REPORTER AND ITS EGGHEAD REPORTING, EXCEPT TO FIND OUT WHY YOU LIKE IT AND THINK IT IS MORE TRUE A PICTURE OF THE US THAN THE SATEVEPOST; YOU STILL HAVE GIVEN NO REASON WHY YOU DON'T WANT NON-PUBBERS TO WIN TAFF IF THEY CAN, EXCEPT THE FEEBLE ONE THAT A NON-PUBBER COULDN'T WRITE AS GOOD A REPORT AS AN AMPUBBER COULD (AS SILLY EXCUSE AS I EVER HEARD! WHAT DO YOU WANT, HARP STATESIDE EVERY TIME?); AND I CERTAINLY DO CONSIDER YOUR REMARKS ABOUT US MORALS TO BE SLANDEROUS, AND THE MOTIVATION WHICH PROMPTED YOU TO PHRASE THE UNKIND 'HUMOR' THE WAY YOU DID, DEFINITELY OPEN TO QUESTION. THIS IS THE DISCUSSION, IN MY OPINION, AND YOUR ATTEMPTS TO EVADE THE ISSUE MERELY POINT IT UP MORE CLEARLY.)

DOESN'T IT OCCUR TO YOU THAT OTHER PEOPLE DON'T DO THIS SORT OF THING? CAN YOU NOT TALK ABOUT ANYTHING WITHOUT DESCENDING TO PERSONAL ABUSE AND CHARACTER ASSASSINATION?

(GMC: IS IT 'CHARACTER ASSASSINATION' TO ASK YOU TO BACK UP YOUR HINTS WITH PROOF, OR ELSE APOLOGIZE FOR SAYING SUCH A THING? IF IT IS, MAKE THE MOST OF IT BEFORE YOUR CHARACTER BLEEDS TO DEATH...)

WHAT SORT OF A PERSON ARE YOU TO BE SO FULL OF HATE?

/s/ WALTER

(GMC: Now WHO'S GETTING PERSONAL, HMMMM?)

EPISTLES & EGOBOO

19 OCTOBER 1957 % AM. CONS. GEN. APO 74, Box K, SAN FRANCISCO (JIM CAUGHRAN)

DEAR GEM,

I WONDER WHAT YOU'D DO WITHOUT SOMEONE UNDER YOUR SKIN... I DON'T THINK I'VE SEEN ONE OF YOUR MAGS YET WHEN YOU WEREN'T CUSSING SOME POOR SOUL!

McCain IS A BLOCH-HEAD ...

GEMZINE IS FUNNY, LEESH IS RIGHT. TROUBLE IS, YOU'RE NOT TRYING ... IT ISN'T THAT BAD, BUT SOME OF YOUR OPINIONS HIT ME.

I THINK THAT THE ONLY THING THAT ACTUALLY PULLED US OUT OF THE DEPRESSION WAS THE WAR ..

SORRY I'M SO OBNOXIOUS, BUT I JUST GOT BACK FROM A TRIP TO INDIA, AND I'M STILL TRYING TO TELL BEGGARS AND WALLAHS NO, I GUESS. ANYWAY, THANX FOR GEMZINE.

BY THE WAY, I DON'T THINK IT COSTS ANY MORE TO SEND FANZINES TO % AM. CONS GEN LAHORE, PAKISTAN, AND THEY GET HERE QUICKER....

/s/ J--

? (GMC: AW, I BET YOU SAY THAT TO ALL THE GIRLS...)

WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY, INC.

OFFICE OF THE RECORDER - HISTORIAN FRANKLIN M. DIETZ, JR.
1720 GRAND AVENUE, BRONX 53, NEW YORK.

OCTOBER 31, 1957

1. THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS HAVE BEEN ELECTED IN THE WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY, INC. TO SERVE FROM NOVEMBER 1, 1957 TO OCTOBER 31, 1958:

ANNA SINCLARE MOFFATT, PRESIDENT
LEN J. MOFFATT, SECRETARY
RICK SNEARY, TREASURER
STAN WOOLSTON, PRINTING AND PUBLICITY
FORREST J. ACKERMAN, PROFESSIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS
GEORGE W. FIELDS, FAN PUBLIC RELATIONS

2. THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOLLOWING TWO DIRECTORS WERE ELECTED TO SERVE FROM NOVEMBER 1, 1957 TO OCTOBER 31, 1960:

BELLE C. DIETZ
DAVID NEUMAN

3. THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE 16TH ANNUAL WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION WILL BE HELD OVER THE LABOR DAY WEEKEND, 1958, AT THE ALEXANDRIA HOTEL, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

4. THOSE WHO WISH TO JOIN THE WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY, INC. FOR THE CURRENT YEAR SHOULD SEND THEIR \$1.00 DUES TO LEN J. MOFFATT, 10202 BELCHER, DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA.

/s/ FRANKLIN M. DIETZ, JR.
RECORDER-HISTORIAN
WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOC. INC

/s/ GEORGE NIMS RAYBIN
LEGAL OFFICER

WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY, INC.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

(GMC: HUH? WELL, PARDON ME IF I EXPOSE MY IGGERANCE -- BUT WHEN DID ALL THIS HAPPEN? WHAT IS THE "WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY, INC."??? WHO INCORPORATED IT? WHERE. WHY, WHEN? WHO ELECTED ALL THESE OFFICIALS? THEMSELVES? WHUFFO AN "OFFICIAL SEAL?" MEBBE A MASCOT? HUCCOME A "LEGAL OFFICER" -- ARE WE WORKING UP TO LAWSUITS NEXT? ALSO, WHAT GIVES WITH LOS ANGELES -- I THOUGHT THE SLOGAN WAS "SOUTHGATE IN '58"??? OR AM I BEING IRRELEVANT? MAYBE SOUTHGATE IS IN LOS ANGELES BY THIS TIME... WHAT IS THIS, ANYWAY, CAN ANYBODY ENLIGHTEN ME? IT MAY BE ON THE LEVEL BUT IT SURE LOOKS LIKE A BATCH OF KIDS PLAYING AT CLOAK AND DAGGER IN THE LEGAL BEAGLE LEAGUE.) ((DON'T GET ME WRONG -- QUERY NOT INSULT INTENDED!!))

BILL MEYERS, 4301 SHAWNEE CIRCLE, CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE. NOV. 9, 1957

DEAR GEM,

GOT GEMZINE QUITE AWHILE BACK -- SOMETIME IN SEPTEMBER. I'M BEHIND IN FMZ READING BY 20 OR SO AT THE MOMENT BUT WOULD STILL ATTEMPT TO READ AND COMMENT IF IT WERE NOT SO OLD. (MLG. #78) WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FUTURE ISSUES OF GEMZINE, THO, AND WILL COMMENT, OF COURSE. THANKS FOR SENDING THIS COPY.

YOURS, /s/ BILL MEYERS

(GMC: HMMM. SOMETHING FUNNY HERE... I'VE BEEN SENDING GZS TO MOST OF THE WAITING LISTSERS BUT BOTH BILL MEYERS AND JERRY GREENE MENTION NOT GETTING THEM... WONDER IF THEY ARE GOING ASTRAY IN THE PO. NO WAY OF CHECKING, NATURALLY, BUT IT CERTAINLY SEEMS ODD...)

BOB LEMAN, 2701 So. VINE ST., DENVER 10, COLO. NOV. 30, 1957

DEAR GMC,

MANY THANKS FOR GEMZINE 4/17. TO SWAP MY LITTLE ZINE FOR THIS STRIKES ME AS A BARGAIN, AND ADDS AN INCENTIVE TO GETTING OUT ANOTHER ISSUE TOUTE DE SUITE. THE DISADVANTAGE IN SENDING A FIRST ISH TO THE EXPERTS IS THAT THEY RECIPROCATATE BY SENDING SOMETHING OF THEIR OWN, WHICH RESULTS IN FEELINGS OF INFERIORITY ON THE PART OF THE NEOPHYTE. HE CAN ALWAYS BOLSTER HIS EGO, OF COURSE, BY UNDERLINING THE PASSAGES OF BALDERDASH, NONSENSE, DUCKSPEAK AND HUMORLESS CARPING THAT APPEAR IN EVEN THE BEST OF THEM, BUT THIS IS A TRANSIENT SATISFACTION. HE HAS, AT THAT POINT, TO MAKE A CHOICE BETWEEN JUST GOING AWAY AND TRYING AGAIN -- HAVING LEARNED, ONE TRUSTS, SOMETHING BY EXAMPLE.

IF THE TERM, "ARGUZINE" HAS NOT BEEN COINED, IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN, TO PROVIDE A CATEGORY FOR GEMZINE. SUCH A QUANTITY OF DISPUTATION I HAVE NOT SEEN FOR SOME TIME. AS IT HAPPENS, I AGREE WITH YOUR POINT-OF-VIEW ON MOST THINGS -- MCCARTHY, BRITISH DENIGRATION OF AMERICAN FOLKWAYS, ETC. -- BUT I MUST SAY THAT I CAN SEE SOME JUSTICE IN THE POSITION OF THOSE WHOSE WOUNDED COMMENTARY EVIDENTLY INSPIRED YOUR "WHAT MAKES GMC SO OBNOXIOUS" SYMPOSIUM. I AM ACCUSED BY MY WIFE OF HAVING SO FIRM A CONVICTION OF THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH OF MY POSITION IN ANY DISPUTED MATTER (AND MY FAVORITE INDOOR SPORTS ARE ARGUING POLITICS AND RELIGION) THAT I SIMPLY REFUSE TO TAKE SERIOUSLY ANY OPPOSING BELIEF. SHE PROFESSES TO FIND THIS ATTITUDE IRRITATING, AND NOW, HAVING READ GEMZINE, I AM WILLING, FOR THE FIRST TIME, TO CONCEDE THAT THERE MAY BE SOME TRUTH IN HER IMPEACHMENT. IT SEEMS PLAIN THAT BRETHERN OF LIBERAL STRIPE MUST BE DRIVEN TO THE ABSOLUTE PEAK OF EXASPERATION BY WHAT YOU WRITE. I AM, NATURALLY, HAPPY TO SEE THEM DISCOMFITED, BUT IT'S NO PROBLEM TO DETERMINE WHAT HAS CAUSED THEIR DISCOMFUTURE.

(GMC: IT MAY BE NO PROBLEM TO YOU TO SEE IT, BUT IT CERTAINLY BAFFLES ME! POSSIBLY IF I COULD SEE YOU DOING IT, IT MIGHT BE CLEAR TO ME -- AS A SORT OF 'HORRIBLE EXAMPLE' (AS IN YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH GZ) NO DOUBT YOU AND I WILL EVENTUALLY LOCK HORNS AND MAYBE THEN I WILL FIND OUT...)

I WAS INTERESTED IN HARRY WARNER'S STATEMENT THAT YOU POSSESS "...A WEIRD COMBINATION OF LATENT LIBERALISM ..AND..HIDEBOUND CONSERVATISM." I WONDER JUST WHAT WARNER MEANS BY "LIBERAL" -- OR "CONSERVATIVE", FOR THAT MATTER.

(GMC: WELL, PERSONALLY, I SUSPECT THAT HE MEANS HE AGREES WITH SOME OF MY OPINIONS AND DISAGREES WITH OTHERS, AND THAT SINCE HE CANNOT AGREE WITH ALL OF THEM OR DISAGREE WITH ALL OF THEM, IT MEANS I AM JUMPING FROM ONE SIDE TO THE OTHER...(DEPENDING ON WHETHER HE CONSIDERS HIMSELF 'LIBERAL' OR 'CONSERVATIVE') OF COURSE, I COULD BE WRONG -- HARRY MIGHT HAVE SOME OBJECTIVE STANDARD OR GUIDE BY WHICH HE MEASURES OPINIONS. IF SO, I HAVEN'T ANY IDEA WHAT IT IS. AS FOR ME, I HAVE NEVER BOTHERED TO TRY AND FIT MY OPINIONS INTO THE PIGEONHOLES OF 'LIBERAL' OR 'CONSERVATIVE'. I MERELY TRY TO DETERMINE HOW CLOSELY THEY CONFORM TO MY UNDERSTANDING OF "RIGHT" AND "WRONG".)

"LIBERAL"

IS A WORD THAT HAS UNDERGONE A 1984ISH TRANSFORMATION, AND WHICH TODAY MEANS THE PRECISE OPPOSITE OF WHAT IT MEANT A GENERATION AGO. THE OLD MEANING WAS, OF COURSE, WHAT THE ROOT IMPLIES; ONE WHO BELIEVES IN LIBERTY. IN THIS SENSE, THE FOUNDING FATHERS AND MOST AMERICANS SINCE HAVE BEEN LIBERALS. BUT TODAY THE WORD HAS BEEN USURPED BY A GROUP WHOSE AIM IS THE NEGATION OF LIBERTY, WHOSE FRANKLY AVOWED INTENT IS FEDERAL CONTROL OF EVERY ASPECT OF OUR LIVES. THIS MALIGN COTERIE INCLUDES SUCH INEFFABLE FOLK AS MAX ASCOLI, ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, WALTER REUTHER, WAYNE MORSE ET AL. OUR EARS ARE CONSTANTLY ASSAULTED BY THEIR FRETFUL JEREMIADS ABOUT THIS GROUP OR THAT BEING DEPRIVED OF ITS CIVIL LIBERTIES (THE COMMUNISTS ARE OF COURSE THEIR FAVORITE PERSECUTED GROUP) BUT ALL THE WHILE THEY PIOUSLY PREACH THEIR LOVE OF LIBERTY, THEY ARE INDUSTRIOUSLY WORKING TO END ANY LIBERTY FOR ANY OF US BY CONCENTRATING ALL POWER IN WASHINGTON. THE MOST CONCISE DEFINITION FOR THE WORD "LIBERAL" AS USED BY THOSE WHO TODAY CALL THEMSELVES THAT, IS "TOTALITARIAN." AND WHAT IS TODAY A CONSERVATIVE IS ONE WHO HAS THE SAME IDEAS THAT A GENERATION AGO WOULD HAVE LABELLED HIM A LIBERAL. LIBERAL IS A "GOOD" WORD; HENCE THE STATISTS HAVE TAKEN IT FOR THEIR OWN. ONE IS FORCED TO THINK OF ORWELL'S "MINISTRY OF LOVE", WHICH DISPENSED TORTURE, AND "MINISTRY OF PLENTY" WHICH HANDLED RATIONING.

I HAVEN'T READ ANYTHING BY WALT WILLIS, BUT THE CONTENT OF HIS STUFF SEEMS PRETTY EVIDENT FROM YOUR PARAGRAPH ON PAMPHREY, AND I HOPE YOU'LL ACCEPT MY CONGRATULATIONS ON THE WAY YOU'VE TICKED HIM OFF.

(GMC: MUCH AS I NEED THE MORAL SUPPORT, BOB, I MUST REFUSE TO ACCEPT. IT ISN'T FAIR TO WALT FOR YOU JUDGE HIM SIGHT UNSEEN -- MERELY ON MY SAY SO. IF, AFTER YOU HAVE READ WALT'S COMMENTS, YOU AGREE WITH MY INTERPRETATION OF THEM, I'LL BE ONLY TOO HAPPY TO KNOW THAT SOMEBODY BESIDES MYSELF GOT A LITTLE BIT FED UP WITH HIS ATTITUDE. BUT TO PREJUDGE HIM MERELY ON THE BASIS OF SOMEONE ELSE'S OPINION -- THAT ISN'T FAIR EITHER TO HIM OR TO ME.)

I THINK WE MUST LEARN TO IGNORE THIS KIND OF THING, THOUGH. WHEN YOU'RE TOP DOG, THE REST WILL RESENT YOU -- AND DISLIKE YOU. THIS IS INEVITABLE, HUMAN BEINGS BEING WHAT THEY ARE. THE ENGLISH, DURING THEIR LONG TENURE AS THE MOST POWERFUL NATION ON EARTH WERE ENTHUSIASTICALLY HATED BY THE REST OF THE WORLD, BUT THEY NEVER WORRIED ABOUT IT; IF ANYTHING, THEY ACCEPTED IT AS A TRIBUTE TO THEIR EXALTED POSITION. BUT WE WORRY SO ABOUT WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK OF US, WE WANT SO BADLY TO BE LIKED! IN DIPLOMACY, THERE CANNOT BE SUCH A THING AS LIKE OR DISLIKE AMONG NATIONS -- THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS IS SELF-INTEREST; AND IF THE PEOPLE OF HUNGARY THINK AMERICANS ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH IT WILL HAVE NO EFFECT WHATSOEVER UPON WHICH SIDE HUNGARY WILL BE ON WHEN THE WAR COMES. I AM AT LEAST

HALF-CONVINCED THAT MOST ANTI-AMERICANISM AMONGST FOREIGNERS IS THE RESULT OF ENVY, ANYHOW, AND IS THUS SUBLIMELY ILLOGICAL. NO AMOUNT OF REASONED ARGUMENT WILL EVER CHANGE IT.

ONCE AGAIN, THANKS FOR GEMZINE. IT GAVE ME A MUCH-DESIRED INSIGHT INTO FAPA WHICH NOW HAS, I BELIEVE, MY NAME ON THE WAITING LIST AS NUMBER FORTY OR THEREABOUTS.

TRULY,
/s/ BOB LEMAN

(GMC: GOOD. I'M GLAD IF I HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT, BECAUSE I SURELY COULD STAND SOME SUPPORT... "ARGUZINE" WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BECOME A PART OF FANNISH LEXICOGRAPHY, BECAUSE FAPA CERTAINLY NEEDS A WORD FOR IT...)

JOHN G. TRIMBLE, 3620 CONQUISTA AVE. LONG BEACH 8, CALIF. 3 DECEMBER 1957

DEAR GMC:

GEMZINE 4/17 ARRIVED TODAY, AND I WANT YOU TO HAVE MY THANX. SURE WISH MORE FAPANS COULD SEE THEIR WAY(S) CLEAR TO SEND ALONG COPIES OF THEIR 'ZINES. I KNOW THAT I ENJOY THE ONES THAT DO HAPPEN MY WAY.

(GMC: THANX FOR YOUR LETTERS OF COMMENT ON THEM. I GUESS IT WORKS BOTH WAYS... I DARE SAY THERE ARE AS MANY W/LISTERS WHO RECEIVE FMZ AND NEVER EVEN ACKNOWLEDGE THEM, AS THERE ARE APANS WHO NEVER ACKNOWLEDGE THE EXISTENCE OF THE WAITING LISTERS. SORRY I DIDN'T GET YOUR LETTER OF COMMENT IN TIME FOR LAST-ISH. NOW THAT YOU ARE BACK IN THE STATES THE LAG WILL BE LESS...)

THE FIRST THING I NOTICED IN 4/17 WAS THAT PART OF JIM HARMON'S LETTER WHERE THE TWO OF YOU DISAGREE WITH VOLTAIRE (I'M SURE IT WAS VOLTAIRE, TOO)'S STATEMENT/PHRASE ABOUT DISAGREEING BUT DEFENDING ONE'S RIGHT TO SPEAK. I'M AFRAID THAT I'LL HAVE TO DISAGREE WITH THE TWO OF YOU AND AGREE WITH VOLTAIRE. NO, I WOULDN'T CARE TO GET KNOCKED OFF AND LET SOMEONE ELSE GO AROUND SPREADING IDEAS I DIDN'T AGREE WITH. BUT I THINK I'D BE WILLING TO FIGHT (AND POSSIBLY DIE) FOR HIS RIGHT TO DO SO, FOR THAT'S NOT ONLY HIS RIGHT, BUT MINE, TOO. THAT IS, I THINK, WHAT VOLTAIRE MEANT. I DON'T AGREE WITH ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO SPEAK UP IN THE US EVERY DAY, BUT I AM NONETHELESS CHARGED (AS A MEMBER OF OUR ARMED FORCES) WITH THE DUTY TO PROTECT THEIR RIGHT TO SPEAK. AND WHILE I'M ABOUT IT, I'M PROTECTING MINE, TOO.

(GMC: I KNOW IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT MEN TEND TO THINK IN GENERALITIES, AND WOMEN THINK IN PERSONALITIES OR IN SPECIFIC EXAMPLES. I BELIEVE THIS PRESENT TOPIC IS PROBABLY A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THAT. I DO NOT SEEM TO BE ABLE TO REGARD VOLTAIRE'S STATEMENT AS ANYTHING BUT ONE HUGE, FLIP WISE-CRACK -- ONE THAT SEEMED TO SAY SOMETHING, BUT WHEN YOU TRACE IT DOWN TO A PRACTICAL APPLICATION, IT MEANS NOTHING AT ALL. FOR INSTANCE, YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO WALK UP TO HEAVYWEIGHT PUGILIST AND CALL HIM A BLANKETY BLANK SO AND SO -- BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE HAS TO TAKE IT. NEITHER DOES IT MEAN THAT ALL THE INNOCENT BY-STANDERS MUST IMMEDIATELY JUMP INTO THE FRAY AND DEFEND WITH THEIR LIVES YOUR RIGHT TO CALL HIM A BLANKETY BLANK SO AND SO.... IF YOU START SHOOTING OFF YOUR MOUTH IN THE WRONG PLACES YOU ARE APT TO WAKE UP WITH A BROKEN JAW UNLESS YOU ARE HANDY WITH YOUR DUKES OR QUICK ENOUGH ON YOUR FEET. SO WHAT? I CAN'T SEE THAT VOLTAIRE'S FAMOUS FLIPPANCY GIVES NEWSPAPERS A RIGHT TO PRINT RUMORS AND CONJECTURES AND EVEN DOWNRIGHT LIES (AS THEY DO IN REPORTING SCANDALS AND MURDER TRIALS, ETC) OR THAT IT PROMISES IMMUNITY TO A GOS-SIPPING NEIGHBOR THAT LETS HISER IMAGINATION RUN AWAY WITH HIS TONGUE... PERSONALLY, I THINK EACH CASE HAS TO BE JUDGED ON ITS OWN MERITS. IN THE FIELD OF POLITICS AND RELIGION, TOO, I THINK THERE SHOULD BE DISCRIMIN-

ATION INSTEAD OF MERE UNTHINKING ACCEPTANCE OF A PLATITUDINOUS GENERALITY. I AM WILLING TO CONCEDE THAT EACH INDIVIDUAL HAS A RIGHT TO MAKE HIS OWN MISTAKES, BUT I DO NOT CONCEDE THAT HE HAS A RIGHT TO INVOLVE OTHER PEOPLE IN THEM TO THEIR DETRIMENT. I JUST CAN'T SEE ANY POINT WHATSOEVER IN "DEFENDING" SOMEONE'S "RIGHT" TO SPREAD IDEAS THAT I BELIEVE TO BE WRONG OR HARMFUL. I CANNOT HELP BUT THINK THAT TO DO SO WOULD BE TO PARTICIPATE, MYSELF, IN SPREADING THOSE FALSITIES. AND I CONSIDER THAT IF ANYONE ASSISTED ME TO SPREAD IDEAS WHICH HE/SHE BELIEVED TO BE WRONG, THAT PERSON WOULD BE DOING VIOLENCE TO HIS OWN INTEGRITY. I CANNOT SEE THAT THERE IS ANYTHING LAUDABLE ABOUT COMPROMISING WITH YOUR OWN SENSE OF DECENCY JUST BECAUSE OF A CYNICAL WISECRACK.)

HMMM. RIGHT ACROSS ON THE FACING PAGE, I FIND RICHARD GEIS WONDERING ABOUT MY SUPPOSITION THAT THE UN MIGHT GROW INTO A GOOD WORLD GOVERNMENT IF WE ALLOWED IT TO DO SO. I THINK SO, DICK, BUT MAYBE I'D BETTER REPHRASE THAT STATEMENT: THE UNITED NATIONS COULD EVOLVE INTO A RATHER GOOD WORLD GOVERNMENT IF WE DON'T BLOW OURSELVES UP FIRST. I MAY HAVE FOULED THAT SENTENCE UP A BIT, BUT I THINK I GOT MY POINT ACROSS. NO, I DON'T THINK THAT THE US, USSR, THE MIDDLE EASTERN NATIONS, OR ANY OTHERS WOULD JUST SIT DOWN AT A CONFERENCE TABLE AND SURRENDER THEIR SOVEREIGNTY, AND THAT ISN'T WHAT I SUGGESTED. EVOLUTION WOULD SEEM TO BE A RATHER GRADUAL PROCESS, USUALLY, AND I DON'T SEE IT SPEEDING UP AS FAR AS GOVERNMENTS ARE CONCERNED. THE US CONSTITUTION WAS AN EXCEPTION RATHER THAN THE RULE FOR THE FOUNDATION OF A GOVERNMENT. THE PRESENT ENGLISH SYSTEM HAS GROWN UP THRU A GREAT MANY CENTURIES, AS CHURCHILL SO BEAUTIFULLY SHOWS WITH HIS HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH SPEAKING PEOPLES. IN THIS SAME SORT OF WAY, I CAN ENVISION THE UN GRADUALLY DEVELOPING INTO A SORT OF "WORLD FEDERATION", WITH THE VARIOUS NATIONS SURRENDERING THEIR SOVEREIGNTY BIT BY BIT AS DID THE FEUDAL LORDS IN ENGLAND'S PAST. AND AT THE PRESENT, ABOUT OUR ONLY CHOICE WOULD SEEM TO BE EITHER COMPLETE VICTORY BY US OR THE COMMIES IN THE "COLD WAR", OR ATOMIC WAR, OTHER THAN THIS GRADUAL EVOLUTION I'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT. I'M PARTIAL TO EVOLUTION.

I HAD TO LAFF, G.M., AT YOUR RELATING OF THE FIZZLING AWAY OF THE IDEA OF AN ANNUAL DEBUTANTE'S COMING OUT BALL IN SEATTLE. I CAN IMAGINE THAT THE PAPER WHICH GAVE THE EQUAL SPREAD TO THE JACKSON STREET BALL MUST BE ONE WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR. I MEAN A REAL, GENUINE SENSE OF HUMOR WHICH SEEMS TO BE LACKING IN MOST OF THE PAPERS HERE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. I THINK THE PAPERS HERE ARE TOO BUSY "BUILDING THE SOUTHLAND" TO BE HUMOROUS. OH, TO BE SURE, THEY HAVE THEIR LITTLE LAUGHS NOW AND THEN, BUT THE HUMOR NEVER SEEMS TO BE MORE THAN SKIN DEEP. IT'S TOO BAD, TOO. MAY BE ONE OF THE REASONS WHY THE LA TIMES OR EXAMINER ARE NOT CONSIDERED AMONG THE NATION'S TOP DAILIES.

(GMC: WELL, I CANNOT SAY WHETHER OR NOT THE SOCIETY EDITOR HAD A TONGUE-IN-CHEEK TWINKLE IN HISER EYE WHEN HE LAID OUT THE SPREAD WHICH INCLUDED THE DUSKY DEBS FROM JACKSON STREET RIGHT IN THERE AMONG THE REST OF THE SEASON'S BELLES. BUT WHETHER IT STEMMED FROM A SENSE OF HUMOR OR A COMPLETE IMPARTIALITY, THE EFFECT WAS THE SAME.)

GOOD GHU, JEAN LINARD MUST LIKE NOODLES. A THOROUGHLY AMUSING LETTER, I MUST SAY.

RE JAZZ: I THINK THAT QUITE A FEW FAPANS MIGHT ENJOY, AND SOME DEFINITELY USE, A BOOK BY ANDRE HODIER, CALLED JAZZ: ITS EVOLUTION AND ESSENCE. I NOTICE THAT IT IS OUT NOW IN A PAPER BACK FORM, THO I DIDN'T NOTICE THE SOFT COVER PUBLISHER. I KNOW THAT IT REALLY STRAIGHTENED ME OUT AS FAR AS JAZZ GOES.

AH HA! SO THE M STANDS FOR MOULDY-FIG, EH? UH HUH.

UMM. WELL, FOR WIND-UP, LET ME SAY THAT I THINK THIS MULTI-TYPEFACE IDEA IS PRETTY GOOD; MAKES THE MAG MUCH MORE READABLE, EXCEPTING THAT FACE USED FOR "MR. CARR SAYS" AND THE "OPEN LETTER TO WALTER A. WILLIS". THAT'S ABOUT ALL THERE WAS TO MARR THISH, AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED. TILL MLG 82 (I HOPE)

SAYONARA, /s/ JOHN G. TRIMBLE

PS: WELL, DEFINITELY, SOUTH GATE IN '58... AND I'M FOR RON BENNETT FOR TAFF.

BUCK COULSON, 105 STITT ST., WABASH, IND. 12-3-57

GEMZINE 4/17 ARRIVED TODAY... I THINK I KNOW WHY YOU CAN'T GET INTERESTED IN YANDRO -- IN FACT, YOU MENTIONED THE REASON YOURSELF, SOME TIME BACK. IT'S JUST THAT WE DON'T FEATURE ANY SERIOUS CONTROVERSY. WHETHER THIS IS BECAUSE MOST OF OUR CONTRIBUTOR/LETTERWRITERS WON'T ARGUE, OR BECAUSE WE JUST DON'T FIND ANY FANNISH TOPICS WORTH ARGUING ABOUT, I COULDN'T SAY. PROBABLY A LITTLE OF BOTH. ANYWAY, IT'S RATHER OBVIOUS (LOOK AT GEMZINE!) THAT WHILE YOU ENJOY HUMOR, FICTION, ETC., YOUR REAL MEAT IS DISCUSSION, AND YANDRO DOESN'T PROVIDE MUCH.

(GMC: BUCK, I THINK YOU ARE RIGHT. I'D NEVER STOPPED TO ANALYZE IT LIKE THAT, BUT I THINK YOU HAVE A POINT THERE... FOR ME, ARGUMENT IS THE SPICE WHICH FLAVORS A FANZINE, AND WITHOUT ARGUMENT IT COMPARES LIKE PLAIN BOILED BEANS TO CHILI CON CARNE....)

ONE COMMENT ON YOUR OPINIONS.... IN THE REVIEW OF DAY*STAR, YOU SAY THAT YOU FAVOR "SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST" -- "LETTING THE WEAK DIE OUT". (OR AT LEAST YOU IMPLY THAT YOU'RE IN FAVOR OF IT.) THEN IN COMMENTING ON PHOSPHOR..YOU REMARK THAT FILTHY READING MATTER CAN BE ADSORBED, UP TO A POINT, BY CHILDREN WITH "HEALTHY" MINDS. NOW, OF COURSE YOUR POINT WAS THAT EVEN A HEALTHY MIND WILL SUCCEED SOONER OR LATER. EVEN GRANTING THAT THIS IS TRUE, THOUGH, IT'S THE "UNHEALTHY" MINDS WHICH WILL BE AFFECTED FIRST, LEADING SUCH PEOPLE INTO THE PATHWAYS OF WICKEDNESS WHERE THEY'LL END UP IN JAIL, OR DEAD, AND THUS UNABLE TO REPRODUCE THEIR KIND. IN THIS DAY, THE EMPHASIS IS ON THE MIND -- IF YOU'RE GOING TO GO ABOUT PREACHING SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST, YOU MIGHT CONSIDER THAT RESISTANCE TO ODSCENE LITERATURE IS A TRAIT THAT SHOULDN'T BE LOST THROUGH OVER-PROTECTION.

(GMC: I THINK YOU ARE CONFUSING TWO SEPARATE THINGS HERE -- THE EFFECT OF GENETIC INHERITANCE VS THE EFFECT OF A FAULTY SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT A CHILD'S REACTION TO HIS ENVIRONMENT IS A GENETIC TRAIT -- NEITHER IS THE ENVIRONMENT. MZB AND I WERE SPEAKING (OR AT LEAST I WAS) OF THE FOLLY OF TRYING TO KEEP ALIVE THE CONGENITALLY DEFECTIVE WHO, IF THEY CAN SURVIVE TO ADULthood, MAY TRANSMIT THEIR PHYSICAL DEFECTS TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE RACE. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE EFFECT OF BAD ENVIRONMENT UPON THE INDIVIDUAL IS AN INHERITABLE TRAIT. TRUE, A TENDENCY TOWARD AN UNSTABLE OR NEUROTIC PERSONALITY MAY BE AN INHERITED TRAIT. BUT MANY OF THE GREATEST CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WELFARE OF HUMANITY WERE MADE BY NEUROTIC PERSONALITIES WHO HAD MADE AN ACCEPTIBLE ADJUSTMENT TO THEIR ENVIRONMENT. THE EDUCATION OF AN INDIVIDUAL WITH REGARD TO HIS ADJUSTMENT TO HIS ENVIRONMENT IS AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT MATTER FROM THE MEDICAL PROBLEM OF SELECTIVE EUGENICS.)

NOT THAT I PARTICULARLY AGREE WITH EITHER REMARK -- IN THE FIRST PLACE, THE PEOPLE BEST FITTED TO SURVIVE ARE NOT ALWAYS THE SAME PEOPLE BEST FITTED TO ADVANCE OUR KNOWLEDGE, STANDARD OF LIVING, ETC. AND IN THE SECOND PLACE, IF A PARENT HAS SO LITTLE CONTROL OVER HIS CHILD THAT HE CAN'T KEEP THE INGESTION OF FILTHY LITERATURE WELL BELOW THE "DANGER POINT" FOR AN AVERAGE MEND, THEN THE CHILD IS PRETTY WELL DOOMED ANYWAY. I'M STILL IN FAVOR OF LETTING PARENTS LOOK OUT FOR THEIR OWN KIDS. HOWEVER, YOU DID MAKE BOTH STATEMENTS, AND I THINK I DETECT A DISCREPANCY.

(GMC: I FAIL TO SEE ANY DISCREPANCY, BUCK. THE TWO POINTS ARE NOT EVEN IN THE SAME GENERAL AREA. ONE LIES IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION, THE OTHER IN THE FIELD OF MEDICINE. THE QUESTION OF THE 'SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST' INVOLVES, AS YOU SAY, THE QUESTION OF WHAT WE CONSIDER THE WORD "FITTEST" TO COVER. MZB BROUGHT OUT THE POINT THAT A HIGH IQ WAS IMPORTANT -- SO MUCH SO THAT MORE EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO ENCOURAGE THE HIGH IQ FEMALES TO HAVE AS MANY CHILDREN AS POSSIBLE, AND TO STERILIZE THE LOW IQ WOMEN. I SAID I DID NOT THINK SUCH DRASTIC MEASURES WOULD BE NECESSARY OR ADVISABLE. INSTEAD, I RECOMMENDED THAT LESS TIME, MONEY AND SKILL BE EXPENDED IN PROLONGING THE LIFE OF CONGENITAL IDIOTS, MORONS, MONGOLOIDS, AND GENETICALLY INFERIOR CHILDREN THAT WOULD DIE FROM THEIR OWN LACK OF RESISTENCE TO DISEASE IF LEFT TO THEMSELVES. NO MATTER HOW MUCH MONEY AND EFFORT IS SPEND ON A CONGENITALLY DEFECTIVE CHILD, IT CAN NEVER AMOUNT TO MUCH AS A CITIZEN. THE COST IN MONEY AND EMOTIONAL DRAIN ON THE PARENTS IS FREQUENTLY SO GREAT THAT IT PROHIBITS THEM FROM HAVING OTHER CHILDREN -- OFFSPRING THAT MIGHT POSSIBLY BE NORMAL OR EVEN SUPERIOR. I CONSIDER THIS MISTAKEN SENTIMENTALITY. LET THE GENETICALLY INFERIOR DIE OUT, IN ORDER THAT THE GENETICALLY STRONG MAY LIVE. BUT, ON THE OTHER HAND, I CONSIDER THAT A CHILD HAS A RIGHT TO A GOOD SOCIAL CONDITIONING. IT IS NOT RIGHT TO SURROUND A CHILD WITH DEPRAVITY AND DEMORALIZING INFLUENCES AND THEN EXPECT HIM TO BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND IT. YOU MIGHT AS WELL THRUST ^{A HEALTHY, NORMAL CHILD} INTO A PEST HOUSE, AND THEN SAY THAT IF HE DID NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT NATURAL IMMUNITY TO WITHSTAND THE PLAGUE, HE SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO DIE. ANOTHER POINT WHERE YOU MISUNDERSTAND THE POINT OF THE ARGUMENT: YOU SAY, IF A "PARENT HAS SO LITTLE CONTROL OVER HIS CHILD" BUT THE POINT OF THE ARGUMENT WAS, THAT JACK SPEER SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE A PARENT SHOULD EXERCISE ANY CONTROL OVER A CHILD'S READING MATTER, AND THAT IF FILTHY MATERIAL WAS AVAILABLE TO THE CHILD, IT WAS THE CHILD'S PRIVILEGE TO READ IT. MY CONTENTION IS THAT SUCH MATERIAL IS DANGEROUS TO THE EMOTIONAL ADJUSTMENT, AND THAT TOO GREAT AN EXPOSURE TO FILTHY LITERATURE WOULD PREVENT EVEN A NORMAL CHILD (WITH A GENETIC POTENTIAL FOR A GOOD SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT) FROM DEVELOPING INTO A WORTHWHILE CITIZEN.)

AS FOR BELIEF IN ONE'S OWN OPINIONS -- I THINK THE GENERAL IDEA IS THAT YOU KEEP ON BELIEVING IN YOURS EVEN AFTER ENOUGH OPPOSITE DATA HAS BEEN PRODUCED TO MAKE A LESS STUDDORN INDIVIDUAL ENTERTAIN A FEW DOUBTS.

(GMC: COULD BE THAT I REQUIRE AN UNUSUALLY GREAT AMOUNT OF CONVINCING. BUT IT WOULD SEEM TO ME THAT IF THE DATA ADVANCED BY THE OPPOSITION FAILS TO RAISE MY DOUBTS, THAT WOULD MEAN THE DATA WAS EITHER, 1, NOT PRESENTED FORCEFULLY ENOUGH, OR ELSE, 2, WAS NOT AS CONVINCING AS THEY THOUGHT. IN EITHER CASE, THE FAULT WOULD SEEM TO LIE IN THE DATA, NOT IN ME...)

(THIS IS SIMPLY AN ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE OTHER OPINIONS OF YOU, NOT A STATEMENT OF MY OWN -- PERSONALLY, I RATHER SUSPECT THAT THERE IS SOME TRUTH IN IT, BUT, NEVER HAVING PRODUCED ANY SUCH AMOUNT OF DATA IN ANY OF OUR DISCUSSIONS, I HAVE NO PROOF OF IT.) AND FRANKLY, I DON'T CARE, ANYWAY -- BUT APPARENTLY OTHERS DO AND YOU SEEM TO, SO....

(GMC: IT IS POSSIBLE THAT YOU DO HAVE A CLUE TO WHAT MAKES MY APPARENT STUDDORNNESS SO EXASPERATING TO OTHERS. IF A PERSON HAS MADE AN EMOTIONAL IDENTIFICATION TO A SET OF IDEAS AND MISTAKENLY BELIEVES THAT THESE EMOTIONALLY-BASED ATTITUDES ARE, INSTEAD, BASED ON FACTUAL EVIDENCE, I CAN SEE WHERE IT WOULD CAUSE A STRONG EMOTIONAL CONFLICT IF I FAILED TO ACCEPT IT AS FACTUAL. BUT I CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO PRETEND TO ACCEPT AN ARGUMENT, WHEN I DO NOT SEE ANY ARGUMENT TO IT -- CAN I? COULD ANYONE?

OF COURSE, I REALIZE THAT I, MYSELF, MIGHT HAVE MADE AN EMOTIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF A SET OF ATTITUDES, WHEREIN THE INTANGIBLE OVERTONES OF THE EMOTION OBSCURE THE ACTUAL FACTS. IN THIS CASE, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY THAT THE DATA PRESENTED TO REFUTE THE IDEA SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY STRONGLY PRESENTED TO BREAK THROUGH THE EMOTIONAL OVERTONES. IF THE DATA FAILS TO ACHIEVE THIS BREAKTHROUGH -- AGAIN, IS THAT MY FAULT? NO. I'D SAY IT IS A FAILURE IN THE PRESENTATION OF THE DATA. AFTER ALL, WHEN A CUSTOMER IS KNOWN TO HAVE A STIFF SALES-RESISTANCE, IT IS UP TO THE SALESMAN TO PUT ON A STRONGER PITCH. STILL, I ADMIT IT IS EXASPERATING TO GIVE AN ARGUMENT EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT AND YET NOT BE ABLE TO PUT IT OVER.)

I MUST SAY THAT AS A FAPA WAITINGLISTER, I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING "MORALLY OBJECTIONABLE" ABOUT HAVING TO WAIT TO GET IN. OF COURSE, I CAN'T CLAIM TO KNOW NEARLY AS MUCH ABOUT THE CLUB AS GEIS, SINCE I'VE NEVER BEEN A MEMBER... BUT I HAVE, AT LEAST, BEEN ON THE WAITING LIST LONGER THAN HE HAS (THIS TIME, ANYWAY -- HOW LONG DID HE HAVE TO WAIT BEFORE?) I'LL BE DAMNED IF I'LL PUBLISH AN APAZINE FOR 100 MEMBERS -- I'D HAVE TO GIVE UP THE PRESENT GENERALZINE TO DO IT, AND OF THE TWO, I'D PREFER TO IGNORE THE APA. (SPEAKING INDIVIDUALLY HERE, NOT TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT I'M SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR YANDRO, BUT BECAUSE JUANITA ISN'T AROUND AT THE MOMENT TO CONSULT ABOUT HER VIEWPOINT.)

INCIDENTALLY, IF THERE IS ANY PROBLEM ABOUT A JOINT MEMBERSHIP, I'LL JUST PUT JUANITA UP AS A MEMBER AND DO MY OWN WORK AS A "GUEST". SHE'S THE ONE WHO WANTED IN FAPA; I WAS -- AND STILL AM -- INDIFFERENT. NOT THAT I DON'T THINK THAT I'D ENJOY IT... I FULLY EXPECT TO ENJOY IT, BUT IF FOR SOME REASON WE DIDN'T GET IN, IT WOULDN'T BOTHER ME IN THE LEAST.

DON'T BE SURPRISED IF PEOPLE GET THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU DON'T LIKE WALT WILLIS.

(GMC: I THINK I'M GETTING SO THAT NO POSSIBLE AMOUNT OF MISINTERPRETATION OF WHAT I SAY COULD SURPRISE ME ANY MORE... I'VE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT MOST PEOPLE NEVER DO READ WHAT I SAY, BECAUSE OF THEIR EMOTIONAL REACTION TO WHAT THEY THINK I SAID... MORE FUN!)

WE'RE IN WADASH NOW, SO PLEASE DON'T SEND ANY MORE FANZINES TO NORTH MANCHESTER. PLEASE? YOU'LL BANKRUPT ME.

YOURS,

/s/ BUCK

LYNN A. HICKMAN, 304 NORTH 18TH ST., MT. VERNON, ILL. DEC. 7, 1957

DEAR GM: THANKS SO MUCH FOR SENDING GEMZINE. IT WAS GREATLY ENJOYED EVEN THOUGH THE HALF-SHOT ONE-SHOT WASN'T THE RESULT OF DRINKING ON AN EMPTY TUMMY.

(GMC: NOTE TO FAPANS, I INCLUDED A REVIEW MONSOON IN THE GZS I SENT TO WAITING LISTERS AND TRADEZINES, WHICH ARTICLE DID NOT APPEAR IN FAPA, AND TO WHICH LYNN IS REFERRING IN THE COMMENT ABOUT THE EMPTY TUMMY...)

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THIS CARD, THOUGH, IS TO LET YOU KNOW THAT I AM IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON YOUR OPEN LETTER TO WALT WILLIS. CAN'T AGREE WITH YOU ON YOUR PREMISE THAT THE SATEVEPOST IS THE MAGAZINE THAT SHOWS AMERICA AS IT IS, BUT AS YOU SAY, IT MIGHT SHOW THE AMERICA YOU KNOW. IT DOES GIVE A FAIR VIEW OF IT BUT MY FAVORITE IS THE US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT. WHAT IS GEIS' IDEA OF THE TYPICAL MAGAZINE TO SHOW AMERICA AS IT IS? PLAYBOY? Yo's

/s/ LYNN

P.S. ANOTHER NEO-FAN TO BE HERE SOON. (GMC: CONGRATULATIONS!)

1ST DAY OF THE CHRISTMAS MONTH. JERRY GREENE, 482 EAST 20TH ST. HIALEAH, FLA.

DEAR G.M. (THE FORWARD LOOK?)

DID MY LETTER DISAPPOINT YOU OR SOME SUCH THING? I SEE BY THE OFFICIAL RECORD THAT ANOTHER MAILING HAS COME, BUT YOU NO SEND LITTLE JERRY HIS GEMZINE, WHICH, I UNDERSTAND, CONTAINED A LETTER BY THIS HIALEAH HORSE. I FAUNCH FOR A COPY. COULD YOU SEND ONE, WITH BLESSINGS AND PRAISES FOR PAYMENT? I REALLY DID ENJOY THEM, YOU KNOW. I WENT TO A FUNERAL HOME AND SAW THE STRANGE STORY ABOUT "THE STRANGE CASE OF THE COSMIC RAYS" LAST NIGHT. WHAT DID YOU DO? IF YOU WOULD SEND ME ANOTHER GEMZINE I WOULD DO MY VERY BEST TO MAKE MY COMMENTS MORE INTELLIGIBLE. REALLY, WAITING TO HEAR FROM YOU. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY BOOZE DAY!

YOURS, /s/ JERRY

PS: RECEIVED GEM 4/17 AND WILL COMMENT ON AT EARLIEST DATE. NOW, SOME DISTRESSING NEWS. I NEVER RECEIVED 4/16!

(GMC: MISSING COPY MAILED POSTHASTE... ANY SNAFU ON YOUR END OF THE PO?
⑥ I'M SURE I MAILED A COPY OF 4/16 LAST MAILING... ⑤

CHICK DERRY, 3 OAK DRIVE, BRANDYWINE, MD. DEC. 7, 1957

DEAR G.M., MANY THANKS FOR THE GEMZINE, AND FROM THE LOOK OF THINGS YOU WON'T HAVE TO GO TO THE TROUBLE OF SENDING ME A COPY IN A SHORT TIME. THE WAY THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IS GOING IN FAPA, I'LL BE AN FAPAN BEFORE I CAN GET ANY MATERIAL TOGETHER TO FULFILL MY REQUIREMENTS. DESPITE THE FACT THIS D.C. CLIQUE SEEMS DENT ON 'CLEARING AWAY THE DEADWOOD' EVEN IF A FEW LIVE TREES GET CAUGHT IN THE RUSH, I BELIEVE THAT FAPA WILL HAVE TO GO FAR TO FIND ANOTHER GROUP WITH AS MUCH SPIRIT AND ENERGY AS THIS MOB. I'VE BEEN TO A FEW FAPA CONS AND BELIEVE ME, ENEY, PAVLAT, EVANS AND WHITE TAKE THEIR JOBS SERIOUSLY. THEY HAVE THE GOOD OF THE ORGANIZATION AT HEART, EVEN IF IT DOES SEEM THAT AT TIMES THE PATIENT MIGHT DIE FROM TOO MUCH MEDICATION. ENJOYED THIS FAT ISSUE, VERY MUCH, AND WAS GLAD TO SEE THAT YOU ARE GETTING BACK TO 'MEATY' GEMZINES AGAIN.

NATURALLY, /s/ CHICK DERRY.

(GMC: THANKS, CHICK. AM GLAD TO HEAR YOUR REPORT ON FAPA OFFICIALDOM. I HOPE THE BOYS TEMPER THEIR FIRMNESS WITH MERCY WHEN IT COMES TO THE PROPOSITION OF TOSSING OUT THE CONSCIENTIOUS BUT DULL MEMBERS, SOLELY ON THE GROUND OF THEIR DULLNESS. PERSONALLY, I WOULD RATHER SACRIFICE A FEW OF THE DRILLIANT BUT SELDOM-SEEN MEMBERS, THAN DISCRIMINATE AGAINST THE WILLING WORKERS WHO JUST CAN'T DO ANY BETTER....)

RICK SNEARY, 2962 SANTA ANA ST., SOUTH GATE, CALIF.

DEAR GEM, --YOU KNOW, I'VE BEEN BACK IN FAPA FOUR MAILINGS NOW, AND I HAVEN'T SAID A THING TO YOU. I'VE BEEN TOO BUSY TO BE FRIENDLY, AND KNOW YOU TOO WELL TO ARGUE. BUT IN THE CURRENT ISSUE YOU SAY A COUPLE THINGS ABOUT TWO FAVORITES OF MINE THAT I FEEL I MUST MAKE SOME RESPONSE TO.

FIRST, REGARDING WILLIS, I THINK YOU ARE ALL WRONG. I HAVE KNOWN WALT SINCE THE SECOND ISSUE OF SLANT, AND HE WAS ONE OF THE FEW I KEPT IN CONTACT WITH DURING MY YEARS OF GAFIA. I HAVE NOT THE SLIGHTEST HESITATION IN SAYING I THINK HE IS ONE OF THE FINEST AND FRIENDLIEST PEOPLE I KNOW, AND PROBABLY THE BEST CONSTRUCTIVE FORCE IN FANDOM. OTHER THAN FAPA MATERIAL I'M SURE I'VE READ AS MUCH OF HIS PUBLISHED WORKS AS YOU, AND I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING I CONSIDERED AN ATTACK ON US FANDOM. IN FACT, I CAN THINK OF ONLY THREE TIMES HE HAS BEEN OUTRIGHT RUDE TO ANYONE. (WHEREAS, I MIGHT ADD, YOU REGULARLY INSULT PERSONALLY MOST OF THE MEMBERS OF FAPA.).

(GMC: EVERYTHING YOU SAY IS TRUE, RICK. WALT IS A FINE AND FRIENDLY PERSON AND A CONSTRUCTIVE FORCE IN FANDOM. I'VE KNOWN HIM SINCE THE 4TH SLANT, AND DURING THAT TIME HAVE NEVER SEEN HIM RUDE TO ANYONE -- EXCEPT ME, I MEAN. BUT THAT DOES NOT ALTER THE FACT THAT HE HAS EXPRESSED A VERY LOW OPINION OF OUR ETHICAL INTEGRITY IN THE HANDLING OF TAFF, AND HIS PREVIOUS UNFAILING COURTESY HAS MERELY MADE THIS OPINION STAND OUT ALL THE MORE SHOCKINGLY BY CONTRAST. IF GMC ACCUSED A TAFF CANDIDATE OF BAD MATH AND OF GIVING OR ACCEPTING BRIDES, NO ONE WOULD HAVE THOUGHT MUCH OF IT. ALL THE MORE REASON TO DEMAND AN EXPLANATION FOR IT WHEN WALT WILLIS DOES... DON'T YOU THINK?)

YOU REFERRED TO WHAT YOU SAID OF WILLIS AS "...MY REPROVING SLAP ON THE WILLIS WRIST..." I'M SURE YOU THINK THAT IS JUST WHAT THEY WERE... (OUT) DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT QUESTIONING A FAN'S INTEGRITY IS ALMOST THE WORST PERSONAL INSULT YOU COULD THINK OF?

(GMC: I DO REALIZE IT, INDEED, AND THAT IS WHY I CONSIDER WALT'S COMMENTS SO SERIOUS A MATTER. APPARENTLY IT HAS NOT YET OCCURRED TO YOU, RICK, THAT WALT'S ACCUSATION OF DISHONESTY AND UNETHICAL VOTING WAS AN EXAMPLE OF JUST THAT VERY THING YOU DEPLORE. WALT WAS QUESTIONING THE INTEGRITY OF EVERY US FAN THAT VOTED IN TAFF IN PROBABLY THE MOST INSULTING MANNER POSSIBLE. AND HIS APPARENT ASSUMPTION THAT DISHONESTY AND UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR MUST INEVITABLY ACCOMPANY EVERYTHING WE DID, AS A MATTER OF COURSE, MADE THAT INSULT ALL THE MORE GLARING.)

THE OTHER MATTER IS THE REPORTER, WHICH I CONSIDER THE BEST NEWS-AND-REPORTS MAGAZINE ON THE STANDS. NATURALLY, AS IT'S VIEWS ARE MORE A REFLECTION OF THE LIBERAL AND DEMOCRATIC SIDE, YOU WOULD PROBABLY NOT AGREE WITH ITS EDITORIAL POLICY. IT IS TOO BAD, AS IT DOESN'T SERVE UP ITS THINKING PRE-DIGESTED, AND WOULD SUPPLY A LOT OF GRIST FOR YOUR MILL. THERE IS NO PUBLICATION WITH WHICH I FULLY AGREE. THE REPORTER RUNS ARTICLES BY SENATORS, WELL KNOWN NEWSMEN, AND OTHER PROMINENT AND LOYAL PEOPLE. ALSO STORIES BY RAY BRADBURY. ONE ISSUE IS PRETTY SLIM REASON TO DAMN IT. DISLIKE IT, YES, BUT...

(GMC: SATEVEPOST RUNS STORIES BY RAY BRADBURY, TOO, FOR THAT MATTER.)

AS EXAMPLE OF THE "INCONSISTENCY" JACK ACCUSES YOU OF, LET ME POINT TO YOUR HIGHLY COMMENDABLE ATTACK ON YELLOW JOURNALISM IN THE LETTER TO DODD. I AGREE WITH YOU, AND I'M SURE MOST OF THE MEMBERSHIP DOES TOO. THOUGH I DON'T THINK WE CAN DURST WITH PRIDE, OR AT LEAST CALIFORNIA CAN'T.. BUT THEN YOU USE WHAT AMOUNTS TO YELLOW JOURNALISM IN REFERRING TO THE REPORTER. ISN'T DAMNING A MAGAZINE BECAUSE OF THE ACTIONS OF THE EDITORS' WIFE'S FIRST HUSBAND RUNNING IT A BIT THIN?

(GMC: POSSIBLY I HAVE A BLIND SPOT HERE, BUT DOESN'T IT SEEM TO YOU THAT THERE IS ANY TIE-IN BETWEEN AN EDITORIAL STAFF WITH A HISTORY OF SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL INVOLVEMENT WITH A GROUP OF KNOWN AND PROVEN SUBVERSIVE AGENTS, AND AN EDITORIAL POLICY THAT INCLINES CONSISTENTLY TO LIENY TOWARD THE "LEFTIST" PARTY LINE? "BIRDS OF A FEATHER..." AND ALL THAT?)

I WOULDN'T IMAGINE YOU WOULD AGREE WITH THE EDITORIAL VIEWS OF THE MAGAZINE, BUT SHOULDN'T YOU FIND FAULT WITH THEM, RATHER THAN DIP INTO PERSONALITIES? I AM ALSO FINDING IT HARD TO RECONCILE A DISLIKE FOR YELLOW JOURNALISM, AND A LIKING OF THE LATE MCCARTHY. A MASTER OF THE ART.

AS EVER (REALLY)

/s/ RICK

(GMC: THIS SEEMS TO BE A MATTER OF INTERPRETATION OF MOTIVE, RICK. AS I SEE IT, YELLOW JOURNALISM IS A DELIBERATE DISTORTION OF FACT IN A DISHONEST ATTEMPT TO MAKE THE FACTS APPEAR TO SUPPORT A FALSE CONCLUSION. WHEREAS I BELIEVE THAT MCCARTHY WAS HONESTLY ATTEMPTING TO INTERPRET FACTS CORRECTLY IN ORDER TO UNCOVER A HIDDEN CONNECTION WHICH THE PERSONS HE SUSPECTED OF SUBVERSION WERE ENDEAVORING TO CONCEAL. IT SEEMS TO ME THERE IS A GREAT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DISCLOSING A SKELETON IN A CLOSET WHERE IT HAS BEEN HIDDEN ALL THE TIME, AND IN ATTEMPTING TO MAKE IT APPEAR THERE IS A SKELETON IN AN EMPTY CLOSET... IT IS TRUE MCCARTHY RATTLED A LOT OF DUSTY BONES WHICH HIS SUBJECTS HAD HOPED TO KEEP HIDDEN, BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT HE EVER KNOWINGLY AND WITH DELIBERATE INTENT TO FRAME A PERSON, EVER TRIED TO PUT INTO A MAN'S PAST ANYTHING THAT WAS NOT ACTUALLY THERE. IS IT YOUR HONEST OPINION THAT SEN. MCCARTHY 'PLANTED' FALSE EVIDENCE ON THE SUBJECTS OF HIS INVESTIGATIONS, MERELY OUT OF MALICE?)

GEORGE W. FIELDS, 3607 POMONA BOULEVARD, MONTEBELLO, CALIF.

DEAR GMC:

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU KNOW IT OR NOT, BUT THAT ATTACK ON WILLIS IS NOT ONLY BLASPHEMOUS, (GMC:!) BUT UNJUSTIFIED. ENTIRELY.

NUMBER ONE, YOU QUOTED WILLIS OUT OF CONTEXT (A CRIME IN ITSELF) AND THEN PROCEEDED TO INTERPRET IT ANYWAY YOU DAMN PLEASE--THE WRONG WAY. METHINKS YOU ARE VERGING ON SHAMELESSNESS -- A MARKED TRAIT OF THE SPECIES HOMO FUGGHEAD! (PERMANENT FUGGHEAD),

IN WALT'S LETTERS TO ME (AND I KNOW TO THE REST OF THE FANS CONCERNED WITH THE FUND AND WILLIS' WRITING) DISCUSSING THE FUND AND THE WILLIS VOLUME UPCOMING FROM THIS ADDRESS IS ONLY A SORROWFUL AMOUNT OF UNCERTAINTY ON WALT'S PART. FOR INSTANCE, IN A LETTER OF JULY 8TH, WHEN DISCUSSING THE PRICE OF THE FIRST WILLIS VOLUME (HE SAID IT WAS TOO HIGH), "THE INCOMPLEAT WILLIS" IS QUOTED:

"ONE THING THAT MAY INFLUENCE YOU THOUGH IN THIS ((THE PRICE. GWF)). I KNOW I'VE GOT THIS LETTER ALL ROUND THE WRONG WAY AND I SHOULD HAVE STARTED OFF WITH THIS I SUPPOSE, BUT I'M A BIT MIXED UP JUST NOW AND ANYWAYS I GUESS LEN MAY HAVE ALREADY TOLD YOU SINCE I WROTE HIM A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO. BRIEFLY, I'VE DECIDED THAT I COULDN'T GO TO SOUTH GATE ON A PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION LIKE WHAT YOU GOOD PEOPLE HAVE IN MIND. I TRIED TO EXPLAIN HOW I FELT ABOUT IT TO LEN, BUT BASICALLY THE SIMPLE REASON IS THAT I WOULD BE COMPETING WITH THE TAFF CANDIDATE FOR THAT YEAR AND I HAD TO STAY HOME FOR LACK OF FUNDS: PEOPLE WOULD SAY AND RIGHTLY, THAT I'D STABBED TAFF IN THE BACK. SO IF I DO COME TO SG IT'LL BE UNDER MY OWN STEAM, THO OF COURSE WE'D BE DELIGHTED TO ACCEPT THE PRIVATE HOSPITALITY OF FRIENDS LIKE YOU OVER THERE."

DOES THAT SOUND LIKE WILLIS WANTS TO STAY HOME? ON THE CONTRARY HE WANTS TO COME DESPITE PEOPLE LIKE YOU. LATER IN THE LETTER HE REGRETS THE HAVING TO SAY NO TO THE FUND IDEA AND THAT HE SHOULD HAVE SEEN THINGS STRAIGHT LONG BEFORE THEN. THIS PROMPTED, OF COURSE, THE LETTER FROM THE SOUTH GATERS ASKING FANDOM TO PASS A VERDICT--WOULD THE WILLIS FUND INTERFERE WITH THE TAFF? THE ANSWER IS, BRIEFLY, THAT IT IS DOUBTFUL--IF TAFF IS STILL WORTHY OF THE SAME DONATION, IT'LL GET THE SAME DONATION NO MATTER IF WILLIS CAN COME OVER ON THE SOUTH GATER'S CAMPAIGN.

THEN WHEN THE LETTER TO ASK FANDOM CAME OUT, WILLIS WROTE ME AGAIN IN CONNECTION WITH THE DISCUSSION ON THE WILLIS VOLUME:

"I GOT LEN'S ONESHOT TODAY AND THOUGHT IT WAS VERY NICELY AND TACTFULLY DONE. I MUST WRITE AND TELL HIM SO, BUT MEANTIME PASS THE WORD ALONG TO ALL, INCLUDING YOURSELF THAT I APPRECIATE IT. I GUESS YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL WITHOUT ME TRYING TO PUT IT INTO WORDS."

NOW, HOW'S THAT STRIKE YOU, GMC?

(GMC: IT STRIKES ME THAT WALT HAS BEEN TRYING HIS DAMNDEST TO GET YOU GUYS TO GIVE UP THE NOTION WITHOUT HAVING TO COME RIGHT OUT AND TELL YOU HE DOESN'T WANT YOUR MONEY. HE'S SAID 'NO' THREE TIMES ALREADY -- WHAT DOES HE HAVE TO DO? GET RUDE ABOUT IT?)

NEXT THING YOU'LL SAY IS THAT WILLIS ISN'T SINCERE? SOMETIMES HE ISN'T (THAT QUOTE ABOUT SEX--AMERICAN FANS JOKE ABOUT THIS ALL THE TIME--SO WHAT'S SA MATTER WIT YOU?)(SIC), BUT HERE HE COULDN'T BE MORE SINCERE. AND IT COULDN'T BE BETTER PROOF THAT YOUR ATTACK IS SELFISH, EGOCENTRIC AND JUST PLAIN STUPID.

WILLIS DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING BAD ABOUT YOU IN "THE HARP STATESIDE," SO WHAT HAVE YOU GOT AGAINST HIM? AMERICAN FANS WRANGLE ON ABOUT THEIR "PREOCCUPATION" WITH SEX, SO WHERE'S YOUR FOUNDATION THERE--ARE YOU NOT OF EITHER HEALTHY SEX?

GOOD GHOD, BUT WE HAVE A ANOTHER (SIC) GMC CONTROVERSY ON OUR HANDS. BUT ISN'T THIS CONTROVERSY OVER GMC HERSELF??? AND HASN'T ALWAYS BEEN, GMC?

/s/ GEORGE W. FIELDS

(GMC: WELL, GEORGE, I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE OR HOW YOU GOT INTO A GZ DISCUSSION, BUT YOU HAVE YOUR OPINION AND I'LL HAVE MINE... IT WILL BE WAW HIMSELF WHO PROVES WHICH IS RIGHT. YOU SEEM TO THINK IT IS MERELY A MATTER OF PERSUADING WAW THAT THE FUND WILL NOT CUT INTO TAFF [WITH WHICH, INCIDENTALLY, I AGREE INASMUCH AS TAFF IS LIMITED TO ONE 50¢ VOTE PER FAN WHICH COULD EASILY BE MADE A PREREQUISITE FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE FUND -- IN FACT, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT FANS WHO WOULD NOT OTHERWISE HAVE VOTED, MIGHT DO SO IF IT IS THE ONLY WAY THEY CAN HAVE A PART IN THIS PROJECT]. NO, I THINK YOU'LL FIND THAT WAW IS REFUSING THE MONEY FOR REASONS WHICH HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH TAFF -- REASONS WHICH STEM ENTIRELY FROM HIS OWN PERSONAL VERSION OF ONEUPMANSHIP.)

LEN MOFFATT, 10202 BELCHER AVENUE, DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA JANUARY 5, 1957

DEAR G.M.:

WOULD HAVE WRITTEN SOONER RE GEMZINE 4/17 BUT LOTS OF SOLACON BIZ AND CORRESPONDENCE, GETTING OUT SFP #7, ILLNESS IN THE FAMILY, THE HOLIDAY RUSH, ETC. CAUSED THE RESPONSE-TO-FANZINES SECTION OF MY MAIL TO PILE UP SOMEWHAT.

EVEN NOW I AM STILL "BEHIND IN MY LETTER WRITING"--BUT THEN WHAT FAN ISN'T? SO I WON'T TAKE TIME TO MAKE DETAILED COMMENTS ON ALL THE INTERESTING DETAILS IN YOUR MAG, BUT DO WANT TO MAKE COMMENTS RE YOUR OPEN LETTER TO WILLIS AND YOUR REMARKS RE THE WAW TO THE GATE FUND.

FIRST OF ALL, WE DID NOT TAKE WAW'S "NO" FOR AN ANSWER AS WE DID NOT AGREE WITH HIS THOUGHT THAT PLUMPING FOR WAW TO THE GATE MIGHT SEEM TO BE IN COMPETITION WITH TAFF. WE ISSUED THE ONE SHOT FOR WAW AND THE RESPONSE WAS AS WE EXPECTED. AS I RECALL ONLY A COUPLE OF PERSONS FELT THAT THE WAW CAMPAIGN SHOULD BE DROPPED. ANYWAY, WE HAVE ANNOUNCED MORE THAN ONCE THAT IF FOR SOME REASON WAW DID NOT MAKE IT TO THE SOLACON THE MONEY COLLECTED IN EXCHANGE FOR THE

SNEARY BOOKLET WOULD BE DIVIDED BETWEEN TAFF AND THE SOLACON TREASURY. THUS FANS COULD BE SURE THAT THEIR MONEY WOULD GO TO SOME WORTHY CAUSE. AS FOR WALT HIMSELF, WE KNOW--FROM HIS LETTERS--THAT HE DOES WANT TO ATTEND THE SOLACON AND THAT HE DOES NOT HATE AMERIFANS OR THE U.S.A.

(GMC: LEN, DO ME A FAVOR, WILL YOU? POINT OUT TO ME WHERE I SAID WAW HATED THE AMERICANS OR IS 'ANTI-AMERICAN'. ALL I'M AWARE OF SAYING IS THAT HE EXPRESSED A LOW OPINION OF OUR MORAL INTEGRITY AND ENTHUSIASM ONLY FOR POGO, SCIENCE FICTION, AND THE REPORTER... WITH THE ADDED PREDICTION THAT HE DOESN'T WANT ANY MORE FREE TRIPS THAT WILL OBLIGATE HIM TO DISSIMULATE HIS REAL OPINIONS ABOUT THE REST OF AMERICA FOR THE SAKE OF FAVORS RECEIVED. WHERE DO YOU ALL GET 'ANTI-AMERICAN' OR 'HATES THE U.S.' OUT OF THAT? DO YOU HAVE TO 'HATE' A GUY TO SHUDDER AT HIS TASTE?)

CERTAINLY HE IS GOING TO DO ALL IN HIS POWER TO GET HIM AND MADELEIN OVER HERE FOR THE CONVENTION. HE NEVER HAS EXPECTED US OR ANYONE TO RAISE ALL OF THE MONEY HE WOULD NEED FOR SUCH A TRIP. BUT JUST IN CASE HE CAN'T DO IT ON HIS OWN (AND DAMNED FEW FANS COULD FOR SUCH A LONG TRIP) WE ARE TRYING TO HELP HIM IN EVERY WAY WE CAN. AND EVEN IF HE COULD RAISE THE MONEY HIMSELF--TO PAY FOR THEIR ROUND TRIP TICKETS, ROOM AND BOARD WHILE HERE, ETC. ANY ADDITIONAL MONEY HE REQ'D WOULD BE PUT TO GOOD USE. A FAN AND HIS WIFE ON A TRIP LIKE THAT JUST CAN'T GET TOO MUCH MONEY. FORTUNATELY, MOST FANS WILL NOT BE SWAYED BY YOUR UNWARRENTED ATTACK ON WALT. APPARENTLY, WE KNOW HIM BETTER THAN YOU DO....

(GMC: I DOUBT IT.)

WALT'S REFERENCE TO SEX STARVED AMERICANS, ETC. SOUNDS LIKE HUMOR TO ME. HELL, NUMEROUS FANS, HERE AND OVER THERE, HAVE MADE ALL KINDS OF REFERENCES TO SEX IN THE U.S.A.--AND ELSEWHERE FOR THAT MATTER. I DON'T GET PLOY AND PERHAPS THE STATEMENT DOES SOUND BAD OUT OF CONTEXT TO OTHERS--I DUNNO. ALL I CAN SEE IN IT IS A BIT OF SATIRICAL HUMOR. OF COURSE ONE HAS TO HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR TO APPRECIATE THE WRITINGS OF WILLIS.

(GMC: OK, I'VE GOT NO SENSE OF HUMOR THEN, BECAUSE IT DIDN'T SOUND FUNNY TO ME.)

I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY BRITISH FANS YOU ARE IN CONTACT WITH, BUT I DO KNOW THAT THE ONES I HEAR FROM NOW AND THEN (IN RESPONSE TO SFP) HAVE EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS WITH LAST YEAR'S TAFF METHOD, AND WITH THE RESULT. FORTUNATELY, MADLE TURNED OUT TO BE A WORTHY WINNER BEING A FAN WHO HAS BEEN AROUND ALMOST AS LONG AS "GRANDPA ACKERMAN" (MAYBE LONGER--I DO KNOW HE WAS AN ACTIFAN WHEN I ENTERED THE FIELD SOME 16 YEARS AGO...) AND RETAINING HIS INTEREST IN FANDOM AND SCIENCE FICTION ALL THAT TIME. TROUBLE IS, I SUSPECT, MOST OF THE PRESENT DAY GENERATION OF FANS(HERE AND ABROAD) DIDN'T KNOW THIS. MADLE WAS JUST THE GUY WHO WROTE THE FANZINE REVIEWS FOR A PROMAG, PUTTING HIM MORE IN THE PRO THAN FAN CLASS. THIS DOESN'T MAKE HIM ANY LESS A FAN BUT THE FACT IS THAT BEING AN ACTIFAN DOES MEAN A HELL OF A LOT TO THE PEOPLE WHO PUT THEIR MONEY INTO TAFF. HOW ELSE CAN YOU TELL IF A PERSON DESERVES THE HONOR IF HE IS DOING NOTHING IN FANDOM ITSELF TO PROVE HE JUST ISN'T TAKING A PASSING OR A STRICTLY COMMERCIAL INTEREST IN THE FIELD?

(GMC: WELL, IF YOU CAN'T TELL FROM MEETING THE MAN HIMSELF -- WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT ALL THIS FUSS IS ABOUT -- IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IF THE FAN IS ACCEPTABLE TO US OVER HERE WHO PUT HIM UP AS A CANDIDATE AND ELECTED HIM, HE CERTAINLY OUGHT TO BE SUITABLE FOR THE FANS OVER THERE TO MEET... AFTER ALL, HE ISN'T BEING PUT UP AT AUCTION, COMPLETE WITH PEDIGREE, LIKE A PRIZE BULL AT A COUNTY FAIR...)

WE OVER HERE KNEW THAT MADLE WAS SUITABLE -- WHY SHOULD THEY JUMP TO THE CONCLUSION THAT HE WASN'T? I DARE SAY LESS THAN A HUNDRED US FANS EVER HEARD OF KEN BULMER BEFORE HE CAME OVER HERE -- BUT DID WE COMPLAIN BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T SEND US PRINCESS MARGARET OR THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY?)

I FELT THAT MADLE DESERVED THE HONOR BECAUSE HE AN OLD TIME FAN AND THO HE WASN'T CURRENTLY ACTIVE IN THE FIELD (COMPARED TO ENEY, ETC) HE WAS PLUGGING FANDOM IN HIS COLUMN. NO, I DIDN'T VOTE FOR HIM, BUT I DID VOTE FOR ACKERMAN FOR THE VERY SAME REASON AS WELL AS A COUPLE OF SELFISH ONES. WE WANTED ACKERMAN, AS A FELLOW OUTLANDER, AS A FELLOW-SOUTH-GATER, AS A DAMNED GOOD FRIEND AND AS THE ONE FAN WHO HAS DONE MORE FOR THE FIELD THAN ANY OTHER ONE FAN TO BE ONE OF OUR REPRESENTATIVES IN LONDON--TO HELP PRESENT OUR BID FOR SOUTH GATE IN '58. AND WE WEREN'T SURE AT THE TIME WE NOMINATED HIM WHETHER OR NOT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE IT ON HIS OWN. FORTUNATELY, HE WAS ABLE TO, AND MADLE TURNED OUT TO BE JUST AS GOOD A REPRESENTATIVE FOR AMERIFANS IN GENERAL.

YOU DON'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THAT MOST OF THE FANS PARTICIPATING IN TAFF ARE ACTIFANS AND QUITE NATURALLY THEY WOULD PREFER AN ACTIFAN AS THE WINNER. NOT BEING AWARE OF MADLE'S BACKGROUND IN THE FIELD THEY WERE UNHAPPY THAT HE WON OUT OVER THEIR VARIOUS POPULAR CANDIDATES, BUT ONCE THEY DISCOVERED THAT BY FOO HE WAS JUST AS FANNISH AS THE NEXT FAN (AND NOT A JOHNNY-COME-LATELY PRO) THEY WERE GENTLEMEN ENOUGH TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THEY DID LIKE HIM AND THAT HE DID DESERVE THE HONOR.

AS FOR THE HANDLING OF TAFF LAST YEAR...THE METHOD OF VOTING AND CONTRIBUTING, ETC...THIS HAS MET WITH CRITICISM FROM MANY SIDES--ONCE AGAIN, HERE AND ABROAD. I KNOW OF SOME FANS WHO DO NOT GIVE TO TAFF BECAUSE THEY WOULD PREFER TO KNOW FIRST WHO THE DELEGATE IS--OR IN OTHER WORDS, TO WHOM THEY ARE GIVING THEIR MONEY.

(GMC: YEAH..I'VE HEARD THAT ALIBI, TOO...LIKE THE GUYS THAT REFUSE TO VOTE IN A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW WHICH CANDIDATE WILL WIN. FOR CRIPES SAKE, WHY DON'T THEY GIVE IT TO THE CANDIDATE THEY WANT TO WIN? THAT'S WHY WE HAVE THE ELECTIONS AT ALL!)

IF THE CANDIDATE COULD BE SELECTED FIRST, THEY WOULD BE MORE INCLINED TO MAKE THEIR DONATION AFTER THEY KNEW TO WHOM IT WAS GOING. (GMC: NO RULE THAT I KNOW OF TO STOP THEM FROM DONATING AFTER THE ELECTION IS OVER IF THEY DON'T WANT THE TROUBLE OF VOTING -- THAT'S JUST A TIGHTWAD'S ALIBI AND THEY KNEW BUT HOPED YOU WOULD NOT SEE THROUGH IT..) THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE MONEY WOULD BE FOR ONE SPECIFIC FAN AND NOT FOR A LONG LIST OF FANS, ONLY ONE OF WHICH WOULD GET IT. I UNDERSTAND THAT MADLE, WILLIS AND OTHERS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE REVAMPING THE TAFF RULES FOR THIS YEAR. THE IDEA THAT WALT IS RUNNING OR TRYING TO RUN THE WHOLE TAFF DEAL IS RIDICULOUS. HE'S JUST NOT THAT KIND OF A GUY. (AS FOR HIS CURRENT THOTS RE AMERIFANS SEE CURRENT OOPSLA. HE STILL LOVES US; HE MAY BE CRITICAL OF US AT TIMES BUT WHAT THE HELL...I AM SOMETIMES CRITICAL OF RICK SNEARY AND STAN WOOLSTON AND THEY ARE MY BEST FRIENDS.)

QUITE FRANKLY, I THINK THAT ONLY ACTIFANS OR WELL KNOWN FANS BELONG IN THE TAFF CAMPAGIN. THEY SHOULD BE PERSONS LIKE FORRY OR MADLE WHO DESERVE IT BECAUSE OF THEIR LONG YEARS OF "SERVICE", OR CURRENTLY ACTIFANS--AND HOW ELSE CAN A FAN BE ACTIVE IF HE DOESN'T PUBLISH OR WRITE FOR OTHER FANZINES?

(GMC: BELONG TO FANCLUBS, EITHER LOCAL OR NATIONAL, ATTEND CONVENTIONS, CORRESPOND WITH OTHER FANS, COLLECT, READ, DISCUSS AND EXCHANGE STF, OR EVEN SUB TO FANZINES... AMPUBBING IS ONLY ONE MINOR FIELD OF FANDOM WITH PROBABLY 300 FANS OR SO. THERE WERE ALMOST THAT MANY FANS AT THE MIDWESTCON AND ONLY 2 DOZEN OR SO WERE AMPUBBERS.)

HOW CAN YOU GET TO KNOW A FAN AND LEARN OF HIS WORTHINESS OR LACK OF IT IF HE DOES NOT TAKE SOME ACTIVE PART IN FANDOM? YOU ARE NOT STARTING A CASTE SYSTEM IN FANDOM BY PREVENTING VERY PASSIFANS (OR "READERS") FROM ENTERING THE COMPE-

TITION. CHANCES ARE NO ONE WILL VOTE FOR THEM ANYWAY --

(GMC: MY POINT EXACTLY! UNLESS A FAN IS WELL KNOWN IN FANDOM, HE CANNOT HOPE TO WIN -- BUT IS THAT ANY REASON FOR DENYING HIM THE THRILL OF ENTERING THE RUNNING? SO LONG AS WE ARE WILLING TO LET THE SO-CALLED 'PASSIFEN' VOTE [AND DON'T KID YOURSELF WE DON'T NEED THEIR VOTE, BECAUSE THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPARE CASH FLOATING AROUND AMONG THE AMPUBBING FANS TO SUBSIDIZE AN AFTERNOON AT THE ZOO, MUCH LESS A TRIP TO SOUTH GATE IN '58] ISN'T RATHER PETTY TO TRY TO PREVENT THEM FROM GETTING WHAT FUN THEY CAN OUT OF IT?)

--UNLESS THERE IS SOME WAY THEY CAN BUY VOTES. THAT MUST BE WHAT WAW MEANT BY "POSSIBLE FUTURE ABUSES". IT COULD HAPPEN, YOU KNOW. JUST BECAUSE A GUY READS SCIENCE FICTION DOESN'T MEAN HE IS THE SOUL OF HONESTY.

(GMC: NO ONE FAN CAN BUY UP AN ENTIRE ELECTION ALL BY HIMSELF. EVEN IF AN ~~AN~~!OUTSIDER! DID TRY TO HORN IN ON THIS TAFF ELECTION, WHAT MAKES YOU (AND WAW) SO SURE HE COULD FIND ENOUGH FANS WILLING TO SELL THEIR VOTES TO SWING IT FOR HIM? IT IS THIS CASUAL ASSUMPTION OF WHOLESALE VENIALITY THAT I PROTESTED... THE MATTER OF FACTNESS OF TAKING FOR GRANTED THAT ALL US FANS ARE SO CROOKED THAT THEY WOULD AUTOMATICALLY GO FOR THE FIRST RIGGED ELECTION THAT A FAKEFAN TRIED TO COOK UP. I AM SURPRISED, LEN, THAT A FAN OF YOUR STATURE WOULD GO ALONG WITH THIS.)

I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT MADLE "BOUGHT" VOTES, BUT THE FACT REMAINS THAT HE COULD HAVE -- IF HE WERE THAT KIND OF A GUY. (GMC: AND IF HE COULD HAVE FOUND THAT MANY VOTES FOR SALE, DON'T FORGET THAT!) OBVIOUSLY HE ISN'T... I GUESS THAT HE WON BECAUSE OF HIS POPULARITY AS A FANZINE REVIEWER. IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN BECAUSE OF HIS FAN ACTIVITY OF YEARS GONE BY, AND JUST AS OBVIOUSLY -- MANY OF THE PRESENT DAY FANS KNEW HIM ONLY AS A PRO. FORTUNATELY, FOR ALL CONCERNED, HE DESERVED THE HONOR NOT JUST BECAUSE HE PLUGS FANDOM IN HIS COLUMN BUT BECAUSE HE HAS AN HONORABLE HISTORY IN FANDOM AND A VAST KNOWLEDGE OF THE S-F FIELD.

(GMC: IT SEEMS OBVIOUS TO ME THAT MADLE WON BECAUSE HE WAS THE BEST-KNOWN AND THE BEST LIKED FAN IN THE RUNNING... ALTHOUGH THE HUNDRED OR SO APA FANS WHO COMPRISE THE CORE OF AMPUBBING FANDOM MAY NOT HAVE KNOWN MADLE'S 'HONORABLE HISTORY', IT IS QUITE EVIDENT THAT THE CLUB-MEMBERS, LETTER HACKS, CONVENTION-GOERS, "READERS" AND OTHER SO-CALLED "PASSIFEN" DID, AND THEY VOTED FOR HIM BECAUSE THEY HAD CONFIDENCE IN HIM AND WANTED HIM TO REPRESENT THEM -- NOT BECAUSE OF BRIBERY OR ANY OTHER UNETHICAL PERSUASION. ACTUALLY, MADLE'S VICTORY IS JUST EXACTLY THE VERY THING WALT WILLIS WAS SO SET AGAINST AS FAR BACK AS 1955/6 WHEN HE RESIGNED FROM TAFF SO AS TO BE FREE TO EXPRESS HIMSELF ABOUT IT. AT THAT TIME HE HAD DOLEFUL PREDICTIONS OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF WE LET NON-FANS LIKE 'PASSIFEN' PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN TAFF -- THESE SAME FEARS ABOUT VOTE-BUYING AND BRIBERY AND RIGGED ELECTIONS WERE PARADED AS INEVITABLE; GROUNDLESS FEARS WHICH WERE JUST AS DISCREDITABLE TO US THEN AS THEY ARE NOW. I GAVE WAW THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT BY ASSUMING THAT SOME FACTOR OF EUROPEAN FANDOM, UNKNOWN TO US OVER HERE, WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS ANXIETY... TO TELL THE TRUTH, I WAS RELUCTANT TO BELIEVE THAT WAW HAD SO LITTLE RESPECT FOR OUR INTEGRITY THAT HE WOULD BUILD UP THIS PESSIMISTIC VIEW OF US OUT OF NOTHING BUT HIS OWN IMAGINATION. WELL, THE VERY THING HAPPENED THAT WAW FEARED -- A NONPUBBER DID WIN THE ELECTION! DID HE WAIT TO FIND OUT THE FACTS? NO! RIGHT AWAY HE HAULED OUT AND DUSTED OFF THOSE SAME OLD PREDICTIONS HE USED IN THE FIRST PLACE, AND STARTED ACCUSING THE WINNER OF HAVING 'BOUGHT' THE ELECTION...)

IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE WALT'S REPLY TO YOUR OPEN LETTER -- IF INDEED HE CONSIDERS IT WORTHY OF A REPLY. (GMC: WAW'S REPLY IS AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS SECTION ON THE ORANGE PAPER.) I RATHER IMAGINE YOU HAVE REC'D A BIT OF MAIL ON THE MATTER..., (GMC: ONLY WHAT IS SHOWN HEREIN.)

KNOWING WALT, HE PROBABLY WILL REPLY--OR HAS REPLIED. YOU SET OUT TO HURT HIM AND I HAVE NO DOUBT YOU HAVE. BUT YOU HAVEN'T HURT HIS PRESTIGE OR POPULARITY IN FANDOM. IF ANYTHING, YOU HAVE STRENGTHENED IT. I THINK YOU OWE HIM AN APOLOGY.

(GMC: APOLOGY FOR WHAT? FOR STRENGTHENING HIS PRESTIGE? OR FOR POINTING OUT THAT HIS BEHAVIOUR WAS UNSPORTSMANLIKE? WHAT ELSE DO YOU MAKE OF HIS ILL-NATURED GRIPEs WHEN MADLE WON INSTEAD OF ENEY? SHOULD I APOLOGIZE FOR POINTING OUT THAT WAW WAS REMARKABLY QUICK TO BELIEVE THE WORST ABOUT MADLE, AND IN AN AWFUL DOGGONE HURRY TO THROW OUT SNIDE REMARKS ABOUT THE ELECTION BEFORE HE EVEN BOTHERED TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH? SHOULD I APOLOGIZE FOR RESENTING HIS SARCASM ABOUT THE AMERIFAN MORALS MERELY BECAUSE THEY WERE THINLY DISGUISED AS "HUMOR"? OR JUST WHAT IS IT YOU THINK I SHOULD APOLOGIZE FOR -- BLASPHEMY?)

I TRUST NONE OF YOUR READERS WILL THINK THAT YOU ARE SPEAKING AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERIFANS. IF THIS WAS YOUR INTENT, THEN YOU OWE US--THE AMERIFANS--AN APOLOGY AS WELL! FOR AS FAR AS I CAN TELL THE VIEWS YOU PRESENTED WERE STRICTLY G.M.CARR'S. THEY CERTAINLY WERE NOT THE VIEWS OF FANDOM AS A WHOLE!

SINCERELY,

/s/ LEN MOFFATT

(GMC: WHY, CERTAINLY, LEN... IF THERE ARE ANY AMERIFANS WHO BELIEVE THAT USFEN ARE SO PRONE TO VOTE-SELLING AND BRIDERY THAT WE NEED RULES AND REGULATIONS TO PREVENT IT, I AM ONLY TOO GLAD TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT I DID NOT SPEAK FOR THEM. MY COMMENTS WERE SOLELY MY OWN IDEA, SPOKEN IN BEHALF ONLY OF THOSE AMERIFANS WHO BELIEVE THAT US FANDOM IN GENERAL HAS SUFFICIENT INTEGRITY AND GOOD FAITH TO CONDUCT A TAFF ELECTION WITH HONESTY, AND ELECT ITS REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BASIS OF PERSONAL CHOICE AND FAIR PLAY, RATHER THAN BY CHICANERY. IS THAT SUFFICIENT APOLOGY TO THOSE US FANS YOU MENTION?)

DONALD E. FORD, Box 19-T, RR#2, WARDS CORNER RD, LOVELAND, OHIO. JAN. 6, 1958

DEAR G.M.

I HAVE BEFORE ME TWO LETTERS FROM YOU ASKING FOR SOME OPINIONS CONCERNING TAFF AND FOR SOME FACTS ABOUT THE VOTING IN THE 1957 ELECTION. YOU HAVE ALSO ASKED TO PUBLISH THESE IN YOUR FAPA PUBLICATION. BY NOW I'M A BIT WARY OF BEING MISQUOTED SO PERMISSION IS GIVEN TO PUBLISH THIS LETTER ANYWHERE AND ANYTIME YOUR HEART DESIRES SO LONG AS YOU PUBLISH IT VERBATIM.

I HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE COPY OF GEMZINE YOU SAID YOU WERE MAILING ME, SO ANY COMMENTS MADE IN THIS LETTER ARE BEING WRITTEN PRIOR TO READING THIS PARTICULAR ISSUE.

I FEEL THAT SOME PEOPLE HAVE LOST SIGHT OF THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE OF TAFF...TO SELECT A FAN TO GO TO THE CONVENTION HELD IN THE OPPOSITE COUNTRY AND MAKE A REPORT ON THIS, AS WELL AS THE ENTIRE TRIP. IT WAS A WONDERFUL IDEA AND SIMPLY EXPRESSED; NOBODY WORRIED MUCH ABOUT TAFF UNTIL IT LOOKED LIKE A WINNER. NOTHING STRANGE ABOUT THAT, THOUGH, IT WAS JUST PART OF THE GROWING PAINS.

VINCENT CLARKE WON THE FIRST ELECTION AND DECLINED. NEXT YEAR KEN BULMER WON & WENT TO CLEVELAND IN 1955. NOW, IT WAS THE UNITED STATES' TURN TO SEND OVER A DELEGATE. LEE HOFFMAN WON AND DECLINED. IN 1957 BOB MADLE WON & ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE. 'HE WASN'T A TRUE FAN.' 'THERE WAS VOTE BUYING AT THE MIDWESTCON.' ET, ETO.

IT TURNED OUT THAT MADLE HAD BEEN A FAN FOR YEARS & YEARS AND PROBABLY WAS ONE BEFORE A FEW OF HIS DETRACTORS WERE EVEN BORN, LET ALONE DISCOVERED SCIENCE FICTION OR FANDOM. THE MAJORITY OF THESE GRIPEs ALL CAME FROM EUROPE. A MINORITY GROUP SEEMED TO FEEL THAT TAFF WAS CROOKED BECAUSE PEOPLE VOTED WHO WERE NOT NECESSARILY INCLUDED IN THE CIRCLE OF FANZINE PUBLISHERS, EDITORS, ARTISTS AND SYCOPHANTS. WHEN THEY FOUND OUT THAT THEY WERE BUMPING INTO A STONE WALL IN SAYING MADLE ISN'T ANY TRUE FAN, THEY TURNED THEIR HATRED TO STUART HOFFMAN. THEY CLAIMED HE BOUGHT VOTES AT THE MIDWESTCON AND COMMITTED THE CRIME OF MAKING PERSONAL VISITS TO VARIOUS FAN CLUBS AND SOLICITING VOTES.

I'VE ALWAYS LIKED STUART HOFFMAN AND NEVER HAD RECEIVED ANY VERBAL OR WRITTEN SLAMS ABOUT HIM UNTIL AFTER THIS ELECTION. I HAVE NO EVIDENCE OF HOFFMAN BUYING ANY VOTES. I DO KNOW HE VISITED SEVERAL FAN CLUBS & THINK IT WAS A SMART MOVE FOR ANY CANDIDATE TO MAKE. I IMAGINE ALL THE CANDIDATES SOLICITED VOTES FROM VARIOUS CLUBS. STU SIMPLY VISITED MORE CLUBS AND GOT THERE FIRST. SO, AFTER KNOWING HIM FOR YEARS AND KNOWING MANY OTHER PEOPLE WHO LIKE HIM, I HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE TIRADES AGAINST HIM CAN BE PUT DOWN TO SOUR GRAPES.

THE IDEA OF RESTRICTING THE CANDIDACY OR THE VOTING TO ONLY THOSE FANS CONNECTED WITH THE FANZINE FIELD IS A QUICK WAY TO KILL OFF TAFF. LET THOSE WITHIN THIS CIRCLE SPONSOR THEIR OWN FUNDS FOR WHATEVER PURPOSES THEY DESIRE. HOWEVER, IF THESE "FANZINE FANS" SPONSOR A TRIP FOR ONE OF THEIR COTERIE, THEN I FEEL THAT THEY SHOULD GO ALL OUT AND KEEP IT 100% PURE ALL THE WAY THROUGH...THEY SHOULD NOT EXPECT THE NON-FANZINE FANS TO PROVIDE ANY FOOD, DRINK, TRANSPORTATION OR HOUSING ANYWHERE ALONG THE LINE. FAPA BEING ONE OF THE MAINSTAYS OF FANZINE FANDOM DID NOT SUPPORT TAFF 100%, SO WHY SHOULD NON-FANZINE FANS ASSIST THE "ELITE"?

I GET A KICK OUT OF SEEING NUMEROUS BITCHERS KEEP THEIR HANDS IN THEIR POCKETS WHEN IT COMES TO PARTING WITH CASH. ADVICE, WE GET IN PLENTY AND FOR FREE, TOO.

I DISAGREE WITH YOUR VIEWS THAT ONLY THE HOST COUNTRY SHOULD NOMINATE. WHY SHOULD THEY?

(GMC: MY THOUGHT WAS THAT SINCE THE BIG OBJECTION TO PERMITTING WIDE-OPEN PARTICIPATION WAS THAT THE WINNER MIGHT BE UNKNOWN TO THE HOST COUNTRY, IT WOULD BE FAIRER TO LET THEM NOMINATE THE CANDIDATES, THAN IT WOULD TO PLACE RESTRICTIONS ON WHO WOULD BE ELIGIBLE TO RUN FOR NOMINATION. I AM FIRMLY OPPOSED TO ANY ATTEMPT TO TELL ANY SEGMENT OF FANDOM THAT WE WILL TAKE THEIR MONEY BUT NOT PERMIT THEM TO PLAY — AS WAS PROPOSED BY SETTING A RESTRICTION OF "ACTIFANS ONLY" FOR CANDIDATES.)

THAT MERELY REPRESENTS APPEASEMENT TO A FEW BITCHERS. IT SHOULD BE KEPT OPEN FOR BOTH SIDES TO NOMINATE DURING ANY ELECTION. IF THE HOST COUNTRY, ONLY, IS TO NOMINATE, THEN THE OTHER SIDE WILL LOSE INTEREST IN THE ELECTION FEELING IF THEY WANT SOMEBODY SO BAD LET THEM BRING HIM OVER THEMSELVES.

YOU ASK FOR DETAILS ON WHO VOTED FOR WHOM AT THE MIDWESTCON. I CAN'T DETERMINE WHICH BALLOTS CAME FROM THE MIDWESTCON & WHICH CAME BY MAIL DURING THIS PERIOD WITHOUT A LOT OF RESEARCH WHICH I DO NOT INTEND SPENDING THE TIME TO DO.

IF YOU WILL GO OVER MY TAFF REPORT, DATED SEPT 3RD AND SENT TO ALL VOTERS, YOU WILL SEE WHERE I NOTED A BREAKDOWN IN THE VOTING AT THE MIDWESTCON TIME.

(GMC: FOR SUMMARY OF THE VOTING AS SHOWN ON TAFF REPORT, SEE LAST PAGE OF BAITBOX -- BREAKDOWN OF VOTES PICKED UP AT AND AFTER MIDWESTCON)

THE MAIL RECEIPTS WERE HEAVY DURING THE MIDWESTCON PERIOD SO THE 100 PLUS BALLOTS WERE ALL LUMPED TOGETHER AS FAR AS COUNTING AND RECORDING WAS CONCERNED. MADLE, RAEURN, HOFFMAN WERE THE HEAVY GAINERS, HERE, IN THE MAIL.

BOB MADLE WROTE ME 2 OR 3 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE MIDWESTCON AND SAID THAT HE WAS PLANNING AN INTENSIVE MAIL CAMPAIGN TO OLD CORRESPONDENTS, FAN CLUBS HE'D BELONGED TO, ETC. BOB PAVLAT, I BELIEVE, RAN OFF THE BALLOTS FOR HIM AND THUS THE MAIL RECEIPTS FOR MADLE BEGAN PICKING UP STEADILY AND REALLY BORE FRUIT IN THE WEEK OF THE MIDWESTCON, ITSELF. AS FOR TELLING WHO VOTED FOR WHO, THAT'S OUT. THERE IS A NOTATION ON THE BALLOTS THAT "DETAILS OF THE VOTING WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL" AND I INTEND KEEPING IT THAT WAY IN SO FAR AS RELEASING ANY INFORMATION ON WHO VOTED FOR WHAT CANDIDATE IS CONCERNED.

(GMC: SORRY -- I DID NOT INTEND TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF UNETHICAL SNOOPING...)

ONE THING HAS BEEN OVERLOOKED IN ANY DISCUSSION OF THE 1957 TAFF ELECTION AND THAT IS NO CANDIDATE THAT I KNOW OF EVER SHOWED ANYTHING BUT THE UTMOST COURTESY AND GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP IN ANY CONTACTS WITH ME...PERSONAL OR BY MAIL. I KNOW OF NO SORE LOSER. IT HAS BEEN THE PEOPLE CAMPAIGNING WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED SUCH LACK OF SPORTSMANSHIP. THE GUY LEFT HOLDING THE SACK IS ENEY. HE'S A HELL OF A NICE GUY, BUT HIS BACKERS HAVE MADE SO MUCH NOISE THAT IT TENDS TO REFLECT ON ENEY.

I'VE TALKED TO SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO MADE THE LONDON TRIP PLANE DEAL AND AMONG OTHER THINGS ONE FACT SEEMED TO BE FAIRLY COMMON: OVER HERE WE'VE SORT OF LOOKED UPON THE FANZINE FANS AS BEING THE FUGGHEADS AND THE CONVENTION FANS THE BNF'S, WHEREAS IN EUROPE IT HAS BEEN JUST THE OPPOSITE. WHETHER THE VISIT MADE BY THE FANS FROM THE U.S. DISPELLED ANY OF THIS REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

IN SUMMING UP TAFF FROM MY VIEWPOINT, I'D LIKE TO STATE THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO "VOTE BUYING" TO MY KNOWLEDGE. THERE WAS CAMPAIGNING AT THE MIDWESTCON & I EXPECTED IT & INTEND TO ENCOURAGE IT IN THE FUTURE. THE BALLOTS WERE COUNTED TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY AND THE MONEY HAS BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR. THE FANS HAVE SHOWN A WONDERFUL SPIRIT IN HELPING MAKE TAFF WHAT IT IS TODAY. THE GRIPE ONLY REPRESENT A VERY SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL SEGMENT AND VIEWED IN THIS LIGHT SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN TOO SERIOUSLY. RATHER THAN REHASHING SOMETHING THAT IS OVER AND DONE, I'D LIKE TO SEE SUCH ENERGIES DEVOTED TO HELPING OUT TAFF TODAY AND IN THE FUTURE.

SINCERELY,

/s/ DON FORD

(GMC: THANKS, DON. I THINK YOU HAVE SUMMED UP THE SITUATION VERY CONCISELY. AS YOU SAY, THE HUNDRED OR SO AMPUDDERS WHO ARE MAKING MOST OF THE NOISE ARE A VERY SMALL PART OF FANDOM AS A WHOLE... A CASE OF THE TAIL TRYING TO WAG THE DOG. LET'S HOPE THIS EXPLANATION STRAIGHTENS THEM OUT AS TO THEIR RELATIVE IMPORTANCE AS "TRUE FANS" -- OF COURSE, BEING ONE OF THOSE NOISY 100 AMPUDDERS MYSELF, I GUESS MAYBE IT OUGHT TO STRAIGHTEN ME OUT, TOO...)

GEORGE L. CHARTERS, 3 LANCASTER AVE., BANGOR, Co. DOWN, NORTHERN IRELAND 14 JAN. 58
DEAR GMC:

THANKS VERY MUCH FOR THE COPY OF GEMZINE RECEIVED SOME TIME AGO, AND I CONSIDER IT IS VERY GOOD INDEED OF YOU TO SEND IT TO US WAITING-LISTERS. I KNOW IT TAKES A LOT OF HARD WORK AS WELL AS LOTS OF ENTHUSIASM TO PRODUCE SUCH A LARGE AND VARIED 'ZINE.

ONE THING IN THE 'ZINE AMUSED ME VERY MUCH, ALTHOUGH IT OBVIOUSLY WAS NOT MEANT TO BE HUMOROUS, AND THAT WAS YOUR OPEN LETTER TO WALT WILLIS. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WILLIS YOU DESCRIBE AND THE WILLIS I KNOW WAS SO GREAT THAT I BURST OUT LAUGHING. YOU KNOW, I REALLY AM GOING TO ENJOY THIS FEUD!

(GMC: SSSSHHH! NOT SO LOUD! HOWEVER CAN HE KEEP UP HIS TEMPER PROPERLY IF HE FINDS OUT IT IS FUNNY? GOOD HEAVENS, HE MIGHT TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE MATTER AND BURST INTO A FIT OF THE HELPLESS GIGGLES HIMSELF -- AND WOULDN'T THAT BE A SAD END, NOW, TO SUCH A BEAUTIFUL FIGHT?)

IN REGARD TO TYPOS IT IS REALLY TOO BAD OF YOU TO POINT THE FINGER OF DERISIO AT OTHERS' TYPOS OR MIS-SPELLINGS. FREQUENTLY A MAN OR WOMAN WILL HAVE A BLIND SPOT ABOUT THE SPELLING OF A WORD OR WORDS, AND THERE'S JUST NOTHING THEY CAN DO ABOUT THE CLEVEREST MAN I KNOW HAS THREE WAYS OF SPELLING "CALF", AND USES THEM REGARDLESS

(GMC: WELL, I'LL GRANT A MAN LEEWAY IN THE SPELLING OF "CALF" BUT WHEN IT COMES TO AN ELECTION RESULT, I'M PARTICULAR ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "FOUGHT" AND "BOUGHT"...))

AND DON'T FORGET WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT GLASS HOUSES.

(GMC: TOO TRUE, TOO TRUE...[EMBOUCHURE...EMBOUCHURE...EMBOUCHURE...])

I HOPE GEMZINE CONTINUES TO ENLIVEN FAPA FOR MANY YEARS. FAPA WOULD NOT BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU.

SLAINTE, /s/ GEO. L. CHARTERS

ALAN DODD, 77 STANSTEAD RD., HODDESDON, HERTS. ENGLAND 7 JANUARY 1958
DEAR GEM,

I TRUST YOU HAD A -AH- STRIDENTLY EGALITARIAN XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S EVE AND THANK YOU FOR GEMZINE 4/17 WHICH HAS BEEN HANGING AROUND HERE SINCE BEFORE XMAS WHILE I THOUGHT UP A SUITABLE REPLY. I WAS INTERESTED MUCHLY IN SEEING WHAT YOUR REACTIONS WOULD BE TO THOSE BRITISH PRESS CLIPPINGS BUT I DIDN'T REALLY THINK YOU'D SEEMINGLY EXPLODE LIKE A VOLCANO AS YOU DID... "I WONDERED WHO IT WAS THAT WAS SENDING THIS VICIOUS TRASH IN SUCH CAREFUL ANONYMITY" NOW REALLY, GEM. THERE WAS ONE SMALL ENVELOPE WITH HALF A DOZEN CLIPPINGS AND A LARGER ENVELOPE WITH A FEW PAPERS AND MAYBE A COUPLE OF DOZEN CLIPPINGS I SENT YOU, DOES THIS REALLY MATCH UP TO YOUR DESCRIPTION OF "BULKY ENVELOPES" ETC. IT SOUNDS AS IF I WERE FLOODING THE WORLD WITH POISONOUS LEAFLETS OR SOMETHING...

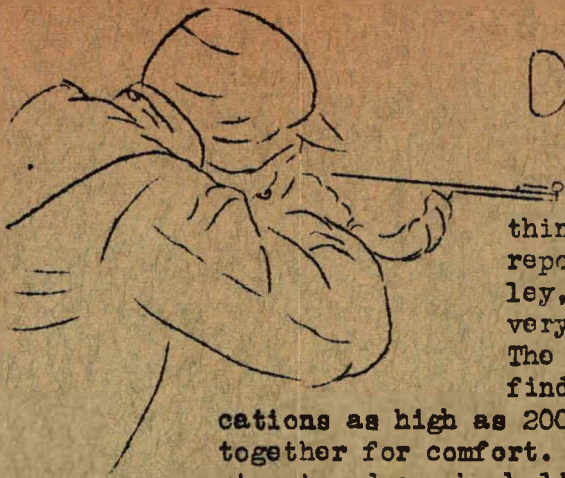
(GMC: WELL, ALL I KNOW IS THAT I MISTOOK ONE OF THEM FOR THE ^{REST} SAPS MAILING, AND IT WAS NOT UNTIL I FOUND YOUR LETTER THAT I KNEW WHO THE ^{REST} CAME FROM.. IF YOU IDENTIFIED ALL THOSE YOU SENT, ALAN, SOMEBODY ELSE WASN'T SO CAREFUL. EVEN THAT "W" ON THE REPORTER WASN'T MORE THAN A CLUE FOR GUESSWORK.)

RON BENNETT SUGGESTS I SHOULD CHARGE FOR THIS SERVICE OF SENDING NEWSPAPER REPORTS TO PEOPLE WHO ACTUALLY LIVE IN THE VICINITY, I'M REPAID IF PEOPLE GET A LAFF OUT OF SOME OF THEM OR A LITTLE INTEREST AND SO FAR, NO ONE HAS EVER ACTUALLY COMPLAINED BUT HAVE ON THE WHOLE BEEN RATHER INTERESTED. BUT, LIKE BARNUM IS CREDITED WITH SAYING, YOU CAN'T EXPECT TO PLEASE ALL OF THE PEOPLE ALL OF THE TIME. WHY SHOULD I BE ANY THE MORE SUCCESSFUL?

DODDERINGLY /s/ ALAN

(GMC: SORRY THERE'S NOT ROOM FOR ALL OF YOUR LETTER ALAN, BUT POSSIBLY YOU WOULD LIKE A RECIPROCAL DEAL FROM US FANS? WANT US TO LOOK FOR COMMENTS ABOUT ENGLAND IN OUR PAPERS AND SEND THEM TO YOU? MAYBE, COME TO THINK OF IT, THEY WOULDN'T BE SO FLATTERING, EITHER....)

THANKS FOR THE XMAS GREETINGS, EVERYONE



MR. CARR SAYS:

DEER HUNTING

Months before the season opened, I began thinking about where I should hunt this year. The reports from the Methow* Valley and the Okanogan Valley, my regular hunting grounds, were that deer were very scarce due to the heavy winter kill two years ago. The snows had been so deep that the deer could not find feed and thousands starved to death, in some locations as high as 200 or 300 carcasses were found where they bunched together for comfort. The orchard areas suffered heavy damage from the starving deer who boldly moved in and ate the bark and what leaves were still around.

The Game Department was helpless because deer cannot survive on auxiliary feeding of hay and grain like elk or cattle. The deer seem to feed on special browse plants, leaves, and mushrooms and range far and wide to seek out this food. In the fall and winter they drift down to the lower areas and can be found in the valleys and slopes and in the sage brush.

The latter part of the hunting season is the running season for the deer. The bucks get pretty stupid at this time and get careless. All they can see is some doe slinking through the brush. While he is thusly entranced, he leaves himself exposed to hunters. The does are bold and brassy, mostly it is illegal to kill them. They can be seen easily and often at any time, but the buck is very cagey except during mating season. My friends have found bucks with locked horns in mortal combat doing battle for the favors of the doe sex, only to be separated with a bullet by the hunter. The buck who was left standing, casually left his dead foe -- thinking he killed him -- and went in search of the females they fought over.

The guns used are just about anything that was ever manufactured. In the brush country, the 30-30 Winchester lever action is still the most common. I own one and until just recently I carried an 8 mm Mauser. It was a nice gun but I had a personal preference for lever action and when Winchester came out with the Model 88 lever operated bolt, I just had to have one. It is .308 caliber with Lyman 4X scope, a nice light weight gun with plenty of wallop for anything except Kodiaks**.

A letter from Ellensburg was the deciding factor in making up my mind where to hunt. I was told that hunting was poor, but at the end of the season it usually picks up and with some luck we might connect. Naturally, I wanted to try my new gun out on something besides a target.

Friday just after noon I left, taking the highway over the floating bridge through North Bend and over Snoqualmie Pass -- an interesting and beautiful country. Crews were busily working on a four lane highway and I was surprised to see the extent of the improvements because its been about four years since I made the trip in that direction. Three and one half hours from the time I left my shop, I was knocking at the door of my host and hunting partner. He was busy with emergency repairs to his furnace so I decided to take a quick run into the hills before dark.

About ten minutes from town in any direction the country starts to take shape. This country seems to have been one series of volcanic upheavals, with rugged, sheer

* Pronounced Met' how. **Bear. Kodiak Bears are an oversized Grizzly..

walls, slides and terrific flat benches which at first glance from a distance seem to be a highway until the eye follows it over a sloping ridge into the timber. The surface of these benches is mostly rock of the volcanic type and about the size of a man's head or smaller.

The draws, which are numerous, are in varying degrees full of pine timber and smaller trees. Mostly the trees and vegetation seem to grow right on the top of the rock. The prevailing color is a dry grass brown, contrasting with the rich green of the pine. Not much fall coloring in this area.

Next morning we started out in a jeep and wound round and round some old logging roads until I was certain we were up so high that no other hunters could possibly be in that area. It was just breaking day when we got out of the jeep, loaded our rifles and very quietly made plans on how to make our hunt. I was told to take the draw directly ahead of us; another hunter took the ridge on the left and the other two took the right ridge and partly over the other side. They were familiar with the area -- they had scouted it out -- and figured with a bit of luck we might run into something. This was a sparse pine area, with sufficient clearing so that if a deer were seen, it might be possible to get off one or more shots. The visibility was improving very swiftly as we slowly and quietly as possible started to our respective posts. It was cold. The ground was frozen hard and it was almost impossible to walk quietly. Stepping on the frozen grass and underbrush, I was sure the deer could hear me a half mile away. Every 25 feet or so, I stopped completely for a while. As I walked, I kept swivelling around so as not to miss any movement anywhere; on both sides of me, or ahead or behind. As I got up on the top flat, I did see one hind end slinking into a small patch of brush, but it was too far away and, unfortunately, there are no horns on the rear end... In the State of Washington, we are allowed to shoot only "antlered deer", so we have to see the front end to make sure.

As the morning progressed, we circled the complete area, blanketing it pretty thoroughly. I heard shots at some distance from us and decided to take a trip to where I could observe what might be going on. I used my binoculars, scanning the opposite ridge across a deep draw. I saw a deer moving very warily, staying behind cover. About that time I decided to move a bit so I could get into a better position for visibility. Unfortunately, I stepped a couple of times on some of that frozen grass and I am sure I was heard. From then on it was just a matter of waiting for the hunter on the other ridge to frighten the deer into view.

I am of a firm opinion that if a deer spots the hunter, he has much greater advantage in evading him. He can use the very slightest bit of sage brush, sliding on his belly; or he can use one tree, keeping the tree between the hunter and himself to such clever advantage that the hunter is sometimes completely baffled where the deer disappeared to. Once a deer spots the hunter, all he can do is sit tight and hope that somebody else distracts the deer and makes him careless. I was pretty certain this was a buck because of his actions and his extreme wariness. I spent possibly a whole hour or hour and a half scanning the area where I first saw him, and the surrounding areas, until I thought my eyeballs would fall out of their sockets -- still nothing.

It was approximately noontime now, so I decided to drift slowly toward the jeep and lunch. I saw other hunters and we exchanged experiences as I went. When I got back to the jeep, we each gave an account of what we did and what we had seen.. between us, we saw about 8 does and several un-identifiables.



After lunch, we decided we would try a different area, but the story was much the same for the rest of the day. This being a warm fall, there hadn't been enough snow as yet up higher

in the hills to drive the deer down, and due to the previous winter-kill, it would be just sheer luck if we ran into one.

The next morning, Sunday, we decided to try a different spot in somewhat the same area. They pointed to Hell-and-up at the ridge of one hill and told me to go up there. They would give me a half hour start so as to give me a chance to get up. Fortunately, it was still a little bit dark so I didn't fully realize what I was up against. I'm afraid if I had seen this hill in broad daylight, I'd have told them,

"To Hell with it -- let some younger guy go up there!"

However, with the assistance of several stops to rest and get my breath, I got up to the top and realized why they wanted me up there. It was an ideal spot for a view of everything, and a possible shot all through the area.

Then they followed up below and across on the ridge across a brushy draw. If anything did show, I could not have missed seeing it and also getting a good shot at it. A young lad, a member of the group, net me up here where I was, and we both sat there. I pointed across the way and told him to sit quietly as I saw two does. They saw me but didn't seem to be frightened. We sat quietly and the does worked their way around to within 25' of us -- nonchalantly dipping their heads to nibble some choice tidbits as they went. We kept watching the area where the does came from, hoping a wary buck might be sticking his snoot out for a peek. But this wasn't our day, I guess.

The climb up there didn't really compare with the trip down. By the time I got down to the bottom, I told my partners just to go ahead and not worry about me. I'd make my way more slowly. I have heard of the expression "rubber legs" and Boy! I've had 'em! My muscles were so damn tired by the time I reached our meeting place, that I couldn't be comfortable no matter whether I was sitting or lying down.

The rest of the day was spent by me sitting on my butt, commanding as good a view as possible of the area which I had chosen that didn't require any climbing. Some bucks were taken, but very few and none in our party.

After these two and a half days, I decided to concede defeat and go back to Seattle with no notches on my brand new Model 88 Winchester. I finally got back home tired, hungry and in need of a bath... No deer, no chance to use my nice, brand new rifle.

But maybe next year!

Valentine
Greetings
to
Papa

