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1967

Dec. 1st

SF Weekly: Nos 205 & 206: From Andrew Porter, 24 East 92nd St. New York, NY 10028
co-publisher Dave Van Arnam. 14/\$1 or 10/8s. I am British Agent. Prompt as
ever with all the news-of cons, magazine circulation figures, of fans and pros.

Dec 2nd

The Twilight Zine: No 22: From The MIT SF Society, 20 Ware St. Apt. 4, Cambridge
Mass. 02138. This clubzine continues to have a happy atmosphere and recalls
fond memories of the old SHAGGY. Like SHAGGY, it is as if the zine has taken
on its own momentum and stays on course no matter if there is a change of
editors. If, like me, you are rather intrigued by the thought of women at
MIT - you will be interested in the selections of this issue's "FILK SONG
Dept". The best is titled..SLIDE RULES ARE A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND. The
MINUTES of the club meetings can also remind one of such as done by Wally
Weber. They are not so funny, of course, but then who can be as funny as
Wally? I don't know which entertained me most in Bill Mallardi's article
- his idea of betting on horses that have a fannish name (imagine anyone
calling a horse Willis!); or his notion for the title of his article - "All
Right Fans, Stop Horsing Around." Editor, Cory Seidman, although not resp-
onsible for this issue, still writes her editorial and proves that she is
a person with the ability to condense well her descriptions of fannish
doings. A lively zine that I'd highly recommend.

Dec. 3rd

S.F. Weekly: No 207: as above. Effective as this issue subs will go up in the
Sterling areas to 9 shillings for 10 issues. Due to devaluation a shilling
now decreases from 14/- to 12/- . To those who would grumble--for every 8/-
in subscriptions, Andy pays about 15/- in postage. And you must admit that
this is a reliable and efficient zine to whom you can entrust your money.

Dec. 4th

Stroon: No 9: From: Anthony Lewis, 124 Longwood Ave. Prookline, MA 02146. USA
25/- per issue. I don't recall having received a zine from this fan before;
but I am taking a fairly dim view of him. He is writing a coh report and
keeps bemoaning his 'old age'--which turns out to be 44! Folks like this I
can do without! Dear me..I beg Tony's pardon..on reaching the end of this I
see it was written by Harry Warner. Well, I can't do without Harry in fan-
dom, but he ought to watch it...and a heading to this would have prevented
my mistake. The rest of the issue is varied - a mock 'Holmes' story that

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is reprinted from PUNCH (is that allowed?), some indifferent verse and a lot of letters that would read easier had I seen the previous issues. Hard to tell about this one after only seeing one issue. I'd like to see more before jumping to conclusions.

Dec.6th

Avanc:No 9:From Dick Eney.A FAPA zine. All Apa(Amateur Publishing Association) zines are treated in the same way here - if a price is quoted I give the address, if not, not. In this Dick gives a comprehensive review of what the USAid in Vietnam is all about. I'd prefer a few small personal details; but he'll be tired hearing me say that.

Dec.5th

The Proper Boskonian:No 0.Vol 1:From:Cory Seidman,20 Ware St.Cambridge,Mass. 02138. Official organ of the New England SF Association.\$2.50 for membership and you receive all publications. Otherwise 25¢ or trades etc. Cory's editorial is(as is all her writing) amusing and witty and informative. Then Tony Lewis gives a history of the sf movement in New England which is helpful in trying to asses the activity that is beginning to come out of this area.

Dec.8th

Australian SF Review:No 11:From:John Bangsund,11 Wilson St,Ferntree Gully, Victoria.3156. \$3 or 15/-. This is beautifully produced and the artwork is treated with respect. This issue contains a loving tribute to Cordwainer Smith. from people who knew him. Also an extremely good critique of his work. is written by Donald Tuck. William Atheling then writes on the subject of critics and criticism, naturally this is well done as this is a subject that is treated seriously by ASFR. There is always, as here, a large range of sf reviews that are done at professional level. In fact, having seen some professional reviews, I'd say they are better than the majority.

No 12: This arrived at the same time as the above. Apart from the reviews there is an interesting exchange of views on the subject of plagiarism between William F.Temple and John Wyndham. Also interesting, and amusing, is the part where Harry Harrison rebukes John Brunner for his complaints about the economics of sf. In both issues the letter column is of a very high order. Undoubtedly this fanzine is a must for any serious sf enthusiast.

Eclipse:No 4:From:David Copping,121 Springfield Park Rd.Chelmsford,Essex. No price or policy quoted. It seems I have some conservative leanings, I expect the letter column to be at the latter end of a zine, and am nonplussed when, as here, I find it at the beginning. I did not find them very interesting either. There is an article by Malcolm Lawrence titled "Anarchism Defended!" which puzzles me somewhat, for there is nothing about the subject of anarchism in it. For some reason, this writer is referred to as "Mr" Lawrence in the letter column, so I am in the dark as to his age. He obviously wishes to make a point by giving his own views of society, but his presentation of these ideas still leaves me unclear about his views on the subject of his title. Mary Read has a column of quotations, the best one being from Michael Bentine. There are two short pieces of fiction. In the letter column Archie Mercer says:"My own personal preference for non-fiction in fanzines stems largely from my general dislike of the short story

as an art-form." Which are my sentiments entirely, though I would add that the majority of fanzine fiction is pretty poor stuff into the bargain. I much prefer things like Mike Ashley's article here on the letter-columns in sf magazines. Mike gives a short history of this phenomena and also bemoans their passing. I was also amused by the editor's "automatic letter of comment for lazy fen". Most useful item in this zine was on the subject of the decimalisation of our coinage by Gray Boak.

Compass:No 3:From:Rob Wood,27 Rochford Ave.Shenfield.Essex. Rob announces that this is his last issue. Seems a pity, he's got a letter-column(well pruned)full of people telling him how his zine has improved. In this there is a Bristolcon report from Mary Read and Chas Legg, welcome as there have been so few of them. Bryn Fortey has a short story THE HISTORY PERIOD which is good and makes me rather swallow my previous words on the subject. He has the ~~etc~~-catching opening sentence necessary to drag me into reading a short story. I didn't go for the poetry which percolates throughout the zine, in fact the only one I liked was by Terry Jeeves. This was called.."I'm averse to a verse" and was funny. Yes, on the whole Rob's decision is a pity, the fanzine scene in Britain is anaemic enough.

Dec.9th

Sirruish:No 5:From:Leigh Couch,Route 2 Box 889,Arnold.Missouri 63010.USA 25¢(but 35¢ for this special con issue)The official organ of the Ozark SF Assoc. Also for trade etc. Only with this issue has it dawned upon me that Leigh is a femme fan; I so take it for granted that the majority of faneds will be male. Art fans will be delighted to learn that there are four pages of drawings by Jack Gaughan. There are two reports of the Ozarkon and the Midwescon, some short fiction, reviews and lots of letters. A nice mixed batch. Highlight is the transcript of Roger Zelazny's GOH speech, in which he ably discusses literature in general and the place in it of sf. However I have read this before somewhere lately, surely? Not that I object to re-reading a particularly good article.

Dec.13th

Psychotic:No 21:From:Richard Geis,5 Westminster Ave.Venice.Cal.90291. 25¢ or trade etc. It is about eleven years since the last issue of this zine was published. As the editor says-when he goes gafia -he goes GAFIA! As it is always interesting to know the particular thing that takes a fan out of fandom in an active sense, I will give his reason here -slot car racing, whatever that may be. I can add that nugget of information to -Ted Forsyth birds(feathered ones)and George Locke, gliding. This was a very well thought of zine in its day; and will be again, I think. At the moment, the two contributors are Arnie Katz writing about the political plays of con-bidding; and Harry Warner writing about his zine SPACEWAYS. Dick himself has a light touch.

Euoropean Newsbulletin:No 1:From:Jean Muggoch,15 Balcombe House,Taunton Pl. London.N.W.1. Jean is interested in getting news circulated throughout European fandom, and here has gathered news reports from Italy,Spain,France, Germany,Sweden, and Britain. Extremely useful, and one hopes she will continue with it.

Vukat:NO 5:From:Fred Patten. A Fapazine. Fred has issued this to explain why LA lost the bid for the Worldcon. He starts off by showing a 7 page letter he wrote to the Statler Hilton Hotel in New York enumerating the number of complaints of bad service that could be put forward as a contributing reason for the loss of the bid. LA had planned to hold their con in a Hilton hotel. This makes absorbing reading and a fine catalogue of complaints it is. It also gives a glimpse of many aspects of the con itself. Following this is a letter

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goes on to explain what he thinks went wrong in his committee's bidding. Must reading this for would-be bidders for a world con and fans who like to know all about the latest 'on-dit'.

Badinage:No 3:From:Graham Boak,10 Lower Church Lane,Bristol 2.The official organ of the Bristol & District SF Group. 1/4d per copy or trade etc. The first item is a short story by Archie Mercer, a very feeble affair, I'm surprised to say. It is followed by Bryn Fortey writing about the Blues, and Black Power, he does not seem to have anything new to say however. Then Beryl Mercer has a longer piece of fiction, a ghost story, spoiled for me by the use of dialect, one of my pet dislikes. On the whole - not so good as the last two issues.

Dec.19th

SF Weekly:No 209:From:Andrew Porter, as before. This issue is devoted to the letters that came in when Andy wrote about the rotation plan for the American cons; and how the idea of rotation outside the US every 2 or 5 years would affect it.

SF Critic:No 6:This accompanies SF Weekly, and is also from Andy.It has a good round-up of reviews of SF.

Dec.21st

Foolscap:No 2:From:John D.Berry, 35 Dusenberry Rd.Bronxville.NY.10708. 25¢.or trades etc. This features a report by John on his first visit to a con, a fairly good first try. Fiction is about Tom Swiftie-I'm afraid I thought it rather poor. The fanzine reviews are given a generous amount of space; the remainder of the zine is made up of letters. The letters are the best part in which there is a lot of discussion of fanzines and their different worths.

Osfan:No 30:From:Hank Luttrell,49B Donnelly Hall,Blair Group,Columbia,Mo. 65201.10/\$1. Published by the Ozark SF Assoc. This has news of the association, plus SF reviews and a fanzine review column. An energetic group this.

Leftovers:No 3:From:John Boardman,592 16th St.Brooklyn.NY.11218.No charge listed. A zine to use up the leftovers from John's other publications. Not unlike a letter substitute this one, in it John crams a good deal of information and news of club meetings, new books etc.

Activities Unlimited:No 1:From:G.Hay,London Promotions,411 W.Green Rd. London.N.15. Free. This aims to advertise, in a fanzine format, anything. It starts off with the Martial Arts Society (fighting arts of Japan) takes in various clubs and has a plug for New Worlds. No prices stated for the adverts--you have to enquire. I expect they come cheaper than using the newspapers though.

Dynatron:No 33:From:Roy Tackett,915 Green Valley Rd.NW Albuquerque.New Mexico.87107.For trades or two bits(whatever that may be). I am British Agent. Last issue the dear editor announced the closure of DYN. So-just as I was getting ready to abscond with the 4 shillings of subs I held..he pops up again.Darn! To give you the flavour of this zine let me quote to

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you the first paragraph.. "This rather emasculated and emaciated thing is DYNATRON, the 33rd thereof. You wouldn't look so good either if you'd been dead and buried and then dug up again, I resolved after 32 to kill DYN off but, like Tucker, it seems to have been resurrected. And it isn't even Easter." Roy has a bright and breezy style and also a serious preoccupation with sf that never becomes stuffy. He also has a sense of humour.. another quote coming up... "Don Franson seems to have been stuck with the job of being President of the NFFF next year. He and Stan Woolston matched for the job and Don lost." It isn't really emaciated though, 16pp. Apart from Roy's own column there is another from Ed Cox. Ed delves into his old SF mag file and comes up with the story of the mag DYNAMIC SCIENCE STORIES. 1939 that came out! This is one of my favourite fanzines so I don't really mind about the 4 shillings.

Dec. 22nd

S.F. Times: No 448: From: James Ashe, Editor and Frank P. Beto, Box 216, Syracuse, N.Y. 13209. Monthly. \$3 per year \$5 for overseas. Very comprehensive this one. Listings of coming SF, coming events, and articles. Lead article is by Sam Moskowitz on Gernsback's claim to have coined the term 'science fiction'! This is the first issue I've seen, seems very helpful to the sf fan.

De Profundis: No 19: From: Charles Grayne, 1050 N. Ridgewood Rd. Los Angeles, Cal. 90038. Newsletter of the LASFaS. 35¢ to non-members. More news of events. The trouble about reading of the US fannish social whirl is that it makes our own seem so thin on the ground. With this comes an appeal to fans to rally and support the tv show STAR TREK by sending in letters to the network. It's odd, really, that this show has never travelled over here yet.

Riverside Quarterly: No 1. Vol 3: From: Leland Sapiro, Box 40, University Station Regina, Canada. 50¢. This is the small-sized, beautifully printed zine that is also well-illustrated and well-known for its excellent articles on SF. This time there is two long articles on H.G. Wells Typical of the way book reviews are handled is A SATANIC BIBLE by Yogi Borel. This is a review of Philip Dick's THE THREE STIGMATA OF PALMER ELDRITCH, which merits the name of critique rather than mere review. I am not so happy about the poems, though, in this issue. Not one of them makes any sense to me - I found them too abstract to be intelligible. Of course, I could put my own meaning into the words used; but I'd rather know what the poets intended. The letter column features discussion of parapsychology following an article in a previous issue - which certainly has been stimulating to the readers. Well recommended.

Psychotic: No 22: From Richard Geis, as before. At least Dick has not slipped back into gafia after the last issue! His colophon, famous in its day, merits some mention on its own. He titles the editorial -THE COUCH, for instance, and his fanzine reviews are called -THE VIOLENT WARD. From THE COUCH I also take a quote of which I approve.. "A dynamic letter column is the heart of a good zine." Certainly the letter column here warrants such an adjective as it seems to have brought out a great many writers.. Bloch, Grennell, and Philip K. Dick for a start. Dick himself is opinionated, which makes for good reading. You may disagree with him but it is never dull!

Dec. 23rd

Meteor: No 4: From: Bill Burns and Harry Nadler, 5 S. Mesnefield Rd, Lower Kensal.

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Salford7.Lancs. Official publication of the THIRDMANCON. Total of members at Xmas was 150! Hotel almost full. So write to them now before it is too late if you wish to attend.

Dec.28th

Speculation:No 4.Vol.2:From:Peter Weston,81 Trescott Rd.Northfield.Birmingham.31. 2/6d. A while back there rumour had it that Pete had left us for good. Glad to say not so..he had his reasons for the blank silence - all reasonable in my eyes except for the part about the Young Conservatives.. This is an issue which contains quite a lot of the proceedings of the 67 con at Bristol. There is the text of Mike Moorcock's speech about NEW WORLDS; the pro-panel discussion and an edited but unabridged version of John Brunner's GOH. X Apart from that, very handy to the fan who could not attend, Pete gives a con report and has Tony Sudbery review the controversial film shown at the con, Ed Emshwiller's RELATIVITY. I cannot comment myself upon the last as I missed it, I was probably in the bar drinking the gorgeous Gaelic coffee that was a specialty of the hotel. I enjoyed some jolly good meals and drinks at that con. Well, it's nice to see Pete back, SPECULATION was a really fine magazine.

London Newsletter:No 6:From:Jean Muggoch, as before. The news is up to date and I'm glad to see it continuing. My only complaint is that Jean still has to learn the gentle art of padding it a little!.

SF.Weekly:No 210:From Andy Porter, as before. This one is devoted to a listing of markets for sf. Andy certainly provides a full service with his news-sheet. Of all the newszines that we have had, I think this is the most efficient. Of course, Ron Ellik's STARSPINKLE was funny as well as newsy. Still, Andy has his occasional humour too, and after all who can be as funny as Ronel? Wally Weber? Oh yes, two very funny men, Y's.

Shelta Thari:No 7:From:Dick Eney,6500 Fort Hunt Rd.Alexandria.Va.22307. This is really a letterzine to let you all know where he is at now, and he has started work on the FANCYCLOPEDIA II. Such energy, he might have waited until he had unpacked.

Well--Happy 1968 everybody.

Jan.1st

Yandro:No 176.:From:Robert & Juanita Coulson,Route 3.Hartford City,Indiana 47348.U.S.A. British Agent:Alan Dodd,77 Stanstead Rd.Hoddesdon,Herts. 35/- or 2/-. Very appropriate that this should land in on the first day of the year for a more dependable monthly zine would be hard to find. The general level of readability remains dependable too. Juanita warns that you should watch out that your sub isn't expiring. This time she had to run off 20 extra copies in a second printing in answer to pleading letters, and she is getting tired of this sort of thing. After all if there is any zine to which you can trust a long-term sub or trade-it is this one! Young Bruce got a set for his birthday that makes "Creepy Crawlers" - he has been making them and taking them into school and selling them. This boy will go far, I predict. His father is in his usual genial mood- I quote - "I have a card from Robert Firebaugh, requesting me to mention that he has for sale "Mrs Peel, We're Needed" bumper stickers. Price is 30/-." 40/- if they desire a uncreased sticker in manilla envelope." He doesn't say

XINSERT THE WORD 'TALK':

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possibly for 30¢ he sticks one on the next car going in your direction. Or maybe it just means they're creased! Ted White's column WITH JAUNDICED EYE, enthuses over a coming book by Alex Panshin -SCIENCE FICTION - A CRITICAL INTRODUCTION. There is one thing about Ted, when he slams something it really gets slammed; but when he enthuses he does so just as wholeheartedly. He has me sold on the book, at all events. Rick Norwood reviews the magazine sf, Buck himself the hard-cover and pbs, very comprehensive. Fanzine reviews and no letters this time, but as ever all good, sehr good.

Jan. 8th

SF.Weekly:No 211:From Andy Porter, as before, and before and before, dead on time, isn't he? He's got a motto now-"All the news that fits we print!" This one..N3F election results, save STAR TREK, Film news, Book news, and a note given of the wandering American Fan who keeps changing his address.

Jan. 10th

Australian SF.Review:No 13:From John Bangsund, as before. A part of John's editorial rather horrifies me as he says that it costs him \$50 per issue. Of course a normal issue of this zine carries about 60pp. This one has 40pp...and it is weight that is the nasty factor when it comes to postage. Still it is a salutary lesson to readers who do not realise that fanzines are a subsidised thing. He also goes over his particular enthusiasms of the moment; he has the faculty of imparting this enthusiasm to others. John Foyster writes reports on what happened when a class of fifteen year old boys are given several sf novels to read and asked to comment. They make diverting reading. Lee Harding, meanwhile, writes in praise of NEW WORLDS and the editorship of Michael Moorcock. This may surprise some of you.. but Lee says "The man is experimenting. How long is it since a sf editor has had the courage, or the ability, to do this?". You have to admit - he has got a point there! Among the many fine sf reviews in this zine is one on Frank Robinson's THE POWER. I found a copy of this book a while ago, and was surprised to find it sf when I'd never heard of it before. I, like the reviewer, would recommend it on the grounds that the superman in it is thoroughly believable. This zine is inviting its readers to send in their nominations for the worst sf story ever published. Entries by March 31st Judge is John Foyster, connoisseur of the Grummy. Prize - a surprise. Well go to it fans, avoid THE THREE THIEVES OF JAPETUS. the editor has that one staked.

Mantrap:No 8:From:JF Kusske, Route 2, Hastings Minnesota 55033. 10¢ I must say I am puzzled why anyone would put out a zine and only give the initials of their name. This is for an apa too (APA 45) which is usually even more intimate than a genzine. A fair portion of this is set up in newspaper format-with news take-offs like..HOG ATTACKS LITTLE OLD GRANNIE LADY. I can't say I found any of it funny. Nor did the "middle-urrrth story" fill me with glee. I'm afraid our idea of humour diverge..and as for hobbies! - he likes to go out at night and catch worms..ugh! But don't go by me..he may be a very nice guy.

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Jan. 11th

The Vinegar Worm: No 10, Vol. 11. From: Bob Leman. A Fapazine. Bob describes first his dealings with a firm to whom he wrote out of curiosity. This was an invitation for writers to send in story ideas..and, as he shows by the correspondence, was a not too subtle way of getting money out of hopeful, not-too bright people. Bob's other topic is equally capable of capturing my attention involving as it does discussion of a convention held by the "New Politics" in the States. Lastly there is a take-off of the story-writing style of J.D. Macdonald. Dear me, I wonder if Len Moffatt gets a copy of this!

Jan. 15th

Cösign: No 14. From: Rod Goman, editor. Subs to Robert Gaines, 336 Olentangy St. Columbus. Ohio. 43202. 8 for \$2.50 or \$3 f .verseas. The official organ of the Central Ohio SF Society. Frankly I skipped the first item as it was about a character in MARVEL comics, complete with Bibliography. Fine for comics fans though. This is by Rod, who next writes that he is fed up to here with banality in fanzines...but he does include his own Cösign in these strictures which shows he isn't big-headed anyway. There are book, film, and fanzine reviews, and quite a good letter column. But nothing very outstanding, I'm afraid.

S.F. Weekly: No 212. From Andy, as before. Result of SF Contest, Spring releases of sf are listed, news of travelling fans, and an "evil rumor".

S.F. Weekly: No 213. From: Andy. Who sold what to whom...Japanese fandom.... fanzine reviews. Never a dull moment in SFW.

Heck Meck: No 16. From: Mario Kwiat and Manfred Kage, 44 Münster/Westf. Stettiner Str. 38. Germany. In English..has a short con report, fanzine reviews. The letters include a description of Swedish fandom by Per Insulander. This zine is mainly reacting to material it has received, it could do with more expansion of its own material--such as the con report.

Jan. 18th

The JDM Bibliophile: No 8. From Len & June Moffatt, 9826 Paramount Blvd. Downey. Calif. 90240. No price - but evidence should be given of interest if you wish to continue getting this. For the devotee of detective fiction. Here they will find not only information about J.D. MacDonald and his books, but many interesting letters on the subject of the detective story.

Jan. 26th

Science Fiction Times: No 450. From: SF. Times Inc. PO Box 216, Syracuse, N.Y. 13209 30¢. Monthly. \$3 per year or \$5 for overseas. Editor -James Ashe. This has been sent to me as a sample copy. I'm afraid I cannot afford to subscribe, but I certainly can recommend it as being worth the money to all fans who are interested in a neat zine that gives the news, discusses current sf topics and all in all gives a very efficient coverage of the sf scene.

Jan. 27th

Tournaments Illuminated: Vol. 1 No 4. From: The Society for Creative Anachronism 1585 Arch St. Berkeley. Calif. 35¢. Some of you may have heard of this Society already, but it seems to be devoted to an interest in things medieval. But all in fun, I gather. It is beautifully produced in the Trimble Fanzine Factory.

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It is also graced by Bjo's meticulous and delightful artwork. Certainly the reports of meetings, tournaments and a Twelfth Night Revel are all in a light-hearted vein, yet there must be a deal of work behind this sort of thing. My feeling on reading this is that it is a damn shame that Ted Tubb doesn't live in California..how he would love to join in these tournaments. I rather loved the article which describes how to make a jester's costume. It is titled..HOW TO MAKE A JESTER..and starts out.."Now the first thing you to do make a Jester's outfit is to catch a Jester to outfit." In British fandom, I reckon,(particularly the London branch of it) you'd have a deal of chasing to do...

Osfan:No 32:From:Hank Luttrell, as before. Starts with a list of coming conventions--10 in all--only one of which is British.umm that it the ThirdMancon and it is about time I gave it some publicity. To be held at St Anne's Hotel,Buxton,Derbyshire.GOH:Ken Bulmer.For information - Harry Nadler,5 S.Mesnefield Rd.Salford 7.Lancaster.US Agent is Andrew Porter. Duty done..I get back to Ozfan!It also lists local news,Paper-backs,books,fan news,tv,movies,and odds and ends. There is also book and fanzine reviews, all neatly packed into 8pp.

Jan.29th

S.F.Weekly:No 214:Andy scoops the pool with the TAFF results. Steve Stiles has won and will come to join us here at Buxton. From America came 133 votes. From Europe came 14! What are we to do about such a shocking balance of figures? Has anyone any suggestions? This also lists the sf writers who signed as being either for or against the Vietnam war. It is fascinating to read which are on which side of the argument.

HAVER is a zine which consists solely of comments upon the fanzines I receive. I usually save my personal reflections for my other zine - SCOTTISHE. However, this month word came to us from America, first by cable from Forry Akerman to Ted Carnell, and then by letter from Andy Porter to me which brought the sad news of the sudden death of Ron Emlik. At first I meant to go back and cofflu out what I had written about him earlier in this zine. Then I thought I'd leave it - it is only another example of the affection in which Ron was held by fans everywhere. It is very hard to believe that he won't be there to laugh at what I wrote.

Ethel Lindsay.

Jan.1966.

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USA

