

STORIES

5



AMERICAN INFLEX

by Robert Rodriguez

To an observer stationed somewhere on Mars, the events of last month would perhaps, in the general context of things, be just another manifestation of the general inhumanity of men against men; to an observer in New York or San Francisco, the events are something else again. They are the warning bell of an approaching plague, the symptoms of which if not stopped will perhaps ravage this so-called mighty race of men who call themselves Americans. Robert Kennedy was only one man. His Jordanian assassin was only one man. The bullet which felled the Senator was only one small microscopic projectile. Together they have plunged America once more into the evil morass which of late we have entered all too frequently. One need only peruse the list of the great, near great, and small who have been felled in this modern version of blood sacrifice. One can cite the late President John Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, and now Robert Kennedy. One can also cite Lemuel Penn, Medgar Evers, Michael Schwerner, James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Emmet Till, Mack Charles Parker, Viola Liuzzo, etc. One by one they have stood in the public's consciousness for a brief second, and then faded away into the seeming insignificance of memory. Both the rabid fulminations of a Ronald Reagan, George Wallace, Robert Welch, or Major Bundy, and the hard riding hooves of night riders on the lonely roads of Georgia, they are all symptomatic of a trend developing in America and the rest of the globe, a trend that says to those who wish for change from former wrongs: "By hell, we of the established status quo will see you dead first!"

The utter tragedy of last month does not fully strike one's inner emotions until they realize and witness the utter shoddiness and banality with which the event was greeted. Of course one is shocked and disheartened at what happened. This writer truly would have been moved, whether to anger or disbelief, if one had publicly stated that he did not give a damn about the Kennedy murder. Yet even this occurred in an isolated instance or two, from the General Motors foreman who cursed his men for asking time off to go to church to pray for Kennedy, to the utter shame and spectacle of an indecisive baseball commissioner such as General Eckert, who did not have the decency to order all teams not to play Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Thank God those Met players had what courage they had, even if their courage was drowned in management and financial pressure. Television covered itself with distinction as usual, as it did in November 1963 and April 1968. Yet one wonders, deep in his heart, just how long this covering of national grief will last. This writer has the uncomfortable feeling that it will last as long as it takes for a new headline to pop up all over the news pages, a headline perhaps congratulating Don Drysdale for his new record of extended shut-outs and scoreless innings pitched, until this headline once more detaches the public into its accustomed role of apathy and complacency only to be shattered once again by another Dallas, Memphis, or Los Angeles. One wonders who it will be next time. Will it be a man such as Charles Evers, whose life has so recently been repeatedly threatened? Will it be Edward Kennedy, who now lives in the shadow of realization that two older brothers now lie in their graves, victims of assassins who struck them down without warning?

Will this climate of negativism and hatred become bolder and strike down Mrs. Martin Luther King or Mrs. Medgar Evers, both widowed in the national testament of violence? After all, these brave assassins struck down a Detroit woman civil rights worker whose only offence was to preach the unheard-of doctrine that races are equal before God and the law. After all, these brave assassins were so bold as to bomb a Birmingham church, killing four children whose only crime was being black. After all, these bold Americans have bombed, burned, or destroyed over forty churches and other houses of worship in the South, because their only offense was in being places of worship or meeting for angry and defiant Americans. The same Congressmen who so often fulminate about federal laws condemning draft card burners might to well to visit Birmingham, Alabama; Indianola, Mississippi; and Albany, Georgia, and ask the black citizenry there where they have recently worshipped. The same figures, such as Nixon, Goldwater, and others who so piously attended the funeral mass for Senator Kennedy in New York should search their souls and remember all the criticisms they made both of Kennedy as a man and as a political leader - indeed all the criticisms they made concerning everything that seemed to

(continued on p. 39)

TABLE OF CONTENTS & EDITORIAL REMARKS

Cover, illustrating "The Biology of Mermaids".....	(by Perdita Boardman,..1
America Infelix.....	by Robert Rodriguez..2
Table of Contents & Editorial Remarks.....	3
A-Vock Time, or, Pon-Farr for Fun and Profit.....	by Lyn Veryze..4
The Biology of Mermaids.....	by Judith Glattstein..7
True Gold.....	review by John Boardman...8
Department of No Comment.....	8
Department of Equal Time.....	9
Things That Go Bump in the Mailbox (letter column).....	11
Vaughn Bode.....	26
Frances Bukowski.....	31
Norman Codner.....	20
Tom Dupree.....	33
Earl Evers.....	29
Linda Eyster.....	25
Les Gerber.....	33
George Heap.....	39
Doug Hoylman.....	27
Lloyd Hull.....	19
Dwain Kaiser.....	24
Steve Lewis.....	27
John J. Pierce.....	25
Robert Rodriguez.....	32
Alma Scott.....	20
Jan Slavin.....	22
Rick Sneary.....	34
Roy Tackett.....	15
Creath Thorne.....	11
Conrad von Metzke.....	28
Harry Warner.....	12, 23
James Wright.....	14
Andy Zerbe.....	12
Assassinocracy.....	by John Boardman..36
Routing Sheet.....	40

LEFTOVERS, the successor to KNO WABLE and POINTING VECTOR, is published by John and Perdita Boardman, 592 16th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11218, U. S. A. This is the 5th issue, dated July 1968. We are continuing to clean up the backlog of letters and articles originally intended for both the previous publications, and the end is in sight. The last issue of LEFTOVERS will be published this fall, with the remainder of these items, including C. O. Ingamells' rebuttal to the criticism of his vacuole theory in KNO WABLE #10, and an article by Robert Rodriguez on American foreign policy since World War II. Other letters dating from as much as four years back will be published, in approximately the order that they work their way to the top of the heap.

By the time this issue of LEFTOVERS reaches you, we will be on our way to California, by way of friends and relatives in Iowa and Texas. It will be a fairly leisurely trip by car, winding up at the World Science-Fiction Convention in Oakland on Labor Day weekend. Until the end of August we can be reached c/o Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Boardman, 5481 Begonia Drive, San Jose, Calif. 95124. Please do not send fanzines or letters of comment to that address, but to our home address.

Two new fanzines will come out from that address later this year. One of them, as yet untitled, will be a successor to LEFTOVERS, KNO WABLE, and POINTING VECTOR. The other will be FAN TREK, published by our daughter Karina. Karina announces that FAN TREK is for those writers who just don't know where to send their stories. LEFTOVER readers are invited to contribute manuscripts for her enterprise.

Recent OPERATION AGITATION publications have been:

366 GRAUSTARK #158	369 GRAUSTARK #161	372 GRAUSTARK #164
367 GRAUSTARK #159	370 GRAUSTARK #162	373 LEFTOVERS #5
368 GRAUSTARK #160	371 GRAUSTARK #163	

GRAUSTARK is the oldest bulletin of the postal play of the board game Diplomacy. It is 10 issues for \$1.00. Back issues continuously from #101, and intermittently before (continued on p. 40)

O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflame
O Optic
N Nerves

373

A-VOCK TIME

or

PON-FARR FOR FUN AND PROFIT

by Lyn Veryzer

Cast of Characters

Earthmen	Vulcans	Mulatto
Captain Quirk	High Priestess T'Now	Science Officer Schmock
Dr. McCloy	Ting-a-Ling	
Nurse Scrappel	Stoned	

Scene I.

(Captain Quirk is in the control room of the Starship Capsize. Enter Dr. McCloy with a worried expression.)

McCloy: Oh, Captain Quirk...do you have a minute?

Quirk (hysterically): A minute? What the hell are you talking about? (With tears and a catch in the throat) A MINUTE! I'm ALWAYS busy!

McCloy: It's Schmock. Haven't you noticed anything strange about him?

(Before Quirk can answer, a loud crash is heard followed by a shrill scream and the loud bellowing of Schmock. Exeunt Quirk and McCloy, running.)

Scene II.

(Schmock's quarters. Schmock is in bed, attended by Nurse Scrappel. As Quirk and McCloy enter, they are just in time to see Schmock pick the Nurse off his bed and throw her to the floor.)

Schmock: When I want anything from you, I'LL ASK FOR IT!

McCloy: I think Schmock needs a medical check-up.

Quirk (sadly nodding head while ogling the Nurse): So do I, Doctor, so do I.

Scene III.

(The control room. Dr. McCloy reports to the Captain with a medical report on Schmock.)

McCloy: Captain! My ~~medical~~ examination indicates that Schmock is suffering from a condition known as lakanuki, and if he does not have some treatment pretty soon, he'll die.

Quirk: Die? My, my! Well, since he doesn't find Terran girls to his taste we'll have to take him home to Vulcan for some Fulcan. But first I must have a man-to-man talk with him.

(Quirk walks to the intercom and summons Schmock, who presently enters. The two stand facing each other. McCloy walks away, over to the transporter.)

Quirk: Schmock? We've been together a long time. Bones tells me you are in a pre-dick-a-ment. Tell me about it.

Schmock: NO! No....I....I....cannot. NO Vulcan could.

Quirk: Aw, c'mon ol' buddy. You can tell ME.

Schmock: It has to do with biology. Vulcan biology.

Quirk: You mean.....the biology of Vulcans?

Schmock: NO! (sarcastically) I mean the biology of Rigellian shellfish. We are proud creatures. This time of mating rips our logic from us. How do Vulcans choose their mates? Have you not wondered?

Quirk: You better believe it! (pauses) Tell me, is it true what they say about your pointed ears?

Schmock: No, it is not! Also, this time is called the Pon-Farr.

Quirk: Funny. On Earth we ghave another name for it.

(They join McCloy at the transporter, and prepare to beam down to the surface of the planet Vulcan.)

Schmock: I want you, Captain, to be my best man at the wedding, and you, Doctor, as my maid of honor.

Quirk and McCloy: We are honored.

Scene IV.

(Quirk, Schmock, and McCloy are on the surface of Vulcan. It looks like the Llano Estacado in August.)

Schmock: This is the land of my family. This is our place of Kunat Kaliphi.

Quirk: Ver-ry interesting, but sloppy.

McCloy: Schmock says Kunat Kaliphi means "Marriage or Challenge".

Quirk: It was ever thus.

McCloy: They still go mad at this time.

Quirk: I wonder when the Vulcan chick arrives? What's her name...Ting-a-Ling?

McCloy: Yeah baby! Look, here they come!

(Bells ringing, the bridal party enters. In front of the procession is the High Priestess T'Wow. Following are Ting-a-Ling, Schmock's fiancée, and Stoned, a Vulcan man. Other Vulcans make up the retinue.)

T'Wow: What ye are about to see comes down from the time of the beginning. We'll let you stay if ye want to watch, but it's not for the squeamish.

Quirk and McCloy (in unison): We'll stay!

(One of the retinue brings forward a gong and holds it in front of Quirk. Ting-a-Ling walks up and strikes the gong.)

Quirk: Hey! What did you do that for? You're supposed to be over there (points to Schmock and the marriage party) getting spliced.

Ting-a-Ling: Baby, I just don't dig his kind of logic! You are going to fight for me, Lover!

Stoned (steps up): No! I have the right! It was agreed!

T'Wow: Keep your pants on, Stoned. You'll get yours. First they must fight for her. It is the custom.

Quirk: Now waaaaaaait - a - minute! This broad is stacked but I don't even get a piece of the action, win or lose!

McCloy: That's what you get for Vulcan around!

(Quirk and Schmock begin to duel, using portable traffic markers with honed edges. Quirk appears to be losing. McCloy steps in and halts the fight.)

McCloy: Just a cotton-pickin' minute, T'Wow baby. This boy can't fight in this atmosphere. It's too thin. Let me give him a fix so he'll have a fightin' chance.

T'Wow: Very well. But no hanky-panky. I don't want him to freak out before the fight is over.

(McCloy gives Quirk a shot with a hypodermic needle. The fight resumes. Schmock appears to have killed Quirk.)

T'Wow: Kree-gah! It is done.

McCloy: You better believe it, baby. Hey, you doin' anything tonight?

T'Wow: Knock it off, Bones. You're not my type.

(Meanwhile, Schmock is shaking his head in disbelief at the apparent death of Quirk. He walks over to Ting-a-Ling and Stoned.)

Schmock: Okay, sweetheart, why the challenge? I see no logic in preferring Stoned over me. We both have pointed ears. We both have pointed-

Ting-a-Ling (interrupts): You have become much known among our people, Schmock, almost a legend. No fun. A real drag. There was also Stoned who wanted me, and I wanted him. So?

Schmock: Logical, flawlessly logical. (Turns to Stoned.) She is yours. Sock it to her.

Scene V.

(Schmock and McCloy are back aboard the Capsize.)

Schmock: Report me to Star Sheet Command, Doctor. I have killed my Captain and my soul mate.

(Enter Captain Quirk.)

Quirk: No, you haven't, Schmock. McCloy just knocked me out with some Acid. I been on a trip!

McCloy (turns to audience): The moral of this story, folks, is: He who thinks sex is a pain in the ass is doing it the wrong way!

THE BIOLOGY OF MERMAIDS

by Judith Glattstein

Man has long had an interest in the world around him. Much of his interest has been concentrated on the other animals that inhabit this planet. The odder the animal, the greater his interest. Such strange beasts as the crocodile, the elephant, the hippopotamus, and the rhinoceros were a source for much speculation by the ancients. However, not content with the natural oddities around him, man started to invent strange creatures of his own. In modern times these inventions are placed on other planets, brought back from the future, or are the result of mutation due to radiation. This last explanation alone has accounted for more giant ants, flies, and cockroaches than I would ever care to meet.

Older creations were somewhat restricted in explanation, if not in shape. The Egyptian gods and goddesses (Horus, Anubis, Sekmet, Thoth, and Isis) had human bodies and avian or bestial heads. The Greeks and Romans left legends of basilisks, dragons, cecilians, giants, hydras, Pegasus, and unicorns. Special attention was given to those of semi-human form, such as angels, centaurs, fauns, harpies, mermaids, the Minotaur, satyrs, and sphinxes.

These animals and semi-humans were explained as the results of unions between men and animals, or between different kinds of animals. Another explanation, such as that offered by Robert Graves, suggests that these part human, part animal creations are the confused memories of the prepotent totem animal of some clan. Thus a centaur would have been a man of the horse clan, a mermaid would have belonged to the fish or dolphin clan, etc.

Many of these creations were formulated without regard to their practicality, to the possibility of their actual existence. Indeed, Lucretius (96?-55 BC) declared that centaurs were impossible. Since men and horses live to different ages, he said, a man-horse would find one end of himself dead while the other end was in its prime.

There are other arguments more pertinent, but it is interesting to speculate about the biological alterations necessary in the human organism to produce the living counterparts of some of these semi-human myths. The appearance of our creations would not necessarily coincide with that of the mythical beings, but their existence would be more probable.

One of the oldest of the semi-humans is the mermaid, and her male counterpart, the triton. She has appeared in many different places, from the cold Newfoundland coast to the warm islands of the Pacific. These sea creatures are usually described as having a human head, neck, and torso, a fish-like lower body covered with scales, and a caudal fin. They are usually seen perched on a rock combing their long green hair.

It is well known that most fishes have scales. True, there is a scaled mammal alive today, the pangolin, but it has scales of a reptilian nature, and is a land dweller. None of the mammals that have gone back to the sea (whales, dolphins, seals, and sirenians) have scales. Thus instead of a glittering, sinuous, scaled tail, our mermaid probably would have a sleek furry lower trunk with two flipper-like projections on the end, rather than the scales and caudal fin of fishes.

Prolonged contact with water has a drying effect on the skin. Fish overcome this by means of a layer of slime (secreted by the ampullae of Lorenzini) which coats the entire body and prevents actual contact of the skin with water. Aquatic mammals such as seals and otters retain their fur, and have guard hairs which help trap a layer of air when they submerge. They also have a liberal supply of oil glands which further help to protect the fur and skin. Since our mermaid presumably started off human and not as a fish, it is more likely that she would have developed her body hair into a short fur-like covering, rather than develop a slime layer. Another characteristic of mermaids, their long hair, would not exist. Long hair would be a disadvantage underwater, constantly matted and snarled, and catching on rocks and whatnot. (No wonder mermaids were always seen combing their hair. They had to get it unsnarled somehow.)

Our mermaid could have green hair, though. Sloths have green fur owing to the presence of some green algae that live in tiny pits in each hair. A marine counterpart of

(continued on p. 38)

TRUE GOLD

by John Boardman

"...I'm the Old Bull, you know, the one for having fun." - Philip Jose Farmer, "The God Business"

In his book The White Goddess, which discusses the wellsprings of poetry, Robert Graves cites A. E. Housman's test for a true poem: "Does it make the hairs of one's chin bristle if one repeats it silently while shaving?"

By this reaction, which Graves interprets as recognition of the deep emotional impact of the Poetic Theme, there is very little true poetry around. And when it does appear, it appears in the most unexpected places. The Incredible String Band is a British folk rock group which sounds like a second-rate version of Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. Most of the songs on their record "The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter" are undistinguished examples of Indian raga influence on western folk and rock themes, with lyrics of no particular significance or coherence.

But among them is a song which meets Housman's test for true poetic gold. It is "The Minotaur's Song" by the group's leader, Robin Williamson. It has a heavy, hammering beat, four feet to the line, a rhythm which reaches right into the soul as no other does. And the lyrics provide a suitable chant for this mythical monster, "the original discriminating buffalo man".

Williamson sings his song with a pride bordering on arrogance, evoking the Cretan bull-headed monster of the Theseus legend:

"I'll even attack you or eat you whole
Down in the dark my bone mills roll
Porridge for my porridge bowl."

These lines recall the English tradition of giant myths, "I'll grind his bones to make my bread." Also plaited into the song is the devolution of classical myths into the demons of Christianity, who wear the horns and hooves of Pan, the Satyrs, or the Minotaur. "I know what's right and what's wrong...and I'll do what's wrong as long as I can" recalls the old Satanist prayer, "Evil, be thou my Good."

In poetry the bull is the image of strength, leadership, and virility. This last can be confirmed by any farmer. For every other domestic animal there is an optimum ratio of females to the male, so many hens for each rooster, so many ewes for each ram, and so forth. Only the bull is capable of taking care of any number of the females of his kind. "His habits are predicta-bull, Aggressively relia-bull - bull - bull - bull."

There is one place, to be sure, where Williamson's poetic inspiration fails him. The chorus of "The Minotaur's Song" begins with the excellent line, "I'm strong as the earth from which I'm born." But nothing can be found to rhyme with it but "I can't dream well because of my horns" - which is not only a false rhyme, but also leads nowhere and means nothing. (True, the ancients believed that true dreams came through the Gate of Horn, but this does not tie in with the rest of the song.)

DEPARTMENT OF NO COMMENT

"William F. Buckley, Jr. is sure Nixon is the best man for President. Says: 'He's the most competent man since President Hoover.'" - New York Daily Column, 14 July 1968.

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"You're not fighting human beings over there - you're just fighting two-legged animals...That's all war is for is to kill and win, to destroy, to defeat the population of your enemy, to stop supplies, food. We'd be in a hell of a shape if everybody out there was yelling peace." - Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, New York Post, 26 October 1967.

*

"I believe in the right of free speech, but not if it disrupts the morale of the troops." - George Wallace, quoted in East Village Other, 1 December 1967.

DEPARTMENT OF EQUAL TIME

Elsewhere in this issue of LEFTOVERS, the present widespread availability and use of firearms in the United States is strongly criticized. LEFTOVERS would be unfaithful to the traditions of journalistic integrity so diligently observed by our daily newspapers if it failed to give the other side of the argument. The following statements represent the opposition to stricter gun controls.

"Perhaps the biggest deterrents to a final-hour Red takeover of the U. S. are:

(1) The fact that many Americans - especially Southerners and Westerners - have weapons in their homes and know how to use them.

(2) Residents of most communist nations have little background in the use of firearms and are psychologically unprepared to use them.

To overcome these problems, Leftists have launched a two-prong drive gradually to disarm U. S. households while teaching Communists intense hatred of white Christians and how to use rifles." - Councilor, 15 December 1965

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"Many believe that the main reason LBJ has not finished 'building his bridges' to Russia and set up a Pro-communist Socialist type of dictatorship, is that he realizes most Whites are armed and would rather be dead than red. This is our country and we are willing to lay down our lives to stop the Black Revolution from destroying our homes and families.

"LBJ and the Kennedy brothers want us Whites disarmed so as to render us helpless against the Armed Black Revolution. It is admitted that criminals and negroes will not register their arms and can obtain them from the underworld. The Kennedys state that they want to prevent an armed clash between the races. If they have their way we will be slaughtered by the heavily armed negroes. We urge one and all to work against all Anti-gun laws and the race-mixing politicians who promote such un-Constitutional measures." - Thunderbolt, Sept, 1967.

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"For the next 15 years we in Mississippi will have to do a lot of shooting to protect our wives and children from bad niggers and sorry white folk." - Byron de la Beckwith, letter to the National Rifle Association, reprinted by the White Citizens Council prior to Beckwith's murder of Medgar Evers.

*

"Lenin said that Communists should not invade any country until the middle class is disarmed. The Reds have been working toward this goal since 1943. Every time they want a bill to go through Congress, someone in political life is assassinated. It's very strange. Gun registration leads to confiscation; the criminal is assured his victim will not retaliate and the result is more crime. The answer is to register Communists, not firearms." - N. E. Ogden, letter, New York Daily News, 29 June 1968.

*

"You will want to know how we propose to fight this with an American underground. First and foremost, we will be a military organization. Our training and doctrine will preserve the best professional traditions of our infantry and Marines...Endurance and competence are the two factors for which we will train and work. For that reason, we will be known as the Rangers, in memory of the enormously competent mountain men and desert guides of the early 19th century...

"We will have, certainly, a great number of trained soldiers from our former military forces...But there will remain thousands of trained men and many caches of weapons. Sportsmen, athletes, and our own intellectuals will also be in the Ranger ranks, not to mention women and even children. Sporting weapons and home-made weapons will be used." - anonymous, The John Franklin Letters, Bookmailer, 1959.

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"Our primary indebtedness was to an organization of which you were a member: The National Rifle Association.

"For a hundred years, beginning in 1871, the NRA frustrated the various bureaucrats who sought to legislate restrictions on the constitutional guarantees of the Second Amendment to the Constitution...And what a debt we owe to the vigilance of the NRA offi-

sans. For when that nationwide registration order was made, most Americans understood its intent: to facilitate the seizure of all guns of all kinds and thereby render them defenseless.

"...In an age of atomic and intercontinental weapons, that hidden private firearm is the arsenal of ultimate victory, we all agree." - Ibid.

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"You must remember that we are constantly building in secret. Our chapters have weapons caches and...larger weapons - machine guns, anti-tank guns, and bazookas." - Robert DePugh, Minuteman leader, quoted by Mark Sherwin, The Extremists

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"Join the National Rifle Association..."

"Absolutely REFUSE to register or give up your arms - under ANY circumstances!

"Stock up on rifles, shotguns, pistols - all of STANDARD make; with LOTS OF STANDARD ammunition. Arm EVERY member of your family who can shoot a gun to protect his own life!

"...PREPARE yourself and your sons to fight in the streets - in the alleys - in the parks - in public buildings - around the water works - power plants - CITY HALL - TV and radio stations...while your wife and daughters protect their lives and your home with gasmasks, shotguns, rifles, and pistols.

"REMEMBER! The Communists CANNOT subdue an ARMED citizenry!" - Paul Revere Associated Yeomen, Inc., New Orleans, quoted, New York Times, 30 June 1968.

*

"WE URGE YOU TO WRITE AT LEAST FIVE LETTERS TO VARIOUS UNITED STATES SENATORS AND FIVE TO CONGRESSMEN OPPOSING ANY FURTHER GUN RESTRICTIONS OF ANY KIND. Do this upon receipt of this letter. Then immediately call five of your friends or associates and urge them to do likewise. HURRY!" - Minutemen, quoted Ibid.

*

"We have held this meeting to tell our elected officials that we have not surrendered, and we will never surrender. If another riot comes, we will protect our property. We will protect our homes, and we will fire!" - Breakthrough, Detroit, quoted Ibid. (Speech by Breakthrough leader Donald Lobsinger).

*

"The National States Rights Party believes that every white patriot should own and possess sufficient arms and extra large quantities of ammunition. That is necessary because of the red and black revolution that the Jews have unleashed against America. The purpose of Jewish legislation against the right to bear arms is to disarm all law-abiding patriotic citizens so that they will be unable to defend themselves against criminals and revolutionaries. We are exercising our Constitutional right to possess firearms and ammunition and say, "Let the Jews be damned." - Thunderbolt, quoted Ibid.

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"I have committed myself totally to defeating the Communist-Jew conspiracy which threatens our country - any means necessary shall be used. Please be advised that since 23 March 1968, I, Thomas Albert Tarrants III, have been underground and operating guerilla warfare. I have always believed in military action against the Communist enemy." - New York Times, 1 July 1968, from notebook found on KKK member arrested in Meridian, Mississippi as a suspect in six bombings of synagogues and homes of Negroes and Jews.

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"'You mean, the people are armed?' Prince Bentrak was incredulous.

"'Great Satan, aren't yours?' Prince Trask was equally surprised. 'Then your democracy's a farce, and the people are only free on sufferance. If their ballots aren't secured by arms, they're worthless.'" - H. Beam Piper, Space Viking

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"'So the right of armed intervention by the people when the government invaded or threatened their rights became an acknowledged part of our political system...We have no standing army, only the New Texas Rangers. And the legislature won't authorize any standing army, or appropriate funds to support one. Any member of the legislature who tried it would get...what Sam Saltkin got, eight years ago, when he proposed a law for the compulsory registration and licensing of firearms.'" - H. Beam Piper & John J. McGuire, A Planet for Texans

THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE MAILBOX

The letter column of LEFTOVERS continues to clean up the backlog of letters originally directed at KNOWABLE or POINTING VECTOR, as well as those aimed at the first four issues of this publication. Where known, the date of the letter is given. Comments by the editor are indicated by "double parentheses" ((like this)).

Following a usage borrowed from Ted Pauls' Kipple, quotations are used as interletterations. In this issue, all quotations are taken from the works of Thomas Babington Macaulay, First (and Only, since he was an confirmed bachelor) Lord Macaulay. Lord Macaulay (1800-1859) was "one of the first historians to ransack archives with the thoroughness now expected in that profession, and also one of the first historians to consider the details of the way of life of the general public to be as important as battles or court intrigues. Without sacrificing accuracy, he was a vigorous controversialist, and an effective publicist for the Whig viewpoint. Quotations from Macaulay are from his History of England from the Accession of James II unless otherwise indicated.

CREATH THORNE, 717 Hudson Hall, Rollins Group, Columbia, Mo. 65201 ((24 August 1966)): Thank you for the issue of KNOWABLE #10. I liked it a lot.

...I don't think you're right in your boycott of professional s-f magazines that carry a price greater than 50¢. It's only too obvious that prices of all goods are going up; you can hardly blame the publishers, for they are not isolated from our nation's economy.

The "Press and Print" "mimeograph" that Seth Johnson mentions is actually nothing but a hectograph according to Mike Randall who bought one before he gaffiated from fandom. Seth also mentions that it would be a boon to neo faneditors since it costs under twenty dollars. My Speed-O-Print Model L, a true mimeograph, cost \$17.95.

Harry Warner says, "If I didn't miss something important in your essay on weightlessness, I assume that the human body would react as well in a gravity-immune situation during multi-day orbital flights." There are a couple of errors here: there is no place in this universe where any body is immune from gravity; there are only places where the gravitational force is less evident than in others. The words "as well" indicate a comparison between two essentially dissimilar conditions: according to Professor Einstein's General Theory of Relativity, because of the very fact we cannot distinguish in any way between actual absence of gravity and a free-fall situation, as far as we are concerned, the two phenomenon are the one and same.

((No, not quite. The Equivalence Principle states that these two situations cannot be distinguished locally. An astronaut in an enclosed space capsule, and feeling himself "weightless", may not be able to tell whether he is in free fall, or too far away from any body to experience a gravitational field. But if he can make non-local observations he can at once distinguish between these situations. If he sees that he is moving around a near-by planet, he can conclude that he is in free fall about it.))

"That the sacerdotal order should encroach on the functions of the civil magistrate would, in our time, be a great evil. But that which in an age of good government is an evil may, in an age of grossly bad government, be a blessing. It is better that mankind should be governed by wise laws well administered, and by an enlightened public opinion, than by priestcraft: but it is better that men should be governed by priestcraft than by brute violence...A society sunk in ignorance, and ruled by mere physical force, has great reason to rejoice when a class, of which the influence is intellectual and moral, rises to ascendancy. Such a class will doubtless abuse its power: but mental power, even when abused, is still a nobler and better power than that which consists merely in corporeal strength...A system which, however deformed by superstition, introduced strong moral restraints into communities previously governed only by vigor of muscle and by audacity of spirit, a system which taught the fiercest and mightiest ruler that he was, like his meanest bondsman, a responsible being, might

have seemed to deserve a more respectful mention from philosophers and philologists."

ANDY ZERBE, 3154 Dupont St., Montgomery, Ala. 36106 ((1966)): This "letter is coming to you late, probably too late to make PV #26 if it has any merits warranting its inclusion. ((You don't have to apologize!)) Anyway, better late than never. In reference to your question to Dick Lupoff in DAGON #40 ((and repeated in discussion of the "candy-bar" incident in LETTOVERS #2)) I fail to see the politics of the question. It's certainly a moral question but, a political one? Morally, the answer would probably be quite debatable. However, if I were in Viet Nam ((sic)) and was trying to find an enemy stronghold I probably would use such a method to avoid losing a lot of men while hunting for it in the jungle. Over there the Viet Cong would be out to kill me by any means possible and I would be trying to prevent this if possible.

((The idea seems to be widespread that there is a "moral sphere" and an entirely separate "political sphere", and that means appropriate to one are irrelevant to the other. This notion has no justification whatsoever in any moral or religious system known to your editor.))

Mind telling me again just what checks the Supreme Court has on it? Can you name any federal judges who has ever been removed from office? Probably not because there have only been one or two of them so removed which shows how hard it is to do. Or put it another way, it shows that it isn't worth the effort. For a long period in our history when most of the people disagreed with a Supreme Court decision they simply ignored it. As Jackson said, John Marshall has made his decision. Now let him enforce it. This attitude is still with us today. If enough people disagree with a judge's interpretation of the law and the constitution instead of going to all the difficulty of getting him removed from office they'll simply ignore his decisions. If this happens often enough the court will be again reduced to the level of importance it descended to in Jackson's day and several other periods in our history.

After reading through POINTING VECTOR #25 four or five times I'm afraid that I have to agree with those people who say that you are convinced that you're right and that nothing will change this. This doesn't mean that I'm in agreement with them on everything and in disagreement with you. It just means that I think they're right in this particular case.

"I should very imperfectly execute the task which I have undertaken if I were merely to treat of battles and sieges, of the rise and fall of administrations, of intrigues in the palace, and of debates in the parliament. It will be my endeavour to relate the history of the people as well as the history of the government, to trace the progress of useful and ornamental arts, to describe the rise of religious sects and the changes of literary taste, to portray the manners of successive generations, and not to pass by with neglect even the revolutions which have taken place in dress, furniture, repasts, and public amusements. I shall cheerfully bear the reproach of having descended below the dignity of history, if I can succeed in placing before the English of the nineteenth century a true picture of the life of their ancestors."

HARRY WARNER, 423 Summit Ave., Hagerstown, Md/ 21740 ((18 June 1964)): KNOWABLE ((#7)) was enjoyed much more than my failure to express that reaction would indicate. But you shouldn't go around issuing three-color covers without revealing the way you did it. Your registration is closer to perfect than seems believable.

((That cover, which illustrated an incident in The Story and showed Sir Tinty the Furest drinking with a dragon, was drawn and printed by Perdita. Copies of the cover, without the logo, are still available for 25¢.))

The relativity article left me at the gate. The math is beyond my knowledge and I've never understood the physics involved well enough to try to comment coherently. There must be something completely erroneous in my understanding of the theory of relativity, for instance, because nobody ever bothers to explain the basic assumption that seems untenable to me, that there is some sort of stationary concept against which the

speed of light and the distance that light travels in a given span of time can be evaluated. I can understand the idea of the moving article acquiring increased mass as it approaches the speed of light and I think I comprehend the time alteration that would affect the individuals aboard the moving article so that a flashlight at one end of the object and pointed at the other end would send its beam across that distance at the appropriate velocity, but I'm blessed if I can understand how the beam could travel in this manner for those on board and at the normal velocity for some hypothetical observer watching the object whiz by from a relatively motionless platform. Maybe the answer lies in the same principle that Lewis Carroll attempted to illustrate with his question about how long it would take 100,000 men to build a wall 100 feet in length.

((Newton showed that rest is relative, and that an object at rest does not have an absolute velocity of zero. Einstein complemented this by showing that the velocity of light is absolute in a vacuum, with a value of 300,000 km/sec. Light has the same velocity in a vacuum for every observer, and is the only thing that does.))

That reminds me that there is something Carrollian about several passages in The Story. It also reminds me considerable of some of the fiction in the last issues of Analog that I read about a year ago.

Lack of real knowledge about technicalities handicaps me about another item in this issue, the one in which you try to prove that there are continents on this planet. ((?)) Going solely by instinct, I imagine that a collision of the proportions necessary to form continents of this size would have much more catastrophic effects on the planet than the creation of continents. Isn't it much more possible that the granite is in the continents because the granite was more amenable to getting shoved up when stresses were causing the surface of the earth to become uneven long ago? ((Then why is there no granite in the Pacific basin?)) The collision hypothesis also seems to me to call for the existence of more medium-sized land masses dotting the oceans of the world than we now have: at least a few islands the size of New Zealand in the Pacific and South Atlantic, for instance.

I'm very skeptical about this theory that ogre legends date back to the caveman tradition. We'd have to claim under this assumption that China had dinosaurs alive when civilization was beginning in Asia, to account for the dragons that form so much of that land's mythology. ((Oh no; the Yangtze River alligator will do quite nicely.)) Or I could claim with equal validity that the language shows influences from the days of the cave dwellers: that stalagmites and stalactites are faint echoes of the insects that bred on the cavemen and the type of garments worn on hot days by the cavewomen.

...I liked very much your "fiction about the assassination ((in POINTING VECTOR #20)) and I suspect that it's as close to a reconstruction of the real course of events in 1963/8 as anyone has yet come.

((Well, if the federal government ever lets James Garrison's case come to trial in New Orleans, we all may be in for a few surprises.))

None of the good old days before approximately the turn of the century has any appeal to me. I can't bring myself to long to live in a time when there were no anesthetics and when the doctor brought along leeches. I think that I might like to spend a few years in the early 19th century in Europe, under the conditions that I could get back to the present whenever health dictated it and that I could apply my knowledge of what happened in that century to choose carefully my places of residence, in addition to using 20th century customs to avoid cholera and such. It is still quite possible to find the slow pace and simple life of the more distant past in 1964 without going off the North American continent. But I don't think that the inconveniences would compensate for the pleasures involved. I find it easier to force myself into behavior patterns that keep me out of the worst aspects of today's way of living. Something happened yesterday that symbolizes for me the fact that I'm having some success. I've been letting pigeons nest around this house. The folks next door claimed that the odor was objectionable. I don't notice any odor and I refuse to waste my time and energy fighting pigeons. I told them that they'd have to get rid of the pigeons if they didn't like them. They paid good money to brave men with tall ladders to close up nesting places on my house. I think they're crazy and I imagine that I've stayed off high blood pressure for myself by at least a few more days.

...I also feel that editorial remarks in a letter column should go at the end of

each letter. I know that in a conversation someone's remarks ~~got countered immediately~~, but in the conversation the interruption is commented on, at once, too. In a letter column, the remarks always give the editor the last word, and sometimes they weaken the editor's case, because the best way to answer an argument only rarely consists of taking up each statement that your opponent makes and replying to it in the same order.

"Everywhere there is a class of men who cling with fondness to whatever is ancient, and who, even when convinced by overpowering reasons that innovation would be beneficial, consent to it with many misgivings and forebodings. We find also everywhere another class of men sanguine in hope, bold in speculation, always pressing forward, quick to discern the imperfections of whatever exists, disposed to think lightly of the risks and inconveniences which attend improvements, and disposed to give change credit for being an improvement."

JAMES WRIGHT, presently in hiding from government slave-catchers ((1 June 1966)): Perdita's cover ((on KNOWNABLE #10)) was excellent as usual. I only wish more of her art could find distribution. I rather enjoy it.

I had a rather difficult time trying to ascertain whether you were trying to be funny or serious in your article on Leiber. Am I just being stuffy, or imagining things?

I don't really feel like saying too much on KNOWNABLE, although I enjoyed reading it. However, I do want to correct you in your discussion of the so-called "exclusion" of my person (me?) from the Cult. You attribute this to the "exclusionists" in an attempt to label them all the more strongly. However, you have left out a number of facts I find pertinent. Firstly, Bill Donaho never opposed my membership in the Cult. In fact, he was the "leader" of the petition to re-instate me after Tapscott had thrown me out. ((Mirabile dictu!)) Secondly, some of the original people opposed to my membership retracted their views later. Those who come to mind are F. M. Busby and George Scithers. Thirdly, Dick Eney never opposed my membership and advised in an f/r support for my reinstatement. That takes care of the major "exclusionists" in the Cult. As you know (but as your readers might not) the whole mess came about when Scithers over-reacted to a statement of mine in FR 169. Busby, Alva Rogers, and Tapscott followed with statements censuring me. Finally, Tapscott threw me out of the Cult on the grounds that I was a "menace". (("He again! Always that man! I never hear of a single ill-timed, tactless blunder but what he is at the bottom of it!" - Pierre Louys, The Adventures of King Pausole.)) Donaho followed with a re-instatement petition, co-signed by you and Fred Lerner, and when the vote was taken, I was re-instated. Busby had withdrawn his opposition to me before this, and stated that he would have voted for me if he had a vote (he was on the Active Waiting List). A while later Scithers pretty much apologized. The only Cultists who still feel I'm a "menace" have have said so at one time or another in print are Tapscott and Rogers. You try to relate the incident, which took place within the Cult, as another attempt on the part of the "exclusionists" to purge fandom. This is untrue. Although I must admit the main people conducting the expulsion and agreeing with it were "exclusionists", equal numbers of these "exclusionists" were on my "side". These were primarily Donaho, Eney, and Busby. And of course, Scithers later apologized. Anyway, I hope that clears it up.

((Thanks. I stand corrected.))

Enclosed is my ballot of the 11-Foot Poll...Special award to you for conducting the most useless and least-cared about poll in fandom.

"An ingenious projector, named Edward Heming, obtained letters patent conveying to him, for a term of years, the exclusive right of lighting up London. He undertook, for a moderate consideration, to place a light before every tenth door, on moonless nights, from Michaelmas to Lady Day, and from six to twelve of the clock...His scheme was enthusiastically applauded, and furiously attacked...There were fools in that age who opposed the introduction of what was called the new light as strenuously as fools in our age have opposed the introduction of vaccination and railroads, as strenuously as the

fools of an age anterior to the dawn of history doubtless opposed the introduction of the plough and of alphabetical writing."

ROY TACKETT, 915 Green Valley Road NW, Albuquerque, N. M. 87107 ((5 June 1966)): I found your article "Along Came a Spider" ((in KNOWABLE #10)) to be of interest. I seem to have missed the Change War series. Now I'll have to trace it down for it sounds worth reading. I can't help but wonder, though, how you can consider such an elitist organization as Soviet Communism as Universalist.

((Because, like Christianity but unlike various racist doctrines, Communism seeks to bring every human being into its fold. And in principle - again like Christianity - national or class origin is no bar to advancement.))

"The Story". Well, John, it's like this: Any story which has had only 22 chapters written in 12 years does seem to be moving just a bit slow.

((I agree with you. Interest in this serialized round-robin story, which ran in KNOWABLE, seems so small that I see no reason to continue it in LEFTOVERS.))

The quote from Prof. Bowen should be nailed on the front door of every school in the country.

Volks-Soziologie by Marcello Truzzi (who he?) provided some chuckles. Sociology has the same standing as a science as Dianetics.

No comment on the Vacuole Theory of C. O. Ingemells. I don't know what he is talking about. I suspect he doesn't either.

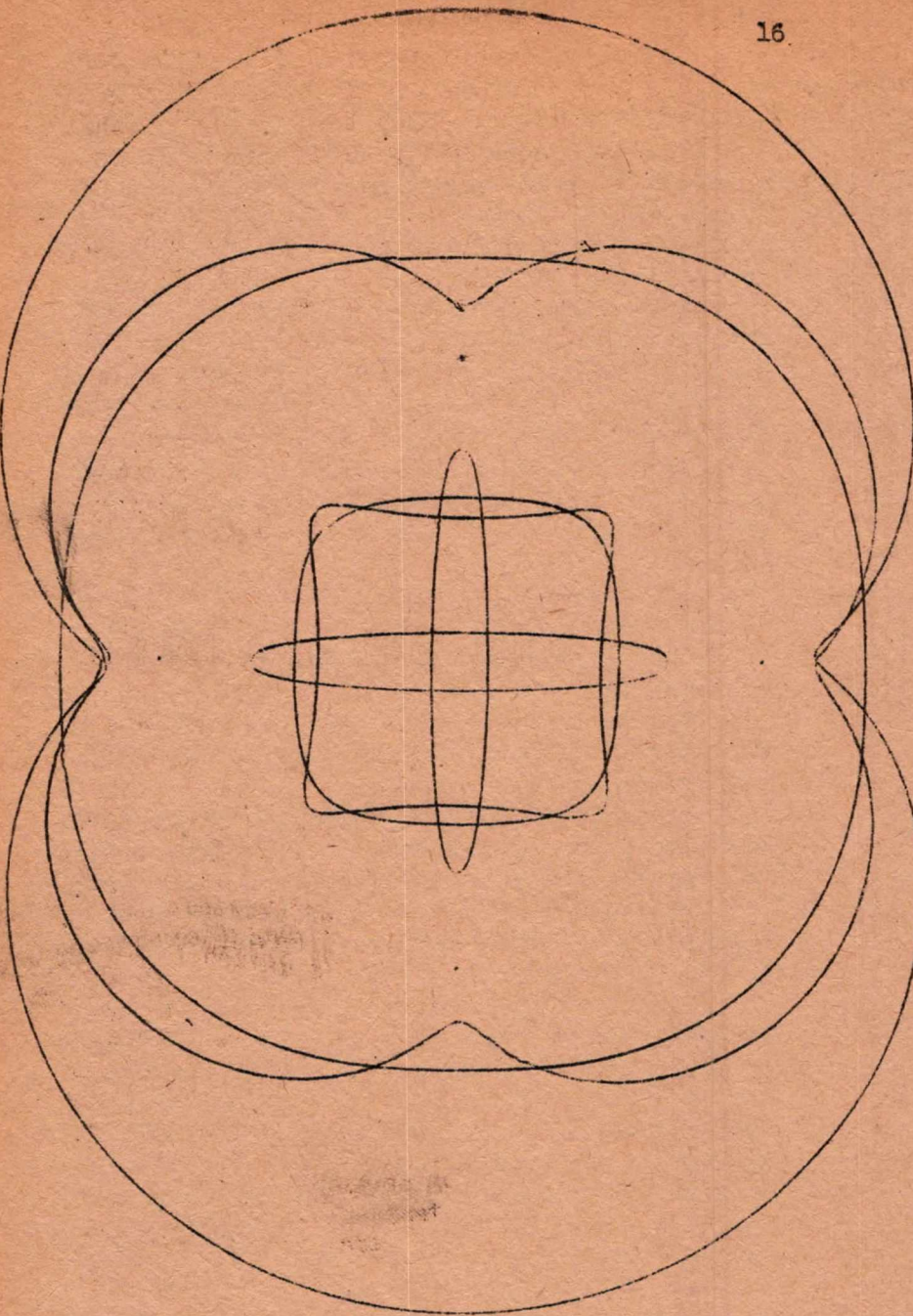
I think I'll have to get myself on the waiting list for the Cult - if there is such a thing. ((By the time you get this, there may not be.)) It sounds like an interesting organization. The comments about political inuendoes re James Wright causes me to prick up my ears. I was chairman of the NSF Directorate last year when his letter in Tightbeam caused such a fuss. I was beset with demands that we "do something" about him. I don't

know anything about his so-called political radicalism but I do know he's a damned fool. But he has lots of company there.

Um, while still with your editorial - I note an "X" after my name on the mailing label. Does this mean you consider me a - shuffler - exclusionist? Egad! If so, state your grounds. If not, what the hell is the X for? Mind you I have no objections to being categorized with Speer, Eney, Busby, Donaho, Pelz, and Scithers. That's a fine company of fen.

((Yes, and with the exception of Donaho you've just about called the roll of the major Hawks in fandom, to the best of my knowledge. This is a curious coincidence, though I don't know what it particularly signifies. As for the "X" on the label, it is a personal code I use for copies which go in exchange for the addressee's own fanzine. I have since changed the code for "T" for "trade", for just this ambiguity you have pointed out. As for "X marks the exclusionist", I feel this is no longer necessary since the people who excluded Breen from the 1964 WorldCon have backed down off their stand. Most of them came to the 1967 WorldCon in New York to push their bid for the 1968 Con, and carefully had to make clear that there would be no new Exclusion Act this year.))

((20 January 1968)) I am enclosing the Presidential preference poll but not the 11-Foot Poll which I don't really feel qualified to answer. Unofficial nominations are



"Riders of the Purple Wage" by Farmer for worst novelette, "The Prowler in the City" by Ellison for worst short story, John Brunner for worst writer - though this is arguable - and Fantasy and Science Fiction for worst magazine. It is almost impossible to keep up with all the stf being published these days and I no longer make the attempt. The prozines are still in the doldrums but there is a veritable hurricane of paperbacks.

As to the Presidential poll - since you ask for preferences in the party in which one is registered or generally supports I made my choice as a Democrat. I cannot see four more years of Lyndon Johnson although a letterhack to the local newspaper pointed out that considering the financial mess he has gotten the country into he deserves to be re-elected - no one else should be stuck with it. I feel, however, that Mr. Johnson is hung up on the war in Viet Nam (go ahead and "sic" that - I could have said "Indo-China"), a fictitious country, and consequently all other programs will continue to suffer. As I have mentioned elsewhere, it is not the war I object to - it is the cost of the war. Eugene McCarthy, or possible MacCarthy -

who can tell among Irishmen? - doesn't merit consideration since he has no chance. My preference is Edward Kennedy and I think the Clan Kennedy (some more Irish) are making a mistake by insisting on primogeniture and pushing Robert. I think Edward fills the image of John much better than does Robert (whoever heard of a King Robert?) ((the Scots, three times)) and is of more stable character than his older brother. I would vote for Teddy without hesitation but it would take much deliberation to put me behind Bobby. "He has a lean and hungry look - such men are dangerous..." Seriously, I think that Teddy Kennedy is the better of the two. His senatorial record, as well as his record of investigative jaunts, mark him as a more serious and mature man than Bobby. Teddy impresses me...Bobby does not.

As to the straw votes for President - Wallace is out of the question. George has nothing at all in common with Henry. ((You and I are getting old, Roy. I can remember when Wallace was the good guy, and McCarthy was the bad guy.)) I cannot consider Dr. Spock as a serious candidate (although I might consider Mr. Spock - ears and all). Dr. Spock's pronouncements and actions - as reported in the press and observed on the telly - tell me that while he may be a baby doctor he is, personally, far over on the opposite end. Babies are infantile. Spock is - yes.

My one regret is that Give 'Em Hell Larry is too old to run. Him, I would vote for.

I am watching the doings of the Republicans with much interest. I will vote for the candidate of the Grand Old Party if he is halfway acceptable. If not, I will probably vote "No." My memory, good John, is exceedingly long. They tell me that Richard Nixon is the leading GOP candidate at the moment but I wouldn't vote for Nixon if he was the only man on the ballot. I remember when Mr. Nixon first ran for Congress. I don't think he has changed. My opinion of him hasn't.

((Nor has mine. I was living in his district when he first ran for office, and I remember what went on. His chief contention was that his opponent was backed by the CIO, and that the CIO was controlled by Communists. Neither was true.))

(Couldn't Nixon be considered a peace candidate -- he's a Quaker.)

Romney? Nah. He isn't even eligible. Besides he strikes me as being somewhat hysterical and that we don't need.

Reagan? A Presidential Poll or the Nielsons???

Rockefeller? Hmmm. No, I don't think so. Too much of the smell of the Eastern Establishment.

((True. But there are parts of this country where, when people say "New Left", they mean our Governor or our late Senator.))

Goldwater? If I resided in Arizona I'd vote for him for Senator.

Stassen? Who dat?

The Generals? Not to be discounted as candidates but - no, thank you.

Percy? A possibility. I might vote for Percy but he, apparently, cannot manage his own personal financial affairs - how could he manage those of the country? (Please, no remarks about Lyndon.) ((There is talk of Percy being Nixon's running mate. If he is having trouble with his financial affairs, he'd be the perfect choice. Remember '52?))

I still think the GOP has much potential but they are going to have to dip into the second line - younger - possibilities rather than going with the same tired faces.

Same applies to the Democrats. Go with the young ones. The rest are out of touch with today.

The candidate I'd really vote for is the one who would promise to abolish 9/10 of the Executive Department.

Or more.

LEFTOVERS #2. "When Did You Last See Your Father?" What can you expect of "citizen soldiers"? They lack a sense of honor. Wars should be fought by professionals.

((Professional what?))

Editorial remarks. I wouldn't even consider the Armchair Critics Guild. Any group that discriminates against science fiction is not worth considering.

I got most of the references of Want Odds. Amusing.

"The Face of the Enemy". It has been this way for a million years, Arnold. Don't worry about it.

"The Skunk and I". Delightful.

Liked the comments on Churchill. As food for thought, it was Sir Winston who said, in answer to a question, that there would always be war so long as the men called on to be common soldiers continued to serve. If they ever get tired of it there will be no more war. The great common man has no one to blame but himself.

((Yes, and now we're seeing him begin to say "Stop!" at last.))

By the way, John, if you, as you state on page 2, give your support to the efforts of the Vietnam Front of National Liberation to clear from their country the candy bar warriors - when do you leave to join one of the units on active duty?

Ancient Chinese saying: put your money where your mouth is, baby.

((I have. For other readers who wish to do likewise, one may contribute medical supplies to the people of Vietnam by sending money to the Medical Aid Committee for Vietnam, 36 Wellington St., London N. C. 2, England. Personal checks in dollar amounts can be cashed by the committee, which states "Our aid goes where the bombs are falling, to the National Liberation Front areas of South Vietnam and to North Vietnam.))

Most of the letters of comment in Things That Go Bump...are more than two years old or thereabouts which means they are difficult to comment on. People's opinion can change in two years and what they said in 1966 doesn't necessarily hold true in 1968.

However, in the event John Smythe is still of an opinion - what possible good would it do to draft (ugh!) protestors and draft card burners and send them to the front?

They would be of no help to the war effort, indeed, would be a hindrance -- they'd be in the way, man. You don't burden fighting men with clowns like this and expect to get anything accomplished.

"But once his country calls upon him to serve THEN the citizen is obligated to serve his country, IRRESPECTIVE OF HIS PERSONAL BELIEFS.."

"Oh, that's the Greek branch of the family!"

Bovine manure, Mr. Smythe. (If this weren't a family magazine I'd say "Bullshit".) Do you swallow that "ask not what your country can do for you but rather what you can do for your country" crap? The individual, Mr. Smythe, owes the state nothing. The state owes him. If the state wants the support of the individual then it must convince the individual that the cause is deserving of his support. Heritage, Mr. Smythe? Mine is the Declaration of Independence and I'm one of the most independent people you'll ever run across. A fine document, that. I suggest you read it.

Ah, well, there is more, but I won't get bogged down in it. You know my feelings, John. I may not necessarily support the war - any war - but I do support the warrior.

You've never fired a gun in your life? Tsk. In view of current events that makes it rough, no?

Heinlein, etc. I just finished re-reading Glory Road, John. It is a delight. Most adventure yarns stop once the hero has slain the dragon and won the princess. Heinlein shows what happens afterwards. The princess goes on being a princess but the hero is out of a job. Excellent insight into the interior of the hero.

((Heinlein didn't say a thing on this topic in Glory Road that James Branch Cabell didn't say, long ago and much better, in The High Place..))

No, John, you miss the point: Oscar ((the hero of Glory Road)) didn't slug the guy for criticizing Indo-China policy, but for insulting him as a warrior. Oscar didn't seem especially enthused about fighting in South-East Asia himself. The critic asked for it. If you remember, I quoted an old Mexican proverb about this in my letter of tworthree years ago: You mess with the bull, you get the horn. The bull (Oscar) may not be particularly happy about the bull fight but don't cast aspersions at him.

I know George Scithers only as the publisher of an excellent sword and sorcery fanzine. I am familiar with the Cult only to the extent of knowing that the organization exists. You and Scithers seem to have a difference of opinion on some point of other. He says "Neither truth nor moral courage are in you," but offers no explanation. You say "LEFTOVERS readers are entitled to information on Scithers enabling them to determine his honesty and moral courage" but offer none. If you are going to carry on private spats in public you two should fill in the background.

((Didn't I say he was a career officer in the army? That's the information I meant. As for background, see James Wright's letter published herein..))

The enclosure from the Guardian - I care not a whit for power structures, white or black. Both have the same end - domination of the individual for the benefit of those in power. (I am amused by the Guardian's question: "Are 'others' dropping napalm bombs on us and setting torch to our homes?" To which I can answer, no, but not because they wouldn't like to - they just don't dare...) National Liberation, eh? That particular catch-phrase has come to mean let's swap what you've got now for something just as bad - if not worse. National Liberation is gobbledegook for Communist (or Marxist-Leninist, if you will) take over and there sure as hell is no improvement in that. We may be living in a nightmare of gigantic proportions but it is sweet dreams compared to what the people in Communist countries have. ((There has not been a political assassination in the Soviet Union in over thirty years.)) Is there a National Liberation struggle underway in the USA? If so, I hope the strugglers stay out of my neighborhood; I can't see that I am in need of any liberation and should the need arise I'll pitch in on my own.

(("Ask not what your country is doing to you, but rather what you can do to your country."))

"Sheesh, look how that guy is hung!"

"A politician driven into banishment by a hostile faction generally sees the society which he was quitted through a false medium. Every object is distorted and discoloured by his regrets, his longings, and his resentments. Every little discontent appears to him to portend a revolution. Every riot is a rebellion. He cannot be convinced that his country does not pine for him as much as he pines for his country. He imagines that all his old associates, who still dwell at home and enjoy their estates, are tormented by the same feelings which make life a burden to himself. The longer his expatriation, the greater does this hallucination become. The lapse of time, which cools the ardour of the friends whom he has left behind, inflames his. Every month his impatience to revisit his native land increases; and every month his native land remembers and misses him less. This delusion becomes almost a madness when many exiles who suffer in the same cause hord together on a foreign shore. Their chief employment is to talk of what they once were, and of what they may yet be, to goad each other into animosity against the common enemy, to feed each other with extravagant hopes of victory and revenge. Thus they become ripe for enterprises which would at once be pronounced hopeless by any man whose passions had not deprived him of the power of calculating chances."

LLOYD D. HULL, 2532 9th St., Great Bend, Kans. 67530 ((14 Nov. 1966)): I notice that you're using a technique which unfortunately has been neglected by most liberals in the past. You're more of a "militant liberal" type than anything else. It's about time more liberals started using this type of road. Maybe it'll help slightly. Better. Cause if it doesn't this country is going to be in sad shape, as if it isn't already.

You're using one technique which I don't altogether agree with however. I don't see why you don't allow conservatives to give their opinions. It's been my experience with the different debates and such that I've had with conservatives...that the more you allow them to spill out their thoughts the deeper they get into complete stupidity. I've found that it's easier just to let them go on with their idiotic ideas, and any objective person can quite easily see the fallacies in their different opinions. Anyway to me a liberal is a person who can see two sides of every opinion, thought, or idea and then decide which path is the best for his own basic desires, moral conscience, etc. It's certainly the John Kennedy liberalism that I have founded my life on, and will when I go on to college next fall, to study for what I hope will eventually be a doctorate in political science. For instance, I am very strongly in favour of the Viet Nam ((sic)) War. Now this opinion of mine has not come because I am a liberal, neither has it come because I am a Democrat. It has become because I am an American. No other reason. This is my own singular opinion. I feel everyone has a basic right to believe in what he wishes. Because you are entirely against the Viet Nam War does not mean that you are wrong in your opinion. It does however mean that one of us has to be wrong, and although I don't feel that I am, I do not exclude the possibility of it. I must therefore leave it up to you or someone else of the same opinion to show me the error of my ways, and until you have successfully done that I cannot aid or support those people or organizations that believe thusly, any more than I can aid or support those fools who would love to grind North Viet Nam into a couple of hundred mile beefsteaks.

...What do you think of the election? Probably's the end of the New Frontier and Great Society, with the great new number of conservative Republicans...Maybe we'll get something better in 1972, when people like John Lindsay, Chuck Percy, Robert Kennedy, Teddy Kennedy, and all are running for President in their respective parties.

((If any of them are permitted to survive till then.))

"In truth we are under a deception similar to that which misleads the traveller in the Arabian desert. Beneath the caravan all is dry and bare: but far in advance, and far in the rear, is the semblance of refreshing waters...A similar illusion seems to haunt nations through every stage of the long progress from poverty and barbarism to the highest degrees of opulence and civilisation. But, if we resolutely chase the mirage

back and, we shall find it recede before us into the regions of fabulous antiquity. It is now the fashion to place the golden age of England in times when noblemen were destitute of comforts the want of which would be intolerable to a modern footman, when farmers and shopkeepers breakfasted on loaves the very sight of which would raise a riot in a modern workhouse, when men died faster in the purest country air than they now die in the most pestilential lanes of our towns, and when men died faster in the lanes of our towns than they now die on the coast of Guiana. We too shall, in our turn, be outstripped, and in our turn be envied. It may well be, in the twentieth century...that labouring men may be as little used to dine without meat as they now are to eat rye bread; that sanitary police and medical discoveries may have added several more years to the average length of human life; that numerous comforts and luxuries which are now unknown, or confined to a few, may be within the reach of every diligent and thrifty working man. And yet it may then be the mode to assert that the increase of wealth and the progress of science have benefited the few at the expense of the many, and to talk of the reign of Queen Victoria as the time when England was truly merry England, when all classes were bound together by brotherly sympathy, when the rich did not grind the faces of the poor, and when the poor did not envy the splendour of the rich."

AL SCOTT, 2506 Shenandoah Ave., Charlotte, N. C. 28205 ((quite some time ago)):
KNO TABLE #8: I'd like to know exactly what the limits are of "acquired characteristics" as you use the term in "inheritance of acquired characteristics". I remember reading in Science and Math Weekly that experiments with planaria had shown the differentiation between acquired and inherited or genetic characteristics was not as clear as was once thought.

It seems they trained a planaria in a Pavlovian manner to respond a certain way to light. Then they cut the planaria in half and the two halves, after regenerating, both showed the same specific reaction with light. If I remember correctly, this continued to be "inherited", though growing in direct proportion less positive, even unto the third and fourth generations.

This may be explicable through the fact that the reproduction here is not sexual, but I think it's interesting nonetheless, and may be significant.

((And some of these trained planaria have been chopped up and fed to untrained specimens, which then began to exhibit something of the same reactions. Some interesting findings relating to non-genetic heredity are being reported these days.))

KNO TABLE #7 - "Splash" was really interesting. Funny, too, since usually science articles I start and soon give up from boredom. You write good, lucid prose (I mean it!)

Robert A. W. Lowndes' Letter: If Lon Atkins was defending Glory Road, then it is likely that I would have agreed with what he wrote - since our stf tastes are usually a lot alike. And you can add me to the "I Don't Care, I Liked Glory Road Society" roster. I just found it great fun to read. After all, wasn't it only really a satire on sword and sorcery stories anyway?

((A pastiche, I'd say, rather than a satire.))

"In perseverance, in selfcommand, in forethought, in all the virtues which conduce to success in life, the Scots have never been surpassed. The Irish, on the other hand, were distinguished by qualities which tend to make men interesting rather than prosperous."

NORMAN CODNER, 1810 Cortelyou Rd., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226 ((27 Apr. 1968)): Concerning Johnson's stand on not running again I'm very sorry. He hasn't been our most popular president, but I think he has been trying to do his best in a very difficult job. He makes mistakes, of course, but everyone does including presidents. His stand on not running again may heal the breach in the Democratic Party especially if Humphrey gets the nomination.

As for Vietnam things seem to be bogged down on the conference site. Will it be a repetition of the Korean thing? Will the Communists want peace on their terms alone?

Other countries besides just the U. S. and North Vietnam are included in the discussions. Will trouble start up again in Korea and possibly Laos and Thailand? If the Communists get their way as far as terms go in South Vietnam why not start again somewhere else in Asia. The American people are heartily sick of sending men to fight and die throughout the world (Asia especially), but what other course is there? Is there a middle way between fighting and giving in to the Communists?

((This argument presumes that there exists a Sinister Monolithic International Communist Conspiracy, henceforth "SMICC", which with limitless energy and resources is out to conquer the world. The reader who knows his history will recognize the SMICC as the latest manifestation of the "conspiracy theory of history", the notion that a malevolent plot is out to take over. At various times in the past this conspiratorial villainy has been attributed to Jews, Catholics, Freemasons, Jacobins, and "Perfidious Albion". Currently the Communists are a popular target for these paranoid accusations, but the public is beginning to see through this fraud, and we may wonder what group will next be chosen as the villain. Perhaps Heinlein, with Farnham's Freehold, has invented a "Sinister International Muslim Conspiracy" which will be the next such bogeyman. Anyone who reads the 8th Sura of the Koran can find as much "evidence" for such a conspiracy as anti-Communists purport to find in the Communist Manifesto.)

Q Q O

"I think she's still a virgin."

As for Martin Luther King's assassination I presume anyone other than a dyed in the wool bigot was horrified. I was even more horrified at the violent Negro reaction. As a Newsweek commentator said it was a fitting memorial to King's death that his principles were so widely and wildly disregarded. I suppose that the Negroes' use of the carrot and stick technique will get them advantages in the short run, but what about the backlash. Negroes burn their own communities ((Do they own the buildings?)) but don't dare venture into white communities since they know full well they would be shot down by police and residents. They burn the buildings they live in and loot and burn the shops they buy in. Granted that the Negroes who are doing these things are in the minority, but these actions concern all who live in the community. How many Negro businessmen are there to take up the businesses? Where is the capital to come from to build up these businesses, and the training of such businessmen can't be done overnight, crash program or no.

Besides, the whites weren't the only ones to suffer. Well-to-do Negroes also had property destroyed so it wasn't just a racial, but an economic riot too.

...I see you want to bar conservatives from your magazine. Since it's your magazine I suppose you can do what you want with it, but feel you should allow more than just your own viewpoint in interests of fairness. I don't recall the viewpoints of the people you have barred, but feel they should be allowed to express own opinions in letter columns if available. Even the New York Post has Buckley's column as a balance to all their liberal sentiments.

((And a good thing, too. Post readers know that Buckley's a bloodthirsty idiot. But if he weren't in the Post he'd be in the Daily News, and News readers, not knowing any better, would believe what he says.

((I see no reason why conservatives can't be admitted to political dialog in this country, including the pages of LEFTOVERS, as soon as they stop killing people.))

...In a book I have about the Steppe peoples called The Royal Hordes on page 8 Stuart Piggott mentions your name and a comment you had made about the Scythians. I never expected to come on your name in print in a book.

((There are two prominent John Boardmans whose names and doings are from time to time called to my attention. One is a British art historian, who is probably the authority cited by Piggott. The other is the Auxiliary Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn, and to all intents runs it since old Bishop McEntegart has one foot in the grave. Prior to his elevation to the bishopric he was parish priest of this neighborhood. The worthy bishop presents a genealogical problem, since all the Boardmans I ever heard of were fiercely low-church Protestants or Puritans.

((Incidentally, I commend Piggott's two-volume history of Palestine under the Herod dynasty to LEFTOVERS' readers; it is very well-written and informative.))

"Such was the origin of that debt which has since become the greatest prodigy that ever perplexed the sagacity and confounded the pride of statesmen and philosophers. At every stage in the growth of that debt the nation has set up the same cry of anguish and despair. At every stage in the growth of that debt it has been seriously asserted by wise men that bankruptcy and ruin were at hand. Yet still the debt went on growing; and still bankruptcy and ruin were as remote as ever...It can hardly be doubted that there must have been some great fallacy in the notions of those who uttered and of those who believed that long succession of confident predictions, so signally falsified by a long succession of indisputable facts...The prophets of evil were under a double delusion. They erroneously imagined that there was an exact analogy between the case of an individual who is in debt to another individual and the case of a society which is in debt to a part of itself; and this analogy led them into endless mistakes about the effect of the system of funding. They were under an error not less serious touching the resources of the country. They made no allowance for the effect produced by the incessant progress of every experimental science, and by the incessant efforts of every man to get on in life. They saw that the debt grew; and they forgot that other things grew as well as the debt."

JAN M. SLAVIN, P. O. Box 192, Old Chelsea Station, New York, N. Y. 10011 ((22 April 1968)): I read in the latest LEFTOVERS that you will not publish any conservative material. Other sources confirm this standard of yours, such as being told you were kicked out of the Cult for not publishing conservative stuff. It is refreshing to know someone who is a tried and true radical, and yet is a sensible, experienced person, not a hot-headed (or hop-headed) young twerp. It is encouraging to know someone who can remain, I think, flexible.

But are you?

What do you mean by conservative? Do you mean right-wing? Do you mean hawk? Do you mean racist? If these comprise your definition of conservative, I'm all for banning them.

((They do, by the definition of the conservatives themselves. See the conservative self-definitions cited in LEFTOVERS #4.))

However -

Conservative - comes from, I would think, to conserve - natural resources, money, time, effort - perhaps the word has become twisted through improper use - and because of semantical differences, the opposite meaning seems to be in use here. A hawk believes in spending money, and worse, human lives on what is considered a waste, a hawk is a radical in the wrong direction - x², so to speak - same thing for a racist - segregation is expensive, and putting down useful people is a waste of precious human lives. And what a rightist believes in never even existed, and thus he chases after daydreams - they conserve nothing - and waste much.

How about someone who wants to conserve money, like me; I think lots of money is wasted by the government - and I've lived in Washington and seen it. But I don't want less money given for, say, education or health programs, etc. I'm not really a conservative. But a conservative is NOT NECESSARILY a reactionary. Or is he?

Why don't you publish a glossary of some sort. I'm all for communication, but words can become a stumbling block instead of a stepping stone when improperly or carelessly used.

"It has long been usual to represent the imagination under the figure of a wing, and to call the successful exertions of the imagination flights. One poet is the eagle: another is the swan: a third modestly compares himself to the bee. But none of these types would have suited Montague. His genius may be compared to that pinion which, though it is too weak to lift the ostrich into the air, enables her, while she remains on the earth, to outrun hound, horse, and dromedary. If the man who possesses this kind of genius attempts to ascend the heaven of invention, his awkward and unsuccessful efforts expose him to derision. But if he will be content to stay in the terrestrial region of business, he will find that the faculties which would not enable him

to soar into a higher sphere will enable him to distance all his competitors in the lower."

HARRY WARNER ((29 January 1968)): I enjoyed reading about Judith Glattstein's pet. When I lived on the edge of Hagerstown, the whiff of skunk on a warm summer night had a certain amount of poetry to my nose. I never have minded the odor when it's present in the small quantity emanated by the undisturbed, happy skunk, and I rather miss it on Summit Avenue where I've never smelled it, even though I'm only a block from a large park filled with other kinds of small creatures...It will be some weeks before I complete the task of sorting out mentally the ethics of depriving the skunk of his distinctive attribute. Tentatively I think it is wrong. But I can't quite figure out how to go about housebreaking a pet skunk that has not first been the subject of this minor surgery.

Lt. Benjamin Franklin Pirkerton has wasted some perfectly good money on that odd-vertisement. He must have been thinking about the home of a girl in some other port. Because he quite plainly explained one day to Sharpless that the contract contains an escape clause which he can exercise any month he pleases. Besides, unless my Italian is shakier than it used to be, he bought the house for 999 years, instead of leasing it for that period.

You should know by now my reason for not filling out the latest Eleven-Foot Poll. I started to put checkmarks on the presidential preference poll, but I'm afraid that you won't find that in this envelope, either, for different reasons. I hadn't gone very far before I began to understand how Wes Westrum felt last summer when he looked down the Mets' bench and tried to find a pinchhitter. I don't "generally support" either party and I can find nobody among these candidates for either party who justifies the trouble it would take me to make checkmarks. Maybe by November I'll decide that one candidate is so outstandingly impossible that I'll exercise my franchise. But I just don't have the heart to try to sort out so many evils in any particular order of extremity at this time.

I am not at all happy about the notion of Sunday school indoctrination of children in one particular form of religion, whether it's Ethical Culture or Primitive Baptist. No matter what the parents' faith, the kids are so apt to seize upon their religion as another thing against which to let off revolt steam. If the children are essentially similar to the parents, the religion of the parents may very well be the one that would best satisfy the kids, once they're old enough to get over the process of revolting against parental attributes. Why can't the Sunday school teach, instead of dogma, the simple truth: a few basic facts about the main religious beliefs in the United States, the ability of the growing child to make his own decision later in life, whether he wants to believe in a deity, and the importance of seeing the practicability of some things religion teaches even if there is no god. I think that kids can be made to understand these concepts, once they're old enough to go to school.

((I am reminded of Voltaire's cynical observation, "I should like my lawyer, my tailor, and my wife to believe in God."))

Fred Phillips doesn't quote enough of Lovecraft's words for me to be sure. But it sounds as if HPL might have meant that the elder gods and ancient ones originated millions of eons ago, then traveled forward in time to the early history of this earth.

I knew it would happen if I waited long enough: someone else who enjoyed Podkayne of Mars was sure to turn up. But it was a long wait, to be sure. The early origin of Stranger in a Strange Land's beginning was news to me. This causes me to feel even more certain about my conjecture regarding Farnham's Freehold: That this novel also started out to be something completely different from what resulted. In this case I believe, however, that Heinlein tried to write a mundane novel which would expound his enthusiasm for civil defense, then turned it into a science fiction story when he found the original version badly written or unsaleable.

((Tom Perry very succinctly characterized Farnham's Freehold as a book-length Goldwater pamphlet.))

Admiration for Winston Churchill is something I could never achieve. I suppose that he was necessary and fulfilled his needed function in splendid fashion. But I'm

so I'm not bothered by the thought that there should be a necessity for such a figure in a civilized world that I can't find room for any other emotion, when I run across his name.

Incidentally, I've just discovered that I'm still required to carry my draft card. This is the first thing that has made me feel young in a long while, and I wish it could have been some more pleasant sort of discovery. I missed by about four months the cutoff date.

"In the brilliant crowd which surrounded the French Augustus appeared the French Virgil, the graceful, the tender, the melodious Racine. He had, in conformity with the prevailing fashion, become devout, had given up writing for the theatre; and, having determined to apply himself vigorously to the discharge of the duties which belonged to him as historiographer of France, he now came to see the great events which it was his office to record. In the neighbourhood of Mons, Lewis entertained the ladies with the most magnificent review that had ever been seen in modern Europe. A hundred and twenty thousand of the finest troops in the world were drawn up in a line eight miles long. It may be doubted whether such an army had ever been brought together under the Roman eagles. The show began early in the morning, and was not over when the long summer day closed. Racine left the ground, astonished, deafened, dazzled, and tired to death. In a private letter he ventured to give utterance to an amiable wish which he probably took good care not to whisper in the courtly circle: 'Would to heaven that all these poor fellows were in their cottages again with their wives and their little ones!'"

DWAIN KAISER, 1397 N. 2nd Ave., Upland, Calif. 91786 ((11 Sept. 1965)): I can understand your viewpoint on the labeling of blood by race. This is wrong, and I agree with you on that, and since this is wrong you will punish the wrongdoers. That means you will not be giving money to the Red Cross. Of course just because this action might cause the Red Cross to be unable to give blood to a Negro who's bleeding to death in the South doesn't mean anything, at least you are happy in the fact that you are punishing the Red Cross.

I know people living out here who feel the same way. They hate the South, and all they think the South stands for, they'd love to be able to drop H-bombs on all the Southern states. Just because they'd kill all the Negroes in the South doesn't matter, because they are happy to be doing their bit to aid civil rights, and to hurt the South. (Sometimes, after talking to these people, and listening to them run down the South, and all the people in the South, I wonder if they know that Negroes live in the South too.)

I think actions of this kind do nothing but hurt the people you're trying to defend.

((Your first-rate example of copperhead logic is appreciated here. It contains everything from the non sequitur to the dicto simpliciter.)

Because the KKK supported Goldwater, you feel he supported the KKK. What utter crap, I don't feel because the Communist Party supported Johnson (which the U. S. Communists did, as did Voice of Moscow broadcasts which I listened to) that he supported the Communists.

((And here's an ignoratio elenchi. You're doing great, Dwain.))

Just because all A's are B's, doesn't mean that all B's are A's. You should know that, John.

I supported Goldwater, and also supported the Civil Rights Bill, I dislike or hate the KKK and all (anti-Negro, anti-Jewish, etc.) they stand for. There are other reasons for supporting Goldwater besides the fact that you might believe he's more anti-civil rights than Johnson.

The profit should be taken away from slum owners, if the profit is what I call illegal profit (by that I mean that they profit by keeping other people in slum apartments, three/four families a apartment, etc.). Personally I'd tax rented places by their age and condition. If they are falling apart, in other words a slum, I'd tax them to high hell. If the landlords improve them, make them liveable, I'd remove much of the

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In other words, the more improvements on older housing areas, the lower the taxes. No longer would age be able to save the landlords ((sic, but not bad)) huge amounts of money.

((An interesting idea. Assuming that there are any left, I wonder what the Single Taxers would make of it.))

A plot against the life of William had been, during some months, maturing in the French War Office...The execution was entrusted to an officer named Grandval. Grandval was undoubtedly brave, and full of zeal for his country and his religion. He was indeed flighty and half witted, but not on that account the less dangerous. Indeed a flighty and half witted man is the very instrument generally preferred by cunning politicians when very hazardous work is to be done. No shrewd calculator would, for any bribe, however enormous, have exposed himself to the fate of Chatel, of Ravallac, or of Gerarts."

LINDA EYSTER, Room 5B7, 1060 Morewood Ave., Pittsburgh, Penn. 15213 ((3 Nov. 1967)): Thank you very much for sending me LEFTOVERS with the Presidential Poll Results. Although I don't subscribe to your fanzine, etc., I'd like to comment on PILLYCOCK #25, anyway, since I did receive a copy. I applaud you, sir! Although conservatism does not necessarily equal racism, usually the two are closely related. Just as free speech is limited with regard to slander and perjury, advocates of racism and murder should be limited too. And as you state, there are many conservative magazines where such opinions can be aired.

"Some attempts were made to obtain a remission of the flogging. A Roman Catholic priest offered to intercede in consideration of a bribe of two hundred pounds. The money was raised; and the priest did his best, but in vain. 'Mr. Johnson,' said the King ((James II)) 'has the spirit of a martyr; and it is fit that he should be one.' William the Third said, a few years later, of one of the most acrimonious and intrepid Jacobites, 'He has set his heart on being a martyr, and I have set mine on disappointing him.' These two speeches would alone suffice to explain the widely different fates of the two princes."

JOHN J. PIERCE, 275 McMane Ave., Berkeley Heights, N. J. 07922 ((18 Jan. 1968)): I must say I was most distressed at receiving LEFTOVERS #2, which is certainly one of the most idiotically biased publications I have ever seen in my life (and believe me, I've seen some bad ones - all the way from the American Mercury to the Peking Review).

What can I call your basic attitude but "McCarthyism-in-reverse"? Campbell is a fascist, Heinlein is a fascist, Scithers is a fascist, the Randites are all fascists. ((I nowhere use the word "fascist" in LEFTOVERS #2.)) Or if these people aren't all fascists, they're all racists. The liberal used to (rightly) sneer at the conservatives for seeing a Communist under every bed - but how are today's "liberals" any better for seeing a fascist under every bed? Frankly, I am fed up with both "liberals" and "conservatives" in general, and can only wish a plague on both your houses.

Some of your zine actually reads like a parody on itself. I see you have a story about a friendly Russian technical advisor in Cuba. So? In 1939 you could have run a story about a friendly German technical advisor in Italy, and what would that have proved? They were probably some jovial Huns in Attila's horde, some jovial Falangists in Franco's, some jovial Mongols in Genghis Khan's, some jovial Muslims in Mohammed's. You could write just as convincing an article ("smiling faces" and "curly heads") of some apartheid advocates in South Africa. And George Wallace wears a big smile wherever he goes.

I see one of your contributors is a man "active in the Progressive Labor Party" (Chinese Communists, that is). ((If you think Enid Osten is a man, you've got real problems.)) Apparently you aren't very bothered by this, though you view with alarm

each new editorial by Campbell. A little consistency would be helpful - as far as I know, Campbell didn't sell atomic secrets to the Nazis in World War II, nor did Heinlein head a secret cell of the Bund. And (thank God) the Nazis got beat. The Chinese Communists are still in power, though, and quite active. Let's look at a box score:

GERMAN NAZIS - 6,000,000 Jews killed

RUSSIAN REDS - 6,000,000 Kulaks killed

CHINESE REDS - 6,000,000 peasants killed

All conservative estimates really. ((Sources, please.)) The question isn't WHICH of these groups any right-minded person would support - it's whether anyone in his right mind would support ANY of them. I, for one, am opposed to fascism, communism, racism, tribalism, theocracy, obscurantism and a host of other isms. Apparently, however, the question for you is only WHICH pseudo-scientific mass movement you will support. And I am afraid that all the bombast and injured innocence in the world will not conceal your hypocrisy.

If the Nazis controlled a third of the world today instead of the Communists, I suppose a lot of people would rhapsodizing about how mis-understood they were, and about how we shouldn't get upset about the Jews, really, because they were just a bunch of exploiters (ask any Black Power advocate in Harlem). I see you have a sneering reference to how Churchill proposed we finish off the Communists after we got through with finishing off the Nazis. A real conservative-type fascist plot, huh? I seem to recall Philip Wylie (Hah! Another name for your Fascist File!) had a similar idea back in 1948. In fact, we would certainly have been better off to face down the Russians over Berlin in '48 (or even Hungary in '56) than to do as we're doing today - shooting a bunch of dumb peasants in Vietnam who are only vaguely aware of what's going on. It's as if we'd attacked the second-rate fascists in Uruguay ((which has never had a Fascist government, but don't think for a minute this will stop Pierce)) instead of the big shots in Germany and called it World War II.

(Better investigate the Webster Quimley Society quick - no telling what might turn up there!)

((There is a name for people who believe that they have millions of secret lurking enemies out to get them - and it's not a political label.))

"The ruling few, even when in mutiny against the government, had no mercy for any thing that looked like mutiny on the part of the subject many...The Protestant masters of Ireland, while ostentatiously professing the political doctrines of Locke and Sidney, held that a people who spoke the Celtic tongue and heard mass could have no concern in those doctrines...Indeed, during the century which followed the Revolution, the inclination of an English Protestant to trample on the majority was generally proportioned to the zeal which he professed for political liberty in the abstract. If he uttered any expression of compassion for the majority oppressed by the minority, he might be safely set down as a bigoted Tory and High Churchman."

VAUGHN BODE, B-9 Apt. 1, New Slocum Heights, Syracuse, N. Y. 13210 ((17 May 1968)): Ahh, about your crummy 11 Ft. Pohl - and the 23 enemy fans that cut me to the quick - Worst illustrator, eh? - That has caused me pounds of grief I think.

That is better than before though - it's worse when they don't even know you are drawing Pro. SF.

Anyway, you have caused strange things to happen.

A kind of Great Fandom Project.

But I'm getting side-tracked. This letter is meant to say thanks for defending me.

I am a cartoonist and a good one. Not quite so hot as an illustrator. Matter of fact Pohl suddenly doesn't like my covers and cancelled my commissions. I am undaunted. I sent my 24 cover dummies to Fantasy & Science-Fiction. Only, they are perfect mockups of Galaxys and Ifs - logos, dates, stories.

In June you will be seeing a lot of my work in fanzines. Hope you like it. ((Definitely.)) I doubt if the 'Death-Row Twenty-Three' will.

But again, with some of the awful reproduction (and stories) I get I can't condemn them forever. I hope I will eventually see some of them change their minds.

Again, thanks, you're okay. You didn't have to set yourself against the Poll but you did and that, I think, means more than their acceptance.

((The attention of readers is called to Vaughn Bode's cartoons in the BayCon Progress Report #3, Perihelion #5 (Sam Bellotto Jr., Apt. 3C, 87 Hicks St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201), and Shaggy #73 (Ken Rudolph, 745 N. Spaulding Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90046). And when will The Man be reprinted?))

"We must remember that arguments are constructed in one way, and governments in another. In logic, none but an idiot admits the premises and denies the legitimate conclusion. But in practice, we see that great and enlightened communities often persist, generation after generation, in asserting principles, and refusing to act upon those principles. It may be doubted whether any real polity that ever existed has exactly corresponded to the pure idea of that polity."

STEVE LEWIS, Apt. 1A, 2074 Pauline Blvd., Ann Arbor, Mich. 48103 ((24 May 1968)): If Republicans can manage to get Rockefeller nominated, we might have a chance that the U. S. survive its internal problems. McCarthy would be ideal, and if nominated, could reverse the swing to the right that seems to be taking place...

How can war manage not to be equated with the black plague? We need live TV coverage of Vietnam battlefields, more movies like Beach Red.

((Psychologists are of two minds as to whether this would really help. In particular, Frederick Wertham believes that war films on the TV news broadcasts inflame rather than reduce pro-war sentiment.))

Have you heard the theory that Dr. King's murder was sponsored by Cuban Communists? Until (and if) the truth is learned, how do you answer this? Besides with ridicule, I mean, for how is it impossible? The killing must be brought home to the accessories.

How can you justify the continuance of the Eleven-Foot Poll, when a true artist like Bode can receive an award? Any good purpose it may serve (and although I refused to vote, I found the idea amusing) will certainly be outweighed by abuse like this. Representative of fandom it may be, but I do not yet believe it.

"A good action is not distinguished from a bad action by marks so plain as those which distinguish a hexagon from a square. There is a frontier where virtue and vice fade into each other...It is doubtless to be regretted that the nature of words and the nature of things do not admit of more accurate legislation: nor can it be denied that wrong will often be done when men are judges in their own cause, and proceed instantly to execute their own judgment. Yet who would, on that account, interdict all self-defence? The right which a people has to resist bad government bears a close analogy to the right which an individual, in the absence of legal protection, has to slay an assailant. In both cases the evil must be grave. In both cases all regular and peaceable modes of defence must be exhausted before the aggrieved party resorts to violence. In both cases an awful responsibility is incurred. In both cases the burden of the proof lies on him who has ventured on so desperate an expedient; and, if he fails to vindicate himself, he is justly liable to the severest penalties. But in neither case can we absolutely deny the existence of the right. A man beset by assassins is not bound to let himself be tortured and butchered without using his weapons, because nobody has ever been able precisely to define the amount of danger which justifies homicide. Nor is a society bound to endure passively all that tyranny can inflict, because nobody has ever been able precisely to define the amount of misgovernment which justifies rebellion."

DOUG HOYMAN, 1304 N. Cherry, Tucson, Ariz. 85719 ((22 Jan. 1968)): I gather from the letters in LEFTOVERS #2 that there is a boycott of the 60¢ prozines going on. If you want to complain about the high cost of sf, seems to me you're barking up the wrong tree. The most expensive prozine today is F&SF, which costs 50¢ (though it was matched by the first issue of International SF); the cheapest is Galaxy, which is 60¢. I arrive at this

conclusion by computing cost per page, a more accurate measure of what you get for your money than cost per magazine. (An even better criterion would be cost per word, but I'm not about to go through counting words. I think the results would be in about the same proportions, though.) Here are the figures (page counts exclude covers):

<u>F&SF, International</u>	50¢	128 pp.	.392¢ per page
<u>If</u>	60¢	160 pp.	.375¢ per page
<u>Amazing, Fantastic</u>	50¢	144 pp.	.347¢ per page
<u>Analog</u>	60¢	176 pp.	.341¢ per page
<u>Galaxy</u>	60¢	192 pp.	.312¢ per page

To put it another way, over a year F&SF costs 67% more than Galaxy and gives you only 33% more sf. So why protest the price of Galaxy.

I can't get too worked up over the Vietnamese boy bribed to betray his father, for the reason that I consider the unjustified taking of human life to be the most immoral act possible. Thus if our goal in Vietnam is of enough importance to make wholesale killing justifiable (and I am making no judgment as to whether it is; I am one of the merest handful remaining in the United States - indeed, in the world - of persons who do not know exactly what the U. S. ought to do in Vietnam), then it justifies anything whatever which helps attain that end. If not, then our country has committed so many immoral acts that it's impossible to judge each one individually. (What would your judgment be if the boy had given away his father, not for candy bars, but because he believed he was furthering the cause of humanity?) ((My rather harsh judgment on this practice was aimed not at the boy, but at the soldiers who bribed him and the government which connives at this policy of setting children against their parents.))

Well, if Nero Wolfe can be the love child of the Master and Irene Adler (cf. W. S. Baring-Gould's Sherlock Holmes of Baker Street), I suppose that James Bond (is he really in his fifties by now? Or did you have someone else in mind?) could bear the same relation to Lord Peter Wimsey (who is not likely to forgive your misspelling his name.)

((I've expounded elsewhere on my theory that James Bond is the illegitimate son of Lord Peter's elder brother the Duke of Denver and of Mrs. Grimethorpe. See Ruth Berman's The Science-Fictional Sherlock Holmes.)

"The English regard assassination, and have during some ages regarded it, with a loathing peculiar to themselves. So English indeed is this sentiment that it cannot even now be called Irish, and till a recent period, it was not Scotch...In England, as soon as such a design ceases to be a secret hidden in the recesses of one gloomy and ulcerated heart, the risk of detection and failure becomes extreme...In truth such a conspiracy is here exposed to equal danger from the good and from the bad qualities of the conspirators. Scarcely any Englishman, not utterly destitute of conscience and honour, will engage in a plot for slaying an unsuspecting fellow creature; and a wretch who has neither conscience nor honour is likely to think much on the danger which he incurs by being true to his associates, and on the rewards which he may obtain by betraying them...To bring together in one body forty Englishmen, all hardened cutthroats, and yet all so upright and honest that neither the hope of opulence nor the dread of the gallows can tempt any one of them to be false to the rest, has hitherto been found, and will, it is to be hoped, always be found impossible."

CONRAD VON METZKE, 5327 Hilltop Dr., San Diego, Calif. 92114 ((5 Dec. 1965)): I would love to be able to think that the reason I oppose our self-righteous war in Vietnam is that I love people, and hate to see or contemplate death to others. Unfortunately I suspect that my reason is that I am squeamish. I do not particularly want to go out into a rice field and shoot some man I never saw before; I don't even want to shoot him if I have seen him before. Naturally I would rather he didn't shoot me either; but if it came down to one or the other, I have a horrible feeling it would be me, because I am a coward and because I would probably be shaking too much to aim the rifle.

((For many centuries ethical philosophers have regarded bravery as a virtue and cowardice as a sin. I'm beginning to wonder whether they may not be in error.))

As I happen to be exempt from the draft, so I have no immediate worries. But there is some horrible feeling that still presses on me from the inside, which says, "Why should you hurt anyone, Conrad?" And then after a brief pause it continues, "And since that's such a noble thought, why isn't everyone of the same mind?"

Why do people like to kill other people, or hurt other human beings? Okay, if a guy seduces your best girl or your mother, you think he's a son of a bitch and sharpen your hatchet. That's an individual matter, usually settled illogically on an individual basis. But how many Viet Cong have seduced our girls or our mothers? What in hell did the Viet Cong ever do to the United States, that the United States must avenge in a Mekong full of blood?

Did they attack one of our friends? No - the Viet Cong, originally (i. e. until we forced the Chinese to protect their own position - they are, after all, as ridiculously self-righteous as we are) was a guerilla movement, opposed to a South Vietnamese government of terror and tyranny, who revolted from within in order to provide justice from within. Did they kill our soldiers? No - we fired first. Is there any legal, moral, or ethical rationale for this whole mess? I am still looking for one that isn't based on distorted facts.

Now what about peace marchers? I would be the first to admit that the peace movement is thoroughly infiltrated with communists, beatniks, and draft-dodgers whose motives are primarily to avoid responsibility - any responsibility. These are the professional students, the long-haired beach crowd, the disoriented of our society. But there is that fourth element of the peace marchers which, like me, doesn't believe we should be in this stupid war, doesn't want to get shot, doesn't want anyone else to get shot, and has decided that if nobody else is going to do anything about it, they will have to try their damndest. They march because it tells the lethargic populace that someone cares and opposes; they burn their draft cards because the cards symbolize an activity totally repellent to their whole mental makeup; they dodge the draft, law or no law, because their consciences forbid them otherwise.

There is something inherently wrong, I insist, with a system that forces sections of its citizenry to violate its entire ethical and moral code for the aggrandisement of a certain other segment. I know that I am crawling out on a thin limb here, leaving myself wide open to charges of advocating anarchy and all that. But I cling to my twig. If the Vietnamese war could be justified - if, say, North Vietnam had staged an incident like Hitler did in 1939 for Poland - then I would support it. I would not like having to shoot an unknown enemy any more because of it, but I would have no moral doubts such as linger in this case.

And if a citizen does not believe, it is his duty to speak up. And if a force shall counteract his beliefs, it is his obligation to counteract that force. This principle has been the guiding light behind the civil rights marches all over America; it must be the power behind any and all grass-roots protests which may originate in the future. Lethargy is a putrid form of death.

"Meanwhile it was known to the ministers assembled at Ryswick that Boufflers and Portland had repeatedly met in Brabant, and that they were negotiating in a most irregular and indecorous manner, without credentials, or mediation, or notes, or protocols, without counting each other's steps, and without calling each other Excellency. So barbarously ignorant were they of the rudiments of the noble science of diplomacy that they had very nearly accomplished the work of restoring peace to Christendom while walking up and down an alley under some apple trees..." It is curious," said Harlay, a man of wit and sense, "that, while the Ambassadors are making war, the generals should be making peace."

EARL EVERS, P. O. Box 192, Old Chelsea Station, New York, N. Y. 10011 ((9 June 1964)): The bit about boycotting the Red Cross because its blood program, one small area of its services, labels its bloody race so bigots can, if they desire, practice segregated transfusions, is patently ridiculous. You can't very well condemn any large, diverse group for some marginally wrong activities of a few members, or you'd have to tell the neutrals of the world to "boycott" the U. S. because a few Southerners practice segrega-

tion. Segregation is bad, yes, but destroying the Red Cross would be worse.

((Of course, it wouldn't come to that. If the Red Cross were badly pinched enough by people who refused to contribute for this reason, it would come around. Any other course of action would imply that racial segregation is tolerable. I am not prepared to make this concession; it would be an act of disloyalty to my principles, to my country, and to the hundreds of people who have suffered death or imprisonment in the cause of equality.))

"The Assassination of Nikita Khrushchev" was well done and the Kennedy parallels neatly drawn. In a way, though, it weakens any theory about the Kennedy assassination that opposes the official versions. If something from cloth as whole as this can sound so logical, so can equally fictitious theories about the Kennedy tragedy. In any case, "Assassination" was a beautiful little story.

((21 August 1965)) An answer to your "political views" problem in DAGON #40 ((concerning the Vietnamese boy whom American soldiers bribed with candy bars to disclose the hiding place of his father, who was then shot)): "Yes, I'd do it. No, I wouldn't approve it morally." People do a hell of a lot of things out of political or military necessity that they consider morally wrong. Even then, just because I know right from wrong doesn't mean it's always best for me or anyone else to always do right. I didn't resist being drafted into the army, did I. But just because I did it sure as hell doesn't make it right. Now if people who are forced by circumstances too powerful to control or fight to do things they know are wrong would simply admit this, instead of trying to justify their actions with rationalization. "Such-and-such is wrong, and I know it, but under the circumstances..." Wouldn't it be better to just admit that we all do a lot of things that are wrong, and will continue to do so, but this still doesn't change morality.

And on to POINTING VECTOR #25.

The cover cartoon even went over around here, though I'm not sure that is a compliment. Anyway I've now got it mounted on the inside of my locker door.

((That was Perdita's cartoon punning on "King Kong - Viet Cong". Earl was in the army at the time this letter was written.))

I guess it's about time for POINTING VECTOR to fold - I've found less and less of interest in it myself - fans are interested in politics, yes, but not that interested, and not in such big doses.

A genzine like KNO WABLE would be better even for expressing your political views, there's at least enough other material to keep up interest. Now just don't fold KNO WABLE too.

((21 May 1966)) I deplore murder, and I believe in capital punishment even for the insane, for this crime. And the Socialist Workers Party Headquarters murder and Liuzzo murder are included.

As for war, I believe you should strive for peace, but if war is necessary to maintain freedom, war should prevail. We should get out of Vietnam today or begin to fight with all the force needed, using tactical nuclear and nerve gas if necessary. I personally feel we should leave Vietnam, for Vietnam isn't that important - but if we fight, let's quit messing around and wipe them out.

Last night I debated with a right-wing extremist. He stated, "The only good Russian is a dead Russian." I defended the Russian people and we drew an interested audience. Political issues place me in the class of "middle" and a slight tendency to the left. I'm too "right" to approve of the so-called war on poverty, a pork barrel bureaucracy, and "left" (very much so) of the Birchers in persecuting Communism. If anyone wants to be a Communist, I don't care, as long as as they don't try to infringe on my freedom or anyone else's freedom. I am an Atheist and believe in more freedom with less government control and power. I believe in equality for Negroes, and if my sister wanted to marry a Negro, I would be no more excited than if she married a Spaniard. I believe in the right to bear arms and of killing in self defense and in defense of your freedom. If the L. A. riots flare up again, and a band of Negroes attack this area, I am armed and could easily kill 30 or 40 of them right off the bat. An automatic shotgun, magnum shells, and an adjustable choke, in the hands of a marksman will repel them (I am sure). I am against government stifling of personal freedom but I am for Law and Order. A Law must be obeyed. If it is a bad law, have it changed or declared void in court - but rioting is to be put down with all necessary force. I believe the police should have no special privileges and if they break a law, "the book should be thrown at them" in

court. Nor should lawbreakers be coddled. Riots should be ordered to disperse. If they refuse, they should be killed, for they threaten freedom and the selfdefense of others.

((Amidst all the discussions about urban rioting is the misconception that, come what may, "law and order" must prevail. An American has only to read the Declaration of Independence to be disabused of this notion. There are higher priorities than "law and order", to which in time of crisis this value must yield. One of them is "justice".))

"That an unprincipled man should be followed by a majority of the House of Commons is no doubt an evil. But, when this is the case, he will nowhere be so harmless as at the head of affairs. AS he already possesses the power to do boundless mischief, it is desirable to give him a strong motive to abstain from doing mischief; and such a motive he has from the moment that he is entrusted with the administration. Office of itself does much to equalise politicians. It by no means brings all characters to a level; but it does bring high characters down and low characters up towards a common standard. In power the most patriotic and most enlightened statesman finds that he must disappoint the expectations of his admirers; that, if he effects any good, he must effect it by compromise; that he must relinquish many favourite schemes; that he must bear with many abuses. On the other hand, power turns the very vices of the most worthless adventurer, his selfish ambition, his sordid cupidity, his vanity, his cowardice, into a sort of public spirit. The most greedy and cruel wrecker that ever put up false lights to lure mariners to their destruction will do his best to preserve a ship from going to pieces on the rocks, if he is taken aboard and made pilot of her."

FRANCIS BUKOWSKI, Apt. 4, 5526 Carlton Way, Los Angeles, Calif. 90028 ((13 Apr. 1964)): Thank you very much for sending me POINTING VECTOR #20...It is beautiful to look upon and so I am doubly glad not to have missed it. Is it really possible that this cover was done with a mimeograph stencil? ((Yes.)) I really appreciate the appearance of POINTING VECTOR, which has been improving steadily, because my optic nerves always seem to be "inflamed".

I do wish Walter Lowenfels' poetry were better poetry. I always agree with what he says (well - maybe not always, but often) but keep wondering what can be wrong with his ears. It was good, though, to see this piece here...

I...can't resist a comment on your comments in double parentheses in the letters; often it does make it seem that you get an unfair 'last word' this way, yet I approve of the practice heartily and feel it not only your privilege, but your responsibility as an editor to incorporate your own replies and asides when publishing material you disagree with - otherwise, you would be abdicating, which would be more unfair to the reader than including your replies to the letter-writer.

((23 Oct. 1967)) Your decision not to print the remarks of "conservatives" (whom you identify with racist murderers) may be practical and I can sympathize with the exasperation that may have prompted it. Nevertheless, one cannot help wondering what will happen to you heroes of the War of the Children of Light against all Conservatives, should one of your objectives - namely, an end to warfare, an end to killing of people by other people, actually be accomplished. I feel that by taking what seems to me the easy way out now - the way of labeling, of categorizing, of identifying the enemy as certain other people - that you are likely to make your own way rougher as you carry on through the even more rapid social changes of our time.

Suppose, instead, you refused to print argumentation, from any side, that in your view as editor tended to inflame rather than to explain. Suppose you refused to print whatever you, as editor, felt to be dishonest. You would have a much harder job and no easy self-righteous explanation, but you might learn more, grow faster, teach better.

These self-styled "conservatives" are not such, but are destroyers. Your type of labeling tends to make "racists" of some among the real creators of our day - the Techna Ikachi (Traditional American Indians Land and Life Committee), the Black Power movement, the Alianza de Mercedes - but it is from them that we learn where racism really is, namely, thoroughly embedded in the very fabric of the whole of our present

society and the lives, language, and even the loves of all of its people. If we could ship off to Mars today all of those whom you call "conservatives", we would still be stuck with the reality of a racist social order. To change that, we must look for causes. Blaming others is too easy and - worse - has none but illusory results.

As your medium is the printed word, you have an opportunity to do what no other medium will permit - to dissect and refute, point by point, arguments that you disagree with. Instead, you have decided not to print them. I cannot blame you, but I am sorry.

((But conservatives don't "argue" and "refute". They kill. Treating conservatives as a political faction would be like treating the Mafia as Sicilian Nationalists, or Valerie Solanis as a Suffragette. Or let us suppose that we are organizing a debate on banking policy. There might be one spokesman who supports local banking, and another who feels that local banks should be dependent branches of major banks. A third man might want banking to be socialized, while a fourth advocates the repeal of the Federal Reserve Act. Would you also admit to this panel a bank robber?))

"We believe it to be a rule without an exception, that the violence of a revolution corresponds to the degree of misgovernment which has produced that revolution. Why was the French Revolution so bloody and destructive? Why was our revolution of 1641 comparatively mild? Why was our revolution of 1688 milder still? Why was the American Revolution, considered as an internal movement, the mildest of all? There is an obvious and complete solution of the problem. The English under James the First and Charles the First were less oppressed than the French under Louis the Fifteenth and Louis the Sixteenth. The English were less oppressed after the Restoration than before the great Rebellion. And America under George the Third was less oppressed than England under the Stuarts. The reaction was exactly proportioned to the pressure, - the vengeance to the provocation." - review, Dumont, Souvenirs sur Mirabeau.

ROBERT RODRIGUEZ, 3647 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10031: Last night...Dan Goodman happened to read to me your article in a recently published fanzine which outlined your refusal to print any articles taking the conservative or right-wing viewpoint. First off, I wholeheartedly agree with you and say three cheers and keep up the work...Your article interested me in a second and more important way. You described the present racist atmosphere, and correctly so, which pervades the conservative movement and which is truly a blot on our national scene. For months now, I have had stashed away an article which I wrote, or rather an essay, for a school project when I was at City before I graduated. From time to time I have rewritten it and now I want to ask a favor of you. Since I consider myself a flaming liberal and since this article deals with my indictment of American foreign policy since 1945, I wonder if there is a publication you know of or maybe one you yourself work on that could publish my little tract...If you find it worthy of one's ability to comprehend the present mad situation which exists abroad, I would hope that you could find a place for it...

((By all means. This article, entitled "American Foreign Policy Today - Myth or Reality?" will appear in LEFTOVERS #6.))

"When Mr. Burke was reminded in his later years of the zeal which he had displayed in the cause of the Americans, he vindicated himself from the charge of inconsistency by contrasting the wisdom and moderation of the Colonial insurgents of 1776 with the fanaticism and wickedness of the Jacobins of 1792. He was in fact bringing an argument a fortiori against himself. The circumstances on which he rested his vindication fully proved that the old government of France stood in far more need of a complete change than the old government of America. The difference between Washington and Robespierre, - the difference between Franklin and Barere, - the difference between the destruction of a few barrels of tea and the confiscation of thousands of square miles, - the difference between the tarring and feathering of a tax gatherer and the massacres of September, - measure the difference between the government of America under the rule of England and the government of France under the rule of the Bourbons." - Ibid.

LES GERBER, 130 Arnold St., Staten Island, N. Y. 10301 ((15 Apr. 1968)): After trying for several days to think of some way I might express my true feelings to you in terms you might understand, I've decided merely to ask you not to send me any more of your publications. I find your "liberal" totalitarian extremism as repulsive as any right-wing extremism, and anything of yours I read only seems to bug me. So, please don't waste any more postage on me, since anything I receive from you will be discarded unread. Thank you.

((You're welcome. Your name has been entered for the James Earl Ray Civil Liberties Award.))

"The glory of the National Assembly is this, that they were in truth, what Mr. Burke called them in austere irony, the ablest architects of ruin that ever the world saw. They were utterly incompetent to perform any work which required a discriminating eye and a skilful hand. But the work which was then to be done was a work of devastation. They had to deal with abuses so horrible and so deeply rooted that the highest political wisdom could scarcely have produced greater good to mankind than was produced by their fierce and senseless temerity. Demolition is undoubtedly a vulgar task; the highest glory of the statesman is to construct. But there is a time for everything, - a time to set up, and a time to pull down. The talents of revolutionary leaders and those of the legislator have equally their use and their season. It is the natural, the almost universal, law, that the age of insurrections and proscriptions shall precede the age of good government, of temperate liberty, and liberal order."- Ibid.

TOM HUPREE, P. O. Box 12185, Jackson, Miss. 39211 ((May 1966)): It seems to me that it is useless to try to lower the level of prozine prices by refusing to buy theazines, for this would give the Powers That Be even more cause to raise the prices. Nobody likes to see the prices go up, but I tend to agree with Seth Johnson when he says that such a boycott would mean the death of s-f prozines. I certainly couldn't picture an Ace Reader of Brand-New SF, could you?

((How much new s-f will we see if the prozines price themselves out of their market?))

I think too, that Worlds of Tomorrow is indeed a surprise. I consider the River-world series of Philip Jose Farmer to be the most important s-f series of recent years. The idea certainly is novel, and the caliber of the stories themselves have been high so far.

((We-e-e-ll, "novel" I'll admit. A fantasy world in which Richard Burton - the orientalist, not the actor - and Alice in Wonderland wander through a vast scramble of eras and nations, in the course of which she is raped by Hermann Goering, is certainly off the beaten track. I like the series - but where is the old Farmer of The Lovers, The Green Odyssey, and Flesh? I may be over-reacting to my liking for what Graves calls the Single Poetic Theme, but I think that Flesh deserved better than to be classed among a vast tangle of transitory "sex books".))

It is possible to enjoy some of the stuff in Analog while ignoring its - er - editor. Frank Herbert's two Dune novels were excellent, and read amazingly well in their Analog version. I also think that William Burkett's novel printed a couple of years ago ((Sleeping Planet)) was readable. I've got a long run of Analog/Astourling going now, and I'm not about to break it (could this be what is holding a lot of readers on?) but they do print good stuff once in a while.

((Look what happened to the collectors who are trying to keep a long run of American Mercury going!))

I think the idea of the Junior awards is terrific...You say that thi
As you know, prohibition has been repealed here; we are all sane again (for a while) in Mississippi. Here's a telegram I got from the Disclave '66:

OUR HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS ON IMMINENT END OF PROHIBITION IN MISSISSIPPI STOP HOPING TO SEE YOU AT TRICON STOP JOIN US IN SPIRIT AND SPIRITS DONT STOP BS WHERE IS APA45 MAILING DISCLAVE 1966

FRED LEINER
DAVE VAN ARMAN

BANKS MEBANE
PHIL HARRELL

BOB WHALEN
JIM SANDERS

"The ordinary sophism by which misrule is defended is, when truly stated, this: - The people must continue in slavery, because slavery has generated in them all the vices of slaves. Because they are ignorant, they must remain under a power which has made and which keeps them ignorant. Because they have been made ferocious by misgovernment, they must be misgoverned for ever...As this system has destroyed morality, and prevented the development of the intellect, - as it has turned men, who might under different training have formed a virtuous and happy community, into savage and stupid wild beasts, - therefore it ought to last forever." - Ibid.

RICK SNEYARY, 2962 Santa Ana St., South Gate, Calif. 90280 ((31 Aug. 1965)): Received POINTING VECTOR and wondered why. I've only read parts of it - mostly the people I know well enough to be interested in their opinions - and decided it was probably as a result of the recent riots. I do not think I can give you much information, as I'm sure you have already made up your mind. We seem to be on the same side, from the center, of the political spectrum. We seem to want the same things for society and the world. The trouble seems to be that you're so far into the infra-red, that you have difficulty in seeing anything except in clear blacks and whites. (Let me make it clear, when I say you're "infra-red" I mean "far out" and not a "Red" politically.) ((Aw, that's all right. Actually, your comments on black, white, and infra-red are a very good metaphor. Carrying it further, since purple is the traditional color of royalty, I imagine that someone like Randy Garrett who is "more royalist than the king" could be called ultra-violet.)) As all our major problems have to be reasoned out and understanding reached with those with whom we disagree (we do seem to dislike the same people, though not to like all the same ones), persons who are as uncompromising and inflexible as you seem to be, can hardly be thought a help.

I live about five miles from the center of Watts, and only a mile from the eastern border of the riot area - but please remember, South Gate is a separate city, with no voice in how Los Angeles does things. ((I remember, all right. I grew up in El Monte. This kind of localism is the curse of Greater Los Angeles.)) There was no trouble here, nor did we see anything except the smoke of the burning stores as it drifted overhead. There was lots on TV and radio, but other than the distant wail of sirens, we might have been 20 miles away. I would say that news coverage was fair. The point was made from the start that the rioting was being done by a very small percentage of the total Negro population in the area (3,000 to 8,000 out of maybe 300,000). ((That's a larger proportion than made the American Revolution.)) There were numerous interviews with Negroes, who expressed their grievances - the main ones being police brutality and Chief Parker. (My own opinion of Parker is that he is a great organizer but a lousy leader. You are quite right, he can hardly open his mouth without insulting someone. The local press has no great love for him, either.) There are three or four telephone talk shows on local radio, in which listeners call in and air their views, and many Negroes did. The majority either were shocked by what happened, or disapproved. Those who did approve were those who had nothing, and nothing to lose.

It has been suggested by many that this was more a "class" or economic revolt than a race riot. There are large numbers of uneducated and un-skilled southern Negroes moving into the area. About 1,000 a week. Hiring of Negroes out here is better than most places, but it isn't able to keep up with that kind of influxes. ((As editor I have been correcting the notoriously inaccurate Sneyarian spelling - including capitalizing "Negro" - but this one was too good to let pass.)) So more than 30% of the Negroes in Watts were out of work. ((That'll do it every time.)) More equal opportunity would help, but even then they would be hard to employ. If we could stop the immigration (white and Negro) we might be able to find enough jobs.

((That was tried, back in the '50's. The Supreme Court - the Hughes Court yet - threw it out so fast it made Governor Merriam's head spin. Of course, that head was so light of weight that it wasn't too tough a job.))

As it happens, I was in Watts the week before the riots. My sister was in town and we went over to see the Watts Tower. I remarked at the time how much better the main shopping center was looking, with a number of new buildings and more going up. Watts is not a slum as you Easterners would know one. ((Neither was the Faubourg St. Antoine in 1789.)) We have few buildings over two stories. Excepting new apartments and housing developments, most buildings are single family homes, on their own lots. Many of these are overcrowded, badly run down, and possibly overcharged - but they are not packed together. Also there are many homes owned by the Negroes, and many long-time white residents. There are many complaints though, such as many of the agencies that are supposed to aid these people (the poor ones) do not have buildings located in the area. The complaint about schooling has nearly been answered by the building of new schools. But here you must face the other problem of the chronically poor group, lack of proper motivation. This does not happen because they are black, but because they are poor. But it makes it very hard to do anything to help. And there are some, with pride beaten out of them, who are quite happy to stay on relief. These of course discourage the Negroes who want to try, and anger the whites who don't believe in helping in the first place.

((These conclusions have been in large part subsequently supported by the presidential commission which investigated the riots. The problem is, as most of us already know, a problem of white racism. My own relatives and friends are not by and large consciously bigoted people. Yet I have heard many casual off-hand remarks from them indicating that they feel Negroes to be an inferior order of creation.

((About five years ago an eminently qualified Negro psychologist joined that department at Syracuse University. But, though he looked hard, he could not find housing suitable to his income and position anywhere in the city. Eventually he had to give up the appointment and leave the city. As landlords made eminently clear, this was due solely to his race. Almost every Negro is personally acquainted with another Negro to whom something like this has happened. Under these circumstances motivation naturally suffers.))

The irony of this is that seemingly the one thing all the rioters and Negroes who protested, said they were protesting against, was Chief Parker. ((I can correct the spelling, but not much can be done about that syntax.)) But by the riot, they have made Parker look like the hero who defended the city. And in a way, proven what Parker said was right. The Negroes in Salma and Birmingham wanted things the white authorities did not want them to have. Through protest marches and non-violence (?) they have gained many of the things they wanted. The Negroes in the Watts area wanted things that the white and black authorities of the city agreed they should have (excepting the police review board) but were slow in doing anything. And here we have riots.

The whole case seems to follow the classic "revolution" theory: That greatly repressed people do not revolt, but, once given a taste of freedom, they can get carried away and overrun the reach/control of their supposed leaders. ((This error is entertained by police in many riot-threatened cities. They have "pick-up lists" of the leaders of the black community, who will be taken into custody if trouble seems near. Guess how the black community will react to this.)) I feel it is fair to say that well-meaning integrationists are partly to blame for the riots, by sowing the seeds of discontent. ((You mean they used to be contented?)) There are always those, in any race or class, willing to blame their own failure on others. But, I'm afraid I won't get any agreement from you about that. All blame is on the heads of the "white" government.

Oh, to answer your question ((about the Vietnamese boy bribed by American soldiers))...Yes. Or would you prefer them to beat the truth out of him?

Mind! I think it is bad to inform on one's father. I think it is bad to blow up the father. But you ask if the boy should have been given candy for telling on his father. I think war is hell, but if you are going to give the boy anything, it might as well be candy. It was probably better than seeing his mother tortured.

By the way, if for any reason you send me anything else, I'd be grateful if you would leave off the little rubber stamp messages. ((That one read "Disarmed Nuts Kill No Presidents".)) I strongly support the idea of keeping guns out of the hands of nuts. As a member of the NRA I'm supporting bills that would increase the punishment for the criminal use of firearms. But I'm highly sensitive to Sullivan-type laws such as proposed by Senator Dodd, that would limit everyone's right to buy and use guns. At times

(continued on p. 39)

ASSASSINOCRACY

by John Boardman

With this spring's assassinations of Dr. Martin Luther King and Senator Robert F. Kennedy, the United States of America has reached a major crisis in its existence. For centuries a major political question has been: How should we choose those who govern us? Against the background of these assassinations, the question becomes: Do we put our leaders in and out of office by the admittedly imperfect process of elections as they presently exist, or is there to be a sort of lottery among those who survive or escape assassination attempts? Are we to be governed by one or another segment of the "Establishment" in a process which theoretically seeks the public approval, or are we to be governed by the choice of any conspirator or plain nut who can get a gun and a clear path to a prominent man?

Needless to say, most of the major political factions in this country have already proclaimed that their positions have received tragic vindication in the series of political assassinations that have taken place in America in recent years. We must sort out these conflicting assertions before we can determine what can be done next.

First to be dismissed must be the attempts to blame these assassinations on a vaguely defined "Left". Such attempts use the following line of argument:

1. The opponents of war and racism claim that laws which support these practices are unjust.
2. Therefore they claim the right to oppose, resist, and disobey these unjust laws.
3. People are accordingly getting the idea that they need not obey any law with which they disagree.
4. Therefore people are more prone to disobey the law against murder.

This argument has an immediately fatal flaw - in that, virtually without exception, all the victims of these assassinations have been opponents rather than supporters of war and racism. It is a peculiar conspiracy that wipes out its own supporters and sympathizers, without even distinguishing between moderates like the Kennedys and radicals like Malcolm X. But the whole purpose of a conspiracy theory is to blame violence on its victims.

But is there, in fact, any kind of conspiracy involved? Probably not, in the sense that there is no central headquarters from which orders go out to kill now Medgar Evers, now John Kennedy, now Michael Schwerner, now Malcolm X or Martin Luther King or Andy Warhol or Robert Kennedy. Instead there is a climate of violence, which not only produces hatreds but ensures that potential assassins have weapons for their crimes, and targets on which to vent their rage or their political militancy. To use the language of the murder mystery writer, the assassins must have "motive" and "means".

The motive is provided by the spate of vicious propaganda, beginning with the Cold War and the Supreme Court desegregation decision of 1954, which tries to persuade Americans that a cold, vicious, infinitely malevolent and pervasive conspiracy is at work to conquer them. This propaganda rose to a tidal proportion during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, as it became clear that neither the drive for desegregation at home or for national liberation overseas can be successfully resisted.

The means can be divided into two phases, for the people who believe they have a valid motive for such action. First is "What should be done about it?", and following immediately, "How do I get the tools for it?"

The instruction in what to do is provided at the very top levels of our society and government. It is illustrated by President Johnson's reaction to the assassination of Robert Kennedy. He pleaded for "an end to violence and the preaching of violence", yet he himself is the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today. "We must not," he told us, "permit men who are filled with hatred and careless of innocent lives to dominate our streets and fill our homes with fear" - yet he has sent a tide of such men to Vietnam, with precisely these effects. It has long been a contention of President Johnson, supported and abetted by many other American leaders including presidential candidates Humphrey, Nixon, and Wallace, that it is perfectly permissible - indeed, praiseworthy - for a man to get a gun and go kill those whom he is told constitute a danger to the security of the nation. Lyndon Johnson gave the example; James Earl Ray and Sirhan Bishara Sirhan were his observant and diligent pupils.

vision of violence in contemporary American life. The membership of this indicates how little will be accomplished by its investigation. One member is Boggs, a Louisiana Congressman with a long anti-Negro voting record. Another member is an anti-Catholic, Eric Hoffer, who has characterized the Kennedy family as "not real Americans". Also on the commission are two Senators, Roman Hruska (Rep., Nebr.) and Philip Hart (Dem., Mich.) who have been leading spokesmen for the Assassins' Lobby.

The Assassins' Lobby, also known as the National Rifle Association and the Gun Lobby, is the key to the second part of the "means" question. This group has successfully managed to prevent the enactment of any effective gun control bill. They have done this by an adroit combination of above-ground and under-ground methods. They make well-financed campaigns to persuade members of Congress that the national interest requires the unrestricted sale of guns, over the counter, by mail, by import, and to anyone who can pay the price. Along with this comes another campaign - anonymous threatening letters and late night phone calls promising that a man who voted for gun controls will be murdered. ("The cross-hairs are already on the back of your neck," the Minutemen boast.) A look at the literature of the Assassins' Lobby is most informative. They contend that the United States is in imminent danger of being taken over by a dictatorship or by foreign conquest, and that then people will need all the means and skills of guerilla warfare. Such an argument inevitably convinces some of its hearers that the dictatorship and the time for its overthrow have already arrived.

Our reaction to this problem must address itself to the "motive" question, and to both aspects of the "means" situation. First, it is necessary to cut the tide of bigotry - anti-Negro, anti-Jewish, anti-white, anti-Catholic, anti-Oriental, but first and foremost anti-Communist - which has poisoned political dialog. A stiff national Group Libel Act, on the model of the Illinois law upheld by the Supreme Court in 1952 (Illinois vs. Beauharnais) is needed here. (In this connection we should note that Governor Rockefeller of New York, supposedly a candidate of moderation and reconciliation, vetoed such bills in 1967 and 1968.)

As for "means" - war, sanctioning as it does great violence and destruction, provides weak men with the authorization they need for their own violence. Three of the four assassinated American Presidents were killed during or just after wars, two of them by ex-soldiers. The only British Prime Minister ever to be assassinated was killed at the height of the Napoleonic War. (The reader is referred to the discussion of political assassination in modern history in Vladimir Dedijer's The Road to Sarajev, reviewed in LEFTOVERS #2.) Indiscriminate mass murder, of the sort perpetrated by Charles Starkweather and Charles Whitman, was unknown in this country until after World War II, when Howard Unruh, a veteran, went berserk and killed several people in 1947.

As for the physical availability of weapons, this can be dealt with at law, and also by public suspicion and avoidance of men known to possess them. Their reasons for owning these instruments of death sometimes do not bear close examination. A reporter at the trial of the Mississippian Byron de la Beckwith, who murdered Medgar Evers in 1963, once poked behind the scene and saw Beckwith, alone, with the gun with which he had killed Evers. Beckwith was caressing and crooning to the gun as Linus does with his famous blanket. (Beckwith's views on the need for guns will be found on p. 10.)

Those of us in science-fiction fandom recall the tragic case of the writer H. Beam Piper. Piper, whose novels were often vehicles for his political opinions, had a considerable collection of guns. He also collected alcohol; friends of many years' standing had never seen him sober. Finally, he was a political extremist. In 1962 he was seen wearing a campaign button for a Senatorial candidate who had once been involved in the 1934 plot to overthrow President Roosevelt and replace him with a military dictatorship.

In November 1964 Piper finally put his guns to use - by shooting himself to death. Under such stresses, ~~some~~ men have reacted by killing not themselves, but other people. But he had for years given numerous indications that he was not to be trusted with firearms.

The Assassins' Lobby points to the Second Amendment of the Constitution as guaranteeing their possession and use of guns. But at the present time it has become evident that the Second Amendment has become a danger to the remainder of the Constitution. Rather than safeguarding our liberties, it has become the means whereby they are now in

danger.

If the repeal of the Second Amendment is not presently possible, then the very least should be a national registration of firearms. The Assassins' Lobby repeatedly claims that registration of firearms will lead to their confiscation. I certainly hope they're right.

Along with the disarmament of the general public should come the disarmament of the police. The recent incident in the Bronx, where one off-duty policeman shot and killed another and was himself shot by a third, shows where the problem lies. There must also be disbandment of the Assassins' Lobby, and the prompt prosecution of the members who feel that murder threats are an acceptable method of political activity.

Violence, of course, will still be a problem. But it is easier for a man, particularly for an untrained man, to kill with a gun than with a knife. There has been only one assassination by knife in the post-war period, that of the Japanese Socialist leader asanuma. The easy availability of firearms turns into murder a fight which would otherwise end with a bloody nose or at worst a knife wound.

The case for gun controls has been stated many times, but seldom better than by State Senator Timothy D. "Big Tim" Sullivan, Tammany boss and sponsor of the New York law which bears his name and which has been effective in cutting the New York murder rate to about half of that in states which do not have such legislation. In 1911 he came out of the legislative backrooms where he was most at home, and made the longest speech of his career in support of gun control:

"Last Saturday night, there was a couple of gangs fighting on the street. A mother with a baby in her arms came along and was shot dead. That, alone, ought to pass this bill. No, I ain't alone in wanting to pass this little measure. There's a lot of other people in the city. Here's a little list. There's the City Club, and District Attorney Whitman, and Police Commissioner Cropsey, and the American Museum of Safety, and Jacob H. Schiff, and Henry Clews, and Isaac Seligman and Rockefeller - that's John D. Junior, a social acquaintance of mine - and there's Judge Foster and the judges of every criminal court in the city. Then there's Nathan Straus. I suppose, maybe, that man stands for good, eh? Down my way, they think he almost stands in the footsteps of the Man who came on earth two thousand years ago, because of what he's done for the poor. This is a bill against murder. I don't know much about the Bible except what I've heard Brother Brackett parlaying on me for the last twenty-four years - and that's so much I feel as I'd read the whole book. But if this bill passes it will do more to carry out that commandment, 'Thou shalt not kill' and save more souls than all the talk of all the ministers and priests in the state for the next ten years."

THE BIOLOGY OF MERMAIDS (continued from p. 7)

this algae is certainly possible. Thus our mermaid might be green all over.

Another interesting point is this: How do mermaids breathe? Do they have gills, or lungs, or both?

Vertebrate embryos have six pairs of aortic arches. In fish the first pair is lost, and the remaining five pairs are connected with the gills. In mammals, pair three remains as the carotid arteries, the left half of pair four remains as the aorta, and pair six remains as the pulmonary arteries. Pairs one, two, and five, and the right half of pair four, are lost. Therefore our mermaid would have lungs and not gills. Gills would necessitate either the loss of the abovementioned arteries or the development of five more pairs of aortic arches. (The carotids and aorta are necessary, but the pulmonary arteries could be lost if there were gills.) The first suggestion is unfeasable, and the second seems unlikely. If our mermaid has lungs, she must return to the surface and regular intervals to obtain her oxygen supply. This would necessitate living in fairly shallow regions, along coastal areas. This would also explain frequent sightings near islands.

AMERICA INFELIX (continued from p. 2)

portend a kind of change they were afraid of, change which they fought with all the pharisaical vehemence of their speeches. And yet the parade of hypocrites goes on, day after day after day, with the same men as before making the same statements as before to the same public as before. And the rest of the world watches, smugly remarking to itself that they now have seen the humbling of the mightiest power on earth, as sure as if it had been accomplished by armies or navies or atomic weaponry.

And yet one should not be surprised as this very climate of hate pervading the very American fabric. It is not hard to trace the direct relationship of cause and effect between Sand Creek, the Little Big Horn, Vietnam, and the murder of Robert Kennedy. The ghosts of General Custer, Colonel Chivington, and General Cook, not to mention the spirits of Johnson and Westmoreland, must have wondered in the lost soul of the poor Jordanian who suddenly became the instrument of violence and terror which seems now to stalk the very haunts of the national character. Indeed, if any lessons have been learned from this awful tragedy, it is that no lessons have been learned from the past. America is now like the lion with a thorn in its paw, and unfortunately there seems to be no Androcles to come along and pull that thorn out. Indeed, there will have to be a greater deal of self-surgery before this patient can be pronounced on the road to recovery.

The testament is written, the words have all been said; now it is time to act in a manner of right reason which has been too long in coming. This nation of lost souls and trampled dignities must not succumb to the vagaries of history, for history has little but misery to deal those who tread unprepared for its wiles. Whether it be the lynching of a black boy for whistling at a white girl, or the murder of Robert Kennedy, it is all one and the same, the result of a malady which if not corrected will ultimately consume us. The cure is at hand and obvious; whether we avail ourselves of it or not is our own choice. God help us if we choose wrongly.

THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE MAILBOX (continued from p. 35)

like this your meaning is not very clear. If it ever is.

((In the light of recent assassinations, your meaning is on the other hand eminently clear.))

"The church and the aristocracy, with that blindness to danger, that incapacity of believing that anything can be except what has been, which the long possession of power seldom fails to generate, mocked at the counsel which might have saved them. They would not have reform, and they had revolution. They would not pay a small contribution in place of the odious corvées; and they lived to see their castles demolished, and their lands sold to strangers. They would not endure Turgot; and they were forced to endure Robespierre." - Ibid.

GEORGE HEAP, P. O. Box 1487, Rochester, N. Y. 14603 ((1 Nov. 1967)): Have you considered that "Kirk" ((who received a vote for Vice-President in the poll reported in LEFTOVERS #2)) may be Captain James Kirk of the U. S. S. Enterprise? Presumably to go along with Mr. Spock? Seriously, I find the results rather interesting. Of course, many of us read GRAUSTARK for non-political purposes. I think allowing write-ins in the trial heats tends to blur the results, although you didn't get enough of them to do too much damage.

((The vote for "Kirk", which I thought might be either National Review columnist Russell Kirk or Florida's Republican Governor Claude Kirk, came from a Mississippian named Cochran. He also voted for Wallace for President. Since one such man has already killed Dr. King, I think we have a right to know who other Wallaceites are. But who "Kirk" is, is still a mystery. Claude is a Republican, while Russell is an 18th-century High Tory who mistakenly got born into the wrong time.

((However, as far as I'm concerned, the presidential candidates can cut cards for the White House.))

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EDITORIAL REMARKS (continued from p. 3)

that. Diplomacy is a board game re-playing World War I, which has become very popular of late in fan and other circles.

Other back issues available are: all issues of LEFTOVERS except #2 (free on request) and KNOWABLE #10 (25¢). SO YOU WANT TO BE A FAN is free for a stamped, self-addressed envelope. SCIENCE MADE TOO EASY, a satire, is available for 15¢.

This publication is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott.

Worried about a Long Hot Summer? Read Ether IX, 12.

In 1960 the U. S. Post Office shocked a great many people by issuing 2 stamps in honor of Baron Gustaf Mannerheim, a Nazi collaborator who was President of Finland during World War II. An even greater shock is in store. The Post Office has announced that it will soon issue a 12¢ stamp depicting the late Henry Ford (1863-1947). Ford holds the dubious distinction of being the author of the most influential anti-Semitic book ever written by an American. This book, The International Jew, was widely circulated by both Ford and the Nazi government of Germany, which decorated Ford for his contributions to their ideology in 1938. Lately the book has been reprinted once more, and is being circulated by an anti-Jewish and anti-Negro organization in the South.

We will not receive or acknowledge mail bearing this stamp, and will return it unopened to the sender. LEFTOVERS readers are urged also to follow this course of action.