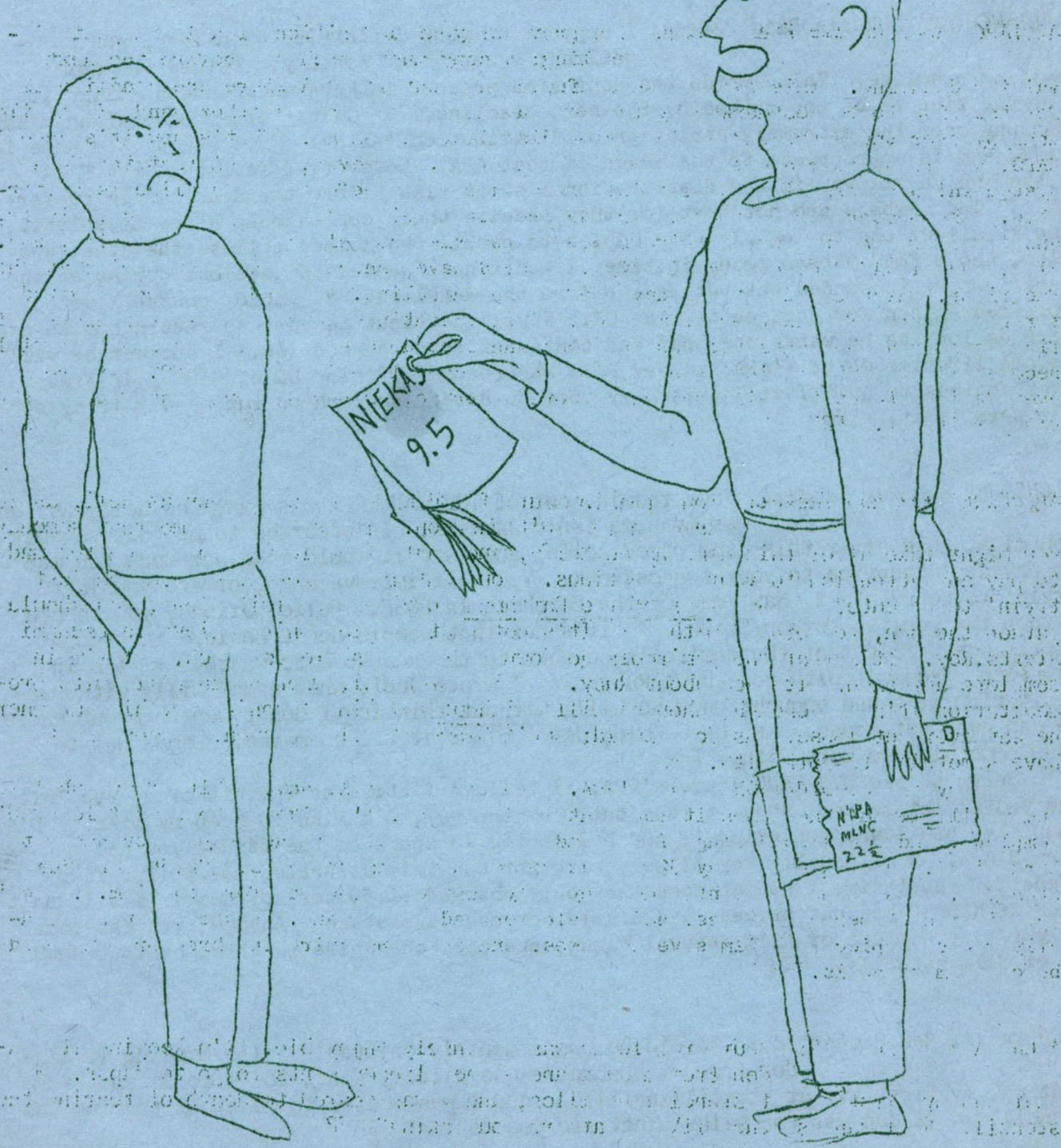


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A fraction of nothing?

ER-M

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At least I hope this will be in the fractional N'APA mailing...but I'm afraid of a goofup on my or Fred Lerner's part.

OK, here are the groundrules. Fractional NIEKAI will consist of nothing but MCs, and all of us will comment on one zine before going on to the next. This quarter Anne didn't get in her stuff on time, so only Felice & I will be represented. Comments by Felice will be in "De le gate" typeface while mine will be in simple "elite." All clear? Then onward!

ALLIANCE AMATEUR *** Fred Patten I approve of your definition of a legal postmail-mailing; a copy must reach you before the next mailing deadline. This avoids the confusion present in FAPA where the deadline is for the zine to be postmarked by the next deadline. ¶ On the other hand, I am mildly unhappy over the extremely strict prior distribution ruling. That's how it's done in SAPS, and is appropriate to the image of that APA. However, I feel that the FAPA system which allows limited distribution a short time before the deadline is preferable. The members are not hurt for they receive their copies only a few days later, and it allows one to legally give copies to people who helped collate the zine, etc. Also, had NIEKAS 9 been ready in time, I would have wanted to pass out copies at the Pacificon, which ended but two days before the deadline. ¶ And of course I voted for Fred Patten for another term as OE. I will continue to vote to return him to office as long as he wants the post and continues to do a good job. I suspect he will become lifetime OE of N'APA the way Pelz has become lifetime OE of SAPS. If Fred ever decides to quit I will switch my vote to Bruce, or perhaps run myself if my schedule permits it. ERM

ALCHERNER *** Roy Tackett Your reaming out of THE WANDERER was funny as hell, as long as my name isn't Jackson. It occurred to me that someday you might take after this dame named Rolfe, and that it would make her much too mad to pay any attention to your suggestions. You want improvements, or are you just tryin' to be cute? ¶ Saw Year of the Earthman in F&SF. Felicitations, you should pardon the pun, to Morgan/Smith. ¶ It's not that people don't believe in tsunami alerts, Roy. It's that the dam'fools go down to the seashore to watch. ¶ I'm in complete agreement with you about Ruby. As I wrote Judi, when a man kills with pre-meditation it's bad enough; when he kills without thinking I don't want him put where he can ever get loose. As for Oswald; don't blame it all on mamma. Mamma has to have something to work with. FP

Sorry to see DYNATRON leave N'APA. I believe I still have a bit of my sub left, and you'll let me know when it runs out? By the way, I'd like to keep my file of D's complete, and I was wondering if you had copies to spare of the issues you had put thru N'APA. ¶ I usually pay \$2 per quire for non-film stencils, \$2.50 for film stencils. Last time I bought some they only charged \$1.50 per for non film...I don't know if King Paper cut prices, had a sale, or made a mistake. Anyhow, you can usually re-use a piece of film several times, and only one quire in three or four need be of film stencils. ERM

ALCHERA *** Ron Hicks Your travelogue was immensely enjoyable. I'm keeping it hidden from my husband -- he already wants to go to Japan. ¶ That was my first try at stencilling illos, and I was scared to death of tearing the stencil. ¶ I can use the silk. What are you asking? FR

ANTHEM *** Henry Stine, Is a mild-mannered southern gentleman (sic) one who has a well behaved house? (Is a well behaved house related to a well behaved set? ERM) And I'm not sure I believe in these roaches of yours, who are winning the battle, or trying to get drunk -- because of which you are planning to move, no doubt to a two-dimensional apartment. FR

Your cover ("Ayn Rand gives to the United Fund" scrawled on a fence) completely broke me up. It was great! ¶ Were you drunk when you stencilled this? I found the first two pages virtually incoherent. ERM

DEGLER #9 *** Andy Porter I don't know about the NY bid for 1967. I suspect the city is cursed so that every worldcon must turn out bad. And wasn't the Newyorkon put on by an entirely different group than that which put on the NYcon? ¶ On the other hand, the hotel situation does look rather good. Just a few days ago I saw an article in the New York Times saying that the hotels in town expect a major slump in 1966 and 67. This was because a lot of conventions scheduled NY for the fair years when they would normally not have been there until later. If this is so, it should be relatively easy to pick a cooperative hotel. ¶ And FIE! on White of Van Arnam for saying that the Fanoclasts are the only ones meeting biweekly or more often...City College's "Sci Fi" meets weekly. If Shorter were still in town and the group was as active as it was a couple of years ago, I would much rather have them put on the con. Regardless of the merits or lack thereof on the part of the proposed sponsors, I am sure that certain elements of NY fandom would do everything possible to sabotage the bid and con. I understand that in the early 50s Calvin Beck had put in competing bids for NY in order to sabotage the regular group because he was feuding with them...I would not be surprized if the same thing were to happen again. Anyhow, why is anyone in NY crazy enough to want to put on a con? ERM

DUSHE # 1011 *** Ed Baker Religious people can send their kids to Sunday school. That's why the churches have Sunday schools. They can teach them at home. Most people aren't qualified to teach math because they haven't been trained in it. Most religious people have been trained in religion since childhood. ¶ After all, you want to make sure your child gets the right religion; and it's been a long time since I've heard an American say "They ought to teach my religion in public school." No, the statement is "they ought to teach religion." And that's ridiculous. Which religion? Christianity? Judaism? Moslemism? Buddhist? Shinto? We have all these around here. As for the suggestion that the children should be taught the religion of the majority of parents in any given school, how long do you think the Catholic parents would stand for it if they turned out to be a minority in a given district? Not to mention the Jews, Muslims, etc. ¶ The American school system needs one hell of a lot of attacking, but this is far and away the least of what's wrong with it. FR

This issue was an extreemly good one. I was very happy to see some longer, continuous items in it. Keep up the good work! ERM

EILAT FOR EARLY RISERS *** Phil Kohn This may be in the mc's on your zine, Phil, but it's in answer to GEM. Do children belong to their parents? What are they, property, or people? "The Family" is the sacred cow of our generation, in spite of psychiatry's reiteration (psychiatry being another sacred cow) that more kids are ruined by their parents than by any other single environmental influence. I agree with Phil. As it is now, children are left in their parents' hands, no matter what kind of slob the latter are, unless they are in actual danger of life and limb. Conversely, if parents realize that they are not financially or psychologically fit to raise children -- or, without thinking much about it, they just plain can't stand them -- they are forced by law and social opinion to retain them anyway. ¶ The harm done by this system of "owning" children is incalculable. ¶ By the bye, Phil, Israel was experimenting with communal childraising in the kibbutzim. Know anything about how it turned out? ¶ You'll probably get a dozen answers to this, but the opening line of Scaramouche is, "He was born with the gift of laughter and a sense that the world was mad." FR

I suppose that those handbooks should mention the range of validity for the var-

ious methods of solar navigation'. I imagine that there is an unfortunate tendency to regard something like the Boy Scout Handbook as virtually infallible and follow it blindly. In fact, I wonder how much of the information therein is really known to the current editors, and how much is there because it always was there. As you point out, the navigational techniques are not very accurate even at the latitude of the Northern U.S., but do the editors know this? ¶ There certainly hasn't been very much mention of Goldwater in the fanzines. I suppose it's that he became a major personality that there simply wasn't time...until recently who took him seriously? It certainly was different in the case of McCarthy a few years ago. Almost every fanzine article and prozine story was screaming in indignation over his antics. On the other hand, certain mundane groups are hysterical over the conservative upsurge. I recently got some advertisement from NY for a "Stop Goldwater kit." The whole tone of the thing was "D..d..di ~~Woppy~~ ~~na~~ conservatives will get you unless you watch out. They are baaad, baaad, baad! We must do everything in our power to fight them or it is the end of the world!," etc, etc. It had exactly the same irrationally hysterical [I meant this in the sense of frightened, but I suppose either sense will do] tone of the anti-Communist propaganda during the McCarthy era. It was downright ridiculous! ERM

SORRY-- something's wrong with this typer & I can only mount the elite & script balls so that I can no longer differentiate via face between my & Felice's comments.

EXCALIBUR & ~~+++~~ Bailes & Katz Arnie, your editorial was funny. Especially the description of the fair. Bless you. Hey Len, I get to mc Ex this time! I agree with your analysis of the Goldwater campaign, that he has more chance of getting elected than the liberals (like my husband) would like to believe. However, if he is elected, don't take off immediately for Australia. Even with a Republican congress he wouldn't be able to do all he promises -- and he's not gonna have a Republican congress. (Not this year. When he gets one, buy that ticket to Australia. Buy one for me, too.) ¶ Arnie, this installment of "Shadowland" is better than the last. To get the flavor of swordfighting, read some Dumas and Sabatini, particularly the latter. Ken de Maiffe, who is a fencer, says Sabatini's fencing descriptions work. Don't go back to the originals, tho. In reading D'Artagnan's Memoirs I've discovered that his descriptions of duels are on the order of "We went on guard and I ran him through." Probably it was too commonplace for him to give more detail. ¶ "Guys" is spelled with a "u." FR

Arnie, I like the way you construct letters out of the "/"'s. ¶ Continues to pour in NY? Every letter I got from my parents complained about the drout there! Do you live in some alternate dimention or something? They say that the lawn is dead and the trees are dying at their summer place in Newton NJ, and that the lawn is on the verge of dying in Brooklyn. ¶ Len, the Worm Diplomacy sounds like fun, but I thought the game involved nations and not personalities. I'll admit I know nothing about it except what I read in the few Diplo fmz, but I just can't see the appropriateness of a "press release" like yours. But I had better wait and see what Bruce Pelz or Fred Lerner will say. ¶ Well, the President has some say in how a law is enforced...an if Ol Bury somehow gets in he could load up the Civil Rights commission etc with racists who would do nothing whatsoever about enforcing the law...or at least that is the impression he is trying to give in the South. I wonder how much he really is a racist and how much this is a typically fraudulent campaign trick to pick up votes. ¶ The illos for "Shadowland" are rather good. ¶ Arnie, you commented on the generally good repro in SAPS. Back in the days before N'APA SAPS was generally the first APA a neo joined and where he learned to publish. Then N'APA took over that role, because it had no waiting list while SAPS did have one. Thus he would be publishing here for about a year before getting in there, and the results showed. (You should have seen some of my dittoed monstrosities back around the 5th to 8th N'APA mailings!) And now I suspect APA 45 will take that position, and we will see still better repro in N'APA. (There has been no really bad stuff lately...not like Harvey Forman and some of your early zines, at least.) ERM.

FOOFARAW # 13 *** Fred Patten Congrats on another fine ish! + I've often noticed at parties, etc., that you often go off into a corner to read. I find this totally incomprehensible. Why travel several hundred miles just to read a book? But then I am such a slow reader that I wouldn't get enuf done for it to be worth while. Anyhow, I would much rather talk with other fen. + You talk of using "baggies" to store your magazine collection. I have long used the plastic bags things like shirts come in. or when I run out I simply use seran wrap. I got the idea from an ex fan in NY... Dan Blackburn who had appeared in the 2nd N'APA mailing but was never heard from again. Anyhow, back around then he once mentioned that that was how he protected his collection, I liked the idea, and followed suit. + I found the Scithers CULTfiction quite amusing, especially trying to figure out who was who. It's now over a year since I dropped the CULT as a lost cause and not worth the bother to stay in, but I still occasionally get CULTzines. Netcalf & Boardman send me all of theirs, and Eney occasional issues, all in trade for NIEKAS. Thus I have a vague idea of the current state of affairs and I spent some time trying to figure out who was supposed to be who. Don is Fitch, of course, and the Man in Black Bruce Pelz. Large chap with a red beard was a tough one...tho it didn't say so I assumed it was a large chap with a large red beard. The only possibilities were Donaho & Breen, but both were mentioned elsewhere. Finally I realized that it must be Eney! Let's see, then there is Dian Pelz, Fred Patten, Arnold Katz, [next page]...very massive is obviously Donaho; could the pointed blond beard belong to Tapscott? Dachsundy young man threw me. Drooping Moustache is obviously John Boardman! And then Eklund brings things to an end. ERM

GEMZINE # 4/41 *** G.M. Carr I haven't been following this "propaganda in the schools" discussion too closely -- but from Clyde Kuhn's letter I wonder if you (plural) are not mistaking stupidity in teachers for an official policy. After a brief brush with the Dep't of Education at San Jose State, I am tempted to think that our credentialing system selects for stupidity (at least in California). There's another factor too -- the teacher who attempts to step away from the "Americanism" line is very likely to be fired under pressure from parents. It's not surprising that most of them play safe with an "even if we're wrong, we're right" policy. + Califen consider the mention of the sex deviation of some person to be in poor taste, because it is a serious charge, and in casual gossip is nearly always made without proof. Charges without proof are always to be deplored, I think you will agree. That isn't the same thing as condoning or defending perversion (although we have our share of people who do, of course). You may admit that "Sexual deviation among Califandom" is a lot different in meaning from "Awareness of sexual deviation among Califandom." No fair changing the statement after it was criticized. + You are so right about the "individualist" who insists on being like every other "individualist." This is what I call the "conforming non-conformist." ER

Yes, E Binder was Otto's brother, but he collaborated on only the first few stories. Most of those published under the "Eando" byline were by Otto alone. + I have recently been reading America and Commonweal magazines (Liberal Catholic journals of opinion & culture), and have seen a number of mentions therein that tho the priests themselves have had a fantastic amount of training in Latin they aren't able to communicate in it very well. They think in their native tongue, and translate. An incident was mentioned with reference to the Vatican Council. Just after delegate B finished a definitive speech answering all possible objections to a certain point, another one got up and made the objections that had just been answered. Obviously he hadn't understood what was being said. Also, even the priests find a number of prayers and services more meaningful when in the vernacular. + In re Benyo's letter... sure a member can get credit for material in other zines. Anne & Felice have never contributed a zine of their own to N'APA, but always had their stuff in my zine, and yet they have been here for over a year. + Agree about the ridiculousness of votes for non members in the N'APA egoboo poll in the "most valuable member" category! Fred how about a set of special categories for nonmembers? Thus one could only vote for

members, WLMs & ex-members in most categories (except those like "most valuable member"), and then have such categories such as best artwork by non-member, best article by non-member, etc. + Well, you can always use some of the better left over LOCs in your next issue. ERM

HIPPICALORIC # 7 +++ Ted Johnstone When I worked for NASA Summer of '61 they had several new Underwood electrics, including a proportional spacing model ("Raphael"...I had used it to type an IPSO & SAPS zine), but all were quite noisy. The secretaries all preferred the IBMs, but govt policy was that different brands had to be represented. Thus about 1/3 of the new typers were IBMs, 1/3 were Underwoods, and 1/3 were Royals. This was at the Institute for Space Studies which had just opened several weeks before I arrived, so everything was new. ERM

IMK # 3 +++ Irvin Koch If you got A's on those stories, in spite of the spelling and grammar, it confirms my low opinion of the nation's teachers. Ghu, nothing is the world would be sufficient to persuade me to become an English teacher. FR

INFERNAL AVENUES # 1 +++ John Boston The New York radio character Carlton Fredericks, Carl Frederick's namesake, has often used that joke about people with tapeworms using the editorial we. + Yes, in the kook Who Killed Science Fiction published about 1960 many of the contributors considered the over-proliferation of the field and the resultant flood of crud as a major cause of the slump in the field. The other major cause was the problem in getting a magazine distributed. + Perhaps your boycott of F&SF worked...anyhow, Avram is no longer editor. + "the topless bathing suit [...] is just an attempt to keep abreast of the times." Ogg!!! "Most of the wearers...insecure women who need to put up a good front." OOOO squared! To the 27th power, in fact! Are you trying to replace Carl Frederick? Your puns make it seem so. ERM

KER-CHIEF +++ Hank Luttrell You kept saying this or that story did or did not conform to the editorial in Science Fantasy #65, but you never told us just what the bloody editorial said! + A comic book can have 80 pulp sized pages for 25¢ while a prozine can't simply because comics sell far more copies. + Web magazine has had a sordid history. It started out as a SF zine, Saturn, but became a straight mystery magazine under the Web title after a few issues. Slowly the magazine changed until it is now a horror-detective magazine slanted at sadists...Or at least it was the last time I looked about a year ago. And I don't think Gamma has folded, after all...in fact, the third issue is supposed to be out in a few weeks. I visited Lou & Cynthia Goldstone a couple of weeks ago, and met another artist who was also visiting them, Luan W...oh, blast! I can't find the paper on which I wrote down her name, which is a long German one.* Anyhow, she sold a folio of art to them which will be in #3, and she said that the issue was at the printers. She saw copies...proof ones?...and said that the new issue will be saddle-stapled, but is otherwise of the same format as the first two. Oh, back to Web for a moment...I have occasionally seen other magazines like this on the stands, but never bought one and don't remember any titles. They seemed to be all horror fantasy and aimed at some sort of perverted people, like sadists. + Clay, wasn't POSTWARP replaced by TIGHTBEAM because Al Lewis† couldn't seem to be able to get the issues out on time, and was doing all sorts of contraversial things with the zine such as feuding with Art Hayes? I don't think Racy Higgs had anything to do with its demise. And I was just on the fringes of fandom at the time, so I don't know for sure. But didn't the N3F have some sort of room at the SOLAcon? ERM *Motheringham!! †Mindy Higgs

MEOW # 2 *** Annie Katz Here is a little information which should help the Purple Blur in his career. There are 7!, or 5040, possible permutations of the 7 letters in "emperor," not counting ways of misspelling it by leaving out or adding letters. If the PB insists on starting the word with an "e", there remain $6! = 720$ permutations. The PB has used up 10 incorrect ways already, and of course you want to leave out the correct spelling, so there are still 5029 misspellings left for future chapters, or 709 if the PB is picky about the initial "e" -- totally unnecessary in view of what he's done with the rest of it. That should provide him with many long and glorious adventures. FR

There are such things as "long run ditto masters." I remember buying some from Rex Rotary several years ago which were supposed to be good for 400 copies, but I don't think I ever tried to print more than 200 or so. ERM

MICKEY # 5 *** John Kusske Jr Deux was quite good for a fanzine story. The basis for the bird-civilization was most interesting. On the other hand I think it would have been far better had the moles been introduced earlier in the story. As it is, the hero sees his first mole immediately before uncovering the evidence that they might have been involved in the mystery. I feel it would have been structurally better had he seen one several pages earlier while touring the setup. The ending struck me as a bit weak too, tho I would have no concrete suggestions here. I simply got the impression that the author was suddenly in a hurry to finish up the story. ¶ In the faaan fiction, is Rai = Roy Tackett? ERM

NOTHING # 2 *** Richard Mann You STOLE my title, even if you did translate it! Sob!

RACHE # 15 *** Bruce Pelz Bruce, ol' friend, Ten Years Later and Louise de la Valliere are subtitles of The Vicomte de Bragelonne, while The Man In the Iron Mask is excerpted from it. If you've ever tried to read Dumas' Marie Antoinette series (Keet protect you from that folly), you found the same gimmick; 5 "books" of 2 volumes each, but they were not separable into five distinct novels. FR
The Rotslet cartoons were enjoyed, but why did you repeat one of the pages? ERM

RIBBLER'S RAM # 1 & 2 *** Richie Benyo Well, Richie, if you like full sized NIEKAI, how did you like #9? I think Meskys has delusions of grandeur, like he thinks he's Fred Pohl. ¶ "Felice" has a rather uninteresting origin. You see, my father's name is Felix and my mother took high school French. The "Rolfe" I married. Maiden name was Perew. What do you think of a family who'd name a defenceless child "Felice Perew"? FR

ROT *** Jally Teber The cover was great...in fact, the whole zine was! I am very glad you were able to make it two mailings in a row...a sign of good things to come for N'APA? But really, you should be shot for "theater in the ground." But what inspired Phil Harrell's piece of madness? It was most...unusual. ERM

SCIENCE FICTION PARADE # ? *** Stan 'oolston Zelazny's article was most enjoyable. I liked both the author and the person it pictured... FR

I found Zelazny's "Dybbuk Model of Science Fiction" most interesting, if Felice'll forgive the physiccseese jargon...NO! Felice, put down that brick! Remember, that's reserved for Ron! Lessee, now, where was I? Oh yes; what with you and Alma and the various MCs this seems to be the Zelazny mailing of N'APA. Shall we make him a member of the group? ¶ I just got the Oct SFTimes which carried a breakdown on the Hugo vot-

ing which I found most interesting. I don't know how widely this will be circulated in general fanzines, so I'll quote the results.

NOVEL: Way Station, 63; Glory Road, 54; Witch World, 54; Dund World, 51; Cat's Cradle, 30; No Award, 7; blank, 15.

SHORT FICTION: No Truce With Kings, 93; Code 3, 67; Rose for Ecclesiastes, 47; Savage Pellucidar, 44; No Award, 2; blank 21.

MAGAZINE: Analog, 90; Galaxy, 55; F&SF, 48; Science Fantasy, 34; Amazing, 21; No Award, 6; blank, 10.

FAWZINES: Amra, 72; Yandro, 51; Starspinkle, 48; ERB-dom, 45; No Award, 6; blank 52!

PUBLISHER: Ace, 89; Pyramid, 69; Ballantine, 45; Doubleday, 35; No Award, 11; blank, 25.

ARTIST: Emsch, 77; Schoenherr, 69; Finlay, 39; Frazette, 34; Krenkle, 29; No Award, 9; blank, 17.

I was sickened by the runaway success of Anal O Gand surprised that STARSPINKLE did as well as it did. I don't yet know about the fiction categories, but otherwise I will probably vote next year as follows; New Worlds or Science Fantasy, Yandro, Pyramid or Penguin, and Schoenherr. ¶ I just saw the Loncon nomination form and will probably reprint it as a rider to this NIEKAS. I noticed that they followed the Pacificon form, and totally ignored the film/TV category and the committee set up at the con. Boy, I'll bet Harlan Ellison is frothing at the mouth right now!!!!!! Wish I could see his face when he hears/heard what London did! ¶ I do feel London did the right thing in temporarily ignoring the committee, for nothing could really have been set up in time to apply. On the other hand, I do hope they explain things with tact and don't antagonize a lot of people. ER!

THE SOCIABLE GROSBEAK # 2 *** Fred Lerner Most of the better SF is not shelved in the SF section of the Palo Alto library, notably Anderson's Three Hearts and Three Lions. Better, I think, to shelve SF with the other fiction, since librarians for the most part can't tell the difference. FR

"My attitude toward "modern music," "abstract art," "beat Poetry," and the like, is fairly simple: Art implies communication; and if a painting or a poem does not convey a picture or a mood, it is just wallpaper. An abstract painting which is intended by the artist to express any emotion is art, even if it looks like nothing in this world or the next. But all this ape-art and worm-art and mud-slinging-art---is just wallpaper. This is not to say that it is valueless---one can derive satisfaction from something pretty or bizarre without learning anything or sensing anything from it. But the creation of such things is a matter of design, not of artistic inspiration."

B*R*A*V*O!!!! ER!

SPINA # 3 *** Creath Thorne Have you heard of the reference work An Abridged Table of Even Primes, by J. Balder Dash? Dr. Dash has written a number of practical books on math, for example Rust Prevention on Riemann Surfaces, and that remarkable blend of science and the arts, entitled Performing the Moebius Strip. ¶ Perhaps both book and teacher are right about Alexander; he might have caught pneumonia at the orgy? ¶ A geologist friend of mine agrees with you that the Bay Area is overdue for a major quake (tho he's not convinced about that 100-year theory). Actually, the San Andreas has been letting off steam all along -- there have been 3 Richter 3-to-4 shakes since '55. We live about 5 miles from the fault. Luckily we're on alluvial soil, which seems to damp the shocks down somewhat. ¶ As an atheist, I agree most wholeheartedly that public schools do not teach atheism. I find it difficult to explain to a child that (a) I do not believe in God (who has been presented to her as an existing person much on the order of President Johnson), (b) some people do believe in God, (c) either attitude could be right. She's right in the middle of that stage when everything has to be either true or false. No multivalued logic for her, at the moment. Frankly, I would rather that they didn't contact this idea before they were old enough to understand the process of abstraction. I feel it would make for clearer thinking. Unfortunately, clear thinking seems to be the last thing wanted by people who advocate religious

training for children. ¶ Re Bates: You quoted Peppard as advising the patients to "spread their minds out flat." Most of the housewives I know do exactly that, but it doesn't seem to improve their vision. ¶ I thought Bates was passé -- it's interesting to note that his theories are still around, and I'm glad to see your refutation. ¶ Tim Eklund; "deflatory" to the N3F? If you've a way of putting out fires/feuds, we'll buy it! ¶ One of your interjections, "I think, therefore I am," brings to mind a letter to Datamation. Commenting on the then recent spate of articles on the "do computers think?" question, the writer characterized them as "it am, therefore it thinks," and asked, "isn't this putting Descartes before the horse?" FR

About 5% of the run of any given page of NIEKAS will be rather poor, and I try to throw away the worst of these, and save the marginally acceptable copies for emergencies--that is, in case I run out of that page first when collating. However, some get past me as I am collating, and Mark Zibblemann must have gotten a particularly poor copy. ¶ If you want to see really magnificent ditto work, try to dig up some issues of TWIG ILLUSTRATED published about 5 years ago. (The aine, published by the first OE of N'APA, Guy Terwilliger, was originally galled TWIG, changed to TWIG ILLISTRATED for a few issues, and finally back to TWIG before folding. The T.I. issues were the best looking. ¶ Actually, the fair market price for those early Wonders, etc, was more like \$1 each than \$10 each, but even then it was a sad loss. ERM

TETRAGREMMATON # 1 *** James Wright Now, now, let's not be hasty about the Christian church. It reinforces our (official) attitude toward sex, all right, but don't give it credit for the originality needed to start the ball (oops, excuse) rolling. ¶ Dr. Ladonko's article on ESP is mostly concerned with setting up definitions (which, by the way, are inconsistent with Dr. Rhine's, if I remember correctly). However, mixed in with the definitions was a good bit of stuff which gives the impression that psi is a cookbook process. In particular, reducing the definitions to equations is as unnecessary as it is silly. If psi were mathematically describable, Dr. Ladonko, there wouldn't be any controversy as to whether it exists. Such pseudoscientific articles are part of the reason it is so hard to get people to take the subject seriously. ¶ I suspect magic has been discarded by scientists for the same reason ^{as} alchemical formulae for transmutation of elements: it didn't work. Physical scientists are very pragmatic. Also, magic, alchemy, medicine, (and so on) in those days were almost all charlatany, as is psi today; whatever truth there may have been in ESP and magic has unfortunately been thrown out with the fiction. Fortunately the natural sciences were obvious enough that they remained under study -- otherwise they might have disappeared the same way. I guess what I'm trying to say is, there is certainly enough in parapsychology to be worth investigating; but for heaven's sake don't state hypotheses as if they were facts. FR

ZZZ *** Alma Hill Lichtman claimed when he was OE that he corresponded with some officials of NAPA about our title and received assurances from them that they didn't object, but you know how far you can trust him. ¶ Was the bacover run backwards purposfully to emphasize the fact that it is a bacover, or accidentally? ERM

And this finishes the comments on the 22nd N'APA mailing. I will comment on the post mailings in NIEKAS 10, in the next regular bundle. Wow! The mailing was over 400 pages, there have already been some 50 pages of postmailings...so if Fred Lerner's fractional mailing is successful N'APA will cross the 500 page mark for the first time. I would like to see this happen once, to show we can do it, but not regularly. I feel 350 is about the ideal number of pages for an APA bundle. *** Fred Patten recently told me that the N'APA waiting list is up to about 20...I am really astounded by recent events regarding N'APAs growth.

I'm a bit late with this, but I do hope it gets to Fred in time for the 22.5th mailing. If not, it will be in the 23rd mailing. I do approve of the idea of fractional mailings, and hope that copies get to the membership in time for them to be able to respond in the regular mailing.

Oh yes, Felice has a disclaimer which she wanted me to print:

I've been pretty critical of the spelling in this mailing. In view of Ed's well known originality in this area, I had better state that I have carefully proof [sic!! ERM] read the typescript and Ed must take credit for whatever goes wrong with it between here and publication. Felice.

Well, that does it until December 15th.

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