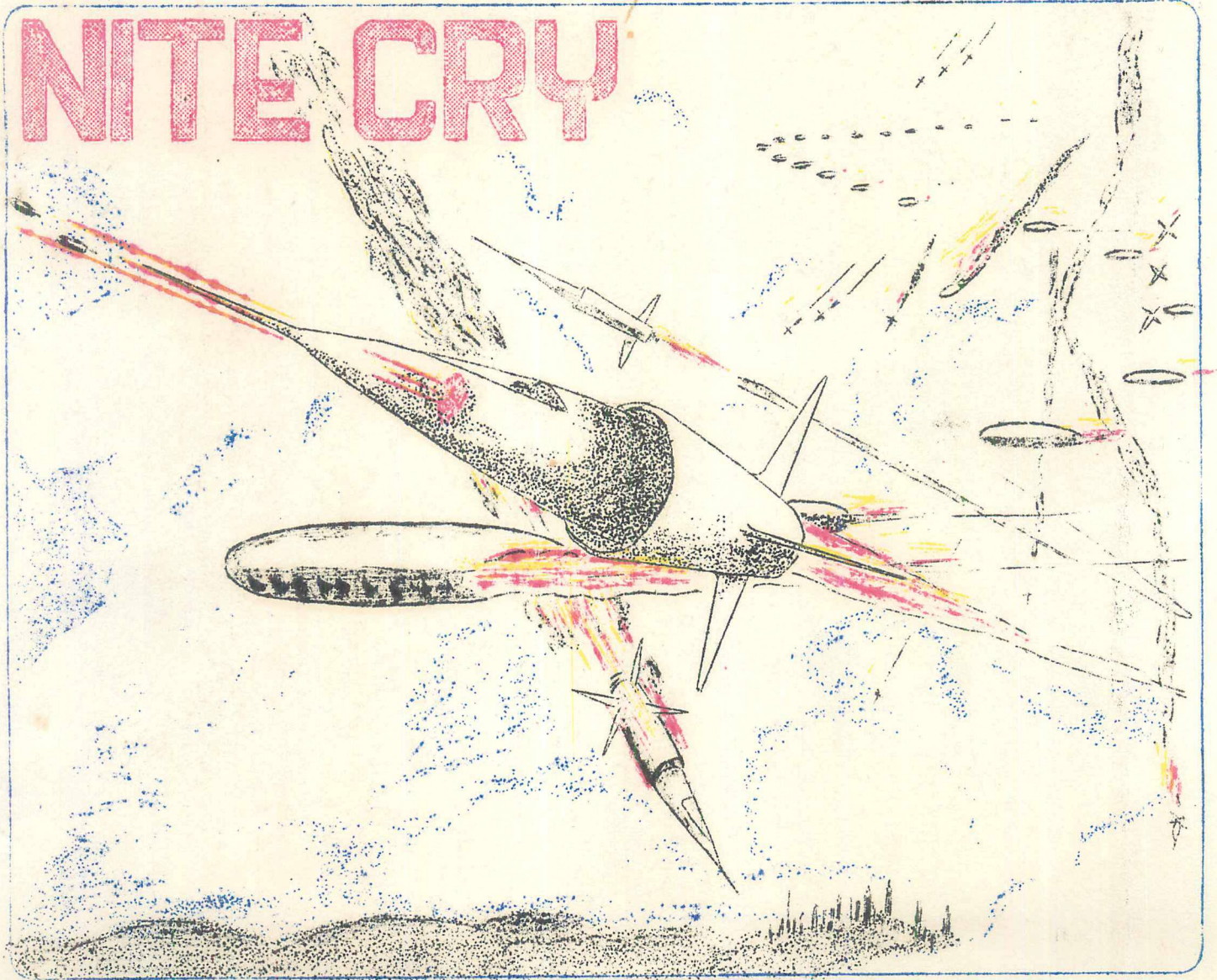


NITE CRY



DON CHAPPELL
Editor and Publisher

May 1956

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING	Don Chappell	2
HOCKAS, #2	Aga Yonder	6
SMOKE SIGNALS	Dan McPhail	7

[illegible][illegible]

NITE CRY is a member of FAPA and is available to general fandom in trade or donations will be accepted (10¢ an ish, three for 25¢) to offset the cost of publication. See you in the mailbox.



EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

Well, NITE CRY is back after an absences of six months. I hold hopes that there may even be those who are glad to see its return. The lack of activity has been caused by many things. Such as work and the necessity for going out of town several times. Also studies and a great deal of trouble with my eyes (caused partly by hours over a hot stencil) caused me to bring things to a sudden halt. Two Bucks paid into FAPA and a new pair of glasses and I'm off pubbing again.

To many of you in FAPA I am a stranger, so I will introduce myself. I am on the near side of 29 years and have been a SF fan for for twenty years. My paycheck comes a couple of times a month from IBM for whom I work as what is known as a customer engineer, which means I do the engineering and repair work on everything from keypunches (for making those little rectangler holes) to the big computers.

June 5th, I start about five months of schooling on one of the worlds biggest computers. This computer is the IBM 701 Electronic Data Processing Machine. For me this will be a big

step forward in so much that I will no longer work on some of our lesser equipment. I will have for a start four men working with me full time on the 701.

The 701 though spoken of as a machine is made up of a number of components. The main ones of these being the console, main frame (containing the arithmetic control circuits), memory (core storage), drum storage, tape units, card readers, card punch, printer and power supply along with other controlling units.

School will be held in Fort Worth, Texas and we plan to store all of our stuff here in Tulsa and get a furnished place in Texas for the five months period. This of course means that I will be unable to do any pubbing during this time but should bring an end to a year of semi-activity. I hope to be able to return with the next ish of NITE CRY in time for the November mailing of FAPA and from then on continue the bimonthly schedule that I had during '53, '54 and '55.

NITE CRY besides going to FAPA is sent to all those who trade and for those who have nothing to trade, a donation (To offset cost of printing and mailing) of 10¢ will usually bring the sender a couple of ishes.

To those of you who are seeing NITE CRY for the first time, Don't send me nasty letters commenting on the size. I have heard all about it before. This 2/3rds size was chosen for reasons of economy which are not all valid at this time. When the \$16 worth of legal size 24# paper that I am now using is gone I am going to go to a letter size.

The cover was drawn by Bob Alspaugh, computer operator of Douglas Aircraft. He does really fine artwork and I am sorry that the memeo does not lend itself better to the true reproduction of art.

Every time I run a multi-color cover I tell myself that it will be the last time but the fascination and challenge of it are more than I can resist. This is one of the reasons for my decision to go to letter size. It may be easier to do color where I am confronted with only one page on a stencil instead of the two pages as at present.

With the 70 copies to FAPA and 125 copies for general fandom NITE CRY will total close to 200 this ish. The largest so far its three years.

In the last ish there was a little problem in binary math posed with a prize of a pocket book. The problem: 10 plus 10 equals? The answer was 100. Sam Martinez was first with the correct answer with Ron Ellik being the only other one to answer correctly that I can remember. So Sam if you will let me know the title of any available pocketbook your prize will be sent.

Sam is to be thanked)or otherwise(for the fact that you ever see this for it has been his continous nagging that has made me keep working on NITE CRY to get it out. Ron Ellik is also to be thanked for his reminders to FAFPA mailing deadlines. Ron seems to be doing a fine job in his office.

As I sit here typing, looking at the zines in the bookcases that line the walls, it brings the thought to mind now that I again face the prospect of moving, as to how much I could get for my collection. For the most part it consists of all ASF from January, 1936 on, all Galaxy, F&FS, Other Worlds, Madge, If, and all of the ishes of many of those that were short lived and a few hundred odd pieces. Any offers?

The World Con at Cleveland last September left me with a feeling that something was missing. I believe that it was due to the fact that at a gathering so large one cannot get to really know people. At regional cons the group is smaller and everyone gets better acquainted. I know at the Oklacon everyone gets to know each other and really seem to have a much better time than many of those I saw at Cleveland.

I don't see, as things stand now, how I will be able to make this years Oklacon but hope that all fans in this part of the country turn out for it. The Oklacon has become an established local con with many fans returning year after year. Con date this year is July 8th and 9th. Sam Martinez, Box 4251, T Tulsa, Oklahoma can be contacted for more information.

Think I'll quit my rambling for a bit and let you get on to other things. But don't be disappointed. You'll probably be running into me again in a few more pages.

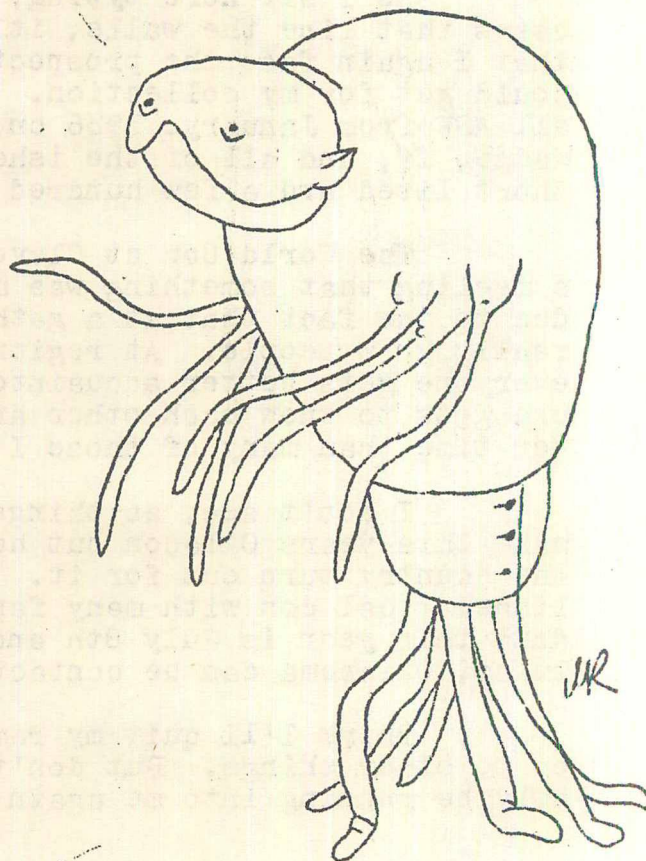
HOOKAS, #2

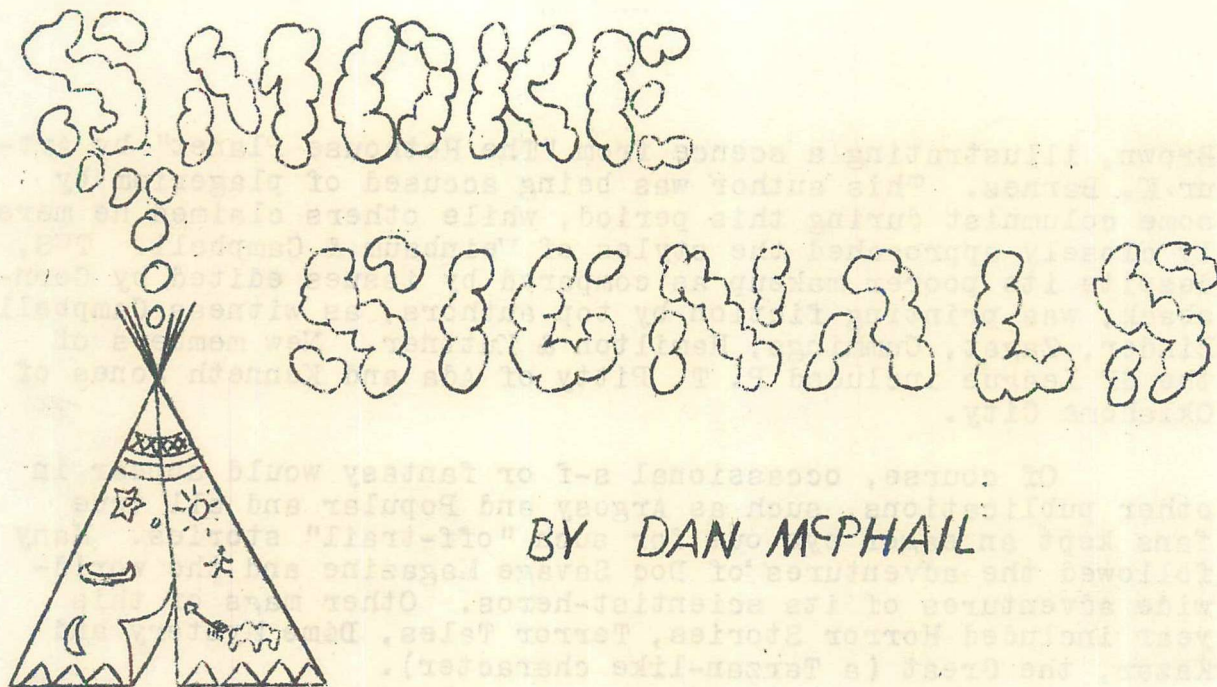
By AGA YONDER

The bitter cry of the dying man
Was harsh against my ears
It pounded my soul
With horror--cold
And multiplied my fears

And then my tongue was froze
As I stood there and saw
The Hookas begin
To feast and sin
Eating their victim raw.

But what chilled my heart
And terrified me more
Was that I
Would soon also die
...I had the same fate in store!





BY DAN McPHAIL

The last half of 1937 saw the demise of efforts to keep alive the type of a finely printed fan magazine of the style made famous by Fantasy Magazine and the increase of independent fanzine efforts by many new, and younger members of fandom. It also brought forth the birth of an organization destined to be the most enduring of all.

On the newstands, artists Brown and Wesso began alternating covers on Astounding. In the September issue appeared the big event of the year, however, the appearance of the 5th story by E. E. (Skylark) Smith, "Galactic Patrol".

Thrilling Wonder for Oct. had a rather garish cover by

Brown, illustrating a scene from "The Hothouse Planet" by Arthur K. Barnes. This author was being accused of plagiarism by some columnist during this period, while others claimed he merely closely approached the styles of Weinbaum & Campbell. TWS, despite its poorer makeup as compared by issues edited by Gernsback, was printing fiction by top authors, as witness Campbell Binder, Zagat, Cummings, Hamilton & Kuttner. New members of the SF League included P. T. Pitty of Ada and Kenneth Jones of Oklahoma City.

Of course, occasional s-f or fantasy would appear in other publications, such as Argosy and Popular and all true fans kept an eager eye out for such "off-trail" stories. Many followed the adventures of Doc Savage Magazine and the worldwide adventures of its scientist-heros. Other mags of this year included Horror Stories, Terror Tales, Dime Mystery and Kazar, the Great (a Tarzan-like character).

Scientifiction, "the British Fantasy Review" produced its 5th issue in Oct., featuring an interview with John Russell Fearn among its 16 printed pages. Also it revealed that the British Interplanetary Society decided it was aiming too high in selecting the Moon as first step in their goal of space conquest. By a 16 to 13 vote it decided that "the venue of the Society be moved from the Moon to New York".

Only two large size fanzines were published at this time. Johnny Baltadonis of Philadelphia produced a beautifully hectoed 20 page S. F. Collector. The editor did the cover and James Rogers the back, both good. The latter illustrated a

poem by James, titled "City". Inside illos by Dollens, Rothman Balty & Kyle with articles and columns by Wollheim, Moskowitz, Train, Carnell, Madle, Chapman, Speer and Paschall (that's me!) Frome and Kyle had short stories.



James Taurasi brought out in the Fall of '37 a nice hectoed 2nd issue of Cosmic Tales Quarterly. Its 20 pages contained three short stories and three departments, plus readers page. Dollens and the editor illustrated.

As you know, Corwin Stickney tried hard to continue Fantasy Magazine, when he merged it with his Science-Fantasy Correspondent. The magazine was well printed, size 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x8, numbering 32 pages in the Sept-Oct issue. A contest was announced for the best story written around artist Blanchard's cover (Prize: copy of "Phantom in the Rainbow" by Slater LaMaster). Fiction by Binder and Bloch and an article by Sam Moskowitz were included among the contents. In an effort to increase circulation, the title was changed to Amateur Correspondent and a strong bid made for readers among stamp collectors and other hobbies. The printer was one Frank Bogart and he was using every means to develop circulation and as an old ad man, he saw the advantage of tying in

the stamp fans and others to increase circulation. A vast amount of non-stf classified ads were carried, and they claimed world-wide distribution, but fandom apparently deserted Stickney and the Correspondent faltered. Bogart was trying to develop a profit item and it brings to mind how, after my own fan magazine was suspended, I went to work in Oklahoma City for an engraver who knew of my ayjay publishing. He suggested that I design a fan mag that would be a new idea in fandom, in that it would include numerous photo-engravings. He proposed to do the printing, and share the profits with me in return for half of a run of 1500 copies, which he was going to mail to printing and newspapers to advertise the excellence of his engravings. I still have the dummy of the un-born "Pictorial Phantasy".

Two other publications came out of the Comet stables in Philadelphia: The 4th issue of Imaginative Fiction, editor: Oswald Train. Hectoed. 20 pages. Excellent numerous cover by Baltadonis headed this "Burlesque" issue. Also out was the initial number of Bob Madles' Fantascience Digest. The present-day author of the popular "Inside Science Fiction" in SFQ had 32 pages of interesting contributions by Kuttner, Lowndes, Rothman, Van Houton, Conover, and J. Harvey Haggard. Hectoing was somewhat faint inside, but excellent on covers.

From the west coast came one of the first of a long parade of California fanzines: Unique Tales, printed size 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 $\frac{3}{4}$, 20 pages. Editor Russell Leadabrand had a cover cut but no inside illos for a short story and several articles.

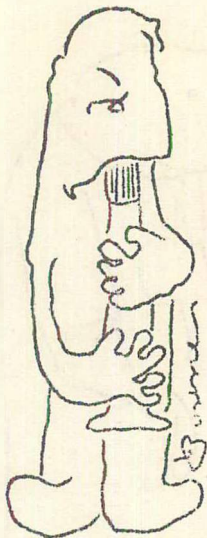
Final item from my files for this era is the long-delayed first issue of Fantasy Mirror, hectoed 16 pages. This

was designed as an article-zine and featured Ted Carnell's 'Transatlantic Commentary', transferred from my old News; and a New York columnist, Solitaire (who was Dave Kyle). I had a page called "Reflections from the Fantasy Field". Editor Harry Dockweiler enclosed an Open letter of excuse for the delay and stated subscribers would receive a complimentary copy of #2 to repay them for their long wait. However, it never appeared and later I talked with Harry about taking over its production, but nothing came of it.

As I mentioned in the last Nite Cry, 1937 saw the beginning of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association, fandom's oldest and most active organization. The story I am going to relate about its beginning should be of special interest to Oklahomans in as much as five are now members and Walt Bowart and Kent are on the waiting list. Thus it appears that eventually the Sooners will be a strong element in Association affairs.

Prior to moving from Oklahoma





City to Comanche in mid-year of 1937, I had given a great deal of thought to the idea of banning together amateur s-f publishers into an organization of mutual interest. To that end I prepared a one-page bulletin to be sent to editors of fandom. I knew, of course, of the established amateur press groups (I formerly belonged to the American APA) and felt the fantasy field deserved something similar. But to show why this press club faded away while the other flourished, let me quote from a letter I sent Wollheim, dated June 21, 1937: "Your remarks re the FAPA has whetted my desire for more info. Please send same, for I want to join. And odd thing re the FAPA is the fact that some six weeks ago I laid plans for an "Internaional Amateur S. F. Editors Ass'n." and made carbon copies of a bulletin, one of which I enclose. They were never mailed out to the 20 names I had in mind, due to

the fact that I decided to change the name (tentative) to "Amateur S. F. Press Ass'n". But I'm glad some one else has started it....and I'm all for 'em....its something for fan fi field has needed."

I have before me as I write the Bulletin of the IASFEA, dated June 1, 1937. Between that date and when I typed the letter above, we moved to Comanche, and I gave up my idea to join hands with the founders of the FAPA. I believe I was a



about the tenth person to actually "sign up".

Under Don Wollheim and others the FAPA was launched that year, and I had the privilege to serve as their first Vice-President. Our first mailing was a small affair of a dozen publications totaling only 42 pages. By contrast, the 72nd mailing contains 43 publications, numbering 485 pages!

At the start, there was difficulty in obtaining enough members to fill the 50-man limit; whereas now there are 66 members with 27 on the waiting list! Now that I have re-entered FAPA after a lapse since 1940, I would like to point (with local pride!) that the only two original charter members still in the organization (Jack Speer and myself) are Oklahomans!

IF

continues to arrive regularly in the mail box thru the good will of Mr. Quinn. One issue even arrived with no wrapper or address. IF has a new factory at Kingston, N.Y., the local of the IF editorial offices. Duplication of the story The Executioner in IF and ASF was one of those things that makes you wonder 'whaa hoppen'. April IF was a well rounded ish, June on hand but not read yet.



NITE CRY
547 SO 79TH E. AVE.
TULSA, OKLA.

TO

For reading
Postage Guaranteed
Frontal Photo
Only

Printed in U.S.A.

