



This is NULL-F #28, published for FAPA mlg. 99 by Ted White, 339 - 49th St., Brooklyn 20, N.Y. It is a Small Issue. It has been written and will be run off at the Last Possible Moment--indeed possibly After The Last Possible Moment; we shall see. Next issue will be somewhat larger.

NOTED: 98

THE FANTASY AMATEUR: Burbee & Others - I think I covered this pretty thoroughly in F#27.

SILME: Bjo - A good zine, but still frightfully scrappy looking considering the talent which produced it. ### It's amusing to see one of the judges saying of Sylvia's "World of Sesha", "after a good beginning, the background fuzzes out as if Sylv's inspiration had suddenly stalled and spun in," considering that the background was painted first and the foreground was almost an afterthought... But then, I guess most fans want their art as tight and sharp as an Emsh line drawing, and haven't much experience with painting outside the covers of the stfmags they buy.

A SALES PITCH TO ETC.: Bjo - I hope you'll appreciate the fact that I did not say in F#27 that which I must say here: that I am absolutely opposed to the notion of FAPA sponsoring a Fan Art Show Award... My private feelings towards the Show don't enter into this, as you know, but I do not feel that this show ranks the other fan projects FAPA has refused to patronize, and I cannot see an exception here. Worthy, the Show may be, but FAPA is not a profit-making institution (like some conventions) which can afford to siphon off funds from the treasury for other uses. Oh well. I suspect that a treasury report after the 100th mailing will render this a moot point in any case.

MOONSHADE: Moffatt - Quite possibly along with eternal life one will be required to give up some semen for the sperm bank and then be sterilized.

LE MOINDRE: Raeburn - Congratulations on making six pages! ### One significant difference between eastern and western railroads is that the eastern lines are all short-haul operations, and faced with heavy commuter traffic. This tends not to pay as well. However, I suspect that railroading as we once knew it is dying, and that it will have to be replaced by something new and better adapted for the circumstances. Did you know that once you could take a trolley car from Brooklyn straight to Boston, with 45 changeovers and at 5¢ initial fare plus 5¢ for each changeover? Think of it: trolley cars from New York to Boston! Why, that's as incredible as the fantastic canal system which was first used to link up the East and which perished fifty or so years earlier yet. (The trolleys died out on an interurban level in the '20s.)

DAY*STAR: Bradley - I simply do not understand why a person like yourself, whose views on sex and sex in literature are liberal, should react so strongly when someone attempts to put them into practice. Your recent snipings at VENTURE, "Affair With A Green Monkey," and the Silverberg "crew girl" story don't jibe.

H-1661: Hevelin - There is a very good reason for publishing "our lengthy constitution every other mailing": to keep it handy for reference. Not all of us have either the system or the inclination to file our mailings orderly; and, in these tense times, having a constitution ready to hand is indeed of vast importance to our feelings of

emotional security.

PHLOTSAM: Economou - I agree with you that sonic booms every afternoon are not ideal for the human temperment. It seems to me that the government can be (you'll pardon the expression) sued to cease creating sonic booms over densely populated metropolitan areas. It's been proven that noise is not healthy for the nervous system, and such nerve-wracking percussions could probably shake up even the most healthy, Chinese-water-torture-like... ## On IQ tests...: 1. Achievement tests measure what you've learned (physics or higher math), while IQ tests measure your reasoning and problem-solving abilities. As a rule, when an IQ test presents a problem which calls for technical information, the information is supplied, be it a simple algebraic formula (area of a circle equals πd^2) or the function of specific tools needed to work upon machinery. 2. Feel sorry for the ones who stick to one problem which they cannot solve and thus complete very little of a test, but remember that they were instructed not to waste time on questions and to skip them until later if they had the time, and thus their (a) inability to follow instructions and (b) inability to reason for themselves to their own advantage on a test which is designed to measure just such reasoning--all this is taken into account as part of the test. Their resultant low score is an accurate indication of their problem-solving abilities. The test itself, after all, is simply another problem. 3. Nowadays they have a word (or term, rather) for those of us whose scores on IQ tests were not borne out by our classroom grades: "under-achievers." Frankly this always bugged me. I felt that if I did as well as anyone else there was no reason to penalize me because of my higher IQ scores. But then, I seem to belong to a group which cares very little for formal schooling and applies most of its Higher IQ to getting by on as little work as possible. I maintained a B average throughout high school without doing more than a fraction of the work required. I'm not very proud of that now, but I was then. ## As a "vociferous HUAC opposer" I don't deny there's "undercover subversion to be dealt with," but I doubt greatly that my idea of "undercover subversion" and yours and my idea of how to deal with it and yours have much in common. I see communist activity in this country divided into two areas: genuine spying activities, and separately coordinated attempts to sway people to a communist point of view or outright communist loyalty. The former is not the business of the HUAC, except as when legislation may be needed to deal with it (and such can be suggested best by the government agencies whose duties include guarding against spies and traitors). The latter, if it currently exists at all is probably of negligible importance, but it (or the spectre of it) is what most arouses the furor of the HUAC. The time has long since passed when our basic system of life in this country looked bad to even a significant minority of our citizens, and without this vacuum waiting to be filled by a new ideology, there is little chance of any significant "subversion of minds." In other words, the rebel before he can be sold rebellion must have a solid reason for dissatisfaction with his lot. Today most Americans are Fat Cats, and hardly dissatisfied with anything at all, except The Communist Menace. So the HUAC, out tilting at windmills, the most valid of which is the ineffectual American Communist Party, views every area of liberal thought with the deepest suspicion, and identifies adolescent rebellion with political rebellion. Frankly, the HUAC has done nothing except to earn my deepest contempt. ## Frankly, you and I must have fantastically divergent tastes in erotica. I did not find Ed Martin's GROTESQUE "obscene," "unmailable," or "salacious." Poorly written, and maybe even boring, yes. Of little value to FAPA, yes. But obscene? Hardly. Of course, obscenity is in the eye

of the beholder, and it just may be that you have a dirtier mind than I do, Phyllis. ## I suppose this ties in with your blast at Harness on the next page. I did not find "Pal Jesus" "offensive," although I didn't think it was that funny either. How did it step on your corns? What I mean is, just how did the piece become "offensive" to you? Did it upset a cherished religious belief? Did you find it blasphemous? If it did, I can see its "offense" to you. But I am damned well sick and tired of the Bleeding Hearts whose motto is Don't Risk Offending, and who have expurgated all reference to race, creed, national origin and brand name from their humor, their fiction, and their very thoughts. You say that the "most basic aim of true Liberals" is "the fight for respect and acceptance of every individual without regard to race, creed or color," and then brand fans hypocrites for daring to blaspheme the Christian religion! Frankly, this is muddy thinking the likes of which I never expected to hear from anyone but GMCarr, may her resting bones never twitch. One of the marks, Phyllis, of a true liberal (lower case L), is that he forms his relationships with people without regard for race, color, and the rest of that jazz, and in so doing does not edit his thoughts and actions so as to avoid "touchy subjects." The best "Jewish jokes" I ever heard (despite your heartfelt belief that such no longer exist) were told me by Jews, and my friends who are Jews and Negroes often discuss problems, tell jokes on themselves, etc., in a far more uninhibited fashion than the Bleeding Hearts would ever dream possible. When I'm with them, I talk with them as a friend, not as a White Man or a Goy. Anything less would be hypocrisy. Now religion is something else: it is both a balm and a superstitious curse, and it is often founded upon mountains of taboo fabrications and falsehoods. I was raised a Christian and I rejected it. Anyone who wants to discuss comparative religion, mysticism, etc., with me is welcome to do so, with the understanding that I am contemptuous of anyone who blindly parrots the Line and thinks he is speaking logically and rationally. These people are wide open to satire, as the closed-mind types always are, no matter what their beliefs or creed. What seems to upset you is that Christianity has been a taboo subject for satire and now someone has come along and ignored the taboo. But does your ire rise as easily every time a third rate TV show mocks one of the eastern religions? Are you as easily offended by satire of "pagan rites"? Come now: let's not be hypocritical. ## Not only is there a "pro market" for Terry's "Blind Clarinet," the "pro market" (me) commissioned the story first, and later bought it. ## Eney never fails to "retaliate," even when it means dreaming up an offense to retaliate against. ## I quite agree with you about the foolishness of the lawsuit, but you're off your rocker if you think I wouldn't hire my own lawyer when I am served with papers demanding \$75,000.00 of me. When somebody sues you, you jolly well get competent legal advice; you don't just sit back and say "Come off it, kids!" ## As a matter of fact, Rhine's "proof" of telepathy itself isn't even valid. It may exist, but he hasn't proven it. ## I see no undue offset, show-thru, or poor printing or paper.

ANKUS: Pelz - "I see no reason to assume that ten FAPAns would get together and plot against a Wler for spite or for any other unjustifiable reason." Considering your awareness of the very occurrence of this at the Seacon, Bruce, I find your naive, innocent amazement hard to swallow. And since you've named Walter Breen as the prospective blackballee, why not name the names of those who, for malicious, petty, and false reasons tried to organize the blackball? Or are these moral cowards unable to take credit for their rumor-mongering?

TARGET FAPA: Eney - How coincidental a juxtaposition! ## "In OMPA it was Ted's graceless reaction to the good news about

Willis that he, or mouthpiece /Andy/Main for him, denied." I'm afraid that this and "Unfortunately Ted's FR was one of those singled out by the PO Inspector as unmailable" are statements with which I cannot agree.

VANDY: Coulsons - As a matter of fact, Buck, I goofed on Canadian 3rd Class postage rates. When I checked with the PO, they hauled out an official rate sheet which stated that it was still 3¢, or the same as US domestic rates. And I'd been paying 4¢ for several issues of VOID, too... ## Apparently the Army agrees with me after all... ## I know exactly what you mean, Juanita, about liking to play music loud. My new stereo outfit has 20 watts on each channel, which isn't all that great but is enough to give me music as loud as I'd ever want it, relatively distortion-free. But Sylvia's sound-threshold or something is so much lower that music played loud the way I like it is painful to her. Recently I was playing the set of Gershwin Duo-Art piano rolls recorded by 20th Century Fox in stereo (they sound quite "lifelike" and not at all mechanical), and I was sitting back and saying to Sylvia, "There. Doesn't that sound just like a piano right here in our very own home?" "It's too loud," she said. "I'm blocking it out because I can't stand it that loud." I tried to explain to her that it was no louder than a real piano would be in the same room (I'd adjusted the volume for this), but she didn't care. "What would you do if we went to a jazz club or a concert," I said, "and you couldn't turn the volume down?" ## I'm a little surprised, Juanita, that you didn't figure out that the Reiss illo on the contents page of F #22 was Gestefaxed. Thass just too much black area for me to ever want to do by hand. ## Agreed: State cops seem as a rule much nicer and less prone to local/political pressures than city cops. The ones who've stopped me once or twice for speeding on the Pensy Turnpike and Jersey Turnpike have been quite decent. Of course, that's about the extent of my contact with them.

CELEPHAIS: Evans - I don't know if you ever ate a meal at the Hitchcocks', but you probably remember that they were/are vegetarian. They carried this to extreme limits; I recall they even had a "salt substitute" which as I recall wasn't very salty. They made imitation meat patties out of some vegetable composition sold for the use which had the texture of ground beef but none of the flavor. Much of Mrs. Hitchcock's food I enjoyed, but not the imitation meat.

PHANTASY PRESS: McDaniel - Why, yes, Ed, I do read PHANTASY PRESS. Do you read LIGHTHOUSE? If you should ever get around to reading the fourth issue, you'd find that the real keen article about Terry's brother really wasn't an article at all! It's a story! How about that? Then too, if you ever read THETA, you'd find I didn't have anything to do with it. That's Jack Harness' zine and he even lives in a different city. ## I don't see why you bothered to commission Kerry Dame or whatever her real name is to do that cover for you. You could've swiped the drawings yourself from newspaper department store ads as easily as she did. ## I think maybe our treasury could do without any more prestige, but it sure is swell to think of our pioneer club taking positive steps. Yes. ## The super "pastel color" on the covers of LIGHTHOUSE and NULL-F was created for us by the exclusive "Ditto" process. Write for details. ## I don't think "moot" means exactly the same thing as "good", Ed. Better check on that.

SERCON'S BANE: Busby, F.M. - Well, actually, Buz, I think you're right. ## Okay, I'll blow the gaff. "The Fourth of June" is built largely out of a set of disconnected episodes which occurred

to me on June 4, 1961. I strung them together and gave the narrator a personality somewhat different from my own, and made a "story" out of it. The observations about girl-watching are mine, of course, and the girl who plays the central role was real and about as described. The thing which initially jarred me to the extent of wanting to write about it was that this chance "encounter" was so outre. I did guess right about the way she looked, and she did go through all that rigamarole with the Russian note. ## All this talk about "dropping defenses" makes me think you think the instant we did anything of the sort Red Troups would be Landing On Our Beaches... ## Girl Watching is not a science--it is an art. The point system is simply a method of attempting the communication of inarticulate subjective reactions which could only otherwise come out as "Wow!" or "Ugh." The general practice is to watch the sidewalks while driving through a city. If there is a preponderance of girls worth second looks, or several Outstanding Beauties, then the city rates high. If on the other hand the streets are crawling with nothing but creeps the city is forgotten as soon as possible. I doubt either Bob or I could recall any no-star cities, although there were some; we simply forgot them. The whang-bangeros like Salt Lake City were what stuck in our minds. By the bye, A&W Root Beer stands rated quite well with us on our most recent jaunt through the country.

SALUD: Busby, E. - I can understand Bjo's position on breakfasts perfectly. In fact, you may have noticed that I did not exactly wolf a huge meal for breakfast myself. There are those of us who don't start functioning right away when we get up; we usually dig late-night activity and will eat before going to bed. No matter how empty we may feel upon rising, we rarely feel hungry, at least for an hour or two. ## I always heard the two types of clam chowder classified as "Manhattan style" and "New England style" rather'n "Coney Island" and "Boston," but I suppose this is of a piece with the "Coney Island" joints in other cities which have nothing to do with the places on Coney Island... ## The newspaper article was given to me by Fred von Bernewitz, who got it I believe from John Benson (a Philadelphia fringe-fan). I thought it might shake you up to see it in FAPA, but of course my real reason for pubbing it was because it was the best newspaper article of that sort I'd seen and I felt that even if you all were modest about it FAPAns would get a kick from it. ## Maturity doesn't end a woman's attractiveness, but it usually spells the end of a girl's attractiveness, if I may pick a nit... It's just that there are some types who go for girlishness. This is always essentially frustrating for grown men; they inevitably find out that the fresh young (and sometimes indeed beautiful) body they are attracted to is inhabited by an emotionally immature and often just plain shallow mind. On the other hand there are women who preserve a girlish look after reaching maturity; Sylvia is one of them. She is usually judged to be two to four years younger than she is. ## "Does Hal Lynch have glittering eyes?" No. ## I was a child with a marginally unusual first name--the only "Teddy" in my neighborhood or school--and my life was not made happier by the fact.

HORIZONS: Warner - I've ridden subway and el cars dating back further than 1913, which haven't changed appreciably since then and still are ridden by the same crowded masses as in the silent movies. ## I'm no "oldster" and I remember the NRA blue eagle--I collected pulps of the thirties... ## Landlords must figure turning the thermostat down is cheaper--it's a uniform practice. Come to think of it though, my parents do this too. ## But, but, Harry! Cab drivers wouldn't want to drive a cab while using mescaline. He wouldn't be that incap-

acitated, actually, but his mental processes would be quite lucid and he wouldn't try to do anything like driving a car or anything else which required predictable coordination or reflex skills. On the other hand, I'd damned well walk before riding in a cab driven by anyone with "too much to drink". Alcohol acts in a deceptive fashion upon the brain, blanking out the inhibitory function which would tell a man to think better of driving. I'm surprised at you; you seem to misunderstand the fundamental effects of the two drugs--and plenty of information is available for you, the handiest being deRopp's Drugs and the Mind, a Grove Press/Black Cat paperback, as well as both being legal for your personal experimentation. Aside from all that, your analogy is quite unlikely; Cab drivers are very unlikely to drive while alcoholically lubricated since it's against the law and subject to heavy fines, loss of chauffeur's license, etc. ## The obvious solution to your problems with the need for a housekeeper and the neighbors' opinions of strange women in your house and all that is to get married.

THE DIRECTORY OF 1961 SCIENCE FICTION FANDOM: Bennett - I moved.

ALIF: K. Anderson - Gosh it sure is great to be able to read about how you actually and literally hobnobbed with the Great and Near Great both here and in SAPS, Karen.

BU8798b: Cox - A swinging zine, Ed. ## Trouble with good stuff on TV is that you can't find it unless you pour over the TV guides each week, searching out the fine type. Which, when we had a set, I never had time to do. ## I'm less certain than you that certain FAPans are "above the pettiness needed to start yanking out people willy-nilly for pet personal peeves." Last time it was just that there weren't ten such petty types. ## It's true we all chitter-chatter somewhat, but I think our individual writing styles can be distinguished. It's funny though that you should lump Terry, Pete and me in the same boat, writing-style-wise, since there was once a time when the Berkeley contingent claimed that all the Washingtonians (meaning Castora, Harness, Eney and me) wrote like each other. Somehow I doubt that I've ever written like anyone else, although ghod knows sometimes I've tried. ## Maybe the gearing in the spacing mechanism of your typer is worn or missing teeth.

RAMBLING FAP 29: Calkins - Yes, Masterweave has been getting slicker and less porous, but I dunno why. The paper we use (Katone, 85¢ a ream locally) is pretty pulpy except for the canary color, which is thinner and slicker. ## Canadian money is measured in dollars and cents just like Real American Money, Gregg. Not "pounds." ## There are police departments and there are police departments, Gregg. In NYC policemen have been known to fire at pursesnatchers in the rush-hour crowded Grand Central Station, hitting and wounding bystanders with predictable regularity. In Falls Church the police chief, in a fit of enthusiasm, shot and killed a highschool math teacher, while playing with his gun in a drugstore. You'll forgive me if I wish we had a few more laws to curb these little pecadillos, won't you? And perhaps some safeguard against the police committing burglaries, like in Chicago, Texas and NYC, too... ## Hell, Gregg, some of my best friends are Canadians.

RAMBLING FAP 30: Calkins - I caught a few errors which I'll pass on: Ellick attended the 1956 Worldcon in New York too; Eney was not OE in 1960 unless you count his helping the Youngs with the August 1960 mailing, and he could not have attended a 1950 Worldcon in Philly (regional Phillycon maybe?).