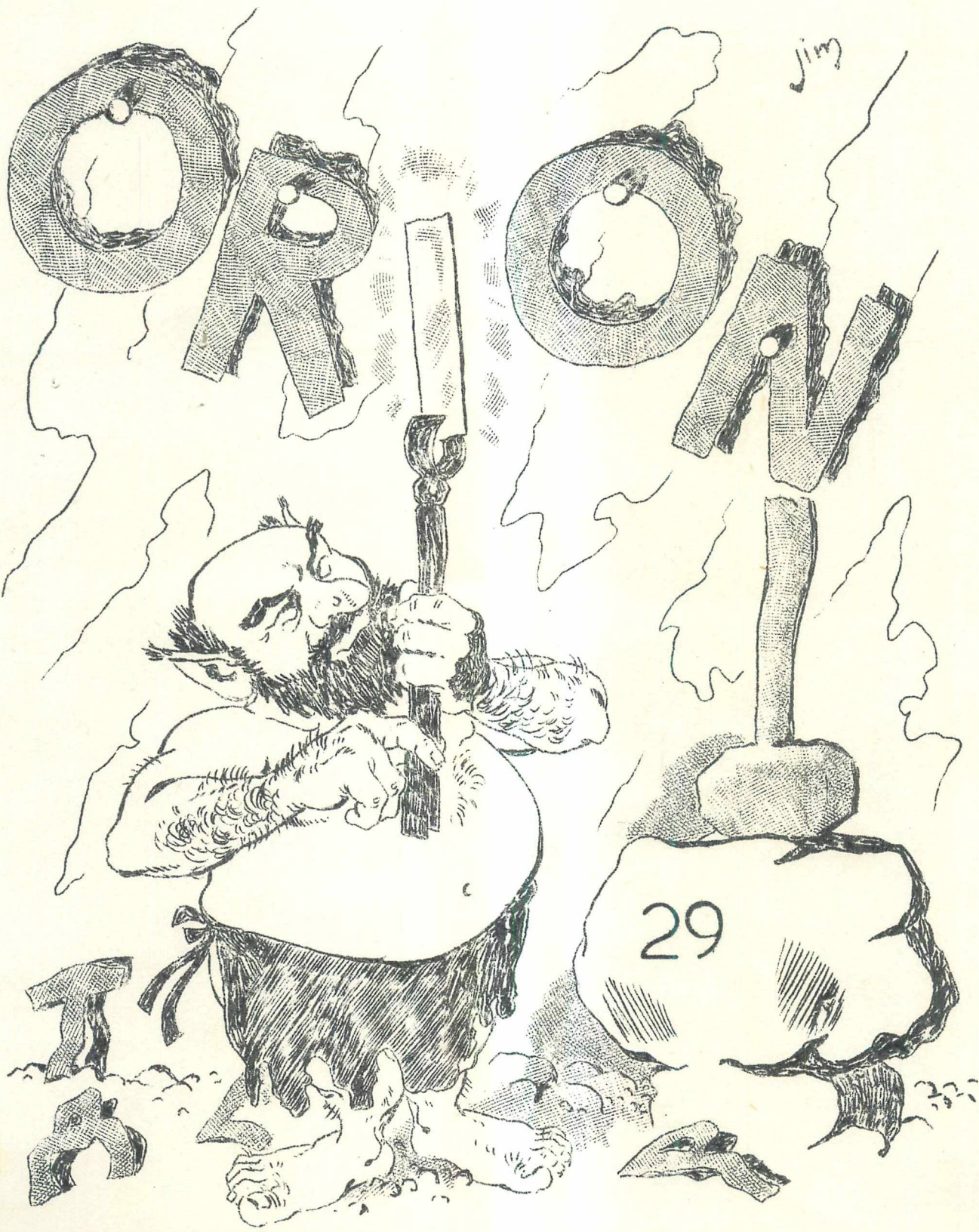
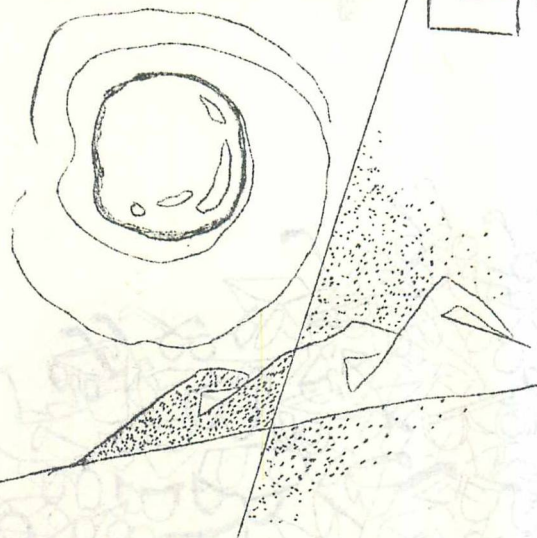


Jim





ORION 29



Credits

Front cover by Jim Cawthorn.

Headings by ATom, who else?

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Has anyone heard from Andy Young? I seem to have lost touch with him and I'm anxious to know if he is able to finish his PUMBLE series. I wrote to his new address given in AXE but nothing has come of it. Anyone?

specs



ELLA ANDERSON PARKER

Look at that ruddy heading up there! What's the betting it falls to pieces on the duplicator? I see this time I have been given my full title. What do you suppose got into him

Most of you in the YSI column have really had a bash at TAFF. Lots of good ideas have come forth, others maybe not so good. Having read all the letters received by ORION it becomes increasingly apparent that some changes are needed. Ron Ellik has begun the good work by acknowledging all TAFF donations and those of you who get AXE from the Shaws and saw the results this action of Ron's got from the Lupoffs can only applaud and agree it is an improvement. All it needed was the

personal touch to make those subscribing feel appreciated.

Concerning what we were saying about these TAFF reports. As, after all expenses have been cleared, the profits go to the Fund why shouldn't it be possible for the Administrators to advance the money needed for publishing in the first place? It could easily be arranged. The U.S. Administrator would finance the one on his side of the Pond, and the British one on this side. If those of us who voted sent in enough to cover a copy - room could be made on the voting form for us to indicate whether or no we want to have one - they would know how many copies were needed. A standard price could be set to cover the cost and it would be up to the individual winner if he wanted to lay out extra cash to include photopages at his own expense. The person writing the report would order his/her own paper and could either pay the bill forwarding it to the TAFF Administrator s/he is succeeding for authorisation or could have it sent straight to them for payment from the funds. Either way, the cost of it would appear in the accounting rendered each year.

Few of you gave any indication of how or why you chose one over another to represent you in TAFF. Personally, I decided on the basis of what they have done in and for fandom in general. A fan prolific in letter writing to the fmz wouldn't stand a chance in my book against a fan who worked on Conventions, clubs, or any other way works for the bulk of his friends in fandom. The first race in which I was qualified to vote was 1960 when Don Ford was a candidate. He had long worked for TAFF among many other things. I had no problems. Eric Bentcliffe had done a stint as Secretary of the British Science Fiction Association. He was also co-editor of a genzine but of the two I considered the first of most importance to fandom. Again there was no problem. On this basis the same applies this time as well. Fandom has too few workers and Ethel Lindsay is one of the hardest workers among those we do have. I leave you to guess for whom I'll be voting.

Talking about reports....well, we were up there a minute ago. The sum total of votes seems to favour a oneshot. This brings its own problems. I can't possibly afford Gestetner paper for both ORION and the report so I've gone back to using the smaller quarto size that I get from Chapmans for ORION and the Gestetner will be used for the oneshot. The title? It has two actually. I chose "PARKER'S PEREGRINATIONS", and am using it but, John Baxter, in one of his more flippant moods, gave me a second one I considered too good to ignore so I also have a sub-title: or, "THE HARPY STATESIDE." With thanks to John, my sincere apologies to WAW who I'm sure will enjoy the joke as much as any of us.

I am running off the first instalment with this issue of O. I've got to do the thing in this way; I can't afford to lay out £££££ for all the paper it's going to take. There will be an instalment ready to go out every time an O is due. Those of you who find a copy of the HARPY with this will know you are slated for free copies. If the rest of you want to buy one it will cost you \$1.50. (to Betty Kujawa) or 10/- (to Ted Forsyth). I can't tell you how long it will be. All I know is, that in the first part I've dealt only with my five days in L.A. and it comes to 30pp. Need I add it is liberally sprinkled with ATomillos?

"This is a oneshot?" I can hear in the distance. It will be by the time you have all the parts and staple them together. I'm sorry to do this to you but the alternative is to leave it until I can buy all the paper and it's anyone's guess when that would be. I must be completely honest and tell you, the money will be used to help me get out of the debts I incurred by coming to the SEACON. I hope you won't interpret that as a CRY for help; I just don't want there to be any misunderstandings about it. I was going to sell it for the BSFA but certain of my friends said I'd be mad to do that when I owed so much money elsewhere. Get your orders in as soon as possible because I am restricting the run-off. I

don't want to have stacks of them lying about for months. On this first part I am doing a run-off of 120. This will be cut according to the orders we have received by next publishing date. I should warn you that now I'm back I intend to try and keep to a quarterly schedule.....famous last words!

Some apologies in advance. I began the dupering of the report on Friday night when I had a houseful of fen. Today, Saturday, I checked over what I'd got through and discovered that pp 1,3,5,7, & 9 have their margins on the wrong side. Damnitohell! I think that's all I have to tell you about it.

////////////////////////////////////

GEORGE LOCKE IS BACK! He can now be reached at:- 85, Chelsea Gardens, Chelsea, London. S.W.1. It's been one of those weeks at the Penitentiary. I had Brian Jordan staying here for a week; he was in London for some business interviews and, as I hardly ever see him other than at Convention time, I was glad of the chance to get some talk with him. In spite of what he says, I did too let him get a word in. Why, I didn't even make him work on the duplicator. Brian was here from one Thursday to another. I knew that George was expected back in England the Tuesday before Brian would be here but didn't know how long it would take for him to become a civilian again. It was Thursday when they both, Brian and George, arrived.

We had so much to say three-ways, it became almost incoherent for a while. The SFCoL had planned a social weekend, party kind, for George and you can then imagine my dismay to hear him say he'd be going to the country for the weekend with his parents. I had to tell him what we had planned so he could wangle out of this other deal. I'm glad to report he was successful. Friday night is BSFA night here and we had a goodly bunch in. Some how it has devolved into an 'open' evening whether they are in the BSFA or not. As George's parents were away that weekend, he stayed on with Brian. Ethel Lindsay was also here for the night as we had a ConCommittee meeting slated for Saturday morning. We sent the boys off to bed and, even tho' we knew we had to be fairly early next day, Ethel and I sat talking until about 3.30 am. As often as she and I get together we never seem to get talked out.

I had just about fed my lodgers and Jimmy Groves was here....tell a lie, I remember now - I told you it had been one of those weeks - Jimmy got here about 4ish in the afternoon. The four of us had fed, talked, got my shopping in and generally talked up a storm. We were hard at it when Jimmy arrived. We just about got through our business when the first of our party members arrived. For the rest of the evening was a blur of faces and voices. I know it went well because no-one seemed to want to break it up. ATom had to leave pretty early so gave Ted Forsyth and Errol Pace(a new club member) a lift home. Don Geldart and Bruce Burn left at the same time and the rest of them were here for the night.

When I came down in the morning they were all up and rarin' to go. Pat Kearney, Jimmy Groves, George, Brian and Ethel were the die-hards remaining to me. We had arranged to go to see "THE ROAD TO HONG-KONG" that afternoon but couldn't leave until Keith Otter(BSFA & new club member) had arrived, he was coming with us. I don't know how many of you have seen this film. I urge all sf fen to go. It may have been because I don't go to the cinema often but I laughed until I ached at the scene of them in the space-ship. The whole film was worth sitting through for that one alone. It's the same old "ROAD" recipe and none too good at that. I won't tell you any more about it, go see it for yourself. The rest of that week was spent talking to George, talking to Brian, partly made a tape to Betty, bashing out stencils for O and the other item, planning for our Easter Con.

weekend and generally living in a whirl. It has been so long since I wrote any letters, my typewriter automatically sets itself for stencil-cutting when I come near it.

The big topic of conversation between us all has been that of the British Conventions - past and future. The only person to comment in detail about my remarks anent these functions in my last editorial was, Sid Birchby. (See YSI.) I was more than interested in his comparisons with how his Amateur Winemaker's Assoc. Conventions are treated and ours. Of course, the flaw in ours is so obvious I wonder we haven't done anything about it before. We always aim our conventions and make our arrangements for hotel accomodation to suit those with the least to spend. This is a mistake. Anyone - I don't care how young or broke they may be - really wanting to attend a Convention has a full year in which to save for it. If they don't feel able to put 10/- or even 5/- away every week they could try salting away every 6d piece or 3d they get in their change. It's really surprising how this mounts up. That takes care of that moan before it's had a chance to deafen us and muddy the issue.

I would suggest that during each Convention those attending, having been told who is putting on the following year's event, should find the person heading their Committee and pay 5/- membership. If this is done at once you are then a member whether you attend or not. The whole fee should be annually, no matter where it is held or by whom it is put on, 15/- for all those attending (1/- for overseas memberships to facilitate mailing). If these sums are permanent there is no delay because we don't know how much the membership fee is going to be this/next year. ((If London gets the '63 Convention these are the fees that will obtain.)) It is also time the Convention Secretary was relieved of the chore of booking members rooms for them. Any contracts of that nature should be between the hotel and the person wanting the room. In that way if, as has been done to us in the past, one of our bunch arrives to find his/her room has been relet, it is up to them to kick up a stink. As things stand, we go round looking for the cheapest hotel possible and set about trying to knock the price down even further. This is a sure indication to those in the business that we don't have the money to pay their initial charges so, if they choose to muck us up we won't have the money necessary to go to law. Obvious, isn't it? We ask to be treated like dirt and we are.

This year a new practice has been inaugurated and one of which I am in favour but only when we are all housed in the one hotel. The all-in charge. So much per day meals inclusive. This does tend to keep our members on the spot and available for programme items when they are due. It can hardly be called a 'captive audience' as there's nothing to stop them wandering off to their rooms, the bars, or even to go for a walk outside if there's something on in which they have little or no interest. The main reason I favour it is because it ensures continuity of the Convention feeling that is lost to a certain extent when you have to wander the streets on a Bank Holiday weekend looking for eating places that are open. We have got it ridiculously cheap this year (32/6 inclusive or, 42/6d) but to date I have no idea what the hotels are like. I believe we have got the two hotels entirely to ourselves. I must be honest and admit we couldn't possibly hope to emulate what non Bennett has done for us at the same price and in London, and this is the crux of the whole situation. I am not going to ask can you pay more for your Convention weekend because, as I've said up there, if you want to come you can save so it becomes possible. No, what we (the London ConCommittee) want to know is, would you pay more for your Convention weekend and, if so, what is your maximum if we could get the inclusive deal for you???? You will have appreciated by now these questions aren't being asked from idle curiosity. We really want to know, and soonest. All I ask is that you be realistic and not expect the moon for 6d

It is past time we in Britain faced up to some home-truths. You wonder why we can't find fen willing to take on the burden of planning and putting on our annual Conventions. Frankly, you are asking of them the impossible. The ConFunds with which they have to work are negligible, they have to cast around for the cheapest possible place that will stand for all sorts of demands and, to top it all you scream like mad no matter what is done because you have fares to pay as well as everything else. Damn it all, this is a hobby, for your Convention Committee as well as for you. The least you can do if you really want an annual Convention is to make it possible for them to do their best for you with your fullest support and not the half-hearted interest with which they've had to contend to date. This is your Convention ; it should be the biggest date in your fannish calendar, is it? Not for many it isn't.

If we can get you persuaded. To pay a bit more perhead per weekend we could thrash out the hotel problem for once and all. I'd like to see your Con-Committee having the hotel booked early on in the year so they can give their time and energies to seeing that it is well advertised months before and leaving them free to work on the programme. With longer and wider advertising I am sure we could enlarge our Conventions, enlarging the ConFund so we can put on bigger Conventions. All it needs is for you to take the initial plunge. It won't hurt, honest.

London is hoping to bid for the Worldcon in '65. I told you that lastish but none of you have mentioned it. I would like those of you in Britain to let me know, if you intend writing a LoC on this, how you feel about it. London is keen, make no mistakes about that but we are not Britfandom and if the rest of you are agin it we would have to withdraw our bid and cease plugging ourselves for it. Don't for one moment think that because we are plugging for '65 that you needn't bother about it yet. We must know how you feel about it because there's a lot of groundwork to be done. No, this doesn't tie-in with what I've said up there, at least, only indirectly. If we have the Worldcon it will be for one year only, I promise, my hand on my heart! Our regional Conventions are annual affairs and to put them right is important if they are to continue in the future.

You know something? I'm proud of being in Fandom. We read in some fmz about leeches, moochers and louts. We read of lawsuits that make the hair curl, we have name-calling sessions, all sorts of nasty things go on. But when I ever consider gafiating they are not the things I remember and that make me decide to stay with you. I remember the unstinting generosity of you pibble when it comes to Pond Funds. Ignoring for the moment all the good work you did in the days before I came into fandom, in my four years among you there have been three funds over and above TAPF that proved successful, Berry, me, and now, the Willises. Compared with that little lot, what do the bums, leeches and moochers matter?

Pats on the back are due to you all round but more especially to the hard working devoted Committee that made it a going thing. I know you have warmed the hearts of WAW & Mate and of the people who worked on their behalf but you must also have warmed the hearts of any who watched how things were going. Like I said, I'm proud to be among you. I raise my hat to YOU.

All for this time.....

Luv.

F.Lla.

THE
BRIDE

BY

ROBERTA
GRAY

Have you ever had days in your life which stick in your memory? So much so that when you look back you can do a total recall? I can remember several such days, but one in particular -- The Day Paddy Got Married. The war in Europe was practically over - there were only three days to go before it officially ended and it was also Paddy's Great Day. But I am ahead of myself. About a week previously, Paddy, a WAAF, had come to Doreen and myself (and, incidentally, given away the fact that we did our loafing in the bicycle repair shop) with a look of high drama on her face. We didn't take much notice of this as Paddy always had a look of high drama on her face. "Harry's been posted to Burma," she said tragically.

THE
BRIDE

For once, she had our sympathy, as we both knew her fiance, Harry, and liked him. The thought of Harry going to Burma and perhaps falling into Jap hands, was not pleasant to contemplate.

"So we're getting married by Special Licence on Saturday," continued Paddy, replacing the look of high drama with one of drooling anticipation.

"Church or Registry Office?" asked Doreen.

"Fawley Church," replied Paddy. "No frills, of course, just myself and Harry, but we'll need a couple of witnesses." We waited with bated breath. "So Harry and I wondered if you two would like to be our witnesses."

Frankly, the idea didn't appeal to us in the least, but a thought shot through our heads. We had already had a Saturday off, so we weren't due for one next week, but if we pointed out to the Flight Sergeant in charge of our particular flight, that we were required as witnesses to a wedding, there was the chance that he would let us have that Saturday off. He didn't want to, but we mentioned that the WAAF "G" Officer was glad to know we were going to be at Paddy's wedding, and since the WAAF Officer knew how to get her own way with the men by nagging-and nagging-and nagging. He let us have the Saturday off.

They were getting married in uniform, so Doreen and I arrived at the church in uniform too. They were to be married at 10.a.m. and we struck a large snag when we met the verger. Paddy and Harry announced themselves as the Bride and Groom, respectively. The verger beamed upon them, then asked where the best man, the giver away and the bridesmaids were.

"B-but we haven't got any," stammered Paddy, "we just brought our friends along as witnesses."

"I'm sorry," said the verger firmly, "but, as this is a church ceremony you must have a best man and someone to give the bride away."

This was the hell of a time to have a crisis!

The four of us withdrew to have a conference, but there didn't seem to be much we could do, except for Doreen and myself to hare back to camp and grab a couple of unsuspecting airmen. At that moment, the verger came to us again, beaming happily,

"They don't necessarily have to be men, you know," he smiled.

How can a best man not be a man?!

I had a horrible thought. So did Doreen. We made for the West door, saying we'd find a couple of airmen, but found ourselves firmly clutched by Paddy and Harry.

"You two kids aren't going to leave us in the lurch now," said Harry. "You heard what the verger said," added Paddy.

There was no getting out of it and in the end I was detailed to give the bride away and Doreen was appointed 'best man'.

The next crisis arose when it struck Doreen and myself as extremely funny and Harry and Paddy spent the next few minutes pleading with us to control our giggles. Harry and Doreen went back into the church and Paddy continued pleading with me - this time not to make one of my outrageous remarks when the padre asked "Who giveth this woman?"

"I don't make outrageous remarks," I said indignantly.

"No?" said Paddy. "What about last week when Joe was bragging that he was the only buck virgin on camp."

"I only asked what was wrong with him."

"In front of the whole section. Bobbie, promise that you won't make any remarks when you give me away."

"All right, I won't even say cheap at the price." I said.

The main trouble that Doreen and I had was in controlling our giggles. As a matter of fact, we were both fascinated by the padre, who either wasn't used to getting up early on Saturdays, had a nervous affliction, or was drunk. Or maybe it was being confronted with a female giver away and best man that put him off his stroke.

However, the ordeal didn't last long and after we had trailed into the vestry and signed the certificates, the padre beamed on us and asked what we were planning to do.

"It's opening time," I said, without thinking, and added hastily, "we must toast the bride and groom. Care to join us, padre?"

"Good idea," he said, making me suspect his condition even more. "I'll join you when I've put my vestments away."

We went down the road to the Falcon and he did join us, too. Neither Doreen or I had asked Paddy and Harry what they planned to do, but we intended to catch the next bus into Southampton. Much to our surprise, they insisted on coming with us, which threw us out somewhat as we had planned to get them a wedding present, but we wanted it to be a surprise.

But we could not shake them off. They clung to us like paint to a lamp-post and we began to wonder if they were too shy to be left alone. If so, they had left it a bit late to realise it. Came lunchtime and they were still with us. Brother never stuck to brother like those two stuck to us. At last, we hit on the idea of going into the local Woolworths. The place was crowded, as we knew it would be, and we finally managed to shake them off and scuttle out through a side door. Now, at last, we could buy them a wedding present. At least, that was our intention but we were sidetracked by Cary Grant. As we were running towards what was left of the shopping centre, a poster outside a cinema caught my eye.

"Cary Grant," I dribbled at Doreen.

"Raymond Massey," she drooled at me.

We rushed in to see the film "Arsenic and Old Lace", and promptly forgot all about

Paddy, Harry and the wedding present. We liked the film so much we saw it round for a second time. By then the shops were shut and there was nothing left to do except eat and return to camp.

We did start back to camp, but when the bus reached Totton we noticed there was a fair there so we got off the bus and went to see if it contained anything interesting. So engrossed did we become in rolling pennies that we didn't notice the passage of time - and then I saw a rifle range. It was four shots for sixpence, so I dug in my pockets to see if I could afford a few goes and headed that way. Having had a tip from my brother who was friendly with a gipsy I watched the people who were already firing and noticed that one soldier was doing rather well. The tip my brother had been given was that only one rifle in nine was correctly sighted and I suspected that the soldier who was scoring so well had it. The moment he put it down I slid in and grabbed it quick, much to the annoyance of a rather tough looking grandma type.

But I kept on scoring three bulls and an inner. For some reason the fourth bull kept eluding me. By the time the rather tatty-looking female in charge of the booth had given me six tumblers, I had lost interest. Just as I was about to put the rifle down Doreen pressed another sixpence into my hands and hissed "have another go-and this time get four bulls, you clot!"

Obviously she had a reason for wanting me to have another try so I bought four more rounds, took careful aim and managed to score three bulls. The crisis was now upon us - for some reason known only to herself, Doreen wanted me to get four bulls, but her breathing down my neck was beginning to get on my nerves. The tatty-looking woman was getting bothered, too. Just as I had taken sight, she bellowed at me "The war's over!"

I glowered at her. "I suppose that was to put me off; the war isn't over." Unfortunately - or fortunately - I had not removed my finger from the trigger and it must have tightened because the rifle went off and I was left regarding it in fury. I was just about to deliver myself of some harsh words to the woman when Doreen said "we'll have that nice-looking water jug." Yes, my last accidental shot had gone smack into the bull and, breathing something about "bloody kids" the tatty woman gave us the jug. Since Doreen had seemed so anxious to have the stuff I let her have the lot and then made the discovery that we had missed the last bus back to camp.

"Then we'll catch the late train to Fawley, it's only a two mile walk from there."

Only!

Since we still had some time to spare we decided to drop in at the Royal Oak - or was it the White Oak? After putting our train fare on one side, we pooled our resources and discovered we had just enough left to buy ourselves a shandy and five cheap cigarettes.

Since we were complete strangers, we were rather astonished at the welcome we received when we entered the pub. It seemed that everybody was convinced that the war was over and anyone in uniform was being stood drinks everywhere. Packets of cigarettes were pressed upon us, sweets and drinks were ours for the asking. Naturally, since everybody was in such a gay mood, we found ourselves telling them of the wedding we had attended that morning and they were fascinated by the idea of us having to give the bride away and produce the ring. At this point, Doreen voiced something that had been bothering her all day.

"I've been thinking," she said to me. "You know we both signed the register this morning? Well, should we have done it?"

"Why shouldn't we?" I asked. "We were the witnesses."

"I know," she said doubtfully, "but can minors sign a thing like that? I mean, doesn't one have to be twenty-one or something to make it legal?"

This hadn't occurred to me and at that time only having a vague idea of the law as applied to weddings, I began to wonder if the wedding was legal. The more I thought about it the more I doubted it. (contd on page 34).

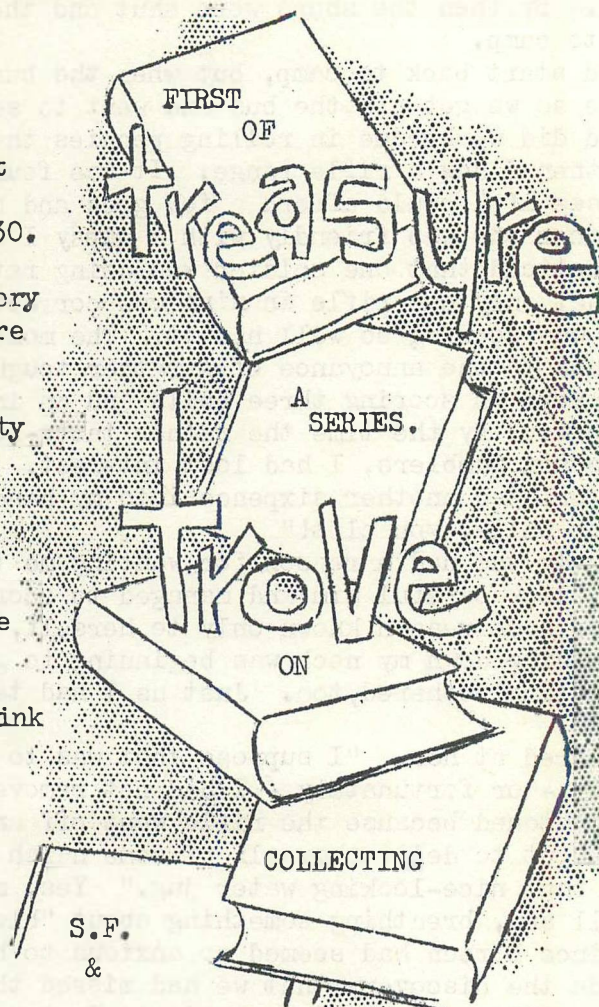
Fandom wasn't my sole connection with science-fiction. Far from it. I used to spend far more energy and money collecting the stuff than I ever did on purely fannish pursuits. Sure, others collect it, too, but they confine their interests to the era of the magazines - rarely going back before 1930. It's been my eternal disappointment that I have yet to meet anyone interested in the very early science-fiction published fifty or more years ago. So, I think I can discourse on this hobby, without covering ground already covered by fanzines of the past years, pretty thoroughly...

If we ever think of old-time science fiction, our thoughts cover, admiringly, the imagination and skill of Messrs Wells and Verne, and then return to the scintillating stuff being published today. We tend to think of these writers, and possibly one or two others like Burroughs and Conan Doyle, as being the only pre-Astounding proponents of s-f.

That idea is completely wrong. It surprised me, when I was introduced to the field by Arthur Sellings, that there was a lot of science fiction published in book form simultaneously with the efforts of Verne and Wells.

FANTASY.

George
Locke



Of course, if you are interested purely in the literary values of the stories, then I don't recommend hunting for Wells' contemporaries. Most of them are poorly written, some are, frankly, imitations of the classics.

But, if you have any interest in the development of science fiction ideas, then you'll find the pursuit of antiquarian s-f a fascinating hobby.

Not all the ideas are plagiarism, by any means and you'll be tackling a field that has hardly been touched.

In this article I'll confine myself to the special field of Interplanetary travel. Your interests may not lie primarily with this kind of fantasy, but with one of the other kinds. For instance, you may prefer to specialise in Lost Race stories, Time Travel yarns, or the long-

winded plotless Utopian tracts. Of course, some books cover more than one type, such as Ella Scrymgeour's THE PERFECT WORLD. In this one we have, a terrifying account of a subterranean world, followed by the end of the surface world, followed by a flight to a new world in space.

One or two of the very early pioneers of interplanetary travel, have been covered thoroughly, such as Lucian's, Bishop Godwin's and Cyrano de Bergerac's voyagers. I won't touch these primitives, and will also leave those published in the early nineteenth century. The most interesting period started about 1870 and carries through to the present time. Verne was, of course, the prime exponent during the first few years of this period. Very few people are aware that another Frenchman was a contemporary in more than time. Perhaps not possessing quite the same charm of Verne, nevertheless, Andre Laurie made some sound and highly underrated contributions to s-f. One of his books, NEW YORK TO BREST IN SEVEN HOURS, concerns itself with a sub-atlantic tube, but it palls compared with the fantastic heights to which THE CONQUEST OF THE MOON rises.

Published around 1880, and translated into English, happily, it tells the story of a bunch of business men who build a huge electro-magnet in the Sahara. It's effect: it attracts the moon to within a few miles of the Earth's surface, the heroes reach it via balloon. Lavishly illustrated, it abounds in action of the Jules Verne type.

It's strange how many of the early interplanetaries concerned themselves with anti-gravity devices. Far from inventing anti-gravity, Wells was only conforming to the trend when he powered his moonship by it. The most noted predecessor to THE FIRST MEN IN THE MOON, was Percy Greg's ACROSS THE ZODIAC.

It conjectured a force which acted opposite to gravity, and Greg's ship carried the hero to Mars, where he enjoyed the usual adventures. Others using the same device were John Jacob Astor's much over-rated A JOURNEY TO OTHER WORLDS, and George Griffith's HONEYMOON IN SPACE, the latter is a genuine Cook's tour of the solar system. The hero, as can be gathered from the title, takes his new bride on a trip round the solar system, and visits the Moon, Mars, Venus, Jupiter and Saturn. George Griffith was a contemporary of Wells, as Laurie was of Verne's - and his enormous output of science fiction is much sought these days. HONEYMOON IN SPACE was published in PEARSON'S MAGAZINE as a serial, and appeared in book form a year later. The magazine version is, by far, the easier to find, and is lavishly illustrated; there are some delightful BEMs depicted. Wells' WAR OF THE WORLDS appeared a couple of years earlier in the same magazine and, as the book version was not illustrated, the serial is well worth looking for.

Even in the 1890s and following, where science was definitely displacing fantasy, the interplanetary voyages weren't always by scientists inventing space-drives. For instance, LIEUTENANT GULLIVER JONES is fortunate - or unfortunate - enough to get hold of a magic carpet which wraps itself round the hero and carries him to Mars. Edwin Lester Arnold was the son of Sir Edwin Arnold, and wrote several fantasies. PHRA THE PHOENICIAN is the most famous but, the neglected LIEUTENANT GULLIVER JONES is probably his best.

One of the happiest moments in my collecting career was when my mother found a title for me. It was one which had been discovered by Arthur Sellings, and was unknown to most of the collectors he knew. It was a story - poorly written - about a man whose mind was transferred into the body of an inhabitant of Venus. The hero goes through Burroughsian adventures on Venus, and, one of the super-scientific gadgets used is a telepathic helmet. It's called ANGILIN, and is by A.L.Hallen. Published in 1906, many years before Burrough's A PRINCESS OF MARS. I had mentioned the title to my mother and, as luck would have it, she turned one up. To add to the coincidence, it was Arthur's wife who had found him his copy.

The claim for the first interstellar voyage has very firmly been held by Lindsay's 1920 classic A VOYAGE TO ARCTURUS. It deserves the label 'classic' - there have been few stories with a more alien setting. But, it was basically a fantasy in spite of its being on another planet. Another book, preceding it by sixteen years, is, in its way, almost as remarkable. It is called AROUND A DISTANT STAR, and was written by Jean Delaire. Whether French for John, or an English girl, I don't know. I fancy the latter - it has a delicacy of style more associated with women than with the rougher male sex. But, there was nothing delicate about the method used to launch the space-ship. A 'super-electric' force in the best E.E. Smith tradition. However, the purpose of the voyage is the complete antithesis of the method. No exploration of man's horizons for this hero. He wants to visit this planet 2,000 light years away, managing the distance in a few days and, using a super telescope, witness the Crucifixion.

It was an incredible idea for a pre-Gernsback science fiction yarn - and is also incredible for that period in that it doesn't ram a religious discourse down your throat. Many other writers wouldn't have been able to resist the temptation to do so. Delaire doesn't let his/her imagination stop with the setting up of the telescope. S/he also gives us quite an interesting picture of an alien world. It's quite readable.

Where there are great writers, there are always those hangers-on who, to put it at its kindest, satirise their style. Inevitably, Wells, Conan Doyle and others came under the parodists' pens. In a column I did for Bill Donaho's VIPER, I said a few words about a parody of the Challenger stories included in Jules Castier's book of parodies RATHER LIKE. I mentioned in passing a Wells parody THE FINDING OF LAURA. This was a short story, fairly literate and a better than average parody. It dealt with an anti-gravity planet. Published in 1920, it also indicates how many of the themes explored by present day science fiction were dreamed up by those unknown authors whose ideas, generally, were so much better than their ability. A more traditional parody of Wells' WAR OF THE WORLDS, was a very silly Victorian-humour-at-its-worst story called THE WAR OF THE WENUSES. The invaders came from Venus, landed in enormous crinolines - surely the least substantial space-ship yet invented - took over the haberdashery businesses in Kensington and got their Vs mixed up with their Ws. Hence the title.

I could go on all day, but I think I've given enough examples to show you how wide the scope of such a narrow field as space travel.

One question is likely to be asked at this point - how do I find books like these? What will I have to pay for them? That is another subject on which many pages could be written - the trials and tribulations of a book collector - but to put it in a nutshell is a far more difficult matter. There are one or two dealers who specialise in fantastic literature, with either tenuous or no connections with fandom. But, they are specialists and many of these titles are in demand and fetch quite stiff prices. Several of the titles I've mentioned would bring £5 (roughly \$14) readily amongst collectors of the field, so, it's obvious that if you build your collection by reference to the specialists, you have to be prepared for a heavy cash outlay. The answer, which applies to all hobbies of the pack-rat variety, is to get up off your hind legs and search for the stuff in all the shops you can find. Sooner or later you'll come up with most of your wants. Patience has its virtue and, you'll get the books without ruining yourself financially in the process. Above all, you'll experience the thrill of the find. Turning up a hitherto unknown book....

I'll give you an example. A couple of years ago, I found a short, semi-fictional article in a magazine. It was about a flying machine. The magazine was dated 1847. In one of my gliding magazines, recently, I came across an article about pioneering attempts at flight by a gentleman named George Cayley, around this time. Now I can't

to return home from Nairobi and discover whether or no the magazine article was about one of Cayley's experiments! It is possible - not likely but possible - that it had escaped the aeronautical historians. There have been the hell of a lot of magazines published over the years!

Of course, to find the books you have to know what to look for - sometimes titles alone are of no help, like a book called: THE SEALED PACKAGE. (I've forgotten the author but, it's about a voyage to Mars). You have, to put it bluntly, to learn about the field. It's no use asking the average bookseller what he has in the space travel line. He may be able to produce the better known titles from the back room but, the little-known items he'll probably, quite unawares, have on his bookshelves.

There are several reference books to help with the better known titles. Bailey's PILGRIMS THROUGH TIME AND SPACE is a most scholarly work published just after the war. More readily obtainable is a book called TO ((OR, IN)) OTHER WORLDS, by Roger Lancelyn Green, and deals more fully with quite a number of the less well known interplanetary bibles. The bible checklist of fantastic works but, unfortunately not classifying them, is Leiber's CHECKLIST OF FANTASTIC LITERATURE. This is very hard to get now, having been out of print for a long time. If you do run across a copy, it is valuable.

One last thing - never ignore the possibility of trading duplicate copies, nor of using books, of a type which don't interest you, in the same way. Someone wants them.

To help you, here is a basis on which to begin your search. Of the numerous interplanetary bibles I will have missed out the bulk. I am nowhere near my collection and have no reference books with me. Publishing dates are approximate.

ELLA SCRYMSOUR: THE PERFECT WORLD. 1923. Voyage to Jupiter, lost race etc.
ANDRE LAURIE: THE CONQUEST OF THE MOON. 1889. Moon to Earth.
MERCY GREG:*** ACROSS THE ZODIAC. 1880. 2 vols. Voyage to Mars.
EDWIN PALMINDER: ACROSS THE ZODIAC. 1896(A different book). Mars and, I think, Venus.
JOHN MUNRO: A TRIP TO VENUS. 1895. To Venus. Possibly the first Venus voyage.
EDWIN LESTER ARNOLD: LIEUTENANT GULLIVER JONES. 1905. To Mars via magic carpet.
A.L.HALLEN: ANGILIN: A VENITE KING. 1907. To Venus via mind transference.
CHARLES HANNAN:*** THUKA OF THE MOON. 1906. Moon story.
DAVID LINDSAY: A VOYAGE TO ARCTURUS. 1920.(Reprinted 1947) Classic fantasy of another world.
JEAN DELAIRE: AROUND A DISTANT STAR. 1904. Superscience to another star.
JULES CASTIER: RATHER LIKE. 1920. Parodies, including Wells and Doyle. Both with s-f.
GRAVES & LUCAS: THE WAR OF THE WENUSES. 1898. Wells parody.
AVIS HEKKING:*** A KING OF MARS. 1906. Story of Mars.
WICKS:*** TO MARS VIA THE MOON. 1904. Very scientific and boring interplanetary.
GARRETT P.SERVISS: A COLUMBUS OF SPACE. 1909. Classic voyage to Venus.
GEORGE GRIFFITH:*** HONEYMOON IN SPACE. 1902. Cooks tour.
JOHN JACOB ASTOR: A JOURNEY TO OTHER WORLDS. 1897. Solar System travels.
ED EVERETT HALE:*** THE BRICK MOON. 1877. The first artificial satellite!

These are all I can think of without references to my collection. The best of luck trying to find them. By the way: those marked with asterisks are ones for which I am looking. Any chance???

George Locke.(1962)

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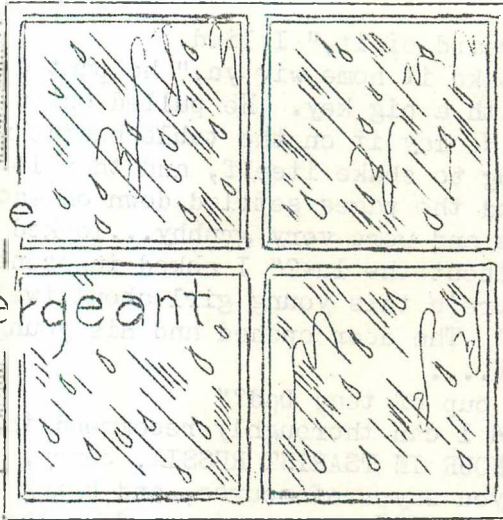
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Afternoon with the

Sergeant.



John Berry

I parked my cycle in the shed, took my cape off, hung it on a peg and let the rain pour off it...I squelched along the corridor and knocked on the door of the Sergeant's office.

"C'min."

I opened the door, lifted a trousered leg so that he could see how inclement it was outside, and walked in.

"It's pourin' outside, Sergeant," I said.

"An' it's Sunday afternoon, too," he mused. He looked at the slowly spreading pools of water around my hobnail boots.

"Nothin' much to do, is there," I hinted.

He looked at me from between creased eyelids.

"Weeell," he conceded, "there aint any useful purpose to be served by sending you out this afternoon. It's a long time since I had a long chat with ya...let's talk."

This suited me...right enough, it was a bit of a torture having to spend three and a half hours philosophising with the Sergeant, but it was better than standing under a tree and getting cold droplets of rain down the back of my neck.

"Er, O.K.....let's talk," I said. I took my boots off, opened the window, turned them upside down, let the water pour out, closed the window, put the boots in front of the fire, and awaited the first shrewd observation....

"Not many sex cases in this district, is there?" he opined.

"No," I admitted....

"Had a good one once, when I was a young constable," he confided. "Watched 'em for hours.I did. Coos, he was a sharp one, that..."

A smile creased his lips, and his eyes, becoming somewhat bloodshot, focussed on a blank spot on the wall just above my right shoulder. The smile spread....

"Of course," I said, "there is one sort of pseudo sex-maniac in the village. You know, the one who was disturbed at the back of Miss Craddock's cottage last Thursday night. Have you traced the binoculars he dropped....?"

The Sergeant shook his head, then blushed. "Er, nurno," he panted. "I'm working on the case though....er, read any good books lately?"

If I had a really suspicious nature, I would perchance have brooded on the strange coincidence that when I rushed down to Miss Craddock's cottage after her hysterical 'phone call, I tripped over the Sergeant crawling along the hedge on his hands and knees...."lookin' for flippin' clues I am"... was his sole comment as he continued his crab-like progression towards his house....

"I said have you read any good books lately,?" he hissed.

"No, have you?" I parried, playing for time.....

He looked towards the door, opened it, looked up and down the corridor, sat down again, facing me, and gave one of the most lecherous leers I've ever seen in my 25 years as man and beast....

"LOLITA" he whispered. A trickle of saliva dribbled down his chin, and he ran a finger round the worn hem of his blue shirt collar.

"Never heard of it," I lied.

"Here, take it home wiv ya," he panted. He reached across and opened a lower desk drawer with a big key. He pulled out a grubby volume which seemed to come alive in his hand. He lay it on the table beside me, and the book sort of fluttered, like a dog preparing to shake itself, and then it opened somewhere about two thirds of the way through and the pages settled down on each side, the two pages exposed curled up at the corners and were very grubby...looked like strawberry jam....

"Is it about the law?" I asked innocently.

"No, there's this young girl about twelve years old, see, and this man thinks that he's...." The door opened and his young daughter Topsy (she was about fifteen), peered through....

"Want a cup of tea, Dad?"

"....and I can thoroughly recommend that book entitled ETHICS, ETIQUETTE AND GENERAL DEMEANOUR IN TSARIST RUSSIA, Berry, and...oh, hello dear, didn't see you... a cup of tea you say...of course, and bring one for Mr. Berry too..."

She smiled and I heard her go down the corridor and through the connecting door which divided his police station from his house.

Sweat was on his forehead.

"Stick it in your pocket, quick," he panted.

He was silent as the tea came. I had no idea what his mind was dwelling on, it was difficult to tell. At a guess, I would have suggested Miss Craddock, but it might have been his bees...

"Yuk yuk."

I looked up from my steaming hot ~~cup~~ of tea. The Sergeant's face was wreathed in a smile which indicated something particularly witty had titillated whatever it was which took the place of his sense of humour.

"Yuk yuk."

"What's so funny, Sergeant?" I asked.

"Good joke. All about a builder's labourer who applied for a job at a housing site. Heard it?"

"No."

"Yuk yuk."

"Well, tell me about it."

"This man, he went up to the foreman and asked for the job. The foreman said he would accept him. He explained that the hours were from 10 am to twelve noon... two hours for dinner...and then from two pm to four pm...wages were £35 per week... they got ten weeks holiday per year....and big bonuses every week. The labourer grinned, and said it seemed to be a mighty fine job...he'd never heard of such great pay and good conditions. The Foreman told him to start next morning. Good joke, eh?"

"I've heard better, Sergeant, I said," rather worried.

"Aven't finished yet," he growled. "So next morning, the labourer turned up at nine am. The Foreman said he didn't start until 10 am. The labourer said he was sorry, but he'd always started at nine, and he'd forgotten. The Foreman said that was OK...he could hang around and start at ten am. Yuk yuk."

He looked at me expectantly...but I tried my hardest to force a smile without success. I could not stop the yawn, however....it almost cracked my face.

"So the labourer...yuk yuk....so the labourer said 'well, I'll go over and rest inside that little shed.' The Foreman said, 'what shed?', and the labourer said 'that shed over there....yuk yuk yuk...'"

I clenched my fists and tried once more to smile....the Sergeant's jokes usually had that effect on people....

"So the Foreman said...yuk...he said 'that isn't the shed....that's the hod.' Yuk yuk..."

Then I thought of the Sergeant crawling about on his hands and knees away from

Miss Craddock's cottage, and I laughed out loud...loud and long...."That surely is a very good joke, Sergeant," I said, my eyes large to show the awe in which I held his repartee.

He flushed delightedly, and handed me one of his cigarettes, an unheard of thing... Then we heard someone knocking on the front door.

"See to it, Berry," he smiled happily.

It was Miss Grimthorpe. She was the Headmistress of St. Martha's Girl's School, a new boarding school which had recently opened where a large old stately home used to be. She looked very pleased about something.

"Tell the Sergeant that it is a Lesser Redpoll."

"Eh."

"Tut. Is the Sergeant in?"

"Yes, Madam."

"Well, fetch him, will you, please?"

I went back to his office, his head was on one side, and his eyes were sort of glazed.

"That's not a shed, it's a hod," he said quietly to himself, and he blinked a couple of times.

"Ahem, Sergeant, Miss Grimthorpe wants to see you," I said.

His face turned white....

"Tell her I'm not in," he begged, his eyes looking warily about him, like a cornered deer with the hounds twenty yards away and closing fast. He looked so pitiful that I nodded and went back to Miss Grimthorpe.

"The Sergeant isn't, er, in," I panted. "He was in when I last saw him just before I saw you but now, when I went back he's not in...."

"Oh." She smiled primly. "Well, tell the dear man that the Games Mistress is an ornithologist, and she confirms that the little bird with the red head is a Lesser Redpoll."

"I'll certainly tell him," I said. Fancy that...the Sergeant a Bird Watcher.

"We would love him to come up and lecture to the girls," she said. "I didn't realise he was so keen....I was on a nature ramble with the Upper Fifth last Thursday, and we came along a hedgerow and there he was, looking through his binoculars towards the school, just opposite to where the Lower Fourth were doing P.T."

"Oh, he's very keen on birds, Ma'am," I stressed.

"And ~~wa~~ stopped and he said he was positive he'd spotted a Lesser Redpoll near the tennis courts...and then he crawled along the hedge, said he was looking for a Great Tit."

"Oh, he's very keen on Great Tits, Ma'am," I stressed once more.

"Anyway, give him the message and tell him he can come and bird watch anytime."

I opened the door for her, and went back to the Sergeant's office.

"Has she gone?" he breathed.

I nodded and he reached for another cigarette.

"Said to tell you it was a Lesser Redpoll," I grinned.

He looked relieved.

Someone at the front door again.

A rampant thumb suggested I should go see who it was.

It was a man I'd never seen before. He looked as though he was about to confront a firing squad but didn't realise why. He looked, in fact, like a man who'd been involved in an argument with the Sergeant - a guess which was confirmed as I questioned him.

"The Sergeant's car hit mine yesterday," he sobbed. "He ordered me to bring my insurance and driving licence here."

He handed them over as if he never wanted to see them again.

"What happened?" I asked, gently.

"We were on the new two-lane highway, and the Sergeant was on the inside lane. As I approached to overtake him, he swerved outwards and hit me. And he said it was my fault."

"Tut tut," I sympathised. I'd met drivers before who'd been hit by the Sergeant's car. Usually they never drove again. I handed the man back his documents after I'd taken a note of them, and shoved him out. He didn't look too good, and in fact aimed himself at the pub halfway through the village....

"Mr. Frederick Simpson's insurance and driving licence data, Sergeant," I said, laying the form in front of him.

He smiled - I suppose it was an evil smile. He reached across the desk and pulled a bulky file of typewritten papers to him. The file was at least an inch thick. He attached Mr. Simpson's particulars to it, so presumably it was his explanation of how Mr. Simpson had hit his 1931 Ford.

"That the accident file, Sergeant?" I asked.

"Yes," he smiled, patting it affectionately. "A literary work of art, although I say so myself."

"It's almost like a book," I breathed, "why not give it a title?"

I think he sensed the exultation in my voice.

"What do you suggest?" he asked the question somewhat quietly, looking at me out of the corner of his eyes.

"How about WHAT'S MY LANE?" I parried, waiting for his delirious burst of laughter, which didn't come.

My life was saved by another caller at the door. I beat the Sergeant's boot out of his office by a fraction of an inch.

The caller was fourteen year old Wendy Spruce...she was in tears....

"What's wrong, dear?" I asked, concerned about her distressed demeanour.

"It's Tommy Perkins," she sobbed, "he -he-oh, - the beast," and she almost had hysterics.

"You - you are only fourteen, aren't you?" I asked, hardly daring to breathe.

She nodded her tear-filled face.

"Come with me, dear," I cooed. I held her arm and took her to the Sergeant's office. It was one of the proudest moments of my career. I knocked the door and pushed Wendy in.

"This poor girl wants to make an allegation against Tommy Perkind's," I told him. "I felt that you, with your extra experience would like to take charge of the case."

His eyes grew wide.

"Thank you, Berry," he breathed. "You made the right decision." He sat her down beside him, sharpened a pencil, opened a new notebook and gave her what he hoped was a paternal look. His two-day old stubble almost trembled with joy, and as I closed the door I heard him say - "now, my dear, imagine I am a police-woman. Tell me everything in great detail from the very beginning.."

//////// ////////////// ////////////// ////////////// ////////////// //

I stood at the front door, looking down the main street. The rain had gone, and the tarmacadam looked almost blue as the evening sun shone on it. Soon it would be tea-time, I -- "and everything will be alright, dear."

"Thank you very much, Sergeant." Her little face was puckered with satisfaction. She skipped down the steps and away.

"So you thought with my extra experience, that I should take charge of the case?" he sneered.

"Er, yes, I er- did, Sergeant," I breathed. What had gone wrong? "You were only saying that we didn't have many sex cases, and so I thought --"

"You thought. Sex case, indeed. D'you know what happened? Tommy Perkins

pushed her, and she dropped half-a-crown down the drain. I had to give her half-a-crown to keep her from breaking down altogether." His breath was heavy, as heavy as I'd ever heard it.

"Well, cheerio, Sergeant," I went to walk away.

He pulled me back.

"Come back at 3.am. tomorrow morning - I'll arrange a nice ten-mile tour of the district. Hope it doesn't rain any more." He smirked as he walked away.

I went to the rear of the police station, wheeled my cycle out and pushed it up the hill towards my house.

Sometimes, I thought, the Sergeant was a bit difficult to understand.....
(J.B.)

////////////////////////////////////

Not SPECS, just an afterthought.

Today is Monday, April 9th. and I've already begun to run-off this. While working I recalled something said to me by Brian Jordan that I promised I would mention in my editorial. I forgot. This is it:-

IF we are lucky and get the Worldcon for London in '65, is there any reason why it has to be held over the weekend of Labour Day? Including Christams, we have four Holidays over here; they are, Easter of which Good Friday, Sunday and Monday are Bank Holidays, as we call them. Saturday in that weekend is a normal working day for shops and stores though offices don't work then, even those who normally do work Saturdays. Whitsun, which is really only a two-day Holiday, Sunday and Monday. This usually comes about 6 weeks after Easter. August Bank Holiday, which is the first weekend in August, just as your Labour Day is the first one in September. Again the August one is only two days long, Sunday and Monday.

From what I know of London hotels, we would be as well to keep it at September because of price raises during the Season, only, I don't know how many would benefit over here as well as in America, if we moved the date of the Worldcon just this once. This is a matter of extreme urgency so, please, those of you with helpful comments and suggestions to make, get them in as soon as you've read this.

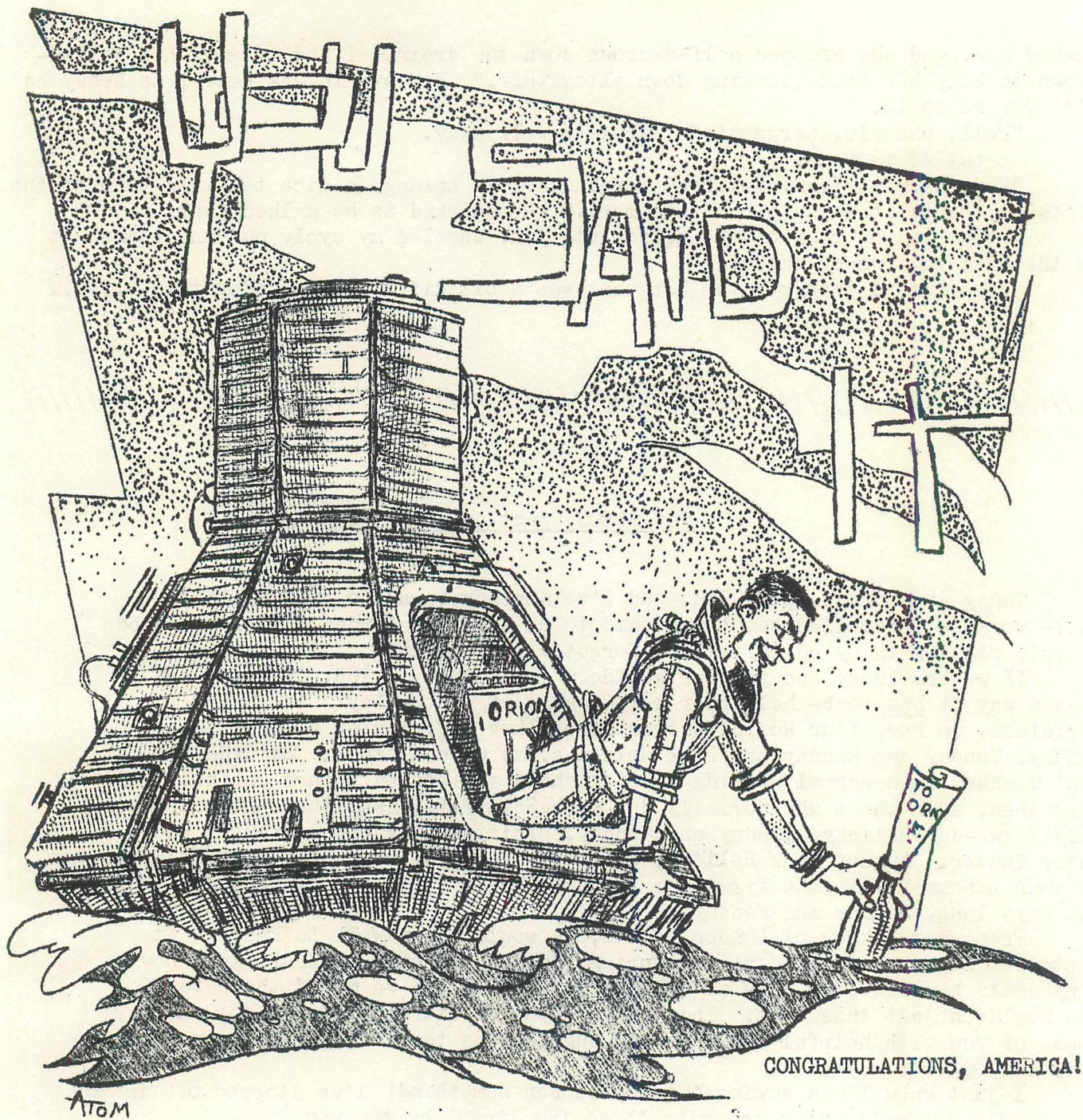
I just knew I was saving this space for something! I've stopped off in the middle of duplicating to write these few lines, by the way.

You must excuse the fact that margins this are non-existent. I've become so used to cutting for Gestetner size ~~paper~~ I quite forgot how much smaller this lot would be. Makes for a very intidy magazine, I know.

I have also tried out FERMAPRINT duplicating ink on part of this. I would have continued to do so in spite of the amount it seems to need per page but, cwing to a difference in the neck of the tube, it won't fit into the machine and I can't take the time right now to stop every time I want to re-ink. I think that's all the odds-and-ends I had to tie up.

See you.....

Flla



Maybe I should explain the seeming, to me, aptness of the above illo. Today is February 22nd. You all know what happened day before yesterday, don't you? The name of Glenn was on everyone's lips. Now I'm not saying he took ORION on his trip with him but he did have the thoughts and prayers of ORION's editor, for all the good they did him. He is a much more likeable hero than Gagarin but let's not go into that!

To date I have 9 LEOC here on 028. I admit it wasn't a issue worthy of comment and I mention it only in case the situation doesn't improve very much. I can only publish what I receive. A sparse letter column is your fault, not mine. On with it.

Sid Birchby,
1, Gloucester Avenue,
Levenshulme,
Manchester 19.

"It was a blistering editorial, wasn't it? You turn the heat on:- (1) Lack of support for TAFF. (2) Fandom for expecting TAFF winners to write a report. (3) Sundowners who expect free board and lodging. (4)

Lack of support for British Cons. // 1-2: About TAFF. I personally don't demand that a TAFF winner should go to a lot of expense to produce a con report, just as if he were a schoolboy made to write an account of the school outing. He shouldn't have to sing for his supper like that. And if he does do a conrep, I'll only buy it if I know enough about him to be fairly sure I'll enjoy his comments on the British/U.S. fan scene. Who wants another travelogue, at this late date in fandom? // I'd be quite content if a TAFF-winner continued to publish his fanzine at least as often as he did before winning, and demonstrate the full-enriched life bestowed on him by his travels by the enhanced quality of the contents and editorials. No need to bankrupt himself with a super-size report. Let his TAFF-trip be the beginning of his fannish career, not the climax. // 4. British conventions:- On the question in general. I don't agree with you that the lack of hotel accomodation would be overcome if we could organise ourselves so that we could book the whole hotel, instead of having to share it with mundane types. // You say yourself that this usually means a hassle about noisy room parties. Quite so, and in the present state of the British hotel trade, I don't think you'd find managements any more keen to let a mob of fans loose on the whole of a hotel than on a part of it. The image that fandom presents to them is that of an unruly crowd of semi-beatniks, and they instinctively fear for their fitted carpets and shut their doors to us. // By contrast, look at the set-up for the forthcoming Amateur Winemakers convention in Cheltenham. A big hotel already booked, and fairly easily, plus a civic reception by the Lord Mayor of Cheltenham! No fears that the hotel will have several hundred drunken winos chasing the waitresses round the pantry. There's a different image entirely from fandom's gibbering mask. // Sometimes I think that the best answer is to scrap fandom and start again. We could either build up a respectable group (maybe using the SFCOL as a nucleus?) and end up like the Peasant Section of the B.I.S. or cater wholeheartedly for the rough-necks, affiliate with the Camping Club of Great Britain (and Ireland!) and have our conventions under canvas in the middle of Exmoor. // I say! What about organising a weekend in Paris for next year? Gay Paree in '63- remember the slogan? */)(/* Hello, Sid. Nice to be back. // While I was stencilling your letter I began wondering: how many trip reports have you bought in all your years in fandom? One, I'll bet, and it wasn't even a TAFF trip at that. What makes me so mad is that it is we who lay this horrible obligation on the TAFF winners. I'm sick and tired of being told "they would probably want to write one anyway." Alright, if they want to that's their business and they lay the obligation on themselves. As things are now they are made to feel like pikers of the worst sort of they don't set to and lay out a lot of cash they can ill afford at that time of all times having just spent their all on the biggest holiday of their lives. Too, they come home having done an extensive tour in a matter of weeks quite exhausted both physically as well as financially with this chore facing them. "I must get it done as soon as possible before the next Delegate goes over and puts mine out of date". What a price to demand for the 'favour' we bestow in nominating and electing them. Leave it up to them, I say. // Yes, I too have had thoughts about masking sf fandom under some respectable guise for the benefit of hoteliers. Would they like us any better under another name, think you? It doesn't matter what we are called, it's the way we stay up 'til all hours talking to which they object mostly. Actually, if we ask the con members to book their own rooms and have the committee responsible only for finding and booking the hall etc., we might fare better in which case if they default on a booking the person directly concerned certainly has a case against them. As things are the committee is responsible for too much.*/)(/*

Brian Varley,
47, Tolverne Road,
Raynes Park,
London. S.W.20.

"Anyway, for what they are worth I would like to offer some observations, purely my own, on TAFF, its organisation, method of operation and, obligations placed on the winners. // For a kick-off I think the minimum

subscription on voting of 2/6d is ridiculous. Double it and you might begin to consider it only cheap. First of all it has been at 2/6d since the idea was born. During that time the cost of living and the wage rate index has soared like a sputnik so we're now given the privilege of voting, in real values, at about half the original cost. Secondly, I feel that 2/6d as a fee to enable us to expand our little chests and act like olde-worlde patrons to some much more active fan is an insult, both to the object of our patronage and to our all-too-easily inflated egos. Man, aint we really big-hearted characters lashing out a whole 30 pennies per annum! // Next point at issue is the state of the funds. Why aren't these publicized? Are we really afraid that big-hearted fandom is going to stop supplying that magnificent half-crown or its equivalent if we know that there's a £100 or so in the kitty? Publish the state of the funds and set a target which will enable us, for a change, to send a married fan and his wife who, though doubtless more deserving than several of our previous candidates, has had to decline the chance because he can't sink all his holiday and holiday cash into a trip for himself and nothing, not even a weekend at Blackpool, for his wife. Y'know, the supply of candidates, from this side of the pond at least, is becoming embarrassingly low. Soon you'll have a job to find 5 sponsors who all know the same guy! I was really delighted that the Willis Fund catered for both Walt and Madelaine, so let's make TAFF equally delightful. // Mention of the Willis Fund brings me to my next point. Larry Shaw, as organiser, has worked marvels. Near enough \$2000 in the kitty by the time it closes, and this by the use of good Public Relations and auctions in AXE. Oh for someone equally alive to organise TAFF, but maybe the reason that TAFF isn't so well looked after is that the organisers organise after they've had their cake! // Finally, to trip reports, and why not indeed. After all our open-hearted fandom only wants just a little more for its 2/6d. It wants a detailed account of what happened to all that lolly it donated. O.K., let them have it, for it also, no doubt, gives the winner a solid souvenir of his adventures, but let's not tax the resources to excess. Let's use the pre-publication order system. Let each candidate announce that he's going to do a report, if successful and let the additional charge for the report be included with the initial subscription. Say we have a 5/- minimum to vote, well, for 10/- you are guaranteed the report of the winner. Should 10/- all at once be too taxing on the pocket then part trip, ~~prepublication~~ charge of, say, 7/6d could be made. Then publication could be made to requirements no waste, no last minute reprints. // In the case of the AA this method worked very well, didn't it? And certainly it should work again. // Well, maybe you won't agree with all the foregoing but, at least, I'm not knocking something down without offering an alternative." *//(* Whew! You do go on! I'll take your last point first, being me. I don't think I've heard anyone criticise the organisation of TAFF without having some alternative to offer, so you are in good company. I agree that the minimum sub. to TAFF should be raised to 5/-. This is a reform that is long due. I feel that you folk are being unfair when you compare the TAFF fund with the Willis Campaign. You must remember that money has been collected on a surge of enthusiasm by those who have met or have yet to meet Walt. It isn't something to which Larry or anyone is devoted annually as are the TAFF administrators. It certainly seems that something will have to be done to keep fans apprised of the state of the funds but, instead of maybe using cash from the funds to pay for a newsheet the same results could be obtained if the administrators issued the news regularly to any fmz that had a monthly schedule. I can't think of a faned who would refuse space for TAFF when asked to do so. // If a report is to be done then the sensible thing to do is ask for orders once it's on stencil and before you run it off. As you suggest, it could be included with the TAFF subscription. *//(*

Art Hayes,
RR 3, Bancroft,
Ontario. Canada.

"London in '65? Well, this is something I might have to look forward to. I was at the London Convention in 1957, and would like to renew old acquaintances. My main love for the King's Court was that a key I had on me, for my parent's home, turned out to be a master key for the hotel. Wonder if I can have that kind of luck again in '65? // TAFF: Guess I'm still barking at the same tree, for the last few years, I've advocated a modified Newsletter item for TAFF, modified from what you've commented on in O28. Have the Newszine published by the Administration, yes, but circulation only to FULL members of TAFF. This Newszine would be primarily for faneds, so that they would all get the news at about the same time, and be able to print their views, and give publicity to TAFF. This FULL membership would cost money though, \$5. for us here, and £1 for YOU. The Newszine would be a small item, since the idea would be to make profits from the thing, and it would be the focus for getting publicity. It would be the Headquarters, the place where publicity was planned, letting the FULL members do much of the actual publicity spreading. For this, and the fee, they could form an advisory body. Those who did not wish to become FULL members, could vote and be associate members on the same conditions as now. The final decisions could remain, as now, with the administrators. // BSFA:....on your FREE adverts page. While, when it was being formed, I declined the non-voting Associate Membership, I think, or will think about trying to get just such a membership. Is it still available? One adtem in this ad I find amusing, in one way, is the Library wanting fanzines. I find it amusing, because, in many cases, the faneds DON'T WANT MORE SUBS, having all they can handle. Some, of course, would benefit from such a Philanthropic gesture." */)(/* To begin with, I wasn't aware that TAFF was something of which you have membership. You don't ask someone "Are you a member of TAFF?" If you are advocating that for a lump sum down we are free to vote in TAFF for as long as we stay in fandom, I can only suggest you make it a lot more than the \$5. or £1 you mention, or TAFF will be the loser. I'm not sure I like that idea - I judge these things from how I would behave and I fear that if I knew my vote was safe because of a lump payment, I might get uncaring and not bother sending them any small sums during the year as I do now. Hell, with fandom as wealthy as it is these days, imagine how it would be if we all had this FULL membership of which you talk. From where is it to draw its funds in succeeding years, if not from the voters? // Whatever is finally decided upon, one thing seems certain. Fandom wants more TAFF news made public to them and, they are agreed that TAFF needs/deserves a lot more of the right kind of publicity. The only thing to be decided now, is how to achieve these ideals. // Ghod, Art, it is bad enough keeping the two administrators in constant touch with each other as it is. Just think of how much more difficult it would be for an advisory body to do so. No, let's not interfere with things as they are now, at least, not with the administration of the fund. // Yes, you can still get an Assoc. Membership in the BSFA; it is open to all overseas fen. It costs \$1.50. per annum and you send the cash to:- Dale R. Smith, 3001 Kyle Avenue, Minneapolis 22. Minnesota. I don't know. I've sent O. to the Library since I began publishing it and haven't had more subs. as a consequence than I wanted. Many read them from curiosity and do nothing more about it. By our Philanthropy in forming the BSFA and keeping it going, we have paved the way to fandom for people like, Fred Hunter, Jimmy Groves & Joe Patrizio, to name but a few. Who, then, would deny its worth?"/)(/*

Harry Warner,
423 Summit Avenue,
Hagerstown, Maryland.

"That drawer of unacknowledged fanzines and unanswered letters is no longer capable of having anything stuffed into it, because it has lost so much of its contents that new arrivals are deposited neatly with ample breathing room atop the small remaining pile. // A few comments on ORION first, I suppose, are

Harry Warner(cntd.). in order. I've already expressed somewhere in print my thoughts about TAFF, that its recent obscurity has been largely due to the fact that no trip accounts have been appearing in the general fanzine press. I have doubts that a real TAFF fanzine would be wise, because sooner or later, an issue would fail to appear until long weeks after schedule, and immediately fans on two continents would scream loudly that TAFF was ruined and forgotten and ignored. My thought was that a TAFF flyer might be distributed periodically with other fanzines, possibly by reducing the ballot format to a single side and using the other side for the latest news about the organization's treasury, special fund-raising schemes, and so on. // John Berry's little story makes me sense more than ever that he is now making a transition from strictly fan writing to writing for paying sources: more and more of his contributions have no fannish or fantasy element at all these days, and there is more care paid to the professional tricks like consistency of style throughout and multiple pulp twists. Fred Hunter was very interesting, although I kept wondering while I was reading it if there might not be a very similar article just seeing print in some obscure Russian periodical, telling about the impressions that one of the Russian sailors had on this fortunate opportunity to get a close look at the English-speaking people behind the curtain. Russian cameras are extremely good, and this fact reminds me of a typical example of how the press has distorted and magnified the differences between the countries. An American photography publication got hold of several Russian-built cameras three or four years ago, tried them out, and printed a report on the findings. The report indicated that the workmanship was good, complained that they were too obviously copied after German and Japanese models, then seized on one camera as an illustration of how different Russia was from the free world. This was a pioneering example of an automated camera -- the kind that became popular a little later in the United States, with a mechanism that sets the lens opening and shutter speed automatically on the basis of the amount of light on hand. This mechanism was linked with the shutter release in such a manner that it would not operate if there was not enough light to get a good exposure, in order to avoid wasting film. The magazine explained how this was tyranny at its worst, when the poor Russian was even not permitted by a machine to take an under exposed picture if he felt like it. I don't think a year had passed before automated cameras were available in the United States, and several of them had exactly this sameshutter look that the Russian camera had featured." */)(/* More and more I am leaning toward the idea of our TAFF administrators using monthly fanzines to spread their publicity and news. If your idea is employed, I shudder at the number of voting ballots I'll be getting in the mails; already I managed to collect at least 6. Besides, if the news is printed on the reverse side, I won't want to lose it by using the voting form, it will end up in my files. Still, I'd have surplus copies. Are there any fans, does anyone know, who don't receive any fanzines? If these things are sent out via the 'zines, it's going to be difficult to reach them. // Hey, you, Harry. What's the ig idea, calling ORION an 'obscure periodical'? I had the same idea about the Russians going home and, maybe, telling their friends and/or families about those 'odd English', because they would you know, and don't you argue with me, Fred Hunter. I don't imagine for a moment they appreciate the distinction between a British, English or Scotsman. I know they have sf in Russia, I wonder if they have fanzines?*/)(/*

Len Moffatt, "Joe Gibson is a good man, but I must agree with you, Alva
10202 Belcher, Rogers, Dick Bergeron, etc. that he really hasn't a case. //
Downey. California. Just wrote to SHAGGY re TAFF, revising suggestions I made in
my letter in SHAGGY 59. Briefly, the Administrators have been
PR men to a degree, and could be more so... Every-other-month TAFFzines would be more

Ten Moffatt,(cntd.). effective than just 4 times a year. Monthly would be Too Much, quarterly Not Enough. Ron's polling of fans re TAFF, and taking the trouble to acknowledge donations and votes is good PR stuff. I think most, if not all, TAFF winners want to write about their trips, not only out of gratitude, but because they are fans, and most fans love to write about such things. But it is unfair, and expecting too much, to have them pay in time and money to publish their reports, with all of the proceeds from the sales going to TAFF. Running the report serially in a genzine is fine, so long as it is in one genzine, and one that appears frequently. But as a book, as one unit, TAFFund should pay for it, with the money from sales going back into TAFF, of course. I suggested that if a bi-monthly TAFFzine was established the TAFF winners reports could be published serially in it. // I suppose my "other fandom" is show biz, tho I don't consider myself an authority on the subject. Years of "accumulated" info from reading about the stage, movies, etc. and from going to same, of course. Haven't really studied the subject(s), and anything I might write along those lines would be of the Why I liked or Why I didn't like school, or the films I'd go to see again, or my regret at never having seen Barrymore in Hamlet etc." */)(/* If your suggestion were followed: "winner's reports published serially in the bi-monthly TAFFzine," don't you think it could become a bore? I mean, you have two winners/administrators, both of whom want to publish a trip report. Every time you receive an issue of the TAFFzine, there's another instalment of a TripReport in it and so on, and so on...for ever. Eventually, unless it is by someone of special ability, one doesn't read them any more so they don't get the attention their writers think they deserve. At least, as things are now you have the option whether or not to purchase and, having bought, one assumes you will read it. By the way, I have discovered that all profits go to TAFF after expenses have been recouped. // I don't deny that most fen winning TAFF would want to write their reports, my point is that the obligation to do so should be removed. If a winner lacks time/inclination/ability to do such a thing, I'd hate to think of fingers pointing at him as some kind of failure because he didn't follow the custom. // Actually, and for the guidance of anyone in future doing a oneshot version, to avoid having too many copies left on their hands, why don't they do what I did with the AA. Once it is all on stencil invite subscriptions and base your run-off on those coming in, plus 10-20 extras. If fen knew that this was being done it would be up to them to get their order in on time...or else. Alternatively, there is the suggestion that for an added \$ m paid at the time of voting you get a copy of a report when published. Either way it cuts down wastage of time and money. */)(/*

Harriet Kolchack,
2104 Brandywine Street,
Philadelphia 30,
Pa. U.S.A.

"TAFF does have lousy publicity. The idea of official zines or a special page in each zine printed is very much to my liking. The former is a sure thing but the latter could have its set-backs, e.g. publisher is late with an important article or, they use the page for something else. (Like, I gave Tarausi my Neo Fund piece right after Pittcon and it only just got in). // I also favour the fact that funds should be paid for the candidate before hand. I favour a constant drive for funds on this line, with an account set by to draw on. It is one of my aims in the Neo Fan Fund and, if it works as planned, we will have enough money in years to come to benefit all fans, including the TAFF candidates. To me, the mere fact that a fund benefits a fan is enough to make it worth the effort. I have to count pennies but, if I could donate a dime now and again to a fund, I am sure it would mount up to much more than the usual \$50 or \$1. required to join some group in the period of a year. A dime a week works out to \$5.20. alone. // I don't know how others choose their candidate but, I like to pick the one I am sure will take back the most detailed reports to their members and will be the most congenial while here. A candidate who is a group

Harriet Kolchack.(cntd.)

monopoly while here is unfair to both sides. The attributes therefore should be their ability to note and report on what they see, hear and think, regardless of its small importance to them. Also their ability to be congenial with all fans regardless of their standing in fandom. It's not fair to have a fan pay his share or do his share for a candidate and then to be shunned by them." *)(* I note, thank ghod, you don't rate a fan's writing ability among his attributes as a Good candidate for TAFF.//I don't get the SFTimes, so haven't heard before of your Neo Fan Fund. Tell me more about it, please? By its very name you preclude TAFF candidates from any benefits as they are not Neos but established fen. In any case, there is no need for the twofunds to overlap, // I echo your sentiments when you say: "if it benefits a fan, it is worthwhile." Too many are apt to ask: "what do I get for my money?" This maybe sounds bad coming from me who has benefited to a great extent from the generosity of fen. I trust them to appreciate it was not intended to sound as ungracious as it does. Write again, Harriet. *)(*

Roy Kay,
91, Craven Street,
Birkenhead,
Cheshire.

"ORION 28. The things that stood out for me were: the John Berry story, 'A Page For Readers', and 'Behind the Curtain' by Fred Hunter. // I liked John Berry's work when I first saw it through the BSFA library....Now I'm arriving on the fannish scene I certainly hope he never runs out of ideas for those Sergeant Sagas he does so expertly. This is no news to anyone I know, but there's some really good characterisation in there. // 'Behind the Curtain'. Well, that told me many things about Communist life that I didn't know before. More important though, the image of those seamen came across vividly. This kind of thing...more than any amount of text book study...puts over a living impression of modern Communism that you don't forget in a hurry." *)(* Welcome to ORION, and thanks for the artwork. I'll give it to ATom for mature consideration and verdict. You'll be hearing from me one way or the other. *)(*

Jill Adams,
54 Cobden Avenue,
Bitterne Park,
Southampton,.

"I am in general agreement with your remarks about TAFF. It's nice to read of the good time the delegates have, but as a general rule the reports come out so long after the trip that interest has died. Anyway, most people are skint when the trip's over, and so can't afford a report straight off. So far the delegates have been people who have or have access to a duplicator and can write well. What would happen if someone like me won? I can't write and am at least 70 miles from the nearest available duplicator. It's much better they should give their time to TAFF itself, to do their best to see someone else goes. // How do I go about choosing whom I'll vote for? Well, with British fans, who I like best, it's not perhaps the fairest way but that's how I do it. It's not so easy with Stateside fen as I don't know them and sometimes have never even heard of them. In such cases I read the blurb and try to decide which one has done most for fandom. Failing that I wouldn't vote, just send in the cash." *)(* Just supposing someone like yourself won, it would be possible to have your report run-off by another fan. What bothers me more than anything is the way you choose for whom to vote. If you judge the US candidate by what he's done for fandom, why not apply the same standards to Britfen? It seems fairest. *)(*

John Baxter,
Box 39, King St. P.O.,
Sydney, N.S.W.
Australia.

/)(/ Sit back, folks. This is likely to be a long one.*/)(/*

"ARTHUR THOMSON GAFIATE? Oh no - you must be joking,
Ella. Fandom sans ATom....unthinkable. It's like

eggs without salt or uncrottled greeps. You had better inform Arthur that under no circumstances will he be released from fandom at this time. // I hope you will forgive me saying this, Ella, but you are sometimes rather one-eyed about things which upset you. This is natural, I suppose - however, it doesn't make your editorials seem very objective, which tends to invalidate them in many eyes. It is all very well to be scathing when you're attacking somebody or beefing about the way sf is headed these days, but this blunt tone just doesn't suit a reasoned argument for the support of TAFF. Try looking at the problem objectively. No matter how much you hate to admit it, TAFF has its flaws, and its critics have a point - Why should we contribute to something in which we aren't really interested? Perhaps, in your opinion, this attitude is "selfish", but as fandom is a very "selfish" hobby, that charge means very little. You are fairly ruthless in your pruning of CRION's mailing list, aren't you? Surely that is "selfish", in that a number of people are being deprived of the magazine because they are disinclined to write. The very fact that fans often charge for their publications shows just how "selfish" we all are. Fandom is supposed to be above mundane considerations such as money and critical adulation, yet editors are indefatigable in their pursuit of both. I'm not condemning this. As far as I'm concerned, it's all perfectly natural and even desirable that we have this sort of cutthroat competition. It keeps people on their toes. Come on, Ella - admit that fandom isn't chockful of altruists. We're all here for the kicks we can get, and the fun we can have. If you want us to contribute to TAFF, give us some kind of reason other than the fact that it will make us feel all warm inside if we give unstintingly. // The arguments for TAFF, as I see them, are:-(1) It enables fans to meet other fans whom they would otherwise never contact except through letters. (2) It fosters the image of a truly international fandom, which I feel is very desirable. (3) It can, on occasions, spark some excellent writing. The best examples are, of course, THE HARP STATESIDE, & THE GOON GOES WEST. // The arguments against TAFF are:-(1) Contributors to the fund receive no return for their money. (2) National characteristics being so similar these days, the possibility of an English fan finding anything really new and interesting to say about his American contemporaries is fast disappearing. I don't feel that contributions to TAFF will pick up until we do offer something to those paying in. // I still feel the only workable solution is to tie TAFF in with the convention officially, either by paying the fare out of convention funds and recouping the loss through sales of the delegate's report, or making a contribution to TAFF optional for all members((convention members?EP)), but giving a copy of the report to all those contributing more than a certain amount. If you want to make it very simple (but therefore more open to abuse and apathy), you could merely give a copy of the report to everybody contributing more than a certain amount to the fund, and leave out the ConCommittee entirely. Everybody gives a buck at the least - if you offered them a copy of the report for a kick-in of \$2. most of them would be glad to add the extra dollar if only to save themselves the trouble of writing for a report when it actually came out. If the Convention was prepared to subsidise the publication of the report(a 50/50 split between delegate and Committee, perhaps), the cost would be kept down to a minimum, so that, out of the increased contributions, about 50% would be clear profit. As I see it, this is the only way you will ever be able to put TAFF on a solid basis that will endure. Admittedly, a strong concerted advertising campaign would probably up the contributions, but how long could you depend on this drive being continued? After the first year, enthusiasm would flag and you'd be back where you started from. No matter how you try, you just can't get something for nothing, not even in fandom. // About this thing of Fred

John Baxter (cntd.).

Hunter's..... // Unfortunately, I don't have the last ORION with me at the moment, so I can't refresh my memory on exactly what I did say. If I said that "for most of us, life is dull", then I meant it as a plain statement of what is to me a self-evident fact. It wasn't meant to be "sweeping" or "grand" or even impressive. Life is dull - you won't have to go far to find a philosopher who will admit that readily. // Frankly, I doubt if fans would be active - if in fact they would be fans at all - if they had interesting jobs; jobs which conform to the definition of ideal employment, i.e. being paid for work you would gladly pay to be allowed to do. A glance through the Broyles' WHO'S WHO is informative - look at these jobs: Clerk, Grocery salesman, Engineer, Civil Servant, Housewife, more Clerks, reams of students, a few schoolteachers. All fans seem to be drawn from the narrow constricting areas of employment, the places where there is little opportunity for the exercise of imagination. Those few who do have what seem to be interesting jobs are generally not very active. Look, Fred, would you be a fan if you were a pro-writer? Or a mattress tester? Or whatever you would most like to be? No, I didn't think so." */)(/* Have at you, Sirrah! I've got news for you, John. My editorials aren't meant to be "objective". SPECS is the one part of ORION in which I express my opinions. If I say anything or adopt an attitude with which you disagree, you have YSI in which to state your opinions, no matter how one-eyed they may be. I'm sorry if you dislike my "blunt tune", but I've never been renowned for my honeyed voice and it's a bit late now to teach this old dog new tricks. It is precisely because TAFF has its flaws we are having all this talk about it. We hope to discover exactly what is needed and give constructive opinions and ideas to future administrators. I agree with you, that if you don't have any interest in TAFF then you needn't contribute, but then, you needn't take part in the discussions about it either.//I would be among the first to admit to your charge of being "selfish", I have never denied it. My feeling about TAFF is about like Harriet's. If it benefits a fan or fandom - no matter what it is - then I'm all for it. The only thing I want in return for my money is this "warm feeling inside", that I've helped, albeit just a little, towards giving a fan a trip he wouldn't otherwise have had. For the same reason I buy every report that is issued no matter how poorly I expect it to be written, because the cash I send goes to TAFF and another fan sent on his way. To compare my charge of selfishness re TAFF with my selfishness in cutting the ORION m/1 is pointless. ORION has nothing to do with TAFF. I pay for the paper and all other materials needed, I also pay the postage. From No.21-25 I was sending it out to 200 + fen of whom the majority were 'trades' or contributors. From 26 on, I cut without compunction, those who never wrote, traded or subbed and I now have a m/1 of just under 180. It wasn't altogether a wish for egoboo or even a crass love of money (at 1/- or 15/- per!) that made me cut them off. As far as I was aware, they weren't even reading the thing once they got it. I don't do anything like that amount of work for TAFF; all I do is send in my subscription and vote. The work is all done for me by the subsequent winners and for what we get from them I say we should be paying at least double the amount we do now. // Hell, no! Leave the Convention Committees out of TAFF as much as possible. They already have enough responsibility as it is. If the winner of TAFF is to write a report then, it would make things a lot easier all round if fen sent in an extra \$1. when voting to order the report. In this way, with advance orders, the person most concerned knows just how many copies to run-off. // TAFF is something about which I am and always have been unashamedly goshwow. It was a dream and one that came true. I would hate to see it lose its place in fannish hearts and history. It gets all the support of which I am capable and I can only urge those of you who feel about it as I do, to keep it going no matter how. Certain things need changing, obviously, but basically, it needs continued and unstinting support from us. Just for once, leave us not demand something concrete in return for our money. Try that "warm feeling", you just might get to like it and yourself. */)(/*

Don Fitch,
3908 Frijo,
Covina. California.

"I think you're right in suggesting that many of the things Joe Gibson complains about are done through thoughtlessness -- or misunderstanding. Fans are frequently so friendly and generous that one slips into the habit of thinking of them as old friends or members of the family, and it comes as a distinct shock to discover, for example, that they may expect a thank-you note after they've had you to dinner. What it seems to boil down to is a mixture of different standards of behaviour; the fannish and the mundane. As for the other things Joe mentioned-- "shying at shadows" seems appropriate. // Fred Hunter's bit on the Russian ships is good--I've seen nothing else by him, so far as memory serves, though the name is familiar, and the discovery that he can write so well makes me wonder why he's not more active. The probability is that he is active -- in Anglozines; I'd better get on the ball -- I'm missing something else...an entire countryful of fandom. // I'd be glad to join British Cons if I could expect to get something out of it--progress reports, program booklet, and some sort of post-con report. These would cost money -- perhaps as much as half the fee -- but would give the con some profit, and provide it with some working capital. // Er...any chance of getting parts one and two of Andy Young's "EUROPEAN PUMBLE"? */)(/* Nice to have you with us, Don. Are you honestly suggesting that fen should be less polite to each other than they would be with mundane friends or their families? I think you exaggerate, you know. No-one expects a note of thanks if they've had you in for dinner but, if you've come for the weekend, especially uninvited, it is the least your host/ess could expect surely. What is wrong with mundane good manners in fandom? It would do away with the necessity for fandom on various occasions to cry "WOLF!", and we'd all be a lot happier. // Fred is in OMPA now and, in the past, has had other articles in CRION to say nothing of many letters. Wake up! // Naturally, if you joined the BritCons you would receive progress reports, con program booklets but, what's this about "post-con reports"? Do you get those from USCons you join and don't attend? Financial reports, maybe but not reports of the con itself unless from various fanzines. Why should you expect us to do differently? At least until our Conventions became solvent, you wouldn't receive our reports done in any other media than the duplicator. It's one of those merry-go-rounds. As we gain more members we'll have the cash with which to improve everything, even the appearance of our reports and booklets. Obviously, this is only for those interested in joining. // Your LASFAS club library should have the previous chapters of Andy Young's report. They get all issues. Sorry, I have none left. */)(/*

Fred Hunter,
13, Freefield Road,
Lerwick,
Shetland Isles.
Scotland.

"I like your idea about publishing 'hobby' articles. There must be quite a number of fans with interests outside of fandom which would make really interesting reading. I expect you noticed, for instance, Jaunita Coulson's comment in YANDRO that she dug the "MESSEIAH" and that she knew of other fans with a liking for Handel's composition. I reckon a series of 'hobby' articles would uncover umpteen instances like that. // Trouble with hobbies is that it's damned difficult to find enough time to devote to each. The true hobbyist would be a specialist, I suppose, but when, like me, one has several different interests, the ways just aren't long enough. At the moment, I am concentrating on building a hi-fi system. Unfortunately, my family doesn't share my interest in music and, therefore, life is just one long battle. Like, the other day I read of a method where one could convert drain pipes into loudspeaker enclosures with excellent results. This appealed to me but I've been doing much brain-wracking in an endeavour to find a way of convincing Mother that the living-room needs two drain pipes measuring 3 feet tall, 15 inches wide and weighing 145 lbs. each. Sigh! Maybe I should find another hobby like crochet work or something..." */)(/* To date there have been

Fred Hunter(cntd.). no offers of material on 'hobbies' from anyone.....You were saying? // That bloke above you, Don Fitch, was asking about . . . you. Write and tell him. // If you kept a daschund you could tell your Mum the pipes were for a kennel, yes? Just trying to be helpful.*//(*/*

Bruce Burn,
c/o Williams,
31, Hounslow Avenue,
Hounslow,
MIDDXX.

"Now that Ron Ellick has announced his plans for giving TAFF a sort of Public Relations Front, I guess your comments about the running of that organisation are dated. But I will try to answer your question about what attributes I like to see in a TAFF candidate. // Naturally, we all like to see a representative of fandom travelling abroad, become a social success. We like to hear that 'everyone liked the TAFFman', and we also like to hear that the TAFFman liked everyone in return. Okay then, a TAFF candidate must be a social creature; not a hermit and not a fan currently engaged in any sort of feuding. He must also be in a position to be fairly certain that he'll continue fanning after the trip, because if he's any sort of a human being a TAFFman will feel something of a debt to fandom and will want to repay it at least with his continued presence. Also, since it's now become a custom for a TAFFman to write a report after his trip, I feel that I would be biased in my voting towards a fan who would write a worthwhile report. // But, TAFF is a sort of reward to fans for their presence in fandom, and I feel that the basic reason for my voting for one candidate and not for another is that of the candidate's fanactivity. If one fan has a longer history of worthwhile (I leave a definition of that word to greater minds and just rely upon my own instincts) fanactivity - be it in fanzines, clubs, or in conventions - then he would normally get my vote: even though he might not be the better Representative of his own National Fandom, he would be a more worthy candidate. // Now, let's have a look at the candidates who have stood for TAFF in the past, and while we're on the theme, let's see which fans have at various times been considered good Representatives. // Back during the last days of WW2, Forry Ackerman started a fund to help two British fan cross the Atlantic and attend a US convention. This was called, in Ackerman style, the Big Pond Fund, and the two worthies from the UK were Walter Gillings and Ted Carnell, both active fans at the time. The fund accumulated and was used in 1949 by Ted - Gillings couldn't make it - who thus became the first British fan to be Big Ponded. He was asked to travel by the Britfan, but couldn't do so. // One thing becomes obvious: the three fans who became in effect 'candidates' were all super-BNFs with fairly long histories of fanactivity behind them. // In 1951, Don Ford and the Cincy SF Group started a fund called the 'British Fan Fund' to help Norman Ashfield travel to the US. But, Norman gaffed and the fund was offered to any British fan who could make the trip. However, when the offer was made (via Carnell at the 1952 Coroncon), nobody was able to take the trip and a committee was set up to administer the "Two-way Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund". // But 1952 was a busy year for fan travelling: Walt Willis, HSC, made his Stateside trip on the crest of a wave of popularity that brought into being the "WAW with Crew in '62!" fund. // So, another thing becomes obvious: fans could start funds at the drop of a hat for 'candidates' who had produced a large amount of popular fanac in a short space of time. 1953 saw the start of the first TAFF campaign, organised principally by Don Ford and Walt Willis, and voting commenced to see which British fan most deserved a trip to a US Convention. The line of candidates in this first TAFF election were: Vin Clark, James White, Ken Slater, Derek Pickles, and Tony Thorne. Clark won, but decided not to take the trip. In this election Slater was the fan with the longest history of fanac, all the others being relative newcomers, and Pickles and Thorne were really local boys. Vin who would appear to have won on a basis of popularity more in keeping with the individual funds, was in such a position that fans must have felt they would get more for their money

Bruce Burn (cntd.).

from such a man as he making the trip. In 1955

Eric Bentcliffe, Terry Jeeves, and Ken Bulmer stood.

Ken won and took the trip. In this election Ken was the oldest fan and even though his fanac had not been intense he was elected as the Representative for that year. This was a case of TAFF being a reward for past activity and continued fame (the latter through his professional work). // Then 1956 rolled around and the first US. TAFF elections reach an inclusive result. The candidates for that year were: Lee Hoffman, Perry Ackerman, Dave Kyle, Lou Tabakow, G.M. Carr, Wally Weber, Hal Shapiro, and Kent Corey. Lee won, stood down; Ackerman couldn't make the trip as he hadn't had enough time to make his arrangements; Kyle hadn't gained enough votes to be asked so the funds were held over. What happened? To quote Ken Bulmer (STEAM Vol.4.No.4.) "The leaders were whole fen, the others local white-haired boys (I've met them and they are wonderful fans, real fine guys) disliked or unknown for the remainder." In other words, the bulk of the votes went to the fen who had more fanac behind them - though in Lee's case, this was a matter of only six years or so. But TAFF was a reward for past activity; in Lee's case it was activity in fanzines, in 4e's fanzines and pro-mags over many years, and in Kyle's case it was conventions and on the New York scene for a number of years. // Another American election was held in 1957, to bring a fan to the London World Convention. Candidates: Stu. Hoffman, George Nims Raybin, Ed McNulty, and Dick Ency. All of these were worthy of the trip and they had all been fairly active in various facets of fandom for a number of years. Bob Madle won, a fact that stunned a number of fans who had been campaigning for other candidates. But Bob was well known in the States and he had been fairly active in the Regional conventions over there. To quote from Ken Bulmer's TAFF-report again (I should note that Ken's report of TAFF-activities is the basis of this account): "Looked at purely from the viewpoint of the spirit which brought Walter over in '52 Bob Madle was not the fanzine type we were looking for. But looked at in the light of the original Don Ford CFG Ashfield fan fund (The British Fan Fund) he was an ideal choice. As TAFF today is composed of both these strings of parentage, as I have attempted to point out, Bob was a fair choice for TAFF." // I'm going to risk unending argument by calling Bob Madle an 'Optimum TAFFman'. He was the best choice for the convention-fans and sf-fans (Bob's column in an American prozine brought him some fame), and also for the longer memoried fanzine fans. 1958 brought us an interesting three-way contest between: Ron Bennett, John Berry and Dave Newman. The favourite appeared to be John Berry, but he failed to take first place. Bennett, a fan of about the same vintage as Berry, swept on to win. Dave Newman, at that time a Director of the WSFA INC. came third and has since gaffiated completely. What gave Bennett the edge on Berry? My guess, based on the previous results of the more or less even campaigns, is, that Berry was known mainly to fanzine fans, and a large number of them had built up a dislike of the Irish Constable because of the vast amount of poor-quality writing he had poured into the fanzines over the preceding four years. Add to this the fact that Berry was unknown as far as convention-goers were concerned. Again an Optimum Fan won. However, in the following year, Berry's disappointed supporters gradually built up a fund to give their man a trip to the Detention. The fund was a success, Berry was a success personally, and, of course, his candidature of the previous year was vindicated. // 1960 was the year of the first real "Two-way Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund", since a fan from either side of the Atlantic made a trip across the Big Pond. Candidates on the US side were: Don Ford, Ejo Wells (as she was then), and Terry Carr. Again the Americans made TAFF a reward for lengthy service to fandom, giving Don Ford the trip. On the English side of the water, Eric Bentcliffe, Mal Ashworth, and Sandy Sanderson were the candidates. All newer fans, none of these three had been active before the '50s. Eric won the kitty, being another of the Optimum Fans. Mal, for all his brilliance, was not a steady enough fan to carry an election, and his reputation really existed in a clique of

Bruce Burn (cntd.). admirers. // In 1961 there was no TAFF campaign ((Is this a take-over bid?)) except that which decided the American fan who would make the trip to England in 1962. This was a two-way deal between Ron (Squirrel) Ellik and Dick Eney, which resulted in a win for Ellik who will be at the British Convention at Harrogate this year. Again, it is a case of the Optimum Fan winning - a fan who's activities cover fanzines, local social affairs, and larger Conventions. // The only conclusion I can draw from the foregoing is, that the type of fan that wins TAFF is the type of fan I've dared to call an 'Optimum Fan', but there is also the factor of what the voters think they'll get back from a possible TAFFman. From eight different campaigns six Representatives have made the trip and all but one of them have written extensive Reports of their travels. It seems almost an unwritten law that a TAFFman should write an account of his trip. // What about the future? Will people continue to elect the 'Optimum Fan'?, or will it be necessary for a fan to be more than just the best all-round choice? Perhaps some new factor will come to light during the next eight TAFF campaigns. Maybe candidates will have to appeal to the sympathies of the voters (Vote for Ike, he's been sick!), or maybe election platforms will be strictly on a sex-appeal basis(though with the multitudinous sexes of fandom, this could get mighty involved). Personally, I like to hope that future candidates will note that all but one of the winners in the past have been members of OMPA at sometime in their fanlives." */)(/* Cor, luv-a-duck! You sure you've finished? Primarily I have printed most all your letter for the benefit of those who don't know how TAFF was begun and who were past candidates. // You see, it isn't too hard to write a letter, is it? */)(/*

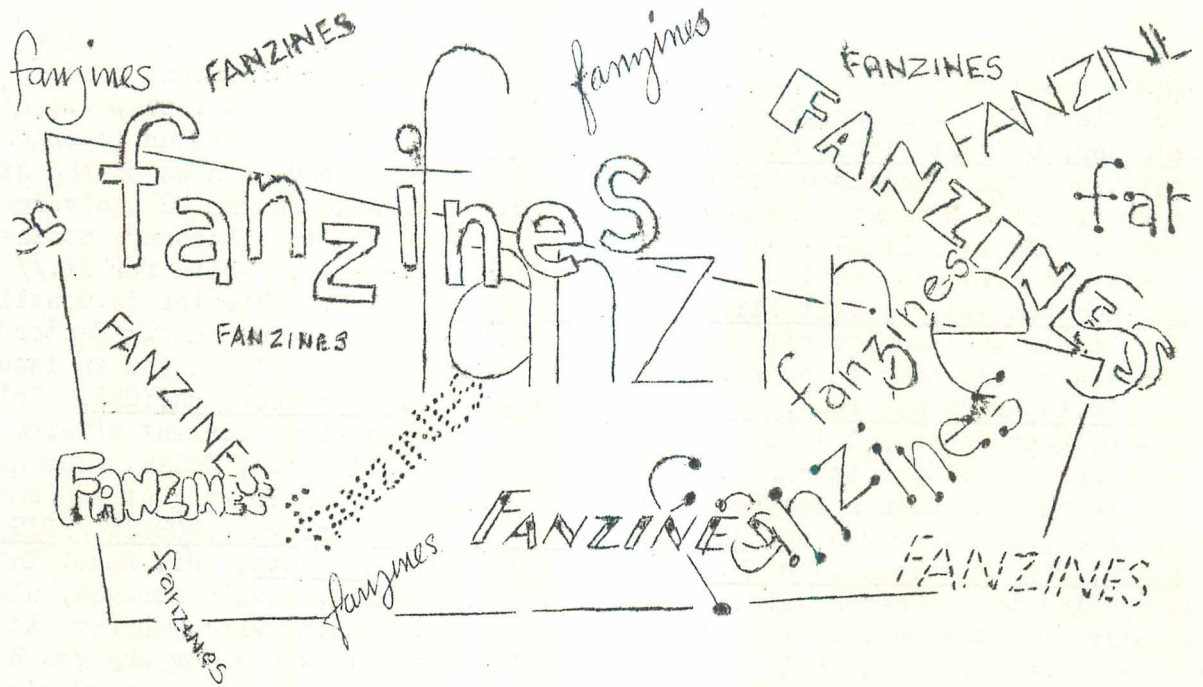
That's it for this time, folks. We now come to:-
HONOURABLE MENTIONS.
Colin Freeman, England.//Lenny Kaye,U.S.A.//Archie Mercer, England.//Wim Struyck, Holland.//Bob Smith, Australia.//George Locke,Nairobi.((George is now back home and can be reached at his home address in Chelsea.))//Mike Deckinger,U.S.A.//Bill Temple, England.//and, we think, but can't find any trace of it, Jimmy Groves, England.

ROBERTA GRAY. (Cntd from page 11)

"What shall we do?" asked Doreen worriedly.
I thought a deep thought and finally came up with my verdict. "Keep our trap shut and let 'em live in sin." Then another thought occurred to me. "And why the hell did you choose that damned jug. I didn't want it, nor the six glasses."
"Neither did I," said Doreen. "But we have here, in case it hadn't occurred to you, Paddy's wedding present."
Not that we ever told Paddy where her wedding present came from.
(R.G.)

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ETHEL LINDSAY FOR TAFF. ETHEL LINDSAY FOR TAFF. ETHEL LINDSAY FOR TAFF.



A word in the ear of those in OMPA. I used to be pleased to have you send me a spare copy of your 'zines, once the mailing had gone out. Now, it is no longer necessary that you do this. I am back on the short 'purchaser's list', which means I get them all. Of course, this doesn't apply to any postmailings you may do. I would appreciate getting those; it helps to know what is being talked about in the m/cs. Ma.

Having cleared the back log last issue without really saying anything about them, the pile of 'zines this time seems to be of more manageable proportions. Just as they come out of the box....SHAGGY 59. Fred Patten, 222 S.Gramercy Place, Los Angeles 4. Calif. It may be a terrible thing to admit but, SHAGGY used to be a fnz with which I could never make contact. I mean, the first issue I got of CRY; ZOOM! I was with it, as the saying says. SHAGGY I found mildly interesting but it never came across to me that it was published by people. Having met the bunch responsible for it, things are different, of course and I find that, while it still lacks the impact for me CRY has, it reads nevertheless, much more vibrantly. I wonder is this really due to my having met them or, to the provocative articles they've been running lately, on TAFF and leeches? I confess I mistook this front cover for a Bjo. It is an aristocratic picture but, there is menace in those eyes. Lovely work. I am glad to see Alva Rogers refute the accusations/slurs cast upon the old LASFAS by Joe Gibson in a previous issue. I am beginning to think that it's time someone who was there in those days should write a factual history of the rows that split the club and caused all the rumours and half-truths that are still floating around. Fer gawd's sake; if it isn't to be allowed to die and be forgotten, let us know the truth. Personally, I'd rather see it buried. I love those cartoons of ATOM's where he has two BEMS talking. They could be saying anything but, the caption usually, is something entirely unexpected, as here. If Bob Lichtman(Hi, Bob!) writes Conreports for Buck Coulson, whom he knows won't read them anyway, why does he write them? It is a shame to see the mag. spoiled by indifferent dupering as in the lettercol. It was ledgible tho', and interesting as never before...to me. Because of the subjects, I hasten to add, nothing to do with the change of editors in it. Phew! That was a close call. The art supplement and calendar were much liked and dropped over. These are bonuses I've come to look forward to. Many thanks. // BANE: Vic Ryan, Box 92, 2305 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, Illinois. To how ever many typers do you have access? I can never fully

understand the need for using many different type-faces in one issue. I don't know which ranks as tops in this. Tucker is wonderful in reminiscent mood, Green provides food for thought talking about censorship. A good issue, Vic.//
AXE: L&N. Shaw, 16 Grant Place, Staten Island 6, New York. This was begun in order to plug items being auctioned for the Willis Fund and to provide news of the state of the Fund. It has grown, and how! Now it outranks FANAC as the US equivalent of SKYRACK. AXE is reliable and doesn't reach us when all the items are months old. I like AXE and have come to look for it in my mail regularly. Write for it.//
SKYRACK, Ron Bennett, 13, West Cliffe Grove, Harrogate, YORKS. This too is usually pretty reliable tho' we haven't seen it of late. Ron is working on our EasterCon so doesn't have the time to spare. It will be back and 6d will get you an issue.//
SCRIBBLE, Colin Freeman, Ward 3, Scotton Banks Hospital, Knaresborough, YORK. Colin may be a patient in hospital but his penetrating remarks about current affairs put better known fan writers to shame. You have a biting wit there, Colin. The mag. seems to be shaking down a lot better than of yore. Oops, on looking at the back cover I see your address is given as: 41, Mornington Crescent, Harrogate, YORKS. // DISCORD, Redd Boggs, 2209 Highland Place N.E., Minneapolis 21, Minnesota. Hi, Redd! This is the one fnz that makes me green with envy. It is small, easily managed, always beautifully produced and, to top it all, informative. Reading what you have to say about radios even if it is half meant in fun, I can't help wondering why you have one? You could get all the good music your heart desires from your record player, surely? Why pay the price of an atomic inferno because you are too weak willed to use the "off" knob on your set? As usual a worthwhile zine. // PEALS, Belle Dietz, Apt. 1.N., 1721 Grand Avenue, Bronx 53, N.Y. In this, Belle deals with the time I was in New York and with the trouble she has had with her car (odd, this effect I seem to have on American cars!). I don't know how you'd get a copy unless you try just asking. Full of nostalgia for me.// CHICON PROGRESS REPORT No. 2. Have you joined yet? Reading this makes me green with envy for those who will be there. Good luck to you. On joining these reports are sent to you at regular intervals. \$2 to the Treasurer, George Price, P.O. Box 4864, Chicago, Illinois.// HYPHEN, Walt Willis, & Ian McAulay, 170 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast 4, N. Ireland. Our congratulations are due to Ian for being able to find a girl ready to stand him. Hi, Ian! Where you bin hiding lately? I enjoy HYPHEN and yet when I've finished it I remain dissatisfied. Am I alone in this, I wonder? For me it lacks almost entirely what we call 'editorial personality'. Considering who's zine it is, I can imagine the gales of laughter this remark of mine will elicit. It's true tho'. A mere one page in the guise of editorial, hardly any editorial comments in the lettercol and what is there left? Come on, Walt. Don't be stingy. Give us more of yourself each issue. BoSh, as we've come to expect, was only wonderful this time.// STUPEFYING STORIES, Dick Iney. Dick says this was to remind us he is still alive. I am reminded. His address is, 417 Ft. Hunt Road, Alexandria, Va. // NEFFERS' GUIDE TO CURRENT FANZINES. As this was published by Ralph Holland's sister, Dora, after his sudden death, I hope all of us who received it wrote thanking her for the trouble she took to send it out? Does anyone know if she is interested in fandom herself? // STEFANTASY, Bill Lanner, R.D. 1, Kennerdale, Penn. U.S.A. I liked this. It is full of a hodge-podge that is either amusing or interesting. In the good old days this is how I used to feel about ARGOSY. I don't know how much Bill wants for a copy, I doubt he'll be interested in trades as he says he's lost interest in fanzines to a great extent. I'll risk sending this, I think. I hope his schedule isn't too infrequent, I'd like to see this 'zine often. // G², Joe & R. Gibson, 6380 Sobrante, El Sobrante, California. Your address always puts me in mind of those horrible black cigarettes! I've got bad news for you, laddie. You are going to have to rethink the situation concerning subs for Britfen. There aren't many Britzines, let's face it, and those who do publish want to exchange subs with you themselves. How is a Britfan to get

your fnz. unless you appoint a U.K. agent? I had a youngster just the other day send me some money for a sub to ORION for you. I had to tell him we swapped subs ourselves. I don't know how he fared. This TINKERSHOP NOTES promises to be a fascinating series. I hope it isn't going to be too infrequent. I really must write you. // WARHOON, Richard Bergeron, 110 Bank Street, New York City 14, N.Y.

This is another of those fnz. that leaves me helpless when it comes to commenting in a few words. Suffice it to say there are some 'zines I don't read as closely for the first time as I read yours, Dick, for the second. Meaty and toothsome. // WRR. Otto Pfeifer & WW Weber, 2911 N.E. 60th Street, Seattle 15, Washington. This is the 'special Willish, consequently a thick one. If you like crazy zines this is just tailor made for you. I like crazy zines. What am I saying! // VOID. Terry Carr, 56 Jane Street, New York 14, N.Y. I give Terry's address rather than Ted White's because Ted is currently moving to Brooklyn and I haven't got his new one. VOID Opens with a 5 page cartoon cover! Fabulous! I wish I could say the same for the four editorials. Yes, four. Of them all, I liked Ted's the best. As the 'zine was his to begin with why doesn't he write the editorials and let the other three either write worthwhile articles or fnz reviews or, if they have nothing of note to say, why don't they take a breather??? All this editorial chitter-chatter is just a mite precious and is becoming tiresome. I agree with Ted and his comments on the loose way in which terms are picked up and used around fandom without a thought being given to what they really mean. You grok? // YANDRO. Bob & J. Coulson, Route 3, Wabash, Indiana. Oh hell, Buck, your staples are never big enough. YANDRO keeps casting leaves as soon as touched. That's a lovely cover on 110, isn't it? More thoughts on Tucker's post-blast currency. As the land will be unfit for us to live off, what price all animals we use for food and which have themselves fed from this infected source of food? The only use then for your cartridge currency is as a means of defence/offence? Coming right down to it, we would probably be reduced to living off long pig so could, as was suggested, use them for hunting tho' not quite the hunting Bob had in mind when he wrote the article. Purely as a matter of interest, in how many and which 'zines do you have fnz reviews? YANDRO is really hopping these days. // FANDOODLE. Ken Slater & Dave Barber, 75, Norfolk Street, Wisbech, CAMBS. Yes, I was going to write a LoC on this but, guess what happened? Among a lot of light-hearted stuff, Dave takes a tilt at fandom. It wouldn't be so bad if he called it "OPINIONS ABOUT FANDOM," instead of as he has done and called it "FACTS." He hasn't really said anything new on the subject either. You won't believe this, Ken, but I had forgotten your short homily to Britfandom about rethinking over our Convention hotel prices when I led off in O. on the same subject. As with you it is a subject in which I am most interested and concerned. Try another issue, yes? // DYNATRON. Roy Tackett, 915 Green Valley Road NW., Albuquerque, New Mexico. How is it being home again, Roy? Baxter as a poet yet! Was vastly interested in Moffatt's piece about the LASFAS attempts to find a new meeting room. Nothing really stirs me to either extreme in comments but, as always, enjoyed. // Mighod! That bunch in Mathom House. Tell me, do you ever rest? I don't believe it. SILME arrove and as good a thing for the newcomer, whether to fan-art or the duper, I haven't seen since the days of DUPLICATING WITHOUT TEARS by Vinc Clarke. Then I got HILLSIDE GRAPHIC. A oneshot published because you all went to an exhibition. You lucky fiends! I only wish we could get worthwhile samples like that from our shows at Olympia. You enjoyed doing this one, it resounds of fund and laughter. Just as I thought I'd caught up with you lot, what do I get but a copy of GYRONNY the official newsletter of UNICORN PRODUCTIONS your film unit. This too is a praise-worthy effort and of much interest. I have given our club their copy and the others have been handed out to members especially interested. Hoog, that Cawthorn illo! Lovely. UNICORN PRODUCTIONS needs money. Why not become a patron of the arts and do a good turn?

SALAMANDER. Fred Patten, 5156 Chesley Avenue, Los Angeles 43, California. I don't know what's got into this boy. He becomes editor of SHAGGY and, whammy! He takes to publishing a genzine of his own as well. Fred: I send O. to the club library as trade for SHAGGY. Does that mean you won't accept O as trade for SALLY? I'll have to figure something out. Maybe I should publish another zine?! The person to query, I should think, about the "International Fantasy Award" title, would be E.J. (Ted) Carnell. If I think of it I'll ask him for you. I'm getting a bit tired of all these accounts on APAs that seem to be emanating from Bob Lichtman lately. Moffatt's story was good as was Ted's article. I must go and figure out a means of getting the next issue. Excuse me. // BRAMBLE. Gordon Eklund, 14612-18th Avenue, S.W., Seattle 66, Washington. I can't remember when I last enjoyed a young fan's first zine as much as this. It has the normal number of typos, it is in the usual messy state but in spite of that I am keen to see what Gordon does next. I particularly like his query: "why do fen spend so much of their time worrying about why they are fans?" I admit, we do but I don't know why off-hand. I'd have to think about it. This isn't the only thing they analyse, Gordon. I have heard them try to analyse why someone said what they did, why someone else acted as they did and so it goes on. Odd, aint it? Whatever you do, sever all relations with WWW. If you don't he'll have you working the duper in the fenden. I know him. Don't force the humour so much, Gordon and this'll be a good zine to have. // CRY owns the CRYgang, Box 92, 507 3rd Avenue, Seattle 4, Washington. What to say about this zine that you don't already know? Edited and published by warm, friendly people who often give us something to think about in our free time. Free time? Ha! Hey, you folk, how about a slight adjustment on your deadline so we get the zine more than 3 days before the next deadline? A shift of a week would help, lots. If you don't get CRY, you oughter; subs to Elinor Busby to whom cheques should be made payable or for U.K.fen, cash to John Berry, 31, Campbell Park Avenue, Belfast, N.Ireland. 1/9 per. No letter from me this time, Wally. Easter is soon upon us for which you ought to be grateful. // LES SPINGE. Dave Hale, 12, Belmont Road, Wollescote, Stourbridge. WORCS. This is the zine that Ken Cheslin had to give up, unfortunately. It is a shame when one has to relinquish one's brainchild to someone else, no matter what the circumstances. True, the typing and repro have improved tremendously but the zany atmosphere that spelled Ken, has gone. Logical. Another poem from Baxter! What's got into him lately? Alan Dodd and Jhim Linwood try to rouse some interest in the past Eichmann case. I liked the Cawthra cover very much.

And that is it for this time round. Have fun. See you next issue.

P.S. I have received many APAzines and tho' I appreciate them very much I don't mention them here as I'm not sure which ones have general circulation policies. Please indicate for me whether they are obtainable outside your APAs. Many thanks.

Ella.

There are those who, on receiving a fanzine, look at it in stupefaction wondering why it was sent to them. To alleviate any doubts you may have on that score, I have sent you this because:-

- (1) You are a 'lifer'. Tough. ☐
- (2) You contributed in some way. ☐
- (3) We trade. Acceptable? ☒
- (4) This is a complimentary copy, You want more? Just ask. ☐
- (5) This is a free sample. Further issues must be paid, cash or publishable letter. ☐
- (6) This is a free sample. You have more to come for which you paid ☐
- (7) I have heard of your 'zine and would like a copy in exchange for this, please. ☐
- (8) You have a sub. Watch this box. ☐
- (9) I can't think of a good reason. I must like/hate you! ☐
- (10) Ted Forsyth said "Yes." ☐
- (11) Long time no hear. Sorry. Goodbye. ☐

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London. N.W.6.
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ENGLAND.

U.S.Agent:-

Betty Kujawa,
2819 Caroline,
South Bend 14,
Indiana.
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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES
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RESEARCH REPORT NO. 1
ON
THE
KINETICS OF THE
REACTION OF
HYDROGEN
PEROXIDE
WITH
SODIUM
HYDROXIDE
IN
AQUEOUS
SOLUTION
AT
VARIABLE
TEMPERATURES
AND
INITIAL
CONCENTRATIONS
OF
THE
REACTANTS
BY
J. H. D. J. VAN DER PLOEG
AND
J. H. D. J. VAN DER PLOEG

ABSTRACT
The kinetics of the reaction of hydrogen peroxide with sodium hydroxide in aqueous solution at variable temperatures and initial concentrations of the reactants has been studied. The reaction is first order in hydrogen peroxide and first order in sodium hydroxide. The rate constant increases with increasing temperature and decreasing initial concentration of sodium hydroxide. The activation energy of the reaction is 14.5 kcal/mole. The reaction is proposed to proceed via a bimolecular mechanism involving the formation of a cyclic intermediate.

1. INTRODUCTION
The reaction of hydrogen peroxide with sodium hydroxide in aqueous solution is a well-known reaction. It has been studied extensively in the literature. The reaction is first order in hydrogen peroxide and first order in sodium hydroxide. The rate constant increases with increasing temperature and decreasing initial concentration of sodium hydroxide. The activation energy of the reaction is 14.5 kcal/mole. The reaction is proposed to proceed via a bimolecular mechanism involving the formation of a cyclic intermediate.