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DANIEL McPHAIL
Editor

NEEDED: ONE RENAISSANCE. APPLY AT FAPA

For the lack of a mere three votes, the resolution to aid our overseas members by means of a reduction in their dues, failed. Oh, yes, the vote was overwhelmingly in favor of it, 13 to 2. But at least one-fourth membership had to vote to pass it.

As a sponsor of this piece of legislation, I especially regret its failure, but even more do I regret the poor turnout at the polls. Perhaps some of the fault is mine, for I did not campaign for it, other than my editorial support; but I find it hard to comprehend that less than 25% of our members showed enough interest in a vital problem to express their opinions at the ballot box.

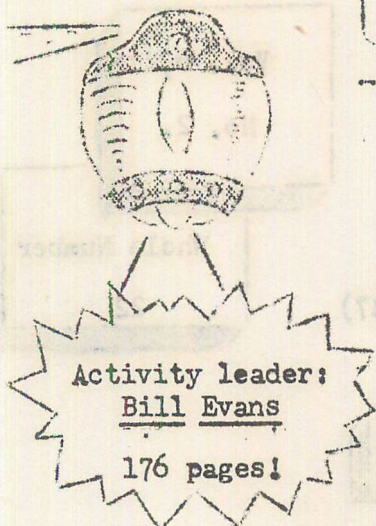
It is a tragic situation. ~~Not~~ the results of this referendum alone but its implications. In the past year there has been a growing indication of lack of interest on the part of far too many of our members. Last year's Laureate poll brought out but a handful of Fapans to vote recognition of superior work and effort on the part of their fellow fans. Amendments have come up for decision and drew but scant interest. Too many editors use the "Noted" method of mailing reviews.

FAPA is fandom's oldest organization and bears a proud heritage of continuous unified effort that cannot be duplicated by any other group in fandom. It has had lean years, carried on thru the difficulties & shortages of a world war, suffered from uninspired leadership; yet a few dedicated members have always kept the club on its course - even if at reduced speed.

But such a course as we appear to have drifted into the last few mailings is not a satisfactory one. I think most of us look forward with great interest to the quarterly mailing & on its arrival we open the bundle with genuine pleasure, as we search through for favorites, for new formats or special editions, and to see how our own efforts stack up against the competition. If you don't feel these things, I think you would be better off out of FAPA and your place taken by a fan on the waiting list who is willing and eager to show what he can do.

Under the capable leadership of Bob Pavlat, there is no reason why FAPA can't regain that vital spark that produces large mailings & rekindle the membership's interest in the affairs of the club. Bob is fortunate to have as aids such able men as Ron Ellik & Ted White plus the veteran Bill Evans. This team, representing both east & west, should make 1959 a banner year for us. They need only your support. Like, let's go, man! I think each of you know if you are doing your best to deserve membership. If you are in doubt, study the new section of the X-Ray Report & see if you increased or reduced activity last year - how did you compare with others?

Again - as last year - less than one-fourth of the members produced almost two-thirds of all the material that FAPA circulated in 1958! Now, I'll admit that we can't all be Publishing Giants, but ~~some~~ members can stop Dragging Their Feet!



UNDER X-RAY

- a summary of FAPA activity during 1958 -

Editor's Note:

Herewith, is presented our annual report on the activity of FAPA members. I have carefully rechecked & feel there are no errors or omissions. I had hoped President White would change Laureate voting time to this mailing, as suggested by Harry Warner, in order that these statistics could be of practical value, in providing a reference guide for your selections, but perhaps that will come later.

(A) REGULAR PUBLICATIONS

These ten titles appeared in each mailing

SNOOZE (Myers)	6 issues
NULL-F (White)	5 issues
CELEPHAIS (Eney)	4 issues
FANTASY AMATEUR	4 issues
GEMZINE (GM Carr)	4 issues
HORIZONS (Warner)	4 issues
LARK (Danner)	4 issues
LEMOINDRE (Raeburn)	4 issues
PHANTASY PRESS (McPhail)	4 issues
TARGET: FAPA (Eney)	4 issues

(B) NUMBER OF ISSUES PUBLISHED DURING YEAR

A total of 60 distinct titles issued by members

Alif	3	Dis and Dat	2	Involitia	1	Quagmire	1
Amateurs Journal	1	Driftwood	1	Isomer	2	Quelles Horreus	1
Anything Box	1	8-Pager	1	Joshings	1	Rambling Fap	1
Apropos de Rein	1	Fafhred	1	Kerplunker	1	Remembrance -	3
At Avesta	1	Fantasy Amateur	4	Lark	4	Revoltin Devel.	1
Barean	1	Fanzine Index	2	Laundry	1	Pune	2
Bleen	1	Fringe	1	Light	2	Snooze	6
Bobblings	1	Gallary	2	LeMoindre	4	Stefantasy	1
Bull Moose	3	Gemzine	4	Malignant	1	Stupyf. Stories	2
Bulbings	1	Grue	1	Moonshine	2	Target: FAPA	4
Chux Own	1	Grunut	1	Nangel	1	Theta	1
Celephais	4	Hairy Beast	1	Null-F	4	Tyke	1
Clause	2	Hesper	1	Pamphry	2	Vandy	1
Diaspair	3	Horizons	4	Phlotsam	1	Varioso	1
Different	1	Ibidem	1	Phantasy Press	4	Wraith	1

Note: 36 titles appeared once, 10 twice, 4 three times, and 10 four times.

(C) LEADING PUBLISHERS OF 1958:

The following members were the "top ten" publishers last year

position	name	pages	1957 spot
1	Evans, Bill	176	10
2	Carr, G. M.	142	4
3	Burbee, Charles	117	-
4	Warner, Harry	96	9
5	McPhail, Dan	85	5
6	White, Ted	82	3
7	Grennell, Dean	79	-
8	Sanderson, H.P.	71	-
9	Eney, Richard	69	8
10	Danner, William	63	-

Charles Burbee led the pack the first half of the year when the Berkley gang published "The Incomplete Burbee" and credited it to him. Hustlin' Bill Evans was hot on his heels with 97 pages while Grennell & G.M.Carr bagged 74 pg each, Sanderson shipped 71 overseas & Ron Ellick managed 52. However, the last half of the year brought considerable changes. Evans cranked out another 79 pg to run his total yardage above all others, as Burbee failed to show, and dropped to 3rd place. Mrs. Carr added 68 pages for 2nd place while Warner, placidly turning out his regular 24 pg editions, copped fourth. McPhail retained last year's 5th spot by adding 42 pages to his 43 first half score. White inked 45 pages to add to his earlier 37. Dean Grennell slumped to only 5 pages but Danner mailed 43 & Eney added 28, but Sanderson was silent the latter half of the year.

Bill Evans, in winning first place for 1958, averaged 44 pages per quarter to vault up from 10th spot. Mrs. Carr, who was fourth in 1957, averaged better than 35 pages a bundle & Warner's steady clip moved him from 9th to 4th place.

Most conspicuous absence for 1958 are the Youngs & the Shaws who jointly produced 423 pages in '57 but managed only a miserly 16 this time. Ted White, 3rd place last year, was 60 pages under his '57 total, and Ray Schaffer was another leader who tumbled far. Then, too, the late Vernon McCain did yeoman's service for us in 1957; having produced 102 pages during his final year.

(D) ACTIVITY RECORD OF MEMBERS

Page credits per mailing with comparison to 1957 production

name	mailing	82	83	84	85	Total	'57 Total	Change
Alger		8	0	0	0	8	10	-2
Anderson, K		9	0	8	0	17	22	-5
Anderson, L		0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Ashworth		12	0	0	0	12	3	+9
Ballard		10	0	0	0	10	16	-6
Bennett		14	0	0	0	14	22	-8
Bloch		13	0	0	0	13	12½	+½
Boggs		0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Bradley		0	5	21	0	26	21	+5
Brues (Dunn)		9	0	0	0	9	2	+7
Burbee		15	102	0	0	117	5½	+111½
Calkins		0	0	0	8	8	84	-76
Carr, G M		42	32	36	32	142	126	+16
Carr, T		0	14	18	21	53	58	-5
Caughren		0	0	0	8	8		-
Cozlet		0	0	4	6	10	8	+2

name	mailing	82	83	84	85	Total	'57 Total	Change
Coulson		0	0	0	4	4	-	-
Croutch		0	11	0	8	19	10	9
Danner		10	10	35	8	63	88	-25
Derry		10	15	1	17	43	-	-
Economou		0	0	0	16	16	69	-53
Ellik		0	52	0	0	52	36	16
Ellis		0	0	20	0	20	4	16
Eney*		25	21	16	6	68	98	-20
Evans		78	19	39	40	176	95	81
Geis		0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Gerding		17	0	0	0	17	-	-
Graham (Brandon)		8	0	30	0	38	4	34
Grennell		0	74	0	0	74	39	35
Harness		11	10	0	0	21	85	-64
Harris		18	4	0	0	22	12	10
Higgs		18	0	10	10	38	17	21
Janke		0	0	14	14	28	26	2
Jansen		0	0	0	0	0	6	-6
Jenrette		0	0	9	0	9	-	-
Lyons		0	0	0	17	17	22	-5
Magnus**		0	0	0	20	20	-	-
McCain		0	0	-	-	0	102	-
McPhail		17	26	23	19	85	107	-22
Martin		0	0	0	0	0	13	-13
Martinez		0	0	0	0	0	32	-32
Morse		7	0	10	0	17	-	-
Noskowitz		16	0	0	10	26	16	10
Murdock		0	0	0	0	0	4	-4
Meyers		4	3	1	0	8	8	0
Pavlat		33	0	26	0	59	13	46
Perdue		15	0	0	0	15	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9$\frac{1}{2}$
Quagliano		0	6	0	24	32	-	-
Rasburn		8	4	4	8	24	28	-4
Rike		0	0	11	0	11	25	-14
Rotsler		0	0	0	0	0	30	-30
Ryan		0	0	0	0	0	34	-34
Sanderson		45	26	0	0	71	21	50
Schaffer		0	0	9	0	9	104	-95
Share		0	0	0	0	0	15	-15
Shaws		9	0	0	0	9	209	-200
Silverberg		0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Smith		0	0	2	0	2	9	-7
Sneary		0	0	6	8	8	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	-1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Speer		0	0	15	0	15	37	-22
Stark		0	0	0	0	0	14	-14
Steward		4	6	0	0	10	17	-7
Trimble		0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Tucker		7	0	0	0	7	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	-12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wansborough		2	0	2	0	4	24	-20
Warner		24	24	24	24	96	96	0
Wesson		0	3	0	0	3	21	-18
White***		21	16	12	33	82	142	-60
Willis		10	0	0	2	12	12	0

name	mailing 82	83	84	85	Total	'57 Total	Change
Wilson	0	0	11	0	11	0	+11
Woolston	0	0	9	0	9	25 ¹ ₂	-16 ¹ ₂
Youngs	0	0	7	0	7	21 ¹ ₂	-20 ¹ ₂

* includes 34 pages as Official Editor

** now on waiting list

*** includes 20 pages as Official Editor

(E) PAGE INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR

Members with greatest increase of page credit

Bill Evans.....	81	page increase over 1957
H.P. Sanderson...	50	" " "
Bob Pavlat.....	46	" " "
Dean Grennell....	35	" " "
Peter Graham.....	34	" " "
G. M. Carr.....	16	" " "
Ron Ellik.....	16	" " "
Georgina Ellis...	16	" " "

(F) 1958 PRODUCTION (including postmailings as of 1-25-59)

Total production by Association members during 1958 totaled 1874 pages, compared to 2512 pages in 1957 and 2335 pages in 1956.

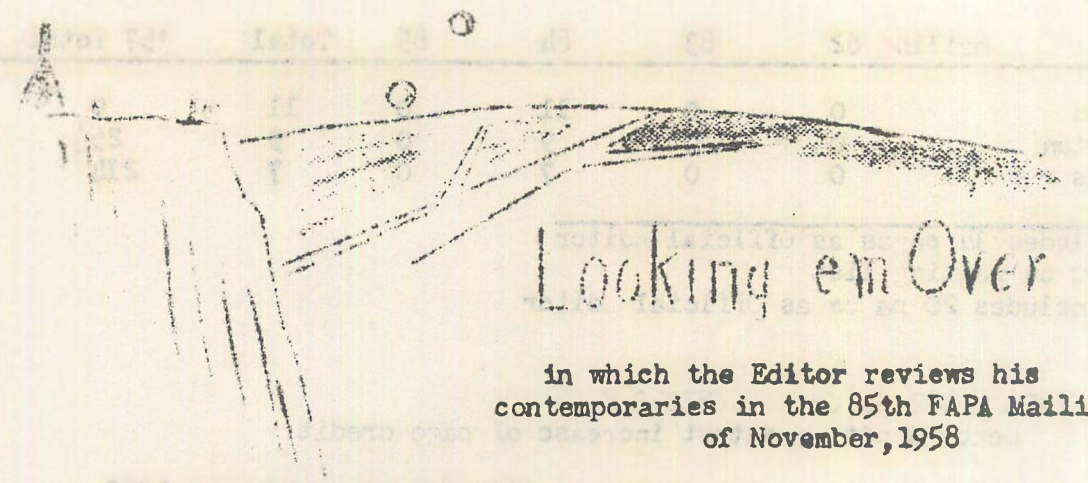
Production by quarterly mailings was as follows: #82: 475 pages; #83: 611 pages; #84: 431 pages and #85: 357 pages.

GENERAL COMMENT - by Lornail

Or, if I may be permitted a sub-title: "Growsing Thru the Bundles." It takes only a look at Item F above to see that a lot of members are going to have to get on the ball this year if we pull FAPA back up where it should be, but I want to pass out a few thanks & back-pats for those members who did their part.

The year kicked off with a most interesting London con report by Chick Harris, aided by fine illos by Atom, plus Ron Bennet's much appreciated Fan Directory & I was happy the Morris Dollens photo on Fantasy Press was so well liked. The big Spring bundle was highlighted by Dean Grennell's only appearance, but what an appearance - all 74 pages of Bleen & Gruc! The only thing to match them was the "Incomplete Burbee" & again thanks to the team of Graham, Ellik, Mike & Terry Carr in presenting this fine tribute to a fine fellow. As these brain-children paraded by there were many eye-catchers: the word sketches of English life by Bill Morse, the careful reprint selections of Evans, the workmanship of White, the sheer bulk of Gemzine & its Bergernon art, the invaluable Fanzine Index, the too-rare art of our girl Leesnaw, the wit of Bloen & Tucker, the fine but too thin Gallery, the airy art of Warness, the writing ability of Marion Bradley, likewise our favorite hermit, Bill Banner, owner of the most interesting house in fandom. An Outstanding Service medal to Calkins for his poll. Most promising newcomer: The Coulsons.

It is regrettable that in our organization that so few do so much for so many, as witness the fact that the 'Top Ten' producers plus Pavlat, Ellik, Derry & T. Carr printed 1187 pages. That means the remaining 46 (not counting the five who are in less than a year) averaged only about 14 pages annually compared to nearly 85 pages each by the 14 members referred to above!



Looking em Over

in which the Editor reviews his
contemporaries in the 85th FAPA Mailing
of November, 1958

FANTASY AMATEUR (20pg) I see this is termed the "official" of FAPA but it is a fine production job, Ted. You rank with Redd Boggs for putting out a neat o-o, in my opinion.....I notice you did not list STUPYF. STORIES #38, which was in the late August postmailing. And I never received a copy of DIASPAR #7, a fact I must pass on to Mr. T. Carr.....Three members gone, but actually we lost only Myers, as Sally Dunn only changed her name (congratulations!) and Carl Brandon never really existed anyway (after all, we are the Fantasy APA, you know). A warm welcome to new member John Trimble & old members Richard Geis & Pete Graham!.....This is annual Laureate balloting & I hope more than the slim 23 votes of last year are cast - and speaking of slim, I hope this mailing is a little thicker.

AKROPOS DE RIEN #1 (Coughran-8pg) Welcome to a very interesting new title and I hope you can hit every mailing.....your comments are most readable but you puzzle me in asking about a 2230 page mailing. Did I say that somewhere in my mag?....I'm with you in that a sax makes beautiful music, but not in most modern popular songs. Yes, that was a tragic thing, the suicide of Kent Moomaw. I met him at the con in Dallas last summer and regret that I did not take time to visit with him more. The last day I tried to find him for a picture of past, present & future Fapans together.

ATAVISTA #1 (Janke-9pg) I like that cover, boy!.....I found your music article very enjoyable. You have quite a knowledge of the subject.....I recall much listening to Lombardo in earlier days.....The sax must be tough to play.....more, please.

BURIED IN THE ATTIC (Coslet-4pg) To my surprise, I found this interesting reading.

CELEPHAIS (Evans-10pg) I enjoyed the opening lines about your auto ride thru the October foliage, Bill; and envy you your new Rambler, which is my idea of the car to own.....I tend to agree with your reasoning for the popularity of western stories.....I can dimly recall living in a place or two where brass bands performed in parks and I remember the old home town of Comanche having a "town band", composed of both adults and school band kids, that played of nights in a service station on main street. It was a summer activity & they all dressed in white.....as to my analysis of what's needed in s-f writing, perhaps I did not make my point clear, when I said that "it's the manner of telling the story that provides the entertainment and relaxation that is so needed in much of s-f today." Of course, that is true for any form of writing, for if you find entertainment in what you read, you naturally relax into the mood of the author and live with him the adventures he portrays. His ability to convey to you the mood of the story makes or breaks him as a successful author as far as you are concerned. The so-called school of modern writing (such as in Galaxy, which I seldom read now) usually leaves me cold. The exceptions seem to be in their short stories. There is no greater delight, I think, than to start a long story and the author immediately guides you into the world he has created, and you can see and comprehend that place, as he did in his mind's eye. Where, with a mental shout of excitement, you plunge into an absorbing series of adventures that sweep you along a path of real enjoyment until, with reluctance, you read the final line & lay the book

down with a feeling of real contentment. And, in the future, whenever you think of that story, a bit of the spell the author has cast, will come back over you. That manner of telling the story, of holding your interest, is needed by all authors, whether they take you to a distant planet or guide you across the shifting sands of the Sahara. That manner, that ability, of telling the story, or writing the article, is what high rates such Fapans as Warner, Grennell and yourself, Bill, each year - for which I am grateful!.....I'm glad to see someone else prodding Coslet to bring forth his long-promised FAPA Index.....hope you finally got your vacation!

DIFFERENT #1 (Moskowitz-10pg) Its a pleasure to welcome this new title to the bundle & to say "well done" to its editors; our old friend, Sam, and, more especially, to his charming co-editor, Christine. I enjoyed reading the reviews of the two plays as well as the early Kornbluth yarn. I like Mrs. M's reproduction of the fine old Frank R. Paul cover - very nice, as were her little figures decorating the lead article. I assume the one on the right reflects her hobby of collecting elephant statuary? My issue was numbered, in pencil, No. 50. Keep it going!

GALLERY #2 (Derry-16pg) A good issue, Chick. Duplication, artwork & contents all good.....I enjoyed reading your "humble" beginning of your mailing review this time.....interesting information on the manufacture of stencils.....that was really something, finding those 15-year old stencils with that old mimeo trade-in. I, too, know the thrill of getting a batch of stencils just handed to me that way - as I did last year - enough to put out both issues 19 & 20 of PP. And, for Christmas, my son Carnell gave me a quire of Sovereign 859s, and like a true fan, I can't wait to get at 'em!.....you ask if there was a real 'J. Harvey Haggard'. I recall his works well, as he was a favorite of mine in the 1931-35 era. I seem to recollect that most of his work was shorts, but what sticks in my mind was the many times he copped covers on Gernsback's early Wonder Stories, and the wonderful color jobs that Paul did based on them. Three of his cover-coppers that come to mind are "An Adventure on Eros", "Evolution Satellite" and "Human Ants".....on the kid games, I had forgotten about the darts & the spool tanks. How about the rubber-band propelled boats? I concur 100% with you in that Fapa voters should sign their ballots. When I was teller, I had the same difficulty in determining who voted & found out that the post mark often didn't help.....I got quite a boot out of the list of forces that work to stymie your deadline battle. As to your doubt that I have that last minute, frantic rush. Well, it is now Jan. 24th, and I have typed only the stencils for "Out of the Past" & this far on the reviews, with nothing printed & Fan Out & Cache Creek Chronicle yet to write. I'm afraid "Operation Dragnet" will again be left out.....thanx for your kind remarks on the 20th issue. Darn it, I wish I had thot of that caption you offered for my cover ("Take Me to your Reader"). It is tailor-made for it!

Keep smiling. It makes everybody wonder what you've been up to

GEMZINE (GMCarr-32pg) Gee, I wish I could bat out nice, thick issues like this, Gem!.....Again I enjoyed the wonderful artwork by Bergeron (I voted him 2nd spot in the Laureate) and envy your use of his work. I wrote him for a contribution but received no answer.....First off, I want to take typer in hand to speak my mind on the opening topic in this issue; that is, the matter of a certain waiting-lister & I'm sure we all know of who Gem speaks: As I said in the 84th mailing, I agree with you regarding excluding certain types of undesirables if they appear on our waiting list but not (as you say) just because some member may dislike a certain fan. I think perhaps I am looked on by many members as "easy-going" and tolerant, and I am so by nature. I have carried no animosity for Coslet and Meyers, for example, because I have allways felt they had the ability to be good members, if they would only exert themselves. I tend to overlook shortcomings in others, for I have many of my own. I know I do strive to be a good member by dent of effort. I envy so much the beautiful jobs of duplication by some of our members & hope (any issue now) to blossom out with like work. I deny no man his egoboo and I scorn only the laggard, the pompous,

and the conceited among us. I hate to see advantage taken of anyone, but as far as this certain individual is concerned, I think steps should be taken to see that he does not reach the top of our waiting list. It seems that the authorities may remove this person themselves, but we should make a move to strike his name from our records, based on the matter you discussed in Gemzine a couple of issues back. What steps do we take to do so? What of future cases? (What would you think of requiring a fan to be sponsored by a present member before he can get on the w-l?) And speaking of this certain party, why do you think he keeps banging away at getting into FAPA? Does he want a captive audience for his viewpoints? - Well, there you are: I've taken my stand. Who's next?.....I certainly endorse your suggestion that fans refrain from criticism in such vague terms that it is not clear who is being panned. Its better to name names & places and be done with it.....I, too, have often wondered why Hollywood must continually go in for that self-deception & the distortion of every book they put on celluloid.....I'm glad you liked the Dollens print I sent you (cover from PP-18) and hope Mr. Carr has relented to the point of permitting you to hang some of your art work. I envy you the Dollens color works. I had the pleasure of seeing 30 of them at Dallas and ached to buy one, but was caught in a bind at the time, financially speaking. Wish now I had pawned my beanie cap or my mimeograph for enough to buy one. If any other members would like prints of that Dollens photo, I still have a few copies.....Yes, I do get rilled up a little, now & then. You recall that I gave thought to dropping out of Fapa a while back - due mainly to hurt pride, I guess - but then, due to the kind letters from several good members, I decided to stay put & hit back more often instead of turning the other cheek.....the reprint from National Review was interesting with a lot of food for thought.....glad to see the Lynn Hickman letter backing up what I said last issue about us 'flaunting' a con at Ilwison's gang.....Well, G, guess I'd better shut down & get at the rest of this bundle. Oh, yes, while enjoying "Monsoon", I noticed your mention of meeting Ralph M. Holland & something flashed in my memory. 'Way back about 1935 I received a typed one-sheet fanzine from a R.M.Holland in Kentucky, titled S.F.Review (I think). Wonder if it could be the same person?

It's a pity a person can't dispose of his experiences for what they cost him

HORIZONS #76 (Warner-24pg) I've yet to read an issue of this illustrated journal that I've failed to enjoy, but strangely, I culled little comment on your reviews this time.....Yes, most surplus military items are in pretty rough shape but there are often good repairable exceptions.....did you ever find if the "Dagmar" car was build in Hagerstown?.....Harry, I enjoyed the reminiscence about Jason and the monster. Some day I'll sit down and pen some of the adventures I had with Louis W. Clark in the old days. "Walking Webster" we called him then.....a pat on the back for the fine article regarding SAPS & FAPA. You express several good ideas therein especially regarding publication of general information on members, for the benefit of newcomers.....a worthy project for an O-E, or for any member to do and donate to FAPA.....of course the icing of each issue for me is the Hagerstown Journal, which I allways turn to as eagerly as some do the sports page or the funnies. As I have pointed out elsewhere, it served as inspiration for my "Cache Creek Chronicle."

LARK (Danner-8pg) Your first page remark that you will drop out of FAPA if that certain waiting-lister is ever admitted should be enough to launch the rally in support of Gertrude Carr's call for action.....your mention of the theft of the typewriter brings to mind a defense installation where I worked at the start of '42 where many typers disappeared before they began checking employees cars at the gate. And at the same place a fellow used government material to make, of all things, a saddle for personal use. They finally nabbed him before he could finish the thing and ride it out!.....hope the winter gave you no trouble at your place. I have finished my den & have everything moved in but cold weather caught me before I could weather-strip the doors & windows & its too cold to use it. Of course, when I get

ready to print this issue, I'll have to get the mimeo warmed up. Speaking of the mimeo, as you know I did get that old ABDick #77 cleaned up & ran off the last issue on it. I really like the ease of operation but I seem to have some difficulty getting proper inking - either too heavy or too light, and the right-hand margin never did ink properly last time. Mebbe Derry or Danner can give me some tips. Of course the old machine had no instructions with it.....I used the old machine for the red ink. I hereby second your suggestion that FAPA keep Carl Brandon on its membership rolls as a non-existent honorary member.

LIGHT #66 (Croutch-8pg) Sorry, but nothing here to spark comment, but I got a chuckle out of the "Car Wrecker's Manual".....Do I detect an error in the illo on page 6 wherein there is a window in the underground floor?.....judging from a couple of your remarks you must have had a bad time with some customers.

MOONSHINE (Sneary-8pg) As to your request for aid as to your correct number, I checked back thru the file of Phantasy Press which, as a matter of policy, reviews every item that appears in each mailing; and I find only one Moonshine in 1957 but no number for it. The only other one I found mention of appeared in the August, 1955 mailing and at that time I was not listing whole numbers of mags.....Congrats to the firm of Moffatt, Sneary & Woolston for getting this out and to Rick for a very interesting report on the con. I regret I could not be there but hope to make Detroit. Keep brewing up that Moonshine, gang!

PAMPHREY #7 (Willis-2pg) I hate to see this Good Man drop out, but I'm glad to note he expects to renew acquaintances via George Charters when that North Ireland lad enters our ranks.....I admire his attitude toward FAPA when he says it takes a lot of time to be a good member & is frustrating when he fails - and time is what he is short of.....Good luck in the future with Hyphen, Walt!

The best way to avoid blowing your top is to keep an open mind

PHANTASY PRESS #21 (me-19pg) The cover did not turn out as well as I hoped but was pretty clear. In the last minute rush I forgot to number it!.....I would appreciate any suggestions or comments from you all regarding the make-up of the mag and the variety of material. No snide remarks (a la White) about the legibility are needed. I've got enough of them on hand, thanks, and I'm trying to whip the problem. After all, I'm still in the amateur class, you know...

PHLOTSAM #10 (Economou-16pg) Hi, Phyllis, welcome back! I'm glad to note you say the "Fapitch dies hard" and any mailing now we may see a big, old-time Phlo! But you can certainly be excused for the long delay considering the amount of mimeoing you have to do daily. Gosh, FAPA is a postman's holiday for you! It's a shame you can't latch onto a co-editor to do part of it for you.....enjoyed Morse & Grennell.

RAMBLING FAP #15 (Calkins-8pg) Here's another fine zine, which was the activity leader of last year - for a while, Gragg, I thought you were going to catch up with me in whole numbering.....your survey results were fascinating. Imagine a fan owning eight typewriters!.....hope we have you each time around this year, boy!

REMEMBRANCE OF THINGS PAST #7 (Evans-30pg) I can only say that the layout, duplication, artwork & selections were excellent - and have been all year. Therefore, I voted it top banana among Fapa publications. Nuff said.

TARGET: FAPA #129 (Eney-6pg) Yes, I would say I am in an enemy-target area. Ft. Sill, the army's missile and artillery center of the world, joins Lawton on the north and there are SAC bases 60 miles west and south, giant oil refineries & machineshops 30 miles east.....the rest brief but enjoyable.

VANDY #1 (Coulsons-4pg) Very nice to have you with us, Jaunita and Buck. I like your title, the readable repro, the excellent art work and look forward to those promised larger future issues.

GAMBIT #24 $\frac{1}{2}$ (White-2pg) A laudatory tribute in this, your final respects to a friend and a young fan who was almost a member. A truly tragic thing.

THE WILD FRONT EAR (Coslet-2pg) Looks like you did a complete coverage of the

84th mailing in a very brief but interesting manner.....Polly will appreciate the Red & Gold Stamps, if you find them.....Nice to hear you like the variety in PP.... "Bull Moose in bull mouse size" - I like that.....being an old Employment Service man myself, I noted with interest your remarks re UC in Montana.....Let's have more pages next time and (once more now) how about the FAPA INDEX?

A GLANCE AT POSTMAILINGS

THE BARRINGTON BULL (TCarr-2lpg) A most interesting thing, Terry. I got many a chuckle out of your campus capers and of course Ellick's pages were enjoyed, too.

DIS AND DAT (Higgs-10pg) Actually for the 84th mailing, this arrived after the 85th came in.....hope the strike trouble cleared up for you and you got back to work before long.....your mailing comments are your best feature.

THE FANTASY ANAGRAM (White-1pg) This, and the following 3 publications, all arrived in one envelope. For your info, my mailing arrived OK, but I prefer envelopes. I'm with you, on the need for a substantial increase in the size of our mailings.

LE MOINDRE #13 (Raeburn-4pg) I enjoyed reading this slim edition, Boyd, but I see no marginal notes for comment. However, let me say in answer to your comment on Phantasy Press that I freely admit that many U.S. leaders are not fair-haired boys, as they try to appear. I'm sorry I read implications into your comments that were not intended, so if you don't mind, I'll stick a hand across the border & let's shake, OK?

VARIOSO #18 (Magnus via White-20pg) As I said in commenting on Back Blast, this is non-FAPA in content, so I'll just say that I enjoyed that clever cover.

He has poor food who feeds on other's faults

NULL-F #14 (White-10pg) I prefer covers as a dressing for a mag. The only valid reason not to is the one you give: temporary financial difficulties.....my very sincere congratulations on the occasion of your marriage and many happy years ahead to you both.....your mailing comments were quite comprehensive and interesting except for Phantasy Press, which is the only magazine that you ignored in the entire mailing. Well, thanks for nothing, Ted! You say the mimeoing was so hard to read that you passed it by, yet you review Anything Box (and this is no reflection on Marion) which also suffered from poor repro. Do you mean you couldn't find any of my 23 pages clear enough to merit scrutinize? Were you able to make out the cover? (it had one) I notice Chick Derry commented on my improved repro - "readable & varied", he said. I'll be the first to admit that PP has had poor repro (except covers) but, dammit, your outright rejection of PP-20 as illegible gives me a slow burn. I regret that finances have long prevented me from obtaining good equipment & that I have not had a proper place to work. I regret I do not possess your fine ability to produce near-perfect work in the field of duplication (that's the reason I voted for Null-F in the poll). I concur in your right to criticize, and I appreciate constructive criticism, but I resent your complete rejection of my magazine. I feel like you did when you told one member that there was such a thing as basic courtesy, which I don't think I've been getting from you. I would have written this to you, but in the past you have failed to respond to my correspondence. Remember, we can't all be a Ted White when it comes to beautiful mimeo work, much as we'd like to.....and while I am wound up, let me add another thing: I'd say your remark to Marion Bradley that she is "naive" because it was her first con (actually it wasn't her first) and she was the guest of honor, was in rather poor taste. And who termed it a poorly-put on con? Was you dare, Charlie? Dale Hart has made many cons & he seemed to think it a pretty good one in his writeup (but then I've forgotten again, you couldn't read it, could you?) After all, Dallas was only a regional con, man, and was not in competition with Southgate. I've made 5 of 'em and I thot it was a pretty good show.

INVOLUTIA #2 (Janke-14pg) Well, after the above blast, maybe I no longer rate as good-natured with you! Or maybe I'm just getting older (well, I turned 43 on Jan.22)I'm glad to see you continue to give mailing reviews, even if grudgingly. To my

mind, they are a vital part of a Fapazine, as they give you an insight on each member as you learn his opinions, etc., I have a strong sense of fairness, I think. I respect effort especially. I have little regard for a Fapan who consistently drags his feet and therefore can admire a member for his production and editorial ability, even if I do not personally care for his attitude on some things. Which means that I read your mag, even if only to argue with you! (Sure glad you were able to read my magazine, Curtiss!)

GUAGMIRE #2 (Quaglianno-24pg) I liked the little humor on page three.....Best article was "The Vast Bucket of Humbug" which was well written.....Reproduction, thanx to Bourne, was excellent.....I'm sorry, but in my opinion, your last page ruined what would otherwise have been a pretty fair mag. I'd say Webbers use of gutter language is flat uncalled for, and could easily get us in trouble with the postal authorities. I wonder if he normally talks like this, or does he think he's ringing the bell with us by using a different "style" of writing? I see he does not like any of our Fapazines except a few published out of this country, but since he is not a member, or even on the waiting list, who asked his opinion? For that matter, who cares?

FANAZ #31 (Carr & Ellik-6pg) This is termed a "FAPA Postmailing Issue" and carries the sad news of the failure of the amendment proposal. As most of you know this is an excellent newszine published bi-weekly. This number also contains a ballot for voting on best fanzine, fan artist, writer, etc. for 1958.

S U M M A R Y

357 pages (compared to 403 in the 84th mailing) 21 items plus 9 postmailings of 110 pages. Publications included one 32 pager (GMCarr), one 30 pager (Evans), two 24 pagers (Warner & Quagliano), one 21, two 20, one each of 19, 17, 16 and 14 and 18 ranging from 2 to 10 pages in length plus one single page.

Largest producer of the period (for the second consecutive time) was Bill Evans whose two publications totaled 40 pages. A total of 23 members and one waiting-lister contributed to this mailing. Four were from California, three from Maryland, two each from Canada, Indiana, New York and Wisconsin with single representation from Ireland, Oklahoma, Virginia, Pennyslavia, Montana, Utah & Washington.

The Quarterly Times

by James V. Taurasi, Sr.

PROS IGNORE FANDOM **** NO PAGE CUT AT AMAZING **** CAMPBELL SAYS ASF NOT HURT

The recession in science-fiction magazines continues and gets worse. Infinity Science Fiction gave up and folded, and just after it had tried a monthly schedule. Lowndes seems to be in trouble as he has had to, for all actual purposes, go bi-monthly. At first he planned to skip the October and December, 1959 issues, but the troubled field seems to have forced him to update those issues to be skipped to right now. So, for the next two issues the mag will actually be a bi-monthly and rumor has it that it'll never see monthly publication again, unless the field improves a ell of a lot more than seems possible. No word on Future Science Fiction as yet, but keep your eyes on this one. It would seem that if conditions actually continue as bad as they are now this mag will be hit and hit hard. With the current issue, Lowndes has tried out the "black and white" line drawings for covers for Science Fiction Stories with a "big deal" editorial on how readers prefer the more subdued covers. This is not so, they say - the only reason Lowndes uses the line drawings on the cover is to save money.

Amazing almost went to 128 pages, but decided at the last minute to keep 144. It goes like this. Amazing was going to print only 6 "complete" novels a year, one every other month. Those issues containing these novels would have been 144 pages; those other months not having a novel would have been 128 pages. But after long talks with the editor for many weeks, the news came thru that the 144 pg level would be held. Fantastic has decided to drop excessive use of "fact" articles and will concentrate on fantasy and weird stories, but also continue to use s-f.

Mr. Campbell stated that his magazine, Astounding Science Fiction, has not been hurt by the recession and that his circulation remains high.

We talked to most of the editors and/or publishers of the 35¢ science/fantasy magazines and they all stated that "for the time being" they will remain at 35¢ and what ever number of pages they now have. For the future -- who knows? Campbell is discussing with Street & Smith the possibility of adding 16 pages of slick paper (for articles and pictures) and upping the price, but this is only in the talking stages and for the time being the 35¢ and 162 pages will remain. Galaxy is the only magazine we've ever heard of who counts the inside back cover and back cover as pages???? Come now, Mr. Gold.

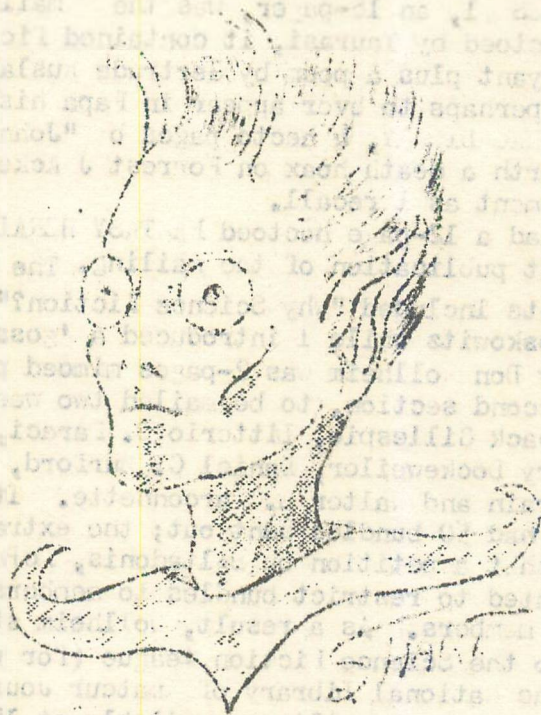
Science Fiction Fandom is indeed in a bad state also. Ever since Margulies started to review s-f fan mags in Startling in 1939 the fan press has had space in the pro mags to have their fan mags reviewed and thus obtain new readers. The last regular column was in Imagination, run by Robert Bloch. When Imagination folded, there just wasn't any place left. Pro editors are unwilling to touch any fan department or articles with a "ten foot pole". This leaves the fan press completely cut off, with no way to get needed new blood into their ranks. Lowndes is supposed to be publishing Bob Madle's excellent "Inside Science Fiction", but uses the department when and if there is room, and of late there has been none. Madle hasn't written any new material for ages, and by the time Lowndes uses what he has on hand

and orders new stuff is anybody's guess. Since this has dated any review of fan mags that Bob may have written, Lowndes has cut them all out. About the only light is in Hans Santesson's Fantastic Universe. He has been using more and more material of a fan nature of late. But this is a mighty small and uncertain space left to the fans. Here we have a part of science-fiction that is a core of real hard, certain readers and followers of science-fiction completely ignored while such trash as flying saucers, shaver, psi and other junk get pages after pages of room. That's how us fans get repayed for being loyal. As Campbell used to say "It's later than you think." Editors --- wake up --- snobs, that's what ye be!

A new year has begun, 1959! What kind of a year will it be? At the moment it seems like a worse one than 1958. By June the signs should be there if it will be worse or better. Twelve mags folded or otherwise left the field in 1958 --- as far as we can tell no new ones are being planned for 1959. 10 mags are left. But this could be for the better in the long run. With fewer mags, maybe some of the junk published in the past years will be passed by. With fewer mags, maybe those that are left will get more readers and become stronger. Or is the age of science fiction magazines in the U. S. a thing of the past??? Remember, the detective, adventure, sport and love fields had at one time even weekly mags coming out and they are almost 100% dead now. Can science-fiction survive complete extinction when the best they can muster is monthly mags? Yes and No! Yes, because the readers of s-f are a special breed and can/will support a few mags. No, because it costs more to publish mags today and the s-f readership is very limited. Take your choice and wait and see.

ART CREDITS

The cover and logo of this edition is the creation of James V. Taurasi, Sr. The back cover is by B. G. Warner. The inside illustrations are by Nancy Share, James Rogers & Dan McPhail.



from
OUT OF THE PAST

Continuing our journey
back to the beginning
of our organization...

- a review of -

F.A.P.A. BUILDING NO. 3
(Spring, 1938)

This was the first large mailing of the fledgling FAPA and necessitated the first double-section mailing. Together, they contained 27 items totaling 155 pages, over twice the size of the Winter bundle. Official Editor Frederick Pohl imprinted the new Fapa emblem on the envelopes, which he mailed from Church St. Annex in New York City, at a total cost of 6¢.

The first bundle contained 13 pieces. The majority of the fanzines then were hectographed; and although the ones I have are now beginning to fade; one can still catch the rare beauty that hecto ink gives to the amateur publication.

Olon F. Higgins of Denver contributed the second issue of his GALAXY, small size hecto of 8 pages. Charles Stiles and James Rogers did excellent illustrations throughout. Featured was a "Bob & Koso" yarn by Taurasi, although no credit was given to him. Editor Higgins at this time was noted for his Science Fiction Fan, a fine fanzine of general interest, but he irritated many fans by accepting only one-year subs & many fans couldn't raise a buck.

James V. Taurasi offered SOLAR #3, 4 page hecto with another of the Bob & Koso yarns, titled "Pluto". Illos by the author.

SOLAR #4, a ain 4 pages, carried a list of British s-f books by J. Michael Rosenblum, a cartoon "It Can't Happen" & editorial.

INTERPLANETARY TALES #1, an 16-pager, was the mailing's largest publication. Hectoed by Taurasi, it contained fiction by J. M. Vincent & North Bryant plus a poem by Gertrude Kuslan.

The longest title perhaps to ever appear in Fapa history was SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE EXTRADINARY, 4 hecto pages by "John Bolin & P.C. Graves". It put forth a death hoax on Forrest J Ackerman but didn't cause any excitement as I recall.

J. V. Baltadonis had a 12-page hectoed FANTASY HERALD #2. Small size, it was the neatest publication of the mailing. The editor did beautiful color

illos & covers. Contents included "Why Science Fiction?" by Jack Speer, an article on s-f poetry by Sam Moskowitz while I introduced a 'gossip' and news column.

THE FAPA FAN #4 by Don Hollheim was 2-pages mimeoed plus an attached slip of paper telling of the second section, to be mailed two weeks after the first. It listed new members as Jack Gillespie, Litterio B. Paraci, Jack Robinson, Leslie Perri, Jack Agnew, Harry Lockeweiler, Daniel C. Burford, Dale Hart, R.D. Swisher, Louis Kuslan, Oswald Train and Walter E. Marconnette. It also revealed that, while the first two mailings had 50 bundles sent out; the extras going to what were felt to be good prospects; that a petition by Baltadonis, McPhail, Speer, Radle and Taurasi had been presented to restrict bundles to members only, saving extras for future purchase by new members. As a result, Hollheim stated the only extra bundles of this mailing went to the Science Fiction League (for publicity notice), Edward H. Smith (for filing in the National Library of Amateur Journalism) & Ray Zorn (for FAPA & FAPA publicity). Some back mailings available at 15¢ each. The membership is listed at 33.





"Vedose", which I believe was a group-name for several west coast members, contributed a full-page line drawing of a future city, via mimeograph on letterhead stock.

SPUNKIE was the title chosen by Robert V. Lowndes, who termed himself the "Archdeacon Infernal of all ShuShuism, in this initial number of a large-size hectoed zine of 10 pages. There were no illos but the present day editor of Columbia Publications penned some outstanding prose & poetry and at a time when he was facing tremendous hardships & despair. It featured a short-short story and 5 poems.

The second issue of THE ROCKET that I mimeographed on my then new cards mimeo was enlarged to 4 standard pages, three columns to the page. The 'dog-ears' of the newspaper plugged the 1939 Con & for a Thrilling Wonder quarterly. Headlines shouted "Wollheim, McPhail, Pohl, Election Victors" with sub-head: "Baltadonis Landslides to Secy-Treas. Post." Another front page story concerned Astounding Stories change in name to A.S.I. Inside was a feature "This Thing Called the IAPA" by Wollheim, which some of you will recall was reprinted in Phantasy Press #9 in the 76th mailing. Another item worth noting is the very first mailing comment column: "Looking 'Em Over" appeared. It covered the first two mailings. As you know, we still use this title, but it is really older than IAPA! I had lifted it from my old subscription fanzine, Science Fiction News, which ran from 1931 to 1936.

The "Committee for the Political Advancement of S.F." sneaked in a 12-pg printed booklet, reprinted from New Masses.

The second section also contained a CPASF item, a speech by J.B. Michael, "Mutation or Death", mimeoed with embossed cover.

More important was the first appearance of our FANTASY MASTER, 7 mimeoed pages by Pohl with messages by officials, the petition previously mentioned, the appointment of Lowndes as Chief of the Bureau of Critics (laureate) & a unique appointment of a "Mailing



Manager" (Michael) to send out bundles. Income, Aug. '37 to Feb. '38 was listed as \$14 plus 40¢ donation & expenses were 50¢ postage for secretary, 50¢ for membership cards & 1.50 postage for each mailing. Additional members include Mr. Sykora, Russell Hodgkins, Milton Rothman, Bernard Quinn, Herbert Goudket, John Quinta, Russell Loadbrod & Ackerman. Edwin H. Smith wrote on the Library of Ayjay.

Taurasi was back in force, with SOLAR #5 & 6 and a new hectoed 8-pager, QUEER TALES, an attractive weird fiction zine.

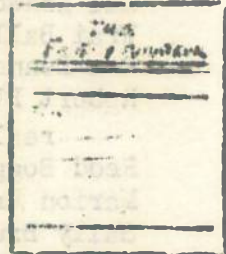
Like Rosenblum of the Leeds SFL submitted their 2-sheet BULLETIN, odd-sized and printed on one side only, while Jack Speer brought forth LOKI, hectoed 2 pager with quotable quotes, mailing comment, political opinions (of course) and even a poem.

Sam Moskowitz's 4-page hectoed FIRST NATIONAL S-F CONVENTION BULLETIN detailed plans for the upcoming May 29th Newark convention. Sam also had a circular in the mailing, as did Jack Baltadonis. Speer presented a large size sheet hectoed on both sides of selections from Tennyson while Richard Wilson offered "The Lissing Sea-Serpent" in the same format.

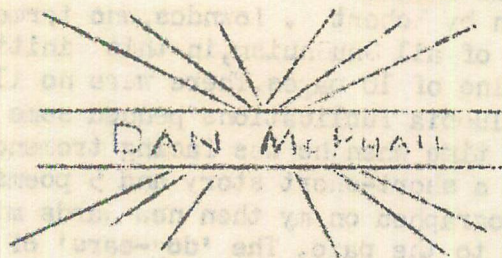
Two large format zines were Lowndes' VAGRANT, 10 hectoed pages of a blast at Moskowitz in reply to his blast at Wollheim; and new member Hodgkins 5-page MAY OUT POST, excellent contents, including details of a visit with Edgar Rice Burroughs

S U M M A R Y

This 3rd IAPA mailing contained 27 items, representing 16 publishers of 7 states & England. They totaled 155 pages & comprised 3 printed, 7 mimeoed & 17 hectographed. The average size was 8 1/2 pages. New York had 4 members contributing, California and Okla. 2 each, plus one from New Jersey, Connecticut, Colorado & England. Leading publisher was James Taurasi with 42 pages, followed by Lowndes with 20 & Baltadonis with 13.



FAN-OUT



HAPPY NEW YEAR! Our planet has made another circle around old Sol and a new year is at hand. 1958 was a mixture of many things, some good, some bad, but the months ahead hold many things for fandom. For an inkling of what some of them may be, let's harken to the annual New Year's Resolutions, Fapawise:

Martin Alger: Guess I better print the rest of that gun article, huh?

Karen Anderson: This year, Alif will make every mailing!

Mal Ashworth: If I match my increase of last year, I'll hit 50 pages in '59!

Wrai Ballard: When the thaw comes, I expect to go to town.

Ron Bennett: The next Fan Directory will contain phone numbers.

Robert Bloch: I'm doing a t-v series about this travelling salesman, who is really a fan in disguise and he meets this farmer's daughter...

Redd Boggs: GLUBBDUBBIB (bless you!) may appear as my Fapazine.

Marion Bradley: I'm going to get a regular fanzine underway.

Sally Brues: I may have to draft hubby to get it Dunn, but I'll print more.

Charley Burbee: I promise some fabulous contributions this year.

Gregg Calkins: My next questionnaire will be a Kinsey-type thing. Like, wow!

Gertrude Carr: I'm tired of this easy-going pace, so off come the kid gloves.

Terry Carr: I expect to meet Ron again - over there.

Jim Caughran: My new fanzine will be called "The Pakistan Phan"

Walt Coslet: O.K., McPhail, O.K., this year I'll do FAPA INDEX - just for you!

Bob & Jaunita Coulson: Move over, gang, and make room for us new members of the O.M.F. (Old Married Fans).....it's been a long wait on that list!

Bill Danner: My new HO pike will carry copy from my attic editorial desk to the composing room in the basement & then haul the magazines to the post office.

Chick Derry: Next Gallery will feature a Metzger cover without violence!

Phyllis Economou: Some day I'm going to send in 68 copies of our market reports!

Ron Ellik: I plan to hitchhike to England for the '60 con.

Georgina Ellis: I'm getting a new oujhi board.

Dick Eney: For the heck of it I may put out a 30page Target: Fapa.

Bill Evans: Remembrance of Things Past will reprint a Jules Verne fanzine.

Nan Gerding: No, Nangel has not been sold. It will be back.

Richard Geis: Stand back, boys, and let an old hand show you how to get active!

Peter Graham: You'll see my Brandon a lot of articles & fiction this year.

Dean Grennell: Look out! Another Fon du Lac spectacular is on the way!

Jack Harness: Watch my smoke with that new LASFS Gestetner. Wow!

Chuck Harris: First thing, I'm going to get that drivers permit, by jove!

Ray Higgs: I'm coming out with an expose-type zine: "Racy Stories"

Curtis Janke: Shucks, guess I'll break down and admit I like the girls.

Dave Jenrette: I'm going to put Florida on the fan map this year.

Dan McPhail: I can outproduce any Fapan whose name begins with "M" this year - and you can throw in the "Ps" and "Qs" for good measure, too!

Bill Morse: I'm going to make the Bull a Moose instead of a mouse.
 Sam Martinez: I'll get that new multilith machine in action this year.
 Sam Moskowitz: I may do a successor to Imortal Storm but it will be Different.
 Bob Pavlat: I hope to wind up the Fanzine Index - whew!
 Elmer Perdue: Stand clear, no telling what's coming out of my mail box this year - letters, piano rolls, maybe even a Fapazine.
 Boyd Raeburn: I see I dropped a little last year, but I can still beat the rest of these crazy Canadians.
 Bill Rotsler: I'll draw the best lookin' Rotsler gal yet - or bust!
 Dick Ryan: If it's Fan Facts you want, it's Fan Facts you'll get.
 H.P. Sanderson: Joan Carr will do us an exclusive: "I Was a Call Girl for FAPA"
 Ray Schaffer: I'll go back to work this year, ust so I can afford to fan!
 Fred Smith: I'll bet you a box of coughdrops I get going this year.
 Rick Sneary: Not much Moonshine left in me after the Solocon but I'll try.
 Jack Speer: I will introduce a bill in my legislature to reduce mailing rates for Fapans, if they are mailed from the state of Washington.
 L. Shan, Ltd: Guess we'll have to convert all youse gals & guys to folksongs and hotrods, or else come back to fandom - where we belong.
 Gerald Steward: That Raeburn is a bum if he thinks he can out-do me!
 John (A20) Trimble: No, my fanzine will not have a ship's name!
 Bob Tucker: Well, I'm doing a t-v series about a farmer's daughter (who is really a fan) and one day who comes to their door but a travelling salesman
 Norman Wansborough: "Leggie" - the legible fanzine, is now under preparation.
 Helen Wesson: I plan to issue "Fantasy Fan" - printed on rice paper.
 Ted White: Mailings will go out in envelopes. You send 'em, I'll stuff 'em!
 Don Wilson: I've just unearthed the complete mailings of the Pornographic Amateur Press Assn & will shortly announce a big Surplus Stock Sale.
 Stan Woolston: Never mind, Sneary, I'll keep pouring out the Moonshine.
 A & J Young: Damn the sputniks & full speed ahead in 1959!

ABOUT THE CACHE CREEK CHRONICLE

When I launched the "Chronicle" last issue, some of you may have thought it a take-off on Harry Warner's "Hagerstown Journal." Well, it is, but I'm not trying to steal Harry's stuff - you can't do that. I admire his Journal and have long wanted to do something along the same lines, especially to carry descriptive bits about my neck of the woods. So, as a working title for what should be a regular feature (except it appears lack of time will cause its omission this time) I adopted the name of a small stream that wanders down through this section of old Indian Territory for the vehicle to bring you some of the local color about our town, our state and our people. Actually, I've made two test runs recently: "The Night of the Big Flood" and "Funnells of Death" which might be considered as Chronicles. Some of you may recall the study of Louis Watts Clark in an earlier issue. It, too, can be considered a part of the Chronicle series.

So I admit, gratefully, that Harry is the inspiration for the Cache Creek Chronicle. Imitation is said to be the most sincere form of flattery and I hope Harry takes it as such. If I can write half as interesting as the Sage of Hagerstown, I'll be satisfied.

MUSIC FOR FOOT-PATting

I find this typing goes so much easier as I listen to "Piano Roll Party" (Harmony) and "Music for Bang, Baaroom & Harp" (RCA's superb percussion ensemble). Polly recently won a sales contest & received a RCA stero-orthophonic hi fi. All of us really enjoy it & the son has accumulated quite a number of jazz records (Johnny Keating, Regg Owen, Swedish jazz) but I like the two mentioned above best.

AND ABOUT THAT TALL TOWER

The ink was hardly dry on the last issue, with it's Chronicle article on the KATV tower, when I was advised that it is only the second tallest! Yep, it was a Texan that told me, ma'am, but the honor of having the highest tower doesn't go to the Lone Star boys yet. I understand the world's tallest man-made structure is now a t-v tower at Roswell, N.M.; which reaches a height of 1,610 feet, or 38 feet above the giant Channel 9 spire in Oklahoma City. The Russians had announced a 1,667 footer to be build in 1958 but I've heard no more about it.

A CHALLENGE!

After editorializing for more effort at the start of this fanzine, I've decided here at the end of it, to back up my words with a little action. In other words to put my money where my mouth is, as the boys say. So-o-o-o, I was thinking it might be a lot of fun if different members would pick out several fans in their general class and challenge them for an activity race during the year.

Like, the Item C in the "X-Ray Report" shows Ted White and Dean Grennell to be right on my heels in production for last year, so I hereby challenge them to catch me this year! Not only that, but I'll take a deep breath and pledge myself to beat Harry Warner, too! Maybe he'll come up with a short quire during the year and I can pass him!

Well, there is my three-man challenge. Do I hear any others? Gertrude, how about tossing the gauntlet at Bill Evans? Or a three-way race between Sandy, Eney and Danner? And especially some challenges among you fellows in the lower production brackets. And the newcomers, too -- set yourself a quota & join the fun!

ATTENTION BILL ROTSLER DEPT

Are you still with us, William? Seems like its about time we had a fabulous Masque from you - how about it? Main reason for flagging you down at this moment is to pass on four more Indian names for your odd-name collection. The names are: Lonetree, Watchtaker, Yackyonny, Woothtakewahbitty.

ODDS AND ENDS DEPT

This being the end of the last page, I'll just toss in a few loose thoghts. This week we have been seeing on t-v the floods at Mt. Vernon and certainly hope they didn't get to the Lynn Hickman home.....Sign seen on car: Help stamp out car stickers!.....July 4th will mark the 20th anniversary of the World S-F Convention & Science Fiction Times will do a special issue to comemrate the event.

WIND-UP DEPT

There's no foolin' about this being last minute. It is 11:30 PM on Jan. 28th (Wed) & I have yet to cut the two covers plus a couple of interior illos to cut & all of the mimeoging must be done tomorrow and Friday after work in order to put it together & mail Saturday morning. Man, 22 runs! Pauline's mother passed away the middle of the month & we had to be gone a lot, so I've had little time. For that reason the Chronicle, Operation Dragnet, etc. had to be left out this time.

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