

# PHANTASY PRESS



No. 34

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97





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# PHANTASY *Press*

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No. 97

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Whole Number  
34

DANIEL McPHAIL  
Editor

EDITORIAL NOTE: This is the night of November 3rd and the handwriting on the wall is plain to see: if I don't really ball the jack, there will be no Press in this mailing. I have no one to blame but myself, but this will be a skimpy issue indeed. Maybe I'll turn over a new leaf in 1962.



in the 96th  
F. A. P. A. MAILING  
for  
August, 1961  
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FANTASY AMATEUR (9pg) A very neat final issue by Marion Bradley. I'd like to express my appreciation to Phyllis Economou, Richard Eney, Bill Evans and Marion for a job well done! . . . I motored down to Rochester on deadline Sunday and helped MZB assemble the mailing. I lugged along FP - whose 16 pages pushed the total page count to 401. It's always a treat to visit Marion

and family (especially so this time, with artist Dolores Dame (Kerry) there). I appreciate the warm sentiments you express, Marion, and I was more than glad to help. . . welcome to new member Bruce Pelz of Los Angeles.

THE VENUS ORGANIZATION (Rotsler-3pg?) If I don't review these two items by our pro artist-sculptor Bill Rotsler right off, I'll never be able to get my mind on the rest of the mailing! The large glossy photograph & the booklet titled "Films for Business Needn't Be Dull" are not only outstanding examples of photography, but reveal that our boy is in a most fascinating business - that of specializing in the 'tasteful use of glamour'. And if that list of firms (Max Factor, Charmfit Bra, Esquire, Playboy, Union Oil, etc.) are customers, they are doing OK. And that model is most eye-catching, even



if we can't see her face. Is she a member of FAPA? If not, let's make her a Guest Member, says I! And Long Live the Venus Organization!

ALIF #12 (Anderson-9pg) Very nice cover, Karen, plus your usual neat appearance within. I like this blue paper stock. The poetry was enjoyed, but my pick of the lot was "Young Man Mulligan" and Poul Anderson's "Kinnison's Band."

ANKUS #1 (Pelz-9pg) This initial effort of our new boy is very nice, with neat layout & a fine cover job by Bjo. . . .with you a librarian at the U. of Southern Cal., I would expect to see some interesting stuff on books, and you came thru with the ex-esis to John Myers Myers' book "Silverlock" . . . .Ruth Berman's poem & its illustration by Simpson are both good. I like your mailing comments, "Ivory Hoard".

APROCRYPHA #3 (Janke-13pg) A lot of wordage here, but not much that one can comment on, except to say that Curt is just plain anti-female. Very sad. Glad I'm not.

CHURN #2 (Arthur & Nancy Rapp-11pg) A most unusual cover & I am awed at your very great skill (and hard work) in inventing the process. Cute. . . .enjoyed your mailing comments, Rzt. Yep, guess I put myself in that select group of amateur editors who have made typos with a lettering guide, when I failed to cross the "t", so that the name became Phanlasy Press last issue. . . .No, I don't think there has ever been a complete list of bundle sizes for FAPA, although I always list the size of each mailing (as compared to the previous one) in my summary of mc's each issue. Thus I have a complete list from the 72nd mailing to the present and the "Out of the Past" series (if I ever get 'em rolling again) covers the first dozen bundles. If these figures would help you any — drop me a line & I'll be glad to send the info to you . . . .but the 35th Anniversary issue of Amazing was for a special occassion & many readers/fans were glad of the chance to see reprints of its earlier days. . . .true, most trades get a kick out of cartoons that lampoon their work. . . .I can't help but applaud your reasoning as you advise Rike re the short-changing of the hotel clerk . . . .it would be nice if some future con would give Ziff-Davis an expression of thanks for their long record of donating artwork for the annual auction. . . .also enjoyed reading Nancy's rambling commentary on things and stuff (or stf.) Glad the worst of the El Paso heat is over for you. Sorry, but I couldn't disagree more with you over Castro. In my book, he is a traitor to his country for selling them out to the Commies & that wipes out any doubtful good that he has accomplished. I think general opinion in the US was in his favor until he changed his attitude, after gaining power. The taking over of foreign business, the forcing out of non-Cubans who had owned homes there for years, the repeal of due course of law, imprisonment of thousands under cruel conditions, the deliberate effort to undermine other Latin governments — in all this he mimics the Red pattern. Castro is a fool indeed if he thinks Russia is extending "friendship" without meaning to get a strangle hold on Cuba in return. The facts of history clearly show that any other impression is naïve and that all small nations better beware the 'helping hand' of the Reds. And speaking of their so-called help to others & implying we do not help. Surely you are not ignoring the billions in aid (I mean especially non-military: food, educational, health, industrial roads, sanitation, communication, etc.) we have poured into the needy countries of this old planet. That is part our your aid — and mine — and yet for that aid, many of them have reviled, slandered and abused the US at every turn. A final question: have you ever heard of the USSR expressing gratitude for the mountains of material we conveyed into their country to help stem the Nazi invasion — at the cost of thousands of our merchant sailors and servicemen? Heck no, they don't ever say anything about that help or the 20 million lives we saved from starvation in Russia in 1932. Many an American serviceman & newsman learned, to their amazement, that Russians were told, during World War II, that our Jeeps, B-17 Flying Fortresses and other US equipment provided the, was actually of Soviet manufacture! Phooie on 'em! Excuse me, Nancy, for flying off the handle, but I think the Reds are far worse for the people of the world than our way of life could ever be.

CATCH TRAP (Bradley-13pg) Congrats to Juanita Coulson for the very fine drawings of circus performers that abound in this issue. . . .it is too bad that we have to have a limited membership — it would be nice if all on the Waiting List could be with us. . . I applaud your belief that prisoners should be used to raise food & do the work in orphanages, state schools, etc. and thus earn a moderate sum, learn a trade, retain their sel-



respect & contribute something to the welfare of their fellow man in return for their offenses against same. . . .I like certain foods, including most vegetables (especially orka, spinach, peas, corn & beets) fried chicken, sea foods & fruit except oranges. The past year I've been switching from coffee to tea - both hot & cold. . . .I think you hit the nail on the head in your blast at Boyd.

CELEPHAIS #28 (Evans-19pg) Congrats, Bill, on rounding out five years in FAPA. I look forward to sharing another five with you! . . . .the speech of Rep. Uttof of California was most informative in dealing with the problem of our top-heavy & debt-ridden tower of gov't. agencies. No doubt there are many fields of activity where gov't bureau are in competition with private industry & erert unfair & perhaps unjustified hardship on the taxpayer. I'm glad I am engaged in the sphere of job placement and feel I am providing a real service to the public. It is a source of personal satisfaction to see men and women working in our city in permanent jobs that I had the pleasure of refering them to. . . .good luck on your race for Veep. . . .agreed, the tales you mention from the old Astounding were good. CW Diffin was an old favorite of mine, when it came to space opera. Your mention of George Bruce recalls that I always knew his name on the cover of an air magazine meant an exceptional story. . . .it seems I make some errors each year on the Z-Ray Report. I'm truly sorry, but its a job to go thru 2200 pages & the mistakes are those of the eye and not the heart. As always, I beg forgiveness. . . . You are right to a point about the non-publishing members, but I never intend for the Report to be considered as an injustice to them. I think I have always pointed out the fact it is concerned only with publishing activities & regret I am unable to tabulate the work of those who contribute to others' zines. These members are muchly appreciate by us all, I'm sure. . . .Yep, sagebrush & purple hills are purty, podnah, and Ah like 'em, too. . . .the English girl in court sounds like something from an old burlesque skit.

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Kind words do not wear out the tongue

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DAY\*STAR (Bradley-29pg) a nice cover by Kerry. . . .well, by now you are well underway as a co-ed at Hardin-Simmons U and I wish you well on your three-days-a-week classes. Watch out for campus wolfs! (I mean no disrespect to said wolfs. In fact, I bet whistling at campus cuties would be more fun than putting out a fanzine!). . . .the details on the movie "The Story of Ruth" are appreciated, as I did not get to see it. . . .your detailed description of dreams was fascinating & I can see where you get inspiration for your many professional sales. The dream of you & Juanita repopulating the world with fans tickled me. I guess all us male-type members are envious of Dick Eney for having those ideal characteristics! . . .Paul Zimmer's article on Scotch game was interesting, and please extend my congrats to Steve (or, rather, David) for his bit.

DIFFERENT #7 (Chris & Sam Moskowitz-8pg) As would be expected, this issue is devoted to answering criticism from the previous mailing, which is accomplished in considerable detail. I'm quite impressed with Chris' background as a surgeon & a major in the army reserves, and her elephant drawings. I'd like to read some of her medical articles such as have appeared in Sexology Magazine.

A FANZINE FOR NOW! (Lewis-2pg) As I told you, in reviewing your first issue, I enjoy your efforts & would not object to 18 pages. (Better than two). Don't be down on mailing comments. Its the best way to learn about your fellow members. Come again.

HORIZONS #81 (Warner-25pg) Nice cover design by Jean Young. . . .Congrats on the occassion of your 25th anniversary as a fan, Harry. My files of Astounding are right handy and I took a few moments to check on your first letter therein, and it appeared in the October, 1936 issue, along with others by Jack Darrow, Roy Test, John Michel, Bob Madle, Bill Miller and Doc Lowndes. Your letter was capped "Want To Correspond?" and revealed you to be age 13 as you asked questions about the science in a yarn titled "The Return of the Murians" and advised the editor that you were a faithful booster of his publication. . . .I'm like you, no overweight problem. Just call me Slim, podnah. . . .it will be interesting to see what, if any effect the departure of Mrs. Carr from FAPA will have on activity. . . .another interesting study would be on



the total pages published by long-time members, such as your estimated figure of between two and three thousand. I have published nearly 500 pages since I revived FP with the 73rd mailing . . . the Walt Disney movie "The Absent Minded Professor" was a good one. . . TWS had many excellent covers & illos during its life. . . you had a neat bit of writing on "The Underman" for such a short piece. . . I, for one, hope you will continue to present material from your magnum opus about the city of Hagerstown. You have the knack to present such material in an interesting manner. I recently helped Pauline open merchandise received for her Top Value redemption center & uncrated a very nice end table made by the Brandt people of Hagerstown.

LARK (Danner-4pg) a very small issue for you, Bill. . . you are right, there is nothing to be gained by deliberately irritating the authorities. They can be rough.

LIGHTHOUSE #3 (Carr/Graham-32pg) a very, very neat zine, especially the contents page layout, fellows. All the artwork is fine, with the best being the stencil cut by Larry Ivie. . . Pete Graham produced a good word picture of the party. Ted good, too.

LAREAN #8 (Ellik-13pg) You sure had a wild time of it for a while there, Ron, but I'm happy for you that you are now established as a mathematician for Douglas & doing well. . . like your mailing comments. . . maybe we can get together with our respective lists of names & compile a joint-report on the total membership of FAPA thru the years? I've been pointing towards another "Operation Dragnet". For benefit of newer members, this was a special research report in my April, 1958 issue that listed 241 names of present & former Fapans. . . thank for the info on Halloween history.

LAUNDRY MARK (Hevelin-2pg) Rusty, what is the significance of the printed insurance page that backs up your page? Can we expect a larger Mark next time?

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a youthful figure is something you get when you ask any woman her age

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MOONSHINE #29 (Sneary/Moffett-10pg) I greatly enjoyed your "Fapatown", Rick, but was piqued to be left out as one of the town 'characters.' Of course, I realize that many of us are strangers to you as far as our private life is concerned, so you did well to line up almost half of the members. Lawyer Jack Speer was a natural, of course, for Mayor & Judge, as is City Clerk Perdue, Deacon Coslet, and the teachers, librarians, reporters, etc., but you missed out not picking Chris Moskowitz as "Doctor, unless you felt a pioneer town would not patronize a female 'Doc'. Don't know what I would be, back in those days, but feel like it would be a printer or reporter for the weekly paper. But - you know what? I'd like to be one of those dashing, good-lookin', devil-may-care fast-draw fellers, like, say "Colt .45" on TV! . . . I want to commend you for your remarks regarding the attacks on Mrs. Moskowitz. I also felt some of them in pretty poor taste & did not feel her remarks deserved such violent reaction on the part of some members. . . I hope someone will answer your plea for information on how to care for ageing magazines. It would be a real service to many of us. . . good article by Moffatt, looking back at predictions of 1940, for the "future" of now.

NEHWON REVIEW #1 (Boggs-4pg) Judging from all the references herein to the event the feature of the 100th Mailing will be the departure from FAPA of one Redd Boggs.

NO HOLDS BARRED GUIDE (Anderson-8pg) An interesting collection of drinks invented by fans. Most fascinating are "Flying Saucer", "Green-Eyed Monster" and the long-time famous "Nuclear Fizz". The final instructions for "H-Bomb" tickled me: "Stir, add cherry, and pour down kitchen drain."

OVERTIME (Coslet-8pg) Walter, I work in the job placement side of our office, which numbers 21 employees, with five in claims. We service three counties, with a full-time claims office in a neighboring county. I cover construction work but, of course, have assigned folder accounts - some 50 - including Wards & Sears, a large aircraft firm & all the supermarkets. Howard Rainey, our claims chief, was an Okla. delegate to the recent LAPES con in Pittsburgh. Interesting to read your discourse on unemployment claims with the Montana ES. As to your question, it is possible a claim can be 39 weeks but not all. If 1/3 of base pay is as much or more as 39 times their weekly amount, they would be entitled to 39 weeks. Claims were heavy here then.



PHANTASY PRESS #33 (McPhail-16pg) This issue wouldn't have made it at all if I hadn't taken it down Texas way in person. (And now I'm doubtful about this current one) The Press has not missed a single mailing since I returned to FAPA, but it seems to get more & more difficult each quarter. I'm beginning to feel like an unbeaten football team with a long string of victories & wondering when it will end. . . . I will be disappointed if the Indian cover by Thay-Hai-Ya does not evoke some praise. And I think old Dan did a pretty fair job on the stencil, too! I also hope you enjoyed the short visit to the stomp dances. It is a most colorful spectacle and beyond my feeble mastery of words to describe in all its beauty and excitement.

RAMBLING FAP #25 (Calkins-9pg) Most interesting, this complete listing of the published works of our esteemed alumni, Bob Bloch - over 250 stories between 1935-59.

RAMBLING FAP #26 (Calkins-11pg) How true, that movies have never come near to creating the true Tarzan of the Burroughs books. . . . I might note, meekly, that Fantasy Press is another Fapazine that has always listed the editor's name in its reviews. . . . ~~Heh! Heh!~~ I like the question you put to the Clarkes; if it were not for the US, whom else would they have to serve as a scape-goat for their problems. Good for you, boy! I am pleased no end to have someone else come in with a few needed licks against these people who seem to delight in kicking Uncle Sam every chance they get. As you point out, there are many elsewhere who are willing to let us do the work, take the risks, and pay the taxes while they sit back and point out our faults. To hear them tell it, loud & long, no one but the American businessman exploits anyone. No where else is there any one who is after the fast buck. But consider the High Type Soviets; Everyone knows the Commies hearts bleed for the downtrodden of the world & their sole interest in dominating any nation is for its Own Good. Of course they will plow back all profits into those countries. And, of course, they would never have set off the Big Bomb if it wasn't for the war-mongering old USA. Aw, bull! . . . . thanks for rating "Under the X-Ray" as one of FAPA's most interesting features. I regret the error on HORIZONS. Harry Warner, of course, did make every mailing, even while in the hospital. . . . I'm sure many fans buy some prozines monthly, or as a cover or story title appeals to them. . . . hope you have no more trouble with your side. Sometimes it can be only a severe gastric disturbance. Such recently was so bad with me I had to see a doctor. And I well know what you mean when you say that moments during which you imagine you have something seriously wrong with you are not pleasant. . . . again I ask: any thing new on the WHO'S WHO?

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Apartment building: where landlord & tenant are both trying to raise the rent

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RAMBLING FAP #27 (Calkins-5pg) another interesting bibliography.

REVOLTIN' DEVELOPMENT (Alger-1pg) Oops, that should be "REMARKS". Too short.

RUNNING, JUMPING AND STANDING STILL MAGAZINE #1 (Ashworth-23pg) a very fine name Arthur Weir's article was well composed and interesting in its review of "The Iron Pirate" and other early books. . . . another good title is "Flipping Through FAPA" but it erred in referring to the 95th mailings, as the reviews are for the 94th. . . . oh, come now, you have more than "one and a half shirts". . . . and what's with the chip on your shoulder, Mal? Apparently you found nothing but disagreement with my comments. You know, I'm a government worker, like some others in FAPA, and I don't take kindly to your abusive remarks. I've never felt like I had to back up to receive my pay and I know I work a lot harder than some non-government employees. What in hell do you do for a living, anyway? I imagine you must hold some exalted position which enables you to make snap-judgments (infallible, of course) on others. . . . your damn tootin' I feel that a person (most, anyway) cannot but be active in some way in his community. I have about a hundred business firms that I call on and almost without exception these men do something in the way of community service. (and without their aid, the community would be the poorer in many ways) And these men are not a collection of odd-balls by any means. . . . you know, boy, I've seen a lot of examples of our "Good Neighborourliness" that you scorn at, and I don't think either party concerned felt it to be a case of someone else leading their lives for them. Usually we look on it as just being friendly. Just



tonight a friend down the street called to invite me to attend a sports club meeting. The other nite I went across the street & sat in with some of the members of a small band who practise there weekly. A next door neighbor has given us a "mess" of vegetables from his garden several times this summer. The young Indian artist down the street drops by my den for a visit. I mowed my neighbors lawn while they were on vacation and he trimmed my hedge while we were gone. The policeman at the corner hits me up to go hunting. "Butting in?" Introducing on privacy? Nosey? Not at all. Just - what did you call it - American 'Good Neighbourliness.' Tell you what: you live your way and I will live mine. OK?

SALUD #7 (Elinor Busby-8pg) a beautiful cover by Bjo. It would be lovely in color . . . everyone raves on about Tolkien so much that I'm ashamed to admit I haven't read it. . . . yes, I'd say "Lady Chatterly's Lover" was written from the woman's viewpoint entirely. . . . indeed, Russia is feared - and hated - because of its possession of the a-bomb, in view of her aggressions of the past. Now that she has exploded (Oct.30th) the giant bomb & defied world opinion in so doing, the fear will be even greater.

SERCON'S BANE (F.M. Busby-4pg) With all the commotion against the House Un-American Affairs Committee, I note that no one has answered your primary question, to wit: what measures would they advocate to deal with undercover subversion?

STEFANTASY (Danner-4pg) a marvelous cover, Bill, and I enjoyed that peak at your shop & type faces (sure like that Norway Incline) Is your plant in the basement?

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The man who's waiting for something to turn up should start  
his shirt sleeves

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VANDY #12 (Coulsons-24pg) Among the older tv shows, I always liked that introduction: "...and it shall be my duty as District Attorney..." . . . . I got a chuckle out of Bruce & his "running back and forth" answer! . . . . Congrats, Juanita, on completing those college courses & receiving your Master of Arts. . . . if school children were permitted to select all their subjects, I imagine some much needed subjects would be by-passed. . . . I bet you are right, in that many teachers quit, not because of want of pay boosts, but because of senseless extra curricular activities & the lack of freedom and respect.

VINEGAR WORM (Leman-30pg) Your new Gestetner does very neat, clear work. . . . May I say "Bravo!" on your intelligent refuting of the anti-HUAC band. Even tho, as you say it is not expected to do much good as "penetrating a closed mind is the most difficult task known to man." True, true. . . . from the very first I could not but be puzzled at the actions of student who appeared to me to be guilty of deplorable conduct in crowding into a courthouse & disrupting the proceedings of the court. When asked by the police to silence themselves & refused, what did they expect the officers to do?

WASHINGTON GUIDEBOOK (Speer-20pg) a truly excellent research job, Jack - I really enjoyed it. Its amazing the amount of interesting detail you crammed into it.

POST - MAILING S (Sorry I have no time for complete reviews)

LIMBO #7 (Rike/Donaho-12pg) Very good reviews, Bill.

A PROPOS DE RIEN #7 (Caughran-5pg) Interesting, but brief, Jim.

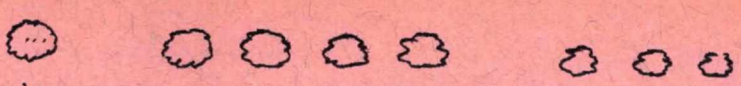
DRIFTWOOD (Kidd-8pg) Very good, Sally, even if you didn't make check-marks.

CAMPAIGN LIAR #3 (Carr, White & Graham-2pg) Good try, but too late to succeed.

#### S U M M A R Y

The 96th Mailing contained 421 pages, of which 20 were postmailed. This compared to 595 pages contained in the previous mailing. There were a total of 41 separate items distributed, the largest being 34 pages (Carr-Graham). Also included was one 30pager, one 29, one 25, two 24, one 23 and eight ranging from 11 to 19 pages. In addition there were 23 items ranging from two to ten pages as well as four single page publications. 32 members were represented, compared to 32 in the 95th mailing.





# Smoke | Signals

-by-

DAN McPHAIL

## THOUGHTS WHILE SEARCHING FOR MY CRYING TOWEL

Phantasy Press is justly famous for two things; the fact that it has appeared in each and every mailing since it returned to FAPA lo, these many moons ago.....a time so remote in fan history that few members today can recall when there was no quarterly issuance of this Fan's Home Companion.

Equally renown is the regular wailing and gnashing of teeth engaged in by its editor, who customarily expresses the deepest pessimism on meeting the mailing deadline. This he does so skillfully that he almost persuades the reader that he is actually holding a postmailed magazine in his hands and it did not come out of the mailing bundle at all.

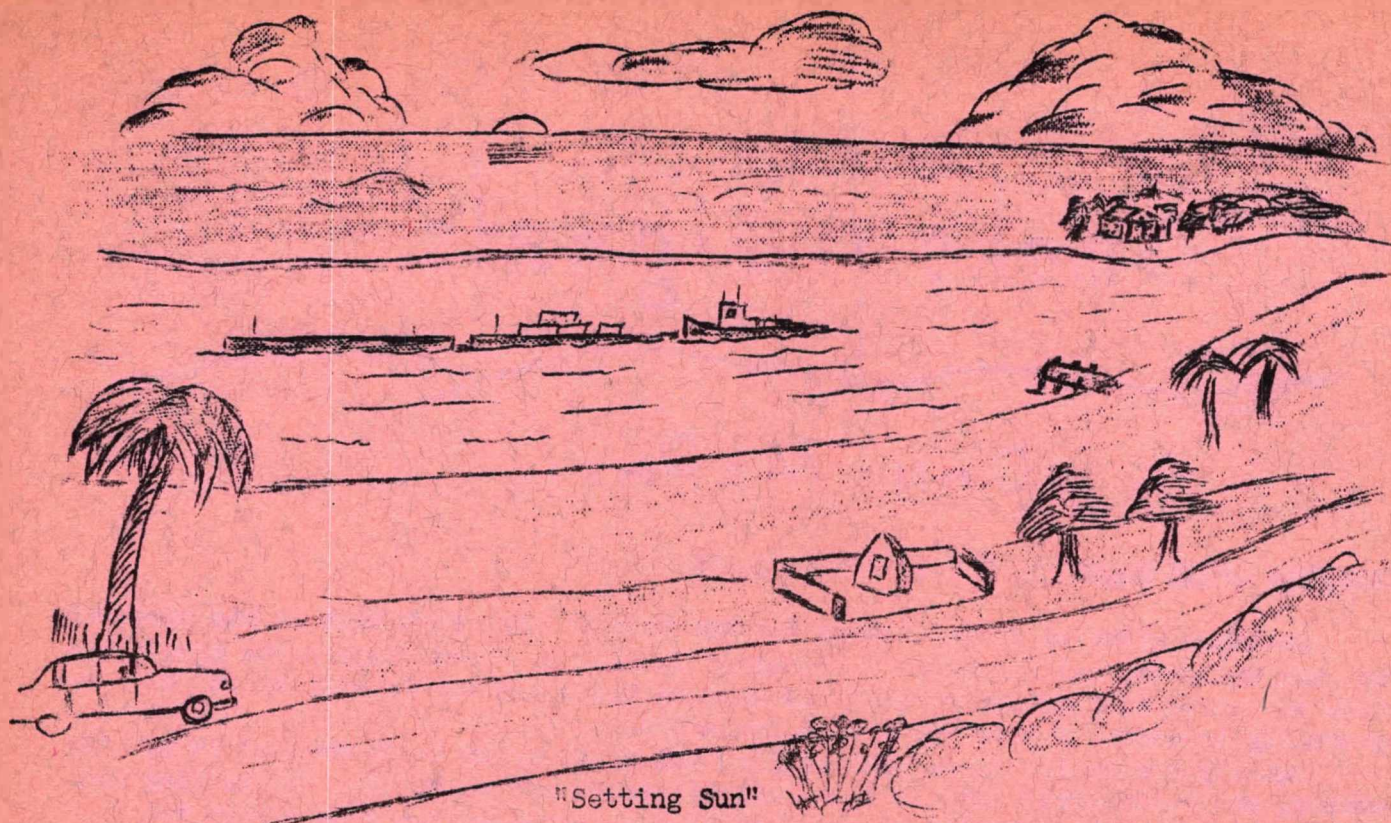
Such a long time feature is difficult to eliminate, and this issue is no exception. In fact, this being the afternoon (1:15pm) of Monday, Nov. 6th and I have yet to cut whatever else I add to this page, plus a cover unless the mail brings a promised cover from Kerry - you can say that if the Chief makes this mailing, he is a real medicine man indeed. I have taken the afternoon off (like Coslet, I have overtime off) the old ABDick is sitting ready & the rest is up to me. And, say there, new Official Editor Charley Burbee, out there in California: hold up for the last Pony Express!

## THOUGHTS AFTER THE STORM

Hurricane Carla - largest and most destructive of its breed to hit the Gulf coast in this century - swept up out of the tropics and lashed the heavily populated and industrialized areas of Texas with winds that reached peaks of 173 miles per hour. Carla had been plotted & tracked carefully but she proved most unpredictable, bearing first north, then northwest, then pausing to whirl her massive winds before lunging at the Matagorda Bay, on that fateful weekend of Sept. 10th. So vast was the area under evacuation that almost a half-million persons were estimated to have swarmed out of the lowlands - a number so large that every section of the country had relatives and friends among the exedous. I have an uncle & aunt living at Austin & the eye of Carla passed within 40 miles of there. My cousin, Billy McPhail, known to some fans, lives in San Antonio, raked by gale winds. Another cousin, Ruth Mers, is a teacher at Beaumont, where the hurricane first headed & where thousands of refugees from Port Arthur filled the 55 schools & other buildings opened to them.

Thus it was with real anxiety that we here just north of Red River watched the huge storm rake the Lone Star State. At work, faces of fellow employees reflected the general worry we all felt as bulletin followed bulletin. So massive was this display of nature's fury, that we dreaded to hear of the indicated loss of life. The fact that there was almost no loss of life is a wonderful tribute in itself to the heroic work of the Civil Defense, Red Cross, military & civil authorities & many others who labored long hours and days to accomplish such a miracle.





#### THOUGHTS ON THE EBB OF SUMMER

Indian Summer is upon us here in the Southwest as I pen these lines. It is that final bit of delightful weather before Old Man Winter bows in for his cold and bluster term of office. Indian Summer is a final bonus that Mother Nature bestows upon us as she prepares to bring to a close the warmth and beauty and joys of summer time. It is a period of balmy breezes, both exhilarating and invigorating, that bestirs us to take advantage of final opportunities for cook-outs in the near by hills or city parks or in our own backyard. Almost every afternoon, as men and women arrive home from office and plant and classroom, they can be seen bustling around with grill & charcole and soot smoke from many fires carry the aroma of barbecue & steaks wafting thru the neighborhood. It is a time for football on a lazy, warm afternoon with the excitement of the bands, the cheers for the home team. It is the time of Hallowe'en, of trick 'n treat, of small spooks and witches appearing at ones' door in eager or shy anticipation, of parties and dances, of the school carnivals with cake walks and special shows. Trite as it may seem to some, for many of us it is a part of our pattern of life - a few moments or hours that is traditional - and most enjoyable.

Indian Summer heralds the end of many leisure activities and one can't but look back with regret that the pleasures of vacation time are a thing of the past. Most of us experienced adventures during the past summer that were enjoyable. As I write, dusk is beginning to fall & the sunset is a thing of sheer beauty and all the world seems at peace. At a moment like this, I feel that others also must pause for a brief moment to recall sunsets they enjoyed during the summer just ending. Perhaps a sunset in the mountains, with the disc of the sun sliding down the sky behind pine-covered peaks whose valleys were already clothed in deep shadows. Perhaps it was darkness swiftly stealing across a lake beyond your campfire. Or did you sit quietly & watch a tug push its barges against the current, creating waves to slap gently against the shore while the setting sun painted the cloud tops with pastels of many hues and dusk spread a carpet of fireflies across the landscape. The loud, clear melody of a night bird heralded the appearance of the countless stars sprinkled across the deep blue of the heavens.

To all of us must come memories of these quiet moments, and other moments of the past that, while all too brief, brought happiness & comfort when we were lonely.



## THOUGHTS ON WHISTLING

It struck me recently that whistling is becoming a lost art. It seems that in my youth (not that I'm an old, old man) one would hear a lot of whistling, on the streets, at work, at home. Now a days, one may go all day and hear nary a warble. One thing that perhaps accounts for it is the fact that few people walk much now as compared to a couple of decades or more ago; and walking and whistling just naturally go hand-in-hand, so to speak.

Now I've been a whistler all my life and still whistle at the drop of a hat. Cousin Billy and I used to whistle together a lot and I've had a few friends who do, but generally speaking, the whistler seems to be the exception.

An odd thing is that few women ever whistle. Why I don't know. I have known perhaps three or four who did, and one especially who can whistle beautifully.

## THOUGHTS ON BUFFALO

How about a bison steak or burger? Our near by Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge is winding up its annual buffalo sale. 130 of the great shaggy beasts were approved for removal from the refuge to prevent overgrazing; as well as 120 elk. 19 of the buffalo were donated to zoos, parks or preserves and 36 were sold for breeding purposes. The remainder were offered for sale as meat, with a minimum of one-half carcass of the dressed animal & a maximum of one carcass. The dressed, quartered & frozen elk & buffalo sell for \$50 to \$120 for a half to \$100 to \$240 for a whole. Butchering will start early in November. Live buffalo are sold for \$180 each.

## FINAL THOUGHTS OF A TIRED EDITOR

It is past midnite and is early morning of the 7th as I prepare to run this last stencil & prepare the mag to mail first thing in the morning, hoping that Special Handling will get it to Durbee in time.

Due to lack of time, there will be no back cover this time. The hoped - for cover on stencil by Kerry did not arrive & I had to round up something at the very last minute. I am indebted to daughter Danaline for helping out Dad with a very nice looking bit of art for the cover. Thank you, honey.

Before I say so long, toodle-loo, good nite and pleasant dreams, let me note that December 25th is not far off as you read this - so let me add my sincere

M E R R Y   C H R I S T M A S

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COVER ART

by

Danaline McPhail

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