

Rache 19



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I am running for OE again this year, and if elected will get the mailings out on time. More I cannot promise; N'APA has Bylaws to cover almost all situations, and those will be followed.

The rest of this page is composed on stencil, and should be blamed on John Kusske, who likes this sort of stuff. Them as want to see the first 2 Chapters will find them in RACHes 12 and 13, the latest 1½ years ago!

Masters of the Microcosm

CHAPTER 3

As the superdreadnought called the Buhlrawz continued to fire on the Royal Palace of Dnieppuh, the Special Council headed for the storm cellar to ride out the attack of the monster ship, treacherously stolen from their own shipyard by villians from Schnapps. The Prime Monster, Jeem, dragged the still-sleeping form of the Secretary of Warp behind her until the scurrying foursome bumped into Prince Frederick the Befuddled, also heading for safety, and Jeem turned the Secretary over to him.

"Here's the entrance to the cellar," cried O'Hay, "but the door is locked! Where's the keeper of the keys?"

The Prince stepped around a corner and into an prochamber (originally an antechamber, but renamed in the interests of Positive Thinking, by order of the Drekrep.) "Keeper!" he called vaguely as he entered. "Where are the keys to the cellar?!"

The round little man hastily shoved a large stack of papers under his chair and dragged out a box which he opened before the Prince. "I'm afraid the keys are rather a mess," he admitted, "but one of them should open the door." His hand reached for the large stack of paper again.

"What's that you have there?" asked Frederick, pointing at the paper.

"Oh, nothing," said the Keeper of the Keys.

"That's the biggest bunch of nothing I've ever seen," commented the Prince as he turned and left, returning to the other fugitives. The keys, though a mess indeed, turned out to be all the same thing, so the door was quickly opened and the party stumbled down the ten flights to the sub-sub-sub-[etc] basement. As they collapsed into the waiting chairs, Jeem noticed that the party numbered only 3: herself, the Prince, and O'Hay. There was no sign of the Secretary of Warp (her old ally Wooly) or the Chatelaine of the Palace.

"I left the Secretary sleeping near the Garden Door," admitted the Prince. "I just couldn't carry him any more, Jeem -- the way he sleeps like the deadwould have made it impossible for me to get him down here."

The Chatelaine had last been seen heading for the Royal Pistol Club Room, small-arm at her side, practicing her draw but saying nothing; it was assumed that she would repel as many attackers as possible.

The shelling above continued as the trio settled down for the seige. "How are your supplies here?" asked O'Hay, turning to the Prince.

"It's well provisioned. There's the comic collection, and the SF collection, and...." "What about food and water?!" "Uh, well....I think I've some cokes...."

[To be continued, now that's it up to date!]

A MONOGRAPH ON ASHES

SENA 1 (Donald Miller) As yet, there are only 9 ~~Library~~ random cards in existence, 3 in 1964 and 6 in 1965. I ran out of time to do more for the last mailing, and I doubt I'll be able to have any in the current mailing. Eventually, however... I am including with this issue, however, a genuine Library of Congress card, appropriate to the SF field since it applies to the Proceedings of the World Science Fiction Convention. This is what is known as an "open entry" card, in that it can be used for future volumes of the Proceedings as well as the one (Chicon) which occasioned its publication. Also, there is no beginning date for the volumes because, although Chicago was the first of the published proceedings, there is nothing that says the earlier conventions might not be published eventually. (If you want copies of the 3 1964 LF cards, they are available for 15¢; I ran extras and sell them for 5¢ a card.)

A Pachinko machine, just in case Tackett doesn't tell you in more detail, is a Japanese version of a pinball machine. You buy a number of what look like ball bearings from the operator of the arcade wherein are located manymany Pachinko machines, hanging from the walls. You go to any one of them, insert a ball bearing and flip the handle. If you can flip the ball bearing into one of the special slots instead of letting it find its way to the exit slot at the bottom, you are rewarded with about 14 more ball bearings from the payoff slot. On the way out, the ball bearings can be exchanged for prizes. Our Pachinko machine isn't completely fixed yet, as the light bulbs need replacing and we've got to do something about the exit slot so that ball bearings don't drop from it to the floor.

Ugh, that riddle's ancient: Norse is Norse and Souse is Souse, and never the trains shall meet.

HOG JOWLS 1 (Tom Dupree) Library of Fandom cards are the fan equivalent of Library of Congress cards for fanzines. They include all information that would be on a regular library card if the library were to catalog fanzines. I don't know which numbers you are puzzled about, but the ones in the upper left corner are index numbers (known to librarians as Cutter numbers) designed to help file both the cards and the volumes. The numbers in the lower right are only the number of the cards themselves :65-4 indicates the 4th card published in 1965.

Everyone to his own classic writer of 1912-1930, I guess, but ERB is far down my list of contestants for the position -- Thorne Smith and Don Marquis are very near the top.

SPINA 6 (Creath Thorne) You seem to be deliberately avoiding or muddying the issues. You say that the 25¢ left over after NFFF Publications are paid for won't buy very much. Quite true, but the more members you have, the more 25¢'s you have, and 300 x 25¢ will most certainly buy things -- all this assuming that the 25¢-remainder claim is correct. The idea of the publisher paying the cost is applicable to Hayes's crudzine, but not much else. I had in mind, and mentioned at the time, such things as the FANDBOOKS, which were paid for by the NFFF. When you drag in the idea of more people being able to distribute their fanzines to the entire club, as Reamy did with TRUMPET, if the club were smaller and more active, you appear to be trying to turn the club into a slightly overgrown APA, instead of a general correspondence and Introductory organization such as the NFFF tries to be.

And the idea that the NFFF would go under without the Activefans devoting much of their time to the club is ludicrous. You cite Don Franson as President and Fred Patten as Director. The former has never been much of an Activefan, limiting his activity to CRYhacking and a very brief and very

PN
3448
S45W89

**World Science Fiction Convention.
Proceedings.
Chicago, Advent Publishers.
v. illus., ports. 22 cm.**

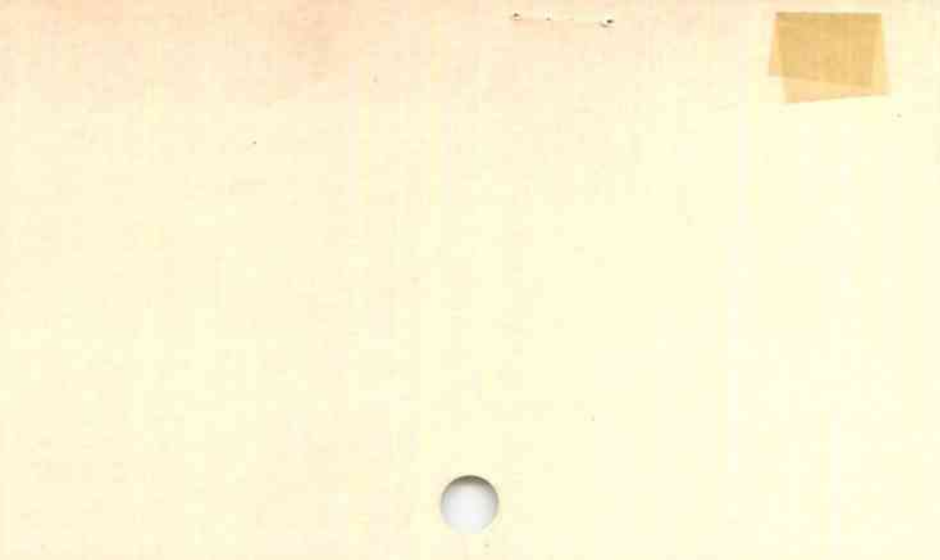
1. Science fiction—Congresses.

PN3448.S45W6

65-46647

Library of Congress

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minacking stay in N'APA. He hasn't even been seen in LASFS for the past couple years. As for Fred, as an OE, he's fine, but as Director he didn't do much of anything. The current roster of officers is almost totally devoid of Activefans...at least by my definition of such, which is a fan who does not confine his activity to one corner of fandom.

The only grounds on which you could complain about the lacktivity of a lot of the members of the NFFF would be if the rules demanding activity had been set up before the people joined -- so that they would know what they were expected to do. As it is, people join under the impression that there is no required activity, and it would not be fair to change the rules on them in midstream. So I still think, if you want a club with activity rules, you'd better go start one and try to attract the Activefans away from the NFFF. I'm willing to bet the NFFF continues to survive.

The idea that the weekly APAs, or even APA L alone, if APA F folds, will help cause the downfall of some of the smaller quarterly APAs has been discussed in Los Angeles. We tend to think it/they just might do so. The Instant Egoboo of the weekly APA, plus the elimination of 11 weeks of time lag in communication are tremendous advantages to the weekly APA. I know that if I had to ditch an APA, it would be OMPA instead of APA L. There have been three new APAs started during the past year or so, with several more being talked up. Together with the 6 older APAs and the 2 weekly ones, this is too damn many; something has to give, and I expect it to be the newer quarterlies. We'll see what happens when the guiding lights of these quarterlies get embroiled in college and other mundac.

ECOFERAW 16 (Fred Patten) You might mention that, although Alan J. Lewis has given up the Fanzine Foundation idea, there will still be an attempt to gather, checklist, file, and have available all fanzines published. Dian and I are buying the Fanzine Foundation from AJL, and adding it to our already large collection. The FF will not arrive in Los Angeles physically until next year, at which time we will ship or cart it back from Detroit while we travel to and from the Tricon. After it does arrive, there will be a lot of sorting to do, and then duplicates will be sold off in the same manner as my previous duplicates went, to further additional payments on the collection. Once the thing is in order, checklisted and filed, it will be available for research. Anyone in the area is welcome to use the collection, by appointment and under supervision, of course. And outsiders can get Xerox copies of pages for 15¢ a shot (usually 1 page to a shot unless the zine is half-size) plus postage. (For that matter, if anyone wanted such Xerox service on materials now in our collection, we'd be glad to provide it.)

It should be pointed out, though, that our collection is not associated with the ISL, with UCLA, or any other organization. What its eventual disposal will be, I don't know, though I will, of course, guarantee not to let it get split up or destroyed. So there are now three collecting agencies in Los Angeles for fanzines: UCLA, which is very unorganized since Steve Schultheis does not have time to come down from Santa Barbara to take care of it; the ISL, which has no room to store things and no facilities for making them available as yet (It will eventually.); and The Library of Fandom (or whatever I decide to call my collection-library). All three want your unwanted zines, and the latter two are willing -- at least I think the ISL is willing also -- to pay postage to get them. So if you get rid of any fanzines, don't throw them out, send them to LA. Even the worst crudzines can be useful at times -- maybe only as a horrible example, but that's still useful.

ROMANN 5 (Rich Mann, poor man....) The N3F may not do much for you, or for

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me either, I guess, but it does provide a common meeting ground for a lot of otherwise inactive fans, and it gives a few people a place to work off their power drives where they won't bother too many people -- can you see someone like Clay Hamlin as CE of an active group? And it does introduce a lot of neos to fandom who later go off on their own hook and do something in fandom.

The zine with 90 pages of MCs was SPELECBEM 5, and by the time I got done with it I was very tired and very sick of it. But others said it read rather well, and the couple times I've re-read parts of it I haven't been quite as critical. It got to 90 pages mostly because Toskey, in the previous mailing had had 30+ pages of MCs, and I was out to break the record all around. Did, too.

The Filk Song Manual is still in progress, with the first part already published in mimeo this past July, and another part planned for publication no later than next Westercon. Part 1 has 22 pages, music to quite a few songs, and sells for 40¢ plus 5¢ postage.

The fanzines I selected for issuing LF cards are those of which I have a complete (or nearly so) run, so that I can include all information. I charge 5¢ a card (i.e., 15¢ a sheet of 3), and they can be used like any other catalog card, making a card for each subject heading (the arabic numbers at the bottom of the card), and one for each "added entry" -- the editor(s), etc., under which one might look to find the publication; these are indicated by the Roman numerals at the bottom of the card. So far, only Ed Baker buys enough cards to make a complete catalog, but several others like Tom Gilbert and Dan Alderson purchase one copy of each card.

(Dave Neal) Yes, Mr. Neal, I intend to go on. About what, or on what, or even with what, you didn't specify, so I can reply categorically that I do so intend. Okay?

MATTERJACK 6 (Len Bailes) There are, in the N3F, a number of people who seem to think they are legally empowered to order the lives and actions of all N3F members. Their attitude, when something does not suit them, is "You can't do that! I/We won't let you!" It remains to prove to these characters that there is no legal backing for the N3F or any of its subdivisions, or the actions of the forementioned. Nor, for that matter, is there any legal obstacle for such actions. A majority of the members of the N3F, or the majority of a subdivision, may do whatever it damn well pleases with regards to the operation or even the destruction of, respectively, the N3F or the subdivision. At present, the subdivision in question is N'APA, and if the majority of its members wish to split from the N3F, there is not a billy-damned thing the N3F can do about it, legally or otherwise. I am inclined to agree that the N3F needs N'APA to train its neos in the ways of APAs, but it is a one-way need, and is not reciprocated. Without the onerous additional \$1.75 a year N3F dues, N'APA would have no trouble whatsoever keeping a full roster and a waiting list without the N3F's help. For this reason, and the fact that I am tired of fools telling people what they can and can't do when said fools have absolutely no say in the matter, I am supporting the Lerner amendment to repeal the first sentence of Article 7 of the N'APA By-Laws.

MAYHEM HOUSE (Felice Rolfe) Dian offered to marry Arnie at Westercon, but warned him that he'd have to take, in addition to an elephant and several tons of fanzines which obviously came with her, one or two fawning acolytes, including Henry Stine (Henry wasn't consulted, of course). Arnie didn't object too much to the elephant, and was quite willing to take the fanzines, but balked at supporting the fawning acolytes too. So I guess the marriage deal is off.

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COEUR (Roy Tackett) I have seen one or two groups of Actifans try to re-vamp the NFFF into something less provincial and more worthwhile in general, and I have heard of several other such attempts. I have come to the conclusion that it is a futile expense of time and energy, in spite of the fact that the attempts may be successful...at first. Several years ago, when you characters were running the deal, the org had all kinds publications, projects, etc., and seemed to be going great guns. So what happens? The officers get nothing but sniping and complaints that they are ruining the org, "taking it over," etc. It becomes not worth the time and energy to continue against such opposition, the officers fall by the wayside, and the 102%ers take over again dropping the org back to the lower level again. Forget it, man -- save your time and energy.

The green cover stock I used on RACHE 17 was Tru-Ray Forest Green, an 13# paper which is excellent for one-sided covers. (Some of the darker colors, maybe even the green, can be run on both sides, but it's not the best idea.) It costs about \$1.50 a ream here in LA, and comes in a couple dozen colors.

I think that the "Long Sam" strip is still appearing, but this impression is gained from a vague recollection of several months ago.

MEOW 5 (Arnie Katz) Clifton and Riley aren't the only ones who pass a Hugo back and forth every year or so -- Ellik and Carr do the same thing with the FANAC Hugo that they won in 1959. I remember that TCarr gave it back to Ron at DC in 1963, and it probably went back to Carr when Squirrel moved to Maryland last year, though I'm not too sure of this. They pass it when it's convenient. Annoying, I should think, to own half a Hugo.

Well, you're lucky I still consider you a neofan. By next year -- and especially after meeting you again, I may not consider you a fan at all, hi.

ACHTUNG! ACHTUNG! ATTENCION! HEY, YOU!!

In aid of a comparative survey, would each member of N'APA make a list of the ten top BNFs today, in his opinion. I want to compare the lists from N'APA with lists from SAPS and FAPA -- and from APA 45, if I can get such. Just start thinking, write down ten, and publish them or send them to me on a postcard and I'll publish them.

Back to Arnie. I think I agree with Creath's idea that you'll be another Willis by the time you're 21. Not Walt Willis, you understand, but another Willis. Maybe George O. Willis, who was arrested in Sheboygan in 1962 for uprooting parking meters and shaking them for the nickels.

ON NAMES AND COVERS OF FANZINES. They do serve a purpose, you know. The latter, even though it is not needed to help con someone into buying the zine, is useful in getting him to read it. Unless someone takes an APA mlg. and sits down to deliberately read every single word, he will tend to ignore anything that has a very cruddy cover -- even if he is reading for comment, he may pass it up because it looked like too much trouble to read, or the cover was so botched he didn't figure the contents would be much better. The name, on the other hand, is a memory hook, by which one reminds oneself of previous efforts by the editor in the organization. Also, it is a quick-referrent if oneneeds to make comparisons in MCs between one zine and another. The title should be short enough to grab onto quickly when one quick-checks the mailing -- it should also be visible on the cover, for the same reason. The title should be distinctive, especially if the editor belongs to several APAs -- I tend to mixup Rich Mann's Mann-titles (Ro-

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mann, Manddate, Mannerings) for this reason. One more note: Titles with interior letters capitalized are not a very bright idea. I know, as I used that trick twice, with ProFanity, and with SpeleoBem. The purpose for the interior capitals may be a very clever pun, or a reference, or what-have-you. Still, it is annoying to someone typing comments to have to bother with them, especially when the (reasonably-)standard form for typing names of fanzines is in all-cap. (Reference, by the way, the OpCrif STYLE SHEET (SAPS 48, July 1959). I believe the Gafia Press Style Sheet (whatever it was called) also agrees.))

BYZANTIUM 3 (John Kusske) It may be only my Cult-style sense of humor coming through, but, although I may not have agreed with Dertie Gertie's putdown of Anne Chatland entirely, the putdown itself was done in such style that I had to applaud. DG may not be the best-liked member of the org, but for perseverance and resilience you will find few that can top her. As an example, I note that there is no longer an Anne Chatland on the roster....

(Dave Kirkpatrick) I'm mildly curious as to just what has led to your attitude of hurt superiority towards fandom and fannishness. Your commentary to Arnie is a tightly controlled diatribe, parts of which indicate that someone -- perhaps several people -- whom you regarded as BNFs ignored your letters. This is understandable, at least to me, since by the time someone reaches the stage of fandom known as BNF-hood, he is usually so damn busy with publishing deadlines, club meetings, and a lot of MundAc besides that he just doesn't have time to answer each and every letter. But I cannot understand why you feel that such a person would refuse to meet a neofan in person. Most BNFs I've heard of are almost always ready to take time, even if they don't really have much, to meet another fan, even a neofan. Who has bugged you this much, Dave?

As for the objection that reading fanzines which talk of subjects other than SF makes you feel like you have aaked into the middle of a conversation, that's quite right: You have. But haven't you learned what to do in such a case, when it is met with personally? (I gather you haven't been to a convention yet.) You simply wait around on the edge of the conversation, listening for a while, until you find out what they're talking about, and then, when you have something to add to the conversation, you break in during the first pause. Or, if you find the subject under discussion isn't interesting to you, then start another conversation (perhaps with yet another newcomer to the room) in a corner or at the other side of the room. If your subject is more generally interesting, the people from the first group will eventually join you. If not.... I can assure you that "we" are not all rabid read-every-word SF addicts, either... I read the good SF that comes out, magazine, PB, or hardcover. I also read many mysteries and a miscellany of things which are neither -- ever seen a copy of the British political satire magazine Private Eye? Lately, I've been reading more mysteries than SF -- because there is little SF being published that is worth reading, to me. And when a few of the local super-sercons start talking SF I simply disengage and go elsewhere for my communication. Who are you to say what is or isn't interesting to the "majority" of the fanzine-reading public? Did you take a poll or something? Go ahead and publish what you prefer to publish, i.e., SF and material about SF. If you get enough favorable comment, continue to publish the same type of stuff. (Or, for all I care, continue to publish it if you get entirely un-favorable comment.) But give others the right to publish what they prefer, too. After all, it's their money, paper (or 'peper,' if you insist), ink, and stencils. You don't have to read their zines, just as I don't have to read your vignettes -- though I did read some of them. Come down from your Olympus -- or, perhaps better, give it up, Canute!