RATATOSK

NOVEMBER 7, 1965

THE LASFS HALLOWEEN PARTY, held 30 October at the Baker-Castora-Simpson-Stine place (The Booby Hatch/Ayn Shrine) was a bang-up success. A number of excellent costumes were on hand, with prizes going to Bjo Trimble as a Bitchy Witch (Most Beautiful): Ted & Joyce Johnstone as E.E. Smith and a Lensman (Most Humorous: Emma Elizabeth Smith, 1st victim of Jack the Ripper, and a 3-camera man); Mitch Evans and Frank Coe as The Lone Stranger and Tonto (Most Unusual: The Lone S was played as a fag): Dian Pelz as an Objectivist Mutated Mouse (Judges! Choice - costumed from



a \$3 pot; 9'm in!"

one of Jack Harness's cartoons); and Bruce Pelz as Dr. Gideon Fell (Most Authentic). After the judging, things settled down to cards, filk-songs, and conversation. Around 1 AM a couple crashers had to be ejected, as they had begun fooling with the knife Owen Hannifen was wearing, and he got cut in the process. It took a phone call to the police to make sure they left, but they did before the police had to actually be sent out to assist. Everything settled down until about 2:30, when there was a small explosion, which sounded like (a) a firecracker, (b) something being dropped, or (c) a backfire, depending on who heard it. A second explosion, followed by a third and tinkling glass removed all doubts: "Someone's shooting!" Everyone hit the floor and the lights were turned out. Durk Pearson fumbled for the phone and walled the police again. Dian Pelz called "Don't get excited, but I think I've been hit." There were no more shots, and by the time the police arrived, the score was: One shot had been fired through the side wall of the house, passing just between Dian and Bill Rotsler as they sat talking. Dian had been hit in the face and shoulder with a lot of splintered wood, but there was nothing seriously wrong. That shot had continued across the room and gone through a second wall, across a corridor and into a third wall. No trace was found of the second shot, but the third had gone through the kitchen window in the front of the house, and had lodged in the top of a doorframe. The police took names and address of the attendees, and as much description as possible of the crashers, but as of this writing nothing has come of it. We are, in retrospect, simply glad they didn't come earlier when people were milling around in the front room, and, assuming they aimed (from the car we heard screeching around the corner) for the windows of the front room and card room, that they were such bad shots. The Entertainment Committee for the party has been congratulated on its zeal, but warned about going too far.

THE TRICON, 24th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION, will be held over the Labor Day weekend, September 2-5, 1966, in Cleveland. The hotel is the Sheraton-Cleveland, with rates of \$7.85 for a single, \$13.85 for a double, and \$16 for a twin. All rooms are air-conditioned, and guests of the hotel get free 24-hour parking with unlimited in-and-out privileges at no extra charge. Send \$3 for an attending membership or \$2 for a nonattending membership to: 24th World Science Fiction Convention, P.O. Box 1372, Cleveland, Ohio 44103. First Progress Report due out about Dec.

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ACE RELEASES FOR DECEMBER include The King in Yellow, one of the few fantasy works by the very prolific turn-of-the-century hack Robert W. Chambers. Pb publication will let those who want to read the thing do so without hunting through several hundred used book stores. Others for next month are Norton's Night of Masks, Farmer's The Maker of Universes, and a doublebacked Space Mercenaries (Chamdler) and The Caves of Mars (Petaja). The Philip Jose Farmer looks like the best bet.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY to Earl Evers, whose father died of a self-in-flicted gunshot in October, and to Mike McInerney, whose sister Susan died October 23 in Connecticut of a heart condition aggravated by pneumonia. Susan was twenty years old.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

Deckinger, Mike 25 Manor Dr., Apt.12-J, Newark, NJ 07106 (after 15 Nov) Heap, Cindy, c/o Rich Brown, 236 Mulberry St, Apt.12, NYC, NY SCI-FI SHOWCASE, Showcase Publications, Box 12222 Colonial Station, Jackson, Mississippi 39211 (All personal mail to the editor, Tom Dupree, should still be sent to his home, 809 Adkins Blvd.)

THE LASFS CELEBRATED ITS 31st ANNIVERSARY on 28 October, at its 1472nd meeting. Guest speaker for the evening was Robert Bloch, who was both entertaining ("Fandom was born in New York as the result of an illegitimate liaison between Sam Mcskowitz and Don Wollheim") and ego-boosting to the club ("In my opinion, LASFS is the leading SF fan club in the world.") Attendees included several old-time members, notably (for his first attendance since the previous anniversary meeting) Forrest J'Ackerman, Charter Member, and Walt Daugherty, Honorary Charter Member, who read a two-page article complaining that the old-time members were being ignored by the club. Paul Turner talked up the LASFS Building Fund, which is now over \$2300.00, and presented the Evans-Freehafer Award, for Outstanding Service to LASFS during the past year, to Fred Patten, for his work as Official Collator of APA L.

CORRECTION DEPT.: Pete West says that ZENITH is not folding after all; it had perhaps the shortest suspension on record, and is now alive once more, with #10 already published. ## And Carl Brandon says that F&SF, not Ziff-Davis, should be congratulated/blamed for putting the final nail in the coffin of Hapnai, the Swedish prozine. It was F&SF's suit for infringement that did the trick.

MISCELLANEOUS: Sam Lundwall of Sweden, publisher of the definitive bibliography of Swedish SF books, has, according to Carl Brandon, "now been
recognized as a singer of filthy ballads." His first LP will be issued
on 8 November in Stockholm. One of Sam's own favorites was cut out before pressing the record, so he isn't too satisfied with things. It was
a ballad dealing with labor unions, and the govt.-owned radio co. refused to play any of the songs on the record if that one were included,
Eastern regional cons for 1966 are in the planning: The LunaCon will
be a two-day af fair in April, and there will be another Boskone the
second weekend in March. ## A reprint of the Evans-Pavlat FANZINE INDEX
will be published on or about December first by Harold Piser, 41-08 Parsons Blvd, Flushing, NY 11355; and available from him (and agents in
Los Angeles, England, Germany, and Sweden) for \$2.50,