

207

NOVEMBER 27, 1967

NEW SUBSCRIPTION POLICY: Effective this issue, subscriptions in the Sterling Areas (England, Scotland, Ireland, etc.) will go up to 9 shillings for 10 issues. This is due to the devaluation of the British pound, with the conversion rate for the shilling decreasing from 14¢ to 12¢. The new subscription rate will keep the foreign subscription rate-of-loss the same (for every 8 shillings in subscriptions, I am spending about 15 shillings in postage).

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DECEMBER ESFA PROGRAM: Ted White, author of Secret of The Marauder Satellite, Sorceress of Qar, The Jewels Of Elsewhen, and other books, will be the speaker. The meeting starts at 3 pm Sunday December 3rd, at the Newark, NJ, Broad Street YMCA., 600 Broad Street. The meeting will start, as well as star...hmm.

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Steve Stiles For TAFF -- Help Send Stiles To The Isles!!!

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FRITZ LANG FILMS SHOWN: The Museum Of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, had a showing of several Fritz Lang films as part of their November showings. Films screened were Der Mude Tod, Doktor Mabuse, Siegfrieds Tod, Kriemhild's Revenge, Spione, and his science fiction films, Metropolis and Die Frau Im Mond.

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BALLARD DONATES PRIZE TO QUARTERLY: J.G. Ballard, British New Wavicle, has donated 25 pounds to the quarterly Ambit, in a competition entitled "Drugs and The Writer." The prize will go to the author of the best piece, prose or poetry, written under the influence of drugs. Ballard has heavily influenced the British publication lately, encouraging such items as "Fiction is a branch of neurology: the scenarios of nerve and blood vessel are the written mythologies of memory and desire." (Source: Redd Boggs)

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Changes Of Address:

Darroll Pardoe, 95 East 12th Street, Columbus, Ohio 43201
Fred Lerner, 98-B, The Boulevard, East Paterson, New Jersey, 07407
Ruth Berman, 3905 West 1st Street, Los Angeles, California 90004
Art Rapp, 1700 Park Drive, Baltimore, Md, 21222
Burnett Toskey, 1629 Columbia Rd, NW, Apt. 804, Washington, DC 20009
James Wright, 405 Terry Hall, UW, Seattle, Washington, 98105
G H Wells, 814 Madison Street, 2nd floor, Syracuse, NY 13210

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MUST RENEW THIS ISSUE: David Bischoff, William Bowers, Thomas Bulmer, Ross Chamberlain, Gordon Eklund, Tim Skarda, Roy Tackett, and Bob Whalen.

MUST RENEW WITH NEXT ISSUE: Jim Allen, Bob Chazin, Linda Eyster, Fred Jackson III, Leo Kelly, James Latimer, Steve Lewis, Hank Luttrell, Dave MacDonald, Louis Reich, Edward Smith, and Bob Vardeman.

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H.P. LOVECRAFT DEPT: A new rock group operating out of Chicago and currently in New York have a single, "Jayfaring Stranger" as the Pick Of The Week in both BillBoard and Cashbox; the name of the group is H.P. Lovecraft... (Source: Redd Boggs)

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AVENGLERS FANDOM: Orange on blue bumper stickers, saying "Mrs. Peel, We're Needed!" are available from Robert Firebaugh, 361 Linden Walk, Lexington, Ky., 40508. The stickers, designed for those who like that sort of thing, are 30¢ each, 40¢ if mailed in a ~~plastic~~ manila envelope.

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Fred Lerner Dept: Fred Lerner would appreciate readers with sharp eyes and scissors sending the names, locations, and possibly the articles themselves (this is a terrible sentence, but it's late) of any articles in mundane or scholarly publications dealing with science fiction to him at 98-B The Boulevard, East Paterson, NJ, 07407.

Those who follow this sort of thing can send the name, location and theme of any world-of-if stories to Fred for the N3F Games Bureau History Division. Fred ~~has been~~ ~~topped~~ ~~topp~~ is head of that activity.

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There'll be lots more news next issue, plus an issue (at last!) of the SF Critic.

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Fandom is Alive and Well in St. Louis -- Support St. LouisCon for '69!!!

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Inasmuch as I don't always bother to put a colophon on this endless fanzine, people are continually receiving it and wondering what the hell it is and what it means.

FIRST DRAFT #191

Vol. 32, No. 5

10 Nov 67

Damned if I know what it means.

But what it is, is written on-stencil by Dave Van Arnam, of 1730 Harrison Ave, Apt 353, Bronx, NY 10453, for his own amusement. Recently it has become available as a free rider with Andy Porter's SF WEEKLY, q.v.

St Louis in '67 -- for the Archetypical Worldcon.....

I HAVE BEEN STUDYING the popular press, and other associated phenomena grouped these days under the general heading 'Media', and their treatment of the hippies (and associated phenomena).

People over 30 (I by the way am 32 *sigh*) are frequently puzzled by the antipathy these days of the young toward the old. If you follow the Media, it shdn't be difficult to see why.

Lies.

The Media consistently misrepresent simple facts, and frequently lie directly. They do this with politics, with psychedelics, with the hippies, and, in fact, with anything new or different -- or old-and-different, for that matter.

The NEW YORK TIMES lies, frequently and directly. The NEW YORK TIMES is widely regarded as the great public keeper of the true records of our society. "All the news," its masthead says, "that's fit to print." Either they mean 'all the news, whether true or false', or they mean 'some news that's true isn't fit to print'. (In a sense, of course, the latter version is justifiable, as, for instance, Gov. Reagan wd agree -- he chose not to have printed the information that members of his staff long since fired were actually homosexuals; his obvious reason was that there was no point in ruining these men's further career potential, and their position in society, by doing anything more than quietly dismissing them, a point of moral nicety obviously far beyond the grasp of, for instance, Drew Pearson.)

There are many ways in which the TIMES lies, and over the years I've noticed quite a few of them. I'd like to keep this simple and clear-cut in the present remarks by pinning down one case in which they consistently lie.

It is true that marijuana is legally described in this country as a "dangerous narcotic." It is equally true that even those medical men who are violently opposed to marijuana are quite clear on the simple fact that marijuana in no conceivable way can actually be described as a 'narcotic.' Narcotics are opium and the opium derivatives -- heroin is the gaudiest and most familiar. Narcotics are undeniably and viciously dangerous (at least in our society; it is also true that in itself heroin causes no provable direct damage to the body apart from addicting the body to it, but I'm damned if I'd defend it on such grounds in this society, in which heroin is justifiably considered an ultimate evil).

Null-Q Press
Undecided Publication #289

Marijuana, as I said, is legally classed as a narcotic, and has been since Harry Anslinger's puzzling and hysterical campaign against it succeeded in the 1930's in imposing a new prohibition on the country only five years after it gave up on the last one. But it is not a narcotic, and everyone knows it.

And every time the NY TIMES talks about marijuana and the people who use it, it calls them addicts and consistently uses the term "narcotic" as completely interchangeable with the word "marijuana." It doesn't take a member of LEMAR to see that this is manifestly unfair, to say the least; I myself call it lying.

There was a letter in the TIMES a week or so ago, in which someone quite properly brought up the question of "if they legalize marijuana, aren't tons of people going to start driving cars while high?" This letter was headed by the TIMES "Addicts behind wheel?" ((Actually, the first word in the heading was 'addict', but I must quasiquote the rest of the phrase because I don't recall it at the moment.))

Now, people who use marijuana are simply not addicts. Dr Donald Louria, head of a state antinarcotics board in NY, is opposed strongly to the legalization of marijuana -- but he admits that the substance is not addicting, and in fact he has come out for lessening possession penalties from a felony to a misdemeanor, on the grounds that it is simply not dangerous enough to be classed a felony.

But the NY TIMES consistently refers to users as "addicts." They had a writeup a couple of months ago on "Narcotics In Germany," in which they were speaking only of marijuana. It was a full column, and the words "addict" and "narcotic" were almost as frequent as punctuation marks.

This is lying, and it is an excellent example of what the adult, established world -- almost the enlightened world, since the NY TIMES has occasionally seen fit to run pro-marijuana pieces -- tells the young people in this country. They lie, and the kids see this, and they very quickly realize that the adult world lies to them all the time. It tells them poor old harmless pot is as dangerous as heroin, it tells them onehanded readers will turn them into sex-crazed criminals, it tells them married monogamy is the only proper way of life, it tells them they must be motivated to Succeed, make money, become popular and rich, and it tells them that the most important people in the world are the Joneses next door, whom it is vitally important to keep up with.

Sounds pretty silly, right? Some of those things at least? Well, that's because the kids did see through it. Monogamy is all very well, they say, when you're old enough to appreciate it; when you're young, that's the time to use what you were born with -- and they do. I won't multiply examples at this point because I'm almost out of space; but if you think the younger generation, and that part of it called the Love Generation, the Flower People, have Gone Too Far, pause to consider that it is just precisely because they have seen that the old lies are lies.

Perhaps not all they've been told is a lie; but they have been given no way to test this out other than to try, and to see, for themselves. And when no harm comes of it, they go on to the next. There is only one way to prevent them from harming themselves on the genuinely bad things (heroin, speed). That is to stop lying to them. Tell them the truth. Or lose them. ☐ ☐ Hoping you are the sane... -- dgv

Dave Van Arnham, of 1730 Harrison Ave,
Apt 353, Bronx, NY 10453, publishes
this damn thing every week for the
Fanoclasts, Apa L (when he remembers
to mail it), and as a rider for free
with Andy Porter's SF WEEKLY.

FIRST DRAFT #192

Vol. 32, No. 6

17 Nov 67

A fanzine shd not mean, but be.

STILES FOR TAFF!

LAST WEEK, I was interrupted between
typing the first and second stencil,
and as a consequence the clear
lucidity of my argument suffered. Since I wrote it, I have come across
an article on the subject which I wd like to take the rather unusual
step (for FIRST DRAFT) of partially reprinting here, for those of you
out there who may really not know what the facts of this particular
matter are. (As a matter of fact, I had intended to talk about LSD this
issue -- there are some notable lies and misrepresentations of it float-
ing around -- but I guess I'll have to hold off on that for another
week. Gee, gang, I've found a new Topic!)

I am perhaps taking a slight liberty in abstracting the following item,
as it is copyright in the Underground Press Syndicate, and was originally
published in the Berkeley BARB. However, I'm not printing the whole
thing -- I don't have room -- and I doubt that Dr Schoenfeld wd object
to amateur reprinting of a portion of it. The article is in Dr Eugene
Schoenfeld's regular column for the UPS, HIPpocrates, and this particular
one stems from the case of the grade school principal in Nicasio, Calif,
who recently admitted she'd been smoking marijuana, with beneficial, not
harmful results, for the past 18 years.

"...Mrs. Brennan was fired because she admitted to having broken the
law enacted to protect you and me from the alleged harmful effects of
marijuana. Ideally, laws are based on reason and the most complete in-
formation available bearing on the issue at hand. With this in mind,
I would like to present some medical facts pertaining to marijuana.

According to the most widely used pharmacology reference work, Goodman
& Gilman's PHARMACOLOGICAL BASIS OF THERAPEUTICS, 3rd Edition: 'There
are no lasting ill effects from the acute use of marijuana and no
fatalities have ever been recorded.'

Not that bad reactions to marijuana are completely unknown. Emotionally
unstable individuals may freak out after using the drug even in small
quantities. Diabetics may be more susceptible to insulin reactions.
Rarely, there are allergic reactions to marijuana. But in normal peo-
ple there are no known harmful medical effects resulting from its use
(and the first recorded medical reference to marijuana was in the
herbal of the Chinese Emperor Shen Nung more than 4600 years ago).

What about its behavioral effects? Many law enforcement officials
claim marijuana use leads to violent acts of crime. But according to
Goodman and Gilman 'violent or aggressive behavior however, is infre-
quent.' Could the same be said of alcohol?

It has also been claimed that long term use of marijuana causes perman-
ent (and presumably undesirable) changes in ther personality. A physi-
cian from Greece (that land of free thought) was invited to the U.S.A.
recently to give his views of chronic marijuana use. Typical of his

((Schoenfeld, continued))

statements was one in which he claimed he could spot a chronic marijuana user 2 blocks away by his walk.

Imagine then Mrs. Brennan using her newfound and unwelcome leisure time to vacation in Athens. While strolling through Constitution Square she is seized by the Greek police who have spotted the characteristic marijuana walk. Back to reality.

'The influence of marijuana on intellectual functions and on emotional reactions and general personality structure was studied by Halpern (1944) who concluded that basic personality structure is not changed and that thoughts or emotions totally alien to the individual are not aroused by the drug.' (Goodman and Gilman, again.)

The lack of evidence showing marijuana to be harmful or addicting may have a tendency to cause impairment of judgement in some who have a large stake in maintaining the present laws. I recently appeared on a radio program with an attorney and a narcotics agent to discuss the marijuana issue.

The agent, who directs operations over a large area of California, said, 'If I had a 17 year old daughter, I'd rather see her on heroin than marijuana.'

Grasping at straws aptly describes the most recent argument advanced by marijuanaphobes. They admit that marijuana is not physically harmful or addicting but say that its use leads to 'psychological dependence.' One develops 'psychological dependence' toward many things -- art, music, automobiles, vacations, friends, etc.

To quote Goodman and Gilman for the last time, 'An overwhelming pre-occupation with the continued use of marijuana is an extreme rarity.'

MEDICAL LETTER is a periodical noted for its objective judgement of drugs. Its September 22, 1967 issue dealt, in part, with marijuana:

'There is no evidence that it has any physiological or emotional effect which directly lead to more serious drug abuse, but its use may facilitate contact with persons or groups using more dangerous drugs.'

Which is another way of saying that the millions of Americans who use marijuana must obtain the drug from dealers who very well may be handling and promoting truly dangerous drugs. The present marijuana laws have not only created a whole new 'criminal' class of otherwise productive citizens, but they encourage disrespect for the law.

Mrs. Brennan confessed to a drug habit more serious than her use of marijuana in her now-famous affidavit. She said she could hardly wait until breaks between classes so that she could smoke a cigarette or two. Cigarettes are addictive, cause lung cancer and emphysema and contribute to the development of heart disease and peptic ulcers. I hope Mrs. Brennan can someday kick this vicious habit."

-- Eugene Schoenfeld, MD,
Berkeley BARB, UPS

Ok, in case I didn't make a good case last week for the extent to which the TIMES, the Establishment, the adult world, or whatever you wish to describe the Enemies of the Hippies as, are constantly and shamelessly lying, the above will serve to clear the air and pin down just exactly why the kids today are rejecting what the adult world tells them -- because they can, for instance, read Dr Schoenfeld and see for themselves that they have been lied to. I'm not advising everybody reading this to go freak out right away with LSD, I'm just asking that we look at reality, not at lies. ☐ ☐ Hoping you are the sane... -- dgv