

August 1966

F A P A

Written &amp; Published by:

L e a M o f f a t t

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FO (Rotsler) - Burbee, Woolston, and (I think)

Cy Condra, and I published a one-shot titled BROWNOUT sometime in the late 40's. Burb subtitled it "The Magazine That Fans Believe In", as I recall....

ET: ETS PAGES (Tucker) - Roy Tackett recently distributed copies of Grit through CAPA, mostly for my benefit, I suspect. (Don't get all shook up, gramps, it took only 5 copies.) Quite a few changes in the old paper since the days I peddled it. It is now tabloid size, and priced at .15¢ a copy. No separate fiction magazine section, but it is running two serials. Most of the old features are gone (Sec'y Hawkins, Faraway Moses), but it is still obviously a conservative type paper for rural readers. It does have some color photos, which the old Grit never had, but the Sunday comic strips are still printed in black & white. All things considered, I don't think I would be interested in selling the paper now--or subscribing to it.

EXHIBENS (Warner) - THE JDM BIBLIOPHILE is an attempt to publish something about an author during his lifetime. How about some comments?

SINAPSE (Speer) - Dian's cover on SPIANE No. 2 depicts Princess Langwidere of Et, one of the main characters in Ozma of Oz. She had a collection of heads (all hers)--the idea being that ladies with only one head need several gowns. She had several heads so she only needed one gown...

No, I never won a pacy selling Cloverine Salve, but I did win an alarm clock, as I recall...

Re the term "boxboard": I could be a smartass and say that I am an Authority on the use of the word, having been in the folding carton (paper box) biz for over 19 years. (7 years in the factory, and 12 years in the sales office) Many laymen do use the term "pasteboard" in referring to corrugated cases, and in referring to folding cartons. Actually, "pasteboard" is fairly descriptive of the materials "pasted" (or "laminated") together to make corrugated cases, liners, etc. However, folding cartons are not--strictly speaking--made of "pasteboard". They are made of all kinds of paper materials--many from paper made from old paper (the boxboard or chipboard of which I spoke), others from pure wood pulp (solid bleached sulphates, etc.). Lack of space (and time) saves you from a full length article on the manufacturing of paper boxes. But to answer your question directly: "boxboard" is a trade term that has been used in the business for more years than I have been in it. Translated it means, (paper) board for making boxes. To clarify the difference between corrugated cases and folding cartons, the former are used primarily as shipping containers, and the latter includes a variety of carton styles, such as shoe boxes, cosmetic cartons, all kinds of display cartons, tissue cartons (Kleenex), soap cartons, cereal boxes, and wraparound carriers (as well as basket style carriers) for 6 packs of beer, soft drinks, etc. Just to name a few....

As far as I know, "missed out" is primarily a British rather than an American phrase. I use it on occasion because it sounds better to me than "left out" does.

James B. (Wild Bill) Hickok was the famous gunman who was supposed to have been holding Aces and Eights when he was shot in the back of the head by one Jack McCall. Thus began the "dead man's hand" superstition. THE BOOK OF THE AMERICAN WEST (Julian Hausner, Inc., 1963) relates the incident of Wild Bill's death, but makes no reference as to what kind of a poker hand he was holding at the time.

RE THE NAME OF THIS FAPAZINE: Only Bruce Felt came close to guessing what  
S P I A N E stands for....

At least he figured out that the N and E stood for Necessary Evil. Apparently he assumed that the SP was Spirit Publication, which means he caught the clue in reference to Ditto. He suggested I call it SPIASM - Spirit Publication Is A Sure Mess.

Jaffus to the contrary, I feel that I gave sufficient clues for the puzzle-minded fan. SPIANE--like mailing comments, or SPIANE--like convention committees. However, I see no point in carrying on the gag by giving more clues and waiting for some poor sleepless soul to finally determine that S P I A N E is simply:

S O M E T I M E S P U R P L E I S A N E C E S S A R Y E V I L

The primary reason for the title is that Rick and I use dittograph instead of mimeo when we don't have the time (and \$\$\$) to mimeo something for FAPA. It's a relatively simple matter to type ditto masters at home, and take them to my office where I have access to a Ditto machine.

AND NOW FOR A COMMENT OR TWO INSPIRED BY COMMENTS IN THE MAY '66 FAPA MLG. (No. 115):

SYNAPSE (Speer) - I remember Mickey Mouse watches. I had one when I was a kid; also had a Mickey Mouse pullover sweater. I also remember the Mickey Mouse Magazine, which was not a comic book, though it had strips and single panel cartoons in it. It featured stories, puzzles, jokes, etc. including The Adventures of Sherlock Hues--a mosquito-detective. (Have forgotten the name of Watson's Intellectual Counterpart)

Perhaps the smallest and most stable apa (referred to by Harry) is CAPA. The Carboniferous Amateur Press Alliance has just 5 members. I don't think we have an "only death can release you" rule, but I suppose it amounts to that. That particular phrase is often applied to LASFS, which has had too known how many hundreds of members over the years. But the phrase is prob'ly more applicable to a small apa such as CAPA. Just celebrated our 5th Anniversary --by the way. That's 60 monthly issues of 5 x 5. (Each of us acts as "OE", every 5th month. I had the honor of "editing" the 60th issue--for July '66.)

GODOT (Deekinger) - I'll recap the Tarzan Banned in Downey bit from memory...

It wasn't a local (city or school) librarian who banned Tarzan, and incidently, novels by Zane Grey (his cowboys said "hell" and "damn"), and by James Fennimore Cooper (white girl living "in sin"???!!! with Indians). It was a group of parents who complained to local school that their kids were bringing home such nasty books. The school in question didn't have a library, as such, but had a collection of books which were loaned to students. One of the teachers doubled as "librarian", but--as I recall--she was the victim of the silly complaint, not its originator. As it turned out, the local authorities (school board, I suppose) came to the conclusion that the books in question were harmless, so nobody but the handful of hyperbluenoses suffered.

Newspapers and TV played it up big, and the Burroughs Estate got some free publicity by issuing a statement that Tarzan and Jane were too married before they lived together as man and wife, etc. etc. All in all, a rather minor "downeybrook".....

This reminds me of the Downey Public Library, which is a beautiful modern building (there are some), housing a comprehensive collection of books, run by the city of Downey, not by the county. I'm no longer a resident of that city so I can't use the library. (Local hole-in-wall public library is branch of county library which does give me access to more books, of course.) But Downey is Quite Conservative Politically; the shelves that once were used for sf & mystery now contain right-wing propaganda books, and the sf, etc. were integrated into the general fiction section....