

△ SYNAPSE ◁

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DENDRITES

New address up there is not yet, but we will be moving back to Alq the middle of July, and considering the mailing-list lag it seems best to start asking people to make the change of address now.

One of the nice customs of the Santa Fe public library is to put magazines it no longer wants, or never did, on discard shelves, where the public may help itself. I've picked up quite a few Mentors out of the 1920s and earlier; i've never heard of anyone collecting them, but they're a pretty attractive magazine. Last week a new milestone was passed, when i picked up there several issues of what looked like just another slick magazine--maybe Family Circle or House & Garden --but which turned out to be Analog. They include the first and last installments of Dune World, so maybe i'll find out what Roy Tacket has been raving about. Now if they'd just adopt the policy of putting on the discard shelf the books they're abandoning, the millennium would be here.

Hey, Dan, guess who called us up and dropped by a while back. Michael Clark, Louis's brother. (The rest of you: Louis Clark was the pioneer scientific-tionist of Oklahoma, and Michael was in my Woodpecker patrol.) He'd been here since last September, teaching at the Indian School, but didn't know i was here till he saw my name in the paper. Previously he'd been teaching English all over the under-developed world. He looks and acts much the same, except for loss of hair. He says Louis has a research fellowship or something at a college in western North Carolina, lives on a farm there, and is more Catholic than the Pope. Louis is working in physical chemistry, and has discovered some principle of certain reactions proceeding always in multiples of 15, which will go down in the books labeled with his name.

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FANTASY AMATEUR

Several questions occurred to me while filling out the ballot. Although past veeps have put nonmembers in a sort of limbo, as if egoboo was not for them, there is no indication on the ballot that votes are to be cast only for FAPans, and in some categories obvious choices go to nonmembers such as Willis. The heading "Articles" for one category seems to bias the choice toward pieces presented as articles, whereas a more inclusive category such as "nonfiction writing" would be more likely to result in votes, say, for Lhee's natterings, for book reviews, ktp. There seemed to be too many lines provided in some of the categories; i could think of only Warner for fiction, and no poetry stuck in my mind as outstanding, though there was some verse published, most of it written by nonmembers as i recall. In any event, specific titles would seem more appropriate here than the name of a poet who was represented during the year by only one title, just as fanzines are named rather than the producer. There is a category, true, for "Publisher (layout, repro)", and i found very few persons to name under that head rather than "Regular fanzine" or "Oneshot/Single Issue". The few i did name, i scattered with the intention that the second should get several points less than the first. In the "Artist" category, on the other hand, i felt there should be room for more than five, and i suggest some heading less biased toward the arty than "Artist", so that cartoons will receive more consideration. The heading "Regular fanzine" is ambiguous; is "regular" intended to mean "genzine", or refers it to periodicity? If the latter, is it limited to those that appeared every mailing, or would it include one like The Rambling FAP in the 114th mailing that appears from time to time, though perhaps only once during the year? As a general thing, i wonder if it wouldn't be better to list first headings for specific qualities such as humor, layout, etc, and then put almost last the general categories such as best fanzine, the latter either reflecting or complementing the specifics. Egoboo is serious business.

F O (Rotsler)

"As an old citrus grower & know how much better tree-ripened fruit is." Maybe you were referring to yourself, but you were talking to me, and i'm an old citrus grower (absentee a type).

Go wan, Willie, you are goodlooking. Maybe "not a Big Attractive Type" reflects a feeling that you're undersized, but i don't remember thinking so on a fleeting glimpse at the Westercon. Maybe, as in the matter of wealth, one always looks to those still better off than oneself.

KTEIC MAGAZINE

The quotes from WR in this magazine average better than in Quotebook, e g "Why is it we can read the signposts on another's road to Hell but our own are indecipherable?"

Your cartoon figures of the style of thatun on the fourth page have acquired lower edges to their bodies.

In the search for something different, do they ever shoot nudes wearing glasses? ' If the risk of pubic hair is such a financial hazard in photography, why don't the models shave?

According to my dixonary, muliebrous means effeminate. I once used the latter word in reference to a girl while groping for the right term, feminine, but

it isn't right. The noun, muliebrity, G&C Merriam do correlate with virility. Anyway, I loved the simile "I'm carrying it around in my vocabulary (like an empty Coke bottle rattling around in the back seat)".

QUOTEBOOK

Some of these need to be reworded so they don't leave stupid people confused. For example, I'm not sure whether he lost or preserved truth in "In his anger he bit off both ends of the sentence and spat out the seed of truth."

There are many quotes, too, where I just don't know what you mean. "If Art follows Art it becomes greater than Art"; what do you mean by "follows"? "To be civilized means that you know enough not to eat with your fingers; being cultured means that you know why." Why? "his manner of public speaking reminds me of watching mushrooms grow". You mean slow or ugly? What is the meaning of "She leaves much to be desired--not much, but some"? I don't understand "Eve had no comment about the apple--after all, she was the model for the first woman." And "Waterfront scene--the dame leading the salt." Obscure too is "A gift is a memory." Others that are almost as murky may contain a visible point: "The realization of self-pity is not aid" etc, "Women think question marks are dirty", ktp.

In the momentum of figures of speech, the agreeable reader is often tricked into accepting something that may be arresting but is not true. "Childhood is gone today. You go directly from babyhood into a kind of pseudo-adulthood." If childhood is being shortened at the expense of something else, it is teenagery, that new creation of the twentieth century, which is anything but pseudo-adulthood, especially as you go on to elaborate upon it. "Epigrams are the poetry of prose." Many other forms are equally so. "If Man can't outwit the Machine, he can at least unplug it." Not in any sense that worries him. "For the believer skepticism is essential. How else is he to know false gods from true except by doubting both?" Obviously, by believing what he's told. Skepticism may be essential to true belief, but a believer who really uses skepticism isn't likely to find any true gods. "Serum--bugs that have gone straight." I think serum is actually something produced by bugs (often by good bugs: dead ones). And then you go moraler-than-thou on us about sex not being a four-letter word nor a verb. Yet that's the way it's used in Willis's remark that you made immortal, and apparently in such Rotslerisms as "Sex is a clever imitation of love--it has all the action but no plot. Sex is a contact sport." and "Love is the delusion that one woman differs from another. Sex is the delusion that it matters." (I'm not sure what this last one means.) "Sex" is so commonly used as a euphemism for the four-letter verb, that when we mean it as a three-letter noun we're almost forced to misuse the word "gender" instead. "every lie was once a truth". Indeed? "Everything is here on earth for some purpose. Nagging wives can cause masterpieces and madmen, horseshoe nails can change the course of nations." All you mean is that things sometimes have unexpected results. "Time and life are the only two things that can't be replaced." I think what you mean is "Time is the only thing that can't be replaced." "one bad does not equal a hundred goods." You mean --What do you mean? "praise is not flattery if true." What is truth? Especially in the field of value judgments. Perhaps what you meant here was "praise isn't flattery if you mean it."

Though you may well ask us to overlook typos etc in your more informal FAPazines, here in a booklet that can serve as a source for your Pageant column, it may be a favor to point out misspellings. There's no a in cemetery. Absence has a c. It's consomme. Repentance has an a. frivolously, not frivilously. No a in deterrent.

Perhaps your commonest grammatical error is use of the plural for a pronoun of vague designation. People frequently say "their" after a singular antecedent when they're unwilling to use a pronoun that indicates gender. There is not

even that excuse when the gender is certain, as in "The most difficult fashion lesson for any woman to learn is to look objectively at themselves". Other examples of the vice are: "The trouble with caring for someone is that you believe the worst of them if you think they've gone against you" and "They are all alike-- ... uncertain of her femininity". By contrast, well worded--and a nice idea--is "Waiting for a woman is the most frustrating thing a man can do. She always thinks she's worth waiting for and can't understand his impatience." Use the singular like that.

A few other flaws: The word "underwhelmed" has already been used; i think one of the Irish Mafia was quoted as referring to JFK's underwhelming victory over Nixon. "Let he who has not thought ..." "Let" takes "him". "a camera can lie; the innocent punished and the beautiful can be ugly--thus proving that God works in mysterious nays." Did you mean "the innocent can be punished"? And was "nays" a typo? "If you love thine enemies" mixes archaic and modern clumsily. I wonder too about the practice of equating expressions by a pseudo-definition. "Mediocre--the level of intelligence when you have eliminated the lumps of genius." "Mediocre" is broader in meaning than that. "Bribery--the art of being a bride more than once and still wear white." (I don't know what that means, but i'll bet "wear" should be "wearing".) Here again, the definition form implies the is of identity, which St Korzybski warned us against. And, as a final flaw, "She's a very outspoken girl, but not by many" could be improved by striking the "very", as could a great many other sentences by all kinds of writers and speakers.

I also wonder at the usefulness of the arrangement by headings such as "fashion" and "insult", but let's get on to a few quotes that i admire: "A lot of children are the kind of kids their mothers wouldn't want them to play with." "People have conversations when they can't talk about sex." "The end should justify the jeans." "Aroused citizenry--a mob with me in it." "He has a mind like a rusted steel trap." "The inside of his brain has peeling wallpaper." "Ignorance: no appetite when there's food for thought." "A cliché a day keeps thought away." "Queue--a long thin crowd." "cross life with the light". "Las Vegas is the paste jewel in the belly button of America." "If there were no reality it would be necessary to invent it." (One of the few whimsical thoughts in this fundamentally rather solemn collection--which i trust is somewhat heavier than the columns you sell to Pageant.) "A radical is a liberal spinning his wheels." "A liberal is a conservative with his engine running." "Republicanism: where old thoughts go to die." "Miracles are more heard of than seen." "Are American women born like this or do they meet somewhere secretly at night and teach each other to be bitches?" "Women never surrender; they only go underground." "It's so foggy it looks like a movie about Heaven."

BUGLE OF DINGLY DELL b/w ATOMIC GALAXY

Why have hams organized to flash the word if something is sighted on the moon? What's wrong with telephones?

I doubt that the woman really told Glenn he should stay home and watch TV as Yahweh intended. It sounds like an updated form of the old joke that mentions trains.

Who remembers Mickey Mouse watches?

DEADWOOD (Locke)

I'd like to see your checklist of interplanetary fiction before 1914.

"he got married, succumbing to a sort of grim reaper which has also been known to aim his scythe at fans." Do you know why Saturn carries a scythe?

So many strange British expressions. "locum pharmacists". "life at the 'sharp' end in the army". "he was shot of the job." (Americans say "shut of".) "Gazettes six months late was not on". "I mentioned earlier on". "a serving officer ... the troubles." "he goes along to the doctor" (all by himself?). "boardruber". "otherwise". But, hah, here's one that i know is just a mistake, because Americans make it too: "largely comprised of". If A and B go to make up C, C comprises them and is composed of them; they compose it and are comprised by it.

A point of usage: "the Milford SF Conferance and any cons". What's the difference?

PANTOPON (Berman)

Indices and Surds is a nice title.

Precocity proceeds apace. When i was doorbelling Democrats in my precinct in Albuquerque the other day i noticed a house with a Hobbit in it. The woman said it wasn't hers, twas her daughter's, who looked eleven or twelve, younger than the teens with which you associate it.

HELENS FANTASIA (Wesson)

I trust your report of conditions in Japan more than any commercial report, by however competent reporters, because, i suppose, one always suspects reports in commercial magazines of motives other than truth. So i found it interesting, in spite of all the woman talk about clothes and stuff.

VORPAL DRAGON (Harrell)

I didn't know The Enchanted Duplicator had two editions. Any difference?

What's so necessary about a 4-track taper? Seems to me the desideratum is two tapers that can talk to each other, so you can cut and combine, experiment with speeds, etc.

I'd hate to think that all the errors in this issue result from your not knowing how to spell without consulting a dictionary. "This is find one of the most interesting uses of opinions yet" is incomprehensible through simple failure to proofread. "I for one and of the consensus that", assuming "and" means "am", presents the curious concept of a consensus of one. I skip the rest of your errors, only remarking that if you were too lazy to look up Polonius's exact words, you should have quasiquoted.

Betty Kujawa moved to Miami.

Is that letter for real that said "I wish they'd never end cause what I do best is dirty fighting" &c?

Complementing my question to Rick last time, why do you say that "in the end that's all that's really important is one true friend you can count on no matter what"?

Do your remarks about Breen mean "I don't think he's a pederast", or do they mean "Even if he is one, I'm proud to know him"?

HORIZONS

Has there ever been a forged letter or fanzine in fandom?

By keeping a sufficiently large balance in the bank, we can avoid service charges for checks written. This saving may be greater than the interest earned by putting most of our money in a savings account.

I don't know who the pro is who spoke of the overwhelming literary importance of s-f, but Bradbury has come pretty close to that.

The decreasing popularity of hard candy may be due either to a change in children's tastes--less capacity for hard work--or to technological advances that make it easier to produce soft candy. The kind i dislike most--and try to avoid when picking a chocolate from an assortment--is the sticky chewy kind. Though i suppose the hard candies that stay in your mouth for five minutes are dentally worse.

As some people misled themselves with the term "trial by fanzine", you have been misled by your term "grandy jury" into assuming that a FAPA "grand jury" would have characteristics it would not have. In the first place, a real grand jury has a fixed standard of conduct to apply to the cases brought before it: The criminal law. We have no such standard: FAPA can't even agree that it's wrong to diddle a little girl. In the second place, a real grand jury has power to bring witnesses before it and require them to give direct answers to questions. A FAPA grand jury, lacking such power, would run into the same kind of evasion, quibbling, and dead silence that have come from many of Breen's friends and acquaintances whenever the discussion veered around to factual matters.

We know the absentminded professor will forget, but we don't know what; this is the vital element of the unexpected in such jokes.

I think the reference to Poe in past and present tense in successive sentences is something like saying "Rome fell. This is a lesson to us." And "the word's misspelling" was not redundant in my sentence, because i had used "it" twice in the sentence and needed to supply an antecedent. As you would revise the sentence, "it" would refer to "misspelling", which was not the meaning.

Perhaps some desire for vertical symmetry is back of the desire to fill up the last lines of a stencil.

But i got the impression that Rotsler had also proposed to the girl in Hawaii.

This was a wellconstructed story with a delightful denouement. You almost have to go back and reread it to see all the essential information that was unobtrusively inserted. "What's "a Lt. Kije situation"? I see "early on" here, which i thought a Britishism. "Instead of splicing tape, why not copy everything you want onto a fresh tape?"

If we were having a contest to see what petty nits we could pick, i'd explain what's wrong with "changes came that I took in stride with more ease than an old man normally adapts to novelties."

It wasn't i who conjectured that you were afraid to travel; that was SaM. I am likely to get a sick feeling from riding a bus, especially on the back seat over the engine (which is my favorite spot because i can lie down there). Didn't the term use to be "incident light" rather than "existing light"?

What is this smallest and most stable apa, from which only death can release a member?

RAMBLING FAP (Calkins)

You voted for Goldwater, Gregg? Why, in heaven's name?

Your description of how carefully you would pack books for moving reminds me of how i brought part of my books down here. I just threw them into what space was left at the back of the trailer, until it was full.

Pinfeathers wouldn't enable you to fly anyway. Incidentally, does anyone remember whether the boy called Pinfeathers lived with Smilin Jack (in the days when he really did smile) or with his girlfriend Mary?

If you believe that once income has been taxed, there should be no tax on the privilege of inheriting the property purchased with it, I suppose you also believe there should be no annual property tax. "unjust and probably even unethical" --what do you mean by "unethical" that isn't comprehended in "unjust"? "When your taxes get to the point where the government takes more than half your income, it's nothing but capitalism, because only through capitalism (getting money without working for it) can anyone get into the over-50% bracket." "A few years--well, a decade--ago the conservatives were arguing (based on some obscure economist's unsound thesis) that when the public sector took more than 25% of GNP, the economy was in peril. Now you've raised the limit to 50%. Suppose I were to ask you to prove that 60% is too much--could you respond with anything but indignation?"

I'd hate to think that Bergeron, in spite of the volumes he wrote on the subject, isn't interested in the issues of the Breen mess. If he were, after all, more concerned with demonstrating that he has been misquoted, he would be a hypocrite that doesn't fit with my picture of Bergeron. I think he is very much worried about the probability that he put himself on the wrong side, and he is staving off a re-consideration by quibbling about quotations.

All right, about Antarctica and Luna: The essentials of life could be stated many ways, but they would have to include the categories of air, water, food, and temperature. In air and water there is no comparison between the two frontiers, and at the edge of Antarctica at least there is some food. The extremes of temperature on Luna are far more unbearable than the cold of Antarctica. The only respect in which the Antarctic might be said to be more hostile than the moon is the wind. When any supplies must be brought in, as food, transportation becomes important in determining hospitability, and there again the moon is a thousand times worse.

B T HIS PAGES

Breen could make a similarly profitable thing out of the International Journal of Greek Love. He'd probably have to make up most of the ads supposedly coming from the boys' side, but how do you know a lot of the ads in Flair aren't fictitious?

"If all that energy ... was put into something worthwhile I could be a wealthy man today". Is that worthwhile? (For that matter, is "or at least a pro editor"?)

Did Z Z Zug's Gazette see only one issue? Yes, it is so indicated in the Fanzine Index. I thought I'd published a second issue in which I spelled out Zug's first name, Z^{oo}.

Is central Illinois so far out of the mainstream that you've seen only one 1965 quarter? The country's inundated with them, all copper sandwiches. (If you had one of silver, that would be a rarity.)

I'm not so sure that the Wilson of Look isn't our Dikibirdo. The pen portrait of him in the SFChronicle was no more different from my Chicon photo of him than a quarter-century would account for.

Moore had some pretty good arguments for volcanic origin of the lunar craters, but I'm afraid they're hard to reconcile with recent discoveries. He pointed out, among other things, that later craters are always smaller than earlier ones (where relative age is evidenced by such details as overlapping)--hard to reconcile with the idea that random meteor showers caused them. "Incidentally, the Big-bang-Steady-state controversy seems moving toward solution about as fast as the crater question."

"Amriccans" was the way Poe's futuremen spelled Americans.

Since 1930 was very excited about prohibition, Just Imagine pictured it still in effect, and bootlegged intoxicating pills.

HORIB (Lupoff)

No, the "Waiting List" cover on Grue wasn't by ATom. It was good. In expressions like "crawl.walk.slide", is the dot something from symbolic logic?

Premium offers still exist, certainly. My children have collected from their friends enormous quantities of bubble-gum wrappers to give me, because i have sent off for a premium or two. I may have gotten my planet chart thus, but i chiefly remember that something else i sent for never came, although the check was cashed. Similarly, Margaret Ann never got a camera she sent off for. Boycott Fleers!

Can you provide a drawing of that "1930s moderne" house? I was arguing with Redd a while back that there was a distinctive 1930s style, although there was so little building during the Great Depression that we saw it only in the world fairs, bars, and the suburbs of Washington (perhaps; though all i remember there was neocolonial).

SERCONS BANE

It may be true that neither a mirror nor a lens does anything unsymmetrical, but they don't do the same thing. A lens reverses from left to right and also from top to bottom, so that if you looked at the image of the light bulb from the other side of the paper i just threw it on, the words would read normally. Maybe that's why we're so confused by mirrors: we're looking at them from our side instead of the Alice side. Having gone through, we would rotate ourselves on our vertical axes in order to see things aright, rather than on a horizontal axis. Why?

Why shouldn't the fellow who does all his own work get double credit?— Well, he hasn't done any editing, nor any soliciting, labors of the editor that are sometimes as troublesome as writing.

Not only were the blackball-and-reinstate boys out to get George, Brown admitted it, in a mealy-mouthed way, in his final paragraph.

That particular lawyer had waged a campaign in Seattle to have lawyers drop the affected "attorney" tag, so i can imagine what he'd say about "counselor".

Anyone interested in the place of pederasty in Hellas can get a much briefer and more reliable account, sans special pleading, in the Macfadden paperback Love in Ancient Greece, chapter on homosexuality.

GOLIARD (Anderson)

No. 838?

Though i don't think the classics were necessarily stuffed, i enjoyed your restatements of them. The only one i couldn't place was "Banned from royal sleep". Wasn't it a giant rather than a beast, and dam thereof, that Beowulf slew? I think the one i liked best was The Splendor Falls on Castle Walls.

THOUGHT OF THE OUTSIDE (Jacobs)

What are TAPS and STOBCLER?

Lon speaks of askari as a weapon, but in the Tarzan books it's a person.

A superduper mimeo shouldn't need mink handle-covering; no handles.

His plans for the future seem to omit the possibility of a wife, who might also have ideas about house-planning.

Lee, where Buz lives it never gets as cold as the -4F in Georgia. Never goes below zero in Seattle.

ELMURMURINGS NUMBER ONE

Right about khalkos meaning copper, though i'm not so sure it's connected with chalcedony. Wrong about the other element of Khalkentera being connected with lepidoptera (the root there is pteron, wing); it's entera, as in dysentery. But the word does mean copper guts.

I don't even sign out when i want to sneak away for legitimate or illegitimate reasons, but the office manager does fuss if i haven't left word where i'm allegedly going.

"advertising is part of the free press" as a wart is part of the person. No reason to treat it as sacred.

I like the little drawings. and i'd better make space for one here before i forget any longer.

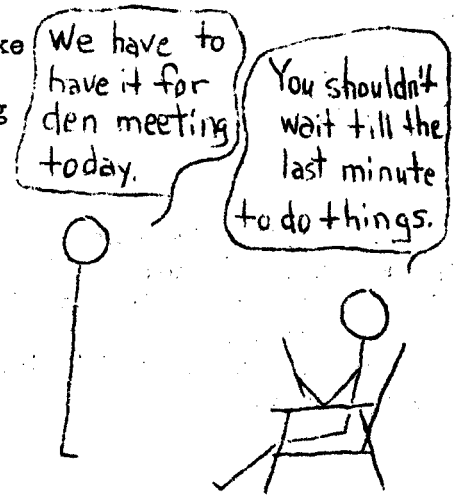
What has the 20th Amendment to do with removing the unsightly benches?

Manny, Moe, and Jack were the Pep Boys, neapa?

Not just the teenage set, but children, have been chanting the Celtic numerals for a long time. See the Treasury of American Folklore.

As i recall, we had our booze on Saturday and went to a dry party on Sunday New Years Eve.

Some typo makes this incomprehensible: "neurons patters /patterns/ in 520 which would, took last but a little longer".



NULL F (White)

I skipped the part of the conreport that began, "The bus was between ten and fifteen minutes late ..." In the part i did read, i seem mostly to have misspellings marked, "deligated", "subsiquent", "descrete",--you seem to have no clear idea of the difference between e and i--"expatriots", "haitus", "specimin", "occurrences", etc. Was that first New Worlds cover you're talking about, the one with a naked man separating the old world from the brave new one, or am i thinking of something else? It was lousy. What happens when a smallpox vaccination takes?

Where are your friends this mailing, Ted? Boggs, Bergeron, Brown, Main, Morse, and others who were loudest in defense of Breen two years ago are totally absent from this mailing, while Donahogers, Eney, Busby, Calkins, Hansen, Pelz, et al are all here. This would support a theory that after two years the people who fought for him are embarrassed to show their faces; but perhaps it's just coincidence.

SYNAPSE

Since publishing this, i've seen a news story quoting the Library of Congress on the oldest comic magazines which says the original-comics ones started in the late thirties. This overlooks New Fun (later More Fun), mentioned here, which started very soon after Famous Funnies in the early thirties; i remember Wollheim recommending it in 1934. There was an even earlier original-comics publication which antedated Famous Funnies, probably very early thirties. It may not have been stapled along the spine, and was about tabloid size, but it was sold by itself. Called, i believe, The Funnies, it had on the first page a comic about one Don Keeho-tay, who a fortuneteller predicted would rescue a "beautiful young heiress ... figure like a Greek goddess" who turned out to be "fat, forty, and built like a battleship".

Perhaps i should have specified that the woman who supposedly froze till there was ice on her eyelids later thawed out. Mr Freeze, of course, was the Batman villain. " I was reading the other day that at the outset of the postWW2 miracle, Germany had virtually no gold or silver in the treasury, and succeeded in getting reestablished by the controlled issuance of fiat money.

ASP

Rogers:

I thought it was cancer that was supposed by some people to result from pasteurized milk.

What's this Lilapa that Boyd inhabits--another apa?

DAMBALLA (Hansen)

Give me some advice on pruning vines, Chuck. I built a grape arbor at our Albuquerque house, and have been letting my vines grown as long and in as many directions as they would, the better to cover it. But i suppose if i want grapes from it, i should start pruning it some time or other. " Was that really apple cider you bought at Safeway, or merely juice? I should tell you about the year in Snoqualmie that apples were so plentiful that everyone could have all he wanted, for the gathering, and old cider presses were pressed into service.

A Hansen with British ancestry? Well, there was Anglofan Maurice K Hanson.

ALIQOT (Hevelin)

Not having misspent my youth the same way as you, the only one of the remaining ten that i'm sure of is Terence X O'Leary. Though i didn't know this Harry Vincent connected with the Shadow, i might note that J Harry Vincent was a pen name of Taurasi's.

I'm glad to have this information about the waitlist. I had wondered what a study would show.

TRILL (Wells)

"the rule that likes attract ... simply is not true of people." Maybe sometimes it's not true, but it is not true to say that it simply is not true. I think i am most at home with liberals of almost identical degree. At a NM Democratic Council meeting last Saturday, there was some kidding of Bert Lindsay for backing Bruce King, who withdrew from the gubernatorial race, and i quoted "And taking a melancholy pride in never choosing the winning side." Later a motion he made concerning the Grand Canyon dams passed, over my sole dissenting vote, and i said, "You've become corrupt, Bert: you're in the majority." Almost the same things could be said about me.

CAT FUR (Caughran)

I don't know what your new title means to you. Me it reminds of the smart-alec answer in my youth to the question "what fer?" "Cat fur fer to make kitten britches; want the furst pair?"

The idea that there might be an FBI spy in FAPA is interesting, but i doubt the G-men could be that thorough.

Speaking of degree-doctors, i notice that Boardman (p-p) has "Ph.D." on his return-address stickers.

I remember an advertisement by World Peaceways in the late thirties, which remarked that as a means of getting rid of surplus population, war was^a damned expensive expedient. As remarked in One World or None, atomic weapons may be markedly more economical; but it still seems that the cost of killing a given number of lives would be enough to support them for quite a while instead.

You're right, of course, about space travel being no solution to the population problem. Like war, it's much too expensive for the dent it makes in the problem.

Can't anyone say a kind word for Summer? Cullen Bryant romanticized about the seasons, but what he said about summer was unfavorable on balance. "I just looked it up, and Aldrich did say nice things about it in Marjorie's Almanac.

ANKUS

Too bad Willis saw Oregon from the freeway. I used to adore the Willamette valley, but the freeway does make it rather featureless. "A tailor shop with salesmen? He must mean a drygoods store. "More quaint Britishisms: "looked" as a transitive verb ("It looked eerie country"), "mews". "The inspector at the California line was looking for fruit. (Does Willis read the mailings?)

LARGE FLYING BIRD (Demmon)

I'd like to see a justification of "To know you are free is slavery."

What's a Stone Fox? And what does a Go-Go girl mean in California?

There is no longer any attempt for suburbs to find a city. Albuquerque has just moved away from its old downtown section, much too small to serve the present city, and most of its people only trade in the business sections built along the main arteries a decade ago or in the shopping centers built more recently. While government buildings tend to congregate downtown, nearly everything else is scattered all over. At the board of equalization today someone was groaning over the decline of downtown, and said people assume there's no parking downtown, when they could actually park at the curb and not have as far to walk as they do out at Winrock Center. I understand that the main street of Oklahoma City has many persistent vacancies.

What, no postmailings this time?

"We're coming out real strong for the St Lawrence Seaway."

An article by Peter Bart for NYTNS says:

Some of the nudie makers have diversified into horror or science fiction pictures. One young science fiction director regularly acquires Russian films that deal with rocketry, steal those scenes that contain space-age special effects, and then shoot some English language scenes around them. "It's a great way of obtaining \$300,000 worth of special effects for about \$10,000," says Hill.

Having spent most of his working days surrounded by nude models, Hill insists that shooting a nudie is actually a singularly unsexy undertaking. "It's just work," he says. "Besides most of the girls are not interested in boys."

Rotsler never told us that.

SE DICE

Our man in Saigon 24 Apr 66:

Things have been quite as exciting here as they are in fandom from time to time, with the VHD (United Buddhist Congregation) irritating the working citizenry no end both by its oratorical fustian and its strong-arm tactics. The best ploy yet was the VHD spokesman losing his temper at the resistance of the Saigon students and accusing them of being on the take to the tune of \$VN5,000,000. (Roughly \$40,000 US.) The Assistant Director for Field Operations, my boss, remarked that it would have been worth our while to pay the Buddhists that five million dong just to get them to make such a statement, the response from the students was so strong and so favorable to law&order.

My own impression is that the VHD was really making a play to take over and completely misjudged the extent of its support in the South and among students. Not that they were under the delusion that they had wide popular backing; their action groups showed the strategic and tactical modes appropriate to a minority takeover. (I suspect it was the use of these modes that led some people to suspect Communist influence: they use the same techniques, so they must be Reds because seizing communications, intimidating the civil opposition with goon squads, and penetrating the police to ensure their inaction are such original methods that only the diabolically clever Bolsheviks could devise them.) At least a part of this shtick worked: I mean control of communications to create a specious impression of wide support. Nobody who has read Horizons can retain a childlike faith in the accuracy of newspapers, but the distortions that came in from the States were pure fantasy from the point of view of the people on the scene. ... There seems to be something like a genuine movement in Hue, but even there there's a repeated emergence of fedupness; and elsewhere the big coup was making such heavy going of it that I think there might have been open clashes between VHDs and civilians if the Buddhists hadn't backed down in time.

Roy Tackett:

Joe Pine: the program originates in Los Angeles (where else would that nut find all those nuts?) /Well, Santa Fe could supply several/ and is carried by KGGM on recordings--presumably tape. /I so learned approximately one minute after mailing the Synapses to Pelz, by calling the studio. I must be a victim of studio technique; i thought Joe had referred to Albuquerque sponsors./ I listen now and again, particularly if I happen to be in the car at the time it is aired, but it isn't one of the things on my "must" list. /I listen only in the car, but usually at homegoing time. I've heard more of the programs now, and sometimes he is pretty bad./ When I do listen to the program I usually find it moderately amusing and once in a while informative. Pine is, I think, overly fond of his own voice. ...

"Three Lies and Allerlei": You quote a passage: "my one and final comment on age-of-consent laws and the irony of our 'national taboo on sex with children' is to point to half a dozen states where the legal marriage age is 12; but that also is neither here nor there."

How true! That is neither here nor there. Nor anywhere. /The first reason it's neither here nor there is that no one has accused Walter of sex with San Quentin quail; just with boys./ My reading habits are quite strange and I actually read such things as the World Almanac. Accordingly a little "tilt" light flashed on when I read the quoted passage. My 1966 World Almanac informs me that nowhere in these United States is the legal marriage age 12. The legal marriage age without parental consent is nowhere lower than 18 for girls. For boys it is somewhat higher.

The legal marriage age with parental consent shows more variation but in only one state is it below 14 for girls (in all states the legal marriage age for boys is higher than for girls): New Hampshire permits marriage at 13 provided that court consent is obtained along with parental consent. ...

Edward Wood on Advent letterhead:

I am guiding Mr. Harry Warner's history of fandom, All Our Yesterdays through publication for Advent: Publishers. Advent wishes to use a fair number of photographs of various fans in the book. Warner has provided about 25 photographs from his own collection, some of which are blurred and/or unacceptable for other reasons. He has suggested you and Bob Tucker as possible sources of photographs. /Anybody else in FAPA have some?/

To give decent coverage to the fandom of the forties, the period covered by the book, we would like pictures of the following if available: /He then lists H C Koenig, W Paul Cook, R H Barlow, Fred Pohl, Don Wollheim, Sam Moskowitz, Walter A Gillings, Ted Carnell, Chicon 1, Denvention, Laney, Claude Degler, Joe Kennedy, Walter A Coslet, Art Rapp, Walter Dunkelberger, Philcon 1, Torcon, and C invention./

If you are unable to supply the photos, perhaps you could suggest a source I could contact. You may be assured that any photos sent to me at my address below /6553 Green Way Apt 2, Greendale Wis 53129/ will be properly cared for and returned to you upon publication of the book or sooner if desired. Naturally you will be given credit in the book for any photos you are able to supply.

I met you last year at the Westcon in Long Beach if you recall. Your Full Length Articles #6: The Breenigan After One Year was most impressive.

Dwain Kaiser:

... But my argument does break down to one-sided a slanting.... I feel it is impossible for somebody, who's feelings certain run to suport of one side of the disagreement, to do a fair job in the format you used. And I don't think you did. I would have handled the whole thing differently.... And I'd be damned if I would have stopped arguing, and give in a point, in any of a dozen places which Anapalos did. /Well, we started to explore one of those places, on Breen's homosexuality, and you didn't seem to have anything more to say./

When I made the statement about supporting Walter it was over his being able to attend the Pacificon II. I still feel that if it could be proved to me that Walter Breen was guilty, I would give the con staff my full support in not allowing him to attend. I wouldn't have agreed totally with the method they went about it, but that would have been a minor matter, a point not entering into my supporting them. But I have yet to see proof from the Donaho side, and I have corresponded with Bill, and talked to him on Topic A, that Breen is guilty.

I don't think I would have supported a FAPA Blackball...but then I wouldn't support a blackball in any case. And that means, up to and including, a fan breaking into my house and raping my wife (of course, first of all I'd have to get married, but the idea remains the same) Not to say I wouldn't go out and shot the bastard, I'd more than likely would, too, but support a blackball I wouldn't. Not in a apa such as FAPA, M'APA, InterApa, or APA45..... (the reason I stated that, was because the issue may be different in a apa such as APA L, or ValAPA, where the membership of the apa is made up of members of a club. At least in the bi-weekly ValAPA case, attending members of the club. I don't think I would support a Blackball from the apa, but would support a kicking of the member out of the club ... He'd be welcome to contrib to the club's apa by mail, and as long as it is legal under the apa's const., and mailable (if copies are mailed out) fine, his contrib would be welcome. The idea of rape, is a little extreme for this point, I see....

/Do you mean that if you found him doing something extreme, you might not want him in your apas?/ The above stands better in a case of general dislike of a member..... say a Homosexual. He wouldn't be welcome in our club, but he would be welcome in the apa!

The Fourteenth of April was enjoyable. Poor John, he's catching it from his friends, and his enemies. The fault of jumping into something with both feet in his mouth, I guess.

Oh, the clockmaker's union is a no-good union is a company union from the bosses.

In the discussion of the theory that fen are first or only children, i don't remember anyone bringing up statistics on such children in the general population. An article in the Ladies Home Journal, Loneliness Can Be a Treasure, gave this information:

A study of 886 outstanding scientists showed 41.5 percent the oldest in the family. In large families (4 to 15 children), 30 percent were the youngest or "almost youngest" (Miss Park commented, "surveys can be imprecise too").

In a study of Rhodes scholars there was a surprising number of eldest sons from small families, and a disproportionate number of only sons.

And a profile of 64 of the most eminent American scientists by Dr Anne Roe found them typically the first-born child of a middle-class family, likely to have been a sickly child or to have lost a parent young. 39 of the 64 were firstborn, of the rest 5 were the eldest sons, 2 more that in effect (firstborn died early).

Trying to extend the picture beyond scientists, the only ones so studied, Miss Park listed the following first children: Shakespeare, Dante, Leonardo, Galileo, Newton, Spinoza, Cromwell, Gibbon, Johnson, Goethe, Keats, Beethoven, Washington, Mill; Jefferson, Lincoln, Freud, Nietzsche, Einstein, Churchill, Roosevelt, and Joyce. Not eldest, but first sons, were Milton, Swift, Mozart, Dickens, Kant, Marx, Yeats, Shaw, Disraeli, Roosevelt, Wilson, and LBJohnson. Last children noticed include Bach, Wagner, and Franklin.

On the other hand, neither first nor last were Michelangelo, Napoleon, Darwin, Tolstoi, Dostoevski, Eliot, and Mann.

They're preaching socialism and they're practicing fascism

At a Washington's Birthday sale i got freefor nothing, because i supposedly represented several youth groups and got there first, a Ditto duplicator, without warranty. I took it to an appropriate store in Aq and asked how to operate it. Some days later i learned the answer: What i had was not a direct-process duplicator as i had assumed, but a revolving drum on which one could stretch a Ditto filmograph. Skatekey; i hadn't thought of it in decades. But for a brief time in the late thirties, the dernier cri in duplicating was these films, flexible backings spread with a few millimeters of a hard gelatin which one used essentially the same way as the softer gelatin of a pan hekto. They could be stretched on a horizontal frame made for that purpose. I even owned a bulky hektograph in which the gelatin was on a long continuous roll, so that while the copy on a used portion was sinking in, you could turn to another place and run another page, and so on.

And they're giving all the workers double-crosses.

MOST OF OUR YESTERDAYS

Harold Palmer Piser has reprinted the Pavlat-Evans Fanzine Index. This index was published in several installments through FAPA in the early fifties. It endeavored to index by title all fanzines published through 1952, showing the date of each issue published, the person responsible, and other information. I believe Pavlat collected notes for corrections and additions but never got around to publishing them. While he offered Pi such extra pages and saved stencils as he had, I believe this reprint is from new stencils cut by the Coulsons for Piser.

This edition is bound in a single volume, flexible covers, with alphabetical tabs, and sells for \$2.50 per copy, which is unlikely to recoup the cost. The address, given in a flyer in a recent FAPA mailing, is 41-08 Parsons Blvd, Flushing NY 11355.

To emphasize that this is only a reprint, not his projected master bibliography of fanzines, Piser has kept the original publisher's notes that accompanied the serial appearance in FAPA, and has not changed the text of the index.

In this new and more convenient form, reminiscers like Tucker and Warner will find it easy to stimulate their recollections. Those who collect back issues, or occasionally find a treasure trove, need it. When you don't know just what's being referred to in some mention of an old fanzine by name, you can dip into the index and find the date and publisher, if it came out before 1953.

The commonest usefulness will be in avoiding duplication of fanzine names. As an example, recently I received a neo's magazine called, I believe, Fan Slan-T. This isn't exactly the same as Mel Brown's Fan Slants, but if the neo had known of the latter, he would probably have invented another name. Within the scope of the Fanzine Index you can find some exact duplications of names that had already occurred --for example there are three Fantasias besides the first and most famous, which never appeared, not to mention Bradbury's Futuria Fantasia and the subsequent Helen's Fantasia of FAPA.

If you browse through this book you will find other names famous in the s-f world turning up, and might get the grounding for some useful blackmail. Pi says Del Rey would like his fmz forgotten. (But in the world of fanzines, nothing is ever lost (except the May 1930 Cosmology, the first fanzine).)

Get this book, check your own appearances in it, and then help Piser complete, correct, and bring it up to date. Fortunately a few large collectors (I didn't mean it that way, Bruce) are sending Pi their collections in installments, so he can check with the actual fmz so far as possible. But no one's collection is complete, and the publisher himself is the best checker. The ultimate bibliography will be cross-indexed several ways, and will take its place among other standard bibliographic works.

But don't hold your breath till it appears; it will take years. Fanzine Index will suffice to steer you away from a lot of duplications (don't name your fanzine Cosmos, for instance; there've been half a dozen). And it's fun just to browse through and see what made up that "morass of publishing" by the Cosmic Circle, or what Pavlat said when Lee Hoffman came up with a 34-word title.

WONDERS OF COMMUNICATION

Last month i needed to call Bob Tucker. Though there has been some talk of a fanish telephone directory, i don't know of any, so i started with the FAPA roster. It showed Tucker living in Heyworth Illinois, which is near Bloomington. I found both these places in my road atlas, and by comparing that map with an outline map in the phone book, i determined that the area code was 309.

As i dialed i followed by the area code and 555-1212 (information), i reflected that if i just knew which of the ten numbers to dial, in the right order, i could reach almost anyone in this great land of ours. While i was trying to figure what the maximum number of numbers was that could be comprehended in the number of digits i was dialing, information for that part of Illinois answered. Confidently i asked her for the number of Wilson Tucker (i assumed he was using his nom de plume) in Heyworth.

After some delay, she said there was no Tucker listed for Heyworth. I saw three possibilities: Tucker was so poor he couldn't afford a phone; or he was one of those snobs who unlist their numbers; or the stupid operator had missed it. The second possibility seemed eliminated when i remembered that the last time i called Heinlein's in Colorado Springs the operator, though refusing to give the unlisted number, said that there was one. I suggested to the Illinois informer various other forms of Tucker's name (i didn't mention Hoy Ping Pong), and that he might be in Bloomington (the same phone exchange, i suspect). Negative on all.

I brooded on it overnight. Who knew Tucker well enough to know his phone number? The most likely prospect seemed to be our Hoosier members. I ascertained from the roster that they had moved to Hartford City. Again i compared the phonebook map with Rand McNally, the one of Indiana. I guessed that it was in code area 219, and dialed the appropriate symbols for information there.

Again my imagination leaped a thousand miles, and i was talking to someone right near the home of Buck and Juanita. The voice said, no, Hartford City was across the line in area 317.

I called information there, and began to make progress. Yes, they had a number for Robert Coulson at Hartford City. I entered the number in the Fantasy Amateur and dialed it. A woman's voice answered. It was Mrs Coulson, Robert's mother. Buck and Juanita were out. I explained that i just wanted to get someone's phone number, and asked if she knew when they'd be back. "Well, wait," she said, "they might be coming up the road now. I'll go look." I seemed to be standing with her, straining my eyes down a lane of sycamores for a sight of stfans. No, she couldn't see them. I left word for them to call me collect, giving my area code and the fistful of other numbers necessary to reach me. (Within Santa Fe, we need use only five numbers, but we're assigned seven for statewide purposes.)

A little later Saturday morning Buck back-called. He didn't have Bob's number but was sure he had one, and suggested as the most likely lead Vic Ryan. I tried to call Vic, but when i discovered that he lived in a suburb of populous Chicago, i had a vision of dozens of Victor Ryans in the phonebook. However, information after a search asserted confidently that there was no Victor Ryan in Evanston (?).

Now what do i do? Well, there'll be an operator at 1-309-555-1212 different from the one last night. On a forlorn hope, i called her. Yes, she said, here's a number for Tucker in Heyworth.

I dialed the truckload of numbers necessary to reach it. Bob's wife answered. He was out; was i in the vicinity? "No, i still live in Santa Fe. I wanta ask him something." He'd be back in the evening. "Okay, i'll call him then."

I did. "Hello, Bob?" His voice in affirmation was strong and lively, not grandfatherly at all. "Have i hit you at an inconvenient time?... Don Wollheim is visiting the Albuquerque science-fiction club Monday, and i--"

He interrupted. "Albuquerque? Is this long distance?" Electronic marvels, that can make the voice as clear after a dozen repeater stations.

"Yeah."...

"Are you calling from Albuquerque, New Mexico?" Sensation.

"I'm calling from Santa Fe. ... And, i wanted to do a little time-binding at the banquet. So, i-i've fixed up a document on which i'd like for you to be one of the signatories. It's too late to send it up for you to sign, but with your permission i'll forge your name on it."

Somewhat bewildered, he suggested i read the document. And, he asked, who is this?

"This is Jack Speer."

"Jack Speer! I didn't recognize your voice."

"... When i called earlier today i said it was Jack Speer and i thought you knew that was who was calling now."

At last we were communicating, and i proceeded to read the document.

"As I understand my motion, ..."

Landbrokes, a London bookie, quoted the following odds early this year: 6 to 4 against a man being landed on the moon by the end of 1970. 100-1 against landing during 1966, 20-1 against landing in 1967, 10-1 against 1968, 8-1 against 1969, and 6-1 against 1970 in particular.

"Wanna play Torture?" --MAS

There's a set of books out now called the Time Machine Series, with accompanying LP records. They're designed for beginning readers, the record reading the book along with the child, and even telling him when to turn the page. Author Gene Darby feels that "Run, Spot, run" isn't exciting enough for the child who has watched the launching of missiles to the moon, so he has written a series of stories about a bespectacled boy who builds a time machine and takes trips with his dog.

"Why don't you do something like inheriting half of South Bend--or even North Bend?"

And here's an item from a French equivalent of Life or Look, concerning a film on the subject "If Hitler had won..." Apparently it's an invitation to cinema makers to submit entries for a prize of 100,000 francs.

'Don't procrastinate about something mundane like that. Procrastinate fanishly.'

ME BOOB

Having seen more Batman episodes than when i made my initial remarks (lately, as tonight, Thursday, i've been passing them up for little reason), i am now ready to regard the show as written for adults as well as children. However, i still think "satire" would be the wrong word to apply. When Cervantes satirized chivalry, it was for the purpose of destroying it. Jonathan Swift aimed, if he could not destroy, at least to weaken the evils he satirized. No such purpose informs Batman. Perhaps the most suitable word--aside from "camp", which is probably ephemeral slang--is burlesque. In burlesque, the imitation is for the sake of entertainment, nothing more.

But what is Batman burlesquing? Directly, he seems to be copying only the implausibilities we accepted as children. However, when he says almost automatically (and inappropriately) "I don't think religion is a subject to be taken lightly", he is poking fun at Hollywood's slavish obeisances to religion; and i suppose other things he makes ludicrous could be related to foibles far removed from the world of caped crusaders.

The other night CBS reported on UFOs Friend Foe or Fantasy. Its conclusions tended to the last.

I finished reading the mailing under the pines at Hyde Park on a Mother's Day outing, and got home in time to catch The Journals of Lewis and Clark. There was an argument in FAPA about whether anyone discovering America could realize what he found. It struck me that Lewis and Clark came closer to doing so than Columbus or Cabot, or any other explorer.

The spate of old war movies on the boob tube has abated, and last week we got The Time Machine again, on Tuesday Night at the Movies. Perhaps they're in a hurry to get it showed out because it's about to become as obsolete as Heinlein's history of the future. I believe Pal has London slated to be destroyed in 1966. It does not pay a prophet to be too specific. Watching the movie this time, i seemed to recognize the Time Traveller's skeptical friend. Was he not the same actor, dressed the same way, who played the title role in Dr Heidegger's Experiment? My copy of the comicbook Twice Told Tales is in the Aq club's library, but the cover photograph looked very like him.

Where Belgia, the netherlands?

I don't ordinarily comment on accompanying interlineations, but the ones that comprise this arc but slightly changed from a pair i published in 45 or 46, concerning LA. And it may be of collateral interest to note the following from the Santa Fe phone book:

BOGGS L & RED 1836 Berry Av -----983-4852

Marry, sir, in Berkeley; I found it out by the Boggs.
