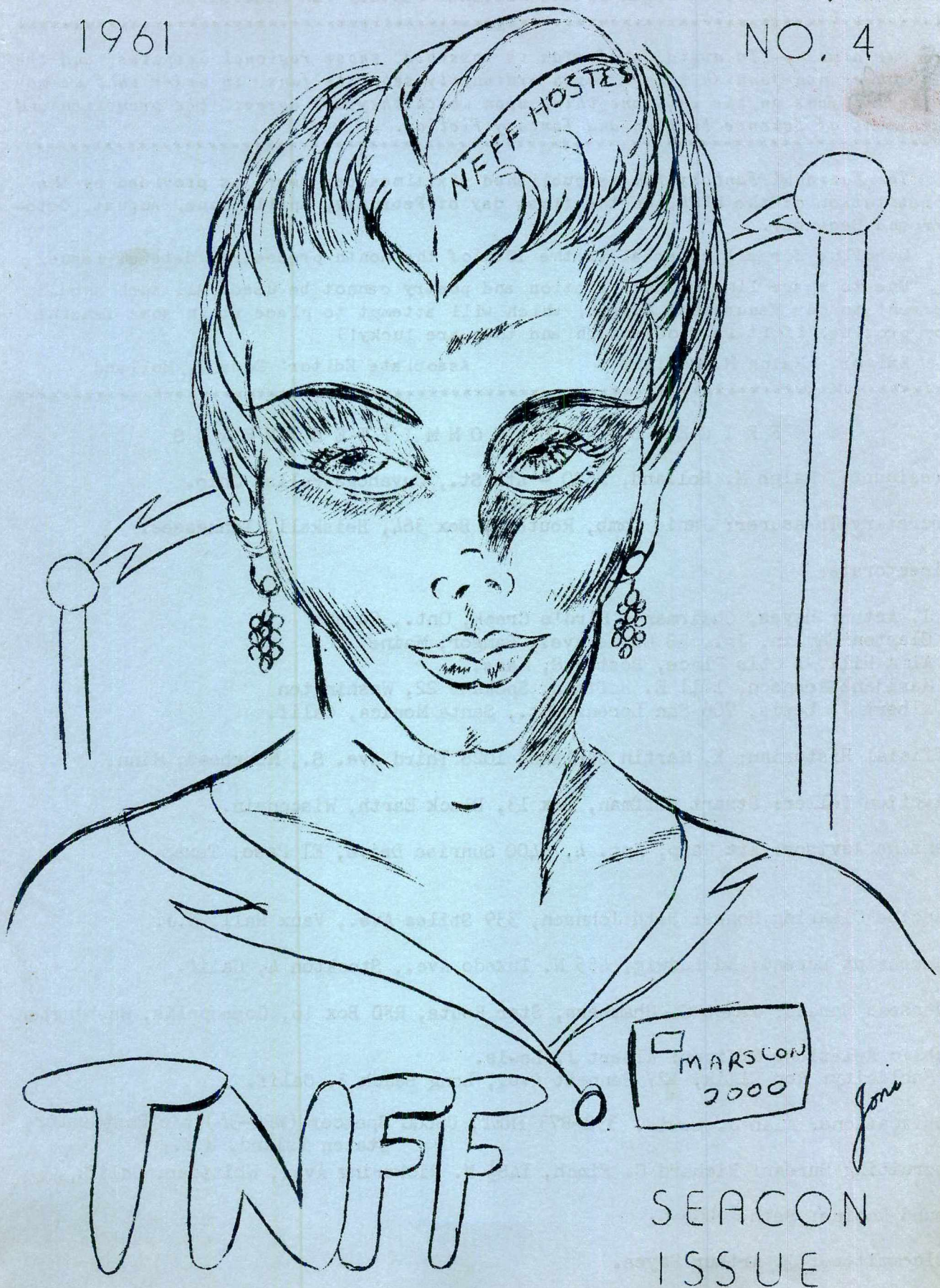


AUGUST
1961

VOL. 20
NO. 4



THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN
Official Organ of the National Fantasy Fan Federation

Our aim: --- To avoid, so far as is possible, those regional disputes, and the many other non-fannish things which ordinarily separate fans, in order that we may unite ALL fans on the only one thing upon which they all agree: the promotion and enjoyment of Science Fiction and Fantasy Fiction.

The National Fantasy Fan is published six times per year, as provided by the Constitution of the NFFF, on the first day of February, April, June, August, October and December.

Deadline for all material is the 10th of the month preceeding date of issue.

Due to space limitations, fiction and poetry cannot be used. All such should be sent to our Manuscript Bureau, which will attempt to place it in some fanzine (or prozine, if it is good enough and they are lucky!)

Editor: Ralph M. Holland

Associate Editor: Dora G. Holland

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE HEADS

President: Ralph M. Holland, 2520 - 4th St., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Secretary-Treasurer: Janie Lamb, Route 1, Box 364, Heiskell, Tennessee.

Directorate:

J. Arthur Hayes, Chairman - Bird's Creek, Ont., Canada

Clayton Hamlin, Jr., 28 Earle Ave., Bangor, Maine.

Alma Hill, 1 Otis Place, Boston 8, Mass.

Marijane Johnson, 1011 E. Hoffman, Spokane 22, Washington

Albert J. Lewis, 706 San Lorenzo St., Santa Monica, Calif.

Official Historian: K. Martin Carlson, 1028 Third Ave. S., Moorhead, Minn.

Election Teller: Stuart Hoffman, Box 13, Black Earth, Wisconsin.

Fanzine Advisor: Art Rapp, Apt. 4, 4400 Sunrise Drive, El Paso, Texas

Fanzine Clearing House: Seth Johnson, 339 Stiles Ave., Vaux Hall, N.J.

Manuscript Bureau: Ed Ludwig, 455 N. Tuxedo Ave., Stockton 4, Calif.

Overseas Bureau: James G. Chambers, Star Route, RFD Box 16, Cosmopolis, Washington

Public Relations Officer: Albert J. Lewis.

Publicity: Ron Ellik, 127 Bennett Ave., Long Beach 3, Calif.

Publications: Alan J. Lewis, 338-873 FNET, USCGG Spencer (WPG-36) c/o Postmaster,
Staten Island, N.Y.

Recruiting Bureau: Richard C. Finch, 148½ N. Pickering Ave., Whittier, Calif.

Round Robins: Seth Johnson.

Welcammittee: J. Arthur Hayes.

Neffan News Service: Stan Woolston, 12832 Westlake Ave., Garden Grove, Calif.

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For additional reports (on Round Robins, etc.) see the flier by Art Hayes in the same envelope with this issue.

Fanpublishers -- don't forget that foreign postage rates have changed -- in an upward direction. However, as a partial compensation, Canada (which accounts for the biggest part of the "foreign" list) now can go at "domestic" rates, which are about one cent per item lower.

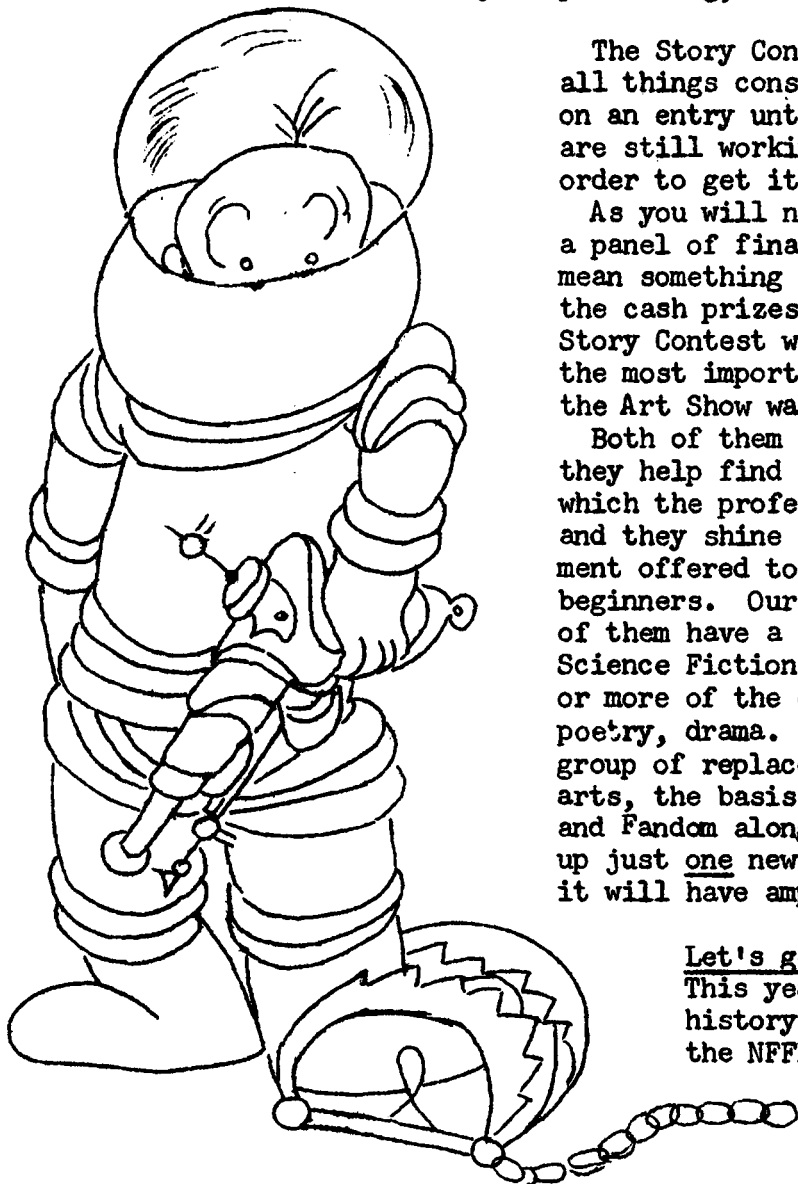
Seacon Hostess: G. M. Carr, 5319 Ballard Ave., N.W., Seattle 7, Washington

Chicon (1962) Hostess: Martha Beck, 647 E. 47th Place, Gary, Indiana

The August TNFF marks a sort of dividing line in the fannish year. It is the time for the annual call for candidates for officers to serve during the coming year. By the time this reaches the membership, vacations will be mostly in the realm of fond memories, and the World Con will be almost at hand. This year the feeling of a dividing line is intensified by the fact that September 30 marks the closing date of both our Story Contest and in the current TAFF campaign, in which we have a particular interest this year.

As I have mentioned before on several occasions, experience along certain lines is very helpful in some NFFF jobs, but one does not have to be a superman to be a good NFFF officer. The main requirements are time (quite a bit of it at times), the ability to get along with people and work together with the other officers as a coordinated group, and a willingness to do the job even if it is not always at a convenient time.

The "Primary Ballot" did not turn up many unexpected names -- no "dark horses" -- but it did point up the fact that those most thought of by the members as officers are those who, by their activity in the club, have made themselves and their abilities known to the other members. So get your declaration and platform in, and then go out and get yourself a "rep", as the fight managers say, by some sort of constructive activity -- publishing, writing letters to Tightbeam, etc.



The Story Contest seems to be coming along well, all things considered. Many were unable to begin on an entry until after school was out, and others are still working and reworking their story in order to get it in the best possible shape.

As you will note by Ed Ludwig's report, we have a panel of final judges whose names will really mean something on the winning stories, beside the cash prizes. I sincerely believe that the Story Contest will go down in fannish history as the most important development of 1961, just as the Art Show was the most important in 1960.

Both of them have one thing in common: that they help find and encourage new talent from which the professionals of tomorrow will come, and they shine out as about the only encouragement offered to these hopeful but hesitant beginners. Our fandom has many facets, but all of them have a common foundation -- Fantasy and Science Fiction -- which find expression in one or more of the creative arts -- writing, art, poetry, drama. If we do not help find a steady group of replacements for the exponents of these arts, the basis of our fandom will disappear, and Fandom along with it. If the Contest turns up just one new writer with professional promise, it will have amply justified itself.

Let's get back of TAFF and put it over!!
 This year, for the first time in its history, both candidates are members of the NFFF. If it flops, our critics will revive their cry that NFFF backing is the "kiss of Death".
 To date, only 55 fans have voted. So let's get those

votes in with a minimum of 50¢ for each ballot (altho a dollar bill is easier to mail.) If you can't make up your mind who to vote for, send in a contribution anyhow, with a blank ballot.

You can also help TAFF, and do yourself a good turn at the same time, by buying some of the TAFF benefit books mentioned in Art Hayes' flier (enclosed). These are by some of fandom's best writers, so you are sure to get your money's worth. I have only seen one to date, Ron Bennet's "Colonial Excursion", which is well worth a dollar of anyone's money. Incidentally, since it is now published send Bob Pavlet \$1 for it, instead of the pre-publication 75¢.

((Let's bring Bennett back too, to Chicago in '62.))

"Colonial Excursion" is available in the U.S. from: Bob Pavlet, 6001 - 43rd Ave., Hyattsville, Md., from whom you can also secure Bennett's 1960 Directory of 494 fans in the U.S. and overseas. (25¢ per copy)

The other books mentioned by Art can be secured from: Don Ford, Box 19-T, Ward's Corner Rd., Loveland, Ohio, to whom all TAFF ballots and contributions should also be sent.

A proposed new activity (not final yet) is the sending of fannish style cards to members on their birthdays (and other occasions, IF we know about them). Most of the members questioned were much in favor of it, but I am aware that there are a few who are allergic to all such. If you are in the latter group. please let me know at once. Then, if the plan is adopted, your card can be marked so that your blood pressure won't be raised by getting a card.

If you plan to attend the Seacon, and I hope you can make it because if you have never attended a World Con you will find it an experience which will never be forgotten ((Con attending is an incurable disease)), be sure to register in at the NFFF "Welcome" Room as soon as you get there. The Angelos are loaning us their "Interplanetary" board for the occasion -- a real S-F game that can last far into the night. Then too, there will be the usual free coffee (or tea or chocolate) around the clock and, if the femfen do their duty, cookies to go with it. If you must have a beverage with more kick to it, there will probably be plenty of room parties, and the hotel's lounge. The NFFF room, for legal and other reasons, is strictly non-alcoholic.

Anyone for display space at the con?? The NFFF will have its usual table, but has little or nothing to sell there, so is throwing it open to members who have something to huckster. The Fan Art Group is using part of it to sell small art sketches, etc., to help finance their project, but there will probably be space left if you send your request to Hostess G. M. Carr at once.

In the current Tightbeam I stated that Neffer Wallace West was a pro writer from 'way back, but that I did not know exactly how far back. He advises me that his very first sale was "Static", published in Sea Stories September 1926. I was in the midst of a period of Gafia then, so didn't see it.

According to Bob Lowndes, Avalon will bring out Wallace's "The Memory Bank" in hard covers about August or September, and is reading another one for possible publication next year.

Corrections on the LASFS article in the last ish: The club meets on Thursdays, not Tuesdays. ((You will usually find plenty of fans to talk to any day of the week, but meetings on Thursdays.)) Ted Johnstone is the Secretary, and Paul Freehafer died in 1944. ((per Don Franson.))

You artists -- don't forget the Art Show. See the Art Hayes flier for names and addresses. How do you know you can't draw?? You might suprise even yourself if you'd give it a real try.

Ralph

The Directorate has unanimously voted to make Hugo Gernsback a Life Member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation.

It is customary, on such occasions, to make a few informative and scintillating remarks -- but I cannot think of a thing to say about Hugo Gernsback that every trufan does not already know. When the President of the United States is introduced, it is assumed that everyone knows him so well that any further remarks would be presumptuous. I feel that Hugo Gernsback occupies a similar position among Science Fiction fans, and so I merely say: "Fellow NFFF Members: Life Member Hugo Gernsback."

Nothing I could say, nor anything that the club could do, could honor him half as much as his mere presence among us honors us. I do feel, however, that it is particularly fitting that the "Father of Scientifiction" should be a permanent member of the oldest still-existing national S-F club.

My personal acquaintance with his work goes back much closer to the half-century mark than I sometimes care to admit even to myself. I can look back to many pleasant hours of reading, and it has had a profound influence upon an engineering career which, by the usually accepted standards, has been successful.

May his Scientifictional shadow never grow less !!

SEACON REPORT -- G. M. Carr, NFFF Hostess.

Just a brief report from the N3F Hostess to let you know what the score is. As you undoubtedly have heard, I broke my right arm on May 18. Carried out the kitchen stepladder, as usual, to gather some lilacs to put in the house in honor of the "Nameless Ones" who were meeting there that evening. This time, however, the stepladder evidently suffered some unequal distribution of the load and broke, precipitating me on to a cement sidewalk. I landed on my right elbow, shattering the elbow and wrist.

The arm is healing very nicely and, as far as I can tell at present, barring complications it should be well enough for me to carry out my duties. Perhaps it will be necessary for me to ask for a little more help than otherwise, but I am sure the Neffers who attend the Seacon will be glad to pitch in and do for themselves whatever manual chores I am not able to handle. At any rate, I certainly expect to attend and preside to the best of my ability in the N3F Room.

* * * * *

It would be a great help to our Hostess if Neffers who expect to be at the Seacon would let her know as soon as possible so that she will have some idea as to how much help she might be able to count on. Address:

G. M. Carr, 5319 Ballard Ave., N.W., Seattle 7, Washington.

MANUSCRIPT BUREAU -- Ed Ludwig, Chairman.

Overshadowing any other news from Manuscript Manor is the apparently successful development of the NFFF Short Story Contest. Judging from the Bureau's correspondence and also from the general conversation at the Baycon, the Contest is becoming a big event in fandom, and a good number of fans have declared that they are either working on stories or that they plan to submit stories.

The selection of the final judges is now official. Cele Goldsmith, editor of Amazing and Fantastic, will complete the judging in the stf catagory. Forrest Ackerman will be the final judge in the fantasy field, and August Derleth in the weird field.

I have received several letters from possible contestants saying, in effect: "What's the use of my trying? I wouldn't have a chance against Marion Bradley and Forry Ackerman." So I hasten to say again that the Contest is open only to fans and writers who have sold not more than two stories to professional, nationally distributed magazines. Also, to quench another notion which may be on the verge of developing, all judges, preliminary or final, are disqualified from submitting any stories.

Additional prizes are being promised: Bob Jennings is awarding a year's subscription to The Monday Evening Ghost to the winners and runners-up in the stf and weird catagories. Lenny Kaye is offering a life sub to Obelisk to the top fifteen winners, and I believe that a certain female-ed in the Los Angeles area will be persuaded to contribute Something (?) Whether further awards will be combined with the present fifteen prizes or will be considered additional awards depends on the number of submissions.

Again, all fan-eds are asked to help publicize the Contest. We now have mimeod lists of rules and regulations which will be sent to anybody requesting them. If we are to impress all fandom with the importance of the Contest, I think we should be like the old Alabama preacher who, when asked how he got his brimstone-and-fire sermons across so well, replied: "Well, fust I tells 'em what I'm going to tell 'em, den I tells 'em, and den I tells 'em what I done told 'em."

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At this moment the U. S. Post Office is having a brief respite, for we are sorry to say that our writer has a break and dislocation of her wrist and elbow, so that typing can be done only with her left hand. But we predict that soon weary postmen will again be straining under the weight of her production.

W R I T E R O F T H E M O N T H : G . M . C A R R

About half a century ago -- give or take a couple of years -- I learned to read. This major break-through into the realm of fantasy fiction was accomplished by a volumn of Grimm's Fairy Tales (or it may have been Anderson's) wherein a certain Prince underwent various adventures and then lived happily ever after. Even then, I sensed the wonder of a world in which anybody could "live happily ever after" and decided that was for me.

I polished off the Tacoma Public Library's shelf of Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Violet, Brown and Rainbow-colored Fairy Tales, and then moved up to the wonderful world of Nils and his big Grey Goose, Captain Nemo and his Nautilus, the capric cavortings of Mythology's Gods and Goddesses, and even a brief detour into Alice's Wonderland.

When I had devoured the combined Juvenile Sections of both Tacoma and Bremerton's Libraries, I started in at the "A's" of the adult fiction and got around to

a dream come true. I know that letters, fanzines and especially prozines would be appreciated by all concerned. Start with letters, though.

Takumi Shibano would be most appreciative of good articles about the field for



the "M's", at which time I discovered the pulps. (I think it was the interminable, mundane, "historical romances" by Louisa Muhlbach, which I suspect now were not very historical and certainly not romantic which

for his fanzine.

Further details in Dynatron 6, which will be out in about two or three weeks.

((Editor's note: This letter arrived just as I was finishing the stencils for the Overseas Bureau Report. Rather than hold up the proceedings until the next issue, I am copying it here. However, in order to keep things properly organized, please let James Chambers know if you contact any of these fans, and I hope that many of you will, together with the results of your letters. Due to currency problems, etc., it is not likely that any of the Japanese fans could be recruited into the NFFF, unless on some sort of a barter deal, but we are willing to help them all we can without any such obligation on their part.

New overseas postage rates are 11¢ for the first 2 ounces plus 7¢ for each additional two for surface (seapost) mail, and 5¢ for the first two ounces plus 3¢ for each additional one for printed matter. I am not certain about Air rates -- see your local Post Office.))

PUBLICITY REPORT -- Ron Ellick.

The first informal Neff meeting held in conjunction with a Westercon successfully occupied ninety minutes of otherwise void program time at the Baycon on July 2, 1961. Director Albert Lewis took the gavel, and Neffers and visitors took part in a friendly bull-session concerned mostly with the current Short Story Contest and the upcoming Seacon, with a pitch by OE Harness for memberships for the struggling Neffer Amateur Press Alliance.

Members present besides Lewis and myself were Honey Graham, Ed Baker (*), Fred Patten (*), Ray Nelson, Bjo Trimble, Stan Woolston, Don Franson, Forrest Ackerman, Ken Hedberg, Bruce Henstell, Wally Weber, Wally Conser, Jack Harness and Ed Ludwig. Non-members Terry Carr, Jack Speer and Rick Sneary also sat in for most of the meeting.

((Editor's note: Baker and Patten do not appear on the Secretary's list as members as of this writing, but I have heard from various sources that the details will be settled soon.))

Ludwig confirmed that Forrest J. Ackerman, Cele Goldsmith and August Derleth will judge, respectively, fantasy, stf and weird catagories in the Contest, and that the awards now total \$75 in cash for fifteen prizes, with some fanzine editors offering free subscriptions to first prize winners in some catagories. Bjo outlined some of her experiences with the Art Show at Pittsburgh and offered advice in relation to similar problems which are creeping into the Story Contest. After this, an uninhibited discussion broke forth and many proposals which will be followed in varying degrees by the Public Relations Office were put forward by the attendees. In all, the meeting was an enjoyable opportunity to talk in the interests of west coast Neffers about many subjects.

Statistically, it would seem that the N3F is not being represented in the voting in the current TransAtlantic Fan Fund, because up to the end of June Don Ford reports that only 55 people had voted. This club by itself should turn out more than twice that strong to vote, because the election of a fan to travel to the British National Convention on fandom's contributions is an issue of interest to every one of us. You must all have seen TAFF ballots at one time or another -- be warned that the deadline is about to slide past (Sept 30, same as the deadline for the Story Contest) and if you can't locate a TAFF ballot you can obtain one by writing to Don Ford, Box 19-T, RR #2, Loveland, Ohio. Any fan who can claim activity in science-fiction fandom prior to January 1960 can vote -- and this certainly covers anyone who attended a convention or belonged to a stf fanclub before that date. If your personal choice is not elected, you can blame it on

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the "M's", at which time I discovered the pulps. (I think it was the interminable, mundane, "historical romances" by Louisa Muhlbach, which I suspect now were not very historical and certainly not romantic, which drove me, in sheer desperation, to investigating these lurid-looking newsstand offerings.) There wasn't much available at first, except Argosy and Blue Book's occasional off-the-trail stories, but just about then there burst forth a whole spate of Horrifying, Terrifying, Astonishing, Startling, Thrilling, Amazing, Astounding, and Weird, Ghost Stories. From then on I remained in a reader's limbo until Fandom knocked on my door in 1949.

This second "breakthrough" in my fannish career opened a period of "joining": NFFF, TNO, TLMA, Norwestcon, SAPS, FAPA, TAFF, Chicon 2 -- from 1949 to 1959 you name it and I was probably in it. This, of course, was a short step to the break-through to ampubbing -- the goal toward which my unconscious steps had been headed all along. In fact, these two phases were inextricably overlapped by the very nature of the fanac involved.

The next development was less a break-through than a cutting-down. The disconcerting discovery was that certain hither-to delightful activities now bored me. SAPS, for instance, although then at an unprecedented high of productivity, to me seemed too insipid to merit even a minimum token activity. Then, one by one, other "memberships" bit the dust by default of one kind or another. Until now only NFFF remains as a tie to general fandom. NFFF and its apa-offspring, N'APA. What will be the next "break-through"? Complete GAFIA? Maybe -- who can tell? It might even turn out to be serconac in an entirely different hobby-realm.

But, whatever it is, I'll bet it will hold a "sense of wonder" with a slight tinge of skepticism. Somehow, I still doubt that he "lived happily ever after .." Boredom sets in too easily in Mundania.

O V E R S E A S B U R E A U -- James G. Chambers, Chairman.

Phil Kohn and Erwin Scudla have replied to my questionnaire. Both state that there is almost no possibility of recruiting in their countries, although Scudla has said that he would help if such a program was instituted. Both have also volunteered to take on increased correspondence if, in the words of Kohn, the people "have something to say". Scudla says that he can write English, German and French.

. No one has as yet replied to Kohn's request to sell Israeli L-P records to pay for club dues and zine subs.

((Editor's note: How about it, you record fans ??? Here is your chance to get a really rare item -- one which you can't buy in this country. What are you waiting for ?? Drop Chambers a line while you can still get them.))

Scudla says: "I think an exchange program of American and foreign fanzines on a European scale might be successful. The main difficulty is: no one here is able to cover the cost. The common income in Europe is much smaller than in the U.S. and European fans can spend only very little money for fandom. In no case does it reach the point of paying the postage on fanzines on a large scale." If you have any comments or suggestions on how the N3F might help Scudla on his project, you might write him directly, or send me your suggestions and I will pass them along to him. I'm sure he would appreciate it very much.

J A P A N E S E S - F , by Roy Tackett.

There is a rather active science-fiction fandom here in Japan. I have been in correspondence with some of the members and they are most eager to learn about American/European science-fiction and fandom. Like most fandoms other than our own and that of our English cousins it is rather on the serconnish side, deeply interested in stf both as a literature and a way of communicating scientific ideas.

Some names, addresses, and pertinent information.

Takumi Shibano, 118, O-okayama, Meguro-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

Takumi is evidently the #1 man of Japanese fandom. He organized the S-F Club of Japan (which now has 180 members) and is editor and publisher of Uchūjin, Japan's first and leading fanzine. Takumi is a graduate of the Tokyo Institute of Technology and a math teacher by profession. Uchūjin is very much like a prozine in appearance, and he is interested in getting some articles for it. He wants material about American/European science-fiction and biographical material on the pro authors.

They are not unknown over here since there is a reprint version of F&SF -- the only Japanese prozine.

Any material submitted to Takumi for Uchūjin (that translates as "Cosmic Dust", and Takumi writes professionally under the name of Kosumi-rei. Say it fast and it comes out "Cosmic Ray") should be thoroughly checked for spelling, grammar and punctuation, etc., and should be double spaced to allow room between the lines for the Japanese translation.

Miss Shoko Uhara, c/o M. Kimoto, 1073 Horen-Minami, Nara City, Nara, Japan.

Shoko is a 16 year old femme-fan -- an 11th grader in high school. Extremely interested in the field, but with very little knowledge of it. Has some knowledge of the old hard-cover classics and a bit of what has appeared in SF Magazine. I have tried to put her in contact with the rest of Japanese fandom.

Toshio Ogawa, Finance Section, Ground Staff Office, Defense Dept., Hinokicho, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

He is a finance officer in the Japanese Ground self-Defense Force (Army). Interested in S-F and in astronomy. Has read one issue of Galaxy and wants to know more about the magazines and stf in general.

Den Yoshimitsu, Quality Engineering Division, Kawasaki Aircraft Co., Ltd., Mikakino, Sohara-cho, Inaba-gun, Gifu Prefecture, Japan.

Den is an electronics engineer, a member of the S-F Club of Japan, and a budding writer.

Tetsu Yano, 9050 Kunitachi-Machi, Kitatama-Gun, Tokyo, Japan.

He should need no introduction, as he has visited the states and attended one of the World Cons. Is a member of the S-F Club of Japan and translates much of the material which appears in S-F Magazine (the Japanese reprint of F&SF).

These and other Japanese fans are intensely interested in the field. They want to read good stf, and they want to know what is going on in the field in other parts of the world. I think this would be a good opportunity for the NFFF to lend a hand. The letters I get are somewhat fabulous. The English is not perfect, but it is good and quite understandable. I've been sending out prozines and fanzines and they are amazed at them. Den Yoshimitsu wrote me that it was like a dream come true. I know that letters, fanzines and especially prozines would be appreciated by all concerned. Start with letters, though.

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PUBLICITY REPORT -- Ron Ellik.

The first informal Neff meeting held in conjunction with a Westercon successfully occupied ninety minutes of otherwise void program time at the Baycon on July 2, 1961. Director Albert Lewis took the gavel, and Neffers and visitors took part in a friendly bull-session concerned mostly with the current Short Story Contest and the upcoming Seacon, with a pitch by OE Harness for memberships for the struggling Neffer Amateur Press Alliance.

Members present besides Lewis and myself were Honey Graham, Ed Baker (*), Fred Patten (*), Ray Nelson, Bjo Trimble, Stan Woolston, Don Franson, Forrest Ackerman, Ken Hedberg, Bruce Henstell, Wally Weber, Wally Conser, Jack Harness and Ed Ludwig. Non-members Terry Carr, Jack Speer and Rick Sneary also sat in for most of the meeting.

((Editor's note: Baker and Patten do not appear on the Secretary's list as members as of this writing, but I have heard from various sources that the details will be settled soon.))

Ludwig confirmed that Forrest J. Ackerman, Cele Goldsmith and August Derleth will judge, respectively, fantasy, stf and weird categories in the Contest, and that the awards now total \$75 in cash for fifteen prizes, with some fanzine editors offering free subscriptions to first prize winners in some categories. Bjo outlined some of her experiences with the Art Show at Pittsburgh and offered advice in relation to similar problems which are creeping into the Story Contest. After this, an uninhibited discussion broke forth and many proposals which will be followed in varying degrees by the Public Relations Office were put forward by the attendees. In all, the meeting was an enjoyable opportunity to talk in the interests of west coast Neffers about many subjects.

Statistically, it would seem that the N3F is not being represented in the voting in the current TransAtlantic Fan Fund, because up to the end of June Don Ford reports that only 55 people had voted. This club by itself should turn out more than twice that strong to vote, because the election of a fan to travel to the British National Convention on fandom's contributions is an issue of interest to every one of us. You must all have seen TAFF ballots at one time or another -- be warned that the deadline is about to slide past (Sept 30, same as the deadline for the Story Contest) and if you can't locate a TAFF ballot you can obtain one by writing to Don Ford, Box 19-T, RR #2, Loveland, Ohio. Any fan who can claim activity in science-fiction fandom prior to January 1960 can vote -- and this certainly covers anyone who attended a convention or belonged to a stf fanclub before that date. If your personal choice is not elected, you can blame it on

anything you like -- but if you don't vote, you haven't any room to complain.

Albert Lewis (of California) has agreed to handle the Auction Bloch in the interests of TAFF at the World S-F Convention in Seattle this Labor Day. Persons interested in seeing one of our directors in a fine display of auctioneering should look for this item on the program -- and remember, you can buy an hour of your favorite pro's time while Al is working. Al has handled the auctions at the Boise and Oakland Westercons, and has thoroughly demonstrated his capabilities and enthusiasm for auctioneering.

 RECRUITING BUREAU -- Richard C. Finch

I have enough recruiters for the Bureau as far as the U.S. is concerned, but can use all sorts of self-appointed recruiters here in the U.S. Recruit friends and have them bring a friend into the club. If you see anyone buy a magazine at a newsstand, slip a piece of paper into his or her hand, or approach them in person, depending on how much courage you have.

Now what I need are members who are willing to write letters to members in other countries, or for those members themselves to come forth as recruiters. To those writing members in other countries, get a knowledge of what magazines and books are printed so that you can write the publishers for a mailing list of subscribers, as they probably do not have letter cols in their mags.

 1961 ELECTION CALL

As provided by the Constitution of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, a call is hereby issued for candidates for the annual election to fill the posts of one President and five Directors for the year 1962. Any member in good standing may become a candidate by complying with the following requirements, which include the latest Directorate action and interpretations:

(1) Candidates should have their dues paid for the year 1962. This is to prevent complications in case an elected candidate should not have his or her dues paid by Jan. 1st, in which case they would have to be ruled out.

(2) Candidates must send a notice of their candidacy to both the Secretary and the Official Editor (who also happens to currently be the incumbent President) on or before September 10, 1961. This should clearly state what position they are seeking, and include an agreement to serve in that office if elected.

(3) Candidates may (but do not necessarily have to) submit a platform not more than one page in length (preferably shorter). Policies and official acts of any incumbent officer may be attacked, but no profanity, "mud slinging" or personal attacks on any other member's character, or libelous material may be included. In case any such is in any platform, the O.E. will return it to the candidate for revision, if time permits. Otherwise, he will delete the unacceptable parts.

 1961 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The regular membership meeting of the NFFF will be held at Seattle, Washington, during the Seacon. This is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 3rd, about noon -- but check the bulletin board in the NFFF room for any possible change in time or location.

If you will be at the Seacon, be sure to attend this meeting. It is your chance to settle the affairs of the NFFF face to face.

10 Secretary - Treasurer's Report

Balance brought forward\$ 320.80
Dues collected 30.60

Total \$ 351.40

Disbursements:

Ralph Holland, for TNFF \$ 21.50

Al Lewis, for Tightbeam 18.00

\$ 39.50 39.50

New balance carried forward \$ 311.90

NEW MEMBERS

David Bradley, P.O. Box 158, Rochester, Texas.
Lady Barbara Hutchins, 1633 Ardath, Wichita Falls, Texas
Al haLevy, 1855 Woodland Ave., Palo Alto, Calif.
John Jackson, RR 7, Box 137 D, Crown Point, Ind.
Maxine Larson, 8 Holly Ave., Great Kills, Staten Island, N.Y.
Larry McCombs, 2790 W. 8th St., Los Angeles 5, Calif.
Mark Owings, 319 E. North Ave., Baltimore, Md.
Ron Phelps, 916 Lee Ave., Seminole, Oklahoma
J. Ben Stark, 113 Ardmore Rd., Berkeley 7, Calif.

FORMER MEMBERS REINSTATING

Howard DeVore, 4705 Weddel St., Dearborn, Mich.
Nan Mason, 1639 Hobart St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

LOST NEFFERS

Mrs. Barbara G. Schmidt, Bay Shore, L.I., N.Y. - mail returned "unclaimed".

SECRETARIAL CHATTER

Get those cookies off to G. M. Carr if you wish to show off how you can bake -- or can you? Let's help the Seacon people to show us a big time -- publicize the fact that there is an NFFF. Show them we are proud to be a member of the N3F ... and don't forget to vote for TAFF. Get your platform in for an office in N3F -- You criticize, then get in there and help run it.

Also send that STORY you got a rejection slip for to the Story Contest. Make it pay.

All for SEACON!

TIGHTBEAM

Editor for the next Tightbeam is Bob Lambeck, 868 Helston Rd., Birmingham, Mich. You might still have time to get a letter to him for publication if you do it right now. Following ish will be by Art Hayes, Bird's Creek, Ont., Canada.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Art Hayes, Bird's Creek, Ontario, Canada
Marijane Johnson, 5525 N. Ledgerwood, Spokane, Wash.
Alan Lewis, 338-873 FNET, USCGG Spencer (WPG-36), c/o Postmaster, Staten Island, N.Y.

N E E F = T R A D E R

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I need the following items;

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Martinez, Georgia.

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Howard DeVore, 4705 Weddell Str.
Dearborn, Michigan. WRITE.

N.F.F.F. = HISTORY

(continued)

TNFF Vol. 5, #1, Jan. 1946.. Page 10- Sec*Treas Report-Pagell, Pay-Your Dues Now in 3/4ths inch letters.

-- Vol.5 #2, Feb/Mar/1946 .. inside front cover- Table Contents; Directory of officers and Committees; Shows Kaymar as V-Pres and Welcom Chrmn. End of page lists "Projects now in work;--"page 2- THE PRES.MESSAGE- continues on pages 2 and 3..very good. Elert. active, efficient Pres...had plenty of interest in trying to make fine club of N3F.. P.4- Editorial (Charles Tanner is the OE) P.5- The Blatant Beast(continues on p.6 & 7); P.8- The beginner's Page (information and advice to the new fan); P.9 "The Quadremestrial Report of the status of the NFFF Bureau of Copyrights. Third quadremestrial, 1945." By the Chief..(How'd ya like to say that in a hurry?)..P.10- The Secretary's Report for Feb/Mar.. Finances and Changes of Address..P.11-"More Anent Economy" by James Hevelin (Rust E. Barron). Page 12-Laurcate Reward Report..All names are amateur-fen, with exception of one. Tucker is listed as "Best Fan & Author"; Dunkelberger is first as FAN EDITOR by one vote over Lancy Dunkelberger also won first by a terrific lead as publishing the best Fanzine- FANEWS ..46 votes- 2nd place had only 17. He also won 1st place as FAN OF THE YEAR- by 15 votes ahead of 2nd place- Kaymar has 2nd place as best new fan..(Tisk- WHO is this fella name of Blanks wh o beat you to 1st?) and such a name too) and not even on the N3F roster!)..

TNFF May 22, 1946- guess supposed to be Vol 5, #3- Is a 6 pager no cover) leaflet- from Pres. Dunkelberger- states that the OE has been ill all spring and the continued illness forced him to send in his resignation.. and so "The matter of a successor is before the Board of Directors now." Another paragraph which certainly gives an EXCELLENT idea is this-"The formation of a Nominating Committee has been authorized and I'll have someone in the near future, for this post. The purpose of this committee is to assure several worth - while candidates and a full slate of competent candidates. It will in no way hamper the filing of anyone who cares to run for any office and will not constitute a separate endorsement for those chosen by the committee."

Another Paragraph " Ed Counts has been released from his job as Constitutional Trouble Shooter. His job (earning a living) takes him on the road most of the time leaving very little time at home per week. As he has received no complaints there hasn't been any work to do so he asked that the job be transferred to someone else." Another paragraph praises Coswal for good work as Chairman of Mss Bureau.. Another says-"A certain amount of criticism has occurred concerning my suspension of the February issue of the OO. I desire that we have a OO that is regular and frequent as much as anyone else, but financial considerations make it imperative that we curtail our expenditures where ever we can." and "Tanner(that's the OE(was) sent all of the material he had assembled for the OO, much of it stenciled, but to date none of it has arrived. Several I understand, were included. They will probably appear in the June issue.

"At the Pacificon; E.E.Evans will be our official representative and he informs us that a meeting has been planned for NFFF members. Details of this meeting will appear at some future date." (4th World S.F.Con at L.A. - July ~~xxxx~~ 4th thru 7th)

**Compiled by Eva Firestone. Stenciled by KAYMAR , Historian.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH NFFF By "Bete Puante"

What's wrong with the NFFF? I've been searching for an answer to this question for some time. It seems, according to the critics, that NFFF was born prematurely; abnormal; and some have even classed it as a Changling. Sadly deserted in its early life by most of its kindred, it had to look elsewhere for support and love. Not only this, but its death has been predicted each time it suffered a growing pain, or the diseases to which all fledglings become victim before maturity.

This year the NFFF nears the time known as "becoming of age". The juvenile years have not been without mistakes, but these should not be classed as incurable or give reason for the criticism oft times rendered by those once called friends. Despite the morbid prognostications and the oft-prophesied death and burial by its erst-while "friends", the "unknown" NFFF continues healthy and happy and, like any eager youth, patiently awaits 1962, when it will celebrate its 21st birthday.

Since the adolescent years were hard and often depressing for the tough youngster, and unjust criticism has dogged its footsteps all the way, one wonders what the mature years will bring. Under the tutelage of its foster father, Ralph Holland, one expects a brighter future for the 21 year oldster.

Perhaps one thing that has helped bring about the mutterings of the critics is the fact that NFFF has not always picked its friends with tact, nor with consideration of the congeniality and loyalty of those chosen. But, somehow, that hasn't seemed to matter. NFFF has tottered at times; skipped at other times; but it refused to accept Death as a partner. And even though Science-Fiction is claimed by some to be in its death throes, NFFF continues on the road to maturity nonchalantly unaware that this could affect it.

The yelling of the mob -- the tolling of the death-bell -- has followed it all its life, so what if they now turn and claim that all Science Fiction is dying? This too can pass away!! And the year 1962 can find the NFFF a full grown and robust club in a world of Science Fiction Fandom which is stronger than ever! Science Fiction clubs may come and Science Fiction clubs may go, but as long as we of the NFFF have the guts and ambition to show our critics how wrong they are, the NFFF will go on, forever

((Editor's note: "Bete Puante" is the pen-name of one of our oldest (in point of membership) Neffers, who has seen the fortunes of the club rise and fall. It is used just as he wrote it because it seemed, to me at least, to be a welcome switch from the doleful obituaries by the prophets of gloom and doom which seem to fill so many of our zines lately. Constructive criticism is, of course, very valuable, but much of what I have read recently is pointless and completely destructive, and apparently merely made from some inner urge to try to destroy anything which anyone else considers good.))

THE PITTCON ART SHOW RIDES AGAIN!!

Bjo, in her role as art agent, took a portfolio of artwork to the Westercon. One of George Barr's color sketches, "Shrine in the Hall of Fame" took the eye of Cele Goldsmith, editor of the Ziff-Davis zines, and she bought it on the spot, and commissioned Forry Ackerman to find a writer to do a story to go with it. It has now been announced that the writer of the cover-story will be Clark Ashton Smith. It was Bjo's first sale as an agent, and she was heard to say: "now what can I do for an encore??"

The answer to that one is up to you guys and gals who draw and paint. The first of our Art Show exhibitors has now made the pro field -- YOU could be the next!

HODGE - PODGE - by Alma Hill

Member Ed Bryant recently attended a two week session of the Junior Engineer's and Scientists Summer Institute at the Colorado State University. There were 180 high-school juniors and seniors present, of whom he located 35 interested in science fiction, but entirely unaware of fandom. After much thinking on the problem, he decided that he would need help, and began writing to all the N3F Directors. Flattered, I answered right away with seven of eight empty sheets of thin paper to make sets of those addresses on. Ed wants them to know all fandom, not just the best (N3F, that is) part, but doesn't know of any group except N3F which would be likely to help. I think he's right, too.

Frank Dietz, the brave, loyal, honest and handsome husband of Belle Dietz, says that she has not only recovered from her illness but is better than ever, having taken doctor's orders to get off some weight. She has lost forty pounds and still going down, and was out gadding when I phoned, so I didn't go there, being fatter then ever myself and just not willing to stand the comparison right then. Later I'll get up morale enough to be properly admiring no doubt, no doubt. After all, Belle deserves admiration for this and many more reasons as well.

Hans Santesson has been ill and not looking too well now, but carrying on with the British edition of Saint Mystery Magazine, and again has an American edition on the stands. This carries a photograph of Leslie Charteris, owner of the magazine. Here I had rather supposed that Charteris was a house name, or some such myth. He had leased the title to a publisher who folded last year and still wouldn't release the zine until now. The American issue reprints only a few from British stock, and includes stories by Djinn Faine, Avram Davidson, and Harlan Ellison. Most of the stories are very enjoyable, but Ellison is still on that plot of which the denouement is what a great thing it is to realize how evial is everyone, especially the main character. That plot never was any good, but Harlan has such verve that he always makes it last until you hit the dreg.

IES Journal #2 had printshop trouble but is finally off the press. Lester del Rey explains how we will colonize Mars, even though it isn't worth doing. He also dismisses the possibility of any kind of space drive except jet reaction, his argument being of the most noble simplicity: "Let's not speculate about anything else!" We've been holding up "Logic at Work" (that title is a joke, as everyone knows who has seen a copy) because funds have been coming in enough for a third Journal, and so have the materials. If there is any more left over that, however, "Logic" is supposed to rear its foolish head again. Much material is on hand for that also. Truly, this is an era in which truth is not only stranger than fiction, it's more entertaining than some of the stuff you see. If you like it scary, just read the papers.

Readers' Digest carries a story that outclasses most of the missile-retaliation stories, always excepting "Thunder and Roses". Last summer the radar outposts got equipped with some fancy computers all set to say whether anything in the sky is an IBM attack or not. As soon as they got set they notified us that we were getting it! It seems they had no distance perception, so the moon came in with all sorts of descriptions. While it lasted there were some fingers poised over buttons, hairs turning white and falling out, and all this is truth, merely shrunk a little to get words around it.

Galaxy has Frederick Pohl now editing that and IF. We are glad to hear that Editor Gold is on the mend, but must admit that Pohl is doing a better job than Gold's recent work. It got so I couldn't read anything in it but Willy Ley's column. The authors had Gold read to a T, and they kept him loaded with phony effects. I'd have gotten sick myself. This is a literary criticism, not personal to Editor Gold, who is a dear soul as well as a great man. But even from the personal point of view, he'd be better off if he can somehow persuade the authors to stay off his pet weakness, we suspect.

Art Gray, for many years Chairman of the Board when Street & Smith was a family owned corporation, stayed in the management for a while after the sale of S&S stock but resigned this spring. He will give all his attention to the law, which has always been his first interest. What this means to John Campbell and "Analog", if anything, we haven't been told. However, from what we know of John, either his magazine is making money, in which case the new management will be as well pleased as the old -- or else it is not and he is already doing something else. It would definitely not be like John to stay with a losing streak -- so we figure he is winning as usual.

Fannish recipe collectors may want to file this recipe which I found in the Boston Globe women's page. As you know, there is a kind of bologna known as Blood Pudding, but someone from Salem has sent in this little number under the same title: 3 cups strained blood, 4 cups coffee, 1 cup mixed pignolia and walnut meats chopped, 2 cups cake crumbs, 1 teaspoon cloves, 1 teaspoon cinnamon. Mix and cook about 30 minutes, stirring with a wooden spoon, as it burns easily. May be served hot or cold as a dessert. Just let me know when you are making it so I can hide out. It is clear that you can't get the first ingredient in any super-market yet, but who knows? They have about everything else except Long Pig.

Two

vital points that need to be brought out more in the Story Contest to encourage new writers: first, there is NO pro competition and, second, there is NO need to belong to the N3F; this is an all-fandom service. We just want to see some new talent encouraged. We think the field needs it.

Lenny Kaye's Obelisk #1 has the best Prosser cover I've seen to date. Some mimeographers have been trying to trace Prosser's work, but Lenny gave it stenofax, with impressive results. He will take contributions, trades, loc's, or 2 for 25¢ -- and although his first issue is irregular in looks and contents as well as schedule, but we must say that it is more interesting than "Warhoon", which came in the same mail, and has developed signs of imminent paunch. Whn has Bergeron drawings, column by Walt Willis, letters from Rich (gafia) Brown, Robert Bloch, and who else -- and yet somehow manages to sound stuffy. Possibly this is the result of all the space currently being given to various aspects of political asinity in the popular press. It is true that stupid oxen like the John Birch Society can be dangerous, but surely at least they can be kept out of fandom -- pro or con. Besides the irritating nature of such subject matter, Bergeron himself gets drawn in by the fuggheadedness of it all and seems to become fairly confused himself. If I'm going to be all mixed up, let's have it going on in outer space where there's more room. I would never want to miss any Bergeron drawings, for they are keenly witty, but this discussionzine business is going to be the rrruin of some good fanzines -- it's too easy to over do. As in this paragraph: quod erst demonstrandum. Gets too thick. Sends the reader back to the reprints.

Theodore Sturgeon spent some time, according to his friends, trying to write himself out of a slump. I wouldn't want the job of undoing what he has already done, would you? Well, that's what he was stuck with. However, his little paperback issue, mostly reprints, is a refreshing thing. Back when Sturgeon was a lad instead of a legend, he was a darned good story teller. Those stories don't all pound so hard on the reader, but I'd say that in the case of some stories that can be an improvement. Sturgeon's most brutal effects always depend on the delicacy of his contrasts anyway.

Xonophon's "Anabasis", translated as "The March Up Country", is from thousands of years, but that translation is the best thing out. I couldn't put it down.

F A N C Y C L O P E D I A I I

Dick Eney tells me that he still has a few copies of Fancy II left, which he will put on sale at the Seacon -- probably your last chance to get a copy.

Chicago fandom probably has the distinction of being the least tightly organized group in the country. Since I joined (1953) there have been no feuds -- no schisms. I attribute our peacefulness to our lack of formal organization, which offers small opportunity for anyone to "use" the club in a manner which would arouse bad feeling. Compared to some clubs, happily, we have practically no history. We find it more fun (though less spectacular) to talk science fiction than to follow formal procedures.

The framework of our group is the University of Chicago Science Fiction Club. While this is formally a University student group, membership is open to all, and students are usually a minority. The University affiliation is maintained primarily to assure us a free meeting room; the University's principal requirement is that a student be treasurer.

Meetings are conducted quite informally. There are no minutes, no treasurer's reports, no committee reports. Roberts' Rules of Order are honored principally in the breach. Which is not to say that meetings are disorderly, but rather that we have found that informalism encourages maximum participation. Of course, like most clubs of any sort, we have many more passive members than active, and so the actives tend to coalesce into a sort of "Inner Circle" who do most of the work and make most of the decisions. They plan and execute the programs, and attend every meeting, barring broken bones and Selective Service Calls. I've heard of science fiction clubs where there is great squabbling over the offices and duties, with much jealous guarding of prerogatives. We have been spared that, probably because the organization is so loose that everyone just naturally does the job he is willing to accept responsibility for. Precisely because there is no pressure to "be active," the deadwood quickly falls away, leaving the willing workers. We get more done that way because our projects are not hindered by loafers.

The U of C S F Club is not extremely large -- attendance usually ranges from fifteen to thirty, with very occasionally as many as seventy five or one hundred for outstanding programs. The meetings are every other Wednesday evening during the University quarters, from October to June. Summer meetings are usually restricted to two or three week-end picnics or parties at members' homes.

For some reason which we have never fully understood, our membership tends towards older fans; most of us are in our late twenties or early thirties. Students are generally our youngest members. Perhaps it is because our meetings are usually more on the serious side that the beanie brigade is rarely represented. Or maybe there just isn't any beanie brigade in Chicago. Here, fans are born nineteen years old.

Most of the U of C S F Club meetings are planned programs, commonly a talk by a member. Occasionally we are able to rope in an eminent guest speaker. Perhaps our most notable meeting in recent years was when Bob Bloch, Tom Scortia and Bob Tucker discussed en blanc "The Best and Worst Years of Science Fiction," with each giving his praise and criticism of works both famous and infamous. An outstanding series of meetings were lectures by Heinlein, Kornbluth, Bester and Bloch on "The Science Fiction Novel as Social Criticism," which were given at the University as a seminar and repeated for the club. These lectures have been published by ADVENT, at \$3.50 (-- advt.) But most of our programs are informal discussions by the membership, led by the speaker of the evening, on such topics as new developments in space flight, the possible outstripping of science fiction by science, techniques and quirks of various authors, is "Starship Troopers" dangerous nonsense, how different writers see a post-atomic-war world, and so on. Sometimes we just play games, such as a science-fictional version of Twenty Questions (or Animal, Vegetable or Alien?), and of course now and then it is just

a wide open bull session. In fact, even the prepared programs have a way of turning into bull sessions which are usually continued unabated at a coffee shop after the caretaker turns us out of our meeting room at 11 P.M.

Because of the affiliation with the University, the club as such does not publish any fanzines or take part in other fan activities, such as conventions and conferences. We do not wish to give even the appearance that the University of Chicago is sponsoring our fannish projects. The University has not restricted us, or even mentioned the subject, but we feel that discretion is the better part of fanac. So, the U of C S F Club is for the regular meetings. For other activities, especially for conventions and the like which involve association with other clubs, we have the Chicago Science Fiction League. The League's membership is pretty much identical with the "Inner Circle" of the U of C S F Club. Entry into this inner group is of course unrestricted; one need only display enough interest to take an active part in the doings.

Old timers in the Chicago group include Earl Kemp, Rick Prairie, Lewis Grant, Jr., George Price, Jon Stopa, Charles Freudenthal, Jim O'Meara, Else Janda, Joe Sarno, Jerry DeMuth, Evan Appelman and Mark Irwin. Among the comparative newcomers (they've only been around three or four years) are Mike Teller, Ellen Walters, George Petterson, Ann Dinkleman, Fran Light and Richard and Rosemary Hickey. If Chicago gets the 1962 Convention (cross your fingers, knock on wood), you will see a number of these names on the Committee. Among our more notable past members were Sidney Coleman, Edward Wood and Bob Briney, who are no longer living in the Chicago area.

In 1958, seven of the ingroup members formed Advent Publishers which has done some noteworthy publishing within the field, and we like to consider ourselves as the largest active non-professional publishers.

APA wise, both Earl Kemp and Jim O'Meara belong to SAPS and co-publish SaFari. In addition, Earl belongs to IPSO and has been on the FAPA waiting list for more than three years. The past has seen some general circulation zines associated with the group, notably Jerry DeMuth's Sigbo, Ed Wood and Charles Freudenthal's Journal of Science Fiction and Earl's Destiny. Both Who Killed Science Fiction and Why is a Fan were published here for SAPS.

As far as the N3F is concerned, one of our favorite ingroup members is Martha Beck, from nearby Gary, Indiana, and we are looking forward to helping her host the NFFF Coffee Room in 1962.

LOCAL CLUB DIRECTORY

The response to this project was not sufficient to make a regular directory worth while this issue, and so we are substituting an extended listing of the two groups which did respond. Again we invite club officers, whether NFFF or not, to send in the information on their club for directory listing.

RAILS - Rochester Area Imaginative Literature Society. This is described as a loosely organized group, having no formal President, altho Don Anderson usually acts in that capacity. Don, Frank Hiller and Bruce Robbins are Neffers. Larry Farsace, one of the Charter Members of the NFFF, is also in the group. Larry puts out a genzine, Golden Atom, which is now in its twentieth year. Ron Farley, in the Air Force, is also a member of the group. Meetings are held in the homes of the members "whenever we get the urge", and average attendance is six. If any visiting fans will call Don at ED 41568, or Bruce at LU 62255, a meeting will be held that evening, if it is a week-day, or practically at once on a week-end.

Webster Groves Science Fantasy Society -- Only one officer, the President, who is Scott Neilsen, 731 Brookridge Dr., Websters Grove 19, Mo. Only four members at present, but they have a large list of prospective members who will probably be taken in when school begins this fall. During the school term they meet once a week, either Friday at 4:00 P.M. or Saturday P.M., at the members' homes. During the summer the activities are almost entirely social (swimming, bowling, golfing) and no formal business is conducted. Activities consist mainly of fannish bull sessions, a lending library consisting of books owned by members, and occasionally mass orders for books.

((Seems as if I had at least one more, but can't find it. If it turns up, it will be used next time -- rmh))

S U S P E N D E D F A N Z I N E S

Space Times. "Bug Eye #7" reports that Jurgen Molthof, the editor, died. No other details available at this time.

Dafoe - Suspended indefinitely due to the editor's severe study course and the financial burden of his college career.

Flush - Folded by its editor, who will concentrate on "Cinder".

N E W F A N Z I N E L I S T I N G S

Ad Astra * (4) Ed Bryant, Route 2, Wheatland, Wyoming.

Quarterly. 20-25 pages. Mimeo. Stf, humor, news. 15¢

Obelisk * (1) Lenny Kaye, 418 Hobart Rd., Sutton Terrace, North Brunswick, N.J.

Irregular. 30 pages. Mimeo. Articles, fiction. 15¢ - 2 for 25¢

Halfanthol * (1) Don Fitch, 3908 Frijo, Covina, Calif.

Irregular. Articles, stf, reviews. 27 pages. Mimeo. N'APA, also trades..

Miafan * (1) Michael Kurman, 231 S.W. 51st Court, Miami 44, Fla.

Bimonthly. 17 pages. Ditto. Fanzine reviews, lettercol. 15¢, 85¢ per year.

Scottishe (24) Ethel Lindsay, Courage House, 6 langley Ave., Surbiton, Surrey,

England. Irregular. 30 pages. Mimeo. Reviews, articles, lettercol.

Ompa-zine, but will trade, or accept subs at 1/ per copy.

Science-Fiction Times (Germany) (Vol. 4, # 2) Burkhard Blum, 16)Hotheim/Ried,

Jakobstrasse 17, West Germany. Biweekly. 4 pages. News (German text)

Vahana (1) Les Nirenberg, 1217 Weston Rd., Toronto 15, Ont., Canada

Quarterly. 26 pages. Offset. Non-stf articles and discussion. 25¢ 5/\$1.00

The list of fanzines in the last issue has resulted in a small flood of zines, which I have read with interest but simply can't review -- or even personally acknowledge this time in most cases, because as soon as I get this ish off the press I will have to begin frantic preparations to leave on a meandering course to the Seacon and back.

I must note, however, that the increased quality of the fanzines coming my way these days is one of the most encouraging things I have seen for a long time. It indicates that even if the pro-publishers are trying to kill stf, the fans don't intend to take it lying down -- and some of these are almost good enough to become prozines if the present pros get too too difficult. It has happened before.