

T
I
G
H
T
B
E
A
M

NEXT EDITOR

ART HAYES
Bird's Creek
Ontario, Canada

DEADLINE October 20

We pass along with sorrow and regret the news that the mother of Eva Firestone passed away on July 13th. Words cannot do much to ease the sense of loss at such a time, but I think I can speak for a host of Eva's friends when I say that she has our heartfelt sympathy.

-- Ralph M. Holland, Pres., NFFP

Alma Hill says that the Story Contest is still not getting submissions. She's beginning to wonder whether all this amateur talent we hear about is just an empty brag.

"Winning an N3F prize does not prevent pro sale -- it could even help. As a matter of fact, if you realized what some of those prozines pay, you'd see that our prizes would interest pros except that the contest is for amateurs only.

"Outside publications have been nice about giving the contest free space, but one thing they don't make clear is that this is for ANY fan, Neffer or not, just so it's new talent."

Change of address correction:

Alan Lewis, 338-873 FNET
USCGC Spencer (WPG-36), Fort St. George
Staten Island, New York

New address:

Andy Main
1205 Peralta Avenue
Berkeley 6, California

Robert N. Lambeck
266 - 8th Street
Troy, New York

S
E
P
T
E
M
B
E
R

INDEX:

Bryant, Ed	14
Crilly, Lawrence	12
Enoy, Dick	20
Finch, Dick	11
Franson, Donald	20
Hollin, Clayton	16
Harrell, Philip A	20
Hares, Arthur	3
Holland, Ralph M	8
Eulen, David G	9
Murman, Michael	15

EDITORIAL: (Robert M. Lambeck
at the controls)
Well, election time has come
again, and while we're electing
a new slate of Directors and
reinstating Ralph Holland in the
presidency, I think it wouldn't
be out of place to consider a
few more changes.
First, there's the problem
of Tightbeam. When Al Lewis and
I mailed out the last issue of

Postwarp on April 8th, 1960, we didn't know whether there would ever be another issue of the NFFP letterzine. Walter A Coslet, however, came to the rescue with Hyperspace Tightbeam, and the hydraesque monstrosity of Tightbeam and its rotating editorship came into being. When it first happened it was a good thing. It had manifold benefits: (1) The temporary editors managed to get the issues out on time, whereas Lewis had run into problems, (2) It allowed the members of the club to see what could be done by other editors in the way of reproduction, layout, etc, (3) it allowed these editors (for the space of one issue) to give a better display of their own opinions and feelings to the membership. However, I believe that the rotating editorship has served its purpose and should be discontinued. Now that the NFFP letterzine has been revitalized, we should return to the original plan of one editor.

When the rotating editorship was first tried, one of the advantages claimed was that there would be no overall editorial bias. In other words, no censorship. But there is no need to worry about editorial bias because any editor who abuses his right to censor letters can be removed by the president. Hence, the members hold absolute, although indirect, control over the editor.

A return to the one editor system would have one great advantage over the rotating editorship: the above-mentioned editorial bias. The rotating editorship has gotten the issues out on time, but you can't argue with the editor any more and get a reply in the same issue. If any editor wishes to defend his editorial statements from a reader's attack (which will appear in the following issue -- two months later), he must reply by letter in the issue after that (if his letter isn't thrown out by the then current editor) -- four months after the original statement.

An editor should be more than a machine for publishing, stapling, stamping, and addressing issues of TIGHTBEAM. Yet, when an editor is in charge only for a single issue, he has little chance to be anything more than a mere automaton.

A return to a single editor for Tightbeam would allow the letter-writers to have one central person to focus their letters on -- someone to agree with or argue with. How can you discuss anything with an editor who won't be there next issue? It's like trying to fight a ghost: "'tis here . . . 'tis here . . . 'tis gone!"

Arthur Hayes

The fact that only 55 have voted, to date, in the TAFF election, to me, reflects the necessity of something I suggested a year ago. I am still of the opinion that TAFF should have a "membership" with dues at as much as \$5 a year. In return for this \$5 a quarterly newsheet (small enough to guarantee that most of that \$5 will be retained as a profit) in which the latest information about TAFF would be officially published. I realize that at \$5 many would not join, but there would be sufficient number joining to make sure that information regarding TAFF would be well distributed officially. Anyone then complaining of not knowing what is going on would have only himself to blame for not having joined. The ones who did join would receive, besides the releases, the right to vote without further donations (though they could donate further if they wanted). The present method of voting for others would be continued with the present minimum of 50¢ donation. They could become "associate" members without getting the newsheets. Those who were members would be encouraged to reprint any and all of the information contained in the newsheet, with the proviso that it is understood that what they published would not be official; only the newsheet would contain the official news. The ballots, reprinted, could be considered adequate for voting purposes and would be official in that respect, provided, as now, an accurate reproduction of the ballot was made.

Ed Meskys covered the points raised by Travis rather well. I sympathize with Travis and can understand his desire to receive answers that do his letters justice. Unfortunately, some of us are too involved in our fanac to be able to do justice to the type of letter that Travis writes. Despite the claim that N3F is mainly a correspondence club, I find that there is no limit to the types of fanac available. If I had only correspondence to handle, I'd be able to keep up-to-date at all times.

++++It is indeed unfortunate, but it occasionally happens that someone drifts into fandom who is interested in corresponding and discussing on a mature, intelligent level. I used to carry on a fair amount of such correspondence before I really got into fandom. Then, the flood of correspondence that I took on necessitated the discontinuance of my serious writing. It took me nearly two years to realize that I was wasting my time on trivial, monotonous letters. Most fans do not have time to write thoughtful, meaningful letters, but they do want to write letters. Since a pile of words is better than nothing, they chatter away on paper, not until they have made a point and backed it up with a convincing, logical argument but merely until they have "filled up" enough paper that the recipient will not feel cheated. -rnl +++++

Neffers insularity. Busby and Willis: What's wrong with N3F? Read Fancy II, read Immortal Storm, read any fannish history. Remember the WSFS fiasco of only a few years ago. While Neffer feuds are included, they are no worse than the others mentioned. Yet, this being so, the others had a stigma attached to them only temporarily, while N3F seems to be saddled forever with its own mistakes -- mistakes no worse than those of other groups. Why?

In my opinion, the answer to this goes back to 1941 when the N3F was founded. Idealists who formed the club gave it a peculiar purpose that only in the last couple of years has the club been able to relinquish to any important degree. The founders decided that Fandom needed a Federation of all clubs, a unifying headquarters. That was the pur-

pose of the N3F, and N3F, for many years, tried with a singleness of purpose that was almost fanatical to accomplish the goal handed them by their founders.

Fandom was never ready for this goal and still isn't. N3F was founded to be in charge of Fandom. Fandom never wanted, still doesn't want, any one or anything in charge of it. N3F was resisted, hate was engendered, and anything N3F did was magnified beyond the importance of the act, if the act was a mistake, glossing over its achievements and thereby preventing it from having more achievements to its credit.

In the last couple of years, the situation has improved because, slowly, the idea of Taking Over Fandom has been relinquished, or at least placed in a secondary position. This progress has been slow because the opinions and hate engendered by the original goal have to be lived down. The primary purpose of N3F NOW is NOT to take over Fandom, but merely to make itself as efficient a part of Fandom as it can. Once we are able to live down the original purpose of the club, once we can convince the others that we no longer have as a primary goal the taking over of Fandom, we will then become "accepted."

There was an interlude between the wanting to take over Fandom and the present view that we are a part of Fandom in which the years of opposition from others resulted in a bit of sulking during which the N3F separated itself from Fandom and tried to live alone. From one extreme to the other. But this interlude, of only a couple years ago, resulted in a new kind of Neffer -- one that resented all the rest of Fandom, engendered a peculiar fanatic kind of loyalty. We have this to live down, too.

But, the new goal of making N3F an important part of Fandom, when you deal with those who are sincerely trying to do that job, leads to a desire to restrict their activities to N3F. This is only natural. TTH is being run with the idea I have about N3F projects -- that they should be sprung without much prior fanfare, announced only when they have become a fact. This does not mean that they will necessarily be successful, but they will at least show that an attempt is being made. For the present, TTH is restricted to N3F. Having started without prior announcement (except in a few close instance), the first issues are rather devoid of news. When, due to regularity, it becomes accepted in N3F, its quality will improve. Then, and only then will it become available outside of N3F, on a subscription basis. It will then be a better representation of N3F than it is now.

Crilly.. The complaint about lack of Application Blanks is not new and has bugged me in the past -- enough at times to make even the likes of me want to gaffiate. I've been pubbing, writing, etc. for the last few years, telling as many as wanted to listen that I was willing to supply as many application blanks as were wanted. I've notified Finch of this. A large number of the Recruiting Bureau are also members of the Welcommittee and they KNOW from the WC 00, Bullzine, that they always could get these blanks from me. It has been mentioned in TNFF, in the letterzine. In the last three years, I'm sure that I've supplied well in excess of 500 blanks. I can think of around six members who have received around 150 total. I'm not complaining about this number -- just that those who should know don't seem to remember.

The Recruiting Bureau has been my pet peeve now for some years. Back in the days when Wheatley was in charge of it, one of the first things I did was to present a blanket offer to supply as many blanks as were wanted to be sent either to him or to the members of the committee directly, to be used as they saw fit, without charge. I offered to have a section of the Bullzine edited by him and mailed to the committee members to keep the RB in closer contact with each other. I got only

silence. This has been repeated to each Recruiting Bureau head since, and the same result. For about two years now, I've held the first six issues of Mekromanticon and the first six S.D. issues of Fantastic as prizes donated by others for a contest in the RB. Silence greeted this.

Crilly now knows where to get application blanks, I sent him a bundle of them. I sent over 20, and if he merely uses them in trying to get new members, without actually succeeding, I'll still be satisfied. It has always been my policy to do everything I could to help the RB but I have never been given the chance. When a member of the RB asks me to send some zines to a prospective member, I do it. I've published the Activity Brochure for the same purpose. I'm not claiming that the quality of that Brochure or anything else for that matter was extra high, but at least I've tried.

The Welcomittee is often accused of sending letters that are not good. This is unfortunately true at times. But, the information that Crilly got, to send a postcard, not to bother to send an application blank, has often resulted in Jamie not having ANY information on a new member other than his name and address. Jamie, at times, knows something about the new member, at times I do, but neither of us can be expected to recognize every name and have the information on the member that will allow a decent letter to be written. Sure, it may be cheaper to send out a postcard than an application blank, but unless that card contains the essential information, it is relatively useless.

I remain willing to supply application blanks in practically ANY quantity, without charge. I'm willing to send my zines and the zines I get (with a few exceptions), without charge, to prospective members. I'm willing, if some one else will edit and stencil, to run off, without charge, a Recruiting Booklet that might be a help in recruiting and supplying information that will enlighten a prospective member on what he might be getting into. I'm still willing to enlarge and Bullzine with a section edited by the RB, enlarge the mailing list to include those RB members who are not WC members. I'm willing to help the RB, but it must give me the chance to help it by taking me up on my offers. Most of the Recruiting has been carried on by members of the WC anyhow, illustrating why it is essential that the two co-operate.

Franson: I can't agree that the purpose of FIGHTBEAM is to express reaction about FIGHTBEAM. The prime purpose of the letterzine is actually to discuss TNEF and N3F. TNEF rarely has a lettercol -- that is what FB is for. Other matters SHOULD also be included, of course, but the main thing that FB is for is to act as a sounding board about and for the club.

++++The purpose of FIGHTBEAM is to print the letters sent in by members of the N3F. TNEF keeps the members posted on club activities, and FIGHTBEAM allows the members (1) an opportunity to comment openly on the club and (2) an opportunity to keep in touch with the other members of the club without carrying on a voluminous and time-wasting correspondence. The view that FIGHTBEAM is merely a lettercol for TNEF is unrealistic. If the members were interested only in commenting on TNEF, then they would comment only on TNEF. As is, FIGHTBEAM serves the interests of the members by publishing any items of interest. After all, discussions of UFOs and how-to-teach-an-alien-to-push-the-correct-button don't do any harm, and they do liven the zine up a bit. -rnl +++++

I imagine yourself having the need of a hearing aid badly -- so badly that the aid helps only in cases where the speaker is capable of speaking as loudly as Sam. All others would come through as murmurs

without meaning. Imagine yourself seeing others talking, seeing them laugh about things you are not able to understand. Imagine yourself understanding only portions of things said and the possibility of misinterpretation because what you heard was actually out of context, moderated or modified by what was said before or after, something you didn't catch and therefore do not realize the importance of. Such a person would be rather lonely, wanting to be "in," but constantly being shoved "out." Imagine this to be in effect for years and years. Will further mud-slinging help that person? Will further rebuffs, ignoring him, etc., help anything?

Willis:- The rules laid out a few years ago for the I3F sound rather nice, if read quickly. Some of the suggestions have been taken in the last few years, but the remainder, at least some of the remainder are subject to further analysis. The organization he envisions is purely of a "service" nature to non-members. No, or few, members, and no money either.

Abolish the Welcommittee? Well, as Welcommittee Chairman for the last five years, I can't be expected to agree to this without at least some protest. With some new members the WC is a deterrent, true, but to many it is the best thing the I3F has to offer. I don't necessarily mean by best, to those who join it either. There are some who do NOT want additional correspondence. There are also I3FN who do, since it is evidence of recognition as a member by other members. This remains true regardless of the actual quality of the letters. In the last five years, I've tried practically every possible way to make the WC a better committee. It does not have to be "perfect;" it can never be that. All we can expect of the WC is (1) to provide an activity for those who like that type of activity, and (2) to provide recognition to those who want that type of recognition.

We can't always tell who will and who won't like that type of recognition and at times boobos are made, and some resent the WC. The WC does do a little harm in some cases, but in many more instances it does a lot of good. I can't always advise the WC members that a particular new member is already an experienced fan, and I don't always recognize the I3Fs, especially if no application blank was used and no letter accompanied the dues giving out information. But, it also seems logical that those who are experienced should also know that such things happen, and they should be expected to overlook the booboo, correct the situation by supplying the information and not make a federal case out of it. Since they should know better, they should act like it. They should allow those who DO enjoy receiving the WC letters, and those who DO enjoy writing them, to participate in the activities of their choice.

In the five years I've been in charge of the WC (took over from Eddie Robinson), I've learned that being an active member of the WC is almost all one person can handle. He might be able to do some Recruiting because it is so closely allied (and at one time the WC and the RB were one committee), but those two are about all one person can be expected to handle. Now, being the WC chairman is even more work. He is expected to welcome each and every new member who comes along, expected to answer every letter from the WC members, pacify their complaints, weed information -- he is, in effect, Vice-Presy of the Club. At one time, the Vice-Presy was the WC Chairman, but the V/P position was abolished long, long ago.

Along with my WC Chairmanship, I allowed my fanac to increase to ridiculous proportions. Publishing 7 or 8 fanzines as the result of membership in I3F, I3FCC, I3FPs, OMPA. Being in the I3F Directorate, and, to make it worse, its chairman. Trying to help out every single other activity the club has to offer. With the current issue of FTH and Bullzine, I have published 150 issues of too many titles to even

remember off-hand, and, with a few rare exceptions, have not been able to devote the time to get out an issue that was more than moderately fair, any, if not most (if I listen to my critics) being just plain crud.

All this has resulted in a deterioration of the WC. My resignation from WF and PI has not been enough. So, I'm not in the running for Director to this fall. I'm no longer the IAPWG OM. I'm no longer one of the North American agents for the IAPWG. I don't believe it advisable to abolish the Welcomittee, but I do agree that it deserves more attention than it has had.

And, I've been looking for a replacement for the job of Welcomittee Chairman for three years now. Whom would the critics of the WC recommend for the job? What would the critics of the WC recommend to improve the WC that has not already been tried. I'm not being sarcastic either in this, I do want your suggestions, and they will be studied and you will receive a letter about them, if they come in a letter directly to me. I may or may not acknowledge your suggestions if they come via the pages of Flightbeam because I may forget them, but even though I am, at times, rather slow in answering letters, I always do eventually. I've not resorted to a letter substitute yet.

Notices

From Howard DeVore: "Horeen Shaw and I are editing a guide and history of Science Fiction conventions. This book will be published by Advent Publishers and will be on sale at the Chicago conventions in 1962.

We are in need of (N3P) Memory Books, convention reports, program booklets and Progress Reports for the years 1939 through 1960. Newspaper clippings would also be greatly appreciated, in fact anything concerned with conventions might well prove useful.

We would prefer to borrow these items, but really useful material will be purchased. Useable photographs would be copied and returned promptly. In most cases we would study the material and return anything not needed promptly, making arrangements for the specific items we need.

If the members care to donate anything of this sort we would use it and then turn it over to the files of the Fansime Foundation.

Any contact should be made through me. Due to professional commitments we cannot enter into extensive correspondence on this book at present.

Howard W. DeVore
4705 Weddel Street
Dearborn, Michigan

NEW POSTAGE RATES: The postage rates published in WFPI were incorrect. Ralph Wolf and (among others) has sent corrections. The following information is quoted from "International Mail," July 1961, PI-7, a publication of the U.S. Post Office.

AIR MAIL: "Surface rate: To Canada and Mexico 4¢ per ounce or fraction; to all other countries 11¢ for the first ounce and 7¢ each additional ounce or fraction. Weight limit: 4 pounds 6 ounces, except to Canada it is 60 pounds. . . .

"Post cards.- Surface rate: To Canada and Mexico, 3¢ each; 6¢ with reply paid. To all other countries 7¢ each; 11¢ with reply paid. Maximum dimensions: 6 by 4½ inches. Minimum dimensions: 4 by 2 3/4 inches.

"Printed matter.- Surface rate: . . . To Canada and Mexico, 3¢ first 2 ounces, 1¢ each additional ounce; to other countries, 5¢ first 2 ounces, 3¢ each additional 2 ounces or fraction."

Ralph M Holland

The seven-year-old letter by Walt Willis in Lightbulb is interesting in so many ways, but scarcely apropos at this late date -- if it ever was, which I seriously question. This is not to imply any mental deficiency in Walt. It is merely that he is writing under certain handicaps which disqualify him as an authority on the subjects mentioned.

While the WFF has, since its inception, welcomed any foreign fans who felt a kinship with us, the fact remains that it is definitely slanted toward the North American fans -- and their activities, needs and desires are much different from those of the Brits. British fandom leans very heavily toward publishing (which is an important activity in fandom -- but just one small part of the whole picture), and seems to have much more the aura of an exclusive social club than that of the "everybody welcome" policy which usually prevails here. Walt is a very excellent publisher -- one of fandom's best. He is also a very nice person. But I fear that he just isn't in a position to know what U.S. fandom in general, or the WFF in particular, wants or needs.

Even more important, he seems to entirely miss the whole basic concept and philosophy of the WFF. Its most important benefits are intangible -- the same benefits you get from any fraternal organization. On the material side it is not, and was never intended to be, an inexhaustible "pie counter" for free-loading fans. If any fan is looking for something for nothing -- 'taint here! It merely provides the opportunity and organizational machinery whereby a group of fans who want to get something done, and are willing to furnish the necessary work and effort, can carry their ideas into effect. Bureaus and services do not come into effect or become extinct by executive edict. They are born when enough fans want them to put them into effect, and they die when the members no longer support them.

Some functions, like the Library, vanished because there was no longer any demand for them. Others, like the Mailing title registration and information service, fell by the wayside because no one was willing to do the enormous amount of work involved. Others which irked Walt, such as the Manuscript Bureau and the Welcomette, have developed into some of our most popular services. A few new ones, such as WAPA, have been added. But the point is that none of these were begun out of a clear sky, and none of them were killed by any official act. They grew or died according to the interests and desires of a majority of the membership.

Since there have been other and more recent attacks on the Welcomette in particular, I would like to state that I am 100% behind that group, without any reservations whatsoever. It is doing, as well as any group of mere humans can be expected to do, its assigned job of welcoming new members into the WFF. It is not expected to welcome the "into outside 'fandom'" -- whatever may be meant by that term. I have asked several who use it to define it, so that I might know just what they were talking about, but none ever did. They merely leap into the air with a piercing shriek, whirl about on one foot like a Dervish for a while, and end up exactly where they started. I suspect that, to many, it is merely a sort of talisman which they have heard somewhere, but do not understand.

As far as I am concerned, the WFF is an end in itself -- not a "gateway" to "fandom" -- or to anything else except a lot of good-fellowship and fun. I suspect that I am not alone in this feeling, because more than a third of our members are "old timers" in fandom -- fans who have been readers and/or active fans for a decade or more. They include many of the most respected names in the S-F field.

I. . . I still hope we can bring Walt to Chicago in '62. We might be able to save him from his own evil self.

+++++Sorry, Ralph, but I just can't visualize the WFFF as an end in itself. Regardless of what the original purpose of the club might have been and regardless of the views of the club officers, the club cannot be other than a reflection of the club image held by a majority of the members. In other words, the members are going to get what they want no matter what -- if you throw out the members who want change, you'll eventually be left with no club.

While I have been a member of the WFFF, the only activity that the club as a whole has consistently participated in has been simply the preservation of the existence of the WFFF. Why bother?

Since I'm editor, I'll answer: Lately, the WFFF has taken an interest in outside fandom -- the nebulous entity mentioned above. Although the membership of the WFFF cuts across all of fandom (with a slice of prodom to boot), the WFFF as a club is only a very small part of total fandom. If the members of the WFFF are science fiction fans, as they claim to be, they are making a grave mistake by isolating themselves from other people with similar interests. Eventually, the WFFF must, in order to exist meaningfully and have a membership that is not for the most part transient, assume the role of guardian for neofans -- become a "Gateway to Fandom." I believe that this must occur (and the sooner the better) because, frankly, there is no other logical justification for the existence of the WFFF. -rnl +++++

David G Hulon

The preceding ish of IB almost scuttled a project which I'd been working on long and hard. The culprit was Dave Travis. For months I've been trying to convince my fiancée that fandom was a good and interesting hobby, relatively inexpensive and indulged in by mostly superior people. The underlying purpose naturally being to keep her from setting up a howl after we got married and I continued to practice my avocation. Then she read Travis' letter and started howling. Mainly to the effect that she was going to have to learn one new vocabulary anyhow when she became an Army wife, and that she'd be glad to if she wanted to have to learn another (well, she didn't say it exactly that way, being a lady - but the idea was there.). I finally managed to convince her to give it a try, but is this subversion what I'm to get out of IB?

I'm not too serious about the above - every member should have the right to express his own opinions. That's what IB is for, as I understand it. But I'd like to comment myself on Travis' letter, in hopes that any others who may feel the same will read and heed. Primarily on the "special language" charge. Now no one will deny that fandom has a language of its own, least of all me. But the same charge can be made against any other vocation or avocation. The only possible criticism of fandom would be that its special terms are not widely known among the general populace. Well - neither are taxidermists' or dancing teachers'. If I referred to a IB or a DA, most of you would think the first stood for a vulgarism and the second for District Attorney (actual y, in Arthur Murray parlance they stand for (a) someone who was called on the phone and told they would get free lessons if they came in, and who was called in for a trial lesson - a Telephone Survey - and (b) anyone who was called in on account of any of the other gimmicks

All uses to such in the customers - a Dance Analysis.). Same with anybody else. When you're working in a specialized field, you develop short, convenient terms for those things that recur often in conversation. Actually, London has one of the most reasonable and logical sets of special terms I've run across in any specialized field - probably because of the generally high intelligence of London. I've only been active for about three months now, and I've never had any trouble with the special terms. I think Travis is making a mountain out of a molehill on that count - for instance, if he knew that LFG was a club and LHS and OMA were apas, what else did he need to know? I belong to LFG myself, so I know that one, but the other two I didn't know nor did I think I was missing anything. I can just think of them as Saps and Opa, if I need to verbalize, and that's enough. Same with most other initialed organizations - all you need to know is what they do, not what the outlandish initials stand for. Other terms are pretty clear contractions, abbreviations, and elisions, such as famine, illo, bacover. Most of them are designed to save the typist time - I'm convinced that the reason for the hanging on of the abbreviation str after the obsolescence of its parent word is the fact that SF is usually capitalized and pressing the shift key is more trouble than sticking in an extra "t". But the application of a little logic will reveal the meaning of every famish term I've run into, and that's more than you could say for such a term as "open Christians" (which has something to do with sitting, I'm told by Yankee Friends).

Larry Grilly - what non-actifen would be reading LF? I thought a Neffer was by definition an actifen! However, I'll admit that a lot of actifen aren't reading prozines much these days. I, for one, thank you for your recommendation of the new reinvented LF - the last ish was about 2000, better than LF has been in ages. Anyone else who hasn't read the Sept. ish, do so by all means! (Larry has a bit of ego in it, too - but this couldn't be why he recommended it, now, could it?)

Coral Smith - what are we to call ourselves if not "Americans"? There just isn't any other generally-accepted name for us. Unless you want us to call ourselves "gringos" or "Yankees" - which latter word is not thought of very highly in this part of the country, owing to a small misunderstanding 100 years ago. I don't think there is much objection in other countries to our use of the name, as long as we don't try to deny it to other residents of the Americas, and as long as we don't describe the US as "America." I think that last is what is most usually objected to.

Bob Michtman - one of the reasons Shakespeare had such an enormous vocabulary is that he invented so many new words. The Elizabethan Age was noted for this - nowadays most invention of new words is in scientific field. But it's easy to have an enormous vocabulary if you can invent a new word any time you can't find the one you want. This is not to detract from Shakespeare - as in my comment on famish slang earlier, it takes real intelligence and a certain amount of "feel" for your language to be able to invent a new word that will be understood by almost anybody who takes the trouble to try. But this was Shakespeare's genius - not a simple memory of most of the words in the English language. Or so I see it.

Frederick Norwood - Peano's Postulates are a set of basic postulates for the positive integers, and as near as I can recall (it was a couple of years ago that I studied them) you can't use them to prove anything about pi. I don't think that proving pi irrational is so difficult, though - it's proving that it's transcendental (cannot be a root of an algebraic polynomial equation with rational coefficients) that's rough. But the curvature of space would most certainly affect it. Pic-

ture it this way - a circle (defined, I suppose, as the locus of points at a given distance from a given point, with the distance being measured along whatever curve the space may take) will have a changing ratio of circumference to radius (if you can't see this intuitively, then I'll have to work it out in detail, but not now) as the curvature changes. This change will have to be continuous, and since it is easy to prove that between any pair of irrational numbers there is a rational number, pi must take on rational values. The proof of the irrationality of pi depends on its definition - which would be different in a warped space.

++++But space, at least in our corner of the universe, isn't curved sufficiently to be of any importance to present-day technology. The mathematical series which give values of pi to n-pty-ump decimal places assume space to be Euclidean. It isn't, of course, but non-Euclidean space is of no present or foreseeable technological importance.

Newton derived his laws governing motion on the assumption that the earth was an inertial frame. It isn't, but he didn't worry about it. Now that we have inertial guidance, we do worry about it.

The Egyptians used geometry to establish land boundaries after the annual Nile Flood receded. They didn't worry about the curvature of the earth, because it didn't have any noticeable effect on their methods. Later, map makers ran into problems when they tried to draw flat, accurate maps of large land areas.

So, pi may, in actuality, have a rational value, but our engineering methods do not allow sufficiently accurate measurements so that this is apparent. And, no operations are being presently carried out on a large enough scale (inter-galactic would probably be about right) to provide evidence of any discrepancy between actual space and theoretical, Euclidean space. -rnl +++++

Dick Finch

Since I am a coin collector and hence interested in money from that viewpoint, I was interested in how much a talent was worth. So, I consulted Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, the final authority except for the International Dictionary.

The talent, it seems, is a measure coming from the Greek word *talanton*, a thing weighed, a balance, talent. It passed down from Latin *talentum* to Old French. It contained 60 minas of 60 or 50 shekels each, but its value varied depending on time and place. The Hebrew gold shekel of 252 2/3 grains was valued at 10.76, so a Hebrew gold talent would be valued at 32,400; a silver talent, 2176.

I don't know how many of you will read this before you go to the Season, but of those who will, please be careful of lighted cigarettes and matches. Even in the Northwest, timber goes up in flames as if it wereerosene soaked paper. In northern California recently, the Kings Canyon fire destroyed over a million dollars worth of property, and cost over 100,000 to fight the blaze. The cause? A carelessly thrown cigarette. Not just forest and valuable watershed went up either. Many private homes went up in flames. So be careful, huh? We have to live here after you go back home.

I believe that there is no doubt of whether or not the Russians are first in space or not now. Litov is at this moment orbiting and has been up 12 hours, and the Russians hoped for 17 hours.

Regarding Fred Mitchell's shining object. How cool was it that night

Perhaps that isn't relative, because bigger up it is probably cold anyway. At any rate, when I was a youngster, I saw something similar, and have been convinced since that it was a meteor with the light being reflected through ice crystals in the upper atmosphere. If you have ever seen a blue halo around the moon, you would know what I mean. And I have also seen an unidentified flying object, in 1956, so I know something of what I'm talking about.

++++A few years back, when I was living in St. Petersburg, Florida, I saw what I at first thought was a UFO. It was a very bright speck of light surrounded by a bluish-white aura effect rising upward with what appeared to be moderate speed. I found out later that day that it had been one of the fireworks from Canaveral going up through a layer of haze some miles up. It was seen all over St. Pete, according to the papers, and I imagine it was seen over half the peninsula, if it was that visible in St. Pete. -rnl +++++

Lowrence Crilly

Peter Maurer: I've read almost no Lovecraftiana; but the couple that I have - Colour out of Space & Rats in the Walls - were good. I read the latter when I was about eight-years-old or so, when I found it in a collection of horror stories, stuck away in one of our closets, and pubbed in the '60's, I think; but I don't want to hunt up the book just to check on when it was pubbed. From what I've read by/about HPL, at least he writes SF, which is more than I can say about Ray Bradbury.

++++If Lovecraft ever wrote any SF worthy of bearing that description, I haven't seen it. Bradbury, on the other hand, is one of the most talented writers of contemporary science fiction. -rnl +++++

James Taurasi: I agree completely on SF in fanzines, tho I do like faanish items. Discussion-zines are what I object to, in that ones like Doncho's III aren't even faanish, from what I hear.

++++From what you hear, huh? And if you have such serious objections to discussion zines, why are you sending letters to TB? Nobody else will print your crud, huh? Shape up, Crilly.

There is no reason for SF to be included in fanzines. If it's worth reading, it'll be published professionally. Even if it isn't worth reading, I can get more pages of crud for my money in a prozine. The monopoly on the SF field is held by the prozines. Fans nicht durchgehen!

III isn't faaaaaaannish? So what? And I mean that as a serious question. Just what is so great about faannishness? Some cretin at a con or party goes around putting cigaret butts in the drinks. That's faannish. An unlucky neo happens to step on some BFF's toes via the printed word and gets hounded out of fandom. That's faannish. People sit around getting drunk. They use fanzines instead of coasters, so that's faannish. "Faannishness" is nothing but an excuse for asinine, infantile behavior that would not be tolerated except that it's "faannish."

But, if that sort of activity comforts you, If you feel you can identify with your fellow faans, If you like making an ass of yourself, don't let me stop you.

And as for faans writing SF -- the entire annual out-

Don Aranson as Director. I just hope there are enough other good candidates to choose from.

I take to task (or something like that...) Al's Will's statement that: "Here I had rather supposed that Charteris was a house name..." Now, it's obvious you couldn't suppose anything, Al, because if you had read any previous issues of The Saint Mystery Magazine back to '53, you would've seen Leslie Charles Bowyer Yin's pic on the editorial page. Then, of course, there are all those pics made in the '30's and '40's which have: "Screenplay by Leslie Charteris from his story..." Obviously you are not a Saint fan! To think that someone doubted Charteris was a real person...blasphemy!!! As to Harlan's story...I thought it was quite good, myself...Harlan is a great writer, even tho he is a ~~bit~~ little odd.

CHARLES BOWYER YIN'S SCREENPLAY BY LESLIE CHARTERIS FROM HIS STORY...

Ed Bryant While attending a two-week session at the Junior Engineers' and Scientists' Summer Institute at S.S.U. in June, I shot up the bright idea of trying to contact other science fiction fans in the 180 person attendance. So I set up posters in the corridors and waited. The response wasn't as high as I had hoped for, but actually I didn't give the JESSI participants a fair chance as I set up the posters only 3 days before the session ended. However the response I did get came in the sum of 33 people. Their names and addresses and information about some of them can be found on an insert sheet somewhere in this issue of STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND. All of these 33 people have some degree of interest in science fiction. And none of them have ever come in contact with fandom. What I'd like to do now is to respectfully ask the help of any NFFF member or non-member who is reading this letter and who would be willing to help out in a project to recruit these 33 young people into fandom. What is needed is for faneds to send along a few (maybe only 2 or 3) copies of their publications to some of the names on the list. Many letter-writers are needed too; to send along letters to these people, telling them of the benefits and the fun they can get out of fandom. Here's a chance for some of you would-be letterhacks to gain a whole raft of new correspondents. It should be noted here that this is not an official club enterprise yet. It is not a membership drive for the NFFF. It is an effort to recruit some more new blood into the field as a whole. (Of course if these people have the intelligence and the good taste to join the NFFF voluntarily, who are we to stand in their way?)

444440, Ed, I'll add your 33 names to my mailing list for my nextish. Any other faneds care to join in? -rnl 44444

At this point I should like to express my thanks to the many fans, Al's Will and Seth Johnson in particular, who have already given me help and encouragement in this project.

Also I'd like to state that you shouldn't blame Bob Laubeck for the reproduction of the name-list. I'll have to take the blame with my only dubious excuse being that I hurried.

All in all, STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND 3 was a very good edition. It was satisfyingly thick, excellently duplicated, had a nice cover, and had some fairly enjoyable letters. Nothing too controversial, but enjoyable just the same. (Personally, my opinion is that the next Controversial Lettercol Subject that will monopolize letter columns for the next six months will be the last few sections of STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND. I have also heard that Aldiss' THE LAME RESPONSE is a controversial volume but I haven't gotten around to reading it yet)

Say, the talk about the possibility of setting up some kind of a

foundation for the receipt of collections from later fan has reminded me of an item I saw featured in the editorial of the Fall, 1955, Startling. The item tells about how fan Dick Clarkson (a brilliant Harvard student who died of cancer in 1954 at the age of 19) donated his collection to the Harvard University Library. This collection was to become the nucleus of the first distinct sf section in a major American library. Other fans were urged to do the same when they passed on, or to give what they could while they were still alive. Can anyone tell me if this sf library is still in existence?

One of the things about my being a neofan is that I have absolutely no prejudices against the NFF. I've only been in the NFF for several months and apparently I've been in what seems to be a club 'boom.' Both the club fanzines are healthy and all the members seem to be doing just fine. It's hard to believe that this club was ever in danger of collapsing.

If there was such a thing as a genuine Gostapo in the U.S., my 12 year old brother would have turned me in to it for sure the other day. That was the day I brought home a paper that had an incredibly huge banner reading 15 CRIMES OF WORLD! and the story of Gherman Titov. "Dog-gone them!" Doug (my brother) commented. So I piped up with "Well, the U.S. couldn't do it." Doug looked daggers at me. "Well we should of," he said acidly. "Just because they've got more German scientists than we do." Then followed a short discussion of the U.S. space program, why the U.S. is behind, what's wrong with "those idiots in Washington," and De Beversly's AMERICA: TOO YOUNG TO DIE. Well, now my younger brother is critical of Russia, U.S. foreign policy, the John Birchers, segregation, the missile program, and other timely subjects. It's a frightening thing almost, to see 11 and 12 year olds devouring current issues of LIFE and TIME and already beginning to shoulder the load of world problems. You can see that my brother's already shaping up to be a real genuine 103% sf fan!

~~~~~

**Michael Hurman** First, Lenny Kaye, I am not a neofan. I guess when a kid of 13 joins the N3F, they assume he is a neo. Well, I'm not. I discovered fandom in November, 1960, and became a general fan. Up till about February or March, 1961, I was pretty neoish. Then I joined the DFG, and THEN, in May, the N3F. But thanks anyway, Len, for saying that I'm talented. I'm glad somebody in this big, wide, fannish world appreciates my efforts... Or, yes, friends, I almost forgot two things. One, I pubbed ADVENTURES MAGAZINE by carbon, not THE ADVENTURER. A natural mistake. Two, with David Bradley, Marion's son, in the clan, I'm not the youngest member anymore. Maybe I was when Lenny wrote the letter to Ed, but not now. David's 11.

That cover of Lenny's was reproduced terrifically. Wish I had a typer like the one he used on PHANTASIES. The repro was terrific -- I could read every word except for the signatures of the letterhacks. That was the only badly reproduced part. But no need to dwell on this subject, for just about every other fan writing to you, Bob, will probably notice and say the exact same thing.

As most of you undoubtedly know, I recently went to New York City for my summer vacation. When I got to the apartment I was to stay at, I found a letter from Larry Grilly awaiting me. He said he was taking this science-astronomy course at the Hayden Planetarium, and I should meet him outside. I wrote an acknowledgement, and the next day he called me from an automat near the Planetarium. We agreed on the date and time. I was to carry a copy of the September FDSF, and he was to carry



a copy of Steve Stiles' stuff.

Well, the day came. I picked up my F&SF and boarded the IND subway. Somehow I found my way to the Planetarium a half-hour early, so I bought a copy of the Times and sat down. At about 12 noon, students began trickling out. One by one, out of the door they came. Suddenly, a great mass of humanity surged out of the door. Some went towards the alley, some went towards the street, some went left, some went right, but everybody was going somewhere. Except one boy. He was calmly standing in the midst of the people, waiting for them all to leave. Soon there was no one left but him, clutching a copy of S.M. with his grimy hands, and I, doing the same with my F&SF. I walked up to him and said, "Larry Grilly?" He put out his hand and I took it. "Hi, Mike," he said.

Well, we first went over to Sixth Avenue to take a look at the back-date magazine shops. I bought 35 worth of old pulps, since we don't have back-date stores in Miami. Larry bought nothing, explaining they he could get better buys in Elizabeth.

Then we went to see Bob Mills, of F&SF. We got to the address unharmed. It was a big building, about 40 stories high. In the lobby, it said, "Mercury Publications, room 704." We went up the elevator to the seventh floor, looked around and found room 704. But on the door it said something like "Glutz Brothers, Indenturers," so we didn't go in. At that moment, our fan-ish spirit fled out the window, I think.

We went back down and back on the street. Larry had the bright idea of going to see John Campbell. We asked around, and finally found our way to the Rialto suite. As you can guess, he gave us the polite edge-out.

We were at a loss as to where to go, so I suggested going to see Cele Goldsmith. Larry consented, convinced that she wouldn't see us either. But he was wrong. We had a perfectly charming 2-minute meeting. Oh, well ...

Then we both took the subway back to my Bronx apartment. There we talked about everything from "how naked is naked?" to "Larry Kaye talks too much;" from "how many fans are there in Afghanistan?" to "what's the difference between a crudine and a crapzine?" It ended up when Larry told me it was time to go to his F&SF meeting and invited me to come. I couldn't make it, however. I would've liked to have gone to either that or an F&SF meeting and see what Ted White, Steve Stiles, and Larry Kaye read & look like. I don't I'll ask Larry for a photo.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Clayton Hamlin** First thing, without question, is to mention the really excellent job done on the last Lightbeam by Ed Meskys, and to offer sincere congratulations on what is probably the best issue of that zine to see print. It should probably do a lot more to lay at rest those misconceptions about what the club really is, than anything the club has done in a long time. I hope lots of you took a moment to write Ed personally and congratulate him on the very fine job.

It is getting close towards election time again. First call for candidates went out in the last IFM, and a considerable number of fans seem to have even anticipated the official call. This is surely a healthy sign for the club, all the signs as of this date (August 3) seem to point to a larger interest in official matters than any time in the past four or five years.

This makes it kind of important that the members, particularly those who have not been around very long, have the benefit of all the different viewpoints about what this club is, and should be. All too often the members of a few months are somewhat confused, and simply



don't know how they should vote, and end up by casting their ballot for those with whom they have had personal contact.

Let me suggest a few things to consider on casting your ballot to sort of give you an insight into just what qualifications are necessary for a director, if he is to perform the duties of the position efficiently. Few are things that I had to learn the hard way when elected last year. Any club member of more than three years can surely recall that it took me a LONG time to find out some things about the club, for a while there I was pretty much a disruptive influence.

The Directorate is the policy making body of the club, and is not necessarily the one to carry out that policy. It can be, and it has NOT been, delegated to the department heads most directly concerned. There simply isn't the time to become directly concerned with operations. So, and this is perhaps the greatest accomplishment of this year's directors, it has become something of a policy to delegate FULL authority to one member, and department head involved, without outside influence in running his department from the directors, or anyone else. For an excellent example of how well this works look at the Manuscript Bureau, both in its normal activity, and the story contest later added to its activity by this year's directors. Now the members of that directorate did just two things on that this year, they opened that contest to all members of Fandom, rather than just club members, and did the same for the Manuscript Bureau itself. This was policy, that club activity should not be limited completely to club members, WFF is a service club, and should prove it in this way.

Except for this, there was no interference whatever in operation of that activity, when you have a good manager you don't tie his hands with lots of rules and discussions, but let him handle it himself. Oh sure, the directors were involved in that group, as contributors, or to suggest needs that they had come in contact with who would make good contributors and workers. But as for running the bureau, never.

For this matter of policy making leads one to ask just what are the qualifications needed to do so efficiently. Obviously, the important thing is an understanding, based on personal contact, of what the club really is in all its ramifications. Here is where the catch comes in, just a look at the roster shows that a minimum of forty percent of the members are new or only a year or less activity in fandom. Another thing, it takes a bit of digging to discover it too, is that this forty percent actually accomplishes some sixty percent of the activity in the club at any given time. Easy to prove this, consider the membership of the Welcomitters, then take a look at the make up of the round robins and finally ask Ed Ludwig just what percentage of the contributions he receives come from well known fans. You will be in for a considerable shock. More than this, how many members of WFF had you heard of a couple of years ago, the percentage does run somewhat lower here. Of course, publishing is one of the later things that new get into, but get there they surely do, if they have any chance at all of moving on to other fandom activities.

New fans can gain a reputation, and considerable prominence, in outside fandom, and they deserve it. Yet it is almost a certainty that when they become members of WFF, usually because of WAFPL, that they are rather confused to find that this club is basically different, they just don't act the same way. It seems at first a frantic little group, all running around in circles and making a lot of fuss about nothing. In a way it is even true, new tend to get that way on occasion, it takes a little bit of time to take the sharp edge off their enthusiasm and to channel it into worthwhile activities. Takes a bit of time to let them see that it isn't totally a staff club, promoting that form of



writing to the exclusion of all other activity for one thing. The only way they can find this out is through correspondence, and for a period of several months they are correspondence fans. Both by personal letters and in round robins.

Only trouble, it doesn't stay this way long. They start to get educated about the other things in fandom, maybe they subscribe to several of the numerous fanzines that are published, practically always the well known ones. Now they are already moving into outside fandom, in spite of critics that will charge they do not do so. Their education into fandom is progressing, all without any necessity for the club itself to do anything about it, they simply can't help hearing of these activities, and being curious gave it a look to see what it is all about.

From there it is a very short step to deciding to publish their own fanzine. Now here it LOOKS as though they have lost interest in fandom as it is practiced outside the BFFF, almost as though they had dropped into a bottomless pit, and are not heard of again. You see, fans whose activity is bounded on one side by Cry and Shag y, and on the other by Yandro and JD-A, with the third side being Fanac and Discord, and to finish it up all the way, Farn and S.A.B are quite unlikely to take much notice of something like Ad Astra or Heptagon, or Solar, or Buddha's Bulletin. Neo crazdines you know, and once it is categorized as such naturally they forget all about it, and tend to ignore the whole thing. Oh yes, once in a while they pause to wonder "Now where did this Hocus, or Monday Evening Ghost, or Mirage suddenly come from?" Truth is it didn't suddenly come from anywhere, it had been around a long time, building up a staff of neos and lesser known fans, establishing a policy for itself that was quite welcome to its subscribers, and finally just forcing itself into the picture of fan publishing as something quite worthwhile. The editors just as suddenly start to show up in the spa groups too, to everyone's surprise. Not all of them, no, lots are dropped by the wayside, the mortality rate of fans is high.

What does all this have to do with the BFFF? Simple, it just goes to show that it is unnecessary for the club itself to actually do anything to make this happen, all they need do is expose their members to these influences and they just naturally do the work by themselves.

I suggest you ask yourself, can any fan who has almost no contact with neos, particularly the better brand of such, represent then particularly well? Or will their activity tend to force them into a pattern that prevails outside the club, while ignoring the fact that they are different. Well, to answer that question, they can, but it takes a long time to be at all effective in doing so. There has surely been plenty of examples of this in the past few years, the club can easily get along with a couple of active directors and the president, but it works much better when there is no necessity to educate some of them into things that simply can't be done with this club.

Why can't anything be done that is desired? Simple enough, you have to find someone to lead up the group to do so. Here you have two choices, those wildly enthusiastic neos who will devote time to the job, but have no conception of the vast time necessary to doing so, or else you have to find some well known, and acknowledged capable fan, but who has little spare time to devote to the job, being pretty well up to his limit of activity already. Both of them are likely to give up when they find that the only help they can expect to get is from a bunch of youngsters, with no idea of the detail work that is required. It always ends up the same, they gladly turn over the headaches to any director who will take on an additional job, usually Art Hayes. Then with just a bit of organization and competence at running things that particular activity once again begins to take on a semblance of life again, while



the directors try to figure out if there isn't anyone around who can be persuaded to take it again. But of course they don't want to do something for the N3F, they want the club to do it for them.

Lets try another subject for a moment, this charge of poor reputation that N3F has in outside fandom. Now ~~XXXXX~~ this is true, but I have hardly seen any syptoms of it personally. Not too long of trying either there have been at least a dozen times I have asked in letters to people that made this charge that they just name some of them, and let me try seeing just what the problem is, and how to change it. Got a few answers to this, and wrote them, only to find that the only reason they don't join is lack of time to devote to the club. Yes, a couple of times the ones that are names are members of the club, rather humorous that. Odd, the ones that are usually named always seem to show up in the Member room at the conventions, and from all accounts actually seem to appreciate the service given them. Maybe they don't join, but what of it, there are no end of new members that can be recruited.

You let me make this offer again, if anyone who can actually name those fans who supposedly are so dead set against this club, will just tell me who they are, no names will be given, it will all be in the strictest of confidence and all nice and polite, certainly no feud will be started. As one who has an interest in this club this is surely the first step to finding out what it is about us that seems to bother them, and doing something about it. Can any director do less than this, and claim to have the clubs best interests at heart. First lets find out if this charge is true, or simply something to scare the members into voting for a change. When the reason is clear about how fandom thinks of the club, maybe something can be done.

Lets go back to neos for a moment, sort of a favorite subject of mine, not more than two or three others have devoted as much time or effort to making it pleasant for them. I like neos, and think highly of them, and what they try to do. Maybe you have had copies of my zine The Odd One, or the Terran Daily Gazette. Not very likely to find well known names in those publications, it seems much more worthwhile to present things by a bunch of unknowns, like Jim Dumont, or Joni Cornell, or Phil Merrell for the first time. I am sort of proud of those, having been the first to publish their work. They have such a lot to offer N3F and eventually all of fandom once someone gives them their chance to do so. This is one of the things about neos, after they first get over that frantic desire for correspondents they want to start writing and illustrating for fansines, but practically always are turned down by whoever they send their material to. After all, whoever heard of them, and who wants to spend all the time teaching them to slant their material towards your own fansine, when you can always find some well known fan, even if it isn't always his top effort.

If you are wondering what I am getting at here, it is quite simple. There are a couple of youngsters who are running for directorate this year, who are extremely capable, and have proven so in the past year. Their names are Bob Jennings and Phil Merrell, you have probably heard lots about them. Their ideas are very good, and they are quite willing to devote the time to putting these ideas into action, on their own if need be. I personally think so highly of their qualifications that I am not going to run this year for director, since both of them are more capable of doing so, especially in time that can be devoted to making things work. Both of them understand the club, and have a pretty good knowledge of outside fandom too. They understand neos, because they have been so themselves not long ago, but also have full knowledge of publishing activity too, and the economics of it as well as the time that is necessary to do it properly. Might I suggest that if you would



have voted for me this year that you give your votes to those two instead, just a suggestion from one who knows the wall, and their ability to do a good job for the club.

Just one more item, a sort of blind spot that is quite prevalent in lots of the members that started outside this club. Stated very simply, a Directors first duty is to the W3F, and not to outside fandom. While those outsiders conception of this club is one idea that must be considered, it is not nearly so important as to promote the enjoyment of the members we do have.

~~CONFIDENTIAL - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED OR CIRCULATED OUTSIDE THE CLUB~~

Donald Fronson

I'm inclined to agree with Ellis in the Welcom- mittee; however, there is a better way than abolition. The Welcom mittee should be split into two parts: one to carry on as a branch of the Correspondence Bureau, serving its own purpose by gaining correspondents; the other to do the actual welcoming of new fans to the W3F and fandom. This one would consist of experienced fans who prepare the material to be sent out, and enthusiastic neofan (or anyone else) who will do the sending out of this material. This is how it was in the beginning -- the Welcom mittee sent out welcome booklets -- not letters. There is plenty of material on all phases of fandom that can be gathered or newly written, condensed, and mimeographed, not all in one package, but subdivided into tiny leaflets. The neofan who sends these out need not be an expert himself then. The original Welcom mittee (of letter writers) could then go on to explain correspondence activities, and not try to explain the W3F or fandom to new members, a task for which it is not suited.

And congratulations to Art Hayes for his newssime, and may it continue to accompany Lightborea and W3F.

~~CONFIDENTIAL - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED OR CIRCULATED OUTSIDE THE CLUB~~

Dick Eney

Oh, come on, now, Seth Johnson: after Ron Ellik has been a Heifer for years ... after he's served in several official posts with diligence ... after he's been, if I recall rightly, a director at least once ... y were reinstated in W3F, without any club activity at all, is supposed to be a move to get votes away from him? Gee, Ron, any Heifer would switch votes from Ron to be on THAT ground would have holes in his head -- or else be damned ungrateful for Ron's past club work.

~~CONFIDENTIAL - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED OR CIRCULATED OUTSIDE THE CLUB~~

Phillip A Harrell

Seems to me if David Travis would take on a bit more friendlier attitude he'd win more friends that he seems to want. His chief reason for not being active doesn't seem very valid to me. Look at me up to my eye teeth in activity and in one of the most deserted spots, if not the most deserted spot, in fandom. Not a fan-ish soul for miles around, but do I let that stop me so that I sit down and wail "Ah me No one to tell me how to be active so I never will be." I do Not! I write to everybody in my quest for fanishness. Granted some of my letters aren't quite sane, but I usually get a reply. I don't write asking "And what is your opinion of Einstein's theory of Relativity?" and "Do you think I really eat W3F?" but I write and talk and I have fun at it and I talk about different things above all I have fun out of my act of fanishness, like Lambda to Sarcen for fando to be all that to so let's have fun out of life while we can. I don't mind work and I'll work like a son of a gun when I have to but Fandom and W3F I love with a passion and I kinda think it likes me a little bit too.

I think now that Jack Barnes is very capable at the ship of W3F things will see much improvement in fact they already have. Last calling Jack's first as CE was the finest I've ever seen since I've been



in W'PA and it really was worth belinging to get such a thing of beauty. Jack will, do a wonderful job as OE and I think I can truthfully say that if you aren't a member of W'PA your missing something with Jack as OE anyway. I'll admit the whole thing went from Crud to worse at first but Jack being the wonderful OE he's proving to be will do wonders for it and will probably end up making it so good he'll have both SAPS and FAPA jealous of us not to mention OAPA and the rest of them. I don't now bout the rest of you cats but I'm pickled tink to have him as he's the liefs blood that W'APA has been needing.

~~THE FOLLOWING LETTERS WERE RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:~~

Letters were also received from Libby Mintus, Ken Gentry, Bill Donaho, Scott Neilsen, Ann Chamberlain, Ren. C.M. Moorhead, Ron Phelps, and Frederick Norwood. These letters were not included in this issue simply because by the time I got around to them (taking letters grab-bag fashion from the pile) most of what these writers had to say had already been said. In order to avoid redundancy and thus to reduce the amount of time wasted by members in reading TIS-TREAM, these letters were eliminated. A few of them were actually good letters and I regret that it appears to be necessary to cut them in their entirety.



Janie Lamb  
Rt 1, Box 364  
Heiskell, Tennessee  
U.S.A.

To:

Printed Matter Only  
Return Postage Guaranteed  
May Be Opened for Inspection



Jerry Page  
193 Battery Place N.E.  
Atlanta 7, Georgia

