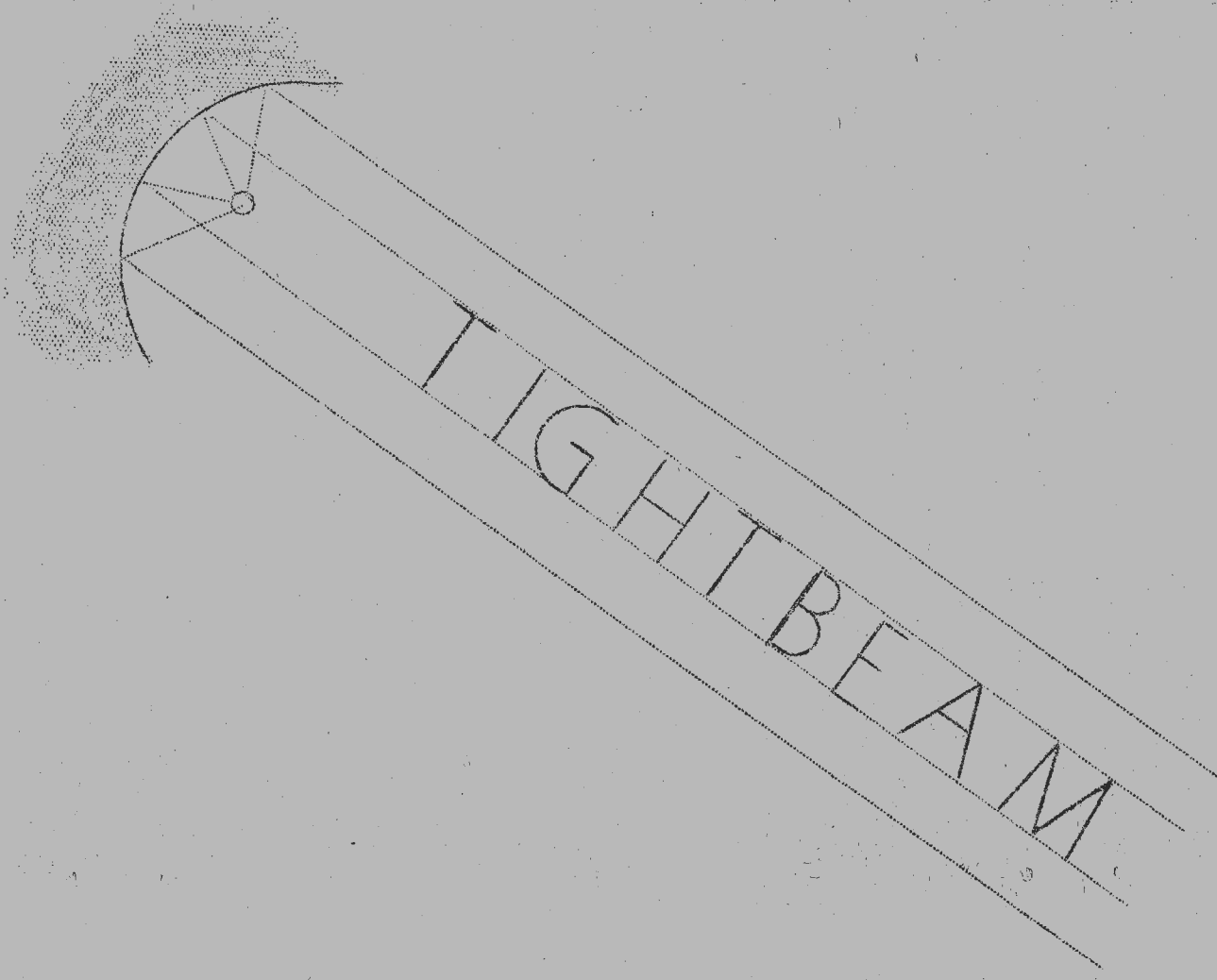


THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION
PROUDLY PRESENTS—

THE
GIGANTIC
16TH EDITION

OF ITS LETTERZINE



TIGHTBEAM 16 Published by Don Anderson
November, 1962

Publisher for next issue:

Lee Riddle
144 Elkton Road
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Deadline: December 25 (Merry Christmas)

WRITE NOW!!! RIGHT NOW!!!

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING
(An original title)

Don Anderson

A couple of days ago, on October 16th to be exact, I got a letter from Gem Carr. It started out "Dear Neffers," and went on to make some commentary of general, but certainly not earth-shaking, interest.

I reread the letter several times, assuming that there must be something in there to make it necessary for Gem to write to the entire membership, and to type each letter instead of using the much easier method of mimeography.

I laid her letter aside, on the coffee table, for further perusal at a later time, but when I went to get it the next day it had been thrown out by my ever neat and non-Fannish wife, Janet. I thought, "Oh, well. Such is life."

On October 18th I got another letter, this time from Richard Finch, and then Came The Dawn. It was addressed to Don Anderson, Editor; Tightbeam 16. Oooog!

Back in August Art Rapp had written me, asking me if I would agree to edit the November TIGHTBEAM. After thinking it over for a number of days, I wrote back saying that I would. THAT was the last I heard till the arrival of Gem's letter.

GEM'S LETTER!!! OMIGOD!!!

The neighbors, already convinced that I'm more than a little mad, (I've been spreading the Fannish Gospel, you see) were treated to the sight of me storming out into the back yard, upending my two trash/garbage cans, and pawing frantically through all that assortment of trash, lemon peels, coffee grounds, and other such mundane items, looking for an item of inestimable value, a letter meant for TIGHTBEAM. I found it, and after rinsing of the goo, (and you haven't Lived till you've Rinsed Off A Letter), hung it on the line to dry. It heads off this issue.

I didn't really want to publish this issue of TIGHTBEAM. Or ANY issue, as a matter of fact. But, I've been a member of the EnThreeEff for almost three years and this is the first time I've ever been asked personally to do anything substantial. Besides, I seem to have a Masochistic streak, and the prospect of having to do all that typing (which I detest), mimeoing (which I detest), collating (which I detest), and thinking (which I -----HMMMMMMMMM) appealed to me.

TNEFF came today, October 19th, and it looks as if I'm to send out a ballot form along with this issue. Whether it will be furnished or I'm expected to make it up, I don't know. If it's here, you'll know that the confusion has been eliminated.

Any commentary I may make to the letters are apt to be somewhat uninformed. The fact is, I haven't been following the discussions too closely, and as far as that goes I never recieved the TIGHTBEAM for September, if there was one.

As of today I have on hand exactly three (count 'em, one-two-three) letters for this issue. The issue WILL go out on time. It may be pretty slim, but it will go out. If you wrote, but your letter is not here, either I didn't get it at all or I didn't get it by the 25th. It's time to Clamp Down, pay heed.

I'm sluffing off on my duties as an Editor, for none of the letters will be edited, but run verbatim. You're paying for this thing, and have a right to be heard out, barring entanglements with the laws. Enjoy, enjoy.

G. M. Carr
5319 Ballard Avenue
Seattle 7, Washington

Dear Neffers,

As Franson says, the ever-present problem of non-renewals DOES deserve serious consideration. Surely there must be enough intellectual brilliance in the combined brains of all our members to come up with some crash-program solution.

In the past, it has been tentatively suggested that we follow the example of certain mundane clubs and send out Remittance Notices. This could be nicely done in the form of a Christmas card or greeting with a statement of the dues and deadline for sending them in. There could even be a printed fold-over envelope in which to send them (if the club treasury could afford it) included for their convenience.

Something of this nature could also be used to straighten out those members who, as Franson mentioned, mistakenly paid only \$1.60. The Secretary (sorry, Janie) could figure out what the initial payment should have been, and just bill for that amount. If the new member renewed, - no harm done. His original \$1.60 would, in effect, take care of a full year, and this adjusted fee would straighten him out until the end of his 3rd year of membership. Which would bring him to where he would have been, anyway, if he had paid the correct amount at the start.

Or there could be a sub-committee of the WC to send out pc reminders to non-renewals at 2-week intervals beginning with mid-January and lasting probably 'til mid-March or mid-February. It is possible that some members just simply forget to renew; or think that nobody cares whether they belong or not. Then, too, let's face it -- some people just like to be coaxed a little. (Of course, some people DON'T like to be coaxed. They call it 'nagging'... but then, they wouldn't renew anyway, so there's no harm done really..)

I do not think much of the suggestion of restricting votes only to pre-paidup members. Sounds slightly illegal, to me -- besides smacking somewhat of blackmail. I think we can lick this problem to a great extent if we put our minds to it -- and possibly the very fact that we DO advertise our concern, will have the very effect we are hoping for.

Best,
G. M. Carr

Richard C. Finch
148½ N. Pickering Avenue
Whittier, California

Nancy Rapp:

Re: The Hermit. In Michigan, from 11 to midnight Sun. over WXYZ. The Mummies, in the Little Theater of The Air, present: The Hermit's Cave.

Sound Effects: Hounds howling in background. Fading. Then: A cackling sound, made by an old man's voice.

"Listen. Listen and you can hear my hounds howling. Are you ready for another tale of the supernatural? We have ghost stories, weird stories, and murders, too." And a lot of other dialogue which I've forgotten, followed by an announcer for a coal company.

Here is the plot of the only one I can remember. Two men sign an oath that the first one to die will visit the other. One is executed as a murderer, and enters the body of the others wife, who lapses into a coma.

Plot revolves around how to release the living member from the consequences of the oath. Ends successfully. I don't remember how. Anyone listening to this also remembers the Green Hornet, theme song Flight of the Bumblebee, and I Love A Mystery, with voodoo rites in one case, including Vampire Bats, in other cases weird religious murders and some sheer fantasy. Characters: Jack, Doc and Reggie. Jack, the hero. Doc, Southern dialogue, Tonto bit. Reggie: Rich playboy type. In it for kicks. The other was The Shadow. Rich man about town, Lamont Cranston, learned how to cloud men's minds in the Orient, so that he became invisible to all intents and purposes.

I would like to refer back to two previous issues of TIGHTBEAM. One is H. T. No. two. An item of mine then said we could not get a manned spaceship back to earth, in other words land it on solid ground. The Russians could. They can do even better now. They have successfully concluded a 17 orbit flight and brought the man and the spaceship back to ground safely, even though separately. The next step is to land man and plane together, while the United States still has to do this, first without a man then with one. When the Russians do this, they will be ready for a moon trip.

Another item was in HT 10. It concerned the world's largest atomic or nuclear power plant, not being built as a power plant at the time, but just as a reactor. The heat generated as steam in the by-product of the production of plutonium for weapons has been going to waste. It could have been producing 700,000 Kilowatts of power. The Soviet Union already had plants like this producing electricity at low cost, low in relation to other methods available. This was in 1961.

According to the Los Angeles Times for Sept. 27, 1962, the bill was finally signed into being, after two years of fighting. Two Democrats and a Republican are responsible for passage of the bill, while southern Democrats and Republicans (not necessarily Southern) conducted the fight in coalition against passage of the bill. It is now stated that a million kilowatts of power will be made available. This is the Hanford Plant.

Now you can purchase an Atlas of the heavens if you have 2,000 dollars to spend. It has 1,758 photographs of galaxies & stars out to a billion light years, and it will take 3 years to fill your order. Each copy fills 9 filing cabinets.

Donald Franson
6543 Babcock Avenue
North Hollywood, California

Wally Weber's Tightbeam was quite neat. There are fewer typos than in Cry, and the cover is the best thing Atom has ever done.

Speaking of Heinlein, the If serial, "Podkayne of Mars" starts out well.

I suppose someone has already finked, but Ferdinand Peghoot is written by Reginald Bretnor ("Grendel Briarton") and Benedict Breadfruit was (past tense) the work of Randall Garret ("Grandall Barretton"). Jack Sharkey is not guilty of those particular crimes, Dave Keil.

"Ackermanese, Gafmoi and LMJ" have not been in use recently, and so were not included in Fandbook #1, which was intended as a dictionary only of current terms that a new fan may encounter. I haven't seen the above three in fanzines for some years. Fandbook owes its existence to Fancyclopedia II, so much so that I asked Eney for permission to publish (which he graciously gave.) I have the original Neo-Fan's Guide but have never seen Fanspeak.

I don't know whether P. Schuyler Miller said it first, but L. Sprague de Camp mentions Smith's "spotless heroines (who stay that way even when stranded with the hero for months on one of Jupiter's moons)". Still, I think Smith's characters were more believable than some of, er, deCamps. For Miller's opinion I would have to look at all those book-review columns in Astounding, a monumental task.

- Winners in the 1961 short story contest were: (Bob McDermott's question)
- Science Fiction, 1500 to 6000 words: Terry Jeeves, Margaret M. Eicher, and Loubel Wood.
 - Science Fiction, under 1500 words: Charles Waugh and Judy Glad.
 - Weird, 1500 to 6000 words: Gerald W. Page, Margaret M. Eicher, and George H. Wagner, Jr.
 - Weird, under 1500 words: R. Dennis Miller (2).
 - Fantasy, 1500 to 6000 words: Gerald W. Page, Lady Barbara Hutchins/Earl Noe, and Rev. C. M. Moorhead.
 - Fantasy, under 1500 words: Arthur H. Rapp and David Travis.
- (This information from the June TNFF)

The N3F at first had no dues, but an unworkable "tax"; later dues were \$1, and were raised to \$1.60 in 1954.

In case you're curious, "Ackermanese" is the fan term for Forry's brand of shortened spelling/abbreviations and portmanteaus — you can still see it, in milder form, in Famous Punsters, occasionally. "Gafmoi" is Getting Away From Most Of It. "LMJ" is Loud Mouthed Jackass.

Now you know.

Yours,
Donald Franson

Arnold Kruger
General Delivery
Islington, Ontario
Canada

Dear Donald W. Anderson

HI!

Arnold

((Ed's note: The above pocsarcd is quoted absolutely and 100% (sic), including spelling))

Roy Tackett
915 Green Valley Road NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Don,

Rochester, New York, eh? Well, I guess it is time we let TIGHTBEAM rotate eastwards again. The Ol' Wastebasket did a good job on #15. It bore a faint resemblance to "Cry of the Readers." Not quite as kookie as CotR but there were similarities. I don't like to mention that Weber did a good job because it'll go to his head and then there'll be no living with him. ((ed: Does your wife know that you were entertaining ideas of living with Wally? Sounds like an article lead for Les Nirenberg.)) Not that I'd want to live with him, mind you...not after what he pulled in the super-market.

Gary Labowitz, don't blame Racy if you didn't get a copy of the questionnaire. 'Twas purely the fault of the editor of #14. It seems that there weren't quite enough questionnaires to go around so about 10 people got shorted. Turns out they were the last 10 names I received from Ol' Tyrannical AL. My apologies. My apologies to Racy, too, but we didn't expect the club to put on a sudden spurt of growth. Anyway, it was between page two and three that I printed the letter from Maxine Larson. Hey, Gary, don't sweat Les Nirenberg competing with ANALOG; If there is one thing PANIC BUTTON doesn't print, it's stf.

Bob Brown: I'm completely open-minded. If some nuts want to believe in Shaverism, dianetics, flying saucers, RAP, or even Tom Armistead, that's their privilege. Well, that last one is carrying things a bit far. Believing in Tom Armistead is like believing in Fred Gottschalk. One has to draw the line somewhere and when people start believing in Tom Armistead and Fred Gottschalk they've gone over the line. Next thing you know they'll be wanting to put pants on horses (Hi, Felice) or some such.

Frank Stodolka: the position of the octopus is in the eye of the beholder. He looks right-side-up to me.

(Wally WASTEBASKET??? Nobody's called Wally WASTEBASKET!)

Oh, pfui, Don Franson, I know as well as you do that stf is an off-shoot of fantasy and that "fantasy" originally both. Still does for the most part. You're just looking for an argument and I won't argue over the meaning of "fantasy". Nobody expects that crazy Buck Rogers stuff to come true anyway. Except a bunch of nuts. Trouble all came about with the influx of new fen during the boom years of the 50s. Ya see a bunch of nuts who happened to believe in that crazy Buck Rogers stuff got together and created the big bang along with a few other gadgets and the rest of us nuts couldn't resist bragging a bit. We knew it all along and like that. Well, suddenly the literary set decided that reading science-fiction (not fantasy, mind you) was the thing to do. Science-fiction was In. (You shoulda met some of the idiots I did in the early 50s...they didn't know one magazine from another but boy, were they ever science-fiction fans.) So these characters tried to divorce stf from fantasy and we're still trying to recover. Why am I telling you this, Don Franson? You know all about it anyway. Like, you were there, too, man.

Don also mentions that the story contest is suffering from lack of entries. I reiterate what I said before....the only way to make the story contest a success is to get a prozine to guarantee publication of the first prize yarn. This will give the budding writers a real goal to shoot at. The Directorate should definitely check into the possibility of this next year. The prozine could rake in beaucoup egoboo from the publicity, up sales a bit, and help to develop some new writers all at the same time.

Heh! I said "Stranger in a Strange Land" would win the Hugo, didn't I? I've just finished reading it and agree that it is one of Heinlein's lesser efforts; little originality and nothing in the way of startling ideas. And if I say anything more about it now I won't have anything to write about in the next DYNATRON.

Alma Hill: I'm not about to help you worry and the Army has effectively removed your source of worry anyway. Art Rapp has withdrawn his candidacy for re-election due to his assignment overseas. That should be a load off your mind. At the moment I have no idea who will be running for President but whoever the candidates may be the winner would do well to follow the path Art has blazed during the past year. Apparently the majority of the membership was well satisfied with Art's program since no one offered in opposition to him at the general election call.

You say that Art wasn't even a member when his name was first mentioned as a possibility to fill the vacancy left by Ralph Holland's death. Nonsense! Check your membership roster and check Nancy Rapp's letter in TIGHTBEAM 15.

You imply that Art Rapp isn't really interested in the NFFF. Art has, during his term of office, devoted the time he had available for fan activity--and the hours he could steal from other duties--almost exclusively to the NFFF. In order to work for the club Art cut back his correspondence, writing, and publishing. Considering the amount of time he has devoted to the NFFF in the past few months I would say he has a very great interest in the club. Consider also the way he put out TIGHTBEAM 13 at his own expense after Donaho missed the publication date. Consider also that Art took over the short-story contest since no one else wanted the job.

To imply that Art Rapp isn't really interested in the N3F is to do him a grave injustice.

You say that it may not have been Art's fault that the N3F was "so unlucky" when he held office before. Too right it wasn't Art's fault. Check your N3F history, Alma, before you start blaming those troubles on Art.

Let us consider one more point in your letter and then I'll go away-- for the time being--. You say that you voted against re-activating the Correspondence Bureau because "we didn't know who will do the work--so how can this be ready to make rules about?" Since when have the rules governing an office, either in the N3F or elsewhere, been dependent on the person who is to fill the office? First you set up the office and the rules to govern it and then you get someone to fill the office and carry out the rules. This to me seems sensible, proper, and constructive. If one is to have any organization at all the rules come first and the person who fills the office follows them; one doesn't tailor the office to fit the individual.

Enough. I'm going to take Pinsker's advice and grok a bottle of 7-Up. It likes me. I like it--with gin.

Roy

Alma Hill
463 Park Drive
Boston 15, Mass

Dear DonNY Anderson, publisher of #16, sir;

To save your time, this is an expression of thanks to Mike Kurman and www for winding up #15 with such a rousing command to give you some work, which I bet you get.

Project Birthday Card got off the ground (While publishing fandom was excercising it's foolish head over far less amiable matters) via private fanac. By the same means, prizes are offered for better designs, as the starters were fannish enough but very obviously amateur. However, considering what those studio-card-greetings get away with, and sell for, it just didn't make any sense to let a friendly idea kick around waiting for perfectionism to get the roseleaves out.

Grassroots fanac interests me more at this time, especially help to writers. But before leaving the matter of greeting-card designs, here is an idea which fanartists might like to consider. These fannish drawings will be very decorative in the original, so if anyone feels generous, why not specify that they be sold for the benefit of the DisCon, either at the bargain table for any few pence or dimes, or if good enough at the display table or auction - as the DisCon management may prefer, of course - certainly it would be an evil deed to tie a concommittee with any more red tape than they are already stuck with. The thing is; though, pro material gets harder to obtain and scarcer all the time, though the auction is the main source of the funds for the cost of our annual tent city. Meanwhile, amateur art can be just as decorative and sometimes more adaptable.

I recently read a description of how to mat pictures, and I tried it on a couple of DanAdkins originals sent me by a friend from Chicon. In case anybody else wants to try it, I used corrugated cardboard right off a carton, covered with crushed up brown paper and the whole thing shellacked; it looks exactly like leather. I tried saran to protect the drawing but it stretches and is unworthy of an Adkins. Maybe fair enough for amateur art, though; I know the whole thing came out light enough to hang with a string loop glued to the back. Strong enough to take a square of glass, too, actually, though that would be heavier to mail, and

more fragile. At any rate, anyone with ingenuity can make a mat over into a light strong frame which might increase salability as well as mailing strength. I intend to get regular frames for my Adkins b&w drawings, preferably drift-wood-gray. But all sorts of colorful effects are possibly by way of temporary, or perhaps even permanent paper and cardboard frames for amateur work.

Designs for greeting cards can be as large as you like, provided they are to be photoed down - that increases the fineness of the detail. But if anyone does them straight on stencil, or on paper for mimeo repro, then there were some excellent two-fold and four-fold designs done by fans awhile ago, perfectly hilarious. Or threefolders to fit regular envelopes might be a neat idea.

Hah, guess this is work enough for you for now. I'll bother #17 on the subject of help to writers, as this topic has been pretty thoroughly scrambled right now and may be better sorted out by the time another TB rolls around. I'm available to comment on anything that reaches me, meanwhile, of course.

Good wishes,
Alma Hill

G. H. Labowitz
8233 President
Kansas City 31, Mo.

Dear Postie,

I am wondering, how many of the members are stamp collectors? Judging by the number of collectors at large I wouldn't be too surprised if there were quite a few. I know Kaymar is-----right K?

Given, then, a number of collectors I am curious as to their reactions to the announcement by our Uncle that he (will issue) (has issued) a Christmas stamp this year. I frankly feel that this will (has) set a bad precedent, even if we do call ourselves a "Christian" nation.

And ultimately, since our attitude effects everything we do, this fact will hamper our space program as such. Most of our projects are oriented to military uses now. Once the military is in the position to call the shots (pun intended) the scientist can give up his hopes of going to the moon for geographical and astronomical reasons. Should we go at all it will be to accomplish a military goal. And then probably not on our own impetus but to match some Russian accomplishment, fancied or real.

At any rate, going back to original topic, why not use our commemorative stamps on your letters, fans, stead of the normal Lincoln 4¢. Those of those who collect will appreciate it and it does "pretty up" your mail a bit.

By golly, I just realized I addressed this thing "Dear Postie". Times may change but Labowitz doesn't. There certainly are a lot of names on that roster that I never see over letters in TB. (Hint, hint).

Keep Smiling,
Gary

Norbert Laus
3903 N. Lincoln Ave.
Chicago 13, Ill.

Dear Don,

I ask anyone who reads this to remember that I am a neo (I admit it- it seems that there were a lot of letters from "new members" but nobody would admit to that) and that, while the opinions expressed are my own, don't nobody get mad - I probably do not have all the info I should.

Some things in TB #15 set me off and I haven't found my way back since, so I decided to follow the suggestions and "hack first-think later".

Since I seem to have waded into the middle of a dispute on the WC, I must say that I agree with Micheal La Rochelle on the subject. Correspondence between Welccommittee member and neo should be long - a couple of months at least, not only to give the neo time to get adjusted and learn more about the N3F and what it does, but to develop friendships. Spread thin as we seem to be in some places, a neo can at times become lonely. This gives him people that he can write to on stf and fantasy.

Which reminds me. From what I have heard, I should keep my typewriter shut on this, perhaps, but I am well known for being outspoken and jumping the gun, so I'm taking the plunge! Is the WC having a good time on it's vacation from me? I seem to be on the list for printed matter, but I have yet to receive one letter of welcome. I will probably have been made a liar several times before this is published, but it wouldn't have been natural not to have put my foot in my mouth once!

Th, and Mike, if you read Don Franson's letter in #15 perhaps you are beginning to regret your support of Roy Tackett on the disappearance of fantasy. It is far from forgotten!

On to Don Franson! Bravo, on some very well brought out points! This subject of the fund for members who can't afford dues is, in my opinion, hardly worth wasting valuable paper about. So I won't. Just read Don's letter in #15 - he says it much better than I can. Also, I heartily concur on dues and non-renewals. He brought forth a plan which seems, on the surface, to hold a great deal of merit, but I don't decide club policy so I can only say that this should seriously be considered by others.

Clayton Hamlin's let got me in an uproar - I don't, of course, know all the expenses, but it seemed to me that there should be more than were mentioned there. In my ignorance, however, I can't argue with a former director, who is in a slightly better position than I to see what is needed. But even so, he would have us take "\$6" a year out of the treasury (Ha!) leaving us to work with donations to keep it up. Are we a charity organization? But then I read Art Rapp's let in answer to an earlier statement of Hamlin's on this. It seems to answer both rather well. 'Til I can study the whole thing more closely, I would say that a dues increase is in order. (Then we can see who else can't afford them!)

Well, I seem to have condemned myself sufficiently for the first time around, so I'll sign off.

I shall return!

Norbert Laus

((eds note: Could your middle name possibly be Yngvi? For has it not been truly said that "Yngvi is a Laus"?))

Mike Shupp

Somewhere in the Midwest

S. S. Verona*, Ohio

Dear TIGHT-BEM: (and I will Kill you and eat you if you cut out my pun...)
((Eds note: Not only did I not cut out your pun, but didn't even cut out your instructions. I DID, however, manage to resist a pun of my own, a rather obvious one but perhaps a trifle too gamy for a Family Type zine.)

Greetings old noble TB 16 or 17 (depending on when I mail this); you are about to be blessed (cursed?) with a letter from a mutant named Shupp. This might have happened before, but a few little things always kept coming up (such as running out of postage) but for once, you poor critter, I've managed to hang onto four cents for a while; it is now Der Tag.

So I'll comment upon comments, and so on ad infinitum et nausiam, on the fifteenth TB and the things I'd always planned to say but didn't. So here I am, typer firmly clutched in my hot little palm (PLEASE stop that gieger folks) which is rather difficult, since this leaves with only three arms to type with. Like I NEED a desk, you know... DAMN THE TYPOS. FULL SPEED AHEAD...

Dave Keil: MUST you slander my favorite prozine? I mean, I LIKE to read Analog. Is there some form of law against an interest in psi? Most fen are at least vaguely interested by psi phenomena; then why must they gripe when someone prints a psi yarn. If you don't like psi, don't get the zine.

JGBallard REALLY write crud? That's what you get for buying pb originals. Always remember that pb originals are either far better than most hcs, or else descend to abysses greater than you could imagine. (Sturgeon's Law would help you in choosing, no doubt). ACE pbs are usually $\frac{1}{2}$ crud and $\frac{1}{2}$ cream, and pretty obvious by the cover blurbs. PYRAMID never puts out a lousy original. SIGNET has only reprints, as far as I can see. BALLANTINE and BANTAM are each about half and half. This leaves chiefly BERKELEY, AVON, and PAPERBACK LIBRARY, most of which are reprints with mostly good originals. ((?))

So much for Lesson One in the Fundamentals of Purchasing Pbs.

Keith Laumer a clown? SLANDER!!!

TO WHOMEVER IT MIGHT CONCERN (such as Mike La Rochelle): I doubt that you really read Dave Hulan's letter thru completely. And you, Damnit, are not on the Welcomittee. If you think you know how neofen should be welcomed, get in WC with some of those people who agree with you, and try it your way for a while. THEN you can talk. Besides, with the info sheet on the neos, Dave plans to circulate to fen with famnish lives of $\frac{1}{2}$ year or less, the new Neffers won't NEED a stack of WC members corresponding with them continuously. And not all WCommembers have time enuf to have a long correspondence with all neos. For instance, the onlt chance I usually have to do any fanac is on weekends, which are not always free. Nonetheless, I've got seven people to welcome within a month, and I'll get it done - someday.

However, I'm not down on neos; I am only a short way from the time when I joined the NFFF also, though maybe a bit longer than you. And I'll write more than three letters to some neos, if I want to.

But, one minor disagreeance with refering neos to other fen. There's no point in sitting around waiting for someone to write you, and you've got to start writing other fen SOMETIME, so suggesting in the second or third letter that welcommee write another fan is NOT going to hurt. Dave Hulan referred me to another fan - Seth Johnson - when I wrote him for info on fandom.

I didn't know that it was actually possible to watch a fantasy or stf movie ever, with "RELISH". Surely you meant something else????

Frank: Hi there and ditto.

Don Franson: But WHY restrict voting rights to the member who hangs around for the next year? After all, the incoming fan has accepted the choice made the year before he joined by the members, so he ought to have SOME say in the next Directorate and prexy choices even if he can't stick around another year. It might not be the dropout's idea, you know; he might have parents who think that fandom and homework do not mix.

How about a compromise on the Story Contest? Neffers enter for free, say, outsiders pay a buck, or fifty cents or something. This offers an incentive (right Don, point out the misspelling...) ((offers should only have one eff)) for joining up with NFFF, and it IS the N3F Story Contest.

Nope. STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND is NOT an unsold mss Heinlein dug up to enlargen and sell on the strength of his reputation. It was sold. There are a number of interesting little parallels between it and LOST

LEGACY, the short psi novel in ASSIGNMENT IN ETERNITY. Most of the info on the Martians came straight out of RED PLANET and the basic structure of the Fosterite Church was in IF THIS GOES ON--.

Felice Rolfe: As far as I can see (and I'm not completely ignorant on the subject - Dad is a school superintendent), the new science and math programs are basically only in areas of high population/or high per capita income. Science equipment is EXPENSIVE.

But greatest trouble with new math and science programs in small areas is that they are not 50 years old. The amount of conservatism in small towns is extremely great and resistance is there accordingly. TRY explaining to a parent that he mustn't do Johnny's math for him; then try explaining to a parent after he's tried anyhow, that his math is valid, not the product of a diseased mentality, and that little Johnny won't have any trouble once he decides to do his own homework. This just won't work.

And resistance seems to mount with age. I'm taking the INTERMEDIATE MATHEMATICS book now in my Junior year, and I seem to be the only kid in the class who can understand the stuff. Most of the class just bitch about it, rather than study it.

Lawrence Pinsker: I AGREE MAN. Nix on comix.

And you other three hundred:

I hereby go on record (Long playing, 33 rpm, send cash - read that cash please - check or money order) as being in favor of dues increase. Whether or not club is being financed by individual donations, I do not know, but I am in favor of working up a little clover in treasury whether it's really needed or not (as it probably is). 2 bux for the first year, 3½ for two, won't hurt anyone. 40 cents is the amount one small pb costs. Is there ANYONE here who doesn't buy pbs or hcs? The very idea sounds ridiculous. And skipping one pb won't hurt you too much.

As you all know, the greatest influx of the present entering neos (keep staring peoples-it might make sense someday) is (are?) are comix fen. This is a Very Deplorable Situation and Something Should Be Done.

And since a kindergarten is hardly practical (which means I shall soon send off the idea to IOS in hopes of some money for the idea if it works out...) to re-educate (hmmmm...maybe I should chop off the "re"...) these fen to higher class by anything but some form of persuasion (say with a ball bat) I can't really applaud the idea.

However I have my own idea, for what it's worth:

Make it profitable to the neos to read other forms of stf.

Or, in short, the Neffer Scholarships. These would be somewhere between the Hiller Fund for Pennyless Neos and the Kaymar Awards. The basic idea of these is that the NFFF should be stuffed with sercon type fen instead of immature pipsqueaks. The large percentage of neos doesn't give the NFFF a bad name in fandom; so much as the number of clods, fringe fen, etc. And while I don't favor disposing of fringe fen and clods and faans - after all, it's taken me a long time to get halfway energetic - I do think that mature sercon fen should get some form of reward.

Reward in this case would be a two year membership in the NFFF for the two to three most deserving neofen or older type, possibly two neos and two older fen.

How to qualify? A) service to the NFFF beyond that requested of the fan; B) outstanding personal fanac; C) knowledge of science fiction and/or fantasy in general, among other things. The directors can comment upon this, as it would fall into their leadership.

Someone start a Tape Bureau? Did a neo pub a zine acknowledged by all its readers as one of the best they've ever seen? Did someone create another fan club of a superior sort? Who wrote the sequel to THE IMMORTAL STORM? What people wrote and published the gigantic FANCYCLOPEDIA IIIII? Or, has someone, year in and year out, quietly and almost unnoticed,

worked to give the NFFF a better fannish name?

All of these people would be deserving of Neffer Scholarships; Neffer Service Awards, or whatever you wish to call them.

Comments please.

Oddly,
mike shupp

(*Small Soken, look in any large dictionary)

Piers Jacob
800 75th Street North
St. Petersburg 10, Fla.

Dear Tightbeam,

I suppose I'm a neo, since I've just received my first communications from N3F. I will be having more to say in the future, much more; and I suspect some of the old timers will be able to spare a caustic word for me too. But for now let me break in gently with a few innocent comments on the letters in TB #15.

Some of them are surprisingly literate. I learned something from the discussion about the dogs in orbit. It had never occurred to me that the upper atmosphere would be short on tree-trunks. The assorted fan slang is sometimes amusing, sometimes asinine—it may be fun to use it as a kind of juvenile code, but does it really promote the enjoyment of science fiction? And the female fan who signs with the admonishment "So croggle me good" evokes an alarming suggestiveness; I don't care what the word means in the language of the initiate.

I note one correspondent bemoaning the influx of new members who will have to be educated into the appreciation of adult SF, while another reviles ANALOG as "intellectual trash". Fabulous—do these people actually read each other's letters, or are they like the truck drivers in Sheckley's recent F&SF serial?

I am not familiar with the problems of the Welcommittee, but will say that I appreciated the multi-page missive from Seth Johnson. This was direct and personal, and did introduce me to the Federation in a friendly fashion.

The comments about story contests were of special interest to me. I've had a bad time with several of those things. I submitted the first story I wrote to the Galaxy-Humanist contest in 1954, but after some months got word that while I had placed in the top ten, there had been no winner. No winner? After all that fanfare? Well, that's one way to save money. Meanwhile, IF magazine, which was then independent and far better than it is now, published several winners of a contest that to the best of my knowledge was never announced in the magazine. So there was a contest without a winner, and winners without a contest! Recently I saw a fan contest advertised in F&SF and IF; I wrote to enquire details, but never received a reply. So I, for one, would be happy to pay a buck to enter a legitimate contest. By the way, can anyone tell me just what were those two words in the March '51 OW contest story "Test Piece"? I was too obtuse to figure it out myself. ((eds note: I have seen several articles on this, but never read the original story. Many fans seem to have settled on the phrase "dirty nigger", or words to that general effect, since there seemed to be indications in the story that the people were Negroid.))

As long as I'm asking questions, not knowing whether anyone will care to answer them, let me mention my roach problem. Here in Florida the roaches are big and fierce and have insatiable appetite for the white portions of shelved SF magazines. This makes my GALAXY collection a prime target. I'm a peaceful fellow, and it had been my habit to catch the

critters under a glass and escort them outside; but when I saw the devastation they left behind I declared war. We had the whole house fumigated, and I doused 800 magazines in Raid; but Archie continues to get far more edification from SF than I. ((eds note: If it weren't for the use of the shift key, I might suspect who REALLY wrote this letter)) Now I know I'm laying myself open to wisecracks about roaches and filthy living; however most of my filth is in my mind and my wife keeps the house clean. So please--if anyone knows how to protect magazines with minimum investment, or at least make them distasteful, give me the word.

((eds note: I can feel for you, Piers. I work in one of the most up to date, modern factory buildings imaginable. We produce photographic films and emulsions which demands the utmost in fanatical cleanliness due to the possibility of contamination. These emulsions are extremely susceptible to contamination from chemicals as well as such physical items as dust in the air. Yet, we are now, and have always been, bothered by roach infestation due to the gelatine content of the emulsions. We cannot use chemical means to destroy the roaches because of the above mentioned sensitivity to chemical contamination. I work nights, though, and find that the roaches help keep my shooting eye in trim. I'm a dead shot at ten feet, with a rubber band.))

Piers Jacob

Frank Hiller
99 Sellinger Street
Rochester 5, N.Y.

Dear Don,

Hope this reaches you in time to be included in the November TB. If it doesn't send it back (using the enclosed stamp) and I'll send it along to Lee Riddle. ((eds note: This bit of consideration (enclosing a stamped envelope) was most gratifying and unexpected. More on this general theme to follow, in my final remarks after the letters.))

To Don Franson: I really have no information as to the number of worthy members who are having their dues paid for them. I got the impression, from the comments of several members that the number was greater. I believe Ralph Holland was paying for some. Also Janie Lamb mentioned, as an objection to the proposed dues raise, that she wouldn't be able to carry as many if such a raise of dues was put into effect. Actually I made the suggestion to spread the burden a bit and take it off Janie Lamb and any others who are paying someone else's dues. True, there are probably very few who couldn't afford four cents a week, but how many of us remember to put four cents a week away. I know I've had to let some magazine subscriptions lapse that I would very much like to have continued due to the subscription renewal catching me at an inopportune moment.

Aside from the number of people who would require this service being too small to justify instituting such a fund I imagine the greatest objection to it would be possible free loaders. I had thought of them, which is why I added in the previous TB that only those suggested by well known Neffers would be eligible. Of course this would narrow down the number of indigent potential Neffers even more.

To Mike Kurman: I suggested a dollar because (1) us plutocrats are able to afford it. (2) the minimum money order fee, I think, is twenty cents. I would prefer spending twenty cents to send a buck than I would spending twenty cents to send fifty cents.

Don't understand your objection to the uneven amount. I see no potential trouble. This would merely leave a small balance in the fund which seems an advantage to me. Anyhoo, if the dues are raised to \$2.00 it would come out even.

Clay Hamlin's figure to show that a dues increase is unnecessary seem to have too many admitted "uncertainties" in them to base keeping the dues as they are on them. Just what does the increase consist of? Forty cents more per year. This works out to less than a cent a week, \$.0076923..to be more or less exact. What's so tough about this?

In answer to Don Franson's objections (though the answer raises another objection) that the dues wouldn't always be \$2.00 but sometimes as much as \$3.50. Part of the answer lies in the recruiting member making sure to instruct the recruit that, in the words of the constitution, "a minimum of \$1.60 must be paid unless, at the same time, the applicant also pays that proportionate part of the yearly dues necessary to adjust the applicant's membership to the first of the year." The fault Don mentions lies not in the amount of the dues but in the mechanics of the deal not being explained to the new member. If the new member joins when he has to pay three quarters of 1963 plus all of 1964 in order to adjust his dues to the first of the year then he must remember to pay, on time, his dues for 1965 and all succeeding years in order for his dues to "always" be \$2.00.

If you don't pay your dues every year, on time, at the first of the year you would then possibly wind up paying \$3.50 some years. What better incentive for paying one's dues on time can you find?

The objection that I said the above answer would raise is that how many potential members, knowing little about the club, not too sure if they would continue as members after an initial trial year would pay \$3.50?

The dues as they now stand would reach a maximum of \$2.80 in this sort of situation. \$3.50 minus \$2.80 leaves \$.70. You could buy two issues of "Amazing" for that amount.

If everyone paying their dues on the first of the year puts too much of a burden on Janie, elect an assistant treasurer. Preferably someone who lives relatively near Janie to avoid delays in the mails between the two of them. Far as I can determine there is nothing in the constitution that limits the number of officers outside of a five member directorate and a president.

Best,
Frank Hiller

Donald F. Anderson
429 Cedarhurst Ave.
McKeesport, Pa.

Donald Franson has put forth some arguments in favor of changing the present calendar year system of memberships to a membership year system, that is, from a member paying his dues according to when he joins to last to the end of the year, to a system where a membership runs one full year starting when the member joins. Great, only this would involve a lot more trouble and work than the present system involves. Lets see:

Instead of all the memberships coming due at the end of the year, very easy to keep track of, they would become spread out over a period of 365 each year or just continuously. Janie Lamb would have to keep in constant surveillance of the records, having to know when each person's dues were up. If you think a person has to be notified now just at the end of the year, what will it be like when everyone has a different renewal date? Instead of everyone being notified at one time of the renewal date, the end of the year, each person would have to be notified individually of his/her renewal date.

What of the mailing list for N3F publications? It would vary from month to month as members failed to renew. Each editor would have to keep in constant touch with Janie ((?)) to make sure that each person got his/her issue if they were due it. This again would involve more work.

on Janie's part. And if Don thinks that non-renewals are getting free issues of TNFF and Tightbeam now in Jan. and Feb., think what would happen under the membership year system. Joe Blow fails to renew his membership for April, let's say the 30th. Should Joe Blow get May issue of Tightbeam or not, since the due date for that issue is before April 30th? Maybe not, so Janie sends Joe's name to editor, ah, too late, ye ole ed has mailed out copies. Or maybe Janie even fails to notice Joe's due date, he could continue to get TNFF and TB forever, or at least till Janie does notice Joe's time is up. We could always print the names of those due for renewal in each issue of Tightbeam and TNFF, but these come out but once a month and on an average there are 30 days in a month. This could involve Directorate reform in constitution and such.

I'm sure a system could be worked out to get the membership year system to run smoothly, even if it probably would have to involve more than one person as we are using now. Under the corresponding way of running the club this would surely slow down the works. Anyway, why worry? As the membership gets bigger the idea of the membership year system would get too involved and cumbersome. Our own system is working pretty good right now, even if it does have it's faults, nothing is perfect.

I think a dues raise could be used in the club but with one minor revision. Say dues are \$2.00 a year. If a person pays for two years at a time we could charge \$3.80 or thereabouts, pays for three years we could charge \$5.50 or so. You see the idea is to encourage members paying for as many years as theylike at one time with an increasing savings with each additional year. A limit could be placed on the number of years a person is allowed to pay for at one time on this system. Say five years at \$8.50, a savings of \$1.50 over paying dues each year on the system. This is just an idea, kind of crude yet, any comments?

Eight entries have been recieved for the story contest. Art Rapp says that this should allow the judges more time to comment at length on each story. And with enough categories in the contest, each should get a prize. Great, only where's the contest? There should have been more entries. I'm not going to call the kettle black, I didn't enter either. The \$1.00 entry fee seemed a little too steep for my blood. Can't the fee be lowered back to 50¢ for members of the N3F and add maybe a quarter for non-members? The Story Contest was an N3F initiated event and is run by the club. I don't want to get rid of the outsiders altogether, but with the club letting non-members getting part of benefits of belonging to it, why should they bother to join?

Heinlein's "Stranger in a Strange Land" being picked for the Hugo has sorely disappointed me. The book was a mess, poorly written for a Heinlein work. I wonder how many who voted for it read it? Or maybe they just voted for the author? I think Analog stuffed the ballot box.

Nuff said, I pass.

Al Lewis
1825 Greenfield Ave.
Los Angeles 25, Calif.

Dear Don:

There seems to be some confusion regarding the appointment of Art Rapp to the presidency and its legality. Under the rules of the N3F, anyone paying \$1.60 per year is a member. Married couples may be carried as single members. When Nancy ran for the Directorate in 1961 she was fully a member of the N3F. So was Art. Prior to their marriage, both had held separate memberships. When they were married the memberships were merged. They were one member.

Now under the constitution one member may not hold two elective offices. When Art Rapp's name was submitted to the Directorate for consideration he sent in a second set of dues. Art and Nancy thereupon became separate members and were entitled to hold elective office. They were so listed in the roster submitted by the Secretary-Treasurer to the Directorate Chairman dated March 12, 1962, and distributed with the April TNFF. I very carefully checked this point before making announcement of the election.

As to the confusion, I am partly to blame, having listed the memberships as separate on the official roster where they could be seen by anyone who took the trouble to check. I assumed that nothing further needed to be said on the matter, and excised a specific announcement to that effect from the two Sec-Treas reports intended for publication as being superfluous. Other statements to this effect were made by Janie in her new member reports which go to the OE, the WC head, and the N'APA OE, but unfortunately not to the President or the Directorate. Janie did acknowledge the Rapp's dues personally, but not till after Nancy's letter in the Sept. TIGHTBEAM had been written.

A statement by Alma needs correction. When his name was brought into the discussion as a possible President, Art Rapp acknowledged to the Directorate Chairman that he would be willing to accept the office, and the DC duly passed the information on to the rest of the Directorate. Alma has been told not one, but several times.

As to the rest of that letter; I think actions speak for themselves.

Don Francon's remarks on the story contest: this year the contest failed because the only substantial publicity it recieved was inside the N3F, and because of a short deadline and a high entry fee. However, perusal of the 1961 Contest manuscripts will demonstrate that the bulk of them came from outside the club. I think the double lesson is very clear; we cannot run a successful story contest limited to the NFFF. The purpose of the contest is to encourage the writing of science fiction by new writers. It doesn't matter where they come from. The NFFF, after all, is a service organization for all fandom. The Neffers recieve their recompense in seeing the published story winners--we are hoping to distribute these with the December TNFF, by the way--and in the satisfaction of achievement. All fandom recieves the benefit.

The NFFF has been most successful where it has tried to broaden its services; least successful where it has taken on an insular or a restrictive attitude. And on purely empirical evidence a broadening attitude has given us a 50% increase in membership over this same time last year. This does not seem to me like popular rejection.

I'd like to see the next story contest run the way the first one was and the way the second one should have been--well announced and publicized, with plenty of room to the deadline, and a low or non-existent entry fee--with NFFF picking up the tab--and open to ALL of fandom.

Best,
Al

Janie Lamb
Route 1, Box 364
Heiskell, Tenn.

Editor TB #16:

At this writing I still Haven't rec'd my copy of TB number 15, but Winston Dawson's copy detoured by way of my mail box. This was one of the best issues of TB I have yet seen.

There was one letter I was surprised, hurt and angered to read. I refer, of course, to the one from Nancy Rapp. Nancy not only blatantly accused me of thievery but also of being an ignoramus, because if a sensible person wanted to steal dues, then it would be much more sensible to take money

rather than a check, which is a receipt the dues have been received.

I have proof I did report the receipt of their dues, both Nancy's and Art's. But let me explain the whole thing...

Art and Nancy Rapp paid for 1962 as a joint membership. Nancy ran for director and was elected on this team membership, thus leaving Art out in the cold so to speak. This left Art with no rights to vote or hold office. In January when Holland died the Directors under the leadership of Albert Lewis began the task of finding a replacement for Holland, a very difficult job. After several members had turned down the appointment Art Rapp was asked, and accepted the appointment, thus becoming the President of N3F. At this time we were facing many difficulties, appointing a President was one of these difficulties.

I'm sure under the stress it did not occur to any of the Directors that Art Rapp was ineligible for the appointment. I first realized it when I started to type the membership roster printed in March or April. I did not have time to write Art, neither did I have time to contact the Directors and hold up the roster, there was a deadline to be met. Rapp had been appointed illegally, what would be the membership reaction when they learned this? The members had been told of Rapp's appointment, dare we risk trouble that might arise from this mistake? Here is where you might say I did wrong, according to what your conception of wrong might be. But I marked Art Rapp as paid for 1962 on the roster and on his membership card knowing that if he did not pay later the \$1.60 would have to come out of my own pocket. But to keep down trouble and have peace in the club was worth the \$1.60. I felt Art would pay when he thought about it, or when I notified him of the situation.

The Rapps did pay by check as Nancy stated. It is false that I did not report this. This was reported in April to those I usually report such info to, this includes the OE who is Al Lewis. In my report for the June TNFF I again reported this. It is not customary to list the renewals in TNFF when a roster is being mailed. I did not consider the Rapp's renewal of such importance to warrant a special bulletin being mailed. The members were not aware he had been appointed illegally, why point out he had been legalized?

The membership roster is one item of proof I did report their renewal, they are not listed as a joint membership in either the March or September roster, check them against the Labowitz's and you'll see what I mean. I stuck my neck out for the March roster, he had paid by the September one.

Again the statement is false that I had not acknowledged their separate renewals to them. Nancy wrote me about it, and I told her as I've told you, that it had been reported twice. I also sent her a copy of the report I turned in for the June TNFF. I have a copy of this letter on file.

Nancy said in her letter that it was Art's membership for 62 and she merely a rider. If this was true she would be serving as an illegal Director, her votes, motions, etc. would have to be voided. But fortunately the act of dual memberships does not state which is the member and which is the rider, this is left for them to decide. The one exercising that right first becomes the qualified member; thus when Nancy was elected a Director, Art became ineligible to vote or hold office. Nancy had taken the rights of a member and only one membership had been paid, this was their right to decide, but when they decided Nancy would be the one to run Art was out in the cold. I hate to think we have a Director this year who does not understand the policies or the rules of the club. This is laxness in an officer.

Please believe me, I'm not labeling myself as perfect. I do make mistakes, but I am willing to admit them and correct them. If I had failed to report the renewals of the Rapps they should have taken it up with the Directorate for investigation and disposition of the case. To publicly

accuse a person of embezzlement could cause serious trouble. I have plenty of proof I did report it, although the membership roster is sufficient.

The only wrong I admit doing is paying Art's dues to keep down an argument and the possibility of his being kicked out, leaving us again trying to find a President. I've learned my lesson tho, anytime in the future I have to deal with the Rapps I'll do it with kid gloves on, no quarter asked and none given.

I'm sorry to have such as this mar TB but I had no alternative. I had to defend my honesty; else the new members would be thinking...a dishonest Treasurer being trusted with my dues money. I do not feel Nancy's accusation will be believed by the older members, they know I'm honest, they might have thought I made a mistake. I feel badly that the N3F has a Director that will make false accusations against one of the club officers. I have no idea of starting a feud because of this; I'm going to try and forget it after telling you the true story. I hope you will also forget it happened.

Had Nancy written this to the Directors I would have ignored it, but in a publication read by over 300 persons it demanded an answer.

Best to everyone,

Janie

((eds note: At the beginning of this issue I stated that I WOULD NOT edit any of the letters. Well, I just violated my own rule. Three sentences were deleted from Janie's letter, sentences which do not in any way effect the meanings of the letter, but which I felt, for reasons of my own, might better be omitted.))

Richard G. Hinman
177 Shawsheen Road
Andover, Mass.

Dear Membership,

Would like to say a few words on the current argument about the Welcommittee. I feel I am well qualified to get into this, seeing just a few months ago I recieved Welcome letters and now send them out.

It seems that a few people (mostly neos, like myself) disagree with what Dave Hulan said in the July TB. According to them, a member should keep up a correspondence with the new members they welcome. First of all, I don't think that's exactly what Dave meant. The way I read it, Dave said the Welcom members don't have to keep up this correspondence if they don't want to. This way he may get help from people who have no desire to correspond with neos, but do want to help the neos.

Also I feel that these complaing are slightly selfish. They think of themselves only. The members write to other new members besides them, and if they strike up a correspondence with every new member they write to, within a year they will be over their heads in correspondence. Right now I'm more than willing to correspond with the members I write to, but there will come a time when I must turn away neos who are in want of correes.

Michael Kurman (and others): If you are so interested in the welfare of the neos, why don't you rejoin the Welcommittee? Right now we are about twelve strong and this can stretch things out when there are fifty-two new members to welcome as there were this past issue of GJALLARHORN. I believe the Welcommittee is an essential part of NFFF and will need some more members to flourish.

As to getting out to the public mentioned by H. James Hotaling, this has bothered me also. It wouldn't hurt the suffering treasury too much if they ran an ad in a magazine, or enclosed the proposed sheet in each copy of some mag. I believe there is a slick Neffer zine which could do this

pretty well, but we would not want to take advantage of this magazine and would squeeze a little of the treasury to pay for this service.

Now to the much debated dues raise. I have heard very good arguments from both sides of the track. I, personally, am against it, but don't really think members would have any trouble raising the loot. If people can't scratch up the proposed \$1.75 a year, where do they find money to buy sf mags or books? For people like myself, who have trouble raising the mass sum at one time (and for the poor Treasurer who doesn't want to be paid in parts), why not appoint a 'second Treasurer', someone to whom members can pay their dues piecemeal.

Deadline was yesterday for November ish of TB ((eds hote: yes, indeed)) and I found out when the deadline was, three days before it, so am sending this in the hope that the editor will take pity on me and print it anyway. This is something that had bothered me, the lateness of the N3F pubs. I received the August TNFF which had the application blank for the story contest which ended midnight that night and a blank for reservation for a breakfast the next day, which was supposed to be in two weeks before.

Well, I've found writing a letter to TIGHTBEAM isn't that bad, why don't some of the rest of you try it.

A Neffer Nut
Dick Hinman

Clayton Hamlin
Southwest Harbor
Maine

For Tightbeam:

By golly, I'll admit it when I goof, and it seems I may have done just that with the letter last time. Not intentionally understand, merely the sort of thing that happens when you take valid figure from another period and project them into an estimated future pattern.

From a study of the roster with the last TNFF, it seems there has been a remarkably effective educational program put over for the new members. Near as I can figure it, there just wasn't anyone in this year so far who merely paid for the calender year 1962 when they joined the club. Can't say for sure cause there is the problem of renewals mixed in there.

So here are some new figures. As of next January there is going to be a total of 162 members in the club. In addition add on a year of expense for those who will be members for 1964 or later, a total of 21 of them, making 183.

So take your 35¢ each for them, over and above basic publications. This gives you a working balance of \$64.05 for additional benefits to start with. Remember also that for each renewal or new member gained after the first of the year you add another 35¢. This year, for instance, because of an extremeley effective recruiting towards the end of the year there were nearly two hundred memberships, new and renewal from the first of the year to the end of the year. This seems to be the standard pattern also, each year end shows both a higher membership and a higher treasury from what the club had at the end of the previous year. Figure two hundred then, (and I hope I am not making the same error in projecting figures as before) and you will find that these new members will give a total of \$70.00. Funds available for spending would make \$130 right there.

THE CLUB DID NOT SPEND THAT MUCH MONEY THIS YEAR! Oh, I know, once again the convention returned the club expenditures for the Neffer room, the second year in a row. However, you cannot expect this every year, not without at least three years to establish a pattern of something like

this. If a convention fails to do so one of these years now, THEN is the time to look for dues increases.

As for contributions, direct and indirect, to the treasury, why not just let it stand the way it is, and know that money is available if it is needed. See, most of this is not directly a donation at all, but merely a form of personal fanac which happens to be good for the club. Hayes for instance, I just dare anyone to make him agree he should be paid for any of his activity, whatever good it does the club members. I know, I've tried to get him to allow a share of the costs of a couple of things. He won't do it cause he wants control of editing, and wants the last word on who gets copies too, as well as the last word in what it says. As to those who contribute to the conventions, they get value recieved for it, as do those who are willing to pay the dues for members who are unable to themselves. Good for the club, sure, but more than that in personal satisfaction too. ESPECIALLY if they turn out to be a talented contributor to some faned who is in need of material, and aren't they all.

Maybe it won't matter, perhaps you have already voted the dues increase. I hope not, and tried hard to keep it fom happening, but if so, so be it.

Message to Art Rapp: You just bet I recall 10¢ prozines, though most I recall were fifteen cents. That price was the only way of making it possible for a precocious (a polite way of saying brat) six year old to buy those magazines to read. In the honored tradition of those days I spent my weekends wandering around the highways and byways of town picking up empty beer bottles for the refund, for the dishonorable (and it sure was, then) purpose of buying stf magazines. Worth it? Do you really need to ask when reminded that Merritt was writing then, that ARGOSY was publishing The Blind Spot by Hall and Flint, the Palos trilogy, George Allen England's Darkness and Dawn series, Burroughs, Francis Stevens and ever so many others.

Message to Roy Tackett: Sorry about the loss of the address labels, but we got the edges of a hurricane up in these parts, and the excess water had to be diverted SOMEWHERE. To those who think hurricane is merely a word for a big storm, consider one incident at the Coast Guard station here during that, it was on a lighthouse on Mt. Desert rock, the first they realized how bad this was came when the sea (forty foot waves approximately) lifted a rock and threw it inland to smash in the roof and wall of the machine shop. That rock weighed FIVE TON, honest it did.

But enough for now.

Clay

Richard Eney
417 Fort Hunt Road
Alexandria, Virginia.

Dear Don,

Wally Weber produced a rather neat TIGHTBEAM with nothing but his typewriter -- just goes to show what limited facilities are really necessary.

I've got a couple of quibbles to make about some of the letters in it before making my pitch, so to the points:

H. James Hotaling has a pretty sound idea in his suggestion of an advertising flyer -- perhaps some of the handout leaflets used in the Hospitality Room at the worldcons could be adopted for this. However, his expansion of Larry McCombs' suggestion for an amateur research journal isn't so well taken. The idle speculation -- and the fields which are nothing more -- finds adequate fields for fan publication in the regular fanzines; but few of these deal with methodological problems treated fairly rigorously. (That's not too much their fault; I chanced to do up

up a fairly elementary paper in a rather easy discipline, anthropology, in mimeo, and ran off extra copies to put in a fanzine for OMPA, adding such notes as were required for fannish comprehension -- and even this sample paper was increased by a third that way, though I write pretty concise notes. Can you imagine what a really hard science like Bill Evans' chemistry or Larry McCombs' mathematics would need in the way of enlargement and footnotes before most of us could follow a paper a serious worker might produce?) I think he underestimates the difficulty of filling such a publication; amateur-scientist-fans need their egoboo, too, and will they be eager to present their work before an audience which, whatever its general enthusiasm for science, lacks the special knowledge to appreciate the real merit of the work?

Don Franson has good objection to the religion preached in Stranger in a Strange Land; that it's just another version of the Chosen People jazz, and that this is inadequate for the modern world. A good objection, I say, but wrong all the same. A philosophy/religion bloody well can be that narrow today; you can tick off the blocs across the spectrum from the beats with their contempt for squares to the Reds with their two-way scorn for the outside Capitalist and the internal masses. It's pretty much an inevitable concomitant of the "actionist" attitude in every field; remember, not only do you want to A*C*T when you start thinking in a two-valued way, but you also tend to start thinking in a two-valued way when you get committed to a course of intensive action. (Hey, I better note I mean you "people", not you "Don Franson".)

Now, what I wanted to remind everybody of is the C*O*N*V*E*N*T*I*O*N to be held next Labor Day. We've gotten a really good deal from the hotel as far as facilities go, and -- though we can't give you the full program yet -- we've got some special items we figure will make the convention almost as interesting as the smoke-filled rooms. For memberships, address the Discon Committee, Box 36, Mt. Rainer, Md.; make checks and money orders payable to Bill Evans -- membership is \$2 in the US, \$1 overseas.

Best & all,
Dick Eney

((eds note: One of a convention's greatest needs is as much working capital as possible, in order to be able to negotiate freely for the best possible terms in arranging for the various functions. Now, you're going to join the convention anyway, right? So JOIN NOW!!! Send your two bucks to Bill Evans at the address above. Do it yesterday, if possible.))

Don Anderson
141 Shady Creek Rd.
Rochester 23, N.Y.

Dear TIGHTBEAM,

First of all, you appear rather ridiculous writing a letter to yourself. However, that's one way to avoid the possibility of anyone mistaking your personal opinion for some sort of official statement.

To Lee Riddle: I sincerely hope that you have better luck regarding the Deadline than I did. Today is October 31 and this letter of mine is most certainly the last I intend to stencil. If I had stuck by my original intention of keeping the Deadline, this issue would have consisted of about six pages. That's the reason for the cover, such as it is. This brings up another point, one which partly may be the answer to the late arrival of so many letters;

Wally Weber: From the evidence I have, from personal notes as well as TIGHTBEAM letters, it would seem as if some, and possibly many, members did not get their copies of September's TIGHTBEAM. This includes at least three officers of the club (Al Lewis, Art Rapp, Janie Johnson) and the editor of the issue to follow, myself. This is a serious breakdown in club communication. In all probability this problem could be traced to the Post Office, but I, for one, would feel much better if I had your assurance that you DID mail out copies to all members. I would suggest that any member who did not receive a September TIGHTBEAM drop a card to Al Lewis, so that we might get some idea how many were missed.

Al Lewis: It is my opinion that you are guilty of a serious breach of the ethics of your office. The TNFF is the Official Organ of the N3F, and as such should be free of personal editorializing on matters that DO NOT concern the N3F as an organization. While it is true that a number of N3F members are involved in the unfortunate fannish scandal now claiming the attention of fandom, this involvement is on strictly a personal level, and should not concern us as N3F members. It says on the masthead of TNFF something to the order that it is the intention of the N3F to avoid the fannish conflicts that seem so predominant in our microcosm. This, most certainly, is not always as possible as we might want, but as editor of TNFF it is your duty to uphold that intention. In authoring editorials for the TNFF, you are speaking for the N3F as a whole, and have no authority to take a stand on such a controversial issue without the consent of the Directorate or possibly the membership as a whole. This is not always true, of course, such as in cases with a clear N3F precedent, and it may seem somewhat like hamstringing, but you and any member of the N3F are perfectly free to take a personal stand in any but the official publication of the club, TNFF.

Dikini: You said it, Kid. Washington, San Fransico, New Orleans, London, then ROCHESTER IN '67!

Clay Hamlin: In projecting your figures, didn't you forget to include the necessary increase in expenditures for the additional members? Also, the intention to provide Bigger and Better services in the future. Along this line, let me state two fiscal facts that should be changed. First; I feel that TIGHTBEAM editors should be repaid in full for all expenses of production of the letterzine. The 10¢ per member allowance may not cover the cost of production and mailing, and I think the labor involved is enough to ask the editor for. This is not a personal beef, since I have no idea as yet as to the final cost of producing this issue, but 350 copies (circulation this issue) is labor enough.

Secondly; I do not feel that the N3F should have accepted, nor should accept in the future, reimbursement from the convention committees for the expenses of the hospitality rooms. By accepting these expenses we have allowed the project to become convention credits, instead of credits to the N3F. If this is to remain OUR project, then it must be paid for with Our funds, or any good PR we reap will be unearned and phony.

I had more to say, but my typing fingers are tired, and I want the page count to come out right. Remember:

TIGHTBEAM 17
Lee Riddle
144 Elkton Rd.
Newark, Delaware

Deadline December 25

WRITE NOW !!, RIGHT NOW !!

Luck, Don Anderson

TIGHTBEAM 16
Janie Lamb
Route #1
Box 364
Heiskell, Tenn.



TO-

Theodore H. Engel
66-37 Yellowstone Blvd.
Forrest Hills 75, N.Y.

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