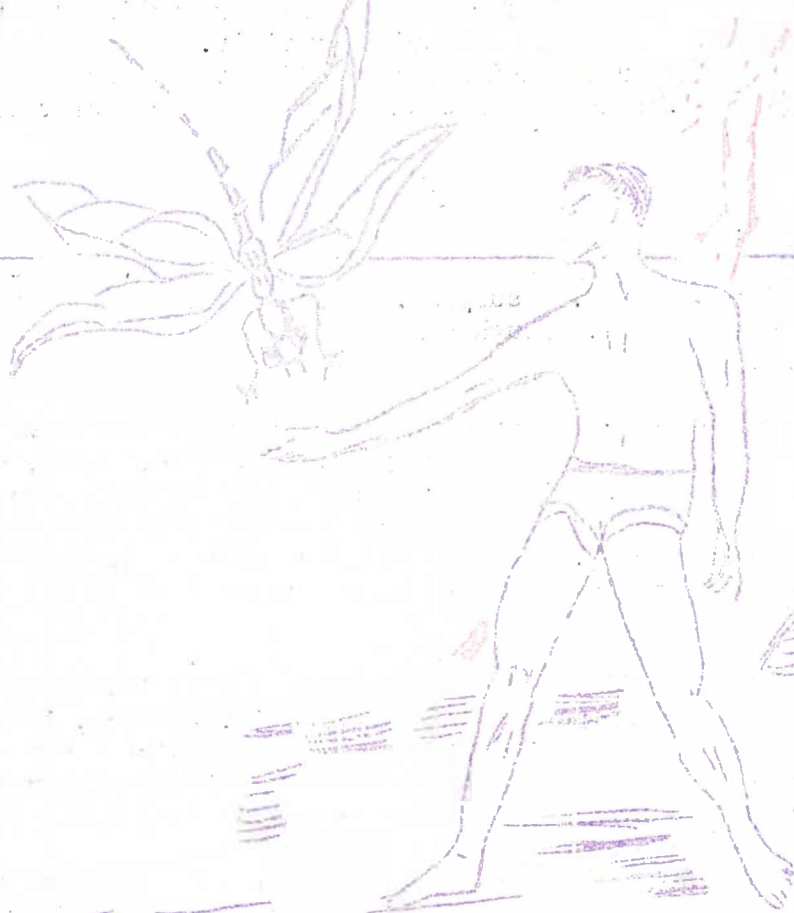


THE TIGHTBEAM 10



THIS ISSUE OF
TIGHTBEAM BY:-

ARTHUR HAYES
R.R.#3,
BANCROFT, ONT. CANADA.

NEXT
ISSUE

BY

ALBERT LEWIS,
706 SAN LORENZO ST.
SANTA MONICA, CAL.USA.

COLLINS

Since I last wrote you, I've been to Cleveland and personally met Miss Norton ((The Writer-jah)). I spent three hrs and forty minutes with this extraordinary woman. I must say I have rarely been so well received and entertained by anyone. She is a most warmly human person and wonderfully kind. Her conversation literally sparkles and she seems to about anything with ease.

I could devote several pages to her library alone. She has several hundred books devoted to the sciences, history and just about anything else you can think of. These, of course, are used for reference in her work. She has several hundred others devoted to SF and Fantasy including some real goodies such as THE OUTSIDER and BEYOND THE WALL OF SLEEP. Naturally, she finds it easy building her S.F. library since she gets review copies of all juvenile SF and many of the more mature stuff which she reviews for THE CLEVELAND PRESS.

She is amenable enough about doing, for instance, an evaluation of her work, such as Sam Moskowitz does in Amazing. This is patently impossible at this time since one would have to make himself thoroughly familiar with her work and since her first book was published in 1934, I doubt being able to get hold of copies of all her published material. Oddly enough, I saw NO copies of her books anywhere during my visit.

I've worked out a pretty good bibliography which I would like to see published somewhere for anyone interested in her work. I know this would meet with her approval.

Larry

CRILLY

HAYES:

As long as you persist in calling me CRILLY, I have to retaliate in kind, I suppose. I prefer being called Lawrence when spoken of, though Larry is perfectly all right if we're on good terms — we are, aren't we?

TIGHTBEAM #9 -- First off, Lambeck cancels out his statements when he says, "Bradbury.... is one of the most talented writers of contemporary SF." Talented, maybe, but no more an SF Writer than say, Mickey Spillane, which is getting a bit drastic, since Spillane doesn't even write stories... perhaps I should compare Bradbury with Dean Owen, since they both write the same branded "SF" stories, even tho neither writes it. Bradbury writes well (at least that's what the critics say) tho I'm unable to appreciate his style; much the same with Shakespeare.

So TB is a discussionzine, eh? & where are all those intelligent discussions of Beatniks and Jazz, and perhaps jd's that are so common in HABAKKUK, h'm? Lambeck, if you like to read articles on — and discuss — Beatniks, I'm not going to say you're a nut — each to his own, you know, but I don't see any articles on these things in TB. If you like zines like HABAKKUK, you're entitled to. I suppose you're one of these fen who doesn't work at a steady job, either; how long's your beard, eh, Lambeck.

So you don't like material relating to SF in fanzines either. And you knock fannishness. That pretty well takes care of most fmz, except for things like HAB. If you don't have material relating to SF in fmz what do you put in 'em? Perhaps I'm wrong, but I was under the impression this was SF FANDOM — quite a few things can be squeezed into that, including fan-fiction (or perhaps you'd prefer faan-fiction) in that it's at least about fen. Anyone who thinks John Berry and Walt Willis, TCarr and others are not good writers is either a fool, or he doesn't read their material. Somehow I think, between the three above named only, they could put out a monthly fanzine with SF articles, etc., of top-grade material. Or are you talking about SF STORIES. Straight SF stories certainly don't belong in a fmz — most didn't even belong in the promags in the past year! I know I was not talking about stories, and I suspect James Tauras I wasn't either. Lambeck, what makes you think faanish things include putting cigarette butts in drinks and getting drunk. However, if you didn't have the drink in the first place, it seems to me you would have been able to avoid giving this person a chance to put this cigarette into your drink. Lambeck, du bist ein Esel! Chee, now I'm a faan! By the way, who is this Lambeck character who likes to write nasty things about 16-year-old neofen? Anyway, I have to show

Lawrence Crilly:-

this thing to Steve Stiles, now that he's attending ESFA meetings... he'll love it --now I can tell him I'm a faan too.

In case anyone missed it, George O. Smith has a quite interesting story in the Oct. Galaxy, which proves that Phil Harrell is the most intelligent fan in the NFFF...at least in those who write in to TIGHTBEAM anyway. (I could qualify that by saying 'besides myself' but that would sound too egoistical, and Dave, you KNOW I'm not THAT! After all, just because I've had six letters printed in three promags, in the past six months, and three mentions in this latest TIGHTBEAM in letters other than my own, you could become bored with my bragging, but I don't brag... after all, ANY OL' GENIUS COULD'VE DONE IT....)

Recently I distributed those NFFF membership blanks in some odd and out-of-the-way places, such as the library, the main branch of the Elizabeth Public Library's SF Section since I can't be there ALL the time to hunt for prospective members, and any applications coming in from Elizabeth are my work, most likely, so blame ME.

FINCH

I have a slight comment to make which may cause some controversy. Some has already begun to come to light, but so far has not been too serious. It is: "The NFFF is here to do things for the members, True; but the members should be prepared to do equally as much for the NFFF or drop out."Enough Said.

I have before me an item from an official Washington,D.C. source, which gives the details on the world's largest nuclear power plant. This power plant is going to be built no matter what happens, but NOT NECESSARILY As A POWER PLANT. As the item I have says, "Will heat generated as a by-product in the production of plutonium for weapons at the A.E.C. in Hanford, Wash. be wasted or harnessed to turn out 700,000 kilowatts of low-cost electricity and give us the world's largest nuclear power plant?"

After President Kennedy and the Joint Atomic Energy Committee included in the current Atomic Energy bill a provision to add generating facilities at Hanford to capture the waste power which is needed in the growing Northwest, the private power lobby went to work in the House, raising the argument of "government intervention in the power business" and the coal operators and the Mine Workers' Union joined them out of fear that demonstration of the feasibility of low-cost by-product power from Atomic energy installations will reduce coal consumption in the coal steam plants. They persuaded the House members, enough of them, to stay off the floor or to vote against the Hanford Reaction that the item was eliminated from the bill. In the Senate, the Hanford Reactor was restored by a vote of 54 to 36. Here is a list, a partial list of Congressmen who might be persuaded to support the President on the world's largest atomic power Plant:-

Daddario (Conn.)	Giaino (Conn)	Monagan (Conn)	Dulski (N.Y.)
Hull (Mo.)	Jones (Mo.)	Boland (Mass)	Dent (Pa.)
Burke (Mass.)	Donahue (Mass)	Lane (Mass)	Natcher (Ky.)
Perkins (Ky.)	Watts (Ky.)	Gray (Ill.)	Shipley (Ill.)
Gathings (Ark.)	Harris (Ark.)	Mills (Ark.)	Bailey (W. Va.)
Kee (W. Va.)	Slack (W. Va.)	Staggers (W. Va.)	

Any Texas Democrats (Other than Patman, Rayburn, Thomas and Wright who voted for the Reactor). Only a handful of Republicans were in support of the Hanford Project. Some were: Halpern, Fine, Lindsay of New York, Baker of Tennessee; Westland, Pelly, May, Horan, Tollefson of Washington State. Some others who should be persuaded are O'Konski of Wisc. and Gubser and Younger of California. And any Republican you can persuade to support the bill to make the reactor into a power plant. By the way, who are Gubser & Younger, and where can I reach them?

Richard Finch.

FRANSON

I disagree with Bob Lambeck that TIGHTBEAM should ⁵ go back to a single editor. It's been a success so far; since the first of the year, there have been some very good issues, and no one has held it up. Bob wants to

go back to the old system of an editor having absolute power to decide what to print and to answer his critics as he pleases, or to gaffiate for six months if he wants to -- this is not a prediction of what would happen, but a resume of what HAS happened under the old system. I say keep on with the rotating system -- TIGHTBEAM belongs to the letterhacks, not to any editor.

And please don't turn TIGHTBEAM into a genzine, or a mere lettercol in a genzine, as suggested in THRU THE HAZE. What fandom needs least is another genzine, and least of all an NFFF-sponsored one. Why not just recommend some fanzine put out by Neffers - FANTASMA-GORIQUE is a good example, and there are dozens of others, if you want to read something by Neffers? With all the complaints about letters being cut and left out because of the cost of TIGHTBEAM, why put in a lot of genzine material which would crowd out many more letters?

This leads up to a suggestion I wish to make regarding dues ... to change them to \$2. for the first year, \$1. or \$1.50 thereafter. The important thing to remember when advocating a dues change is whether the amount would support the publications or other benefits each member gets... the amount per member in other words. It would not make much difference how many new members joined, even thousands... this amount would remain somewhat the same. Some expenses would decrease per capita with a larger membership, but such fixed expenses would not. So, if a dues cut is wanted, such expenses must be reckoned with.

I don't think a change to \$2. and \$1. is a cut, actually, since there is now a \$3.00 for two years rate. The \$1. rate for renewals would be very attractive, however, if it would pay for the bare essentials a continuing members gets: TNFF & TB, etc. The first year fan gets more benefits, remember: original package (if any); welcome material, membership card, and so on. Also, the first year fan is willing to pay more -- he is more enthusiastic, and gets much more out of N3F naturally. There should be a definite inducement to stay on -- hence the reduction of rates after the first year. If \$1. isn't enough, make it \$1.50.. this all can be hashed out, since any change would have to be argued and voted on as a constitutional amendment. Of course this wouldn't be compatible with the calendar year plan, but I don't think scrapping it would be regretted much... the pro-rating of dues pretty well nullifies it anyway. It would be simpler to have renewals come due one year after joining... not the exact date but the following month. Then, the roster could show "Nov62" instead of "62". A benefit of this would be to spread out the work for the Renewal committee (if there is one) and the Secretary Treasurer. It's easier to send \$2. or \$1. than all these odd amounts. Anyway, if it were possible to make it one dollar a year or some other attractive sum, we might get fans to stay on and on. I think N3F would be a much better place for fans to retire to when they are forced to semi-gaffiate, than say FAPA. In FAPA, you have to publish, and if you slip once, you're out and can't get back in without a lot of complications. In N3F you can go on paying dues for years, keep receiving information about Fandom, and then, when the siege of gafia or fafia passes, you could come right back into Fandom and get active again. Or you could continue to enjoy being a spectator. I have absolutely nothing against inactive Neffers., if their dues pay for beneficial activities. (And if they aren't suffering, it's not their fault). Someone who pays dues shouldn't be called a free loader, looking for something for nothing. They are looking for something for \$1.60 a year.

Sorry Art, your TAFF idea is not going to work. There is not much news on TAFF any way, and a newsheet would be unnecessary, since all newszines carry TAFF news, and it would be an extra expense detracting from the actual TAFF money. Your idea of a \$5. yearly continuing sponsorship is excellent however, without the newsheet.

You are talking about the "original" purpose of the N3F, as a federation of clubs; but that was discarded very early in the organization. As early as 1942 it had become a service organization and a gateway to Fandom, which it still is, or tires to be. As far as I know, there was never any resentment from then on that the N3F was doing too much in Fandom, but rather that it was doing too little.

Don Franson:-

A solution for inactivity of Bureau heads is to appoint others. If there are more than one (or that one's own appointees) working on a project, it is not likely to be held up by one individual's gaffiation. A recruiting booklet is a good idea. This would not be the same as a Welcome booklet, of course... it must convince someone to join, as well as explain everything. There should be a study of what kinds of printed material are needed and what each should contain. I'm willing to write anything and everything myself but would be the first to admit that others could do a better job, each in his separate sphere if some arm-twisting were done. I think I know who the people are too.

Re British Fandom, and the several remarks on it in the last TIGHTBEAM. Some of you may not have heard of BSFA, the British Science Fiction Association, which is an organization very much like the N3F, which recruits neofans, publishes its own magazine VECTOR and a newsletter, advertizes in NEW WORLDS, and even puts on conventions! I don't think N3F should try to "muscle in" on its territory by trying to get British members, but rather try to achieve some sort of liaison with BSFA. We have some good friends there, for example, Ken Slater; and I don't think British Fans are so different from American ones that we couldn't get along. An unofficial alliance and mutual exchange of information would be beneficial to both, and would serve as the introduction to British Correspondents that Larry Crilly asks for. Except for Britain and Australia, I don't think N3F is deficient in foreign membership.

I'll say to Clayton Hamlin, who wants a loyalty oath, that I'm loyal, first to mundane obligations; second to Science Fiction, third to Random, and fourth, but certainly not last, to the NFFF. Could anyone want more than that?

HAMLIN

I suppose everybody and their brother is going to immediately write a violent letter about the very poor job of repro done on the last TIGHTBEAM, even this early (a couple of

days later), I hear that it is not especially appreciated.

Well, I intend to be different; just can't get rid of the impression that in an indirect way I was responsible for the way things turned out. You see, Bob had been put under a LOT of pressure from here during the summer to get Janey's Journal published. After over a year of not quite being able to establish some kind of schedule for publishing that I got sort of tough, and used considerable pressure of different sorts, to make sure that it did get published before he had to return to college. Though it was never actually stated that this had to take complete precedence over any other activity, including TIGHTBEAM, the implication was certainly there.

Well, he got it done, and well done, as you must be aware by now, all of you got a copy. Only trouble is that it took a lot of time, as you might imagine turning out 300 copies of something that big is no easy thing to manage. And that is where the catch comes in. I can personally verify that when it finally was completed and consigned to the mails, there was just about five days remaining before the deadline for the TB, and that deadline is pretty strictly enforced by the Directors.

Now that is obviously is not a completely impossible thing to manage, but it just as certainly is not easy either. If in such a situation the poor editor finds something going a little wrong with his mineo, or starts having trouble with a new type of paper that he is using (which does seem to be the problem here), exactly what is he supposed to do. Certainly can't take the time to go back and do it all over again, even, or especially because the supplies have already been purchased.

Actually, in a round about sort of way you came out ahead of the deal. In place of a Maximum of 30-pages of letters, the members got almost sixty pages of what early comments at least seem to consider as an exceptionally high quality publication, both in writing ability and reproduction, plus twenty pages of a letterzine that though hard to read, is still legible. Unfortunately, surely, but sort of hope you can find it in yourself to be a bit forgiving, since the situation was a difficult one at best. Can't help but be curious if anyone could have done better at best in such a situation. And hope this sort of explains just what happened.

Hamlin:-

But just the same, though you may be misunderstood by lots of fans, cause of your h a bit of keeping things sort of businesslike most of the time, there is still some people around that are not completely fooled by the act.

HARRELL

I am somewhat perturbed at the moment about the appearance of TB last issue. A couple more like that and, there won't be a TB. I mean, you can cut letters just so much and there isn't anymore letter. Sure.... edit, but not every page. I

know it seems hard to believe but I wrote 6 pages to Lambeck last time. And I'd like to know just what the heck he personally has about TAFF? I wrote about a page concerning voting for TAFF in the hope (vain as it was, but then I was used to TB editors that used good sense in putting out TB) that Bob would use it. A few pages were used in a rebuke to Seth Johnson for what he said about Bjo, and Dick Eney, but as I wrote him practically the same thing Bob didn't do a thing but prevent others from seeing how I felt about TAFF. (which is too late to say anything NOW, but it wasn't THEN. I hate to see one of my letters have all the life hacked out of it, when I say something to a letterzine I feel its worth saying or I wouldn't say it and I think that there are others that feel the same way as it is. I'd just as soon my letter ended up in the "We Also Heard From" column with the rest, and I also feel that if we have a couple more of those WAHF columns, people will be discouraged from writing to TB, for, while they may have covered some of the same ground that others covered, they covered it in a different way and deserve the right to be heard also.

Bob is capable of good work, and I cite Janey's Journal as a recent example, but this was one of his poorer efforts, all but 4 pages of it verged on illegibility and the rest was out as far as reading went. All I can say is that if he were the regular editor of TB I wouldn't write another letter, nor do I think any others would either. I wish I had made a carbon out my letter to Bob, so that I could send it to you to show that the 5½ pages he didn't use wouldn't be lost to posterity.

If I didn't know better, I'd say that Bob Lambeck has just insulted ALL Fandom by saying that not one them writes a single letter in a "Mature, intelligent level" and that we write "trivial, monotonous letters" that are nothing but a "pile of words". I wrote because I thought I had something to say of note. What Travis was complaining about was that he'd write a letter concerning nothing but STF and would get back a letter filled with nothing but talk about Fandom and other things and all he wanted to do was talk about stf. I don't think he meant that all he got in the way of letters was moronic drivel from a bunch of idiots the way RNL makes us sound. Tell me out there, you who are reading this now, do you think that you just write "a pile of words" just to have "filled up" enough paper so that the recipient will not feel cheated or do you write letters because you have something to say and you say it and you both talk about things you want to talk about, be it as it may. That's what I do at any rate.

Darn it all, you left out IF when you mentioned THE ODD ONES, LOOS, & the BEMS and I'll have you know I.F. doesn't take lightly to such slights. Down with all but I.F. I.F. Reigns supreme.

(another letter, Sept 1 25th., 1961. jah)

My letter contained 6 pages that could have been cut down to about 2 safely without raising my temperature or bringing down my awesome wrath but the measly ¼ page (for the want of a lower fraction on my keyboard) he butchered it to was enough to try even the patience of Job. I'm in full accord with what you said about repetition in letters, but when the repetition is different enough, and I hope you get my drift, I think it should be printed. In fact, all Bob printed could have been safely cut out with no harm.

Today has just NOT been my day. No... it definitely has not, That's for sure. I should have stayed under it, not even IN bed, but under. I now refuse to budge one inch out of my room for the rest of the day and the night. I suspected something this morn-

Harrel on the Warpath:-

ing when my mother woke me up at 8:30 instead of letting me sleep late like she usually does. Then I had my source of livelihood disappear one hour before I was supposed to report to it, so I went out looking for another job. I missed an air-conditioned Bus by 10 seconds and had to wait in the hot broiling 90' sun for 45 minutes for one that wasn't air conditioned and then when I got down-town, I find my type of driver's license is verboten for the job I went down for (which only pays 40% commission) and I have to get a Chauffeur's license. (I'm only going to be a cab driver yet.) and go thru all this rigamarol to get it. Then when I get home my folks are boiling at me for some obscure reason and I get chewed out royal by both. Then, as I get into the house, it's a Mr. Scarborough who says that the book I sent to Alan Dodd came back as insurance is not allowed at book rate and that it has to be parcel post rate.... and that I owe him \$2.49.... and I don't have \$2.49 for EACH package I sent. Nope, to-day wasn't my day. I have to go to supper now, & I'll probably get Ptomaine poisoning..... I told ya.... to-day isn't my day. I had to leave before being finished, sick, but not Ptomaine. I only got three letters in the mail to-day... I went to take a bath and the water was all rusty. My only good white shirt was in with the dirty clothes, and I had to wear one with the sleeves too long... sigh- if tomorrow's like this I may have to shoot myself, and with my luck, the gun probably won't work.

I love life and life loves me
I'm as happy as can be
A happier man nowhere exists...
I think I'll go and slash my wrists.

I.F. wishes to inform you that if you make one more insulting remark it may wipe you out as it almost did when you dared to challenge it. Interplanetary Federation indeed!. That's going too far for even a Saturnalian. Doesn't it seem strange that all of a sudden you should suddenly feel the urge to drop almost all fanaticism. Now you SEE the power of IF. It even works on the subliminal basis. Next time you do something like that.... complete GAFIA.... you have been warned! We got rid of the BEMS, now we may get rid of you. We have more powerful subliminal forces than you puny ones ever dreamed possible. Watch the Cult if you don't believe in the power of IF and when you see that go down (as powerful as it was) you'll know IF is all powerful and supreme in the Galaxies. Ignore US.... We will SHOW YOU and as a by-product, we'll eliminate the ODD ONES TOO. Won't take much to get rid of them.

KURMAN
(Mike)

I disagree with Don Franson in his statement that the WC should be split apart - one part to do the actual welcoming while the other half is gaining correspondents. After all, What's the WC for? To Welcome New Members. If the WC were to be split apart, it would lose half its effectiveness. The small amount of letters a new member receives now would be cut in half, and, as a result, some would get only two or three letters, while some would not get any at all. And if that comes to pass, one of Fandom's oldest clubs will soon die.

As to the second of Larry Crilly's gripes, about the Goshwow attitude taken by older Neffers... How are the newly joined neos going to gain interest in such things as say, The Story contest, if the older fen don't play it up. A casual mention, 99% of the time, does not stir up enough interest for the neo to even investigate, let alone participate in the said activity.

LOCKE

First, let's go over those who, from the ranks of the WC wrote me when I joined recently. ANN CHAMBERLAIN sent a delightful letter which was a pleasure to read. HAMLIN -

HARRELL - David HULAN and Marijane Johnson are correspondents of mine and have written. MIKE somebody (no last name given) sent a postcard from Miami, Fla. A nice gesture. SETH JOHNSON sent an excellent form-letter and a delightfully long "personal message". His was the best letter yet received, as it gave the most, the clearest, and most well-worded

LOCKE ON DECK:-

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information. The personal letter was very warm and friendly, and I feel Seth is a valuable member of your group. Certainly a newcomer wouldn't help but be attracted by his welcome letter. A few more Seth Johnsons might counteract the disinterested attitudes of some members.

I've got my form-letter on master and will run it off soon. It's a full two pages of pica type using $\frac{1}{2}$ " margins. I'm planning to include personal letters with all form-letters and I'll devote my best efforts to the Welcoming. Now... on to TIGHTBEAM....

You mention the 'fanatically loyal' Neffer in your letter, Art. I've been puzzled over that. Older fans tend to specialize in their fanac, and occasionally isolate themselves in some part of Fandom, generally an apa. But the percentage of these older fans who restrict themselves to N3F must be terribly small. And I don't think they would be labeled 'fanatics'. It would be my opinion that the bulk of these fanatics are, or were, the jerks and the psychos who naturally get into the N3F because of its policy of letting anyone be a member. Certainly this attitude isn't one of a normal person. But with a roster of the size that N3F has, you're bound to get some undesirable who tend, by their peculiar fanatic kind of loyalty, to give outsiders a bad impression of the club. We shouldn't be left holding the fuzzy end of the lollipop because of these few.

I'm going to air one or two opinions on the Welcommittee. I think a newcomer to Fandom would welcome a number of friendly letters rather than a pamphlet or two of information. But there is deadwood in your Welcommittee, who aren't doing their work. Perhaps a compromise could be found here. A Pamphlet containing a lot of information about the club and its activities would be a GOOD THING. It should be edited and revised so as to be entirely CLEAR in all respects... easily understood and not at all misleading or false in its information. It should be well written, entertaining and well mimeod. A bit of work yes, but one well-done form-letter is better than a lot of others of less quality. Then, with one good form-letter, you could chop your welcommittee down to just a few fans who are good at correspondence and can make the new members feel welcome to the club. Wot say? It would save a lot of duplication of material and allow the welcommittee to concentrate on "personal messages".

I can understand Bob's outburst at Grilly. But I disagree a bit on certain points. MUCH good sf has been printed in fanzines. One of my favorite stories is CREDO by John Berry, which was printed in one of Meskys' zines. A thoroughly delightful story. There have been other entertaining short stories, mostly of a humorous and/or light nature which although very entertaining, didn't quite meet the literary quality required by the promags. Bob's viewpoint on faanishness might give the wrong impression to some newcomers. That's because Bob has the wrong impression. Oh, sure Bob, most of the examples of "fannish behaviour" that you mention are strictly puerile. That isn't fannishness. It's nothing more than poor conduct. Faanish goes to me mean John Berry stories, humorous conreports and faanish get-togethers. When fans have meetings and conventions, visit one another, participate in phone-fandom, have fun, enjoy clean, healthy humour, THAT is fannishness. oOr Faanishness. It couldn't be any more digestible to me than to him. But Please, don't call it any more than poor conduct.

I'd appreciate one dozen membership blanks. Have a few ideas for recruiting a few new members. I have a couple of ideas for perhaps improving the membership application blank.

..... newcprgr..... length of time active in any phase of Fandom..... length of time professionally active. (The first we would go under the AMATEUR list, and the last under the PROFESSIONAL list). To make room for the above blanks, you could cut down on HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INTERESTED IN SCIENCE-FICTION? which probably takes up too much space for the length of answers usually given. Anyway, these are a couple of ideas to mull over.

DAVE LOCKE.

Reverend C.M.

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MOORHEAD

This is, first of all, a "squawk" letter and for the following two reasons:

1. The Illegibility of the last TIGHTBEAM.

All previous TIGHTBEAMS have been well mimeographed or reproduced; this last one was a monstrosity in unreadability.

After trying for the best part of an hour

to decipher it I finally threw it into the ash can and thus disrupted the current collection of TIGHTBEAMS. (Maybe I ought to keep it as an example of how NOT to reproduce a Fmz.

2. I wrote a letter immediately following the TIGHTBEAM ahead of this one, to Lambeck, defending Seth Johnson and his apparent "rudeness" (??) in turning off his hearing aid. My wife has to wear one of the things and I pointed out that a great many public speakers ought to never be allowed on a platform because they mumble, strain their words thru their teeth, or talk in a monotone so that even I wished often to turn off my "hearing aid" too, to get rid of the fiasco of speech.

My gripe is, he -- Lambeck, used too much space inserting his rebuttals. Who the Hell cares about the editors rebuttals? Let the readers of TIGHTBEAM make their own rebuttals in the next issue as they answer the previous one. That way, more letters can be printed. I think Bjo was just as rude in lambasting Seth without knowing why he turned his aid off; as he was in doing what he did. My letter never saw the light of day in this issue -- not that it matters too much, because no one could have read it anyway, but I thought I had something to contribute that would have helped to clarify Seth's position.

I'm sending this gripe to you, ART, because you are the Chairman Of the Directorate & therefore I felt you to be the right authority to whom to write. And now to more pleasant things.

I like your suppliment to TIGHTBEAM, entitled THAT LEE HAZE, for TWO reasons: (1) The play on words in the title, THRU THE HAZE. (2) It does just what it is intended to do, gives information. I've gotten a lot of help from this little publication. For instance: the one before this one, joggled my indolent nature into activity and I wrote a short story for the short story contest sponsored by the NCP.

Now, in reference to your question concerning TIGHTBEAM. Personally, I like a straight letterzine. If you start running other material in it, I think you will lose more than you gain. Those who repeatedly do not get letters in, will begin directing their letters towards other zines not in NCP at all. I am one of those that is beginning to deviate, simply because my letters seldom ever get into TIGHTBEAM as it stands now.

There are two men whom I know personally -- Walter A. Goslet and Doc Barrett -- who have astonishing libraries. Doc's covers 3 floors in his office building and Walts covers three floors in his home! Gad! I have a 7 foot high series of shelves, about 8 in number, and about five feet wide, packed with SF and Fantasy and some Conzines that I particularly like. The thing is overflowing so I will have to manufacture something else to hold the over-flow. This is MINE. HAH.

Talk about black eyes: I got one in the silliest ways -- ran into the edge of a door in the dark! I was kidded unmercifully by the men of the Church. I have an embarrassing habit of blushing when I am kidded and those men had me flickering like a neon sign for about a week until the shiner wore off! They still rib me about it.

RULES FOR THE SATURNALIAN DESCENT? Let them follow their natural inclinations and they will get THERE quick enough!

C.M. Moorhead.

TACKETT

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First off, bear in mind that I am a STF fan of the old school. When I pick up a fanzine, I expect to find something in it about STF. But be that as it may, I certainly have no objection to fannishness. Provided it

is interesting or amusing. A lot of it is accepted as being amusing that I find utterly boring. Even by some of the BIG NAMES in Fannish writings. Some I read was excellent. But I've read some too that bored the hell out of me. Simply because a Big Name is writing about something in which I have absolutely no interest -- as for a visit to an aunt where he played charades. I suppose my main complaint though is about the lack of originality in such things as con reports. Just once, I would like to read one that reported on the convention in an objective manner rather than the very subjective "I met so and so and we ate a hamburger" or other stuff of that type that most fans turn out.

On fan-writing, I am not embarking on any great crusade. I have voiced my objections in public and am content to let the matter lie. Two or three budding writers have indicated that they were rather glad to see the plaint in print as it reminded them to steer clear of such in their own future writings.

WITCHCRAFT:- By most authorities it is classified as the practice in magic -- the attempt to influence the natural by the supernatural. Magic in its various forms goes back to the beginnings of recorded history -- and beyond, of course -- and was practiced rather peacefully up until about the 13th Century. Around that time, the Christian Church having been quite successful in eradicating most heresy in Europe began to look for something else to be fixed upon for the keeping up of the Inquisition in business. Witchcraft was handy and the witches soon found themselves accused of being in league with the Devil.

Demonology was then married to the witches by the Churches. But the witchhunts lasted for around 400 years during which time the witches decided that they might as well be hung for goats as for sheep and so eagerly invited Satan and his cohorts to join the club. Whatever witchcraft may have been prior to the Inquisition's intervention, it was thereafter both in theory and practice identified with demonology. So far as Western witchcraft is concerned anyway. It still is.

Recent studies have indicated that the two were not the same, and, presumably, some of those who play at witchcraft at the present time are attempting to revert to the old practices -- white magic. Others still enjoy the kicks that go with demonology and play at practicing it -- black magic. For my own part, I remain highly skeptical of the whole thing. The alledged proofs offered by various so-called adepts are unconvincing.

My N3F activity, as I explained to Janie Lamb, will consist mostly of letter writing for the time being. I'm much too far from the mimeograph to participate in much of anything else. However, I'll be back in the states next spring and activity can pick up then. After that I'll be happy to take on an issue of TIGHTLEAM and like that. Seth Johnson has indicated that he'll mix me into a couple of round robins and, of course, I'll be happy to participate in those. Meantime, I've received a few more letters from Neos such as David Hulan and Lady E. Hutchins (anybody not in 1st, 2nd or 3rd Fandom is a neo), and am trying to encourage them in their sense.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

WATTS

Before I stuck this sheet of paper in the typer to get busy on this long overdue letter to you, I was glancing briefly through Ralph Holland's WELCOME FAN and happened to read the portion of Milton Rothman's THE LIFE OF THE FAN

which dealt with the letter writing end of Fandom; in it he remarked that a fan(?) that possessed less than ten correspondents just didn't rate. That made me start wondering.. was I that much of a slouch as a fan that I had even less than ten? Well, I got busy and started counting and I think I can qualify if I sneak in a robin and add the participants to the list as 10. Or would that be cheating? Don't really need all in the RR, just one or two. So, considering that I contributed to both the TAFE and TAF (received my first ish of AXE) as well as sending for Don Ford's London Con Report, and have been a member of the world con continually for the last four years, not to mention belonging to N3F since early 1957, I can, at least, rate the title of some kind of fan, would you not say?

Watts:-

And, to my vast delight, I've found more fanzines in my mailbox in the last few weeks than in the last year or so preceding. Even wrote the ed of one a lengthy letter of comment within a week of the time his zine was received.

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Was also glancing through the LASFS One Shot, and came across the notation on the back cover about, "Have you ever dropped Ralph Holland a postcard telling him what a great job he has done publishing TNFF? Or G.M.Carr, to thank her for taking on the job as N3F hostess at the SEACON? etc..." You know Art, while I have thought about Ralph Holland and the wonderful OO he has been editing and pubbing for the last couple of years, I really never have given a passing thought about the other Neffers that have been doing so much for Fandom and our club and, probably, receiving little or no recognition. However, it did give me a warm fannish glow to know that I had done something about acknowledging TNFF and thanking Holland for the terrific job he has done for us; in fact, I had just returned the pre-election ballot he had included in the last TNFF a week or so before and he had already responded by sending me a copy of his fanzine welcome letter. Yes, I did write a letter and mailed it with this special "ballot"! So, I have done my part there, at least for the time being. And now, the publishers of the LASFS One Shot have shamed me into a writing mood so that I intend to comment on their "one shot" as soon as this letter to you is finished. After all, we can't have all the non-neffer portion of LASFS membership thinking that all neffers are tired out fake fen that never bother to write letters of comment to the zines they receive free, or have so little interest in fannish goings-on that they refuse to vote in the yearly club elections! Still, whoever wrote that bit does have a good point because I very much fear that the response to this one shot will be just about as heavy as it is with TNFF or TIGHTBEAM... which is next to nothing.

I certainly did not mean to suggest that N3F get into the remaindered book selling business, when I made a few remarks about the lending library... nothing could have been further from my mind... it would be foolish to even consider such a project. The remarks I made were intended exclusively for contributed 2nd-hand paperbacks destined for the lending library alone. I merely thought that, if the lending library was ever seriously up for consideration of reactivation, that it would be siser to use pocketbooks instead of hardbounds. But, with all the trading that most members do with other fen, there probably isn't much call for such a service at all. Even a lukewarm fan such as myself has now entered into the trading end of Fandom with a couple of correspondants... I get all the British promags from Marijane Johnson in return for the many paperbacks that she somehow misses, and, I swap all kinds of material -- mostly non-stf for some reason, with Camber's Alan Dodd. One would think that I would get the British zines from Alan, but it hasn't worked out that way. However, Alan has undertaken to supply me with some fantasy in the form of books by one of my favorite English authors, Dennis Wheatley; I enjoy reading this author's books so intensely that he has been picking up all Wheatley books whether stf, fantasy or not. He and I have another common interest besides the reading of stf, and that is our mutual engygment in reading the many, many non-fiction books on WWII.

As for remaindered books, you are right, Pick-a-Book does do a good job of supplying the fan with these; they also pub some beautiful editions of fantasy classics such as Mundy's THE PURPLE PIRATE, and TROS OF SAMOTHRACE... I just hope that these two books sold enough for Marty Greenberg to keep this series of books alive. But, I doubt very much if it will be. Do you, or don't you, remember Lloyd Esbach's long defunct Polaris Press and the two beautifully produced and boxed volumes of that proposed Fantasy series of books? The HEADS OF CERBERUS and THE ABYSS OF WONDERS were the two best buys I have ever had the fortune to lay my two eyes upon. Only a loving Fan such as Lloyd would have attempted such a fantastically expensive project... he must have lost his shirt on this endeavour! I see that Pick-a-Book now has these two books on sale at a price of \$1.50.. any fan who doesn't pick up these two books at this ridiculously low price should have his head examined! I've never seen four more beautifully put together stf-fantasy books than the four I've mentioned. Shasta also produced some well made and good looking volumes.

Right now, though, I'm not aware of any really good source of cheaply priced, brand

Still with Watts:-

remaindered books such as the Kruegers had sometimes back, nor a book company like the old Reader's Service Club of San Jose, Cal. Pick-a-book is fine as far as it goes but all their out-of-print remainders are all priced at not less than \$1.50 (unless you buy in quantity) and they have books from but few of the publishers printing sf-fantasy. One previously reliable fan-owned book company seems to have gone out of business and I can't get an answer from them in regards to a paid order for \$10. worth of books, so I guess I've been gypped by a Fan-owned Book Company. Now, through the helping hand of Seth Johnson, I am in touch with the best book company! (F & SF BookCo. of Staten Is.) They sell not only new and out of print sf-fantasy, but ALL the paperbacks that I have seen reviewed, and that I wish to read, instead of sera ching forever on the newstands for something that is not there, and that never will be! It will even save me the trouble as I have been doing of ordering some books directly from the pubber, as all I need to do now is send for all titles I want, regardless of pubber from this one outfit.

Oh, I don't know Art, Aren't you overdoing it just a bit when you object to advertising in the Neffermines on the grounds that the advertiser might soon become so all powerful in his dictates that he would soon be THE POWER behind the clubzines instead of N3F itself? I see what you mean, and this COULD happen in some cases.... but certainly not with the type of fan advertiser that might buy a small space in TNFF and TIGHTBEAM. This definitely hasn't been true in the case of the progress bulletins for the cons, has it?

I had some small intention of trying my hand at a book review or two as you suggested in your last letter, but when I read Peggy Sexton's, LET THEM KNOW in your ROVER 11 I suddenly changed my mind about the whole idea; it seems as if I have the same type of obsession or inferiority complex as Seth Johnson about my abilities as a fan and when I read her reviews of the H.G.Wells novels, the inferiority complex reared its ugly head more prominently than ever! I just don't believe that I have a good enough command of the English language to even remotely compare with her word descriptions of sf-fantasy books. What I really ought to do, toward my objective of intelligent reviewing, is to go ahead and type up a rough draft... and then rewrite... rewrite. and rewrite until the darn thing began to make sense. I suppose that is the way that most fan do their fan writing....probably only a few are gifted enough to do a good job with their first attempt. The only trouble with that is that I would lose patience with it long before I had finished and would give it up as a bad job.

Ralph Watts.

HAYES

The idea of reserving any editorial comments until the end, in a letter-like space has one big disadvantage, as far as I'm concerned. You come across something with which you are in violent disagreement, but you must curb your desire to

interrupt the writer and give him hell right there and then. By the time you've finished typing out the letter, you're still chewing away, wanting to give him hell. So, while you are typing the next letter, you start to cool off, and THAT writer offends you and you are back again, typing away, mad-as-hatter. So, the end of the typing of the letters of others comes along, you've been angry for hours, and you go back to that first letter. You've forgotten why you were angry with him, but you're still angry at the last one, so you really hunt for something in that first letter to justify your anger that is now really directed towards another. While hunting, you cool off and you no longer are angry, though you may still want to take exception with SOME things, just on general principle. It does have the advantage of allowing you to reason a little more coolly though.

CRIMLY... pardon me, Larry. Well this letter is primarily directed at Bob Lambeck, so I'm not going to enter the controversy at this point, I'll reserve that for somewhere further along. (I'm still angry at another instead now, so Larry -- Lawrence... gets off scott-free this time.)

FINCH... Many has been the times when I wished I could draft more to do some jobs in the club. I agree 150% with Dick in this idea that while the club exists for the members, the

Ha yes now starts:-

club is not actually an entity that automatically does things for the members. The club is a club only because a group of individuals want some H.Q. to co-ordinate things, and the CLUB can only do something, IF some members are willing to do the work. IF no-one is willing to do some of the work involved in the raison-d'etre for the club, then there is NO CLUB. A club exists only because of a desire of some individuals.

U.S.A.*A.E.C. and power. This is strictly U.S.A. internal interest and I'm not going to get embroiled in that. I've enough trouble with my own involvements in Canadian politics. Political matters are officially taboo in Official Nefferzines, but I interpret it to mean as favoring one or another of the political parties. This particular item is not of a particular political party, but cuts across party lines. With this interpretation, I believe that printing this item is justified.

FRANSON:- We've found during the last couple of years, that we can't get much of a fanzine for an amount below \$18. per issue. (The Lambeck issue of TIGHTBEAM only cost the treasury \$13. if I remember correctly and have my facts straight). Basically, you get what you pay for. Six issue of TIGHTBEAM comes to \$108. per year. We've given the TNFF budget on a little more flexible basis, that of 12.5¢ per issue/copy. For 200 copies of an issue this would come to as much as \$25. per issue. But, for the moment, let's consider the same as TB, \$108. for six issues. This makes a total of \$216. for the twelve issues. This comes to 10.8¢ per member, leaving a very small amount for other uses, since, on a \$1.60 per year per member, the pro-rata income per month is around 13¢. Using a \$1. per year renewal rate would NOT do. \$2.00 initial dues, with \$1.50 per renewal year (if renewed in time to make a continuing basis of membership) would do reasonably well. Personally, I'd like to see \$3. initial dues, with \$2. per renewal rate.

Taff:- At the moment, I have only rumours of who won inTAFF. And I'm supposed to include a NEWSZINE with this issue of TIGHTBEAM. THIS is the type of news I'm supposed to pass along to the members. I can't pass along rumours, and I'm not going to deliberately. If TAFF had a news-sheet, then what IT contained would be OFFICIAL, and I could say that IT said it, and no one would blame me if it later turned out to be wrong. With a \$5. inner circle membership dues, a newsheet quarterly, or semi-annually, as the news warranted, would take VERY little from that \$5. At FIRST CLASS POSTAGE, such a newsheet would cost less than 50¢ for a quarterly, for the whole year, out of that initial \$5. that I would gladly pay. That 50¢ would include postage, paper, stencil and ink costs.

Back to Neffer renewals: I kinda like the idea of changing our constitution to read "Membership year" instead of "Calender year". I also think that a member's year should be FROM THE TIME HIS NAME APPEARS IN THE OO, counting TH AT month as the first month of his membership.

Solution for inactivity. Your idea of appointing alternate heads for activities we have, presupposes a lot of volunteers for the work involved. Second, it is based on the False assumption that what works for a local club, will work with a mail-order club. I, in Canada, decide to gaffiate from my WC duties. My alternate, in Texas doesn't know I gaffiated for a few months, and then, he's writing Janie Lamb, Ralph Holland, me, and a few others to find out what the score is. Nearly six months could go by before he could fully take over efficiently. Of course, if I'm conscientious, I'll let him know right away of my intention to gaffiate, but GAFIA strikes without warning at times, and when a member is gafia, he doesn't advise everyone of the fact that he has been struck with the malady. In a local club, a few days goes by, beyond the deadline, and a phone call unearths the fact that I'm no longer interested. He comes over, collects what information I have and only a few days, or a week's delay takes place. The same applies for a project. In a local group, too, too often a project is a going concern BECAUSE THERE ONE PERSON WHO IS THE DRIVING SPIRIT. When H E goes gafia, the whole gang falls apart. In my case, I've been trying to get commitments from alternates, in case I HAVE TO GO GAFIA (and not because of the unimportant I.F. either).

The plan for unofficial alliance between theBSFA and NFFF is good. I believe the NFFF has always been willing to enter into such unofficial alliances. We stood willing

Hayes is going strong:-

to co-operate with the ISFS. Such members as Seth Johnson - Mike Deckinger and I spent money proving our willingness to help them establish a beach-head in North America. I mailed out, with no cost to ISFS, several issues of the international Edition of SIRIUS, (100 copies at 2¢ each, plus addressing). I offered to duplicate, with no cost to the ISFS headquarters, a North American edition of SIRIUS. I think that with the ISFS we were willing to prove we were willing to try to help them. So it didn't work.... we tried tho. If the BSFA would like to establish an exchange of information, we, I think, are willing. The BSFA seems to be a going concern, so we might stand to gain by the exchange, and I doubt that there is much likelihood of a Red-herring being involved with the BSFA as was the case (charges that were made by the BSFA in fact, against the ISFS) with the ISFS. So, if the BSFA considered it advantageous to someone, all they have to do is outline what THEY want us to do, and send such requests to Ralph Holland, and the matter will receive serious consideration. I'm sure that Ralph would give sympathetic consideration, and the new Directorate too, to either an official or unofficial alliance. We could establish a BSFA page in TNFF. TNFF and TIGHTBEAM could be sent to the BSFA officers (but not to more since we would, in effect, be increasing our unofficial membership and costs). We could give them a progress report on what we ARE doing, maybe even on what we are trying to do. They could do the same with us.

H AMLIN:- For the first few days of letter receipts in regards to TIGHTBEAM, I was of the opinion that there would be practically nothing else in the letters I would receive. I am happy to state that I've edited out very little in regards to comments about TB #9. Did not have to. I am also pleased that there was so little to edit out in regards to the reproduction. You will note, however, that the heaviest criticism is NOT directed to the repro, and it seems logical to believe that the criticism that has been levelled towards Bob would have been directed towards him regardless of how well done the duplicating had been. The heaviest criticism is towards his editorial policy. I did not like some of his editorial comments in Janey's Journal, and like even less his policy in regards to TIGHTBEAM.

Second, you ARE PRESUMING DUPLICATOR TROUBLE. All fans know that a duplicator is a catankerous creature with a mind or mindlessness of its own. We all would sympathize with such, since I can't guarantee at this moment that my own duplicator will stand up well for the whole pubbing I intend to do for this mailing. BUT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SIMPLE TO INCLUDE A LETTER IN THIS TIGHTBEAM EXPLAINING IT. He wrote me, telling me that at the request of Ann Chamberlain, he was sending me letters that did not make TIGHTBEAM #whatsis. A short paragraph could have been included in the three line letter, telling me about the difficulties encountered with Tightbeam #9. Specially after having done a good repro job on J.J. we would have understood to some extent anyhow. But, there has been no word from him in this regard. I wrote him as soon as I receive TB #9, expressing mild disappointment in regards to the Duplication. This was surely enough of an opening for him to have explained. All fans, specially fans, would have sympathized with him. As it is, I can't forgive.

HARRELL:- When Lunette was a prisoner of the Odd Ones, Saturnalia dealt with the I.F. for the trip back for Lunette, when we freed her from the evil clutches of the ODD ONES. At that time, you found that the I.F. Headquarters had only the highest admiration for Saturnalia, and you actually found yourself dropped from your role as Terran representative of the I.F. when the job was offered to ME. I did not think that you had done that bad a job of bungling things in your job as rep for the I.F. and so interceded on your behalf and, as a result, you were re-appointed. You expressed surprise at the influence Saturnalian had with your own H.Q. I am extremely disappointed, however, that your H.Q. has not seen fit to discipline you in regards to your work since then. The I.F. may be involved in some big project elsewhere, in fact our agents so report, but that is no excuse for the complete abandonment of any public relations job, of publicity FOR the IF on Terra. I can only presume therefore, that they are often highly inefficient. Saturnalian has been disturbed by this lackadaisical attitude on the part of the I.F. rep on Terra, and we felt that a small lesson should be given you. Only a one day affair, tho some may have carried it a little longer. I hope you realize from THAT ONE day, that the

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Dump Hayes out of Fandom:-

Saturnalia is not to be fooled with. I'll admit that the BEMS have been highly inactive of late, but I doubt that the IF had much to do with it. I imagine that we will be hearing from them soon. Our agents report that they are very much alive, though somewhat disorganized.

KULMAN, otherwise known as MIKE. It would seem obvious, from the number now in the WC, that the views expressed by Welcommittee critics that the N3F and the WC is no more than a letter-exchange group, that letter-writing is not as important to the new members to the club as they seem to believe. If it was, I'd be refusing entrants to the WC. As it is, I refuse only a rare few. I'd like to have around fifty in the Welcommittee now. Instead, I have much less than half of that number.

LOCKE:- There has been a lot of criticism directed lately towards Seth Johnson. He has probably made some mistakes, made some allusions that might have been more wise to have been left unsaid. But, I am in contact with more members of the N3F than, I think, any other person in the N3F. This letter of David Locke's is representative of MANY I receive from both the neo and the big-name fan, both the neo and the experienced fan I should say, though I think I would be justified in even NAMING SOME OF THE BNF type too. In a few other letters printed in this issue of TB, you will find the mention, brief mention, of appreciation by some of the members for some informative service rendered by Seth Johnson. There have been a heck of a lot more supporting Seth than there has been against him. He has succeeded in becoming a controversial figure in the club, with much being said about him. If Seth Johnson were to run for Directorate, I KNOW he'd get more votes than many think. It is my opinion that where Seth makes some mistakes, it is better to chastise him privately, give him the straight dope, but not to make the vague charges that sometimes are being made in print. Seth makes some mistakes, sure, we all do, but I am of the opinion that he has done a heck of a lot more good, for the neofans who joined the N3F than ANY other person in the club.

FANATICS:- As you say, the number of fans who restrict themselves completely to the N3F, is extremely small. This is certainly true of the Actifan. Fanatics are rarely a large group. In the N3F, some of our Fanatics are active outside of the N3F, and still are fanatics when it comes to N3F, or some feature of SF Fandom. To label ALL fanatics as Jerks, psychos, etc. is a little too much generalization. Most of us are on the verge of being Fanatics about SOMETHING. It is not too often that the greater number of us are triggered into expressing our fanaticisms.

Thanks Dave, for the suggestions involving the Application blanks. Have been too busy to pass along the suggestion on, other than via the pages of TB. It will be considered in the proper channels shortly. I repeat, ALL suggestions that are sent to the Directorate deserve consideration. Such a suggestion that was considered, and temporarily shelved, was the idea of making TIGHTBEAM into a genzine, actually, the original suggestion, by Bob Jennings, was for us to sponsor a THIRD zine, a genzine on a sub basis, with definite linkage of financial support from the Treasury. It was suggested that we couldn't afford the cost of such a venture, unless we dropped TIGHTBEAM or TNFF. We did not consider dropping of either advisable, so the counter suggestion was made that TIGHTBEAM might be converted into such a zine. We felt that the members should be consulted, not in an official referendum, but via our publications, and the matter discussed at the SEACON Neffer meeting. It would seem that TIGHTBEAM, in its present format, is too popular to tamper with it. There is another suggestion somewhere in the pile of letters, I'm not sure whether it is in the answered pile or the unanswered pile, and at the moment, can't even remember who in heck it was that sent it in. Basically, the suggestion involved those members who wanted to get rid of their collections, or some parts of their collections, and who were more likely to throw it away than sell. It was suggested that these members advise the club that they have such and such to GIVE, and the club would SELL, at a kind of auction, those items. The member would be reimbursed his mailing costs, and the profits go to the Neffer treasury. It is my opinion that if this idea was adopted, that it should be conducted via the pages of the KAYMAR TRADER, in

Still with HAYES. Why doesn't he shut-up?

other words, K.M. Carlson would handle the deal in the Kaymar Trader section of TNFF. The member who wished to get rid of some SF-Fantasy material, would hold on to it until KAYMAR advised him where to send it. Kaymar would advise Janie to send such and such an amount to the member to reimburse his postage costs, or Kaymar could send the price of postage from what he received in the sale, with the profits being sent to Janie. There I go, trying to make work for some I haven't consulted. Anyhow, the idea does deserve consideration and it is presented here for your consideration and suggestions. I also would like the member who suggested this to contact me again so I can acknowledge who he is in print. I may not be able to find his letter on this.

H E R E I S A N I D E A I ' M S U G G E S T I N G . I don't have the brains to come up with ideas like the three mentioned above, but I do have some, at times. In fact, I'm abandoning LOCKE for the moment and I'm gonna do some cerebrating. (1) I propose that any member who has an idea, in 1962, to send it in to me. I shall then make out the appropriate number of copies and send it to EACH DIRECTOR. I shall then start bugging the new Directorate Chairman, as to what happened to the idea in the Directorate, and then make a report to you if he doesn't in TNFF. Just because I'm not in the 1962 Directorate does not mean you won't hear about me. I'm beginning to think that my work is more or less assured for another six months, and when it ceases, I shouldn't have too long in between jobs. So, you'll know I'm still alive, no matter what, unless I'm not alive, in which case I'll probably come back to haunt the whole damn bunch of you. Heck, when I started talking about THIS idea, I forget two more that were trying to make themselves heard. Five minutes while I try to remember.....

In the meantime, if you have complaints about someone, I might try to find out what the score is, and report back. Such investigation would remain private, between you, me, and, in some cases, the guy being investigated. I believe in contacting the guy about whom the complaint is about. I wouldn't tell him who YOU are though.

3 G t a copy of Lloyd Broyles WHO'S WHO in SCIENCE FICTION FANDOM. Then, if your name is not listed, let Doug Broyles know about yourself, so that the next edition can be more complete. This is an independent project, but we support it morally, and I hope YOU will support it financially by getting a copy, and contributing the information he needs. I recommend it.

FRANSON *** FRANSON *** FRANSON *** FRANSON *** FRANSON *** FRANSON *** FRANSON

Almost forget to include in this issue, a short paragraph from a letter from Don Franson to Ralph Holland. (Intercepted Ralph's mail, via my saturnalian powers).

"H E R E I S S O M E T H I N G F O R T N F F : N O O N E C A N S A Y T H A T N E F F E R S D O N ' T D I S C U S S S C I E N C E F I C T I O N . T H E Y A R E N O T O N L Y D I S C U S S I N G T H E I D E A S B E H I N D S C I E N C E F I C T I O N S T O R I E S , B U T T H E Y A R E D O I N G S O B E F O R E T H E S T O R I E S A P P E A R ! S E E T I G H T B E A M 6 - 7 & 8 , D I S C U S S I N G T H E A L I E N W H O D I D N ' T K N O W R I G H T F R O M L E F T , A N D T H E S T O R Y I N T H E L A T E S T G A L A X Y (O c t . 6 1) A M A T E U R I N C H A N C E R Y b y G e o r g e O . S m i t h . N o t t h a t t h e i d e a i s a n e w o n e , b u t i t s h o w s T I G H T B E A M i s m o r e u p t o d a t e . D o n a l d F r a n s o n ."

H E E E E Y . . . Y O U a r t i s t s , w h e t h e r i n B j o ' s F a n A r t i s t s ' G r o u p o r n o t , I n e e d s o m e a r t o f a s p e c i f i c k i n d . F i r s t , t h e i m p o r t a n t t h i n g i s T H E S I Z E o f e a c h p i e c e o f a r t w o r k . I w a n t t h e m e x a c t l y , n o m o r e , n o r l e s s , t h a n 3 1 / 2 " x 3 - 3 / 4 " . T h e y s h o u l d b e o n w h a t e v e r t y p e o f p a p e r s t o c k t h a t w o u l d h e n d i t s e l f t o E l e c t r o n i c s t e n c i l l i n g . I w o u l d m a k e a p a s t e u p o f S I X o f t h e s e o n a s h e e t , a n d s e n d t o G e s t e t n e r , f o r G e s t a f a x i n g . I w o u l d n o t d o t h e s t e n c i l l i n g m y s e l f , s e e , s o t h e r e w o u l d b e N O w o r r y a b o u t m y i n a b i l i t y t o c u t s t e n c i l s . T h e i d e a f o r t h e s e i s t h a t t h e y w o u l d b e u s e d i n G r e e t i n g c a r d s b y M a r i j a n e J o h n s o n , f o r N e f f e r u s e , b u t N O T a t N e f f e r c o s t . T h e r e w o u l d b e N O c o s t t o t h e N 3 F . T h e m o r e s u c h p i e c e s o f a r t w o r k , s u i t a b l e t o s e n d o u t a s g r e e t i n g c a r d s , a t b i r t h d a y s , s p e c i a l l y , t h e b e t t e r , s i n c e a v a r i e t y w o u l d b e a g o o d t h i n g .

H E E E E Y . . . Y O U P o e t s , w h y n o t s e n d i n w h a t y o u c o n s i d e r s u i t a b l e v e r s e s f o r t h e s e c a r d s , b u t i n t h e c a s e o f t h e p o e t r y , s e n d t h e m t o M a r i j a n e J o h n s o n , I w o u l d n ' t k n o w w h a t g o o d p o e t r y i s a n y h o w . S H E W O U L D B E T H E J U D G E a s t o w h o h a d v e r s e s s e l e c t e d . S o m e s u i t a b l e f o r o u r f e m f e n , f r o m t h e y o u n g s t e r s l i k e J a n B r o d s k y , t o t h o s e o f a g e 2 9 (I

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Have Patience, Hayes will run down eventually.
understand that Women never age beyond 29). And for men up to 50,000 years old. One fan, who has a letter here unanswered, asks my age. I must have given him an impression that puzzles him, but I don't know if it was on the childish side, or the Methusela side, how ever, let it be known that I'm almost 3900 years old.

Rewards for the winners? Well, at the moment, I can't say what it would be, but I might be persuaded to allow some books from my collection to go your way. Later on, if the idea seems to take hold, I might give a list from which the winners might be able to chose?

Rev. Moorhead. This Neon-like man of the cloth, has insulted Saturnalia. He advises that if Saturnalians follow their natural inclinations, they will end up down below. The very idea that a Saturnalian would end up with Beezlebub, in other words, become a part of THE ODD ONES, is too revolting to make further comments at this time. The implications are enough to make me abandon Saturnalia, if all we can hope for is a relationship with The Odd Ones. We wouldn't mind if it was in an area restricted to Saturnalians though. Which reminds me, one fan (who's letter is also unanswered at the moment) asks if I'm an Atheist. NO, I am NOT. But, I will admit that I have some extremely disturbing doubts about ANY religions, about Theology, and even about a Supreme Creator. I will not make the fence-sitting claim of being an Agnostic, but I am not, as yet, a true Atheist either. I honestly would prefer NOT having the doubts that I have, but I am stuck with them, and I know of no way, at the moment, of getting rid of them. Outwardly, in Mundania, I think I am known as a devout Christian, but inwardly..... that is something else again. And, in this, I am completely sincere and telling the truth, completely, as befits a member of THE FAMILY.

Laggett. Partly because of the above admission, my views on Witchcraft is that they were hounded into making what is publicly claimed as an alliance with the forces of evil. I have doubts about those forces too. Anyhow, to me, it seems that Witchcraft, and it is still prevalent in parts of the World, specially in Africa, was composed primarily of those who had higher intelligence than the average, and who took advantage of it to demonstrate, and use, scientific technology beyond the capabilities of the average human then, and maybe even beyond some of us today. They were the original Scientists. The difference between White and Black Magic, to me, lies in whether the Scientist used his discoveries for good or evil, no more than that, and no supernatural either. Furthermore, to connect the persecution of Witchcraft only to the Inquisition is also misleading. The Witchcraft hunters of Salem, in the U.S. were not, as far as I know of the R.C. faith. Rites of Exorcism are not restricted to the R.C. Church either, in the Christian churches. The Hunt for Witches, and witchcraft, was primarily a Christian doing, and was maybe started by the R.C.s. but then, when it was started, there were no other Christians than the R.C.s. There is a tendency to assume that anything one can't understand is automatically SUPERNATURAL, and if specially feared, must originate with forces of evil, in other words, demonology, and, in case of good, with the Supreme Creator.

Watt:- The modification of your idea, in having members who no longer want parts of their collections, sold at auction, would solve some of your problems in obtaining some SF.

Peggy Sexton is a School Teacher. Many fans are holding higher education certificates. Not all are capable of writing well. Those of us without the educational and experience qualification of the others, cannot allow ourselves to curl up and give up. If I can't do a review as well as Peggy Sexton, so what. Despite her higher qualifications, the tone of my review might actually be more pleasing to the readers than hers would be. There is only one thing for us to do, and that is to try, and keep on trying. Just because some are experts, is no reason for the like of us to give up and not try.

Advertising: The question is two-fold. One is that some might try to influence policy because of their financial contributions for ads. Another is that the members should have the first choice, free.

The result of a last minute inspection of the TABLE MESS, resulted in the unearthing of the following letters. So, here they are. Heck with Planning. You're getting this letterzine, with ALL letters I can find. This will be the most hectic issue of TIGHT-BEAM you've ever gotten.

Art. H ayes.

NOT BY REQUEST BUT I
AM WITHHOLDING THE
NAME:-.....

Actually, what I meant is that Science Fiction becomes uninteresting to me when it is based on actual fact rather than speculative imagination. I can't retain a sense of wonder towards the airplanes, once they become fact -- even if they are spaceships. Shepherd's flight is as significant as Lindberg's was, but I can get excited about that either. Might as well be reading Cowboys & Indians.

DOUGLAS O. CLARK:-

This letter will serve a twofold purpose, as I'm beginning a slow creeping back into active Fandom from a necessary gafia. I won't be able to do anything on a grand scale until after the Christmas rush.

First off, there is an item I'd like to have published or placed before the club in the letterzine and it has to do with Fans in general rather than the N 3F although I'm sure the Neff ers will be interested.

Frank Prieto publishes a sort of seasonally all-scope greeting card zine sending seasons greetings for all the holidays of the year. It is edited by Les Gerber and the committee of President Jim Taurasi, Milt Spahn and Hans Santesson. The Secretary-Treasurer who accepts donations and subscriptions is Harriet Kolchak and the group claims Forry Ackerman as an unofficial backer of the group.

Minimum donations of \$2. and the main reason for this publication and funds is for conventions. Every year at the conventions a few fans show up short of funds and have to scrimp through the affair, not enjoying themselves because of this. This fund is to help such fans as a whole and neo-fans in general. Anyone who is interested can write any of the aforementioned parties. The address of Harriett Kolchak is:

Mrs. S. Kolchak,
2104 Brandywine St.
Philadelphia 30, Pa. USA.

All persons who were involved in Round Robins of mine, please have patience as I will be able to get around to writing to you personally or answer letters now on hand.

DONALD FRANSON:-

Thanks for the Welcommittee Bullzine and your letter of the 20th. How about putting me on the Welcommittee, so I can continue getting the information? However, don't expect me to write letters. What I plan to do is send out leaflets. If I have to write them myself, print them up myself, and send them out myself, I might as well be on the WC. This, however, is what I mean by a split - you misunderstand. The idea is for someone to write up the leaflets, and then the WC can send them out -- and if the letter writers don't send them out, someone else in the WC, who doesn't want to write letters, can help out by sending out the leaflets. I don't mean that the new fans who are on the Welcommittee should print up their own stuff - though they can, as a time-saver. This is NOT the same as a welcome booklet, written by experienced fans.

However, I am enthusiastic about the writing of it, and think I can carry out this part and ste noilling too. I will have them run off, and start sending it out myself in envelopes. Instead of one booklet to cover everything, however, what I had in mind was about five or six leaflets, as a package for the new member to receive. Oh, I know you will say "We tried that before and it didn't work." or "We are doing it now" or something (but I didn't get anything when I joined), but I think this may be a better way to send this group of circulars out than with Welcommittee Letters. However, either way is all right as long as the new members get them all. And remember, Welcommittee letters don't cost the treasury anything for postage, as the stuff can go with the letters the WC members send anyway-- or even if not, the members usually don't charge the Treasury - and we shouldn't strain the Treasury for any reason if we can help it. Otherwise, a package might be more interesting for the new fan to get, all at once, instead of dribbles, as the

letters come in.

All the following should not run to more than a few mimeographed pages. They go only to new fans as they come in. However, they can be sent to the whole N3F to start, so that everyone can have one of each.

1. WELCOME TO THE NFFF. (Includes a welcoming speech by the President, a resume of the club purpose, a list of bureaus and activities, with explanation of each. Maybe four to six pages. Need Information help.)
2. WHAT IS SCIENCE FICTION FANDOM? Preface, history, conventions, fanzines, amateur press associations, Gerfandom, art, collecting, are some of the headings, each of which will take a paragraph or two. Don't laugh, I'm really enthusiastic about this and am confident that I can put a lot into a few words. This may take about ten pages, but I have most of the information I need and have files to look up the rest. This may be the first thing I'll do.
3. Fandbook. A Key to Science Fiction Fandom, and its Terminology. Contains definitions, boiled down from FANCYCLOPEDIA II, and a lot of other facts not in FANCY, plus explanations of all abbreviations in common use today. (For instance, I will have current clubs but not long-gone ones - FANCY has a lot of these which would be of little use to the new fans.) I'm part way through with this and it will take 4-6 pages. I will write Eney for permission to quote from FANCY and to let him spot any goofs.
4. NEFFER'S GUIDE TO CURRENT FANZINES. (Not the LONG list, which should be in TNFF annually, but reviews of 20 or so best or most suitable for new fans. Revised quarterly. Copy reviews for Coulson, if necessary.)
5. LIST OF CLUBS, CONVENTION CALENDAR, AND MISC. ACTIVITIES. Revised annually. I can get most of this information easily enough but welcome help.

NOW WOULDN'T THAT BE A GOOD PACKAGE TO SEND TO A NEW FAN, who is already a science-fiction enthusiast, remember, but doesn't know anything about Fandom? After he gets this, the welcome letters won't have to be more than personal letters, or further suggestions for activity, like Seth Johnson's. The Above is for sending to new members of the N3F. As for recruiting booklets, they can be much smaller, a page or two, "ABOUT THE NFFF". This together with an application blanks, and a letter if desired, can go into an ordinary long envelope, first class for 4¢, or at the most 8¢. It seems that almost anything will recruit them, or some of the fans who appear in prozine lettercolumns, because they are curious about Fandom, but it's best to make a good first impression. I think a neat leaflet, telling about the N3F and how it operates would be the best, since they will soon learn more through the Welcommittee. The idea is, in the recruiting booklet, don't promise too much.

I don't know if I have a Chinaman's chance of getting elected Director. I figured I should have had NO chance at all, if I hadn't put out the one-shot though, since most of the Neffers on the roster are unfamiliar to me and vice-versa. I can't see why anyone should resent campaigning, as a non-incumbent HAS to campaign. Even so, I think I have FEWER lines in TIGHTB EAM than some others, if you want to count them up. I felt I wasn't getting anywhere in making suggestions, and that if I were Director I wouldn't find it so hard to interest the Officers in my ideas. Also, since I have made so many issues, I will take my election as approval of at least some of them. (But, if I lose, I will ignore THAT mandate.) Anyway, I hope you will put me on the Welcommittee, and aren't offended at my attacks on it. After all, splitting it is a COMPROMISE, WILLIS wanted to abolish it entirely.

When I get the leaflets written I will send them along to you, Ralph and the rest of the Directorate for approval, trusting this will not delay them unduly. I don't expect anyone to make any changes or improvements, in fact, I'd rather they would not, but I think it is only fair to submit them for inspection to all and sundry, before going ahead with them. And then, possibly, the publishing may be taken off my hands. Now, you can go ahead and say it's been done before, and didn't work and we have a committee that's doing

it only they haven't been heard from in ten years.

Don Franson.

(((((. Who said I have to follow my own rules. In this case, I will insert my own comment right now, then continue with other letters. Better take care of ALL three letters printed up to now in this extra supplement.

ANON... This is based on the comments or quotation I made in THRU THE HAZE about my being disturbed about the views of a certain BNF. This is that person's explanation of what was first reported to me.

CLARKE... Am pleased to hear that Clarke is about to return to the fold as an active member. He was a very active member of the Welcome Committee, and I hope he will return to it when he can get his activity time organized. As for the Greeting Card Fund, well, Taurasi and Prieto are members of the N3F, so why ain't I heard of this deal before. If it has been mentioned, why wasn't a sledge hammer used to make sure that I realized that it was mentioned. This is an example of what we should know about what some of our members are doing.

FRANSON:- If Don hasn't had as many lines in TIGHTENED up to now, I think he's making up for lost time with my issues of TIGHTENED LO. First of all, I'd like to repeat what I said about him when his ONE-SHOT CAME out. I had been getting the first inklings of this then, but only NOW do I have a real clear idea of what he meant. Even in the rest of this issue, you can see that the subject of the WC Split, and his suggestions, are not understood. But, I did understand enough then, to take the attitude in a previous issue of my publications, probably Thru The Haze, that Don Franson had a lot of ideas, and that while I did not agree 100% with them, I did say that I thought his Candidacy deserved serious consideration. While it is probably too late now to influence anyone since most ballots will have been mailed by the time this reaches you, I am still of the opinion that he is deserving of definite consideration. His one-shot, and some of his printed letters, took on too antagonistic an attitude and did rub some members the wrong way. I don't think that Don Franson can see that I have taken offense at anything he has said, and he can testify that I stopped some who were taking violent offense at his statements. Yes, I even used threats in one case, to prevent what I considered unbecomingly actions by some members, who, I felt, misunderstood what he meant. I felt that he had the right to be heard without violent actions being taken against him in print, so, took steps to prevent them. Before anyone think that I acted against any in the Official Family of the N3F, this was NOT the case.

Now we come to the list of the items for the Welcome packet. I can state that ONE of these is already in my hands, the Handbook. If I think I have time, I'll duplicate it and include a copy of it with this mailing. Unfortunately, it will have to be the last item I do, since I have a lot to go yet. In fact, I'm thinking at the moment of splitting this mailing, to lessen the deadline load that is currently on me. You see, I have several more items I feel should go out to the members, including the LAST ISSUE OF ROVER. I can include his booklet, and if something further comes up in the packet plan, it too, with ROVER.

In some ways, I CAN SAY that it has been done before, in the form of the Activity Brochure. I didn't carry it on enough. If he can see to it that ALL of them are made up, I'll see to it that they are published, if possible.

Don Franson says he was not getting through to the Directorate with his suggestions. This may or may not be true, and I'm not accusing him of being a liar, if it is not true. You see, there are suggestions that come in that are so worded that they don't strike us as suggestions. They just don't register. I think I have demonstrated that when I recognized a suggestion, I tried to do something about them. So, it may have been an ambiguous presentation that resulted in his suggestions being ignored, and I don't consider something vague as a real suggestion. That is what I meant by his claim holding the possibility of untruth. Already though, in his statement in regards to the election that is going on, I can see a possibility of misunderstanding. If he is elected, he will take THAT to mean that at least some of the issues he has raised are being supported. If he is not, he will IGNORE the mandate I take that to mean that regardless of whether he is elected or not, he will go ahead and see what he can do to move things in the way he wants.

THAT I Approve of. Actually, since nothing in Don's plans involve spending of money by the club, and, depending on their final version, I can't see where it would be detrimental to the club, certainly not against Club policies, I can't see where his plans need Directorate or Presidential approval. All he needs is the cooperation of the Welcommittee & the Recruiting Bureau. He's got the cooperation of the Welcommittee Chairman. I don't intend, while I'm the WC Chairman, to allow the WC to be split in a dozen different ways that would negate the usefulness of the Committee. You can trust me on this. But, I do not see where this newly explained split threatens anything in the Welcommittee. I can only see his plan as an improvement in that it would make the WELCOMMITTEE MORE USEFUL.

NEXT LETTER:-

DAVID HULAN:-

I haven't been in N3F long enough to have learned much about why it should be unpopular in outside Fandom - in fact, in accord with Clay, I've yet to find one of my correspondents who didn't like the N3F, that is, who had bad things to say about it. Several have indicated they weren't members because they had all the fanac they could handle and weren't particularly interested in the things in the things the N3F does, but none had anything bad to say about it. And why SHOULD someone who has all the activity he wants or can handle join N3F? Unless he is moved by his own inclinations to help bring others into Fandom, and other altruistic motives. Most Fen, like other people, are not altruistic - they're in an organization for what it can do for them. If it can't do anything, then why should they join? Make sense to me. It seems like the urge to join NAPA is the main thing that draws experienced fen into N3F, so if that's what they want, then working to make NAPA as good as possible is the way to get them to join. If your main idea is to get experienced fen to join. But it wouldn't do much good, really, because anyone who is interested in doing the sort of work that needs to be done in N3F is doing it already - you might have more BNFs on the roll, but that's about the extent of it. Correct me if I'm wrong, but it seems to me that N3F is here to furnish an organization to help fen get into contact with each other if they have an idea - whether simply to correspond, or whatever. When a person who is interested mainly in pubbing has gotten enough contacts that he can put out his zine without N3F help in the form of the MssB, etc. then there is no point in his maintaining membership. A correspondence fan likes N3F because the steady flow of new members helps him fill in the gaps in his correspondence time caused by gaffs. A fan who is mainly interested in writing ceases to need N3F when there is such demand for his work that he can place anything he has time to write without looking around for a place to put it. There seem to be two types of experienced fen in N3F - those who want mainly to correspond, and those who want to evangelize Fandom. It is the latter who do most of the dirty work, and 'twill always be thus - getting more experienced fen to join won't make a bit of difference if they aren't the evangelistic type. Those who want to correspond serve well on the Welcommittee, but other than that the burden falls on the few evangelists - and they'll have to be grown & not recruited, because any evangelists in Fandom will already be in N3F. Outside Fandom doesn't include this type as far as I can tell.

I personally wouldn't have known what to do as a neo had it not been for the WC. True, not many of the WC members have settled down to become steady correspondents, but they were the first indication that fans liked to correspond, and made it easier for me to get up the nerve to write other non-WC fen on my own hook. I still don't get as much correspondence as I'd like, but at least I average a letter or two a day. I say LONG LIVE THE WELCOMMITTEE!

I may have missed the point in my letter, in view of Lambeck's reply - sure, it's impossible to determine by engineering methods whether pi is irrational or not! Is now, and always will be. Irrationality is a mathematical concept that depends on how you define the terms - and there is no known method to man to measure something to a degree of accuracy sufficient for mathematics. That sort of argument is silly. For all practical purposes, $\pi = 3.1415926$ - that will give no detectable error in the circumference of a circle the diameter of the Earth's orbit. It can be carried out another 10 places if you want the size of the Galaxy... and you haven't prove a thing about irrationality; you can't.

Dave Hulan on deck:-

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Is Lambeck trying to start a feud with Crilly, or are they friends and he's just bugging him? If they aren't friends, I'd say Lambeck's comments were stronger than the situation called for, though I agree with him on most of the points in question. However, I think that there were a few wires crossed in his second interpolation. If I remember correctly, Taurasi was saying that fanzines should discuss stf, not print fiction necessarily. While I enjoy a good discussionzine too, I like best those zine like Bob JENNING'S GHOST which concentrate on discussing stf. And I disagree with that statement that equates Fannishness with asinine and infantile actions - If Lambeck thinks so lowly of fans, then whyinell is he one? "Fannish" just means that Fans can and do, do it, in their capacity as fans, and can be as he describes it or equally can be on a high intellectual plane.

Clay:- second the motion for Harrel and Jennings, particularly the latter. I have met the lad personally and I can't imagine a better director. He can think straight, which is the main thing.

DAVID HULAN.

((O))... I feel there are some flaws in Dave's arguments in regards to N 3F but at the moment can't seem to be able to dig them out. I do remember at the DETENTION, when Boyd Raeburn turned to me, during some panel discussion, and asked why a BNF (presumably like him) SHOULD join the N 3F... Why we think they H Ave to. My answer was that there was no obligation for them to join unless they wanted to, unless they believed that they could either find something of value to them in N3F or were willing to help (be altruists) but that there was certain nothing that made it compulsory for them to join. In my brief answer I tried to point out that a BNF who did not WANT to join the N3F, would be a liability to the N3F if forced to join, if there was a method of forcing them. I still believe this. Recently, we have several in the BNF category who have joined, and who are trying to do something in the N3F. If they are sincere, then they are welcomed. If not, I wish they had stayed out. Merely having their names on our roster will do us only a little good, and may even end up doing harm. We have more to lose by having in active Experienced fen in N3F than not having them at all. jah.

ROBERT JENNINGS:-

On the membership and the money. After reading your discourse on the subject I can begin to appreciate your stand on membership dues and expenditures. However.... as you say, the two standard publications of the club, TNFF and TIGHTBEAM take up the buck fifty many members are likely to pay in dues, and tho there is a tremendous backlog owed the pre-paid members I do not at present feel this is any really serious problem. The reason being that we have a treasury which I feel can pay up most if not all of the prepaid membership balance. I'll agree with you that this treasury isn't going to last forever, also that if spending circumstances continue along the same plane that the treasury may come up short in a near future time. However again I think you tend to be a trifle too pessimistic on the subject. Most members are going to pay a buck sixty in renewal dues, this leaves one thin dime after normal publication expenses to help make up any other expenditures, but it helps slightly. Over a period of a year with 200 of those dimes (be pessimistic and chop that to 100 dimes) it helps out a bit, also some members lpay out the buck sixty later in the year so as to miss several publications, then renew right at January anyway, which also helps slightly. However this is penny ante stuff at best, and as you say a problem does exist.

In other words, the practical part of me cansee clearly and completely that this is a problem that needs to be solved, but at the same time I want most desperately to see this club branch out a bit and begin to make some growth. The N3F on the activities side has certain little short spurs of activity and then seems to literally drag in-between. We have good benefits at present, or rather, we had good benefits, they are shrinking in stature every day. An example: Round Robins and also the Fanzine Clearing House, both under Seth Johnson. Round Rob ins should be a very strong part of the club and should involve at least two thirds of the membership (so says I), but they certainly do not. The FANZINE CLEARING HOUSE is one of the best all-around ideas I've seen in quite some time. Many members or prospective members of this club and Fandom drop out of the flow simply because they cannot get a sound correspondence up or get involved in Fanzine Fandom(excuse expression but you know what I mean). Seth's idea would have hooked them solid the

Jennings :-

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moment they were entering the club. Hell, I was one of the users of this service and it convinced me that Fandom was a worthwhile project, it also snagged a couple of others that I know about. But at the same time the thing has grown lax, it has not stayed up to par, disinterest and such have ruined a perfectly excellent service of the club. Look over the last issue of TNFF and look at the reports from the various activity committees, how many even bothered to report? Your own Welcommittee, which is supposed to snare the new reader in a hoard of correspondents is lagging. Ken Gentry joined a few months back, and he told me he received a grand total of five Welcommittee letters, two of them postcards at that. In other words, I can SEE that the treasury is not as high as it looks, but at the same time I can also see that the membership needs some new or revised services to make this club a benefit to all its members. The last special publication that the club presented... WH AT was it anyway? It's been years since one has appeared. The Tucker Neofan Guide, (most of our members no longer need a Neofan Guide by the Way, Ralph Holland's little pamphlet does the job admirably). Half of the activities now reporting (overseas committee, recruiting committee and the like) have no business being in existence, or should be completely reorganized to get SOMETHING DONE.

I personally would start with the FANZINE CLEARING HOUSE. It'll cost the treasury money though. Likeso, contact all the publishers in the club, and some out of the club and ask them to contribute, say, five copies of the next issue of their fanzines to the Clearing House, and to keep contributing occasional copies here and there. Seth never keeps his fanzines, neither does Clay Hamlin, and I don't think you do either, contact people who don't keep their zines and have them send in the excess to Seth and the Clearing House in large bundles of say, twenty-five (providing they won't be too out of date then). Fine, then a list of new members ever few months is sent to Seth. If it can reach him before the names pop into TNFF so much the better. Seth's original idea was for each interested person to contribute a bit of cash to help defray postage costs. He'd send in say, back, half a buck and Seth would send him as many zines as the money he sent could pay postage. This is the major rub. No one likes to put out cash for such things to begin with, even less a neofan or a brand new to be neofan. The rearrangement of the idea would call for Seth automatically sending out a bundle of fanzines to each new member the moment he joined the club. At the end of each month or two months' period he sends in records of postage costs and the club repays his postage. This will amount to five or ten bucks each two months, probably less than that, and would provide a substantial benefit to the new member. In addition, each new member is sent his introductory bundle already with various back issues of TNFF and TIGHTBEAM, copy of Ghu's Lexicon and other assorted material, which is not really a satisfactory introduction to the ways of Fandom, just to the drier businesslike sections of the club. There would be an expense involved, but I tend to feel that the extra increased benefit it would be worth the slight expense. Then too if any member normally wanted to receive additional bundles he could pay 50¢ or less and receive as many zines as his money would send.

As for money for the club. It should be noted here that self-sacrificing individuals such as yourself, Alma Hil, Kaymar, Ralph Holland, Stan Woolston and the likes are rare things in any club. The situation of you good people donating publications and such other expenses scott free to the club ought not to go forever. The N3F needs some money making projects. An idea here might be to say, twice a year (no more than that though I feel) to put out a call throughout the membership for Items. This would mean anyone cleaning out fmz stacks, promags, books and the like sends these items in to a person. Say Carlson. After sufficient time for items to arrive, Carlson issues a mameed bulletin, or he might insert it in TNFF and save a little money there, and start an auction on the various items. Allowing one month of bidding. The material would be donated free by the members who have no further use for them. Under normal conditions they would be thrown away or sold at very low prices (I know because I am constantly on watch for such sales and promptly pounce on the person foolish enough to liquidate his collection at rock bottom rates.) Items can be auctioned individually or sold collectively. Say there is a file of YANDRO from issue 55 to issue 103, this should be sold as one lot, or broken up into five issue lots to get more cash for the deal. Resulting cash goes to the N3F treasury, people have cleared away space, members have bought wanted items at reasonable prices, and everyone is satisfied. On second thought, this might be better as an annual affair.

Another idea might be to sell a special publication at a convention and otherwise, or to hold a small regional con (don't scream so loudly) with profits, if any, to go to the club, and such as that.

I think the idea of the genzine will go over with the membership if the publicity is handled correctly. As for dates, First off the idea has to be known to the membership before I can work up the three trial issues. Suppose now that no word reaches the membership that this idea is materializing. So O go forth and write a few members for contributions to the zine, the word spreads, rumours gets mixed in with it, and a full scale revolution of rumours and accusations about thesecretive Directorate comes out to shake up the club. The idea has to be known first. That is, the members must know that the Directorate is seriously considering making TIGHTBEAM a genzine at least. Then when I ask for material it won't be so bad or cause so much trouble, if you follow my trend of thought.

However, barring major accidents or whathave you, I can be ready to send the zines out come February. I would prefer to wait until Feb as a matter of fact. That way, I'm past half a year of college and it should be smooth sailing from then on. I plan to stencil and print the material with other material and GHOST and a lot of other stuff over the Christmas holidays. That is, I'll print up the majority of the first issue over those holidays, but will not release the issue and print up the letter column until February.

If the idea is rejected by the brand new Directorate, well, I'll have to convert some of the stuff for GHOST and let it go at that. However, I don't think that any such problem will arise. I think the membership will like the idea.

Robert Jennings.

((((O)))- I KNEW someone had come up with that idea for the auction sale, and you'll see I've mentioned it elsewhere, in my own editorial comments. Above you see the original idea by Bob Jennings. You have ideas maybe, on this?

Taking points in order of their appearance in Bob's letter.

(1) Members, some of them, join later in the year and miss earlier publications. This is not necessarily true, in that (a) there is a reduction in dues as the year progresses. (b) as Bob admits further on in his letter, the new member packets usually contains previous issues of TIGHTBEAM and TNFF, which usually means he gets the whole year's publications anyhow. No saving in money there, even if they pay full dues in say July.

(2) FANZINE CLEARING HOUSE. If every new member got say a 50¢ postage value of fanzines, is this not an extra expense of 50¢ out of the membership dues? With publications and new member packets now taking roughly \$1.50 per year per member, where is this extra expense of 50¢ to come from. The idea, at present, is for those requesting bundles, including new members, to pay \$1.00 for 50¢ postage value of Fanzine, allowing some profit to help first defray advertizing expenses to contact potential Fans. When the plan is sufficiently well activated, the profits would be distributed to the contributing faneds, but not to the contributing clubs. Seth is about to go into a year's worth of advertizing and is now sounding out the best rates, etc.

(3) Round Robins. This is the reason why I keep asking for all who originate RRs to let me know about them, to list the RRs they have going, to list to me, the RRs who have died, so that the membership will know what is going on. Publicity, in other words.

(4) As I said elsewhere in one of the TIGHTBEAM issues I'm including, a club can only do something FOR the members, there must be members willing to do something FOR the club. The amount of money Ralph and I, and some others (Clayton is one example) is ridiculous. If I were to donate the amount I spent in N3F, to the N3F treasury, it would be more than doubled. Yes, it has been several hundred dollars, not counting the purchase of this Gestetner. Of course, I wouldn't have had as much ego-bag (most of it has been critical anyhow) that way.

(5) As for the money raising plan suggested. Read it over, read over what I said earlier, elsewhere in this mailing, and tell us what YOU think of it.

(6) GENZINE. I think that NOW, a resume of the original idea should be presented. It changed, under Directorate discussion, to the possibility of turning TIGHTBEAM into a genzine. This, evidently, has been vetoed by the members who expressed their opinion, so the original idea should be explained, as Bob originally proposed it.

(a) Using the best material obtainable, some of it from the Mss Bureau Story contest

Hayes talks about Jennings.

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but not exclusively Fiction, the genzine would have Articles, reviews, etc., in other words, be a real GENERAL TYPE FANZINE, a balanced publication.

(b) The first three issues would go FREE to all members, paid for by the N 3F treasury. Thereafter, the publication would be sold by subscription to those who wanted it, in or out of the club, with a slightly lower price to club members. Say 4 for a dollar, 8 for \$2. to non-members, and 5 for \$1. and 10 for \$2. to N3F members.

(c) The publication would come out every SIX weeks (as G HOST does, though it may come out a little less often during the next few months), eight times a year.

(d) The first THREE publications, issues, would be printed up and ready for mailing, in as far as the non-datable material is concerned, before even ONE was mailed out. That would allow plans to proceed without deadline pressure, on the succeeding issues and allow some kind of guarantee to continuity and regularity of its appearance.

(e) THE FLAW? Well, it means that the Treasury would have to guarantee a minimum of \$75. for the three issues. We could not see how we could AFFORD to make this layout. It was suggested by some that TIGHTBEAM was losing in its popularity, so the idea of converting TIGHTBEAM was introduced, and while it meant a slightly less pretentious publication, it meant a FREE publication to the members. The allowance for TIGHTBEAM would have been increased slightly (penny-ante increase really). But, it was suggested that before the Directorate go ahead and make this decision, that we allow the information to "leak" out, and get the ideas of some of the members. Well, it seems that the idea of altering TIGHTBEAM is not appreciated.

YOU now have the FULL story on this. WHAT DO YOU THINK NOW?

The plan for raising money, that Bob suggests, MIGHT work, but we can't start spending this money until we see what colour it is, in other words, until it is IN the treasury. Would we be justified in paying \$75. (or more) for the first three issues? Where is the money to come from?

IF, however, and this is my personal suggestion, enough members were to send in, to Bob, subscriptions NOW, for a publication in February or March, then the whole thing could be resolved NOW and Bob could go ahead with the plan. At least, a pledge could be sent in on which Bob could see what plans he could make for this publication. You can't spend pledges, you can't buy material with pledged money, so final plans would have to wait until he did have the actual money, but it would give an idea to Bob what he MIGHT be able to do.

MARIJANE JOHNSON:

Afriend the outings are about to come to a Screeching halt as the weather is looking mighty winterish, but could get in a few more. I'm getting quite a reputation around here for cancelling my trays & taking off for parts unknown. It does take a little extra work on the part of the nurses, so I asked if I was abusing a privilege and Sister Eumelia waved her arms & said, "No, as soon as you're out of sight, you're out of the way all day, so go while you can." She's German, I think & has a cute accent, as well as being short. polypoly cute herself. I haven't quite been able to get over how wonderfully they treat me, others too of course, & the interest shown in my goings on. Sister Mary Agnes has been working her way through the Journal & says she likes it very much. They all tease me about my gadding about and that SEACON trip had the whole place in an uproar. Everytime I come back from an outing, someone wants to know where, why, & all the details. And, my mail causes quite a stir too, & one who brings it around looks it all over carefully to see where it all comes from that day. She's a patient too & one of 3 that I go to visit a lot. We get to horsing around and someone comes along and wants to know what all the ruckus is about. So, although there are some unpleasant aspects to a place like this, it is nice in a lot of ways.

FUTURE CLANCY STORIES WILL BE HARD TO DO, IN THE PROPER SPIRIT AS MR. MITTENS WAS KILLED BY A CAR THE OTHER DAY. HE DRAGGED HIMSELF HOME & MOTHER GOT HIM TO A VET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NOTHING COULD BE DONE. SO, A FEELING OF GLOOM DESCENDS ON ME EVERYTIME I THINK OF HIM. WE HAD HIM FOR 7 YEARS & IT'S JUST LIKE LOSING ONE OF THE FAMILY. MR. MITTENS AT LEAST ATTAINED FAME BEFORE HIS DEMISE. I TOLD MOTHER ALL OF FANDOM WOULD MOURN HIM.

PHIL KOHN:

Got Jane y's Journal. Best Fanprinting job I've seen so far. G OOD professional level, and perfectly adequate for the INTERPLANETARY JOURNAL. How can I persuade you and Bob Lambeck to come to the rescue of the Interplanetarians? It was to be a vehicle of the "unacceptable" theory, and for the Acceptable theory presented by "unacceptable" outsiders (in short, for me, and such as I approve of, like LRM and REICH). The two numbers have not had a single article which belongs, but they have grazzdiplle bank. I'd overcome any gafia (short of jail or delirium and do the editing myself if I knew someone would publish it, and also collect for me other peöples' contributions to be edited by me. Can I somehow persuade you that this is really important, as was the early "Royal Society" of Newton and Hugyes? And that nobody else is doing it? And that Santesson just has to be a person from Porlock -- that mistakes of that size simply can't be honest?

Am rereading CHILDREN OF THE ATOM. Don't know how the story ever took me in. TIM is what the modern negro calls an "Uncle Tom", exquisitely named, only I don't think it was intentional. This type wouldn't have had any trouble in German or Polish Jewish Families, or, I think, in English upper class for different reasons. The Jewish family would respect the intellect, The English upper circles has room for eccentrics. It's only the present day American and Russian and their provincial followers who are so narrow. If you will read GAUSS's Life story, or Newton 's (Men Of Mathematics) you'll know what I mean. But, and this is the point: The real Tim would have had plenty of trouble. He would have seen, early, all the wrongs, stupidity and unnecessary suffering around him; He would have seen, and wouldn't have accepted either the Church nor the Psychoanalysts or the Rabbi or the English Tutor, etc. The end is false too. I take it as a personal insult from Shiras to me and you. We are a step or two below Tim's I.Q. but we have a right to live on our own terms, if we have to kill the morons before they get us. And if I was just one step smarter, I could make it stick. Nor is sweet reasonableness of any use - what they want is CONTROL - loyalty oaths, etc. humbling. Wylfe (Innocent Ambassadors) says how Arab Refugees might be used by antisemites. Mr. Wylie doesn't understand antisemites at all, nor SHIRAS anti-intellectuals. Antisemitism - anti-intellectualism - white supremacy etc is all based on the idea that here is someone it's safe to kick. Sure, using the refugees, the antisemites might collect some reasonable people, but he would lose all the hogswall who are his normal followers, by pointing out to the world that someone actually got kicked back BY the Jews. (And let me tell you I take the Refugee problem damn seriously, but the "lets not make the antisemites mad" argument is worthless.)

Got Habakkuk today... Wonderful. Will have to write most of 'em - not so good. Also TIGHTBEAM (Bob Lambecks) with your HAZE. Roll on, you per petuum mobile. Only sometimes I think of what I could do with all that energy -- world would a been a different place ten years ago. But its not transferable.

"pi" is, by definition, the relationship between diameter and circumference in an Euclidian plane. In any other universe, this relationship becomes a function of "r", and possibly of location, and could not possibly be even computed without reference to the Euclidian pi. Even more horrendous is the blooper which says that "in our corner of the Universe space isn't sufficiently curved... since the difference between the real "pi" and the first 35 decimals (known for some centuries) would probably be distinguishable within a nucleon - not to speak of the few thousand decimals which have been computed electronically. From the engineering point of view, there is no use for the 6th decimal, and actually as an electrician, I use $9/8$ ths to compute the diameter of a wire if I know the area and I doubt whether most wire is drawn more exactly than that. The whole problem is purely theoretical since about 1500. So the smallness of local curvature is no refuge. Once any finite curvature is accepted, the whole question of "rationality" & "transcendence" is out of bounds, like the "acidity" of a pi meson, or the legality of AT&T under Irokese Law. (Or the book of Joshua about Cosmology).

((((O))) - I got lost way back. I'll leave the gang of you figure it out.

ED MESKYS:-

In regards to TIGHTBEAM 9, I have a major complaint - 28 -

about Bob's editorial policy. He says he just put in letters until he got tired of cutting stencils, and then threw the rest of the letters out. I feel that an editor should use judgement in editing the letters. In any collection of letters there should be a few that are of (comparatively) outstandingly interesting, and a few that are much less interesting or readable than all the others. The first should be definitely included, the last should be left out or greatly cut EVEN IF THERE IS ROOM FOR THEM. If, after this was done (or there are no extreme cases) there still isn't enough room, those letters which were the last to arrive and/or which repeat something already said should be the next to go. This is in fairness to those who were considerate enough to the editor to write early.

I think I should clarify a point or two about the Willis letter I reprinted in TB8, mainly about the Welcomittee. When that letter was first written, the Welcomittee was something entirely different from what it is now. Then its members were to read the proz lettercols, get the names and addresses of non-fan readers, and write them a welcoming them into Fandom. What Willis was objecting to was the crude attempts to do this which probably scared away most such potential fans contacted. Lenny Kaye, and a few of his cohorts are now doing the same sort of thing (And without the goofs cited by WAW, I hope) with what success I don't know.

And his comments on the duplication of fanzine titles (and similar gripes by some disgruntled Neffers a year or two ago) reminds me of the shrieks which greeted Clay Hamlin's use of a title only SIMILAR to one already in use. Oh well, you can't win. Otherwise I agree with Ralph's commentary on the letter - particularly his point about services and bureaus coming and going with need, not whim.

I had intended to ditto up a general letter about various aspects of Fandom and send copies to Ed Bryant's 33 contact but other fanac and my work on my thesis didn't permit. I do hope somebody did contact them in such a way that at least some became interested in Fandom. When I finish POLHODE #4 in a few months, I will, if I remember, send each a copy and I can only hope they won't be confused or repelled. But with luck they won't for it will be even more sf centered than the last issue was. (As most of you know, I managed to get a letter into FANTASTIC about a year ago plugging the N3F and offering info. I sent most of those who answered, copies of Polh 3 along with my letter and I was shocked to get back expressions of confusion. Now I always considered POLHODE to be a serious and sf centered fanzine, especially when compared to my apazines. I could just imagine the reaction of these people if they were to get some really far out "ffaaanish" zines!)

Come to think of it, some sort of printed up items might do some improving to the WC. I would like to see several Welcomittee members write out their opinions of the NFFF and its functions (such as Metcalf - Franson and Harlin, to get 3 radically different viewpoints), print them up, and include them with personal letters to all of the new members. These things would also contain much of the information that had been in Art's ACTIVITY BROCHURE. All of the WC members would know what is in these and could go on from there in their personal letters. Something like this, I believe, would answer Don Franson's gripes about the Welc. as she is now.

I was very disappointed to see no mention in TIGHTBEAM of the excellent fanzine produced for all Neffers by the Los Angeles members a few months back. I wonder how many of you have bothered to drop them a thank you note for it? And I wonder how much thanks Janie, Clay and Bob will get for the wonderful "Janey's Journal" of somewhat more recent vintage.

Hmm, that's quite a list of new members in the latest TNFF. They certainly seem to come in spurts, don't they. Why last time around almost none were listed. And speaking of new members, one of the questions on the application blank is Telephone numbers. Since most new members give them with the understanding that they will be made available to the members, why aren't they listed along with the addresses in TNFF? And, why aren't they listed, when available, in the complete membership roster? I'm sure that if all available ones were listed in the next roster, many others would send in theirs in for inclusion in the following roster. Like, Either use 'em, or drop 'em from the blank. I also think some changes should be made in the blanks - both in what is asked and the language used.

Do any of you have any suggestions for changes for the Application blank?

L. H. TACKETT.

Ed Bryant, in his letter, said we shouldn't blame Bob Lambeck for the re production of the name-list included in TIGHTBEAM 9.

I don't. I could read the name-list, which is more than can be said for most of TIGHTBEAM

There is something in what Bob says about the problem of the rotating editorship. The main problem, it would seem, would be to find someone who would be willing to take on the job on a continuing basis, and, under the current system, those who take their turn at pubbing the zine can look on it as a special project and readily apply themselves to doing a good job on it. A single editor, I should think, would eventually come to regard it as a distasteful chore. Ghu knows most of Fandom can't even get their own genzines out on a regular basis. Something might be worked out to let one person take over the editorship a year at a time. This would give him the opportunity to do all the editorializing he wanted and yet he wouldn't go sour on the zine. And if he wanted to continue on for another year, he could be reappointed.

The fact that so few have cast TAFF ballots would seem to point out the sad lack of publicity for the project. Oh sure, there are little blurbs appearing hither and yon which proclaim "R.E. for TAFF" (Take your choice) but the project as a whole seems to be somewhat neglected. The quarterly news-sheet sounds like a good idea and frequent news releases to such as SFTimes, AXE and FANAC wouldn't be out of line either. The \$5. donation strikes me as high, but I would suggest that the minimum donation be raised to \$1.

Dave Hulan has rather effectively answered Dave Travis' (Egad, the Daves are taking over) complaint about Fandom's special language. It is true that any group soon develops its own terms that are utterly incomprehensible to the outsider. But the outsider can, with a little study, pick up the esoteric terms in a very short time after which everything becomes clear. GHU'S LEXICON AND FANCY II are recommended to any newcomers who may be baffled by fannish references. (Now all I have to do is explain what GHU'S LEXICON & FANCY II are.)

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And THAT will be sufficient for this first half of this mailing. Maybe I should have done more editing, but I LIKED the letters I printed, and did not feel that I should tamper with them beyond the minimal that I did. THRU THE HAZE, ROVER & a few other items, will be sent a little later. I MUST get this ish of TIGHTBEAM out into the mails. Letters up to and including the mail received on Nov. 3rd, have been used.

Art. H ayes,
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