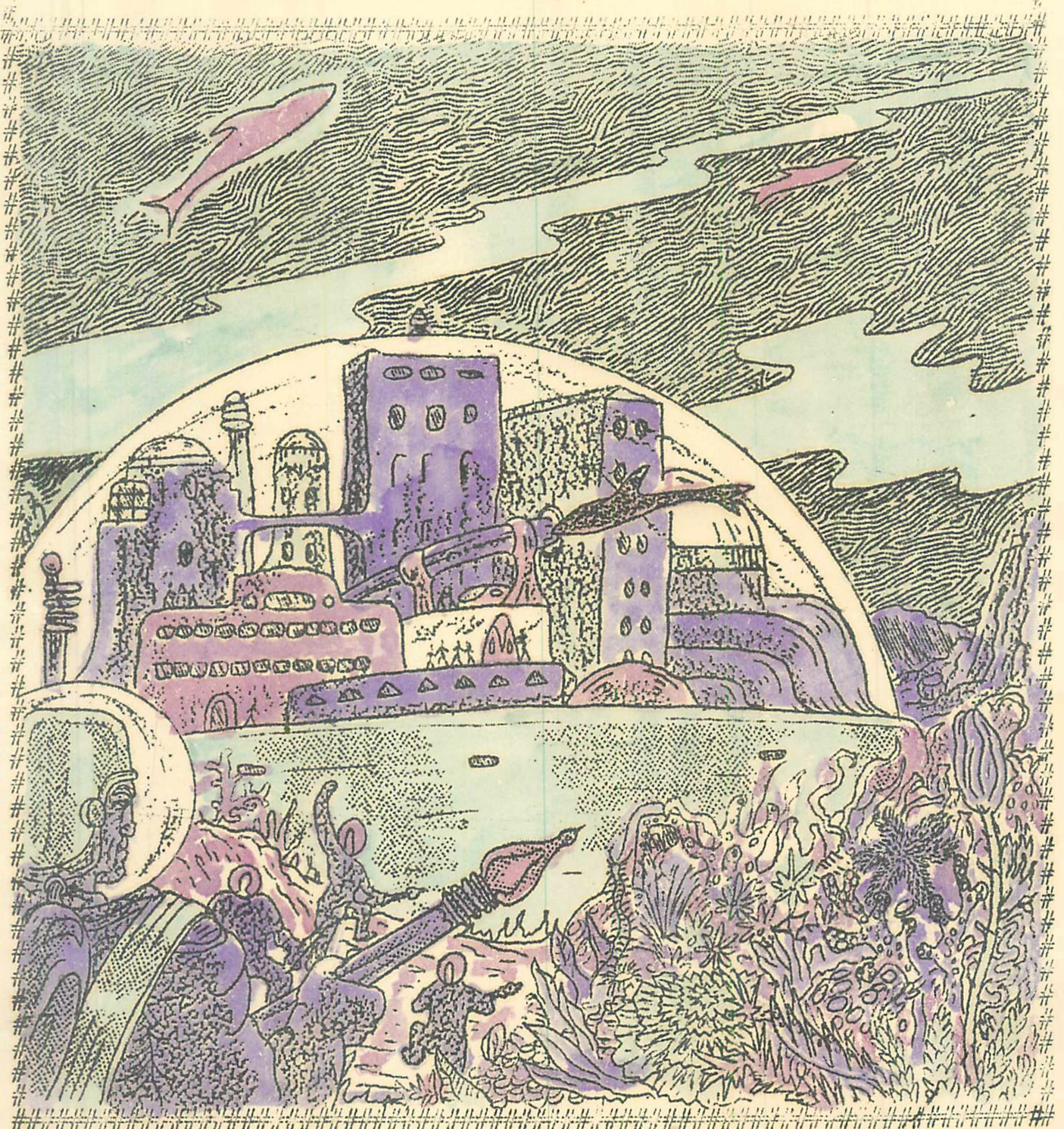


# TIMEWARP - 6

SAPS - 12

SUMMER, 1950

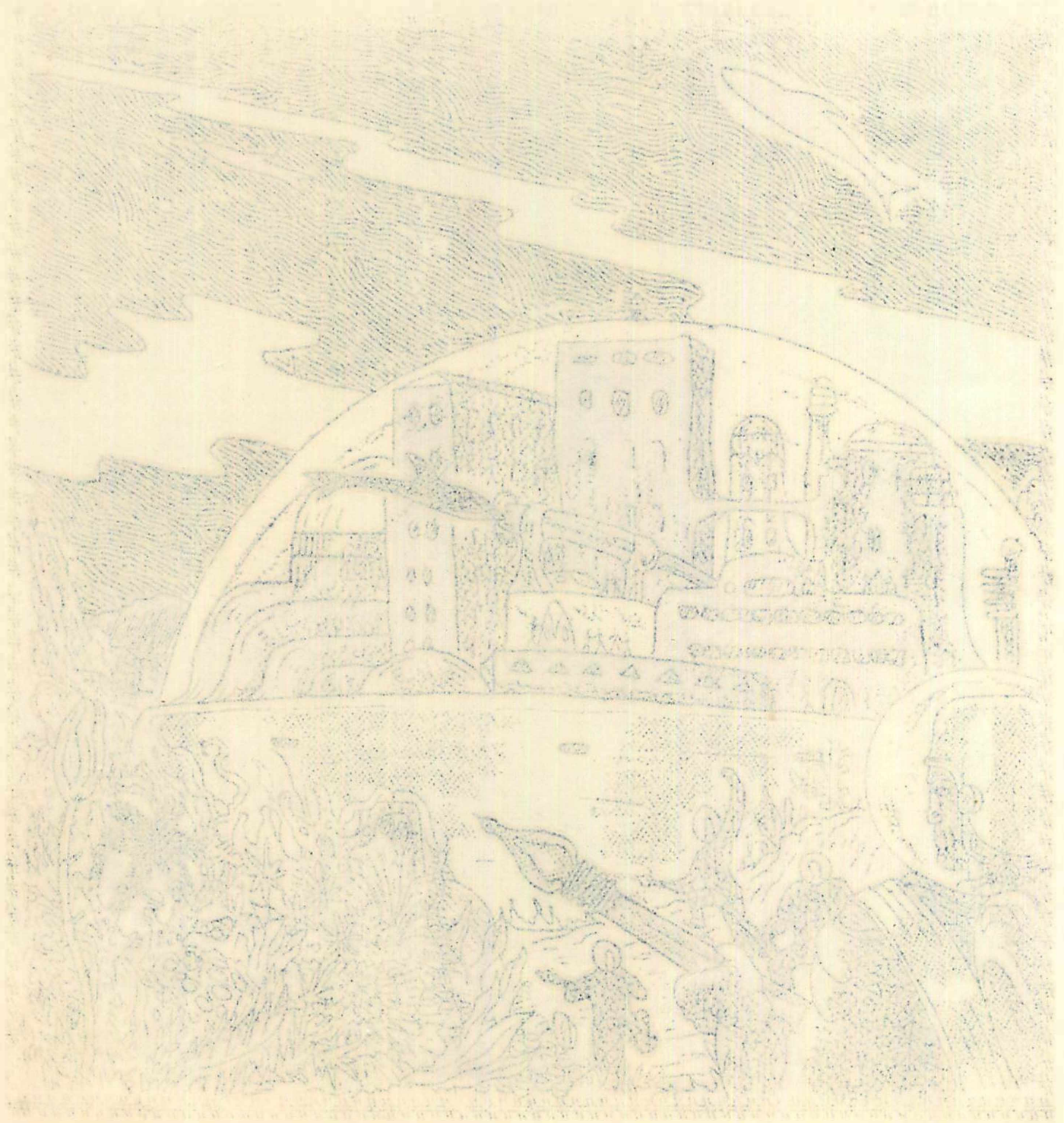




# THE NEW YORK

1892

NUMBER 1





# The Gripes Of Rapp

Befuddled observation of the (you shud pardon the expression) 11th SAPS Mailing

SPECTATOR #11 Ugh, what a mess. And not helped a bit by the fact that as I ran the postcards I carelessly knocked the guide close enuf to the mimeo drum to neatly slit the p.3 stencil from top to bottom. Oh, well, guess it serves the purpose.

THE WASHINGTON DISPATCH CASE of Briggs. A pleasant assortment of comments which arrived as near to the deadline as anything could and still make the mailing.

MAINE-IAC of EdCo, #4. I like the informal way Ed writes -- natural-sounding as if he composed directly on the stencil, but so well thought out that it seems impossible he hasn't drafted it first and then rewritten. How do you compose your editorials, EdCo? # Hah, Stan Kenton who writes the musical equivalent of science-fiction. He should do background music for fantasy movies. # By the way, my duplication (well, almost-duplication) of your title "Mumblings" in the last TIMEWARP was purely unintentional. # Wonder how many fans keep scrapbooks or photo-albums of their fannish activities? I don't, but I can see that it would be a much better way of preserving newspaper clippings, old club membership cards, miscellaneous snapshots and other fannish trivia, than my present method of chucking the stuff into a bureau drawer and not sorting it at all. Of course, in most cases I can look at a snapshot and recall who or when or what it represents, but this makes it necessary to carry on a monologue while showing them to anyone else. An album or scrapbook would be much more efficient.

GRAVEYARD of Di'tmar, #2. This zine is a bit more coherently and thoughtfully organized than most, but I don't feel competent to comment on the fiction, because weird-horror holds very little appeal for me. # Are all those editors and contributors from your own vicinity, Rich? If they constitute a local fanclub, I'd like to read in SAPS about what activities (if any) you are engaged in, or even what local feuds are rattling their bones in NYC. # Incidentally, thanx for the several free plugs for SPACEWARP SERVICES. # The WANI-GAS cover in the 10th Mlg was by Ray Nelson. You're right, I should have credited him somewhere in the zine. # Wish more SAPS would put out zines as carefully edited as GRAVEYARD. Keep it up.

BLOB of Coswal, #10. Lissen at the man talk about completing his WT collection in the next year or so! And me with my oldest WT dating merely back to 1938! # SAPS shure (gad, this typer is developing an Irish accent!) has a lot of turnover in its membership, but perhaps that is preferable to having a lot of long-term members who have lost all enthusiasm for ayjay. Eventually, I suppose, FAPA and SAPS should combine; the resulting organization might have the good points of both. # The shorthand on the #10 SPECTATOR sez "This is the 10th Mailing of the Spectator Amateur Press Society -- here's wishing



all of you a happy New Year and bigger and better mailings in 1950!"  
# Hmmm, just realized I hadn't yet sent you the copy of STUPEFYING  
STORIES to replace your defective one -- dashes represent the spot  
where I took time out to do so. By the way, all SAPS: If your mail-  
ing is incomplete when it arrives, send me a complaint at once. There  
is usually at least one copy extra of each zine, and as long as the  
supply lasts I'll fill any gaps. Only, as you might well comment, it  
is better to have all the bundles identical in the first place. That  
reminds me -- Remus, wasn't it you who didn't get Shore's ~~THE~~ TRIBUNE  
EXTRA several mailings back? If it was (I am not going to comb thru  
several mailings to find out) yell; there are some copies of that in  
the surplus stock. # The front and back covers of SCIENTIFANTASY #4,  
(as I discovered several weeks after first reading the mag) are one  
continuous picture, which is why the back cover looks incomplete in it-  
self. Coswal, contact Bob Johnson about photolith prices. He claims  
it's cheaper than mimeoing. # ETAOIN SHRDLU is not (I agree with Cos-  
wal) a proper title for a stfmag -- unless, as I have vaguely recalled  
at this point, it's the order of the keyboard on a linotype. Most  
commonly, tho, it represents the frequency of letters in written Eng-  
lish. But the part that makes it inappropriate for a stfmag is that  
it's incorrect! It was generally accepted about 50 years ago, and be-  
came famous through Doyle's Sherlock Holmes story, "The Dancing Men."  
Which would make it a good title for a mystery fanmag! Later statis-  
tical studies have shown that the frequency arrangement is really  
ETOAN IRSHDLU -- and that is the one used by cryptographers these days.

FANOBREL of Toth, #1 i theenk. Gotta disagree with you about FUTURE.  
The first ish was rather lousy, but  
it has picked up exceedingly in the June-July number. And when you con-  
sider that it is the only one selling for 15¢, who's to complain? Gaw,  
anybody remember when ASTONISHING usta sell for a dime? # Speaking of  
prozines, it is amusing to note that Ziff-Davis mags have recently run  
editorial squibs frowning on the current flood of reprints in the pulp  
field. Z-D, during the Palmer era, was the only major publisher that  
didn't buy all rights to its stories. Connection? # If OUT OF THIS  
WORLD ADVENTURES (The only mag with a title as horrible as its contents)  
is a sample of things to come, maybe we should tender a vote of thanks  
to Ziff-Davis for not being able to reprint! # RAP, at the Bellefon-  
taine Conference on 21 May, said that the Phoenix Arizona (might not be  
the correct city, I'm going by memory) newspaper, at the time of the  
first big flying disc furor in 1947, got an excellent photo of a disc  
and ran it on Page One. Upon which the government moved in, seized the  
edition and all plates and negatives, and hushed the whole thing up.  
Palmer claims to have a copy of the photo, and offered prints at 25¢  
to anyone wanting 'em. # To get back to FANOBREL, your style of writing,  
Al, is about the most readable in fandom. Especially the paragraph in  
which you take apart the "Capsule Report" -- haw!! Still haven't seen  
the reply which WRITERS' DIGEST is supposed to publish (writ by Tucker)  
but it'll have to go some to beat yours! # Speaking of stf movies, I  
saw "Mysterious Island" yesterday (I know, it's been out for years) and  
was not so much disappointed at the lousy animation of the prehistoric  
animals as I was furious at the makers of the picture, who could have  
made it something memorable by just taking a little more care with the  
special effects. Some of the long shots of reptiles feeding in the  
swamps were breathtaking, but they spoiled the whole effect by closups  
of obviously artificial monsters, not to mention that corny duel between  
the gorilla and the dinosaur, obviously imitating "King Kong" -- now  
there was a picture! I also saw for the first time a chapter of "Ad-  
ventures of Sir Lancelot" which I've seen praised in Fantasy Times and  
elsewhere. Gahh -- horse opera with sword/s! How lousy can you get?



In case you have been mercifully spared from witnessing this travesty on fantasy, I might explain that it consists mainly of horseback chases through rugged mountain country like the standard movie West, interspersed with swordfights in which all concerned manage to escape injury. The swords look like something whittled out of a lath, probably supposed to represent the old English broadsword, though everyone handles them not only with one hand, but in the style of fencers with the French rapier. One or two of the characters carry bows, but arrows are used only to deliver messages or to thud into the woodwork to attract someone's attention. One portion of this episode took place in a place called (shades of King Arthur!) "Echo Canyon"!!! Most of the knights speak with a midwestern drawl. Excalibur apparently has such magical potency that not only is its wielder undefeated, but no one can even fight with him. They rush at the guy with upraised sword, then sort of give up in the middle and back away. The sixyearolds in the audience seemed to like all this, pointing out to each other the good guys and the bad guys. I hope, despairingly, that this particular example of Hollywood's genius is not on the list for export to England.

SAPIAN of Higgs. Your mimicing is getting neater all the time. Keep it up! # For an explanation of the flying discs, see van Vogt's "The Weapon Makers," Part III, in the May 1943 (i theonk) ASF.

GLOP by Calabrese #2. SAPS used to be overrun with poetry, but that trend seems to have vanished, which makes your poetry column stand out. I wish you would explain the significance of the cartoon labeled "Education".

SKYLARK neo Gaha por Gluck #7. Neat cover... er, well, maybe not so neat, but that's Phillips' style, not the lithographer's fault. I wonder what he paints with, an old ham sandwich crust or an ancient Chinese pigtail? # In regard to Ashfield and his explanation of Bergey, I wonder if any SAP happens to know anyone who reads mystery or western pulps regularly, and, if so, whether those "fans" also hate the type of cover the publishers insist on wrapping around their zines. I wonder if there is actually anyone so hard up for feminine companionship that he buys zines with Bergey covers just to take 'em home and leer at the nekkid wimmen?

SAPIAN, wot, again? Ray Higgs and Ray Nelson, the two leading apostles of Sexocracy.

CHABOTAGE by Chabot. Clever title. # Oh-oh, here goes the big annual squabble about the Hydra Club and the World Con; Bot Sneary has something in this mlg (#12) on the subject!

BAR-RAG, dun't ask! I'm practically floored with admiration anytime I see Ray Nelson (or any other artist, for that matter) dash off a cover with such deceptive ease. And plastered, too! Gad, wud I were an artist!

STUPEFYING STORIES #2 by Ray: Cover is wunnaful. What an assortment of contents! I think Ray is trying to drive me into pulling one of his zines out of the mailing. Personally I don't give a damn how far he goes, but if there is anyone in the audience who intends to go to the postal authorities if things go much further, I wish you'd yell now, before we stick our necks out too far. # Must remember to take up this religion question before this zine gets filled.

do like the Romans do in Rome; do like they'd like to do at home; do li



THE OUTSIDERS #2 of Ballard. Naturally, a World War III would cause more of an uproar among the citizenry than the landing of e.t.'s. No one but a sf fan would grasp the fact that interplanetary travel would affect the lives of everyone on Earth, until the news commentators got around to pointing it out. But they know from experience that a war is going to involve them one way or another. And everyone reads the news primarily with an eye for items that will affect himself. Or am I making too many assumptions? # Fred, who symbolized by the squirrel, seems to be one of the few reasonably competent poets to pop up in fandom of the current era. What ever happened to Schaumburger? # I once hinted about wanting hard-cover sf for Christmas, too. It got me Phil Strong's The Other Worlds and the HPL Collection, Best Supernatural Stories. Which, at the time (about 1945) was about all the sf available. Particularly since I had not yet encountered fandom with its handy bookreviews, and therefore had no idea the two volumes were available. I've often contemplated deputizing my sister to hunt the mags I need for my collection; she seems to be able to stumble over 'em without even trying. And other fannish stuff, too. She met Bill Groover before I ever heard of him. He was working in the hospital where she was training, and when the Hiroshima bomb went off, Bill became a scientific authority, and my sister, having read DAW's PB of SF, with Heinlein's "He Built A Crooked House," asked Bill to explain in simple terms what a tesseract was. The only moral to be drawn from all this is that in a town the size of Saginaw, everybody is acquainted with almost everyone else.

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Interlude in which I wish to remark that I have an annoying habit of picking up impressive-sounding words in not quite accurate form, which must amuse hell out of anyone who notes my usage of 'em later. Like "predilection" in that "Official Song of the DSFL" last mailing. It should be, I discovered since then, be spelled as shown, rather than "prelediction," as I had it. Of course, spelled correctly, it doesn't rhyme so well with "science-fiction," does it?

---

PROJECT ONE of warrior Jacobs. I like this item the best of any in the mailing. It has that old care-free SAPS spirit, and the artwork is wunnaful. # It's delightful to hear of a metropolitan sf club which welcomes strangers in its midst. Most, it would seem from all reports, like to coldshoulder anyone who hasn't been around for an eon or two. # I agree with one remark of Chick's so much that I'll repeat it here: "If you are doing four /six now/ pages every six months for SAPS or eight pages a year for FAPA you have plenty of time to take a little pains with your work." Yea, verily. In all fairness, I gotta admit SAPS has been showing a great deal of improvement in that direction the last couple of mailings. Still, a lot of the zines look like they were slung out at the last minute just to get something into the mailing. Hmmm, maybe they were. # For days after the last mailing I was going around muttering to myself the opening lines of your concluding poem, "Vasten my chillen, and you shall skren/The trials of the new-born apafen." One of the neatest parodies I've lamped in years.

---

MOCK #2 by he who is named Seielstad. You should write longer mailing comments; the ones you've come out with so far are fascinating, but too brief. # Oh-oh, wot's this? Anti-Insurgent propaganda? Tsk, and Arnim's so young to die...haw, we can claim this is a violation of the armed truce now prevailing in Michifandom, and therefore you are likely to find the remainder of this zine full of the sort of joyous stuff we had in Mlg 11. # Why don't



you get the other DSFL members to do artwork and stuff for MOCK? Haw!

ETAOIN SHRDLU #4 of Taller. Oh, tsk, I hope the 11th Mlg cheered you up. Certainly a lot of SAPS barely crawl by the requirements, but the best way to change that situation is to set 'em a good example. Something tells me you're going to get a lot of adverse mailing comments this time...

ZAP #1 of Briggs. Another zine that I got a bang out of. Does the fact that I chuckled over it mean I have a subversive attitude toward fandom? Incidentally, I hear George Young is preparing a clockwork mechanism so that his helicopter beanie will revolve even indoors at future cons. He also hangs from the ceiling and drips green when sufficiently inspired by his army of goons. You see, Ben Singer is now just about an ex-fan, and in the vast interior of Alger's Packard there has to be someone to insult. George, therefore, has inherited Singer's unenviable throne.

hereendeththemailingcommentsonmlgllbuttherestofthispageisalsoonstencil

I don't look too favorably upon onstencil composing for anything except mailing comments, because either I say something I don't mean, or I forget some vital thot I meant to include. This is the great advantage of rough-drafting fanwriting.

Yno, the weather so far this year has been a scandal to the jaybirds. I managed to get a garden planted on Memorial Day, when usually that gets done about four to six weeks earlier. And just yesterday, whilst Ralph and I were running off TNFF, I had to wear a heavy sweater to keep from shivering in spite of the fact that I was moving around the room enough to keep warm in any decent sort of temperature. Now Michigan is a great state and all that, but if this sort of thing goes on many more years, Rick's going to have a neighbor in South Gate, or Hank in Vero Beach. Enough is too much!

Gad, I'm out of shelf space again! Books stacked vertically all around the room, a very unhandy arrangement because the wanted one is always on the bottom. At the rate new promags are coming out it doesn't take long to fill a shelf. Incidentally, I'm getting a lot of the new zines secondhand now, figuring it just wasn't worth trying to keep up with 'em on the stands. AMZ and FA particularly. The advantage of these is that they begin showing up on the Salvation Army store's shelf only a few days after they appear on the stands. Don't ask me why? Hardly ever find an ASF there, although I once found an UNKNOWN. FANTASTIC STORY QUARTERLY is confusing no end, because, despairing of keeping track of titles and dates, I usually judge whether I've already got a mag or not by whether its cover is familiar-looking. Which means that FSQ sits on the stands a week or so before I wake up to the fact that its a new mag.

Has anyone succeeded in doing anything with Dianetics yet? One of the most fascinating episodes of the Ohio Con was when Randy Garrett of Battle Creek was explaining Dianetcs to Drs. EdSmith and DHKeller, both of whom were exceedingly skeptical. I'd have given my last drink for a tape recorder...Doc Smith finally decided he'd reserve his opinion until he'd had a chance to read the book; Keller apparently didn't even care to read about it.

See you guys in Portland before Mlg 13...a lot of you, I hope. All SAPS present are invited to set aside one evening for a oneshot SAPS session. I'll furnish the beer (or even pop, if you have depraved tastes). You bring the typers, and maybe we can borrow a mimeo from the Portland boys.



HAW, revolt in the ranks!

Up until now the DSFL has regarded Martin E. Alger as one of its most loyal bulwarks against the nibbling sabotage of Insurgentism.

But to shatter their false complacency, we present below a cartoon drawn by Martin for the use of the Insurgents. It is noteworthy that the DSFL itself has never been able to get Martin to produce any material for what they optimistically call their fanzine,

Thus we see Alger joining with such people as Ray Nelson, Bea Mahaffey, Sam Merwin, Jr., Stewart Metchette, and Hal Shapiro in sneering at the purile efforts of the star-begotten DSFL.

Viva Insurgentism!

Oh the DSF & L, it's a little bit of hell  
As you will soon discover when you call...

I wonder if the DSFL would expell any member it caught indulging in fanactivity?





# WHAT TO DO TILL

## MLG-13 COMES

(1) Sneak a quick peek at the next two pages. (2) Awright, awright, stop screaming and listen...

That is a special super-duper brainsteaser, cooked up especially for members of SAPS, who find the ordinary crossword puzzles and cryptograms of mere humans too easy to be interesting. And quit looking around, because I'm talking to you!

For a slant with a double brain, of course, one diagram is not enough, so we got two diagrams. Two answers, too, of course.

Details you want yet? Well, by taking those names at the bottom of "A Message to SAPS" and writing them horizontally in the proper places, you will find that the heavy-bordered vertical boxes say something.

While one of your brains is busy with this, the second can be grabbing the letters as fast as you get them placed, and writing them in the corresponding numbered spaces in the right-hand diagram. This will be productive, when accomplished, of a longer and more vital communication.

On the left, each name will fit complete on one line (some lines holding more than one name). On the right, words do not always end at the right margin; may continue at the start of the following line.

With luck and patience you should be able to get a start on cracking this; once that happens the rest is a cinch. But you can spend hours monkeying fruitlessly if you aren't van Vogtish enough to notice and interpret the one blatant hint that is staring you in the face right from the beginning.

So simple is the problem after you once find the "catch" that I won't even run the solution. I'll mention the hint somewhere else in this zine, so don't go reading ahead if you intend to try the puzzle.

Whoops, "catch" isn't such a good word up there...now you'll be looking for something tricky. It might better be called the clue; it's subtle, but something that anyone with cryptographic experience would notice very quickly.

Oh yeh, mebbe I better emphasize that the thing on the right is a cryptogram, not a crossword puzzle, so don't expect the vertical lines to say anything.

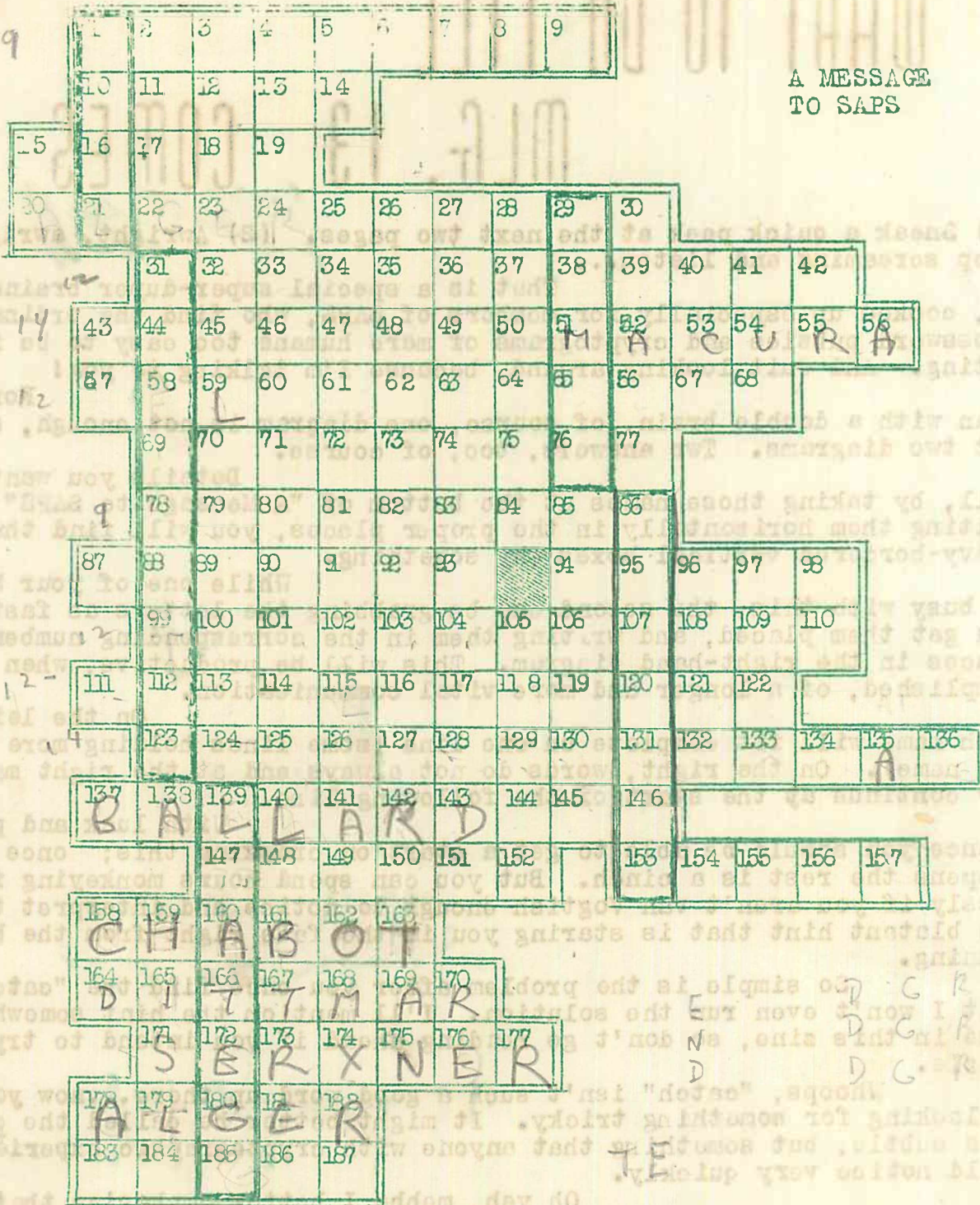
And when you do get it decoded you will find it verging on incoherence toward the end, where I was trying to use up the excess consonants in as little space as possible.

The page is longer  
Than I guessed;  
I'll use this pome  
To fill  
the  
rest.



9

A MESSAGE  
TO SAPS



~~ALGER~~  
~~BALLARD~~ ✓  
BLACK  
BOGGS  
BRIGGS  
CALABRESE ✓  
CHABOT  
COSLET  
COX

✓ DERRY  
~~DITTMAR~~  
ENEY  
FLUETTE  
GLUCK  
GRANT  
HENDERSON  
HIGGS  
JACOBS  
JOHNS

MAGURA  
NELSON  
QUINN  
RAPP  
✓ REMUS  
SEIELSTAD  
SERXNER  
SNEARY  
SPELMAN  
TALLER

TOTH  
VENABLE



99	159	58		13	165	147	81	146	15		W	162	185	138	93
171	158	120	131	121	107	45		20	16	140	167	130	95	62	
63	154	97	50	172	122	163	39	108	145		W	165	179	59	
161	176		96	5	66	136		135	166		44	112	104	134	71
139	115	164		93	123	67	41	79	9		24	1	130	65	
98	26	30	25	116	147	54	51	38		184	50	103	35	117	
7	68	20	100	3		20	110			W	124	89	149	64	47
150	143	178	39	156	84		127	159	61	180	90	183		175	8
167		137	114		57	77	181	23	76	133	72	151	153		166
162		142	56	163		187	154	126		144	168	112	52	85	
146	96	33		40	106	49	12		2	32	105	108	36	16	175
18		20	169	156	4	95	125	128		17	6	184	10	134	176
86	99		111	83	145	69	101	148	50	172		109	131	181	152
155	78	129		165	20		187	64	119		81	88	50	124	
116	122	94	79	153	114	183		91	121	117		W	61	74	102
164		20	160	115		17	28	68	15	103	14	130	97	157	
73	34	158	141		120	62		77	48	27	11	39	75	92	
35	67	70	170	80		187	8	22	132	21		29	53	149	182
118	180	16	140	182	55	153		169		37	160	142		162	173
87	154	174		152	57	136		46	155	85		60	112	113	
82	108	174		95	177		16	148	186	6	58	179		52	83
14	W	56	43	111	61	49	W	144	186	93		19	79		31
100	117	42		104	8	171	107	162	51						

A MESSAGE TO ALL FANS



# MARCH OF THE STAR-BEGOTTEN

Hoh! Many a song is loudly sung  
Of the beanie cap of George H. Young;  
With its whirling blades  
Oh, it looks like Hades

As he marches with his Army Of Goons...

It's a wondrous sight as the blades whirl on  
Like an alcoholic cyclotron;  
Almost any day  
He might float away

As he marches with his Army Of Goons...

How the watching fen would sneer and laugh  
If he got them caught in his hektograph;  
They might slash his mags  
Into pulpy rags

As he marches with his Army Of Goons...

But the loudvoiced, loudmouthed, Beanie Brigade  
Keeps its eyes on the helicopter, undismayed;  
After all, gentle reader,  
George is their leader

As he marches with his Army Of Goons...

If you have any children, singly or in tandem  
Watch out, take care, keep them out of fandom;  
Or they'll join that chap  
With the beanie cap

As he marches with his Army Of Goons...

(exit laffing)

"A LOUSY LARYNX LUBRICATOR"

CREAM OF

CUSPIDOR



PUNK  
PILSNER

A scientific blend of Mopcenkukel, Diddlejoust, Hogabutsen, and a pinch of Floomph. Before drinking, shake contents vigorously and pour out any second floor window. Please pour like a gentleman as this is a premium beer.



FINOOGTENBOODLE BREWERY \* \* \* FINDASH, FINLAND

GREEN MILL NIGHT CLUB 711 LAPEER SAGINAW MICH.



# THE MATHEMATICS OF FANDOM

BY LEE JACOBS

**PREFACE:** Several years ago Mr. L. Sprague de Camp and Mr. Fletcher Pratt wrote a highly informative tome concerning the mathematics of magic; revealing the correlation between abstruse mathematical theory and the phenomenon of seemingly impossible accomplishments. However, these learned gentlemen failed to attempt a more thorough study of the applications of modern mathematics, completely neglecting the fertile field of fandom.

Such an oversight is highly understandable. The two scientists were completely engrossed in their analysis of magic, and neglected this fannish concept in its entirety. Nevertheless, to the average fan, this particular branch of knowledge is of the utmost importance.

The following discussion concerning the mathematics of fandom is by no means complete. Indeed, so far as I know, no other individual has attempted activity in this particular field. It is a new horizon for all mathematicians, and like the modern industry of television, at a level comparable to the crystal era of radio.

Naturally, due primarily to the complex nature of this research, and the limited amount of space allotted, I am only able to comment briefly on some of the less technical applications of this particular field of mathematics. However, since fans are noted for their highly developed mentalities I feel sure that none of you will have undue difficulty with the following.

\* \* \* \* \*

## 1.0 Introduction

1.1 Just as non-Euclidian geometry seemingly violates some of the laws of its pure Euclidian counterpart, parts of fandom math will tend to contradict its more mundane parent. But, it must be remembered that we deal with entirely new and different theorems. Thus, results obtained, while seemingly impossible, are not only possible but are entirely to be expected.

1.2 In any branch of mathematics, one must begin at a low level and progress upward. As in ordinary math, if one did not understand algebra and trigonometry, following the steps of integral calculus would be extremely difficult. Thus, in fandom math, we must start with simple fannish identities.

## 2.0 Basic Principles

2.1 There are generally two types of scientifantasy readers -- the actifan and the passifan.\* The actifan may be subdivided still further into smaller categories -- neofan and BNF. We also have the non-reader who, while he isn't a fan, must definitely be considered in computations of this type.

(12) \* While the derivation of the two terms is beyond the scope of this discussion, the interested student may refer to early works of Mr. Forrest J. Ackerman for more detailed information.



2.2 With the expressions of 2.1 in symbolic form we have:

- a) BNF =  $+F$       b) Neofan =  $++f$       c) Passifan =  $\pm f$   
d) Non-reader =  $--f$

2.3 These expressions may be derived as follows:

- a) The BNF is quite well versed in the ways of fandom, hence the large symbol "F". However, the BNF has wisdom not to undertake an extraordinary amount of fan activity. Therefore a single positive activity sign (+) is attached.
- b) The neofan is not well versed in the ways of fandom and accordingly is assigned the small symbol "f". However, this type of fan is quite eager, intensely hyperactive, and continually tries to achieve BNF status. Because of this larger amount of activity he is assigned a double-positive ( $++$ ) classification.
- c) The passifan, while knowing comparatively nothing about fandom, nevertheless reads scientifantasy and deserves a small symbol ("f") classification. Because of his inactivity, however, he deserves a positive-negative ( $\pm$ ) activity status.
- d) The non-reader knows nothing of Fandom nor has any fannish activity. He is assigned a small symbol ("f") to conform to standard terminology, and to illustrate his lack of knowledge has a double-negative ( $--$ ) activity sign.

2.4 Advanced study has shown a definite relationship between the results of 2.2:

- a)  $+F = ++4f = \pm 8f = ---64f$   
b)  $++f = \pm 2f = ---16f$   
c)  $\pm f = ---8f$

2.5 The rules of basic mathematics show a distinct association between numbers, i.e.,  $3 \times 4 = 12$ ;  $5 \times 6 = 30$ , etc. But in fandom math these rules do not always apply. Common knowledge proves the BNF to be an extremely persuasive individual, hence anyone with whom he talks is bound to be influenced. The amount of influence is shown in the following equations: \*

- a)  $+F(---f) = \pm f$   
b)  $+F(\pm f) = ++f$   
c)  $+F(++f) = +++f$

2.6 Time is another extremely important variable which must be considered. The BNF of today were the neofan of yesteryear, and passifan even earlier. Historical records show that an individual becomes active after a year's prozine reading, and generally spends about three years in fandom before he reaches BNF status. In some cases, however, he is so extremely active that he obtains BNF ranking in only two years. Equating this material we have:

- a) 1 yr.  $\pm f = ++f$   
b) 3 yr.  $++f = \text{BNF}$   
c) 2 yr.  $+++f = \text{BNF}$

2.7 The student must continually remember that in fandom math, the plus or minus prefix does NOT indicate combination of terms.

\* These equations may be proven to be authentic, simply by observing the actions of any BNF.



2.8 Two examples are presented to illustrate the use of these basic principles:

- a) A meeting is attended by 4 BNF, 7 noofen, 14 passifen and 3 non-readers. Calculate (1) % BNF; (2) % noofen; (3) % passifen; (4) % non-readers.

SOLUTION: Given:  $+4F$ ,  $++7f$ ,  $\pm 14f$ ,  $---3f$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} (1) & & +4.00F \text{ (given)} \\ & ++7f & = +1.75F \text{ (2.4-a)} \\ & \pm 14f & = +1.75F \text{ (2.4-a)} \\ & ---3f & = +0.05F \text{ (2.4-a)} \end{array}$$

$$\text{Total } +F = 7.55$$

$$\text{Total people present} = 28$$

$$\% \text{ BNF} = \frac{7.55}{28} \times 100 = 27\% \text{ (Ans.)}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} (2) & & ++7f \text{ (given)} \\ & +4F & = ++16f \text{ (2.4-a)} \\ & \pm 14f & = ++7f \text{ (2.4-b)} \\ & ---3f & = ++0.19f \text{ (2.4-b)} \end{array}$$

$$\text{Total } ++f = 30.19$$

$$\text{T.P.P.} = 28$$

$$\% ++f = \frac{30.19}{28} \times 100 = 107.5\% \text{ (Ans.)}$$

$$(3) \% \pm f = 215\% \text{ (2.4-a, 2.4-b, 2.4-c)}$$

$$(4) \% ---f = 1730\% \text{ (2.4-a, 2.4-b, 2.4-c)}$$

(From the above we may assume that the highest possible percentage of non-readers, as computed in this manner, will lead toward more fannish meetings).

- b) At the meeting in 2.8-a, a BNF conversed with all non-readers, another talked among two noofen, and a third spread the Word toward four passifen. Assuming no future personal contacts,\* calculate the percentage of non-readers at a meeting five years from that date with the same 28 people present.

SOLUTION: (Given) BNF = 4,  $++f = 7$ ,  $\pm f = 3$  (originally)

$$\begin{array}{rcl} +F(---3f) & +F(++2f) & +F(\pm 4f) \quad \text{Time} = 5 \text{ years} \\ +F(---3f) & = \pm 3f \text{ (2.5-a)} & \\ 1 \text{ yr. } \pm 3f & = ++3f \text{ (2.6-a)} & +F(++2f) = +++2f \text{ (2.5-c)} \\ 3 \text{ yr. } ++3f & = +3F \text{ (2.6-b)} & 2 \text{ yr. } +++2f = +2F \text{ (2.6-c)} \\ +F(\pm 4f) & = ++4f \text{ (2.5-b)} & \text{However:} \\ 3 \text{ yr. } ++4f & = +4F \text{ (2.6-b)} & ++2f \text{ from } ++7f = ++5f \\ & & \pm 4f \text{ from } \pm 14f = \pm 10f \end{array}$$

and

$$3 \text{ yr } ++5f = +5F \text{ (2.6-b)} \quad 1 \text{ yr. } \pm 10f = ++10f \text{ (2.6-a)}$$

$$3 \text{ yr. } ++10f = +10F \text{ (2.6-b)}$$

$$\text{So: BNF} = 28, ++f = 0, \pm f = 0, ---f = 0 \text{ (after 5 years)}$$

$$+28F = ---1792f \text{ (2.4-a)}$$

$$\text{Total people present} = 28$$

$$\% ---f = \frac{1792}{28} \times 100 = 6400\% \text{ (Ans.)}$$

(14)

\*The student should realize that most of the sample problems in this discussion are purely theoretical.



(Which tends to prove the assumption of 2.8-a).

### 3.0 Algebraic Applications:

3.1 We deal primarily in this section with **egoboo** and its associated terms.

DEFINITION: Egoboo -- the produce between the square of one's Work appearing in Print and the Comment thereon.

Symbollically:  $E = W^2C$

3.2 In deriving an equation to determine the amount of egoboo in any given situation, we must consider two other variables; namely, the length per piece, and the circulation of the zine in which the Work appears. These variables are in direct proportion to  $E$ , i.e., larger circulation will place the Work before more readers, which would lead to a larger amount of Comment, and longer pieces would mean more Work in print for the individual. However there are two exceptions to this rule.

- a) Due to its editorial policy, prozine circulation when calculating Egoboo is fixed at 1.
- b) Since the general policy of a Jay societies is to comment upon each magazine in a mailing, the circulation of these groups should be halved.

3.3. Taking the factors of 3.2 into consideration, we may present the proper equation.

$$E_{amt} = W^2 CLZ$$

$E_{amt}$  = Amount of egoboo in any single situation.

$W$  = Number of pieces of material one has in any one zine.

$C$  = Number (in thousands) of words of comment, good and bad, received.

$L$  = Length of work (1 = 1000 words).

$Z$  = Circulation of the zine in which one's work appears.

3.4 Egoboo evaluation tends to show distinct relationships between the neofan and the BNF. Usually, the work of a BNF is published in better zines with a larger circulation. Therefore it is logical to assume that the highest spot on any egoboo curve will be occupied by a BNF.

3.5 Caution: When calculating egoboo for any period of time, material in different zines must be considered as separate totals, then added together:

$$E_t = E_1 + E_2 + E_3 + \dots + E_n$$

3.6 Sample problem : Fan X, during the month of July, had a 600-word letter in a prozine which received 400 words of comment, a two page article in Snarl with 150 words of comment, and a six-page SAPS-zine worth 750 words of comment. Fan Y, for the same month, had a four-page column in Mentor with 500 words of comment, and a full-page letter in Ultra, receiving 400 words of comment. Snarl has a circulation of 85, Mentor of 150, and Ultra of 135. Assuming each page to contain 350 words, (a) Calculate the total amount of Egoboo for each fan; (b) determine which fan is most likely to be better known.

SOLUTION:  $E_{amt} = W^2 CLZ$  (3.3-a)

$$E_t = E_1 + E_2 + E_3 + \dots + E_n \quad (3.5-a)$$

(15)



a) Fan X: For prozine  $W = 1$   $C = 0.4$   $L = 0.6$   $Z = 1$

$$E_1 = (1^2)(0.4)(0.6)(1) = 0.24$$

For Snarl  $W = 1$   $C = 0.15$   $L = 0.7$   $Z = 85$

$$E_2 = (1^2)(0.15)(0.7)(85) = 8.9$$

For SAPS  $W = 1$   $C = 0.75$   $L = 2.1$   $Z = 17.5$

$$E_3 = (1^2)(0.75)(2.1)(17.5) = 27.5$$

$$E_t = 0.24 + 8.9 + 27.5 = 36.64 \text{ (Ans.)}$$

Fan Y: For Mentor  $W = 1$   $C = 0.5$   $L = 1.4$   $Z = 150$

$$E_1 = (1^2)(0.5)(1.4)(150) = 105$$

For Ultra  $W = 1$   $C = 0.4$   $L = 0.35$   $Z = 135$

$$E_2 = (1^2)(0.4)(0.35)(135) = 18.9$$

$$E_t = 105 + 18.9 = 123.9 \text{ (Ans.)}$$

b) Since Fan Y received much more egoboo, he is more likely to be widely known.

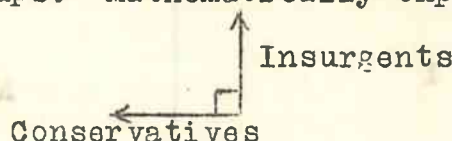
#### 4.0 Trigonometrical Relationships:

4.1 In conventional trigonometry we derived certain primary ratios, i.e.

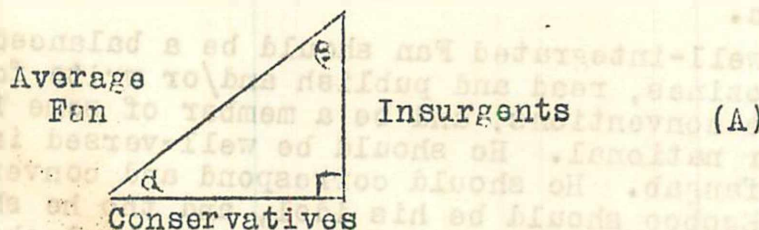
$$\sin A = \frac{\text{Opposite}}{\text{Hypotenuse}} ; \quad \tan A = \frac{\text{Opposite}}{\text{Adjacent}} \quad \text{etc.}$$

In fandom math, these basic relationships still apply.

4.2 In actifandom we have two separate types of individuals: (a) The Insurgents; (b) The Conservatives. While each group enjoys fanning, each group differs on methods of fanning. Data originating in Los Angeles, Michigan and Washington, D.C., indicate a constant  $90^\circ$  angle between the two groups. Mathematically expressed:



In addition we have a blending of the two -- the average fan, whose method of fanning employs principles taken from each of the other two groups. This completes our triangle:



$d = \angle$  between AF and C

$e = \angle$  between AF and I

4.3 Therefore, in terms of preceding nomenclature and following the procedure of conventional trigonometry, we may derive useful formulas:

$$\sin d = \frac{I}{AF} \quad (B) \quad \cot d = \frac{C}{I} \quad (E)$$

$$\cos d = \frac{C}{AF} \quad (C) \quad \sec d = \frac{AF}{C} \quad (F)$$

$$\tan d = \frac{I}{C} \quad (D) \quad \csc d = \frac{AF}{I} \quad (G)$$

(16)



$$\sin B = \frac{C}{AF} \quad (H)$$

$$\cot B = \frac{I}{C} \quad (K)$$

$$\cos B = \frac{I}{AF} \quad (I)$$

$$\sec B = \frac{AF}{C} \quad (L)$$

$$\tan B = \frac{C}{I} \quad (J)$$

$$\csc B = \frac{AF}{I} \quad (M)$$

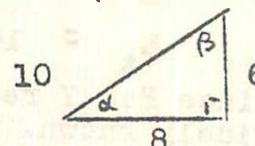
4.4 These formulae may be extremely helpful in computing club membership variation over distinct time periods, fannish trends, and other interesting information.

4.5 SAMPLE PROBLEM: The Elbow Benders', Beer, Blondes, and BEM Society is composed of 6 Insurgents, 8 Conservatives, and 10 Average Fans. However, egoboo connected with a one-day conclave brought in 39 more members, 16 of whom were Average Fan. After one meeting, the angle between the Conservatives and the Average Fan increased  $12^\circ$ . Determine the strength of the various factions in the club after the con.

SOLUTION: (Given)  $I = 6$ ,  $C = 8$ ,  $AF = 10$  (before con)

$$\sin \alpha = \frac{I}{AF} \quad (4.3-B)$$

$$\sin \alpha = 0.6 \quad \alpha = 36^\circ 52'$$



(Given)  $AF = 10 + 16 = 26$  (after con)

$$\alpha = 36^\circ 52' + 12^\circ = 48^\circ 52'$$

$$(a) \sin \alpha = \frac{I}{AF} \quad (4.3-B)$$

$$\sin 48^\circ 52' = \frac{I}{26}$$

$$I = 26 \sin 48^\circ 52'$$

$$I = 26 \times 0.75318$$

$$I = 20$$

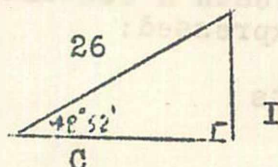
$$(b) \cos \alpha = \frac{C}{AF} \quad (4.3-C)$$

$$\cos 48^\circ 52' = \frac{C}{26}$$

$$C = 26 \cos 48^\circ 52'$$

$$C = 26 \times 0.65781$$

$$C = 17$$



$$\begin{aligned} I &= 20 \\ C &= 17 \\ AF &= 26 \end{aligned} \quad (\text{Ans.})$$

## 5.0 Applications of Integral Calculus:

5.1 In this section we shall derive an equation for the Integrated Fan.

5.2 A well-integrated Fan should be a balanced Fan. He should read prozines, read and publish and/or write for fanzines, attend all possible conventions, and be a member of some fan organization, either local or national. He should be well-versed in the highly intricate art of fangab. He should correspond and converse with others like himself. Egoboo should be his idol, and tho he should avoid dipsomania, he nevertheless should be able to absorb alcohol in large quantities if the situation requires.

5.3 The equation is not too difficult to derive. Since the prozine is the basis of all fandom, the prozine should be our lower limit.

⌋ prozines

5.4 Since the goal of any fan is egoboo, egoboo is naturally our upper limit.

(17)



egoboo  
prozines

5.5 We have seen from (5.2) that the Integrated Fan should have definite characteristics. Obviously these qualifications should become part of our formula:

egoboo  
(ajay -- alcohol -- conventions -- fanclubs)  
prozines

5.6 In order to perform any integration we must show the variable to which we are integrating. Since we are integrating a Fan, we have the increment "dF". Placing this symbol in its proper position we achieve our completed formula:

egoboo  
(ajay--alcohol--conventions--fanclubs)dF = Integrated Fan  
prozines

## 6.0 PROBLEMS:

a) Which would give you more egoboo? (1) A two-page article in a fanzine with a circulation of 125; (2) A three-page article in a fanzine with a circulation of 75. (Assuming an equal amount of comment on each article).

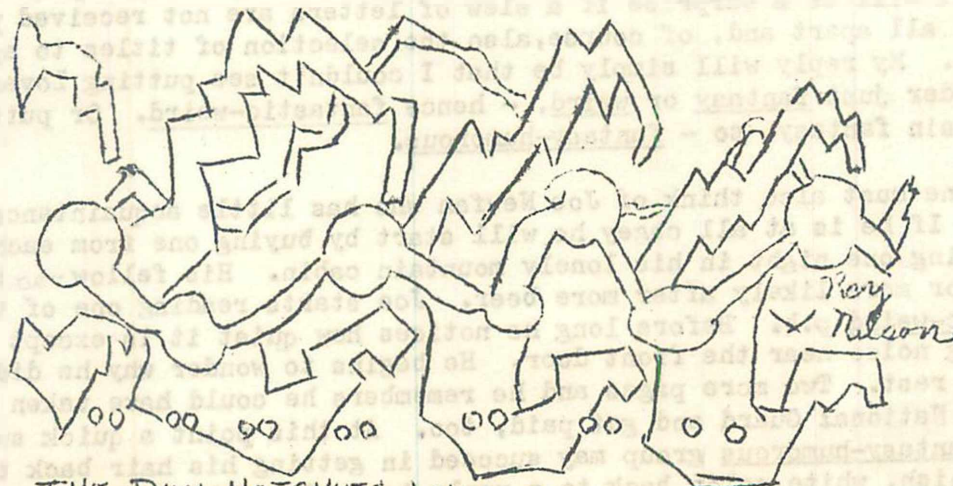
b) The regular attendance of eight Insurgents sets the angle between the Insurgents and Average Fans at  $23^{\circ}27'$ . Compute the total membership of the fanclub.

c) Joe Fann published a 12-page fanzine that evoked 1200 words of comment. Assuming he received 350 units of egoboo, how large was the circulation of his zine, with 350 words per page?

d) Club A has a roster of 3 ENF, 2 Neofen, and 16 Passifen. Club B has a roster of 5 ENF, 4 Neofen, and 2 Passifen. (1) Which club has the largest percentage of Passifen? (2) Which club has the largest percentage of Neofen?

e) A feud drove four Insurgents away from a club, leaving 17 Average Fen and fourteen Conservatives in the organization. Calculate: (1) The number of Insurgents now in the club; (2) The change in all angles between elements.

- END -



THE DIXIE HOTSHOTS WILL NOW PLAY  
THEIR VERSION OF —



## FOOLS RUSH IN

To anyone who is toying with the idea of composing any sort of check list or listing of material in the fantasy field, my advice is: "Think it over. Have you plenty of time? Can you take it? Are you willing to risk your peace of mind?"

I well remember when I first decided to compile a list of S-F and fantasy pocketbooks still in print. At the time, early this year, I was working in a club post and also on the Welcommittee. In greeting new members I would mention that I collected books and pocketbooks. Replies on collecting always fell into 4 groups: 1 - "How can a sincere book collector bother with pocketbooks?" 2 - "If you can afford to collect books you must be well off. What's your racket?" 3- "Books and P.B.'s - Faugh! Real fans collect mags!" and 4 - "Where can I find out what pocketbooks are available and where I can buy them?"

This last question was repeated many times and caused me to take the fatal step. The Head Man had said to be on the lookout for ways to help the members while the Welcommittee tries to help new members who are often new fans. Obviously many fans were not near news stands or stores where p.b.'s were for sale. Mags and books are widely advertised but p.b.'s not so much. Why not compile a checklist of p.b.'s still in print with prices and publishers' addresses? Ought to be easy - just find out which ones are in stock and get it published in a club zine or as a leaflet. Simple? Ha!!!

Now that I am an expert who has compiled the whole of one checklist it is easy to give advice. The first question you ask yourself is, "Will it fill a need?" Naturally you answer, "Yes." If you are interested, others should be also. If they are not and tell you so, then they, of course, are just hecklers and not real fans at all! In my own case, - when I realized the work involved, I was ready to put it off. Unfortunately for me, everyone I had asked for information, kept writing in encouragement and asking for a copy of the finished product. To make it worse, they must have told others for several dozen requests accumulated. I was trapped and in order to save face, had to continue.

Next you must decide in what form the list will be issued. That looked easy to this beginner, - just put them down under the various categories of S-F, fantasy, weird. Oh, sure. Maybe I'll wish I had. But I couldn't see listing certain ones under just weird or just fantasy. So I came up with such headings as fantastic weird, fantasy-humorous, and then fantasy and s-f, for certain p.b.'s that contain both. It will be a surprise if a slew of letters are not received picking these headings all apart and, of course, also the selection of titles to appear under the headings. My reply will simply be that I couldn't see putting Lovecrafts "Lurking Fear" under just fantasy or weird, - hence fantastic-weird. Or putting Thorne Smith under plain fantasy, so - fantasy-humorous.

One must also think of Joe Newfan who has little acquaintance with fantasy p.b.'s. If he is at all cagey he will start by buying one from each list. Picture him sitting one night in his lonely mountain cabin. His fellow vacationists have gone fishing or more likely after more beer. Joe starts reading one of the stories in a fantastic-weird p.b. Before long he notices how quiet it is except for that odd shambling noise near the front door. He begins to wonder why he didn't go along with the rest. Two more pages and he remembers he could have taken his vacation with the National Guard and got paid, too. At this point a quick switch to a p.b. in the fantasy-humorous group may succeed in getting his hair back to horizontal and his greenish, white color back to a manly tan. It would be better to open the door and see what's what? Hm - you're not a sensitive soul like Joe and me!



The third point to cope with is how to get the list accurate. In this case you write to all publishers of p.b.'s, explain your project, tell them it's free advertising and request their help. Answers will trickle in for months -- some will never come. With the latter you list what you think they have on their shelves and try again -- including stamped addressed envelopes, and mentioning cooperation of other publishers. Then you hunt the news stands to see if you missed anything and check with other fans. This last step is debatable. You begin to get letters asking "where the heck is that list" -- "did you give up?" -- "I enclose a stamp...." etc. Though you explained the whole idea carefully, several ask "Why not include all p.b.s ever printed?" You listed them plainly but several ask, "Why not put down the prices and publishers' addresses?" Of course, as soon as you send the list to the fan publisher you next day find 2 new p.b.'s on the stands. Then a pro publisher writes sending in several titles you omitted as out of print -- they are in stock -- probably second issues! Groggy but determined, you send a supplementary list to the fan publisher and hope he has not gone to press. Silly boy! Why worry? Zines seldom go to press on time.

An editor of a leading zine had written you asking for your check-list when you were still getting the data. Being a new fan writer, you felt elated. You are in demand! But you refuse with thanks, explaining it is a club project. Actually you must get it into the club zine so the friends who asked for it will get copies, -- if not you'll have to become a fan publisher to cover the requests! As you see, we are now on the fourth point. How will your masterpiece be published? We sent ours to the club zine, as requested. And it came back -- issue full -- list too long to use this time -- next issue in three months. Even though kind friends have told you that zine editors are often desperate and will take anything -- you remember fondly that editor who asked for it originally, but now his publication date is well gone by. As you eye the w. b., knowing well each passing hour puts your list out of date a bit more, a letter arrives asking for the list for the club's new zine and hurry, it's near press time. Gad -- what a break -- get it out air mail -- special delivery -- maybe Western Union? Weeks turn into months and word finally trickles through of editing long done but publishing difficulties are being encountered. Never mind, you dated the list the last time you mailed it and if the date is left off it is clearly a case for the equity courts!

Meanwhile numerous new p.b.'s have been published here and abroad and another list is indicated. Thoughtful fans are sending you lists for inclusion in a list of all fantasy p.b.'s ever printed.

You now have a lifetime project. Others are writing, wanting to trade p.b.'s you have for ones you won't part with! Perhaps you should become a p.b. dealer, get a mimeo, and take subs for the "Pocket-Book Digest."

END

Everett Winne





## DIALOGUE NEAR PORTLAND

"Oh tell me, pretty maiden, what is that which you have seen?"

"It was hanging from the ceiling by its feet, and dripping green."

"Did you recognize the creature ore you screamed and turned and ran?"

"Alack and that I did: it wuz a science-fiction fan."

"What's the nature of this monster? Tell me, pretty maiden, tell!"

"It's a thing that once was human, now it's only fit for hell;  
It mumbles 'Dianetics' and it prates of 'slans' and 'elves'  
And hoards heaps of mouldy promags on its slimy, sagging shelves."

"Indeed this is incredible; how, maiden, can this be?"

"It's perhaps a freak of nature, mutants, maybe...don't esk me!"

"Is there hope for these poor creatures then, these outcasts of hu-  
manity?"

"Not much...but still, at times a few show vestiges of sanity."

"Tell me, maiden, should we sneer at them, repulsive as they are?"

"They wouldn't even notice that -- their eyes are on a star."

"Speak -- tell what we folks should do when one of them is seen?"

"Well, personally I'd recommend Tri-Nitro-Tolulene."

amidstthemistsandcoldestfrostshethrustshisfistsagainst  
thepostsandstillinsistsheseestheghostsamidstthemists  
andcoldestfrostshethrustshisfistsagainstthepostsand



# 4SJ TOLD ME THERE'D BE DAYS LIKE THIS

(or: Would Poe Have Writ THE RAVEN If He'd Known?)

Once upon a midnight dreary as I nodded, really weary  
Over many a quaint and curious fanzine of forgotten feuds  
While I nodded, nearly sleeping, suddenly there came a peeping  
As of someone softly weeping, weeping at my chamber door.  
"Tis some goddam grunk," I muttered, "weeping at my chamber door.  
Only this and nothing more."

Ah, distinctly I recall it, it was in the early Fall yet,  
And the next spring's ish of Planet lay, long read, upon the floor;  
Eagerly I wished the morrow, vainly I had sought to borrow  
From the folks a lousy quarter, to buy one Astounding more;  
Even fifteen cents for Future, though I liked Astounding more;  
Days like this are such a bore.

And the rusty, dusty fluttering of all the pulpish pages  
Thrilled me, filled me with fantastic notions never felt before,  
So that now to still the beating of my heart I stood repeating  
"Palmer's climbing, Campbell's slipping, Wollheim's gone and hit  
the floor;  
And as for ol' Ziff-Davis, just a retch and nothing more."  
Only that and nothing more.

Presently my soul grew stronger, hesitating then no longer  
"Ghu," said I "or Roscoe, truly your forgiveness I implore,  
But the fact is as I feared, there is nothing left but Weird  
Unless Boucher & McComas drop an issue at my door,  
Or perhaps there's (ugh!) still Avon, though one always hopes for  
more;  
FFM or something more."

Deep into the Westerns peering long I stood there, groaning, sneering,  
Doubting, cursing curses such as only stfen cursed before,  
But the lineup was unbroken and the lovepulp gave no token  
And the only word there spoken was the lurid title "GORE!"  
'Twas a fact-crime pulp, disdainfully I cast it to the floor;  
Non-stf promags make me sore.

Back into my chamber rushing, all my soul within me gushing,  
Soon again I heard a tweeting somewhat louder than before.  
"Surely," said I "surely that is now the postman at the lattice;  
Let me see what's in the mailbox and this mystery explore.  
Let me pay the postage-due fee and this mystery explore!"  
Dealers' lists, and nothing more.

...so the hell with it, sez I; there's nothing else to do  
today so I might as well write a poem for the next SAPS mlg.

shesellscellsealscollsealsshesells;shesellscellsealscollsealsshesells



## FROM A CHANGED PERSPECTIVE:

The rest of this zine was previously prepared -- previous to my re-enlistment, that is. Having another page to fill to avoid the heinous crime of putting a blank page into the mlg., I think it fit to muse upon the results of my session with my nearest Army recruiting office....

The principal result is a vast feeling of relief and detachment. The affairs of fandom have suddenly receded from the pressing present to the interesting but only semi-vital past. This is no doubt an indication that I had undertaken so much in connection with fandom that the thing was becoming a burden.

A few moments ago I waded thru my correspondence pigeonhole, where repose the letters I intended to answer eventually. From this novel objective viewpoint, I chucked all but two of the several dozen into the file box, as being unimportant enuf to require no answer except the routine mimeo'd pc that I intend sending to my correspondents. The two left comprise (1) a letter from Lee Jacobs and (2) a letter from a non-fan girl. To any psychoanalysts in the crowd I leave the elucidation of the implications, if any.

Altho much detached from fandom-as-a-whole, I am equally muchly engrossed with details of fannish affairs. That is, I'm pushing upon the unwilling shoulders of colleagues various tasks which I had undertaken. I can picture Rick, Ev Winne, and Eva Firestone, not to mention Ray Higgs, reeling in shock at being suddenly saddled with additional responsibilities.

Y'no, this could become a chain-reaction; maybe one or more of them, finding the stuff I thrust upon them the last straw, might drop out of fandom themselves, which would thrust an additional load upon someone else...etc ad finis.

In addition I have myriad non-fannish affairs to wind up before I take off for duty. Tsk, this conduces to melancholy reflections upon how little I had in that respect the last time I went thru the experience. Just shows that an 18-year-old doesn't know how free of responsibility he is until he reaches 25 and looks back.

Viewing fandom from this point -- I am not an ex-fan, but am certainly thru with a great deal of the actifan phase -- I find that, unlike Laney and others, I don't think it was a waste of time. It was interesting, stimulating, and even the fuggheaded phases of fandom are of value for what they illustrate of human nature in its more esoteric guises. Fuggheadedness is rampant outside fandom, too.

And even if 90% of fandom were crackpots, it would be worth enduring for the sake of contacting the remainder -- such people as Boggs, Sneary, EdCo and Laney, to mention only a few. In fandom or out, such men are rare and much to be sought. And so are most of the rest of you. Let TIME and others sneer; as long as fandom includes the spirit of friendship which has marked it in the past it has justified itself; such altruistic organizations are indeed rare in today's world.

See ya in future SAPS mailings, and happy fannishness to all...