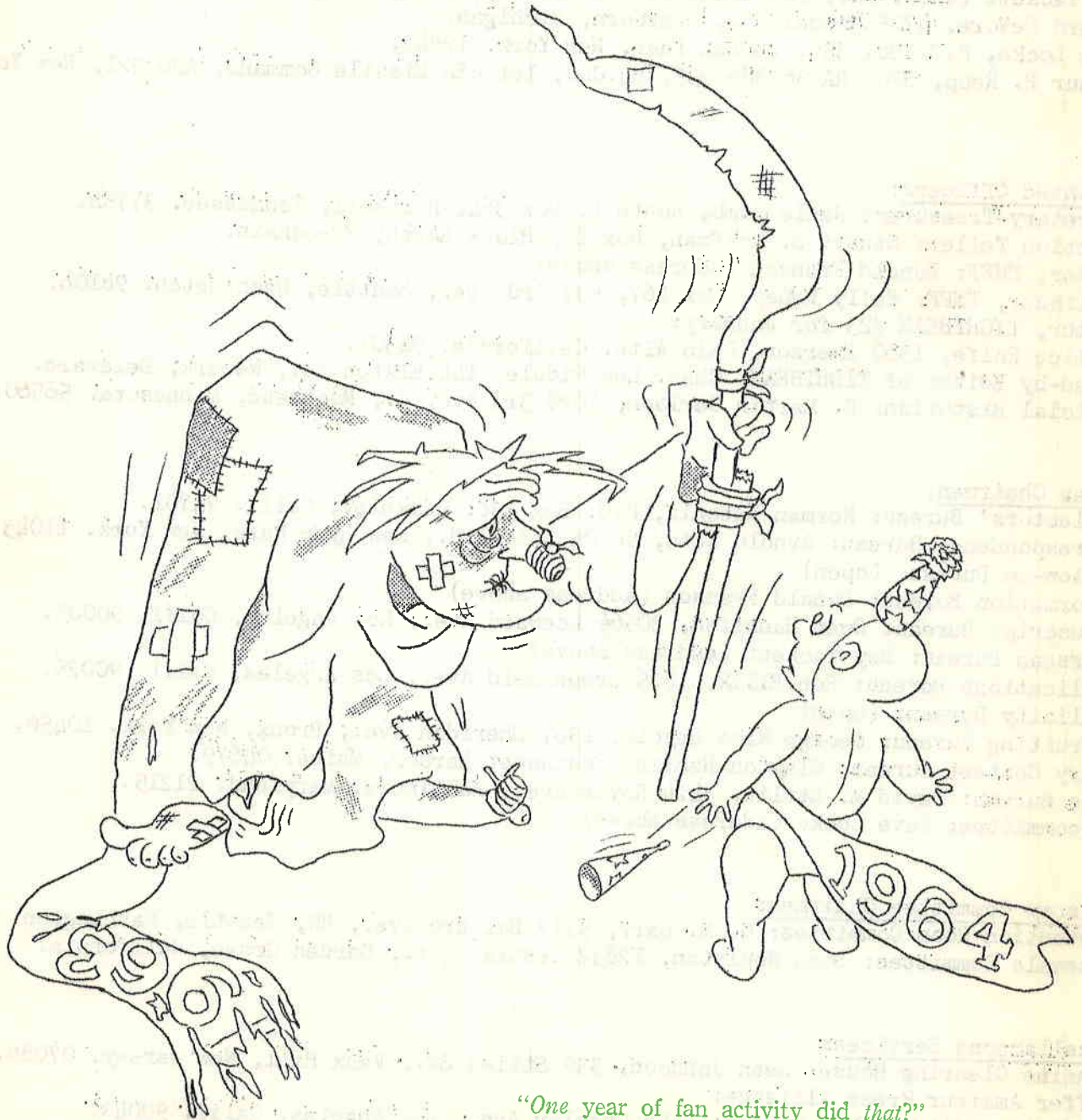


T N F F

THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 6

DECEMBER 1963



"One year of fan activity did that?"

OFFICERS AND BUREAU HEADS - 1963

President:

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Directorate:

Roy Tackett (chairman), 915 Green Valley Rd. NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico. 87107.

Howard DeVore, 4705 Weddel St., Dearborn, Michigan.

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Appointed Officers:

Secretary-Treasurer: Janie Lamb, Route 1, Box 364, Heiskell, Tennessee. 37754.

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Publisher, TNFF: Wally Weber, Box 267, 507 3rd Ave., Seattle, Washington. 98104.

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Follow-up Bureau: (open)

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Manuscript Bureau: Owen Hannifen, 3056 1/2 Leeward Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90005.

Overseas Bureau: Roy Tackett (address above)

Publications Bureau: Ron Ellik, 1825 Greenfield Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90025.

Publicity Bureau: (open)

Recruiting Bureau: George Nims Raybin, 1367 Sheridan Ave., Bronx, New York. 10456.

Story Contest Bureau: Clayton Hamlin, Southwest Harbor, Maine. 04679.

Tape Bureau: David M. Ettlin, 3424 Royce Ave., Baltimore, Maryland. 21215.

Welcommittee: Dave Locke (address above)

Advisory Committee Chairmen:

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Official Editor: Fred Patten, 5156 Chesley Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90043.

NFFF Trader & Kaymar Awards: K. Martin Carlson (address above)

New Member Packets: Janie Lamb (address above)

Round Robins: Seth Johnson (address above)

Stationery & Supplies: Howard DeVore (address above)

T/H/E N/A/T/I/O/N/A/L F/A/N/T/A/S/Y /F/A/N

o/f/f/i/c/i/a/l o/r/g/a/n o/f t/h/e

N/A/T/I/O/N/A/L F/A/N/T/A/S/Y /F/A/N /F/E/D/E/R/A/T/I/O/N

f/o/u/n/d/e/d 1/9/4/1

Volume 22, Number 6 -- December, 1963.

TNFF is published six times a year and is free to members of the NFFF. Others can't get it -- sometimes even members can't get it. Publication dates are Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct. and Dec. 1st. Deadline for each issue is the 10th of the month preceding date of publication. Official business and space limitations forbid the use of unsolicited manuscripts. Next issue out Feb. 1st -- if you don't renew by January you will be stricken from the records and you will not get the February ish. So renew now. Renewals are \$1.75

-Editor, Donald Franson. Publisher, Wally Weber. (humorous interlineation)-

a year. Bargain rate of \$3.50 for two years. If you suspect this is not a bargain, you're right, it isn't -- but neither are two-year members who gaffiate their second year and don't even advise us of their whereabouts. We'd rather have live, active members, on a year-to-year basis. (But we don't refuse long term subscriptions.)

=C=O=N=T=E=N=T=S=

Cover by Wally Weber.

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QUICK BEFORE YOU THINK ABOUT IT, RENEW NOW. LOYAL MEMBERS WHO RENEW EARLY WILL RECEIVE, ABSOLUTELY FREE, A RESPITE FROM REMINDERS TO RENEW.

Have you seen the little ads that come with stamps in booklets? They say, "Your mailman deserves your help -- keep harmful objects out of your letters." I anticipate several fannish jokes on this, and at least one fanzine named Harmful Object. Seriously, half-open staples are harmful objects, and John Berry once told how he always mashed the staples flat with a hammer before sending out his fanzine -- but then those big staples he uses are dangerous weapons indeed. -- DF

(P)R(E)S(I)D(E)N(T)'S (M)E(S)S(A)G(E) (A)N(D) (E)D(I)T(O)R(I)A(L)Employment Opportunities

A few months ago it seemed as though the favorite activity of Neffers was to resign, or plan to resign. Now I don't mind resignations when necessary, but they always seem to make it harder for those still active, like the failure of one motor in a twin-engined plane makes the burden greater on the remaining one (and sometimes wrecks it, too). The resignations have tapered off somewhat now, and some further threats to resign have been withdrawn, but it remains a constant problem. The funny thing about it is that it shouldn't be a problem at all.

Why should it worry me when a few active fans want to quit, when we have almost four hundred members now? The answer is in that word "active". There are a lot of members who are not active. Some of them will never be active in the usual sense, that is, active enough to produce something of worth for the club, besides paying dues. Others, however, could and would be active if given the opportunity.

Such opportunity exists now. This club has many posts which can be filled, by qualified volunteers. (Everything must be on a volunteer basis, of course.) There are also many more places where additional help is needed, not officer status, but just plain help. Isn't that what some of you marked on your application blanks, that you would help out in some way? Try volunteering again, and see what happens. In the absence of a working Follow-up Bureau, which is supposed to do the job of introducing members who want to work, to jobs that need doing, I'll have to do the screening myself, so write to me...

The original idea of the Publications Bureau was to have a lot of fans, with publishing equipment, all over the country, doing all sorts of publishing work for the N3F. It developed into a chore for a few fans at IASFS, who have now given up the ghost (after having done a splendid job). All we need is a dozen fanzine fans who will each do one of the many things that Ron Ellik and a few others tried to do. Someone is needed to publish material for the new members: fanbooks, welcommittee leaflets, material for the new member packets. Someone has to run off occasional blanks we always need: recruiting leaflets, story contest and application blanks. In short, publishers, who will take time from publishing for themselves to publish a thing or two for the N3F. One of the reasons I was always plugging for more established fanzine fans in this club, is that the N3F was then publisher-poor (except for Art Hayes) and needed them. Now that we got them, they don't do anything... I'd like to appoint a new Publications Bureau chief with the ability to delegate these jobs to others. This is one of the most important bureaus in the club, these days -- we can't get along without publications, and the Publications Bureau has charge of all publications not of a recurrent nature.

Which brings us to our recurrent publications, TNFF and TIGHTBEAM. I need an editor and publisher for the March Tightbeam. (Also May, July, September and November). Wally Weber will have to miss an issue of TNFF in April, and I need a publisher for that. I would also like to have a replacement for me as editor of TNFF -- someone who I can rely on to do the whole job -- still not as big a job as Al had, since it does not include publishing.

I need an Overseas Bureau head -- Roy Tackett is resigning. I need a Follow-up Bureau chief -- this job is important -- never did have one, as Dave Hulan hadn't really got started before he had to resign. The Collectors Bureau hasn't got going good yet, largely because Norm Metcalf isn't getting any response -- and help (and I know a lot of you are collectors.)

There is another convention coming up -- the Pacificon. We need a hostess for the N3F Hospitality Room. We need helpers this time -- one hostess can't possibly stay in the room 24 hours a day, and we should have some official present at all times. With many shifts, this should be possible. Also we should have an N3F table, with someone to take applications and sell booklets -- since this is not done in the Hospitality Room. Let's see that all this gets done this year. We need more planning and more participation. The Pacificon Committee has promised us a free room; what more can we ask of them? Now it's our turn.

Rosemary Hickey wants out of the Publicity Bureau, so I do need someone (or several) in this important, and possibly enjoyable job. It should include doing ads and signs etc., so is an opening for some artist, as well as writers.

So you see I need lots of volunteers, but I especially would like those who Ralph Holland used to call "self-starting officers" -- those who don't expect me to do all their work for them, or show them every little detail of their jobs, or keep pressing them to get things done.

And last, but not least, we need a President for 1965. Apply several months before election. Two terms is enough.

I'm not going to replace anyone in their Bureau jobs who have not resigned -- they have all done a fine job this year. So the next issue of TNFF should show essentially the same appointed officers for the new year.

Unless there's another epidemic of resignations.

-- Donald Franssen.

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by Roy Tackett, Chairman.

The post-convention lull seems to have hit the Directorate this year. There has been some discussion of matters bearing on club business but nothing of official note has been acted upon. The ever-present problem of TIGHTBEAM is being discussed in hopes of finding, if not an actual solution, at least a means of alleviating the situation.

Other than that things are fairly quiet on the Directorate front. Once again let me urge the membership to contact the Directorate if they feel that they have something that should be brought to our attention. It is your Directorate so don't hesitate to write. Remember that the Directorate will not act on requests, complaints, or whatever written to TIGHTBEAM. If you want the Directorate to take notice of your pet peeve or pet project you've got to contact us about it.

-- Roy Tackett, Directorate Chairman.

((The Directorate has not been as inactive as this report would imply. It's just that no particular motion has passed since the last TNFF report. Several are pending, and there has been a lot of discussion. Roy said in a letter, "You've gotten copies of all the letters and, so far as I can see, we haven't adopted anything since last time." But Roy missed one, dated October 1st:

(DeVore)

1963-XIV-1/MOVED: That the resignation of David Hulan from the Directorate of the NFFF be accepted with great reluctance.

AYE: DeVore, Locke, Tackett. NOT VOTING: Rapp. Motion carried.

This was mentioned in the report last time, but not officially stated as a passed motion, as the law requires. --DF))

/S/e/c/r/e/t/a/r/y/-/T/r/e/a/s/u/r/e/r/'/s/ /R/e/p/o/r/t/ - Janie Lamb.

Balance Brought forward \$441.41
Dues collected 60.00
501.41
Disbursements:
Franson - October TNFF \$ 55.20
New balance \$446.21
Convention fund \$ 67.00

New members: 11
Reinstatements: 3

Total membership as of
November 10, 1963: 382

New Members:

Eddie deBra/12421 N.E. Glisan St., Portland, Oregon. 97230 64
Mrs. R. E. (Francis) Hall/4553 S.E. Malden Dr., Portland 6, Oregon. 64
Alvin House/P.O. Box 146, Clatskanie, Oregon. 64
Don Hutchinson/484 Church St., Apt. 916, Toronto 5, Ontario, Canada. 64
Dwain Kaiser/2349 Canehill Ave., Long Beach 15, Calif. 64
Steve Kasle/18290 Fairway Dr., Detroit 21, Michigan. 64
Linda Kierstead/269 Chesley St., Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada. 64
Roy Leone/121 Mesa S.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico. 64
Richard O. Mann/131 Belt Rd., APO 845, New York, N.Y. 00604 64
Donald L. Miller/4314 - 10th St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017 64
James Stacy/520 Pollock A., University Park, Penna. 16802 64

Reinstatements:

Margaret Gemignani/57 Windemere Rd., Rochester, New York. 14610 64
Lynn A. Hickman/500 North St., Hannibal, Missouri. 63401 64
Philip J. Castora/Room 307, Burbank Hotel, Burbank, Calif. 91502 64

Renewals: Bowers, Fergus, D. Franson (65), Frederick (65), Kolden (65), Meskys (66),
Rolfe, Toren.

Changes of Address (since October roster):

Bob Adolfsen/1400 Plumas St., Reno, Nevada.
Bill Berger/10923D Woodland Ave., Cleveland, Ohio. 44104.
Dian Girard/Box 300, 308 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, Calif. 90024.
Maxim Jakubowski (B.S.F.A. Secretary)/22 Rue Robert Houdin, Paris, 11ieme (Seine), France.
David T. Keil/ Gen. Del, Student Union PO., University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.
David Kirk Patrick/Wesleyan U., Box 136, Middletown, Conn.
M/Sgt. Floyd J. Perley/115 Sherwood Circle, Ocean Springs, Mississippi. 39564.
William Schumacher/524 Rose Dr., Security, Colorado. (mail returned from 3130 Paseo Rd.,
Colorado Springs, Colo.)
David Trotter/108 S. Ingram St., Alexandria, Virginia. 22304.
Ron Wilson/Rogers Hall, Room 826, Pullman, Washington.

Lost Neffers -- mail returned from last known address -- or any known address. Anyone
hear from them?

John Dillon, Carlton Frederick, Lady Barbara Hutchins, Michael LaRochelle, Richard Lee
O'Neill, and John P. Tucker.

B U R E A U S O F T H E N F F F

)RECRUITING BUREAU(by George Nims Raybin, Chairman.

I expect to distribute copies of the four-page leaflet, containing a description of NFFF and an application form, at the Phillycon. We have been getting in new members at a nice steady rate -- but most of them come in at conventions and conferences. At the Worldcon, I collected quite a few members, with a lot of help from Janie Lamb. Recruiting Bureau therefore reports progress.

)COLLECTORS' BUREAU(by Norm Metcalf, Chairman.

CB #2 should appear shortly despite almost overwhelming lack of interest on the part of the N3F membership.

)WELCOMMITTEE(by Dave Locke, Chairman.

Business as usual. Anyone wanting to join write me at P.O. Box 335, Indian Lake, New York.

To anybody who's interested: The next issue of ALTAIR (the WC bulletin) is going to be late getting out. My damn ditto broke and I can't figure out what the hell's the matter with it. ((Maybe it can't stand profanity -- DF)). Well, I know what's wrong with it, but I don't know why... It looks like everything's come unglued all at once, which makes running off a zine somewhat difficult. How about that? ((Shouldn't have used glue in putting it together -- DF))

((Volunteer for the Welcommittee anyway, and by the time you are ready to welcome new members, Dave will have his ditto fixed. ALTAIR, ordinarily a frequent publication, contains all the information on new members that is received from the Secretary, who in turn gets this off the application blanks. -- DF))

)RENEWALS COMMITTEE(by Stan Woolston, Chairman.

For the second year the 3 members of the Renewals Committee -- Ann Chamberlain, Kaymar Carlson and myself -- have each taken on the job of writing a third of the unrenewed members to give them a chance to renew early. By renewing before January there's no chance of interruption of the clubzine. Teamwork on the part of the Renewals Committee is meant to take a load off the Secretary-Treasurer.--that's Janie the Lamb. Our reminder letters will prevent extra work from falling on Janie.

Send \$1.75 to Janie Lamb, Route 1, Box 364, Heiskell, Tennessee, 37754. That is the amount needed to renew. Thanks.

)CORRESPONDENCE BUREAU(by Arnold Katz, Chairman.

Correspondence list. About 3 people have sent info. and s.a.e. I hope others will come through. I don't think an extra letter would cripple anyone. I think I'll skip the s.a.e. and print up enough copies to be a TNFF rider. The necessary info. is name, address, age, favorite author, favorite fanac.

Corry Fanzine. It's been established that although members want full info. on neos, TNFF has no room, so I'm starting a zine to do this among other things. We'll also have things like robin reports, N'APA news, an index to letter hacks in prozines, and anything else that comes to hand. 10¢, 6/50¢.

Fanzine List. The Corry Bureau is a catch-all. Since a fanzine bureau we ain't got, the C.B. will try to get info for Neffers on as many fanzines as we can. If we have good samaritans they can send a list of current fanzines to Mike Randall, 929 Riley, Atchison, Kansas, 66002, who is a committee of one. Send the name, address, price and frequency of each zine. I'll probably run the list in the Corry fanzine. People sending lists will, of course, get a copy of the finished list.

ROUND ROBIN REPORT by Seth Johnson.

- 162 - Mike Shupp, James Stacy, Ron Hicks and Michael Viggiano - launched Oct. 30.
- 161 - Fred Perlis, Glenn Primm, Lynn Madsen and Si Stricklen.
- 160 - Creath Thorne, Si Stricklen, George Proctor and James Wright.
- 159 - Leonard Bailes, Lou Pochet, Michael Perlis, Paul Gilster.
- 158 - Mike Shupp, Si Stricklen, Richard Patinsky, Bill Glass, Paul Gilster.
- 157 - Michael Randall, Ida Ipe, Al Andriuskevicius, Creath Thorne.
- 156 - Andy Zerbe, Mark Zibelman, Creath Thorne and Michael Randall.
- 155 - Mike Shupp, Stan Woolston, Al Andriuskevicius, Enid Jacobs.
- 154 - Dave Keil, Phyllis Brodsky, Enid Jacobs, Al Andriuskevicius.
- 152 - James Stacey, John Kusske, Jr., Gil Lamont, Phyllis Brodsky.
- 149 - Elinor Poland, Piers Jacob, Andy Zerbe, Virginia Marshall.

The rest of the robins have all been reported in earlier TNFFs or THRU THE HAZE.

I would like to get volunteers for two projects. One of them is a special department for launching and keeping track of "story" quads. A quad is like a round robin except that you type your contribution in quadruplicate and mail a copy to each of the other participants. Thus in a story quad each one writes one chapter of a story and sends it to all the others.

Most fans who are interested in writing at all have taken enthusiastically to the story quads, yet after one or two rounds the quad always died for lack of interest. However, I feel that both the story and the quad ideas are too good to be permitted to die for lack of attention. So, what I would like to do is establish a quad department in the round robins.

First I want volunteers for participating in these story quads which will be devoted exclusively to writing stories. If possible I'd like to get twenty or thirty people interested in this branch of the robins. Then I would like to get someone to volunteer to take charge of the thing for me, preferably someone with a spirit duplicator with which he or she could duplicate the stories and send a copy to all quad participants.

Since quads seem to die in their second round each quad would be limited to one round only. After that round is completed the participants would have to volunteer all over again and next time would quad with an entirely different group. In this way people could gaffiate without killing the project, and at the same time each would constantly be working with new people and new ideas. This might sustain interest so the quads could be kept going indefinitely.

Another project I'd like to get volunteers for is a games robin project. Several Neffers have started Martian Chess games through the mails and are having a ball with it. Al Andriuskevicius has drawn up a system of notating the moves so they can't be misunderstood. Now it seems to me that if we could get a few people together to start a sort of games department in N3F, through the robins at first, but later perhaps as a bureau in N3F, it would be an ideal fanac, especially for those neos who are not adept at typing and corresponding but would like to participate. This would take in Jetan (Martian chess as described in Edgar Rice Burroughs' CHESSMEN OF MARS), etc. Also there is a new game called Diplomacy which is becoming a fad in genfandom. I think it might be possible to organize interested parties to start something of the sort right in N3F.

So I'm asking for volunteers both to participate in the games and to lead the games group. Here someone who is good at filing and cross-indexing and keeping track of moves and people would be the ideal person to lead this group.

FANZINE CLEARING HOUSE by Seth Johnson.

No doubt I could sell many more bundles if I got more fanzines to sell. Please urge faneds to co-operate by sending bundles. Also check the FCH list against the N3F roster and you'll find a very high percentage of recruits.

If more zines were arriving I'd place an ad in F&SF as well and possibly attract more mature type fans to N3F as a result. I've noticed a high percentage of juvenile fans through Ziff-Davis ads. I like them but at the same time it would be good if we could attract older people as well.

I wonder if some fan could be conned into starting a fanzine clearing house all his own but advertising in F&SF just as I do in Ziff-Davis? He would have to be willing to write his customers urging them to join N3F, or better yet, run off a zine urging them to join N3F and simply insert in his bundles.

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N*E*F*F*E*R**A*M*A*T*E*U*R**P*R*E*S*S**A*L*L*I*A*N*C*E

by Fred Patten, OE.

For the first time in several years, N'APA's roster of 40 is filled. A waiting list has already begun growing. How long this state of affairs will last is unknown, since proposals to extend the membership are now being discussed; but it's recommended that those interested in joining N'APA get on the waiting list now, since the w-l is moving fairly rapidly at present.

The 18th N'APA Mailing, amounting to 283 pages, went out in September. An Official N'APA Postmailing of another 89 pages went out in early November, making a total of 372 pages of fanzines that N'APA members received this quarter. N'APA has begun a spurt of activity in the last few months, so this would be a good time for people interested in publishing fanzines to join.

Membership in the Neffer Amateur Press Alliance (N'APA) is open to any N3F member for (currently) \$1.00 a year. N'APA mailings are sent out quarterly, in March, June, September and December. These mailings consist of 20 or more individual fanzines, published by N'APA members, discussing science fiction, fantasy, fandom, and anything else N'APA members want to talk about. In return for this, each N'APA member is required to publish at least 6 pages of his own original material in every other mailing. This is only 6 pages in 6 months; many members publish 10 or more pages in every single mailing. The return for your effort is high.

If you feel that you would be interested in joining N'APA, or if you would like more information before making up your mind, feel free to write me (Fred Patten, 5156 Chesley Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90043) for information. Sample N'APazines are available to anyone who would like to see some. A few surplus copies of each N'APA mailing are available for 75¢ each, but these usually go fast. Anybody getting on our waiting list now will probably be in N'APA by the March 1964 mailing.

If you are interested in beginning a fanzine of your own, N'APA is a good place to start out. Most of our members put their first fanzines through N'APA mailings. If you'd like to join N'APA, but can't publish your own material for any reason, a publisher can probably be found for you. If you are at all interested in getting into a publishing group without waiting a year or more, N'APA is the place for you. Why not write now for information? N'APA members include such people as G.M. Carr, Don Franson, Dave Hulan, Ted Johnstone, Ed Meskys, Bruce Pelz, Wally Weber and Frank Wilimczyk. You can be sure of getting interesting material from a group such as this.

-- Fred Patten.

-1-9-6-3- -S-T-O-R-Y- -C-O-N-T-E-S-T- -R-E-P-O-R-T-

(preliminary)

by Clayton Hamlin, Chairman of the Story Contest Bureau.

((A preliminary report, listing 35 stories considered, comments, action taken, and disposition requested, was included. Since the final judging has not been completed, this will not be published at this time. The contest closed Oct. 31, 1963, and the winners should be announced in the February issue. --DF))

I think some random thoughts of my own might be better here than an ordinary report. There are several things that need to be mentioned, since this will affect future contests.

I made up rules as I went along. It seemed necessary. For instance, I was supposed to ask the author if he wished a story returned if it might be salable. I didn't. Instead, comments of myself and the second reader were sent to the author immediately, suggesting revisions. A couple did so, and they had better stories for it. They MAY have been made salable, then again they may not. But if this seems unfair to the other authors, this was done only to stories that were already automatic finalists. Also, any story which is purchased will be eliminated from contention for the prizes of course.

There are at least five entries which are better than any of the winners in the first two years. This came from actions on my own part mostly, requesting some fans I know to be good writers to submit stories to the contest. So what happens? Why sure, a guy I never heard of sends in a story so much better than any of them there just is no comparison. This is the kind of thing that makes the last three years of often dreary effort in getting this contest going worthwhile. The story was so extraordinarily good that neither myself nor my second reader was competent to criticize it as it deserved, for that final polishing up. So, just for this one story, a really competent comment was needed. In this case, Wallace West. He did comment, brilliantly, an action far beyond the call of duty. The story is going to sell to a prozine, Fred Pohl getting first chance, naturally.

Sincere thanks go to many people in this contest. Frank Stodolka, who printed, without charge, a hundred copies of a 12-page booklet on this contest. The long-suffering Fred Pohl, for countless comments and suggestions, and for publishing a letter advertising the contest in If. Wallace West, for reasons already mentioned. Lloyd Biggle, Jr., for vast encouragement, and frequent suggestions. My nameless one who acted as second reader. The many authors, who, hopefully, won't start throwing things when they see the comments made about their brain-children. The officers of the N3F, for keeping hands off, with no interference in how this was being run (they had a right to after all, but refrained from doing so, for which my special thanks).

I feel so good about the stories this year that I just might publish them myself, without cost to the club. In, of course, a format at least comparable to Janey's Journal of a few years back. These stories deserve the best, whichever ones may be chosen as winners.

No bill for expenses in running the contest is going to be sent to the club of course.

-- Clayton Hamlin, Jr.

 "Please print in TNFF that renewal dues are \$1.75 per year," said Janie Lamb dutifully.

=G==A==T==E==W==A==Y= / ===T==O=== / =F==A==N==D==O==M=

L O C A L C L U B S

Local science fiction fan clubs are few and far between, and are very small, if one compares them with mundane clubs of almost any other hobby or intellectual activity. Ten is a large membership; the giant LASFS, world's oldest fanclub, with weekly meetings, seldom has an attendance of more than 30 or so, in a city of millions, and thousands of science fiction readers. This is not a sick situation; it is the normal situation, and we might as well get used to it. That is, don't expect too much of a fan club and you will enjoy it more.

There possibly could be better attendance if there were more publicity. For this reason I am in favor of occasionally listing the extant local clubs in fanzines and elsewhere. The newszines have been falling down on this of late; I know, because I have just been gleaning them for information. They should be mentioned in N3F zines, not only to advertise them, but to answer the recurrent question of Neffers: "Is there a local club in my vicinity?"

If your area is not mentioned, that's tough; there's nothing much you can do about it except form a fan club of your own. There have been active sf clubs in some, hidden from view -- perhaps readers can smoke them out. I believe there are some sort of organizations currently in Denver, Indianapolis, Rochester, Portland and other places, but I have no recent information on them.

In a few cases there are permanent meeting places: if so these are given, if advertised, and you can visit them on the dates and time mentioned. In most cases, however, you should first write to the address listed for further information on meetings. Some are held at different places each time and at varying times; some may even be suspended. Where no address was mentioned, I have listed the President, Secretary or editor of the club fanzine; these are the people who usually answer letters of inquiry.

Corrections are welcomed. I have more info. on these clubs in some cases. I would like more info. on clubs. Send in what you have. No "projected" or "defunct" clubs, please, or hearsay or dated info. I've not used any old info. here, since fandom is such a changing scene.

--- Donald Franson.

=BALTIMORE= Baltimore Science Fiction Society. Write David M. Ettlin, 3424 Royce Ave., Baltimore, Maryland, 21215; or Jack Chalker, 5111 Liberty Heights Ave., Baltimore, Maryland, 21207. Meets second and fourth Saturday of each month.

=BOSTON= Massachusetts Institute of Technology Science Fiction Society. Write for information to editor of Twilight Zine, Bernard Morris, Apt. 1, 420 Memorial Drive, Cambridge 39, Mass.

=CHICAGO= The UofC SF Club has disbanded, but George Price hosts Chicagoland fandom on the third Saturday of each month. Write him at 873 Cornelia Ave., Chicago, Illinois, 60657.

Another group meeting in Chicago now is the informal SF League. Contact Rosemary Hickey, 2020 Mohawk St., Chicago, Illinois, 60614, for details.

=CINCINNATI= Cincinnati Fantasy Group. (by invitation only). Write Don Ford, Box 19-T, RR #2, Wards Corner Rd., Loveland, Ohio.

=LOS ANGELES= The Los Angeles Science-Fantasy Society meets every Thursday at 8 P.M. at the Silver Lake Playground, Silver Lake Boulevard & Van Pelt (go north from the Hollywood Freeway). Don't write there; for information write to the editor of the LASFS Newsletter, Bill Blackbeard, 192 S. Mountain View Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90057, or the Secretary, Redd Boggs, 270 South Bonnie Brae, Los Angeles, Calif. 90057.

=NEW YORK AREA= Eastern Science Fiction Association (Newark, N.J.). Write to the ESFA Secretary, Les Mayer, 33 Stein Ave., Wallington, New Jersey, for information on meetings.

Lunarians (New York Science Fiction Society). (by invitation only). Write to Frank Dietz, 1750 Walton Ave., Bronx, New York, 10453.

City College of N.Y. SF Club. Best to write to the editor of ENGRAM, Al Schuster, Jr., 1263 Webster Ave., Bronx 56, New York.

Fanoclasts. (by invitation only). Try writing Lin Carter, Apt. 4C, 2028 Davidson Ave., New York 53, N.Y.

=PHILADELPHIA= Philadelphia Science Fiction Society. Meets second Friday of every month, YMCA, 15th & Arch. For further information write to Tom Purdom, 1213 Spruce St., Philadelphia 7, Penna.

Mercurian Club. Write Harriett Kolchak, 2104 Brandywine St., Philadelphia, Penna. 19130.

=PITTSBURGH= Pittsburgh Science Fiction Association. Try writing Mrs. Dirce Archer, 1453 Barnsdale St., Pittsburgh 17, Penna.

=SAN DIEGO= For information about the San Diego Science Fiction Society, write to the Secretary, Lawrence Beckwith III, 8402 San Carlos Drive, San Diego, Calif. 92119.

=SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA= Golden Gate Futurian Society. For information about meetings, write to Jessie Clinton, 2106 Spaulding Ave., Berkeley, Calif. 94703.

Little Men. Contact Alva Rogers, 5243 Rahlves Drive, Castro Valley, Calif. 94546.

=SEATTLE= The Nameless Ones. Ask Wally Weber, Box 267, 507 3rd Ave., Seattle, Washington, 98104., whether it exists. /Go ahead. Ask me. The Nameless Ones in this time track meet the first and third Thursday each month, usually at 3924 South 117th. Call CH 4-2297 for misinformation. --WWW/

=WASHINGTON, D.C.= Washington Science Fiction Association meets first and third Friday evenings each month at Miss E. Cullen's, 7966 West Beach Drive, Washington 12, D.C.

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Who's Who in SF Fandom. Lloyd D. Broyles (Rt. 6, Box 453P, Waco, Texas) sent around a flyer apologizing for the non-appearance of the second edition of Who's Who, offering to return the advance subscriptions, since "late" has now turned to "never" for the 1962 edition. However, he is planning to send out new questionnaires (the old information is obviously dated) for a new 1964 edition, soon. If you are not already on his list, send him a postcard, to receive a questionnaire, and/or \$1, for the booklet. Send him a postcard if you sent in money before and want it back, but I, for one, am not going to. I faunch for the booklet. The 1961 edition was outstanding.

Fan Poll Ballots will appear soon, reports Pollster Dick Eney. If you would like (for free) an opportunity to vote for your favorite fans, fanzines and fan artists, write to Eney at 417 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria 7, Virginia, to be put on the committee's mailing list. ((I recall that George Willick requested donations only because there was an intent to have a concrete award (that statue). Donations were returned later. The present committee does not request donations as they are not making any actual awards, though there is obviously expense connected with the effort. -- DF))

Wally Weber Wins TAFF. Final results of the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund campaign were announced as follows: Wally Weber, 203; Marion Z. Bradley, 165; Bruce Pelz, 129. Votes were counted at midnight, October 31st by TAFF administrators Ron Ellik and Ethel Lindsay, and results were announced in Skyrack and Starspinkle. Broken down further, the votes in England were: Weber, 38; Bradley, 47; Pelz, 40; in the U.S., Weber, 165; Bradley, 118; Pelz, 89.

So Wally Weber is the one who gets to travel to the Easter convention in Peterborough, England, which starts Friday, March 27th, 1964. Unfortunately, Wally is now the publisher of TNFF, and has to publish the April issue then instead of going to the British convention. If, however, we can get someone else to publish the April issue, or if Wally can publish it in England during the convention, he can get to go. I think he should because he has been running for TAFF since 1956.

Strangely, the vote shows that while Wally had a commanding lead in the U.S. voting, he lost out by a slight margin in England. In other words, the American voters enthusiastically voted to get rid of Wally, but the English voters weren't so sure that they wanted him. There should be some provision in mid-Atlantic for those TAFF candidates which America doesn't want and England doesn't want. There are these Texas Towers, off the coast of New England, which the government is dismantling because their value as an air raid warning has diminished (we have Telstar now), and besides they're often wrecked by storms. We could rent them from the government before they completely dismantle them, have the unwanted TAFF candidates gather there, in a sort of TAFF convention, at least until the tower is wrecked by storms. Since Wally Weber is typing this, he either agrees with what I am saying, or he doesn't read what he is typing.

[Publisher's note: Wally Weber, the world's most recent TAFF winner, was questioned in an interview so exclusive as to be beyond belief. He was asked, "When you return from your well-deserved trip after having become the idol of European (including English) fans and have decided whether to award the publication of your Pulitzer Prize-winning report to Life or Playboy, do you plan to make any changes in TAFF?" The remarkably handsome, incredibly intelligent, and, above all, unbelievably modest Wally Weber answered, "Yes, I intend to set aside a special TAFF fund to provide a certain TNFF news reporter with first-class accommodations aboard the most famous luxury liner in the Atlantic -- the Titanic."] -----

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by Donald Franson.

#12.

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The Information Bureau is a free service to all NFFF members, new or old. Questions on the NFFF, Fandom, Science Fiction or Fantasy will be answered in the Information Bureau column in TNFF, or by personal letter if requested and if absolutely necessary. Please don't send general questions like "what is Fandom all about?" Time in fandom, correspondence and reading fanzines will answer your general questions, but sometimes more specific answers are hard to come by. Make your questions brief and to the point, and allow time for research and publication. A limit of 5 questions per customer at a time seems reasonable.

The purpose of the Information Bureau is twofold. Necessary or useful information may be obtained here, that may enable new fans (or any fans) to get more fun out of fandom. At the same time, there is direct fun to be found in the IB too, in the form of entertainment. There have been quite a few questions on science fiction and fantasy which, while not essential to life, are nevertheless interesting.

As I have received only one new letter on IB since reactivating the column last issue, I will try to clean up some of the older ones lying around. MIKE SHUPP asked, last year, about a narrative poem that John Taine (Eric Temple Bell) wrote. This is mentioned in the Seacon program book, and in the back of The Crystal Horde as "his most ambitious work, a tremendous narrative poem begun in 1909 and completed in 1949, fills more than 700 pages of typescript. This poem, called 'The Scarlet Night', has not yet been published." Mike asks, "Has it been published since, if so by whom and where/when/how much and if not who has it?" I don't know, Mike, but some of the readers may.

I just found the answer to one of the questions JOHN ISAAC asked way back when. He had this anthology in Russian, Science Fiction Stories by American Writers and described a story by Theodore L. Thomas, titled "Two From Luna", which I now recognize as "The Far Look" from Astounding, August 1956. I'm sorry I didn't think of it at the time. Though I didn't find this story by referring to indexes, I am now better equipped to find authors in the prozines. An author index to Galaxy has been published, the one of F&SF is on stencil, and the Astounding/Analog index, part II (1946 to date) is in notebook form. I'll keep going till I have them all, so that I can find things I'm looking for, more readily. I'm starting with the more recent prozines, which are not listed in the first Day Index, and are the ones that I have most on hand, since I have almost complete collections of the digest-sized mags, but few pulps.

Among the many questions NATHAN BUCKLIN asked were "Who is Mark Phillips?" (Randall Garrett and Larry M. Harris/now Janifer), "What was Simak's first published story?" ("World of the Red Sun", Wonder Stories, Dec. 1931) and "What pseudonyms has Simak written under?" I believe he said at the Chicon that he didn't use any, but I'm not sure. Sam Moskowitz said he had written many western and air-war stories besides science fiction. Maybe it was Harl Vincent who said he didn't use any pseudonyms. (Besides the one, that is -- his real name is Harold Vincent Schoepflin.) Simak has written quite a few stories so I can't list them all here. Another story Bucklin asked for the name of was "The Other Cheek" by Theodore R. Cogswell, in the May 1963 Science Fiction Adventures. He asked quite a few questions describing stories, not all as easy to locate as that one, and I never found time to run them all down.

Several said that Randall Garrett denied most of the pen-names attributed to him, even including "Darrel T. Langart", in a speech at the 1962 Lunacon. I now have the Luna

containing that speech, and he only says, quote, "Well, it turns out I'm not only Randall Garrett, who I am, and David Gordon, who I am, but I am also Wally Bupp, Darrel T. Langart, Joseph Tinker, and Donald E. Westlake. And when Don Westlake finds that out, he's going to kill me." Notice how craftily he worded that. He didn't actually say he wasn't Darrel T. Langart, which would be odd, because that name is an exact anagram of Randall Garrett, when Darrel is spelled with one "L", which is only occasionally. Another new name in Analog is Johnathan Blake MacKenzie, sometimes spelled without the extra "H". I wonder if Garrett isn't him either. Luna is obtainable for 15¢, 4 for 50¢, from Frank Dietz, 1750 Walton Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10453.

I don't think I'll be able to clean up all the old questions, they're so messy, but I'll keep them around unfiled until I dispose of them some way. However, I wish to start with a clean slate and attempt to answer all the questions I get from now on. You must co-operate and not snow me under with twenty questions per letter -- five is the limit. The first such new letter is from GIL LAMONT, who asks:

"What were the first and last issues and how many of each of Beyond and Venture?" # Beyond was the fantasy companion mag to Galaxy, first issue being July, 1953 and the last, number 10, February 1955 (not dated.) Venture was bimonthly from Jan. 1957 to July, 1958, was a companion to F&SF, and also lasted ten issues.

"What was J. G. Ballard's first story and where?" # J. G. Ballard has been writing in the British science fiction magazines for several years. I don't know, off-hand, the exact date of his first story, but it was around 1960. He started appearing in US magazines about 1962. No doubt some of you will prove me wrong. This is the way I get information.

In addition to questions, Gil comments that Fred Pohl has two more pseudonyms, Paul Flehr and Ernst Mason; and that he thought Aldiss' first story was a thing called "T", which is in Damon Knight's First Flight. You're not supposed to contradict the Info. Bureau, else how can I maintain my reputation as infallible? You are also criticizing Tuck's Handbook, where I cribbed the fact. "T" is anthologized in Space Time and Nathaniel, as is "Criminal Record"; there ought to be a publication date there showing which has priority, but I don't have a copy. I'm running this bureau on a shoestring. Come to think of it, there is a bibliography of the writings of Brian Aldiss, published in 1963 for the British convention. Ask Ken Slater about it (75 Norfolk St., Wisbech, Cambs., England); I don't have a copy.

Gil also asks, not going over the limit, "what is SaM's address?" (Sam Moskowitz, 361 Roseville Ave., Newark 7, N.J.) and, "what happened to the DisCon Program book?" # I haven't got mine yet either, so maybe they haven't been mailed out yet to all the non-attendees. But why ask me? Why not ask Dick Eney? Come to think of it, I'll ask Dick Eney. What happened to the DisCon Program book, Dick? (You see how complicated one letter can become? No wonder I got discouraged and quit when Harvey Forman and Nathan Bucklin deluged me with letters and questions.)

Not only that, Gil sent in some terrible Swifties that even I won't publish, and wants the N3F to have sweaters with N3F emblems on them, which I don't want -- how in heck can N3F members disguise themselves at conventions if they are forced to wear N3F emblems? Besides, I don't think we ought to start a business of such things as sweaters, pins, cufflinks, etc. It might lead to commercialism, which this club should be free of -- it's all right for pro magazines, like Galaxy and Famous Monsters, but we're amateur as all hell. I don't think that Gil intended this as a profit-making venture, rather just a service to the club, but I don't figure there would be much demand for this anyway. So

(concluded on Back Cover)

BSFA AND OVERSEAS NEWS

British Science Fiction Association News -- by airmail from our indefatigable correspondent, Archie Mercer, who is also editor of Vector, BSFA fanzine. (Why not Mercer for TAFF, some time?):

"Tony Walsh, owing to pressure from other activities (such as organising the 1964 Peterborough convention) has resigned as joint vice-chairman.

"Secretary Maxim Jakubowski, recalled to his native France by his employers, is now operating from Paris while he serves out his secretarial term. This is probably unprecedented or something -- possibly even unique." ((Not so, Archie -- we have a Director in Italy. But I didn't know Jakubowski was a French name. --DF))

"President Brian Aldiss departing for Yugoslavia shortly, having been commissioned to write a book about it.

"The Association has published a complete checklist of 'Nebula' SF, obtainable from the Treasurer (Jill Adams, 54 Cobden Avenue, Bitterne Park, Southampton, England) for 2/6 each (35¢)" ((You were right, Ron -- DF)) "to non-members, post-free. The 'Galaxy' checklist 1950-58 (US edition of the zine) is now going for the same price.

"Incidentally -- what about some N3F news for Vector?

Merc as ever,

Archie."

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Worldcon . The 22nd World SF Convention, Pacificon II, Sept. 3,4,5,6 & 7, 1964.
Hotel Leamington, Oakland, California.

Membership: \$1 for overseas fans,

\$2 for non-attending members,

\$3 for attendees (extra dollar payable in advance or at convention).

Make all checks payable to Bill Donaho at: Pacificon II, P.O. Box 261,
Fairmont Station, El Cerrito, Calif.

Information on early 1964 cons such as Lunacon, ESFA Open Meeting, etc., is needed for next issue. Other 1964 affairs will be publicized here beforehand; Disclave, Midwestcon, Phillycon, etc. The Westercon is combined with the Worldcon this year.

What's Wrong with the N3F? "This I might point out, is the almost fatal defect of the NFFF -- not its policies, nor its public relations, nor the few fuggheaded things its members say and do at times, nor even the lack of informative literature, important as all these things are. It is the inactivity of its experienced members. There is no lack of ideas for improving the NFFF -- and they are usually good ideas -- but they are invariably ideas for someone else to carry into effect. The ones who are qualified to do them are "too busy," and so you have your choice of a raw neo (who hasn't become deeply enough involved yet to be too busy) or nothing." -- Ralph Holland.

NEXT ISSUE: Information on Specialty Clubs, such as Burroughs Bibliophiles, Fellowship of the Ring, Baker Street Irregulars, Hyborian Legion, etc. Send me info.... DF.

PUBLISHER'S PAGE. The following space is for the publisher to say anything he likes. Go ahead and say anything you like, Wally... /BANANA SPLIT, you space-hogger! --WWW/

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From report of Official Teller, Stuart S. Hoffman, at close of balloting, Nov. 15

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION:

Donald Franson....176 (elected)

Write-ins: 2 votes: Ron Ellik.

1 vote each: Alma Hill, Piers Jacob, Gary Labowitz, Janie Lamb, Dave Locke, Nancy Rapp.

Blank: 6. Total: 8 write-ins.

DIRECTORATE ELECTION:

Jack L. Chalker.....57

Howard DeVore.....134 (elected)

David M. Ettlin.....49

Clayton Hamlin.....76 (elected)

Arnold Katz.....41

Dave Locke.....82 (elected)

Fred Patten.....106 (elected)

Arthur H. Rapp.....70

Nancy Rapp.....37

George Nims Raybin..72 (runner-up)*

Charles Wells.....44

Stan Woolston.....135 (elected)

(The Directorate elects its own Chairman, the Director receiving the highest number of votes being designated Temporary Chairman of the 1964 Directorate-elect, for the purpose of conducting this vote, in this case Stan Woolston.)

(*automatic successor in case anyone elected declines before Jan. 1, 1964.)

Write-ins: 2 votes: Roy Tackett.

1 vote each: Dick Eney, Owen Hannifen, David Keil, David Kyle, John Kusske, Al J. Lewis, Ed Meskys, Frank Stodolka. Total: 10 write-ins.

Non-member: 1 (does not count)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS:

(Amendments to the Constitution require two-thirds of the votes cast to be approved. It was ruled by the Directorate that in the event that both alternatives to Section 3 were approved, the one receiving the larger number of affirmative votes would be adopted.)

PROPOSITION #1: Shall Section 3 be added to Article I of the Constitution of the NFFF to read as follows:

"Section 3: Married couples may join the NFFF by paying a single set of dues. Such a dual membership will receive only one copy of any club publication, but both may vote and hold elective office as individuals."

YES: 38 NO: 147 Defeated.

PROPOSITION #2: same as above except:

"Section 3: Married couples may join the NFFF by paying a single set of dues. Such a dual membership will receive only one copy of any club publication, have one vote, and may hold only one elective office between them, either as individuals or jointly."

YES: 107 NO: 72 Defeated for lack of 2/3 majority.

NAMES OF THOSE VOTING IN ELECTION:

(Last names only are given, except where there is duplication within NFFF)

Ackerman, Alderson, D. F. Anderson, G. Andrews, G. W. Andrews, Andriuskevicius, Armstrong, Bailes, Baker, H. Beck, M. Beck, Bogart, Bogert, Bradley, Breen, Brice, Brodsky, Brooks,

Brown, Broyles, Bryant, Bucklin, Bunge, Carlson, Carr, Chalker, Chamberlain, Chambers, Cheek, Christoff, Christopher, Compton, B. Cook, F. Cook, Cox, Dawson, W. deBra, B. Dietz, F. Dietz, Domina, Donaho, Drahan, Dubay, Dupla, Easlick, Edwards, Eklund, Ellik, Eney, Engel, Ettlin, Fergus, Finch, Firestone, Fortier, Foxworth, D. Franson, R. Franson, W. Franson, Frerich, F. Galvin, Gerding, Gilster, Girard, Glass, Gonser, Goodrich, Gottschalk, Grant, Greenberg, Hamlin, Harkness, L. Harrell, P. Harrell, Haskell, J. Hayes, Hickey, Hicks, Hill, Hiller, Hinman, Hodes, Hoffman, Holland, Howard, Huckabey, D. Hulan, K. Hulan, Ipe, Mark Irwin, Isaac, James, Janda, Jensen, M. Johnson, S. Johnson, V. Johnson, Kaye, Keifer, Keil, Kemp, Koch, Kolchak, Kusske, Kyle, Ladonko, Lamb, Lamont, M. Larson, Locke, Lopez, Lundgren, Luttrell, McCann, P. MacLean, Madsen, Matthies, Maurer, Meskys, Metcalf, Michel, Mills, Moore, Moskowitz, Osten, Owens, Owings, Patinsky, Patrick, Patten, Pelz, Perley, Pessina, Peterzen, Pinsker, Plachta, Plott, Price, Primm, Proctor, Randall, A. Rapp, N. Rapp, Raybin, Richardson, I. Riddle, R. Roberts, Rolfe, Rozman, Russell, Ryan, Sapiro, Schumacher, Shupp, Silverberg, E. Smith, Spahn, S. Spinks, Stark, Staton, Steinseifer, Still, Stipek, Stricklen, Sykora, Tackett, Taurasi, Thorne, Trevino, B. Trimble, J. Trimble, Trotter, B. Tucker, Viggiano, Wannan, Watts, Webb, Weber, C. Wells, J. Wells, West, A. Wilson, R. Wilson, Wojciechowski, Wollheim, E. Wood, Woolston, Wright, Zelazny, Zerbe, Zibelman.

Total number of ballots received: 191. Ballots sent out: 363. Percent: 52% (368 on October roster, less 2 club memberships and 3 address unknown)

My congratulations to those who won; and I urge the others (not really losers) to stick around as I have appointive jobs for them.

And thanks for your votes, friends. (I voted for Ron Ellik).

-- Donald Franson.

THE WAY FARING STRANGER

Fanzine Reviews by Tom Armistead

It is important to you that you get your name in print. It is also important that you write something and have it printed. Unfortunately, unless you have a name like Walter Willis or Bob Tucker you probably won't see it in print any too often. In fact, if you are relatively new (as so many of us seem to be these days), you may find yourself either writing tons of material and never getting it published or just not bothering because it seems like some "nebulous group" of "BNF's" forms an impregnable clique in every fanzine you pick up.

Every fan wants to have his material printed, and every fan should have this opportunity. Since many of the more well-known fanzines are almost impossible for the inexperienced neo-fan to break into, it behooves fandom to reserve a few zines for the faltering neo. These are the so-called "neo-fanzines" usually edited and published by a fan who is relatively new himself. There used to be quite a few of these: Monday Evening Ghost, Mirage, Jack Cascio's fanzine, and a whole bunch of N3F fanzines. As the stable of young writers in these fanzines became older, the quality of the magazines rose until they either folded or became some of our best zines, such as in the case of Mirage.

It seemed, a while back, that the neo-fanzine was a dying breed. The former neozines had either folded or become full-fledged fanzines in their own right; the contributors to the neozines had left the neo stage and had begun to form new zines and new cliques. Many of the most popular zines of this year were the neozines of yesteryear and those that had

needed the haven of the easy-to-crack-neozine had begun to write so well that they found themselves being published in even the most popular fanzines.

But, we have gone full circle. The past year has brought at least 100 new fans into our midst, fans who need magazines to break into. This need has been answered by the scores of new fanzines that have arisen lately. Most of these fanzines are hard up for material and will consider printing fairly good material (or sometimes even fairly bad material) even if written by the most neish neo. Reviews of some of the most recent of the crop follow:

CURSED (Len Bailes and Arnold Katz, 98 Patton Blvd., New Hyde Park, N.Y. 11043, 20¢ or "The usual"):: This, perhaps, would be your best bet for contributing as it looks like the most likely to succeed of the new fanzines. Editors Bailes and Katz are rather young but still show a writing skill that is better than many neofans that enter at a much later age. **CURSED** is filled with the typical neofannish product: amateur stf. Fortunately, this is leavened by other features, such as a lettercolumn and many reviews of stf books (another typical neofannish product it seems). The thing that mars the magazine most is the Cursed duplication. Happily, though, Bailes and Katz are smart enough to print the magazine on one side of each sheet only. Issue #3 has a rather interesting interview with John Campbell among its other features.

SPIRAL (Glenn Primm, 28 Burnside St., Nashua, N.H., no price listed; a request will probably get you a copy):: Not knowing anything about the respective editors, I cannot be sure, but **SPIRAL** seems to be rather a satellite of **CURSED**. A more beautiful satellite, perhaps, but a satellite nonetheless. **SPIRAL** seems to have overcome the duplicating problems that perplex **CURSED** and has acquired an eye-catching layout at the same time. The items included, though not of the best quality, are presented in a pleasing way that makes them less of a strain to read. There is nothing really too outstanding in the issue of **SPIRAL** I have (No. 2), but each contribution is good and the whole is, for a neozine, very good indeed.

GYRE (P. Charles Peterson, 2245 E. Ashlen Ave., Fresno 3, Calif., no price listed; send a postcard request):: **GYRE** is the standard first issue: Mostly editorially written with good, but not great, material. Pete is not a bad writer, really, and at times is pretty good. Most of what is wrong with his writing could be corrected by simply refining his style. This fanzine has good possibilities; with more outside material it could become one of the better of the new fanzines.

THE PHILADELPHIA PHAN (Harvey Forman, 1214 Disston St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111, 15¢ or "the usual"):: This fanzine would probably be a good market for your material as it certainly could use some good contributions from outsiders. Forman does not write badly; his Philcon '62 report in this issue is fairly good. It is simply the rather uneven format of the magazine which makes it seem as if he does. Incredibly poor artwork and crudely drawn headings mar written material that, if presented in a layout like **SPIRAL**'s, might possibly prove to be highly entertaining. As Forman improves his publishing technique, his fanzines will no doubt get much better.

If you would like your fanzine to be added to this list of those that accept work written by newer fans or if you would like to have me review your fanzine, please send it on to me with your intentions indicated upon it in some way. My address is: Quarter 3202, Carswell AFB, Ft. Worth, Texas 76127.

-- Tom Armistead

THE PROPHETS OF DOOM

Address by Hugo Gernsback before the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Science Fiction Society on October 25, 1963.

When, in April, 1926, I launched the first issue of Amazing Stories, I called it "The Magazine of Scientifiction." Not a very elegant term, I admit, but I had the fixed idea, even in those early days of science fiction, that "Amazing Stories" henceforth was to be known as a scientific fiction monthly, to distinguish it from any other type of literature.

Not content with that slogan, after a good deal of thought I added a second, more explanatory one: "Extravagant Fiction Today -- Cold Fact Tomorrow."

I carried both of these slogans on the editorial page between 1926 and 1929, as long as I published Amazing Stories.

Later, for Vol. I, No. 1, of Science Wonder Stories in June, 1929, I wrote another descriptive slogan: "Prophetic Fiction is the Mother of Scientific Fact." I think this still means what it says. Science fiction -- under any term or name -- must, in my opinion, deal first and foremost in futures.

It must, in story form, forecast the wonders of man's progress to come. That means distant exploits and exploration of space and time.

Contrary to the opinions of many latter-day, so-called science fiction authors, the genre of Jules Verne and H. G. Wells has now been prostituted to such an extent that it often is quite impossible to find any reference to science in what is popularly called science fiction today.

The classic science fiction of Jules Verne and H. G. Wells, with little exception, was serious and, yes, instructive and educational. It was not primarily intended to entertain or to amuse. These stories carried a message, and that is the great difference between technological science fiction and fantasy tales. I repeat: Either you have science fiction, with the emphasis on science, or you have fantasy. You cannot have both -- the two genres bear no relation to each other.

In 1961 I expressed my displeasure with the decadence of modern science fiction in a talk which I gave before the Eastern Science Fiction Association. I then stated: Once upon a time there was just the ordinary garden variety of scientific Science Fiction. Then, like atomic fission, science fiction began to proliferate into a chain reaction and we witnessed such mutations as (to name only a few): Pseudo-Science Fiction, Fantasy-Science Fiction, Sexy Science Fiction, Fairytale Science Fiction, and, lately -- believe it or not -- even Computer (i.e., Analog) Science Fiction, and then the so-called psi deviations from psychic phenomena to spiritualism, including astrology.

Unfortunately, this state of affairs has degenerated lately with increasing momentum, chiefly because most authors know little about the incredibly vast future of science, nor have they the imagination to cope with coming events.

Also, let us admit that scientists as a rule are not good writers when it comes to inspiring literature and they are rarely hommes de lettres.

So the author, nine times out of ten, takes refuge in nonscientific fantasy. It is far easier to compose and probably reads better than a technical-science yarn that often is not easy to digest by the uneducated reader.

Often an author attempts to disguise his scientific poverty by using pseudo-scientific terminology. This point was made recently in the New Scientist of London, July 18, 1963, by science reviewer R. S. R. Fitter, in commenting on the book The Web of Life by John H. Storer: "The book is written in extremely lucid and simple language, with none of the pseudo-scientific gobbledygook one associates with American scientific writing."

Hence the overwhelmingly large percentage of magazine and book editors can no longer buy true science fiction stories as they did in the twenties. There are just not enough science fiction authors today who can deliver adequate material with science-motivated content.

Let me state here without quibbling that I have never had, nor do I have now the slightest quarrel with fantasy literature. In fact, I personally do like it, particularly if it is of the adult type, say the Edgar Allan Poe variety. What I detest is the parading of pure fantasy stories as science fiction and their sale as such to gullible readers. I consider this an out-and-out fraud.

It was particularly humiliating to me when I read the 1962 volume of the Hugo Winners, which the publisher, on the cover, lightheartedly labeled "Nine prize-winning science fiction stories." Well, in my book it should have read "Eight fantasy tales, plus one science fiction story."

I do not envy the editor who had to edit the book because the selections had already been made by the World Science Fiction Convention. So he had no choice.

It is also an incontrovertible fact that true science fiction today is still avidly sought out and read by our country's industrial leaders, engineers and technicians because it still gives them invaluable ideas of events to come. Science fiction, believe it or not, is still a powerful force that stimulates thinking men whose destiny is tied up strongly in the future.

It also makes me sad when I see the constantly-recurring scribbling of the many prophets of doom who have recently become fashionable in their endeavor to write off genuine science fiction as passee. Such bankruptcy of intellect can always be traced directly to the inability of such writers to comprehend the status and message of true prophetic science fiction. This fantastic lack of imagination often is as ludicrous as it is pathetic.

I quote only one recent writer -- there are dozens of others everywhere -- in the science fiction fan magazine INSIDE, June 1963. Curiously, too, although the writer of the 5000-word opus quotes and lists the names of practically every "science fiction" author, he forgets even to mention perhaps the most outstanding true science fiction personality -- with 31 books published in the U.S. -- Arthur C. Clarke! Let us proceed with INSIDE's forecast:

"The Future of Science Fiction *

"A question which naturally arises is, What of the future of science fiction? If it evolves through the discovery and working out of its congenital possibilities, what such remain? What would be the next developments?

"Personally, I do not see much of a future for science fiction. There are several reasons for hesitating to make such a statement -- one of which is that the detective story seemed to be dead in the 1880's -- but they are all general and negative. I see no specific and active reasons for supposing it has any very lively future....

* "The Anatomy of Science Fiction", by Arthur Jean Cox.

"In tracing out this general line of speculation, we quite naturally arrive at the thought that there will come a time when all possibilities are exhausted. Then science fiction will be 'completed.' There will be 'nothing new,' regardless of clever variations. It will have realized everything that is in it as a literary organism and will sink willingly, as it were, into extinction. Actually, it is difficult, perhaps impossible, to foresee a time in which there will not be published occasional stories of the marvelous, the fantastic, and of future science; but it is not so difficult to believe that there will come a time, probably in our personal futures, in which there will no longer be a 'field' -- only a 'genre.'"

So much for one prophet of doom. The quoted statement brings to mind a long list of great unimaginative non-believers in the world's future. Nor are they unknown; some of them are quite famous in their own right -- not as prophets, but as scientists and other highly-placed celebrities.

Arthur C. Clarke, in his epoch-making book, "Profiles of the Future," calls their deficiency "Failure of Imagination." Here are a few of those he mentions:

There was famed philosopher Auguste Comte, who in his Cours de Philosophie Positive (1835) stated this about the heavenly bodies:

"We see how we determine their forms, their distances, their bulk, their motions, but we can never know anything of their chemical or mineralogical structure.... the stars serve us scientifically only as providing positions with which we may compare the interior movements of our system."

Let us not forget world-famed Lord Ernest Rutherford, who, perhaps more than any other mortal, was responsible for our insight into modern atomic science. Yet up to his death in 1937 he constantly ridiculed the idea that we would ever be able to harness the energy locked up in matter. Sad to relate, the first atomic chain reaction occurred only 5 years after his death!

Next listen to the great American astronomer Simon Newcomb (1835-1909) who wrote a celebrated essay that ended thus:

"The demonstration that no possible combination of known substances, known forms of machinery and known forms of force, can be united in a practical machine, by which men shall fly long distances through the air, seems to the writer as complete as it is possible for the demonstration of any physical fact to be!"

Not to be outdone by such a pereposterous prophecy, the British Professor A. W. Bickerton (1842-1929) wrote the following masterpiece, which I quote verbatim, in a paper published in 1926:

"This foolish idea of shooting at the moon is an example of the absurd length to which vicious specialisation will carry scientists working in thought-tight compartments. Let us critically examine the proposal. For a projectile entirely to escape the gravitation of the earth, it needs a velocity of 7 miles a second. The thermal energy of a gramme at this speed is 15,180 calories.... The energy of our most violent explosive -- nitroglycerine -- is less than 1,500 calories per gramme. Consequently, even had the explosive nothing to carry, it has only one-tenth of the energy necessary to escape the earth.... Hence the proposition appears to be basically impossible."

Lest you think that such recorded foolishness is rare and isolated, rest assured that it is commonplace. All one has to do is to read our newspapers and magazines for the latest examples of total decay of imagination.

It is a measure of our times that just as the poor, misguided, unimaginative scientists whom we quoted failed to look into the future, so the present-day science-illiterate author cannot possibly comprehend the myriad of technical wonders still to come.

He cannot understand -- nor extrapolate into future terms -- that each new invention and discovery automatically opens the door to a host of new ideas that proliferate countless others.

And all of these are excellent spring-boards for novel, true science fiction stories, never dreamt of before.

If these are often termed derisively "gadget stories" by the technologically illiterate, the more power to those far-seeing authors who have the imagination and the intellectual gifts to read the future aright so they can point out to their more modest and less fortunate brethren the direction in which the world is heading. Given enough such outstanding authors, true prophetic science fiction could very well stage a massive comeback -- it could become the renaissance of the Jules Verne, H. G. Wells type of technological science fiction so badly needed in our present idea-impooverished world.

Let me give a single example of what is coming in the next decade. You might call it educated-guess science fiction, because as yet it is not in existence, although we have practically all the scientific and technical elements now.

It is taken from an article I wrote a few weeks ago entitled Microminiature Color Television. The idea deals with microminiaturized TV cameras so small that they can go through the hollow opening of a large-sized hypodermic needle. Before you scoff at that, electronic technicians will tell you that transistors have already shrunk into the microscopic, so minute that they cannot be seen by the naked eye. How small can a TV camera shrink? No one knows.

Next we combine the X-Ray with the electron microscope and the TV color camera. This should give us enlargements of 300,000 diameters upwards.

The hardly-visible microscopic TV camera can now be introduced through the hypodermic needle into practically every inaccessible part of the human anatomy.

Just imagine a 300,000-diameter enlargement of, say, an internal incipient cancer, or other disease! For all practical purposes, the entire human body will have become as transparent as if it were glass or plastic.

How many science fiction plots can this single idea engender?

In technology, the probing microminiature TV color camera will literally have thousands of new uses. Coupled with the X-Ray and the electron microscope, such future TV camera-probes will ferret out points of weaknesses and practically all potential failures, not apparent otherwise.

Take only one example: Our present-day rockets, missiles and our various satellites. Today's percentage of failure is intolerable. Its cost is well-nigh astronomical now. Often failures occur once the space vehicle has been placed in orbit. But most occur before they are off the ground.

Almost all these potential failures could be anticipated and overcome with miniature color TV probes on the molecular level. They would be cheap at any price. Does this give you any ideas?

I thank you.

-- E N D --

N3F-HISTORY-

By Eva Firestone
(stenciled by Kaymar)

Vol 7, #3, June 1948 - (continued) "The Perfect Fanzine by David H. Keller.. "Written for the Torcon Issue of TNFF." This really is a very good article. Pages 4 & 5- N3FORUM .. is a long letter from Ned McKeown.. Page 6-Sec-Treas-Report- Bal. \$171.67, Then a long list of new members- 27 names- Mine included this time.. Hah! Chas. Lee Riddle also listed in new-member bunch.. Then comes address changes- Page 7

LAURATE AWARDS .. First a note-"Due to the fact that there were so many 'single votes' there were no very high point winners. The Pro-mag vote is the largest that has ever been polled. Only 73 ballots were cast out of a possible 250. I think this is due to the fact many NEW members were at a loss as how to vote, being unfamiliar with the fan personalities." (that's by Kaymar- this whole page 7 is his) Here's the winners;-

Fan Author	----	Sam Moskowitz
Fan Poet	----	Redd Boggs
Fan Editor	----	Stan Mullen
Fanzine	----	Gorgon
Newszine	----	Tympani
Fan Artist	----	John Cockcroft
Fan Humorist	--	Charles Burbee
Fan of the year	-	K. Martin Carlson
Specialized Fanzine-Fantasy Advertiser		
New Fan	----	Con Pederson
PRO (ex-fan)	--	Ray Bradbury
PROMAG	----	Astounding 42 votes; FFM-9; FN-8; WT-3

N.F.F.F. NEWS. "Our V-Pres, Henry Georgi, has appointed a new WELCOM Hostess... ZEDA MISHLER of Penna" --- "M.A. Rothman mailed in the final sum from the PHILCON funds. The total sum of \$59.75 has been earmarked for the HART book. We are very grateful to M.A. Rothman for the nice job he did during the PHILCON. It takes good officers to carry on a successful Convention. Thanks, Milt." --- "We have had quite a few fans offer to take on the job of Representative for their state."

Then a plug- HAVE YOU SEEN THE VIRGIL FINLAY FOLIO?? We have the First Folio re-print rights and copies are available to the members at 50¢ a Folio. Eight illustrations suitable for framing. Etching-like reproductions of the best of the old-time MERRITT illustrations are included in this Folio. They are going fast. Get yours now. When these are gone no more are available.. Order thru the Sec-Treas." Page 8- Editorial continued. Backcover-plug for

Vol. 7, #4, August 1948- Inside front cover- Directory of Officers; President- Dale Tarr; V-Pres - Henry Georgi; Sec-Treas- K.M. Carlson; Directors; Stan Mullen, Chrmn; Rick Sneary; Andy Lyons; Harry B. Moore; Ray C. Higgs; Mss Boo- Art Rapp; WELCOM- Henry Georgi & Zeda

Table of Contents; Editorials- continued inside backcover./ Mishler P. 2-3-4 "Trip to the TORCON for Two (ONLY)" by Harry B. Moore. P. 5- "New Trends in Fanzine Literature" by David H. Keller. P. 6, 7, 8, 9, - N3FORUM. Page 10- MANUSCRIPT BUREAU REPORT. P. 11- Letter to the members from Pres. Tarr- "The recent referendum has resulted in the overwhelming acceptance of the new constitution--overwhelming that is in reference to the number of ballots cast. About 3/8s and over of the membership failed to vote and it resulted in barely gaining the requisite majority of the total membership in favor of adopting the new constitution." (Eva continues next TNFF -- Kaymar.

N.F.F. = TRADER

Ad space is free to N3F members. Will appear in next TNFF, I hope.
K.Martin Carlson, 1028- 3rd Ave.So., Moorhead, Minnesota, U.S.A.

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/INFORMATION BUREAU continued from page 15.7

I'm not giving it my official okay, which is all he asked for. He can do it unofficially all he likes, and advertise in NFFF Trader if Kaymar approves. Ads in the NFFF Trader are free to members.

Next time I'll have to start writing this column earlier than a day or so before the deadline, so I can do some research. There's no time for that now, writing the column the day before deadline even though the questions are a year old. So send in some new questions, will you? I'm tired of these year-old unanswerable questions. I want some new unanswerable questions. Send them to Donald Franson, 6543 Babcock Ave., North Hollywood, California. 91606.

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