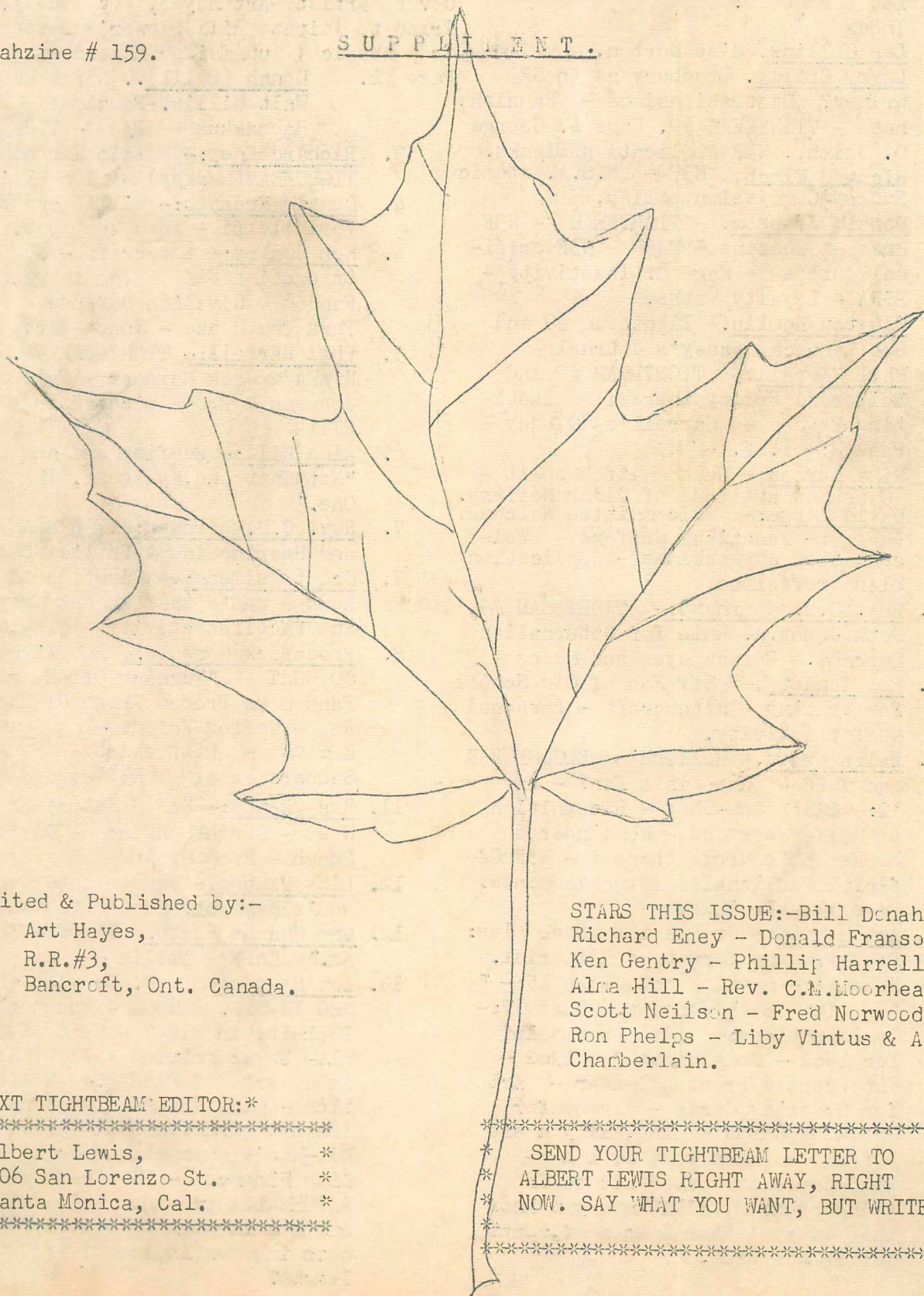


TIGHTBEAM

Jahzine # 159.

SUPPLEMENT.



Edited & Published by:-

Art Hayes,
R.R.#3,
Bancroft, Ont. Canada.

STARS THIS ISSUE:-Bill Donaho
Richard Eney - Donald Franson
Ken Gentry - Phillip Harrell.
Alma Hill - Rev. C.M. Moorhead
Scott Neilson - Fred Norwood.
Ron Phelps - Liby Vintus & Ann
Chamberlain.

NEXT TIGHTBEAM EDITOR:*

* Albert Lewis, *
* 706 San Lorenzo St. *
* Santa Monica, Cal. *

* SEND YOUR TIGHTBEAM LETTER TO *
* ALBERT LEWIS RIGHT AWAY, RIGHT *
* NOW. SAY WHAT YOU WANT, BUT WRITE. *
* *

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Suppliment.

Cover artist? Art Hayes, obviously.

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IDIOTORIAL

It had been my intention to reprint most of the letters in the last issue of TIGHTBEAM. However, by request of some of the letter writers, Bob Lambeck sent on the letters that had either not been used, though received on time, or had been received too late for inclusion. I then had a choice of either seeing that these letters saw print, or trying to reprint the letters in the last TIGHTBEAM. You now see, following this, that I chose to print those letters that did not see print in any form. To me, they were interesting and I hope they will prove to be interesting to you. My own editorial comments on these letters will follow them in the same manner that might have been the case, if I had written a letter on them.

Because this IS a supplement, I am using the cheaper brand of paper. There will be enough material in this mailing to make up for this.

Art. Hayes.

DONAHUO

I wonder if it will stir up much of a storm by quoting Willis 1954 suggestions for improving the HFFF. Some of them seem pretty sensible. The HFFF has always suffered a dearth of people willing to do work and the more non-essential work that is abolished the better. However, how many of them actually are non-essential? The welcome Committee for instance might even be necessary. And the Manuscript Bureau is useful if not essential. And many of the younger fans probably find the stickers, etc., fun. The fanzine reviews and suggestions for improving the club bulletin seem to have already been carried out. I get the idea that the function of the HFFF has changed somewhat over the years. At first it was an organization of people who were already fans. Now its principal function seems to be to contact neos and bring them into Fandom. As such, many of the Willis criticisms do not apply.

Speaking as a fan of some years, I joined the HFFF a couple of years ago, not because I was highly interested in the organization, but because I thought it to be performing a useful function and deserved support. As a sort of added bonus to my joining, I find I enjoy reading TIGHTBEAM very much. In fact, I hereby volunteer to put it out next if you haven't dragoned someone else.

I disagree with Jimmy Taurasi about fan magazines. I definitely do think that a fan magazine is a zine published by a fan and distributed to other fans. I am very much interested in science-fiction, but I am interested in a number of other things too, and I like to mix my hobbies. (The recent B.Y.O.B., Tony Boucher (and who can doubt that TONY BOUCHER, one of the great sf and fantasy writers and former editor of THE JOURNAL OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION, is a dedicated fan) gave a talk in which he said that one of the signs of vitality in science fiction Fandom and one of its chief charms, was just this multiplicity of interests. Redd Boggs (a dedicated fan of many years and one whose output is mostly about sf) had an article in a recent fanzine, FUSION, I believe, in which he said much the same thing. After all there aren't fan magazines for all our hobbies, & even if there were, who could publish that many zines? I would like to point out to Jimmy that no one calls these things science fiction. In fact the term 'Science Fiction Fanzine' is one I have practically never heard used, even in the HFFF. It's always 'FANZINE'.

I am reminded of a discussion between Randy Garrett and Jean Young at the ALIENATION. Jean admitted that she hadn't read science fiction for at least four or five years and wasn't the slightest bit interested in it any more. Randy said, "Then you have no right to be at a convention of science fiction fans."

Jean said, "I came here to see my friends."

"You have no right to be at a science fiction convention."

"I came here to see my friend."

"You have no right to be here."..... and so on, long into the night.

I'm certainly not telling Jimmy what to do, but I think he would have more fun if he mixed his hobbies. It certainly seems pointless not to, when everyone else is. But I guess it's a proud and lonely thing to be a purist.

I would also like to thank Ed for his kind mention of HABAKKUK, but would like to take issue with him on a couple of points. There has never been one page of any material in HABAKKUK "whose only purpose was to 'try to shock the reader'". In fact, there has never been a page of any material in HABAKKUK that had, as any part of a purpose that of Shocking the readers, but was published because I thought it to be good material and I didn't care whether it shocked anyone or not, as long as it was within the postal regulations, which it was. Ed also goes on to say, "or is pretentious and/or pseudo-intellectual". Now pretentious is more or less an individual value judgement, so there is nothing I can say about that, but "pseudo-intellectual" is a more factual term. There have been all sorts of wildly different points of view expressed in HABAKKUK, but in each case the writer had experience and/or research to back up his opinion. That is, however much you might disagree with what the guy was saying, his views were based on something besides his own imagination. I imagine Ed was referring to Art Castillo (with whom I have violent disagreements by the way); at times Art's logic is a trifle faulty (and I myself find his style pretentious occasionally), but he is a real intellectual, not a pseudo one.

As for stf, my other zine VIPER, should be stoffish enough for anyone. And HABAKKUK pleased enough fans to be #1 fanzine on the FANAC POLL and to be nominated for the HUGO.

Bjo's letter lastish did stir up a ruckus, didn't it? I think she was mostly right though. There are a hell of a lot of nice and interesting people in the NFFF, Ralph Holland, Art Hayes, Janie Lamb, Honey Wood, to name a few of the more dedicated types, but one of the troubles with the NFFF has always been that it had more than its share of fugg heads. Bjo may have been wrong in individual cases, but she was right in principal, I think. Fuggheadism should be stomped on when it appears, not allowed to become entrenched.

I disagree with Don Fransom. TIGHTBEAM seems basically a free-wheeling mag and there is no reason why anything that concerns the NFFF or any of its members shouldn't be discussed in it. Anything from Gernsbach's speech --- WHO KILLED SCIENCE FICTION? or WHY IS A FAN? to an interesting story in one of the latest prozines. It probably would be too; it's just a problem of introducing the topic.

Bill

ENEY

I too have been experimenting with multicolor mimeo work. It's a lot easier on the Gestetner, of course, than a regular mimeo; instead of cleaning out the inside of a drum (I shiver at the thought), all you have to do is take off the silkscreen, flip three release levers, pull out two waver rollers and the ink gun -- both slip out easily -- and replace with those for the color after wiping the solid drum off with a bit of paper towel. No strain, no sloshing around of cleaning fluid.....

Gosh, here I get Janie Lamb's or Ed Meskys' issue of TIGHTBEAM and practically find myself at home. I'm not sure whose mag it is, because it has Ed's masthead and Janie's return address, but it leads off with more on an argument we were thrashing over in THE CULT ... the business of defining "left" and "right" to an unsee E-T. It finally occurred to Angry Young and me that you can't do it, because those directions are properties of a two dimensional coordinate system and you've got to have two points to define a system like that. Since you only have one "point" -- the spot the alien calls "here" -- you can't give such a definition, and so the problem can't be solved by any verbal message. There are a couple of gimmicky solutions, however, which involve things like polarized light and optically active isomers of various organic chemicals.

Oh, come on, now, Seth Johnson: After Ron Ellick has been a Neffer for years.. after he's served in several official posts with diligence.. after he's been, if I recall rightly, a director at least once... my mere reinstatement in N 3F, without any club activity at all, is supposed to be a move to get votes away from him? Foo, man, any Neffer who'd switch votes from Ron to me on TH AT ground would have holes in his head -- or else be

5 seconds more with ENEY.

... darned ungrateful for Ron's past club work.

FRANSON

Best & all, Dick Eney

[Handwritten signature]

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I'm inclined to agree with Willis on the Welcommittee; however, there is a better way than abolition. The Welcommittee should be split into two parts: one to carry on as a branch of the Correspondence Bureau, serving its own purpose of gaining correspondents; the other to do the actual welcoming of new fans to the N3F and Fandom. This one would consist of experienced fans who prepare the material to be sent out, and enthusiastic neofans (or anyone else) who will do the sending out of this material. This is how it was in the beginning -- the Welcommittee sent out material, booklets, not letters. There is plenty of material on all phases of Fandom that can be gathered or newly written, condensed, and mimeographed, not all in one package, but subdivided into many leaflets. The neofan who sends these out need not be an expert himself then. The original Welcommittee (of letter writers) could then go on to explain correspondence activities, and not try to explain the N3F or Fandom to new members, a task for which it is not suited.

Frederick Norwood's letter on a variable "pi" reminded me of the old gag that some state wanted to pass a law that "pi" should be 3, not 3.14 etc. But my answer to this is, yes, "pi" would be 3, if a circle were a hexagon. After all, a circle is just a distorted hexagon -- or is a hexagon a circle distorted by equal pressure from all sides? Anyway, a hexagon is a natural figure, and the circumference is 3 times the diameter. The answer to "why is pi?" lies here, I think.

This was such a long and meaty TIGHTBEAM that I could never comment properly on it all, nor would you print that much, (I assume you will have to cut down) so I started from the back, and am working forward, to give the boys in the back room an equal break. However, I will say that all the letters are interesting, and I hope this keeps up in TIGHTBEAM. And congratulations to Art Hayes for his newszine, and may it continue to accompany TIGHTBEAM and TNFF.

Donald Franson

GENTRY

It was my intention to write a letter to the last TIGHTBEAM, but as often happens, I didn't, and so I guess I'll try my hand at this one. I like LOVECRAFT, although I have only read a small number of his stories, they were all masterpieces of horror. For this I remember him, his style was not perfect, far from it, even seemed repetitious to me, and he never gave quite the description of his horrors that I'd like to see, leaving much to the imagination of the reader. What he did do, tho, was to write a damn good horror story. THE COLOR OUT OF SPACE is a momentous tale, better than any I have ever read of his. He seemed to carry the story better than he did in the CREEPING TERROR, or PICKMAN'S MEDLEY...

I'll have to agree with Clayton Harlin. The N3F has no business introducing the new to Fandom in general. They do, of course, and this is to their credit. The N3F is like anything or anyone else, it's first interest are in Number ONE! And that's the way it should be. I, myself, am a neo, admittedly, and damn if I ain't proud to be a Neffer. Sure the N3F is a neo club.... but then most Neffers become involved in some other branch of general Fandom anyway. As for being laughed at for being a Neffer, I can't see why that should bother anyone, let them laugh and show their ignorance if they want to.

The CD exercises in my former high school, (left it this year, thank goodness) was a real funny bit of nothing. Everyone files into the halls, so when the building collapses, YOU will be right in the middle. The PTA, for some fool reason, bought a bomb shelter which sits on display. It houses FIVE... a real help in a high school! If anyone ever happens to bomb Nashville, a very unlikely thing, I figure I'll be roasted alive anyway, so what??????

Gentry has the floor...

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I enjoyed Art's THROUGH THE HAZE this time, more than in the past. Hope he can keep up the good work! Hmm, here is something about the orbital shot. I agree that the USA did a fine thing in letting it be televised, but let's face facts.... it was a demand from an irate public faced with the fact that Russia has beat us in everything. Then, do you not remember the corruption and so forth, about the Jupiter C project, where we could have beaten the Russians easily. Washington quietly did away with it and started out on the more difficult ATLAS, while Russia beat us to the punch. How we finally had to use the Jupiter C anyhow to launch our first. The corruption and stupidity in governmental circles appals me, though they have wakened some after public demands prompted them. I have no doubts that Russia launched the first man in space. Why should they fabricate such a hoax for something they could easily do? Believe me, they've done it, because they wanted all that important data. It is possible that the Russians had some failures before Gagarin made his successful flight. After all, a human is an expendable item in Russia and since they keep such a tight security wrap on their work, it is possible that a failure was encountered. But it still remains a fact that they were first, as they have with practically everything in the missile race. They were working after the USA relaxed after WWII. They seem to have the most powerful boosters by a long shot and I figure that they will make a Lunar orbital flight and returning to Earth shortly. Russia does not worry me as much as Red China, with that unlimited manpower..... they are going to be the world's #1 power if someone doesn't look out!

I am tempted to write what is wrong with the Neff, but won't, though I've got some DEFIANT views on the subject.... it seems to be the fad for all ye young neo fans introducing themselves in TIGHTBEAM. Well.... HI THERE NEFF! I am 17, interested in reading and collecting, am modest and secretive, so that will have to be all for now.

*****Ken*****

HARRELL First of all, that was a very nice issue of TB that Ed Meskys put out, although the cover looked like it could stand a bit more something. REXOFAXING it looks like. But other than that, a very nice issue.

Seems to be that if DAVID TRAVIS took on a bit more friendly attitude, he'd win more friends, as he seems to want. His chief reason for not being active doesn't seem to be valid to me. Look at me, up to my eyeteeth in activity, and I live in one of the most deserted spots of Fandom. Not a Fannish soul for miles around, but do I let THAT stop me? Do I sit down and wail, "Ah me! No one to tell me how to be active so I never will be." I DO NOT! I write to everybody in my quest for fannishness. Granted, some of my letters aren't quite sane, but I usually get a reply. I don't stop asking, "And what is YOUR opinion of Einstein's Theory Of Relativity?" and "Do you think E really equals MC²?" I write and talk and I have fun at it and I talk about different things. Above all, I have fun out of my actifannishness, like Mundania to Sercon for Fandom to be all that too, so let's have fun out of life while we can. I don't mind work and I'll work like a son-of-a-gun when I have to but Fandom and N3F I love with a passion and I kinda think it likes me a little bit too.

I've long since given up trying to contact FANAC as much as I would like to have it. Why? Well, the first time I tried to get in touch with Ronel, he left FANAC. Next time, Terry Carr left it. The time after that I sent a quarter and a copy of VENTURA asking to trade (the quarter was probably used in reckless living), Walter Breen moved to New York so I've given up as it seems as if I'm fated never to receive FANAC anyway and anyhow, I'm afraid to try again. I'd better quit where there's still a FANAC.

I believe now that Jack HARNESS is acting capably at the OE-ship of N'APA. Things will see much improvement. In fact, they've already improved as shown by the last mailing. Jack's first, as OE, was the finest I've ever seen since I joined N'APA and it really was worth belonging to get such a thing of beauty. Jack will do a wonderful job as OE and I think I can truthfully say that if you aren't a N'APAN, you're missing something with Jack

The Harrelling Bem Soap-boxing....

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.... as OE. I'll admit that the whole thing went from Crud to worse, at first, but Jack being the wonderful OE he's proving himself capable of, will do wonders for it and it will probably end up making it so good he'll have both SAPS and FAPA jealous of us, not to mention OMPA and the rest of them. I don't know about the rest of you cats, but I'm pickled tink to have him as he's the life blood of NAPA, something it has been in the need of.

Now for a couple of Grotches at Seth Johnson. Grotch #1:- I'm certain that Bjo wasn't talking about Seth, specially since Bjo is NOT that type of person. Not at all, the Bjo I know is warm and wonderful, smile that would melt an iceberg and a heart as big as all outer space. Full of righteousness when needed, and high spirited. Talented, Beautiful ... YES, Malivious? NO, never, A Thousand times NO, a Million Times NO. An Infiity of NOs because... I know deep in my heart that she could never be that way. The way you make it sound, Seth.... tell me, does she fly down every meeting of the ESFA just so she can watch you turn down your hearing aid and turn your back on the proceedings? You want to know a fact? I didn't even know you had one until I read it in TB 8. If you want to know my opinion, I think she was just using generalities for an example and had no particular person in mind, and I'm sure she had not the slightest intention of wounding your pride. She's much too far above that.

Grotch #2:- I think we're DAMN lucky to have Dick Eney in N3F. I wish we could have a thousand more like him even though that's impossible, since there can be only ONE Dick Eney. At first, in the TAFF campaign, I supported Ronel. I'm not ashamed of it. I did it because I honestly believed that he was the best one for the job and then I did a little research. I found, to my surprise, WHO Dick Eney was, and the more I read, the more I became convinced that he really was the best man for the job. Ronel would be GOOD, but Dick Eney would be better. I'm not going to say what I found.... just that it was convincing enough to cause me to change my vote. I have enough respect for Ronel that if he wins I won't be highly disappointed. However, I do feel that Dick would be best for the JOB, and while I hope it won't make me unpopular, that's the way I feel.... and if a person can't live by his beliefs.... what can he live by? That wasn't a very nice, or a very kind thing to say even in jest and it didn't sound like a joke to me. The tone of Shaggy's Barbs at Dick show they're good-natured and I hope you'll also notice that there is a conspicuous absence of mud-slinging from either side. It couldn't happen to a more deserving person. Between now (August 7th., 1961) and when the campaign closes, I'm going to do my dead-level best to get Dick Elected as I honestly think he would be the best for the Job, but come what may, I wish both candidates the best.

By the way, if anyone wants to know, "I'm a 150% Bjoer!" And I still agree with what she had to say last time. Well, I guess that's about as mad as I can make some folks and I wish to remind one and all, that Ticking packages will be returned postage due. Until next TIGHTBEAM then, after a few of the corns I stepped on have had a chance to cool some I now give you a chance to step on a few of mine, only remember what I said about "ticking" packages.

Phil

HILL

What's all this bit about beefing about N3F lately - I don't get it. If people have complaints, though, TIGHTBEAM is the right place to air them. I've always found Fans a lot of fun. Will never forget the one who asked for my autograph in an awed whisper, took it away staring at it, to a friend who blared, "Not THAT one, ya goof," the OTHER one was Mrs. Doc Smith. We all love Mrs. Trimble dearly. Maybe it was something she cooked and ate?

Alma Hill

MOORHEAD

I read with considerable interest the letter Bjo wrote to TIGHTBEAM #7 in which she lambasted certain boorish fen in general, and one with a hearing aid in particular. I was also interested in the various remarks that people made in regards to her letter in TIGHTBEAM #7. I noticed the grievous tone that Seth used in his reply in TIGHTBEAM #8 and his lament that others in Fandom did not seem to need hearing aids. I do not wear a hearing aid, but my wife does. I think she would almost totally agree with Seth about poor speakers yattering on endlessly and indistinctly and usually in a monotone.

She seldom goes with me any more to church conventions because most of the public speakers do such a poor job in pronouncing their words clearly. When a Public Address system is used, the speaker either stands too far away from the "mike" so that volume is lost or he turns away from it and so some of his words are lost. Or he will jam his face so close to the "mike" that you can hear his teeth rattle and his voice blares out so loud that the ear-drums seem about to burst. I watch my wife operating the volume control on her hearing aid, trying to adjust to the voice, up - down - up - down, until, finally, she leans over to me and whispers, "I can't take any more of this; I'm leaving!"

Of course the fellow who operates the public address system is supposed to be on the job to regulate the volume and thus reduce some of this trouble of hearing weak or loud vibrations. But.... WHERE is he? Never there, Always gone when the PA is acting up. DAMN such people!

Eight out of ten mumble; very few pronounce their words distinctly, even in ordinary conversation. Ever have someone introduce a stranger to you? Did you get his name the first time? You're lucky if you did. Usually the person doing the introducing pronounces the name so indistinctly that it sounds somewhere between a gargle or a grunt, and you have to guess at the name. Another type is the fellow who strains his words between his teeth. He seems to be suffering from lockjaw. Maybe his teeth need cleaning or the fillings fell out. Whatever the reason, he never opens his mouth wide enough to slide a dime edgeways between his teeth, and out of this slit, words are supposed to issue? I have a sneaking feeling that Fandom has it's share of such speakers: the mumblers and the word strainers. If I had a hearing aid and had to listen to speakers like that very long, I assure you that I'd turn it off too!

When I am at a church convention and I note on the Agenda that some long winded yatterer is going to get up and mumble through his manuscript, and there is a break in the session before he arises to speak, there is a break by Moorhead and others, for the door. B orish? Perhaps, but an escape none the less!

NEILSON

B. M. Moorhead

I just recieved TIGHTBEAM 8 today (July 25th., 1961) and I see that you wanted all letters five days ago, which doesn't leave me much time to write this. Phil Harrell! Will you lend me your time machine after it gets out of the repair shop? Ah.... Bob Lambeck.... why not tell us all, for the benefit of all Fandom.. How Long Do YOU think a neofan remains a neofan? Is there a set time limit, or a certain amount of knowledge that one must acquire to no longer be a neo? Lenny Kaye:- On your listing of some of the youngest members of the N3F, don't forget me. I was born in August of '46, which makes me approximately 5 months and about 19 days older than you. And then again, don't forget Ginny McCain who is also 14 (I think). And I see that because of my introduction, two more of the "faceless Crowd" have showed their faces and introduced themselves: Ed Bryant and Larry Moore. And while I'm still stuck for something to say, Thanx, Phil Harrell, for plugging my zine, though it was sorta unintentional, and you did sneak a plug of your own in with it.

BOB LICHTMAN:- I'm not getting, as involved in Fandom as some other neos I could name. Sure, I publish a fanzine, but I can regulate my time and make it so it's not a drag.

I've had experience as publication manager for the school paper at publishing at regular intervals, and I know what strain working under a deadline can be; but it makes quite a bit of difference when you begin stencilling your next issue before the current one is even mailed out, which I do. And whatever gave you the idea that I'm not living my life? That idea is farther from the truth than any you could think of; I go swimming every day, dunk as many girls as I can., do my homework right after I come home from school, and can have it finished always before dinner. After dinner I write letters until say 8:30 or 9, after which I read a book or mag (SF of course) until I go to bed. And there's plenty of time over the weekend to do things..... and believe me, if my school work started suffering (I have a straight "B plus" average), my mother would crack down so fast you'd think she'd finally reached the speed of light! And you're so right.... I'm not listening to you, except for your point of spending too much time at the mimeoscope or typer: that's one thing I don't like to do.

I want to repeat my invitation to anyone passing through St. Louis area to come and stay here at my house for a while, but how's about dropping a phone call or a note before you do so. I might be away at the time you'd call, and then where'd you be?

NORWOOD

Scotty

TIGHTBEAM #3 came wrapped in string, unusual to say the least. The back cover had fallen off and torn, and it took the string to hold it together. The cover was fair, but certainly nothing like lastish, and the interior illos were good. General layout was good also. Apparently it is "IN" to edit TB, if you have a mess of fancy symbols to use. So why not? O.K. then, I volunteer to edit and issue myself. Where do I sign up? Oddly enough, ingenious uses of normal symbols usually make better outlines for interlineations than fancy ones used normally, unless you are careful of the symbol you pick. I guess you noticed this after the first page Ed, since you switched to a more orthodox use of the bizarre. If you were using those arrows to point out high points, the points weren't high enough. Except for editorial comments, I mostly ignore all symbols, including the "." and "?" and got along O.K.

DAVID TRAVIS:- I need fiction contributions for my zine SO WHAT, and would be glad to criticize your stuff for all it and I, am worth, if you don't mind criticism from one who collects rejection slips consistently and pubs a crudzine. In fact, if you're willing we can trade stories and criticize each other. Also, I'm having the same trouble getting at outside Fandom. I think I found the solution in the latest TNFF, with that list of Fan zines. I intend sending my nextish to all of them, asking for trade, and if that doesn't get me into outside Fandom, nothing will (outside of money).

What is the impartial difference of you giving the santimonious bigot the silent treatment, and the person you consider a S.O.B. turning off his hearing aid at you. (I hope the phrase, "Turning Off his Hearing Aid" doesn't become widespread, since I rather tend to side with the person originally referred to, at least until I hear more about the incident, but, with no personalities involved, it is an easy way of saying exactly what is meant in this particular discussion, so I use it anyway.)

FRED MICHEL:- That looks to me like a Mexican in a glass sombrero, as seen from above, but who knows. This isn't really within the basic 'left-right' problem as stated but in the specific case of an alien speeding towards earth, he must know which hemisphere he is going to crash into, from that you can get North & South, and which side of you the sun would rise if you were on the surface and you've got it. There might be an even simpler method involving a knowledge of the macro-aspects of this solar system, but I can't think of one.

RALPH HOLLAND:- I have a feeling that you have it backwards. Fandom now is less affected by pro-fiction than ever, therefore, pro-fiction is going down. It has always been up to Fandom to supply the pro-writers, and with no one encouraging writers, with them

unable to get any recognition for a work just a little under pro-standards. With the lack of interest in fiction in general, and therefore, lack of incentive to write any in the first place, there simply can't be any new writers, unless it is the writers who are willing to forget about Fandom, its lures, and simply write.... for a long time with little or no egoboo in reward.

Luckily for stf, reaction seems to be setting in, with the story contest as a prime example. Here is a REASON to write. Also, if more faneds published straight SF (PLUG:- Like mine when it can get it) maybe we could offset this thing. Unfortunately, as most FIJA GDHest don't seem to realize, there is a point of no return, or diminishing returns. SF gets its material from Fandom. Fandom gets its members from stf. I don't suppose that the point could be predicted without psychohistory, but eventually the inflow from stf will become too low to save stf, no matter what happens. Then we will have had it. It's all right to talk about cycles, and they may happen, but if the downswing of a cycle dips so low that when the upswing is due, there is no one to notice it.....

One good sign is the pre-eminence of the space-opera, even bad space opera. This is easier for a beginner to write before he has learned the subtleties of characterization, if he has the knack for it. Another good thing is the renewed interest in fiction robins, which are a good place to practice.... as long as you don't get carried away and use all your best ideas in story robins, and get written out. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN STORY RRS PLEASE WRITE ME.

Just to show that I am not unduly pessimistic, back to the attitude of Fandom. Even the Pro gets almost no egoboo by being a pro. Sure, "Vile Pro" is a joke title mainly, but the general attitude is that when a pro spends most of his time writing as he should, and thus, no time to contribute to Fandom anymore, robbed is the last thing we should feel. Yet we see m to.

While I am on the subject of disastrous attitudes, I recently witnessed one person talked out of joining the N3F simply by the reputation which is spread as a matter of habit tr as a source of jokes. If Yngvi showed up, no one would really believe he was a louse, but for some reason they seem to take N3F jokes to heart.

Not that I am ALL for the N3F. I don't like ANYBODY. The N3F, as letters in this issue of TIGHTBEAM show, shields people from Fandom more than anything else. It loads them down with correspondence so that they don't write to anyone else. It offers them all the activities within its own group so there is no need to seek outside and the outside seldom looks in to seek us. If everyone joined the N3F, this would be great (No- not really) but they haven't yet, so the need to get at the outside BNFs is great.

NEFFERS Not Pubbing Fans, Clayton Hamlin? The list in TNFF gives 25 N3F fanzines, which is a respectable number, and I know of at least TWO that it missed. Admittedly it is not a landslide, but you can thank the Welcommittee for that, since they encourage members to WRITE TO THEM, and in general are out to get correspondents, rather than it being a natural tendency of Neffers to avoid pubbing.

ROBERT LAMBECK:- O.K., tell me some really hairy ones, but first tell me why everyone keeps saying that the rest mass of a photon is zero, but no one bothers to say how it manages that, and is this zero meaning nothing at all, or zero meaning infinitely infinitesimal? Also, with light slowing down in some media, what speed does the mass start being zero? Huh? Also using the formula directly, you can also say that

$$m_0 = m^2 \frac{m^2 v^2}{c^2}$$

Then you say $m_0 = 0$, which when substituted in nicely gives that $v = c$; which contradicts your initial assumption that this was at sub-light speeds where $m_0 = 0$. Explain that.

IRVING SIEGEL: Are you giving your own explanation or a widely accepted one? Somehow, it seems you are mixing formulas that don't apply, for example $E = mc^2$ only when energy is converted to mass or vice versa, but the mass of a photon is staying mass, and it is only the kinetic energy not the energy inherent in mass which is normally taken into

NORWOOD = v/norw ood. & nuts.

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consideration. Still, if you can assure me, and, if possible, prove, that in the case of light, the terms in the formulas are identical, and the equations apply simultaneously, this at least sounds like a nice explanation, while footnote (1) I can't make heads or tails (perhaps I should say "right or left") of.

PHILLIP H ARRELL:- This getting of TIGHTBEAM after the deadline for the nextish seems rather widespread. So far, I've gotten one issue after the deadline, and missed one issue entirely (anyone want to sell me a copy of TB #6?) and this issue arriving today, the 22nd, with the deadline the 25th..... really too close.

LICHTMAN:- I was glad to see such a long letter as yours published. It gave me some slight chance when I had completely dispaired at the sight of mine running into the 2nd sheet. I was even considering sending some money to pay for the extra page or two that TIGHTBEAM would need so that my letter would fit.

The information on dittoing artwork would be a real big help! I've been having a lot of trouble with that lately. I only wish I could get styli s cheaply as you without having to pay that postage. One question: What do you do about large surfaces one one color. Whenever I do a large surface there are flecks that don't come through, no matter how much I go over it. When some goes on, others come off. Also, I've had the green turn red on me, or vice-versa and large bits flake off unless I run it off as soon as I've got it down, and must get it down in one sitting. Is there anyway to prevent this?

I just hope Shepherd doesn't inspire sf writers any more than it has. Now that fact has caught up with stf, it is time to move on. You don't read read stories about fantastic submarines and their voyages any more, do you? Instead of getting larger in scope, recently stf has gotten constantly narrower, centering around events of today, when it should move on to tomorrow. (Tho, in spite of this, some space stories are written and are still good, and I have no objection to them being stf, even if they are on the verge of modern-noveldom. You don't find stories about subs usually, but there is always the DRAGON IN THE SEA to upset the best laid generalizations.) I just like my st f to be ahead of it all.

LARRY MOORE:- The frog fallings have been explained, as have probably some of the others you mention. This is one thing I am sure is no weird phenomenon. Why on earth would a flying Saucer go around dropping eggs and rocks on people? You must be a real fan of Alcoa Presents, but to me, the program is doubly likable because it gives me a chance to explain (to MY own satisfaction) how those events could be explained away. The last program in addition to the falling rocks you mentioned, told about an inventor who offered to sell a formula for a cheap, water soluble fuel. As presented, there was ample opportunity for the "scientists" to switch the vial of chemical in water, with a vial of pure gasoline, which is also colorless. There are some good reasons for believing some of the stories of people who have seen saucers today (though not the absurd and conflicting tales of people claiming to have ridden in them, such as Adamski), however, considering the trouble historians have been sure of actual dates, people and places in the past, the idea of accepting a flying saucer report from 1500 B.C. is utterly ridiculous. I rather liked the use of a talent in measuring falling rocks. It may not give a scientifically accurate descriptions, but it is extremely good describing from a literary viewpoint.

DONALD FRANSON:- The ONLY thing wrong with the N3F is that usually it doesn't give enough benefits for the money it costs, simple as that. Now that the tremendously entertaining TIGHTBEAM is here though, all that is changed, and what with it and the convention activities and the story contest (which I wish had been kept strictly within N3F bounds, since it is N3F money providing the prizes, I think) and all, the N3F already has gotten rid of the old impression of a do-nothing club... I agree with most of what Willis said, except that about the Welcommittee. Where else will a neo get all the correspondence necessary to his existence. Also a neo fanned can get material from the WC members directly with which he corresponds, making even the Mss B useless. Besides, a fanned should get his own material, otherwise it is an anthology, not HIS fanzine.

Frederick Norwood,

I recently joined the NFFF, and Fandom in general, for that matter. Until recently, a year ago, I didn't even know that Fandom existed, Organized Fandom that is. I heard about N3F from Larry Moore and Ed Bryant, so I decided to risk the dues. So far, it has been worth the money. I was crumpled by the letters I read in your letterzine, because I'm an island of newness in an ocean of experience, so if I say anything strange or childish, please forgive me.

I'm only 15, and I have been reading Imaginative Literature for about four years. I started the wrong way though: A kid of eleven gets pretty discouraged when he attacks Kornbluth and Van Vogt on his first throw. I waded through the complications and emerged a new man, although a suffering one. At the present time I read all the prozines and collect anything I can steal.

I need correspondence like the NFFF needs members, and I will answer all letters if it kills me. My hobbies are listening to good music, reading modern literature, writing and reading SF. I think the NFFF, or ANY group of organized fen, are o.k. in my book. I know many will violently disagree with me, and will send me poisoned letters and packages that tick, but let 'em come. I was a little disappointed when I read TIGHTBEAM 8 though. I expect members of a large club like this to be sending in swashbuckling letters with opinions and arguments and proposals for and about the field, but just about all I can find are petty debates and minor issues in one insignificant club. The NFFF is THERE: it wasn't meant to be argued about how to set up the officers and the OO and etc. -- it is only a means y rough which fen can discuss REAL issues -- namely Fantasy and Science-Fiction. Of course, a few members like Mrs. Trimble talk turkey, but it seems to me the majority can't find anything to say, and so start petty squabbles about the club. (I hope everybody gets good and mad, and they try to show me I'm wrong. Then my plan-- heh-heh-- will have worked.) I got a big kick out of the 7-year old letter in T8. Walt Willis letter typifies most of the stuff that members talk about now. However, I suppose a club fanzine is for letters about the club, so I guess I'm wrong. But I would like to see somebody talk about Heinlein's stupidity, and start a REAL fight!

My favorite opinion on the field is that Science Fiction and Fantasy exists for it's literary value -- anything else is a fringe benefit. We are past the days of Hugo Gernsback when a story had to be based on a scientific theory or mathematical concept. SF is a MEANS, not an end. Science Fiction has matured, and is no longer read only by adolescents (oops!) looking for an adventure story. It is a social commentary, an escape into a writer's mind. Not that there can't be a successful merger: Van Vogt and Blish and their ilk prove this time and again.

What in hell is this insane, mindless prejudice against David R. Bunch? He's no great writer, sure, but I've always enjoyed his stories immensely. It was only recently that I learned everybody sees me to hate him. His little comments are sometimes trite, but he says them no nicely.

May I say something rather odd? Has anybody out there ever heard of THE HOUSE, a recent story by Frederick Brown? I read it a long time ago in Fantastic and it had no effect on me, but I recently reread it in his new book, "NIGHTMARES AND GEEZENSTACKS", and I couldn't sleep peacefully for several days. It's been haunting me for a month, and I know I shall never read it again, because I'd never recover. It's pure psychological terror in a surrealistic form and I recommend it.

I don't want to say too much, for if I do I may take up space that good letter-writers would otherwise get to fill, so I'll sign off with the words:

I LIKE THE NFFF.

RON PHELPS

VINTUS

I just cannot understand the controversy raging between the big and little enders. We all admit to being

fen, else we would have no use for N3F. As fen, our major aim is similar, namely, to further science-fiction and/or Fantasy field in general. However, we do not all agree on any one item, phase or idea. This is true in any large group. Must this cause name-calling and grouching about the organization in general? I realize that any group has its lunatic fringe, which must be either endured or ignored. Does N3F have an overdose? As yet I haven't met one, either in person or by mail. I disagree, sometimes violently, with a good many ideas. This does not mean that I have no respect for the other opinion or idea, or that I do not care for the other opinion or idea, or that I do not care to associate with the originator. Why are Neffers as a group 'gauche', insignificant, crude, overbearing and despised by the rest of the fenworld? These are labels that I cannot arbitrarily tag any organization with, unless all the members hold exactly the same opinion. Now show me any N3F group that thinks exactly alike about Bradbury, The King James Bible, or vivisection. Then label the group.

Note, in passing. The 'outside world', at least that portion of it that normally derides fans as a bunch of dreamers, beatniks and no-goodniks, accept with equanimity today's news papers, from which I quote, "Dog lover Jeremiah Green has made a will setting up an \$840,000. trust fund to build and maintain a luxury home for stray dogs in Soudthorpe, England." My personal opinion is that he would have done a bit better setting up a research foundation for dog birth-control pills. Let me add in haste that I like dogs, in a luke-warm sort of way, but have very little use for the underfed strays who are badly in need of milkbaths. I am not a crusader for orphanages, war relief, or old sailors' homes. Nevertheless, I do feel they are a bit quick in labelling the 'way out'. Now, had he left it for cats.....

CHAMBERLAIN

Andy

Janie Lamb did an excellent job editing and publishing NIGHTREAM 8. The cover by Harry Douthwaite is remarkably like the covers of the old UNKNOWN and every bit as nice as any used by prozines today. I have a new respect for REXOFAX... as done by Frank Prieto. It is clean and readable.. (I noticed, when I worked for Automatic Mailing Company, that they used a REXOFAX for copying instructions for workers on each job that came in. They used a tan paper which resembled carbons, and the print barely could be read.)

Have just now read the insert, written by Art Hayes, which pleases me very much. Have you ever sat in on a meeting of fans and heard someone say, "Who is.....?" using your hname, and you just didn't come forward with a "Here I am!" because you felt embarrassed, and didn't want ~~that~~ to be so? Well, I have. That's why I especially appreciate Hayes' efforts.

TAPP is one of our most important projects.... If people want to donate but not to vote, why not sponsor some else's vote, each time? This is ONE time I just WISH we could send TWO of them, together, - both are, as English fans too seem to think, such NICE people! Ron Ellik and Richard Enay, that is.

I am much surprised at the Writing which is ascribed to Walt Willis. "Down with Everything, I only believe in Universal Love." as the batnik said in a SHAGGY cartoon. Widen your horizons, Walt, such narrow views do you no credit.... hope you've improved in the last seven years!.

Ann Chamberlain

HAYES

H a FREEDOM. Here I can say what I want, and not have - 13 -
to worry about charges that I am interrupting the chain of
thought the letter writer had worked up, destroyed the mood he had
worked hard to create. Here, I can create my own mood, try to destroy
their mood creations, and, in general raise my own brand of HELL.

DONAHU:- That this club has suffered because there seemed to be an insufficient number of volunteers is, even at this day, still the case. Of the over 200 members we have, there are less than two dozens who could fit that category, and I think I must count myself in this group. But, there are the rare individuals, for which I wish to publicly congratulate, and the latest one being Lloyd D. BROYLES. Some time ago, I recommended that he try to correlate information in the form of a membership information booklet. I can't say if he was spurred by this suggestion, he may have been already planning just such a venture. At the time, I offered to duplicate this booklet, distribute questionnaires, etc. Well, he went right to town, and not only started the project, but I was pleasantly surprised to find that very booklet in the mails a few days ago.

WHO'S WHO IN SCIENCE FICTION FANDOM, 1961 edition. Compiled by L. D. Broyles. It is an Offset printing job, with a professional appearance. In the 39 pages of closely packed pages will be found addresses, birthdates, occupation, clubs a person belongs to (and offices held) the fanzines he has published - some information on material published in fanzines - conventions attended, information for tapespondants; for collectors, etc. This is intended as an annual feature. 400 copies printed. Whether this is to be continued will probably depend on YOU. The price is 50¢. Send immediately to L. D. Broyles, Rt #6, Box 453P, Waco, Texas. No one can afford to be without this publication. You can assist by: (1) getting a copy (2) Giving additional information or correcting information, if your name is listed. (3) Giving that information, if you are not listed. Make sure Lloyd has ALL the information about YOU in his files, so that the 1962 edition will be even more a work of art than the 1961 edition. GET IT NOW. I have #83.

Since I don't disagree with the information Bill Donaho gave in his letter, I used his letter as a jumping off place for this information. Thanks for the kind words Bill. Well, I said I couldn't disagree with Bill, but I do, mildly. Just as any organization may have its fuggheaded group, so does NSF. I can't agree that we may have MORE than you would find in other groups, just that there is a greater tendency to make a Federal Case out of those we do have. Merely ranting about fuggheadism is no good. What's to be done with them is more to the point. EXPELL THEM? Then we do have a real Federal Case made out of their martyrdom. Ignore them? That doesn't always work, since Fugg headism is often in the eye of the beholder, and not generally accepted. I've known some I termed Fuggheads, but soon found that they had a loyal following. Are ALL of them to be termed Fuggheads, just because for my group believes them to be such? Stomped on when it first appears you say? We expect a man to make mistakes and many of them do. Most of them outgrow this or else become real Fuggheads. By the time they are identified, they ARE entrenched. Then, you have another factor to consider. Some are fuggheaded in some ways, but also real actfans, in a good way, in many others.

TIGHTBEAM. There is ONE very wrong thing now going around in regards to this publication. It is not official, but it may become a custom, one that would be bad if allowed to become entrenched. Officialdom cannot do anything about it either. For good and sufficient reasons, the Directorate had to place a ceiling on what the treasury could pay for its publications. After all, we couldn't allow the treasury to be bankrupted, no matter how good the intention may be. The road to Hell is paved with Good intentions, as an old saying goes. So, an \$18. limit was placed on any one issue of TIGHTBEAM. To me, this is merely another way of saying that the treasury will subsidize an issue up to that amount, NOT THAT THE FINAL SIZE BE LIMITED TO THIS COST. To me, this should be an incentive to the editors who want to publish ONE issue, in that they can cut their costs down by this amount. So, they could publish an issue costing \$25 or \$30. and get \$18.00 back. It would be a cheap issue as far as their own personal costs are concerned. How much do you think my issue of TIGHTBEAM will cost, specially with this supplement? I'm not going to say, but it is sufficient to know that it is going to cost a heck of a lot more than \$18.00. If the members appreciate what I tried to do, then my own additional costs will be repaid. If not, well, you have the consolation of knowing that someone else will try

Hayes will yak for an hour now.
their hand at pleasing you.

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ENEY- CHAMBERLAIN and others. Meskys used the RETURN address of Janie Lamb on his issue. To me, this is an excellent idea. Of the over 200 listed members, some are bound to have moved, and not having made any provisions for the forwarding of mail, the mailing will not be delivered, will be returned to the sender. If this amounted to a large number, then it would be an unforeseen cost to the treasury, but I'm thinking strongly of doing this and I will re-imburse the Treasury for whatever this amounts to. Then, the issues returned can be used for new member packets.

FRANSON:- I've been the Welcomittee Chairman for around Five years now, and I'm not in the least bit peeved by the recent publicity the Welcomittee has been receiving in print. Unfortunately, as far as I'm concerned, most of this publicity has been critical, but I tried for a long time to get the Welcomittee discussed, and ideas submitted. I also have been trying for a couple of years to get a replacement too. There is a possibility that I may get this wish granted, by someone who seems to have the ability. But, this is still tentative, subject to some conditions which time only will show.

We now have an idea before us that tends to suggest that the Welcomittee be split up into two groups. (I've even tried three groups in the past.) One group would continue in much the same manner as now, but composed of experienced fans. The second would be relegated to being largely mailers of pamphlets, pamphlets published by others. I do have a few recommendations in regards to these plans, but this publication is intended to go through the mails, and I don't want it stopped as unavailable. But, politely said, where will the 'experienced fan' come from who will be willing to be personell to inform the new members? (2) These booklets, or sheets, of information, could do the same job if sent to Janie Lamb, since they will be mailed to each new member. A group or committee is not necessary beyond the actual publication and editing of this material. This could be the job of the "Publications Group". The cost to them would be minute, since 200 copies would last a whole year, maybe much longer. To existing members, they could be mailed on request for a fee. This would be a worthwhile contribution by a group willing to do something in and for the club. They would prove their good-will by this act, and it wouldn't such a costly one either. (3) or they could send leaflets, with TNFF and TIGHTBEAM in the same way I've been sending THRU THE HAZE.

One thing that is forgotten about the Welcomittee of former years, of long ago, is that it was not just a welcomittee, but also incorporated the duties of Recruiting. In recruiting, you would have to (to be successful as a group) send out informative material since you are not dealing with a person already committed by joining, but one who you are trying to convince to join. The Welcomittee, if the Recruiting job was well done, would NOT have to PROVE that the new member did the right thing in joining, since that would have been done by the Recruiting group. The Welcomittee group would be for Welcoming, and be a group to give information, IF ASKED.

In this supplement, you find some new members pleased with what they've found the WC to be. They've exaggerated when they said it made the Manuscript Bureau useless in that the neo-faned could get material directly from the WC members, but it is true that there are many in the WC who will contribute without grousing, to a neo-faned, who will encourage in any way he/she can, to the enthusiastic plans of the neo-faned. If they do not contribute material, they will contribute subscription money, or, advise on someone who will be likely to contribute. They will advise, when asked, at least some will who do have the information, where to go for further advice for their problems in fanaticity.

Most of the Welcomittee members will advise the new members to Contact Kaymar to advertise their wants, tell them about the Manuscript Bureau for material and as a place for them to send their material, tell them something about N'APA, about TIGHTBEAM and TNFF. If they ask (and many have) they will be advised who to contact to get onto the mailing lists of OMPA, SAPS and FAPA. Some will ask for addresses of foreign correspondants, and any WC members will try to give as long a list as possible. If they are trying to contact any group, others of a particular interest, they will be advised to write a letter to TIGHTBEAM and, if we believe it advisable, tell them to WRITE TO FANAC IN THE HOPE THAT THE EDITORS OF FANAC WILL GIVE THEM A MENTION. We advise them to sub to

FANAC and SFTimes. Those who ask us to recommend 'good' fanzines, don't get a list of only the better Nefferzines, but get what each of us consider the best, whether Neffer or not. In giving out information we make NO distinction or dividing line as to whether it is a Neffer activity or not.

The welcommittee is primarily designed to give a contact immediately with the new member. It is not designed to recruit, it is not designed to give out information willy-nilly, but to respond to the wishes of the new member, in-so-far as they are able, and it requires a definite indication of a specific interest to get the WC to give out more than a small amount of information. When this happens, they prove that they are Welcomers in a sincere manner by trying to help.

Some mistakes are made, sure, but in the five years of Welcoming that I've done, I've come to know that WC work is an intangible thing, and that there must be a huge amount of 'guesswork'. I think our 'guesswork' has been remarkably successful in that no more mistakes have taken place than there has been.

Now, if some group want to take on this information Bureau task, possibly under the conditions my suggestion included, then it is up to them to go right ahead and do it. Broyles did not ask for approval from Officialdom for his project. He was offered help, sure, encouragement, but, as it turned out, that was ALL he needed, just the encouragement, and, as far as I'm concerned, Broyles is the OUSTANDING FAN OF THE YEAR with his WHO'S WHO IN SCIENCE FICTION FANDOM. Next, I would place Carroll Collins with his niche involving Indexing. Neither are going to claim their work is without errors, but not waiting until they have something perfect to get something out. The readers will take care of the correcting, and the next item they undertake will be that much less error prone.

So, the Welcommittee does not restrict itself to explaining Correspondence Activities but covers as well as possible anything the new members express an interest in.

GENTRY:- With this letter, there arises one grotch of mine, in that there seems to be too many who seem to want to refer to NFFF as an entrance to, but not part of, Fandom. They do not always do this intentionally, but are following the format unconsciously, laid out by others who did it intentionally. N3F IS A PART OF FANDOM, and is one of its phases. It encompasses practically ALL activities too, so that a TRUE FAN-type, would, after say a year, know all about the current practices in Fandom in general.

That bomb shelter in the High School, capable of housing FIVE, was not intended as a source of protection for the High School, but as a source of information from which the students would be able to bring home information on a family type shelter. The CD exercise mentioned by Ken is not as stupid as he mentioned in that if there is a direct hit, or even a very near miss, then it is doubtful that even a normal bomb shelter would be of much use. In the case of an atomic explosion far enough away to be considered not too damaging in its fire, explosion characteristics, being in the center of the school would be the best plan due to (1) being away from all those windows and flying glass, and (2), away from direct radiation, fallout, and the direct heat.

HARBELL:- Sorry Phil, I can't agree all the way with your Bjo views. I won't go against them 100% either though.

HULL:- I see no reason for concern in the fact that the N3F has been the center of much comment lately. To me, it spells something GOOD, in that there is concern and a wish for improving it to a point even better than now. From this concern there should emanate a bit of action that would relieve the load on those who have been working to do what was beyond their small numbers. In being critical, are they not exercising one facet of fanactivity? My only concern is that they may come up with a lot of good ideas, but expect the few who have been working their heads off, to do the actual putting into effect their ideas. There is a limit to what any fan can do, and if we had a few more willing to do some work, then, you'd see a big difference in N3F. The center of critical comments of late, has been from within the N3F, instead of outside of NFFF. This, to me is a good thing. I'm not going to allow myself to get all worked up because some criticize the N3F or the Welcommittee in the N3F. I can only do what I'm capable of, and I doubt that anyone can accuse me of being non-active in Neffer affairs.

NEILSON:- I forget who I was discussing the idea with some time ago, but the upshot of his interpretation of the term Neofan was that it was not an age, but a state of mind. I agree with this view. There are many in Fandom who have very little more 'age' than you have, but who are considered almost BNF types. There are some who are well on their way to getting old-age security pensions, and who will never get beyond the Neo state. Just as in the use of the term BNF, the term is in the eye of the beholder. YOU can't call yourself a BNF or a Neo. This is for others to decide, and some may decide you are a Neo, while some others, at the same time, may consider you almost ready for the BNF state. Some may think of you as a Turnhead, others as a genius. It is not for you to decide. When you have found the group, a group, any group, that consider you no longer a neofan, then, in your eyes you should cease to be a neo. In many ways I'm still a neo, yet, in many ways I'm an experienced fan (though a long way from the BNF state, merely becoming a Well Known Fan will be good enough as a goal for me to reach in the future) to some.

NORWOOD:- Appointment to the editorial chair of the letterzine TIGHTBEAM is in the jurisdiction of the President. Anyone who wishes to volunteer for an issue should contact Ralph Holland and discuss the matter.

Just as in the case of a human being, there is a period in the life of one, wherein there is a full dependency on parental care. This is usually followed by an independence in part, but still a tie. In some cases, there is a complete severance, even while both parties still live, and always a complete severance when the parents die. The previous ties of dependence are dropped at this stage, and it does not involve the death of the new adult. I use this analogy to connect with SF. For a long time, Fandom was 100% dependant on the Pro-phase of SF. The Promags were the parents. Fandom has now reached a state where there is only a tie, not a full dependency. We are still dependent to some degree, but a far-cry from what it used to be. As I see it, Fandom has almost reached the state where, finding that it has no more influence on the parents, are about to sever its ties even with SF pro-field. If the pro-field can last just a little longer, then Fandom will have the vitality to continue without the prozines. It will still recruit, even though it will change some from even its current form. It may diminish in size, it may become more centralized, but it no longer needs the promags, just as the promags no longer need or thinks it no longer needs, Fandom. The amateur publications would keep a core of writers available for the resurgence of the promags. These writers would get their practice in the amateur journals, go on to become professionals in other fields than SF, but on the emerging of a need for SF, would provide what the new promags would want, having become polished writers in the others, the other fields.

There is a die-hard core of fans who, no matter what and how successfully it was done, as long as there is a connection to N3F, they would continue their opposition. We spent a fairly large amount of money at the Detention - at the Pittcon and again at the Seacon. This was done without propaganda, without trying to influence anyone to join or support N3F. It was done merely as a service. The SEACON Committee, as have the last few World Concons, recognized this attempt at providing this service. The Solacon was the first in recent years to provide some recognition. Yet, despite this, there was still one of the die-hards to deliberately mock and insult our President. All Ralph could do was to ignore him. We won't be rid of these die-hards for years, if ever. We can only minimize their damage, and go about with what we want to do, with as much sincerity as we can muster in the face of such conduct. We will lose some GOOD fans because of them, but we can't do much about this either.

If you try again to get me to type up all those doggon e queer formulation, with indices, etc. I swear that I will cut out such section when I'm editing in the future. If I had a typer with all those fancy types, then it wouldn't be too bad, but a typer that is already acting up, will act up even more when you have to start playing around with variable spacing.

LOSS OF SOME ISSUES OF TIGHTBEAM? Well, I won't part with my copy of #6, but I am still trying to buy a copy of issue #7, the issue in which Bjo's letter appeared. I never did get that one. Anyone want to sell me their copy? At least, lend it to me, so that I could read the original issue in question.

Hayes is starting to run down... have just a little more patience.....

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When and if you get onto the Directorate, you'll find that there isn't as much leeway in the finance department to give benefits to the members as many think. We have been trying, within the limitation (and much outside, out of our own pockets) of the club income. As far as fanzine sub prices are concerned, you won't find many fanzines of a greater value, for your money elsewhere. Six issues of a fanzine for 80¢, a year's publication is not bad for one's money. You get, or should get, if the mails will deliver it, 12 issues (six of TNFF and six of TB) per year, plus the occasional extra. All the plans for benefits, leaflets, etc., could cost, if charged to the treasury, more than the two publications you are now getting.

VINTUS... Present the NEFFER roster to any experienced fan, and ask him to point out the 'gauche' - the insignificant, overbearing, and despised section. Then look at the remainder and I'm sure you'll find a number that constitutes a large majority of the club's roster. This will be specially true if you dig a little further at their reasons for calling a particular member 'gauche', etc. You'll dismiss many of their claims. We are dealing with a small but highly vocal group, one we can't do much about.

CHAMBERLAIN.. As I mentioned to ENEY, Janie did not edit or publish the Meskys issue of TB. He merely made sure that non-delivered copies would have a chance to be re-used in such ways as Janie could use 'em, in new member packets.

I wish I could remember what it is that I'm supposed to have inserted that created pleasure to you. It's not too often that I find something I've published creates any such 'good' feeling that I'm not used to it. I'm used to having my own publications run down by most.

Anyone can donate to TAFF without voting. The only trouble in donating in the name of another, in order to sponsor a vote, is that it presents the possibility of the charge of "vote-buying". Because it would be open to the abuse of "vote-buying", I do not favour the idea of donating money to TAFF under someone else's name in order to have that person vote your way. In the case where a candidate cannot be chosen by the individual voter, then the straight donation without a vote is the best method. Or, you --no, that idea wouldn't be allowed, so I won't mention it, specially since it is as bad as the vote-buying.

Well, I've committed to stencil, the equivalent of an issue of TIGHTBEAM, and I've still not actually started on my issue of TIGHTBEAM itself, only with the supplement. What do you think of the presentation of my own editorial comments in the form of a letter as in this issue?

So, for this issue, and probably for even the other, the main issue, I've run down. I think that close to five pages of my own views is sufficient for this issue anyhow.

Remember that SATURNALIA has been responsible for this mailing.

A saturnalian fiend,

Art Hayes
CH