



IF WE HAVEN'T BEEN
BURGLARISED AGAIN —
WHERE HAVE THE WALLS GONE?

FOCAL POINT #8: a fanzine of news, views and reviews, is edited and published by rich brown (180 E 88th St., NYC, New York) and Mike McInerney (Apt. 7, 326 E. 13th St., NYC, New York, 10003). Published biweekly (or thereabouts) on the Piebald Plonker Press, available for news, trades, comments or 3/25¢. Our Overseas Agent is even yet Peter Singleton (Ward 2, Whittingham Hospital, Near Preston, Lancashire, England) and subs through him are still 10 for 7/-. Colophon cartoon by ATOM.

Circulation: 300. TRICON IN '66 and NEW YORK IN '67. 7 May 65.

LUNACON/EASTERCON WAS... and it was a joyful thing to us, but what can we say? The Lunacon, sponsored by the Lunarians and chaired by good ol' Charlie Brown, was attended by some 135 fans and pros from up and down the coast and as far away as Wisconsin. A good portion of those Fine People, and possibly a few others, attended the two EasterCon parties sponsored by the FISTFA -- but insomuch as it was your humble Focal Point editors who represented FISTFA there, we can only note that we are not objective enough to offer criticism and that we are both too humble to heap upon ourselves the praise we rightfully and truthfully deserve. (...oh, well; read about it in RATATOSK.) Seriously, it seems fair enough to note that people seemed to enjoy themselves at both functions. There will definitely be another Lunacon/Eastercon next year.

An Eastercon Regression Report (apologies to W. Weber and B. O. Pfeifer) is planned, due out with the next issue of Focal Point, to thank the many fine people who helped us there.

THE LORD OF THE RINGS is in public domain in the United States, ...if you'll just pick yourself up and dust yourself off, we'll go on... It is this fact which explains the publication of THE LORD OF THE RINGS (or, at least, THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING) in paperback, which crogged us all two weeks ago. Houghton Mifflin, the hardbound publishers of the Ring Trilogy in the United States, was either too cheap or too stupid to have the finest fantasy epic of our century copyrighted in the United States; they ran, instead, a notice that the book was copyrighted in England, which only protected the work until it was published in the United States. *Sigh* Effectively, by this lack of action, Houghton Mifflin has destroyed a man's life work; although we glead that the work came out in an inexpensive edition (and it's selling like mad in New York), we are saddened that it had to come about at such a great expanse to the author.

RECENT VISITORS TO NEW YORK: Walter Breen, Les Nirenberg, Ed Wood and (we hear) F.M. Busby.

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DAVE HULAN tells us that SHAGGY is no longer available for trade, by decision of the LASFS Executive Committee. It was trading with 16 faneds; anyone who was trading for SHAGGY and wants to continue getting it should either send sub money, LOC, or material to Ted Johnstone.

TERRY CARR has signed contracts for two more anthologies: WORLD'S BEST SF: 1966, to be co-edited with Don Wolheim, and SCIENCE FICTION FOR PEOPLE WHO HATE SCIENCE FICTION, to be published by Doubleday. Mr. Carr's hyper satire on Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot stories, A Complete Mystery, will appear in next month's Saint Mystery Magazine. # Terry also tells us that the story which appeared in TRUMPET #1 as THE DEMOLISHED FAN by Rich Koogle was actually written by Terry Carr. It appeared in CALIFAN bylined Carl Brandon in 1956, and has been reprinted three times now. Each time Rich Koogle has been listed as the author. # According to Terry, George Locke has recently been selling stories to New Worlds under the penname "Gorden Walters."

ANN ASHE is compiling a culinary dictionary, eventually to be expanded to a cookbook and she would like help in spotting references to non-Terran foods. The references should include title, author, imprint information where helpful, and approximate pages where foods are mentioned. Either book or magazine references are wanted and need not be current.

CITY CON ONE is the newest convention to make the fannish scene. On Friday night May 14, 1965 the City College Science Fiction Society will sponsor a one day con in Room 101, Finlay Student Center on the City College campus. This is located on Convent Avenue between 134th and 135th St. There will be a panel talk on "Should SF be written only for the In Group?", and there will be a science fiction movie. There is no admission charge for the program section of the con. There will be a party after the program with food available there. ### A two day regional conference is also scheduled for Detroit during the last weekend of July. It will be a trible affair for comic fans, movie buffs, and science fiction addicts. The Detroit Misfits are expected to attend but have no active part in putting it on. Contact Shel Dorf, 16808 Manor, Detroit 21, Michigan for further details.

MYTHICAL CAMBRIDGE FANDOM writing in the person of Paul Williams says that The Cambridge Scene with stuff by Larry Stark, Bill Sarill and Dave English is out and selling. Names like Hitchcock, Vanderwerf, and Williams float around on the editorial page. The second issue is dummied and ready to roll as soon as the first sells out. Send enthusiasm to the Larry Stark Press, 20 Mellen St., Apt. 4, Cambridge, Mass. Larry McCombs is publishing a folk music fanzine called FOLKING AROUND. Paul Williams is a Merit Scholar (or soeething) and will be attending Swarthmore College near Philadelphia, in the fall. Joe Pilati has been fired from his frenetic activity at the BU newspaper, for being a Dangerous Word-Throwing Radical. He has also been protesting Vietnam in Washington, or maybe vice versa.

TOP SECRET!

Colin Freeman is an active British fan in his late 20's whose humorous writings have appeared in Bill Danner's STEFANIASY, Dave Hale's LES SPINGE, with letters in other fanzines. As a member of OMPA, he contributes MEIN OMP-F and also publishes a genzine, SCRIBBLE. But Colin has never been to a science fiction convention, because he cannot move from his bed.

A victim of Ankylosis Spondilitis*, Colin does all his fanac and correspondence flat on his back in a hospital. Visitors to his bedside and fans who have exchanged letters find Colin a cheerful and interesting person to know. So a group of fans decided to try to get Colin to the Loncon II. This will be an expensive project, for a special bed, equipment and supplies will have to be bought or rented, and a full-time special nurse hired for the duration. This will cost an estimated £150 to £200, or about \$500 in round US currency.

THERE IS A DEADLINE: The Loncon II is August 28, 29, & 30 and arrangements will have to be made well ahead of time to move Colin and hire a nurse, so the money will be needed by the end of July, 1965.

This project is to be kept an **ABSOLUTE SECRET** from Colin Freeman to avoid any disappointment should the fund not reach the required amount. Any questions should be directed to the addresses which appear here, and no mention in fanzines or letters concerning the fund should be sent to Colin. Pass the word to all interested fans, but always with the admonition of secrecy concerning Colin himself. Some fans are beginning to refer to the project as Operation Andy Capp (a British cartoon character), to avoid making a slip which might reach Colin.

Ron Bennett, Ethel Lindsay, Eric Bentcliffe and George Locke are the Anglofen responsible for starting the fund. US fans in on developing the project include Dave & Katya Hulan, Bruce & Dian Pelz, and John & Ejo Trimble. Donations may be sent to:

Ron Bennett, 52 Fairways Dr.,
Starbeck, Harrogate,
Yorkshire, England

--OR--

David G. Hulan, Apt. #5,
19018 Bryant St.,
Northridge, California 91325

Private funds have been collected before; to get John Berry to Detention, Walt & Madeline Willis to Chicon III, and bus-ridden Marijane Johnson to Seacon. It can be done again if everyone contributes even a few coins; it is surprising how fast that can add up to hard cash. A recent card party netted over \$12.00 in just small change for the fund.

Enterprising fans can add to the fund with auctions and raffles at club meetings and parties, and even rake-offs at card games. A special bank passed around at meetings or left on a table at a gathering can collect loose pocket change. Donations of books, art, and other items of interest for a mail auction, raffle at a meeting, or auction at the forthcoming Westercon XVIII (July 3, 4, & 5, 1965) will be gladly accepted. ALL donors of money and/or materials will be listed in Ron Bennett's SKYRACK when the fund is completed.

\$500 is a lot of money, but it seems little enough to spend on giving Colin the time of his life at a convention with his friends; something he has never done more than dream about before this fund was started. DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE DEADLINE: the sooner the fund is completed, the sooner Colin can be told about the fun in store for him, so he may have that special joy of anticipation.

*** from COLIN FREEMAN ONLY - tell others!**

[*Ankylosis: fixation of a joint or two or more bones to form a single bone, and; Spondilitis: tuberculous inflammation of the vertebrae....]

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TRICON PROGRESS REPORT #0 has come out. It has excellent illos by Roy Krenkel, Jim Cawthorne, and Harry Douthwaite. For a copy write to Ben Jason, 3971 East 71st St., Cleveland, Ohio 44105.

The PHILCON this year will be held November 12th and 13th. This will be the 30th anniversary of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society. Tom Purdom, president of Philadelphia SFS and author of "I want The Stars," is having his second novel published by Ace. It is titled "A MAN Can Die But Once."

COA

Dave Hulan, 19018 Bryant St, Apt 2, Northridge Calif. 91325
Ruth Berman, 5620 Edgewater Blvd, Minneapolis, Minn. Off. June 1st.

NEWSGABBLE: Chris Steinbrunner was on the Amazing Randi Show on WOR on Saturday night April 24, 1965. He was discussing detective stories. ## Jim Sander's show "Gabfest" on WKCR FM had as guests Ted White, Terry Carr, and Fred Lerner discussing fandom on Friday night April 30th. ## Visitors to the World's Fair may be suprised to see at the American Express exhibit of modern sculpture and strange constructions two Tolkein sculptures. Both are by Ivan Mischo of New York City and one is called Gandalf, while the other is Entwash. They can not be described, you'll have to see them for yourself. At the same exhibit there is one "statue" called Malacanda by Roger Bolomey of Hoboken, New Jersey. Wasn't that the name of the earth in C. S. Lewis' stories? ## FLASH, the new editor of Amazing and Fantastic is Joseph Ross. The magazines will be going bimonthly when the new editor takes over. # The Gallery Beyond The Blue Door, 2307 Merrick Rd, Merrick, Long Island is currently having an exhibition of Virgil Finley's no sf artwork. Their phone number is FR 8-9868 for further information. # Alex Eisenstein is the new fanzine reviewer for TRUMPET. 3030 W. Fargo Ave, Chicago, Illinois. 60645.

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