

F O C A L P O I N T #2 , a fanzine of news, views, and reviews,
is edited and published by rich brown
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CLEVELAND IN '66, TERRY CARR FOR TAFF (For Those Who Care Enough
To Send The (Very) Best) AND NEW YORK IN '67! . . . that's all right too
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ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1965 Andy Main & Barbara Gilbert became
Mr. & Mrs. A K Main Bem; good wishes
and hearty congratulations to both from us. Right now they are
living at 24 James St., NYC, New York, but watch for a COA soon.

FAMOUS FANNISH FAN Ted White (this is getting to be a Regular
Column) just sold another book -- this time to
Lancer. It is titled "Phoenix Prime" and is based on a short story
Ted and Marion Zimmer Bradley sold to AMAZING a few years back.
We've seen the first three chapters, and they look Good; editor
Larry Shaw, obviously, agrees with us. :: Other books of fannish
interest include an anthology coming out from Ace, "World's Best
Science Fiction: 1965," edited by Don Wollheim and Terry Carr;
Lin Carter's "The Wizard of Lemuria," from Ace in March; Joe Greene
(ex-co-editor of Confusion) "Leafers of Refuge" from Ballantine
in Feb., ; and "Monster" a collection of Van Vogt stories selected
by Ackerman from Paperback Library in Feb. :: Avram Davidson says,
"I'm now working on a book which it's entitled TEKELILI and the
contagonist is a man who's also a mood and a condition, get it?
viz and to wit: Dead White. Get it? Ya g-- Hey, quit shoving me!
News, you want more news? Avram Davidson is on the penultimate
chapter for poor Pyramid Books of a SF thriller called MASTERS
OF THE MAZE which was due last August! Pyramid has been rec'd for
a Nobel Prize in Patience. Soon as that's done, Mr AD will get
cracking on putting merely finishing touches onto ROGUE DRAGON
for Ace." Avram also mentioned, "I had a telephone call in the
middle of the night from Ella Parker. Aside from the fact that
she was incoherent with rage and thought I was Harlan Ellison, I
wasn't able to find out what it was that she was incoherent with
rage about."

WE NEED NOT HEDGE OR EQUIVOCATE: Last issue, you may remember, we
reported that the Piebald Palace
had been invaded by thieves; we did not name names, but we said we
suspected a rival newszine editor of trying to keep FP from coming
out, on time or at all. There are some who think we meant Jimmy
Turasi or Larry Shaw, but that's not the case at all, In the in-
tervening period, the Piebald Palace has been burgalarized twice
more -- the total loss now stands at three record players, three
typewriters, two movie cameras, and one movie projector -- and we
therefore feel we must Speak Out more specifically. We think Bruce
Pelz, villianous CE of SAPS and FAPA, with the aid of SAPS Treasury
Funds, chartered a plane to accomplish these deeds, while leaving
his wife behind to assemble the SAPS mailing, thus covering him
with a Phnney Alibi. :: Due to these disasterous losses, we have
not quite kept up with our promised bi-weekly schedule. However,

the editors of FP have decided to move to a Secret Hiding Place in New York, that we might continue to be the latest to bring you the latest, and use only a Post Office Box for receiving mail. That will be sometime in March, or maybe April. Watch This Space.

MIKE DECKINGER, the first to reply to the first issue of FP, comes up with a lot of newsnotes on his pc of comment, "Harlan Ellison has been signed by Joseph E. Levine to write the screenplay for a proposed Levine epic, THE OSCAR, a "backstage look" at the Oscar race, from a currently popular sensationalistic novel of the same name, This will perhaps keep Harlan from placing unsuccessful transatlantic phone calls." FP has discovered after much research that there is no truth to the rumor that Harlan's next novel will be entitled THE HUGO to be published by Jim Warren. :: "A new William Castle flick, just released on a broad circuit run, titled THE NIGHT WALKER has been scripted by Robert Bloch, while another cheap thriller, called TWO ON A GUILOTINE owes its screenplay to the talents of Henry Slesar." And Mike adds as a warning, "Unlike yesteryears, I hardly ever go to movies these days, so the risk is your own." Caveat Emptor.

FRANK WIGGLEMIGGLE TO BE TAKEN FOR A RIDE-but it's not as bad as it sounds. Frank Wilimczyk will be doing a regular fanzine review column that will be appearing with FP--maybe every issue, maybe every other issue, depending on time and inclination -- and everyone who wants to be reviewed therein had best send their fanzines to Frank Wilimczyk at 447 10th Ave., NYC, NY.

DON AND JO MEISNER, newest of the Fanoclasts and Friends of Lee Hoffman (upon whose typewriter, by the way, these FP pages are being typed --for which Many Thanx), have given a table to the editors of Focal Point, which will be used (probably) for typing also. This isn't *News*, really, but it sure as hell is *Nice*. Thanx.

THE VILLAGE VOICE, the most widely-read weekly in the nation, seems to be going Fannish. So far, this fannishness has been limited to John Wilcox's column therein, "The Village Square." In one issue he quotes and compliments an article Marion Zimmer Bradley (Breen) did for LADDER and in the next he mentions that ex-fan Dave Mason is gathering funds for a newspaper to give TVV competition.

SPEAKING OF FANS AND PROS popping up in unusual places, Isaac Asimov had an article in a recent (Jan 9-16) TV GUIDE, all about how he was much more qualified to write "The Living Doll." It's typical Asimov humor -- good, we mean -- so pick up that issue, if you haven't already, and have a laugh.

NONAPATHETIC APAS: Lots of APA news this issue: SAPS mailings just arrived here on the East Coast, totaling 345 pp, with Dave Hulan's 41 page LOKI being the biggest and (from first glance) probably the best item in the mailing. One of ye co-editors (rb) was raked over the coals by various SAPSmembers, but that's all right too. The other co-editor of FP (mjm) was invited to membership. Bruce Pelz, Box 100, 308 Westwood Plaza, LA, Calif.

is the OE and will probably be re-elected to a fifth term come next mailing; he's running unopposed. :: Inter-APA, the International Amateur Press Association, has been taken over by Dwain Kaiser, 5321 Mountain View Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada, and there will be a few changes made. The dues are \$2.50 a year, and the page requirement is 12 pages yearly. Mailings will come out every four months, with the first due on March 15, 1965. :: APA 45 has just brought out its second mailing, totaling 187 pages. The largest zine in the mailing was Hank Luttrell's STARLING #4, which was 34 pages. Richie Benyo has resigned as OE, and Rich Mann will be the new CE. Surplus copies of mailings 1 and 2 can be had for \$1 from Benyo, Box 229, Waller Hall, Bloomsburg State College, Bloomsburg, Penn. 17835. Rich Mann's address is B331 Bryan Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48823. :: APA F and APA L, the two weekly apas, are still going strong, APA F with 40 pages in its 30th mailing, and APA L with 57 pages in its 15th dispensation. It's impossible to join APA L unless you are a member of LASFS and nearly impossible to join APA F (which operates out of FISTFA/Fanoclasts), since attendance is almost mandatory to receive mailings. But we'll continue giving reports because we're ornary.

CHARLIE BROWN, who's a Good Man, gives us some news on the Lunacon, that we can pass along to you, "I'm chairman of the Lunacon this year. Hal Clement is the guest of honor. The fan panel is to be on fan art;" Steve Stiles is on the fan art panel. For further details write to Charlie at, 2719 Morris Ave, Bronx, NY. 10468

THE FANZINE CLEARING HOUSE is one truly worthwhile activity of the N3F; it provides the last outlet to garner new fans via the prozines. Seth Johnson reports that ads are paid up in the Ziff Davis twins until April 1966. If you are looking for subscribers for your fanzine, send Seth your extra copies. His address is 339 Stiles Street, Vaux Hall New Jersey.

THE FAN HISTORY will be published soon. The writer, Harry Warner, writes, "Incidentally, the manuscript for the first volume, on the 1940's, is substantially complete. I'm now awaiting word from Kemp on whether he wants one or two chapters or would prefer them to wait for the second volume; meanwhile, I'm giving a final reading to his retyping of the manuscript and to notes by him and another fan on matters of accuracy and consistency. I should have this homework done in another week or two."

FOCAL POINT QUERY: We want reader reaction on the idea of establishing a Focal Point Poll; specifically, although we did not come on the scene until January of this year, we can promise that our poll results will be just that, and no more, not lies such as Dick Eney published in his. But how do Focal Point readers feel about this? A committee was set up to take an "Official" fannish poll; Should we publish an independent one anyway?

POLICY STATEMENT; We both appreciate the news and comments the first issue of FP garnered, but we think we should mention a few things. Focal Point is primarily a fannish newszine,

printing news about fans and fandom. We editorialize and stick our own opinions in from time to time, but we try to make it obvious when we are doing so...sometimes we are evil and we don't. We are interested in science fictional news, but we think of ourselves more as a competitor with Ratatosk than Science Fiction Times; the science fictional news we present must be of fannish interest (such as the books we mentioned in this issue -- they're by pipples who are active, one way or another, in the fannish microcosm) or of major importance (such as the news we presented about ANALOG in the last issue). At any rate, be sure to let us know What's Happening.

STEVE STILES, the playboy publisher of SAM & TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT and sometimes writer for HONQUE, POOR RICHARD'S ALMANAC, QAR and other fanzines of low repute, has moved to 207 W88th Street, NYC, NY. Steve commented on the blanket blackball of the FAPA wl in the 27th mailing of APA F, and we would like to quote him in full here, since we are in Full Agreement with him. "FILTH! DEATH! AN OUTRAGE! A DIRTY SHAME!: I've just been informed that the entire FAPA WAITING LIST has been blackballed by a bunch of skulking cowards, who shit bit us on our insteps (we know who you are). The claim is that the 65 of us went into a bathroom and practiced sodomy. The 65th, they claim, was either a daisy, a voyuer, or mighty unpopular. Well, I have news for you, cowardly, mad turtles; (we know who you are) people go into bathrooms to shit and pee and to t--- b---- (the dashes are supplied by FP. this is a family fanzine...FP)! Did that thought ever occur to your nasty, suspicious minds? Eh? Eh? The thing that gets me is that we're penalized while Boyd Raeburn is allowed to walk the streets, unmolested."

FLASH NEWS -- Just five minutes ago, as we type this, we talked to Bob Pavlat, the Secretary-Treasurer of FAPA, who reported to us that he had, on his own perogative, re-instated the FAPA waiting list, which had been blackballed as of the 109th FAPA mailing. When asked why he had done this, he cited the portion of the constitution which said that the maintenance of the FAPA wl was up to him and that he had decided that FAPA needed its wl, whether they had been legally blackballed by the FAPA constitution or not. (If Bob has more to say, or if we have presented his case badly, we shall be happy to print what he has to say in the pages of FP.) There will most definitely be repercussions -- Watch This Space. :: The Cult, we hear, passed a rule to have every member of FAPA a member of the Cult. This, we assume, is the Cult's answer to the Constitutional ammendment. Rick Sneary has proposed to ban all Cult members from FAPA.

As far as we're concerned, you don't have to do anything until Focal Point # 6. This is because:

- you sent news
- you subscribe
- you trade (d) (?)
- you are a Good Man
- you had better send news, subscribe, trade or become a Good Man pretty damn soon

ppp:focal point