

FOCAL POINT #3

a fanzine of news, views and reviews, is edited and published by Mike McInerney & rich brown

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COVENTRY "TOO DANGEROUS" FOR SHAGGY

"Since Redd Boggs skipped town without publishing SHAGGY, Ted Johnstone, LASFS Director at the time, appointed himself Editor, and after getting some material and the mlg. list from Boggs, got SHAGGY #70 out only eight months late. Included in the zine, which hit the mails early February, is Thrilling Gondor Stories by Jack Harness -- the first two chapters of a serial laid in Coventry. ...when SHAGGY was handed out at the LASFS meeting, a few of the members fell on the floor frothing at the mouth. The only people deeply afflicted seemed to be Al Lewis, John and Bjo Trimble, plus Paul Turner. John Trimble cancelled his sub to SHAGGY and Al Lewis sounded-off with "I have spent enough blood, toil, sweat and tears on SHAGGY not to want it disgraced by a juvenile silly-assed half-witted piece of nonsense like Coventry." Most of the others present thought they'd at least read the story before condemning it, but, it turned out, during the week Lewis and the Trimbles decided the LASFS should be Saved From Humiliation by organizing a motion of censure against Ted -- originally they intended to impeach him, but by doing so they wd have to take responsibility for SHAGGY again -- Bjo phoning the Cal Tech contingent, telling them it was their duty to LASFS to vote to censure Ted, and Al Lewis phoning fringe members of the club trying to line up more votes. Finding this out, Ted and the Labyrinth crew went collecting backing for Freedom of the Press and the Right to Publish Coventry Stories. The result? At the 1435th meeting of LASFS, Al Lewis called for a motion of impeachment against Ted Johnstone as editor of SHAGGY. The director pointed out that he was not an officer but an appointee and therefore could not be impeached. Amended to read "removal." Al spoke at some length on the history of Coventry and the fuss it caused four years ago and fandom's opinion of same. TAJ answered, pointing out that one story did not indicate that Coventry was 'taking over' SHAGGY. Felz spoke against removal, but suggested a simple statement of LASFS Policy -- no Coventry stories in SHAGGY. Johnstone agreed. After the usual amending and arguing, Lewis was forced to accept. Ted still holds SHAGGY but Coventry is dropped. 80% of the club thought it was 'too dangerous' and would re-awaken old feuds and damage the 'LASFS Image.'"

--Spy L-A

THE OPEN ESPA MEETING will be held at the Newark, New Jersey YM-YWCA on Sunday, March 7, 1965 at 2:30 P.M. The program is entitled "A Salute To Galaxy," and will feature as guests, H.L. Gold, Groff Conklin, Willy Ley, Harry Harrison, Lester Del Rey, Robert M. Guinn, Sol Cohen, and Frederik Pohl. A plaque will be presented to Galaxy by the Eastern Science Fiction Association. A Color Slide show will be presented by Chris Moskowitz, and will be narrated by Sam Moskowitz. Registration is \$1.

YET ANOTHER APA has been formed. The Terrean Amateur Press Society "has been in existence since late December. This is a Cult-type group which publishes a monthly official organ similar to the Fantasy Rotator. The second issue of the Terrean was 29 pages in length and announced the election of Len Bailes to the post of Apa Manager (similar to that of CA in the Cult)." Members include Bailes, Katz, Lerner, Mann, Kusske, Thorne, Gilbert, Staton, Montgomery, and Kaiser. Thanx Len Bailes.

THE NEO-FAN FUND is a worthy effort which serves as Fandom's version of Traveler's Aid. Harriet Kolchak, 2330 N. Hancock St., Phila, Penn. 19133 is the Sect.-Treas. for the Fund and you should direct questions and money in her direction. Several fund raising projects are in the works: an address book, containing the addresses of all active fen should be going to press in a month or two. If you want your address to be included you had better Write Soon to Harriet; Also, a series of reprints from old fanzines is being published. Suggestions on what to reprint will be considered. The NEO-FAN FUND now has \$108.60 in the bank, available as loans to needy fen stranded at conventions without the money to eat or get home. This is worthy of Fannish Support.

COA:

art Hayes, P.O. Box 135, Matachewan, Ontario, Canada
Andy & Barbara Main, 111 Norfolk St., NYC 2, NY tel: 982-3126
Steve Stiles, 207 W 80th St., NYC, NY

Last issue we goofed on Steve's COA, listing it as 88th St. Sorry.

"BALTIMORE IS PROGRESSING NICELY," Jack Chalker reports, "We'll have propaganda in the Enemy territory in April," he continues, "they, the us he's talkin' about!," "and more on our own grounds in May, when the Disclave is to be held (May 7-8 to conclusion, possibly program, Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, Wheaton, Maryland.)" The news that there'll be a Disclave is the best piece of news we've received since...well, since we heard that the Fanoclats were bidding for a Worldcon in '67. Yessir. Jack also adds, "MIRAGE #7 has been stencilled for some time, but Bill Evans has been ill & I can't run it on the Gestetner. So it's in Limbo. A good one, too." If you're interested in getting that issue (and most issues of MIRAGE are better than the "good" he allows here), you can contact Jack at 5111 Liberty Heights Ave., Baltimore 7, Maryland. If you've got questions about the Disclave, ask him; if he doesn't have the answers, he knows who does. He'll probably tell you about Baltimore in '67, but don't listen to him.

WE ARE IN RECEIPT of a publication titled Focal Pint #1, a line-by-line pastiche of Focal Point #1, by Ron Wilson. The somewhat blah scatological references are far overshadowed by a fine sense of humor: there are some excellent sections throughout. :: In retaliation, however, we're awarding Mr. Wilson a twenty-issue subscription of Focal Point -- that will teach him to mess around with us, boy.

NEWSCAGGLE: Mike Deckinger contributes a dime, the first dime in fact, to the Fund-to-buy-a-lock-for-Fiebold-Palace-so-envious-competitors-will-be-unable-to-further-burglarize-the-premises. This is a worthy fund which we, here at the editorial offices of Focal Point, endorse with cries of glad approval. No contribution too large, none to small: just as long as it's money. :: Fabulous Fannish Fan Ted White hasn't sold a novel in weeks, but we decided to come out with this issue of Focal Point anyway. :: Rick Sneary is the Treasurer of Westcon 18, and will gladly except \$1.00 from anyone who would like a membership. Rick's address is 2962 Santa Ana St., South Gate, California. :: Dave Kyle says that Jay Kay Klein's new house burned down. The extre expense of rebuilding just might force Jay to miss London in '65, leaving Dave to carry the ball for Syracuse in '66. Kyle adds, "the item entitled "An Upsurge of Activity in New York Fandom" was good news. He is familiar with the history of Fannish affairs in the big city and considers it a happy situation that New Yorkers are pulling * .. together instead of against each other. Assuming Syracuse wins in '66, Baltimore won't have as easy a time being picked as everyone thinks." :: Rumors? Gil Lamont reports, "FAHRENHEIT 451 is at last being filmed in France. FLOWERS FOR ALGERNON will be filmed soon too, so some pb tells me. THE WORLD OF RAY BRADBURY, those three plays adapted from his stories (THE VELDT, TO THE CHICAGO ABYSS, and THE PEDESTRIAN) might be filmed too." :: We hear some rather nasty rumors about a something-or-other going on between Project Art Show and Dick Eney -- we're sure the rumors are worse than the truth, but we're waiting for someone to give us that. :: Gahan Wilson will have a regular cartoon page in F&SF beginning with the April issue. :: Greg Benford won second prize in the F&SF story contest; his story will be in the June issue. :: Chris Steinbrunner's annual Sherlock Holmes * show on Station WFUV-FM was broadcast on Saturday Feb. 6, 1965 at 7:00PM. The hour long show featured Randy Garrett as Dr. Watson.

HEY! We just heard: Steve Tolliver announced his engagement to Sylvia Doss. Congratulations, joyously!

this is your last issue unless you Do Something.
 you are a Subscriber
 you sent us *News*
 we trade
 you did something good

PPD focal point

Your last issue of FP will be # 6