

clearer!

is the all-purpose personalzine of Samuel Edward Konkin III. It is published irregularly (semi-monthly, approximately) for exchange with other Science Fiction fanzines and for the following Amateur Press Associations: *APA-nu*, *Alarums & Excursions*, *Frefanzine*, and any others the editor is invited to join. clearer! is available only for trade, letter-of-comment, or in APA. clearer! welcomes fanart!, locs and filk songs; the fanned will also consider other faanish material and even sercon for inclusion if he can think on an excuse. All correspondence should be sent to New Libertarian Enterprises, P.O. Box 1748, Long Beach, CA 90801, Attention: SEK3. □

This issue is Number 9 (of Volume II) and is intended primarily for *Frefanzine 3* (April 24, 1976). Next ish: D&D for A&E. An expedition into *Terra Supra*: "The Wyrinthy"

NOTICE

I am finally getting a mailing list together for *Clear Ether!* and this seems as good a place as any to announce it. If you are interested in receiving those issues which are *not* collated in *Frefanzine* (well over 2/3), write in. Please read the colophon above.

Note that I am not asking for money, but TANSTAAFL. You must exchange or write locs I can print and reply to you accordingly.

I will also begin locating some of the zines I have been getting, now that the FAFIA is over.

Finally, I take this opportunity to announce there will be no new trades of *New Libertarian Weekly* for fanzines. Henceforth, *Clear Ether!* is my tradezine.

Business over, now for the fun.

ANDERSON FOR HUGO

For the last three or four years Poul Anderson has had a Hugo nominee. And every year he has come in third. Your anarchofaned admits that he usually voted that way himself.

But this year could very well be different. There is no Heinlein running, no Niven and Pournelle, not even a LeGuin. And to the best of my knowledge, Poul Anderson has written the best science fiction novel of 1976.

Incidentally, the book describes an anarchist society, individualist and market-oriented, though with a few flaws. It's only serious drawback, though, was the fact it was published by the Science Fiction Book Club and hasn't received more exposure yet.

I urge all frefen to send in their nominations to Kansas City with *The Winter of the World* on it for Best SF Novel of 1975. Hopefully, a more available edition will be out by the voting time, and the masses of fen can decide for themselves on the book's merits whether to agree with this assessment. But it has a handicap to get on the ballot, and there frefen can help. After all, who *else* is likely to, who *else* has an interest?

And if you haven't read *Winter of the World* and you call yourself a frefan... for shame!

Repeat: Get *Winter of the World* by Poul Anderson on the Hugo ballot for Best Novel of 1976. Give it a chance!

WINTER OF LONG BEACH

The Speculative Fiction Association of Long Beach had a joint meeting with the Frefen at the Anarchovillage on April 24. Present were Your Friendly Neighbourhood Anarchofaned (or "The Harried Host"), Steve, Sandy, and Sean McIntosh (omnipresent, in the last-named's case), Neil Schulman, Mr. and Mrs. Les Eargle, The Thornton, the never-to-be forgotten Lee and Barry Gold, a tardy Ken Gregg and his pet Gestetner (*purr*), and a very belated Charles Curley. Drifting in and out was a tame Banneristi wraith released from his Charm Person in South Carolina who has recently nested his 'lair in my living room (Phil Osborne). And a couple of SFALBers who left before I learned their names.

YFNA went through a brief recount of Poul Anderson's *Winter of the World* when it turned out only three others had read the book because of its limited distribution through SFBC. (See NLW 13 for a review, CE7 for my personal opinion of the book.)

I noted the observable evolution in Poul Anderson's thought, from the gung ho "save the human race from the alien menace the peaceniks are ignoring" message of *The Star Fox* to the isolation-

ist, "what're we fighting for in this hole?" position of *Fire Time*. I noted that Anderson has had contact with the libertarian movement for years, and that I suspected that Donya in *WotW* was based a bit on Sharon Presley and others I know. In other words, Anderson is aware that there are real people in the present day who believe in and wish to live the life-style of the Rogaviki.

Anderson in his "surprise ending" posits that belief as impossible, for the Rogaviki are *not* human. Thus, the anarchist ideal remains an unobtainable mockery for humanity.

(And thus was chosen the title of the meeting topic: "Must Anarchists Be Mutants?")

Lee Gold, in Anderson's defense, noted that the quasi-anarchist society in *Fire Time* was totally alien, and Anderson's *Winter of the World* anarchists were at least descended from humanity. Clearly he is converging on a human-anarchist end-point.

After a few more hashes on this sore point (for YFNA anyways), it became clear that there were no other substantial complaints on the book (from those who've read it all) and discussion took off simultaneously in several different directions: paucity of Romantic heroines (of which Donya was an example, where are the others in modern literature?), feminist assertiveness (when Sandy tried to interrupt the interruption of my interruption of somebody else's interruption of her interruption...), arch Anarcho-Christian Thornton being accused by Reformed Jew Lee Gold of being anti-religious which briefly broke up the house (and I'm not sure *how* that one came up), argument on the Copyright Question (?), and D&D (which needs no particular starting point.)

Frefanzine collation was postponed until Tuesday to allow a couple more zines to squeeze in, and the last few die-hards rode north in their internal combustion chariot (of Hunnish origin) to liberate a pizza from a feudalism inn yclept The Round Table. (A High Crusade for some of us.)

Next fannish gathering at the Anarchovillage will be the June meeting of Hanneth Annun Chapter of the Mythopeic Society. Topic will be *Black Easter* by James Blish, specifically, the screen treatment which was recently completed by Charles Curley.

FREFANAC

Frefen are planning to descend (or ascend) on Kansas City in maximum numbers. After all, is not Mr. Frepro himself going to be Guest of Honour?

With Robert A. Heinlein present, only the fullest effort of the MidAmerican Committee to keep the World Science Fiction Convention of 1976 (over Labour Day Weekend) attendance downward prevent a veritable horde. (Would you believe rates going up until they are \$50 at the door?) Some non-fannish or borderline-types have already expressed interest in coming to MidAmeriCon just to get together with the fannish libertarians gathered.

From California-way, Charles Curley plans on getting together a Big Ol' Convoy to put the hammer down on eye-one-oh. Besides emptying out the Anarchovillage for MidAmeriConVoy, "Connecticut Yankee" hopes to get some plain ol' fen to go rockin' chair. How 'bout it? Anybody out there got a copy on Connecticut Yankee, c'mon? (First Mama, jus' stay outta our way, we ain't-a gonna pay no toll!)

I predict there will be more libertarians gathered in Kansas City (around 5000 total fans are expected) over Labour Day Weekend 1976 than ever before in the history of the Movement. And they will be surrounded by the non-converted and receptive! **New Libertarian Weekly** will be publishing a special double-sized Supplement issue, so send in your articles, illos, and fiction for that penny-a-word egoboo.

Ghu, Mises and Ken Gregg willing, we should be having a *Frefanzine 5* collation at MidAmeriCon, the biggest and best yet! So get your zines there, with or even without you. ■