

CLEAR ETHER!

Personal-APA-genzine of Samuel Edward Konkin III for LASFAPA, Frefanzine, trades, locs and artwork. Address all correspondence to New Libertarian Enterprises, Box 1748, Long Beach, CA 90801; Personal: SEK3.

This is Volume Three, Number Two, and is intended mostly for LASFAPA 18, an all-comments issue. Next issue: new essay, reviews, response to the Editorial on Ellison, and mailing comments for Frefanzine 12 and LASFAPA 19.

STFNAL

ANOTHER HAPPY CHERRYH-PICKER!

Some people have everything. That strikingly goodlooking woman I saw while waiting for transportation from SunCon had a name-badge at which I had to look closer: C.J. Cherryh. Ah, yes, the John Campbell Award-winner, I thought. John J. Pierce has been recommending her all over the place. She's supposed to be part of the influx of new SF writers, "all who are any good are women." Sure.

I started *The Faded Sun: Kesrith* after finishing the Zelazny serial (more on that next issue) in *Galaxy*, filled with the glow of a five-volume series ended well and appropriately cataclysmically. Loyally I moved on to the next *Galaxy* serial started in that issue, giving old John J. his first chance (Baen had got the *Courts of Chaos*.)

My Ghod, it's Old Wave! Modern, hip, atune with the present state of the art of psychology—but there is a plot, Galactic Empires, fascinating aliens including a trading species and a war-mongering clan. All right! Nor is this spoofed in the current mode, or reactionarily-defended a *la* Pournelle & Niven.

Only one thing I'll say here besides "rush out and read it." Even libertarians may not have picked up on this: the alien society based on tradition, conservatism and militarism self-destructed. Yes, it did. And the merchant aliens, the traders, the People of the Marketplace (*regul*) survived. (The economic and social system of the humans is suggested to be a mixed economy and remains mostly in the background.) If anything, the *mri* militarists have been portrayed the most sympathetically of the three and the traders the least—yet reality demanded the marketeers triumph—and they did. The integrity involved in the choices made in this story—and the action and plot and heroism—have won me over. C.J. Cherryh is moving up on Heinlein, Anderson, LeGuin et al—third rank sliding into second.

Intelligence, integrity, wealth (from her sales) and good looks too. Eat your heart out, egalitarians. —SEK3

EN GARDE AT THE RIPOSTE OFFICE

For those who remember my listing of three personal crises, this is the update. The third one has come to its conclusion. As of February 12, 1978, I am no longer engaged. All LASFAPAns are welcome to share in my relief;

I'll keep my other reactions, as usual, to myself. That takes care of that.

In the other two realms, I have made a smooth transition from one owner to the other of the place at which I grind my daily bread, and the operation may last awhile yet. No resolution, but breathing space. The first crisis is well on its way to resolution: *New Libertarian 2* will be leaving the printer as this is being taken in. Options are opened.

And now back to our comments.

LASFAPA 16 (concl.)

Guy H. Lillian III (concluded)

You are unclear in your remark to Charles about handguns and the State; are you in favour of morphine regulation by the government (your analogy)? If so, can you be specific as to what problem coercion is required to solve and why no non-coercive solution will work? Should cyanide be regulated? Water?

Everything? How about the State and its actions, and if so, by whom? Finally, why do you assume the regulator will have greater wisdom than the regulatee in making decisions as to the use of the regulated? If such decision-making ability is so apparent and obvious to many, if not all, why cannot this wise consultant sell his advice to the consumer? Finally, what are the bad uses of morphine to which you allude, and why are they bad? Does the system of morality you use to judge the uses as bad also include coercion as bad, or sometimes bad, and if so, what measuring standard do you use to compare the bad of morphine use to the bad of coercion to prevent that bad morphine use so as to justify the net good of the coercive act? Just asking. ¶ Your remark to Bobbi affirming a "higher law than the government's" gives me considerable hope for you. How do you deal with those like me who find all demands of the government against their conscience, who believe (understand) that

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the State is institutionalized theft and murder? Are you going to hedge and qualify or allow me to follow my conscience? And if you do, why, we'll have anarchy. ¶ I'm not sure how either of us could deal with it in person (as you yourself are wary) but in print at least I'd love to have you in a "masculinist" CR group. I identify with a lot of your problems and your attempts at solving them. Good luck, "brother." ¶ "Cleaver and Angela... had class and humor." Class may be subjective, but what humor? Davis especially, ever seen a Commie laugh? Never, baby, never. ¶ Read about Tim Leary and his irrational lack of paranoia (irrational because he was being persecuted) in *Cosmic Trigger*. I can see why Southern dopers may have a "paranoid" tinge because of the higher level of oppression, but I certainly have not noticed it as, say, a California doper characteristic. ¶ My [ex-]fiancee is [was] a Hellman fan. Have you seen *Julia* yet? I must admit I was far more interested in her covivant, Dashiell Hammett. Hard to believe his was a Red (CP member) considering the humour and wit of *The Thin Man* series. ¶ Big series in *LA Times* about Jews on the West Coast. They may be more assimilating than NYC-types, but are still not getting into Country Clubs. (Not to sound callous, but given their

NOTICE OF MEETING & PARTY

Invitation to the Speculative Fiction Association of Long Beach (SFALB), members of LASFAPA in the Southern California region at the time, members of Westmarch, and *frefen* everywhere:

"WRITTEN WORKS IN PROGRESS: Scientific, Fantastic, and Libertarian"

Neo-pros and completed but unsold authors in the aforementioned associations will be focused upon, given a chance to read, declaim or decline.

PLACES: Anarchovillage, 1838 E. 7th St., Apt. 3, Long Beach; and an appropriate restaurant for dinner.

TIMES: 3:00 P.M. Gathering and socializing.
4:00 P.M. Formal discussion chaired by SEK3.
5:30 P.M. Dinner break
7:30 P.M. Party

DATE: Saturday, April 22, 1978

history, if all they have to bitch about is that rich WASPS won't drink with them, well, shit! [My ancestors were treated worse than the Jews in Russia before they were shipped out *en masse* in 1890.] ¶ Edwards is a Cajun? Sounds WASP to me. (Maybe Korean... *inside joke*). ¶ I dug *Inferno*, but then I'm also a C.S. Lewis fan and the echoes were resounding.

Harry J.N. Andruschak Thanks for all the egoboo and welcome. I see you're up to your old level of fanac yourself. ¶ Your open letters are interesting. ¶ Sorry to hear about *Fantastic* dropping fantasy. Yet there seems to be the biggest market ever for fantasy and S&S. Somebody's bound to package and sell it right.

Alan P. Winston Hope your slant shack goes well. I've done my share.

★ ★ ★ ★

NOTE: As I was writing these comments on the bus in downtown L.A., I was interrupted by three plainclothes cops saying, "We're police officers. You, you, and you stand up." They had handcuffs and guns; one had a badge on his belt under his coat. All three of the arrested were black; the cops were white, long-haired, bearded, for those who care about such things. *February 8, 1978 3:13 P.M.* The three "suspects" went quietly and the passengers around me readjusted themselves in the new seating space. *paranoia*

★ ★ ★ ★

Carol Kennedy Sounds like you are having fun. May it last. ¶ According to your quote of Alan Winston (I don't have the origin-

al quote), you misread him. He did not say that his actions may not affect others; he said his acts are permissible "as long as it doesn't interfere with anyone else's right." Note the word *right*. One does not have a right to the effects of someone else, such as the right to money Joe throws away—only the right to pick up money he throws away. (Right to be free from coercion in the attempt to pick up is not the same as right to coerce Joe into throwing money away.) Did Alan really say that? I welcome him to the ranks of us libertarians, then. Hard core! ¶ In the same comment, you mention your adamancy on "taking personal responsibility." I completely believe that myself, but the phrase has become psychobabbly out here. One acquaintance of mine has been convinced he can alter weather by "postulating it," thanks to an est-like course he took. ¶ Thanks for the welcome and I figured you'd understand. By the way, "spoeadically" is an interesting typo. Possible definition: description of the peculiar movement of a *moracle* (see long-ago typo definition to Jarog, I believe: *moracle* = fundamental particle of morality.) ¶ "Minn-stf meetings and Minn-stf parties are indistinguishable?" Sounds like SFALB.

Lee Pelton Someone new (to me, at least). Greetings. I've already said my piece on CE3K. I got far more sense of wonder from a Bugs Bunny cartoon than that UFO fanflick. ¶ Just read some reviews of Chandler criticism in *Times Literary Supplement* (January 20). Would you like

guessed he was a repressed homosexual with...ah, you probably did guess! (And they say fans inhabit an unreal world of their own.) ¶ Not kept away, as you see, but I should have ego-scanned. It seems you anticipated my *Close Encounters* comment. Fair enough, but I'll always rate content over form. "How you say it" is important; "what you say" is crucial. ¶ I have not only nearly completed Moorcock's S&S, I just read his *New Wave Cornelius Chronicles*—all of it. (And I didn't throw up...) I'm not usually a masochist but Moorcock's Chaos/Entropy obsession has me hooked good.

Jim Hershberg Hello, new person without commas. ¶ Dropped out of hockey fandom about fifteen years ago.

Yasunori (Kyoten) Sawano Hell, I can't read anything as fast as SF. But I'm not so sure about LASFAPA not being fiction... — Welcome aboard!

Second Section Cover This looks awfully familiar.

Kara Dalkey "Ploor Excuse for a Winter" gets a *Clear Ether!* look of approval! (I thought the Ploor don't show up until book 6, *Children of the Lens*.) ¶ Possible advertising gimmick for *Rune-stone*: "Soul-sucking music from down Melnibone way..."

Greg Chalfin I was about to welcome you to the Russian contingent, but if your ancestors came from the Ukraine, you're *Ukrainian!* And a Ukrainian is about as likely to consider himself a Russian as a Palestinian is an Israeli (for similar reasons). ¶ Interesting reading your change in epistemology. What changed you? I was on the brink of a Ph.D. in Theoretical Chemistry when I scuttled that ship. Have a cup of empathy. ¶ (Comment to Laurraine) What "toleration by Jews of non-Jews"? Look at Israel, which is using South Africa as a model for race relations. Some Jews may be tolerant, but hardly any more than any other grouping. And, by the way, groups on the "wrong side of intolerance" are often the worst in inflicting repression when they get their chance. You want examples (if you can't think of them yourself)? ¶ (Comment to Solo) You're kidding? You still do not see the distinction between biological and chemical? Are you also unable to distinguish between lines and planes? All biological factors are not chemical; chemistry has very little to do with biology. *There is no chemistry of life!*

"Life" is the subject exclusively of biology. ¶ Hear, hear, on Conan and *LotR*. Heroic fantasy has its place (right next to heroic science fiction). ¶ (To Virginia) "Guns are forbade in dictatorships to protect the life of the leader of the moment, not for fear of having the entire country overthrown by an armed populace." In the sense you seem to be using it (I think), "countries" cannot be overthrown. Only States. And the essence of a dictatorship is, in the words of Louis le Roi, "L'etat, c'est moi!" ¶ "Ivan Scavinsky Scavar" is gross—truly Slavic.

A. Trimpi Ah, you're the otherwise unknown person who sent me a postcard from Mexico. Where are you now, Catalina? ¶ "J.S. Mosby by spirit..." Another Grey Ghost fan? Right on! ¶ And a C.S. Lewis fan... I would be interested in seeing you write (a) more than comments or (b) longer comments on substance. Hook: when did you first get interested in Mosby and in Lewis?

Stella Nemeth Hello, Another New Person Who Joined When I Wasn't Looking. ¶ All Lunacons (that I've attended 1971-75) are drags. Agree all the way with you on legislating "protection." (Comment to Winston) ¶ I don't take "first contact" as a serious science fiction theme now any more than I take moon landings or ray guns. They belong to a bygone age of Verne and Wells and Gernsbach. Looking at it another way, a great Fantasy story can be written based on postulating the existence of a Lost Continent. Nonetheless, writings of the Atlantis/Mu/Lemuria nuts are not in the Fantasy genre. ¶ (Comment to Beverly) Gee, I've never had an *initial* typoed before. ¶ Whoops, noticed you backslid on your libertarian position on ownership of handguns. You sounded so good up until then, too. *disappointment*

Beverly Kanter Why is "moralizing praise" a "serious flaw"? Is it because it is "endless" and could be better presented, or because you dislike the object of the praise, or because you object to "moralizing praise." Although you express it pejoratively, I'm all for scientification preaching science—or have we now forgotten its purpose? ¶ Nuclear power plants ae in no way Pournelle's *bete noir*. *Bete blanche, peut-etre*. ¶ Alas, Beverly, I wish all libertarians *did* like their messages "loud and clear." No, we're not all alike in that regard (or in just about any other save



our love of liberty). ¶ I suppose I'm still loosely part of LASFS (I attend meetings before and after LASFAPA collations) and I am (a) not a Niven-Pournelle groupie (b) treat other people's books with far more care than my own and have replaced the only one lost (c) think Pournelle's grasp of history knowledgeable but theoretically unsound and unrevisionist. Furthermore, if your social life at LASFS must revolve around Niven, Pournelle, and Pelz—why, you're no more than a groupie yourself. What about the other hundred or so who attend the meetings? Nevertheless, even though your reasons are unsound, you should by all means pursue an external social life. (I think we all do.) If nothing else, you may end up appreciating fandom all the more.

Daniel Gordon *A Spell for Chameleon?* Just read it and it's great. Didn't know Piers had it in him. Too bad a sequel is out of the question. ¶ "...dividing authors, usually against their will, into two arbitrary classes is a waste of time and often harmful." What a wealth of misunderstanding is in that statement! New Wave/Old Wave is not arbitrary but fundamental: see, for example, *The Romantic Manifesto* by Ayn Rand. And what is this "against their will" nonsense? Who forced them to hold the views they put forward? Finally, classifying anything, including authors, is the first step to understanding it. You are supposed to have had training in the scientific method? ¶ And what are the merits of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*? It is a UFOlogy propaganda film and while it may be superb within that genre, the genre itself is being dismissed. First contact is long *passee* in SF, but the fact remains that the advisor to the film was Allan Hynes and not Arthur Clarke. Any first contact with aliens will not involve UFOs; it will involve craft which will *identify* themselves. Wrong again about the "scientific inquiry" vs "the investigation wasn't done like the UFO cults." The investigation was done *exactly* as the UFO cults have been proceeding and advocating. Read their works if you are going to defend them; I certainly did to attack them. Finally, there is no reason for aliens to "sneak around" at all. They can observe and reject, or contact and trade. (Conceivably they could attack, but I doubt a space-capable civilization could have reached its position if it preferred war to free trade.)

UFOlogy is loaded with contradictions, as CE3K reflects. ¶ I mostly agree with your evaluation of *The Hobbit* and *Doonesbury*. It appears *vous avez raison* when you wish to use it. ¶ "Dangor" is clever. ¶ Ah, you play D&D...

Rita Prince Winston You moved in with Dan Deckert? Well, congratulations! (To both of you, natch.) ¶ I have a lot to live for and I want to reproduce. If one is not getting something out of having children, one is doing something wrong. And why should there be *any* misery? ¶ Nor have I ever expected women to pander to my vices or anyone else's. Judging by your feelings about men and children, I hope you at least like other women. ¶ Flogging (actually, "the lash") is still used in my home province for rape and such. ¶ All right, you convinced me, I'll give Zelazny another chance and read his version. Thanks.



Ruth Judkowitz Happy Birthday! ¶ Ouch on New Year's Eve. Mine wasn't so hot either, so next year I've resolved to have a blast! ¶ The Wrong Box was great, especially that scene between Caine and Sarah Miles, where he sees her ankle exposed and she sees his nude arm (sleeves rolled up) after they carry the box upstairs. The camera flashes back and forth as they get turned on, Victorian style. ¶ I first-draft only because I can't waste time on the Mergenthaler thinking. And coin flip is 50/50 no matter how previous tosses landed.

Kees Van Toorn Glad to see success. ¶ "Hockey" may be "hokey" too, but... ¶ Letter hasn't arrived yet. Waiting with anticipation. ¶ Beth Schwarzin putrid? Gosh, I've never found

her anything but delightful. ¶ Keep up the European news. I like getting your viewpoint.

David I. Solo A man of taste and distinction, clearly! ¶ Compose? I typeset CE! on a Mergenthaler Lincomp. Specs are Auriga 9/10×21, 8/9×10; subtitles in Baskerville Bold 12 point. ¶ Alas, I thought *Inferno* was great. Perhaps because I'm a C.S. Lewis fan. ¶ You certainly misinformed Stella. Spain lost its last colony in North America in 1902 (Cuba), France still has *St. Pierre et Miquelon* and "England" (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, etc.) still has Belize and several Caribbean Islands. True, the U.K. is trying to get rid of them, but they won't leave. ¶ And your comment to Beth Schwarzin was nasty and wrong. Nobody "deserves" the statism they get. "Political involvement is the proper thing for intelligent peo-

date in theoretical chemistry joins *LASFAPA*. I bugged out just before turning in my thesis on writing a program to do any order Feynman Diagrams and a complementary one to evaluate the diagrams. You must be into Green Functions yourself if you are doing solid state. (Oh yeah, I'm a refugee from NYU (Prof. Mark Ratner), via TCI at UW (Prof. Charles Curtis). ¶ (Comment to Marty) How do you distinguish between "hard old wave SF" and "rather classic fantasy space opera"? Where does the Lensman series belong? ¶ "I had to go into Chem where the math is easy." I'm afraid the irony is lost on this crowd, Seth. ¶ Do you know *frefan* Jerry Dickson?

Jeni Roberts Thanks for the greeting in your farewell. Ships passing in the night, I guess.

Tim Kyger Believe me, I can sympathize. Maybe we'll swap stories at Leprecon—or just get good and stoned and forget it all. ¶ I didn't "deprive" myself; I saw *Close Encounters* before I panned it. SOP for me. Loved *Cosmic Trigger*, hated *Close Encounters*. Thanks for your thoughts; see you at Leprecon.

Victor Koman Goodbye, damn you! You'll return...on your knees!

Barry Walden Like your filk, I think, but I'd like to hear it sung just to be sure. ¶ No comments?

Fred Mazursky I have never let anyone bleed me so I do not know my type. I play the Hawaiian stell guitar. ¶ I suppose I won't be the only one to tell you that story really sucks. Got anything with a heroic sense of life? ¶ Problem is, you won't get reactions from me, for if your stories consistently repel me, I stop reading them. ¶ Where what?

Celia Chapman Poor you! (I actually like busses, though, and your car troubles—and those of everyone else I know—convince me that for all the aggravation of a car, I could raise a kid instead, and have something to show for it afterward.) ¶ I understand about trading in the market; bad show! And my sympathies. ¶ Thanks for the welcome, understanding, and pat on the back. You're an awful nice person for someone who likes rain. ¶ Yes, yes, yes on the vapidity of the term "lifestyle." Life (to some of us) is too important to be a style, it's a *content!*

Leigh Strother-Vien Hello, and great name. Will you hyphenate yet again on marriage? ¶ Japanese invasion of Santa Monica? This I got to see.

ple" is the most unintelligent comment I have ever heard. The issue of "political involvement" that Beth professes is one of *morality*, not intelligence. Politics is inherently evil (sayeth Beth, and I). We have a right to be left alone; we have "exercised our franchise" by telling the State to get lost. Show me how to cast a ballot saying "Go away and never come back" to all candidates for any office for all time. ¶ (Comment to Trimpi) Why should any State (U.S. or Panama) own the canal? I'd rather see the Mafia get it. ¶ With your pro-Establishment politics, you're bothered by a "reactionary conservative" county legislature? What's the matter, too left-wing for you?

Seth Goldberg Well, it had to happen. Another Ph.D. candi-

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Cover I know a case can be made for this not being sexist, and I know the theme is boffo in the undergrounds, but I still find it nauseating. Not my sense of life.

Cantor's Organ Your repro has gone sour, Marty, but I guess you know that. And add my objection to the waitlist change and all the other bureaucratic innovations you have to impose to take care of the problems of the last bureaucratic innovations. "Cantor's New Deal" it is. ¶ As for cassettes and things, why not use Natural Law instead of edicts: if it can't be collated, then it can't be in the APA. Simple, easy-to-understand, no argument from reasonable people.

My dear scribe, could I but write and draw as you do, I would foresake my Mergenthaler. Bellissimo! ¶ Never been heated by oil, only natural gas and electricity. ¶ Ah, if you knew NYUSFS, as I know NYUFS, oh, oh... wait a minute, NYUSFS meetings have taken place everywhere from the campus to the Staten Island Ferry (to the Empire State Building), but never, ever Brooklyn. I don't believe it was a *real* NYUSFS meeting. You were shown a Potemkin village, *gospoda!* ¶ Next frontier—a WorldCon, of course! ¶ (Comment) I share your desire to reproduce myself; I think of myself as almost a separate species, and hate to think I may go extinct. I also would consider it without marriage (and would be willing—eager—to raise the offspring myself).

Marty Cantor Faded ditto! (Sounds like a new style of jeans.) ¶ You have a ripe nit awaiting picking in your zine: "...Szechuan, Mandarin and Cantonese Cuisines—I most emphatically prefer the latter." I'll bet you really preferred the *last*. (Latter is comparative, can only apply to two objects. Last is superlative, can apply to three or more.) And I am enamoured of most highly spiced foods; I just can't stand those attempting to be sweet and sour simultaneously. ¶ If Curley's (and my) position is barbaric, yours is savage. What's with all this namecalling, Marty; can't you hold up your end of the argument rationally? One thing I'll admit about your argument about needing government to save us all from ostracizing each other—it certainly is a brand new idea. But who in the State bureaucracy realizes that this is what his job depends upon?

Ghod, are you grasping at straws! ¶ (Comment to Fred Jackson) Well, we finally found *someone* who likes Dick and Ellison. (I consider Zelazny fundamentally Old Wave.) ¶ "...gun nuts—I know that they don't have the mental equipment to understand civilized discourse..." Have you completely given up reason for abuse, then? ¶ "...all of these Libertarians (who have their head up their assholes..." My, my, we're really being insulting today. Perhaps you are resorting to this technique because the subsequent statement is an outright lie. We are well aware that "Blacks, Women, and Irish... were not truly free;" furthermore, we are aware that they (and us) still are not. By your logic, since you are not aware that we are not now free, you must have your head up your asshole. Is that right? By the way, "laissez faire capitalist" cannot be an oppressor by definition; if he is "letting alone," he is not oppressing. Or do you believe that if I leave you alone, I am oppressing you? ¶ Listen, Cantor, if you are going to say that we are saying that we are not saying, and then gratuitously insult and call us naughty names, I am going to decide that you really are a fugghead and you really don't give a damn for seeking either truth or civility. After spending all the effort you do to appear a Liberal Gentleman, why do you dive into the gutter when offered a reasoned challenge to your premises? ¶ (Comment to Greg Chalfin) "You're no more Russian than any of the other so-called Russians in this APA—we're Jewish..." Speak for yourself, Cantor; there's never been a Jew in my family, or, as far as I've been told, Vic Koman's. Who else claimed here to be of Russian descent? ¶ (Comment to Dantor) When did Zelazny ever get put in the New Wave? His stories have plots and heroism—and that's Old Wave! So is *Star Wars*. (Comment to Seth) Believe me, the Old Wave does not need enemies with alleged defenders like you.

Lynne Holdom Speaking of the Courts of Chaos, your zine came page 1, (Cont. from page 4), page 2, page 3. ¶ You equate quality of education with compulsion? As a matter of fact, the correlation would probably be short-range positive (exposing those who might have for religious reasons kept from books), long-range negative (turning off those *made* to read, learn). I



learned nothing from educational institutions (except submission to authority and evasion of repression) except Math in my later grades. ¶ D&D does conflict with fan-partying, so I play only when there are no parties, or in party surroundings in Long Beach. By the way, if you want to really know some people, observe the way they handle their D&D characters. ¶ Very good remarks on colonies and history in general. You seem to have a high historical consciousness; are you into the Revisionists? ¶ Our D&D group had a Kingmaker phase for awhile. I have a slight preference for York, but don't really get worked up until the Levellers come on the scene.

Marc S. Glasser Take it for granted that I've skipped a hundred things to laud or blast you for in this monster. Astoundingly, that is the most non-sexual ("cleanest") *Close Encounters of the nth Kind* list I've read—and from the Brooklyn satyr yet! Congratulations on self-transcendence. ¶ Oh, not chocolate-milk pushing, not that! ¶ "Horizontal Illuminati?" ¶ I suppose it depends on what you think of Patia as to whether you feel complimented or put-down. I was merely being descriptive. ¶ Correction to "nest" and your set-up noted. ¶ Perhaps my vitriol arose from not being able to shoot or purge Cookinham. At least I could try to dissociate myself strongly. ¶ I disappeared? When? ¶ (Comment to Thornton) "As I Move the Spirit" would be more appropriate to Eisner. ¶ In case Alan misses your question, I'll answer. Cleopatra was not queen of Pharaohnic Egypt, but of post-Alexandrine Ptolemaic Egypt. She was the only Queen, got the throne by offing her brother, and

was quickly removed by Octavian (who added Egypt to the Roman Empire).

Carol Kennedy "Professor Munchie's"? Beverly Hills has a Dr. Munchie's, and Long Beach has two Mike's Munchies. Sound similar. ¶ Send me a sample of *Rune*; I may contribute. ¶ You read Herbert Spencer! What *Social Statics*? ¶ I criticize the "space program;" after all, I want to get there.

Lee Pelton I am constantly on the lookout for artists myself—and I pay! Good luck on *Rune*. ¶ (Ct to Beth) Here's one: ¶ *fnord!* I doubt you are in a minority concerning Sword & Sorcery and Fantasy; at least I'm with you and most fen I'm close to an into Fantasy, some even more than SF. ¶ (Comment to rita) The 15-year-old boy with a older woman sex case ruling was reversed in a higher court. Back to "dark ages." ¶ I'm with Marty on smoking; to whom is an offensive habit? And he's challenging that "bad for your health" crap—with facts! ¶ You like Jerry Brown? You can hate him! (Now, about arranging *the Beast* too? I picked it up casually in the middle of the night in a frat house—and put down, finished, around 5 A.M. Ghod, what an opening!

Lee Ann Goldstein I pumped Alan for his NYUSFS meeting report; still think a *real* NYUSFS meeting never happened in Brooklyn. ¶ Good to see some one doing fanzine reviews in this APA. ¶ "Root bheer"—od. That's a new one! ¶ (Comment to Elena) I thought that Chai was tried before a Jewish religious court as well as the Roman civil one. (See, for example,

The Passover Plot movie.) ¶ (Comment to Guy) "The church always has, and most likely always will, condemn sex." Which church? Among Christianoid churches, only the Shakers condemn it. And in California, there are Swingers' Churches. (I kid you not; I typeset their ads.) ¶ The "balloon" in the *Prisoner* is not a balloon, but a type of sticky substance that can envelop you. Turning your back on it wouldn't work. And it has a name: Rover.

Seth Goldberg So you'll know the way to San Jose. Gonna drop in on L.A. and L.B.? ¶ I might as well go on record here saying that I thought *Gateway* was not Hugo material. Let's hear it for Vic Koman's *Saucer Sluts!*

rita prince winston Liked your Israeli joke. ¶ I'm in favor of having kids because I want to pass on *my* genes. And, as I've said elsewhere, I'm more than willing to raise them myself. ¶ Hear, hear on buses being good where you live.

Marc Glasser (again) Sounds like Mike. Hope he's well. ¶ Your compliments to Cantor and Schlosser proved unfounded as I later swept them from the field. ¶ All NY fandom's mimeos on the blink? Who is Fan Galt! ¶ You think this eight-point type is tiny? Someone else complained so I now restrict it to comments and use nine-point (two-column) for general material. I also leaded it out (as we say, meaning adding white space between the lines) and shortened the columns to ease readability. ¶ I've probably forgotten the context on "natural law for public traffic," but here goes anyways. First of all, I don't believe in "public roads;" they will all be owned, the owners define what rules if any they will have, and the consumer will pick and choose according to their tastes in safety, speed, maintenance, services, and nearness to destination. Second possibility may simply have meant that drivers pursue their own lives and don't need a State to tell them to drive for survival. The State's laws either confirm what the driver should do—in which case they are superfluous and wasteful, or they override the correct response—in which case they are harmful and deadly. Either way, natural-law following is the only way to drive, and screw the State! ¶ I did not think I would ever agree with Clemenceau—and I don't here either. When I "followed my

heart" (emotions), I was an authoritarian and reactionary. Since following my head, I'm an anarchist and revolutionary. Socialism's appeal is from envy—and error, to be sure—and I've never experienced sustained envy. ¶ How about "predictable wishy-washiness?" ¶ No, on the dextrose/fructose case, but you would have been better comparing dextrose/levose to make your point. Either Chemistry is everything (a position to which I've often been tempted) or it has limits. Chemistry is concerned with bonding of atoms and molecules, and the observable properties of those bindings. The bonds of DNA and corresponding properties are chemistry; beyond that (ordering of DNA molecules with identical bonds) cross the border into biology. ¶ My seat-belt experience was not wearing them in an accident where I ended up as unhurt as those who wore them—and retained my freedom to escape the wreck. ¶ (Comment to Beth) Why should the murderer have a choice between death, life imprisonment (or restitution); why not give the choice to the *victim*—where it belongs? ¶ "Geas" is a magic spell thrown on a victim to compel performance of some specific deed; it can also refer to the deed itself. Geases are well-known to D&D players. ¶ UPS is a regulated business, and the regulators happen to be its "competition." Any criticism of its service is not an attack on free-market anarchy, but on its distinct lack.

Greg Chalfin Your philosophical musing (page 4) is worthy of honest comment. I am bothered by not having reproduced at 30 (and no opportunity to do so in the foreseeable future), so much so that I would consider making some sort of deal with a willing woman and raise the result myself. I am different than I was as a child and I have had two particular major crises in my life which have irrevocably altered me, and several minor ones. (I just completed a third, I think.) Otherwise, I am largely in agreement with you and find your view reasonable. Oh yes, I have not given up on immortality.

R. Laurraine Tutihasi *Things To Come* is not only "corny," but an excellent example of how close Fabian socialism came to fascism. ¶ A Benchley fan, I see. I'm more into a couple of other Algonquin Round Table members (Parker and Woolcott) but I may get around to him too. ¶ Not only am I for Restitution, but I

can remember when I was one of the few even within the libertarian movement to advocate it as a logical conclusion from our principles (back in 1971). Needless to say, I go further in denying that a criminal has done anything to *society*—only to his victim. The settling of accounts should be between the victim, his agents, and the aggressor and his agents, if any. Under no circumstances should the government be involved (except as aggressors paying off their victims).

Tom Locke I didn't know you were that close to Ted. Sympathy to you as well, then. ¶ Does this programme for non-programmers correct their bad use of a computer language, or translate from their language to another?

Alan P. Winston Your response to Marty Cantor, Fearless Leader, is right on. ¶ Ah, your repro returned to readability on page 6. Seemed to be lots of good, even libertarian, commentary there, too.

David Schlosser I intended going to Las Vegas for a weekend and will do so when appropriately accompanied. So give your review? (Have you read *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*?) ¶ No, no, Obi-wan should be played by *Duke* (my favorite character, by the way).

Beth Schwarzin Why, why you're right next to me! (Zine-wise, that is.) ¶ Good thing you explained that we're reading Cantor's repro. ¶ Origin of title of your zine, please? ¶ Does *Gauche Press* refer to the political or cultural state? ¶ And if the LSD doesn't turn you on, you can probably get high from the residual ether and methanol. ¶ Sorry I answered for you on democracy, republic, et al.—you certainly took care of yourself. And hard core on most of your other commentary. ¶ Your birthday is two days before mine and one day before Heinlein's. Should we have a Schwarzin-Heinlein-Konkin Birthday Party (three days running) this year? ¶ You're right; going after sexism in *Star Wars* is as relevant as decrying monarchism in Fairy Tales. ¶ Erotic illo. (*more*)

Kees Van Toorn Too bad that *Orbit* cover couldn't be stapled in. The *Pesch* wasn't bad, though. ¶ If you don't make it, *sob* but I am still dreaming of Seacon and seeing Eurofen there.

Bill Bridget Well, as you have seen, I'm back. Pardon me while

I duck out on a fan feud. Thanks for the scattered compliments. (EIAA! as I once said.)

Harry J.N. Andruschak Amazing how much I miss at LASFS (not that I really miss most of it, but I'm glad to be informed). Your fanlog is read. ¶ So that's how you dig up all those new APA fen—NFFF and *Tightbeam!* Very logical, actually *which is why I didn't think of it* ¶ "Further up and further in." You didn't, by chance, pick up that expression from C.S. Lewis, did you? ¶ You were in Viet Nam? Wise move relative to ignoring Bridget. ¶ Vic already got his "flying saucer" story out of his system; remember his first pro sale was *Saucer Sluts*. ¶ Good to see someone cares about the prozines, but I gave up on *Analog* even when Campbell was editor. ¶ Not my tax money paying your wages—but then we've been through that. Noble of you to own up to it. ¶ Hear, hear on defiling *Lowenbrau*, though one cannot blame the U.S. *in toto*. After all, the country also produces the nectar of the gods known as *Jack Daniels*. ¶ Since you intend on Smoking Prohibition at your Iguanacoon Parties, in the cool, cool, cool of the Con evenings, I tell you I won't be there. ("May you meet Bill Bridget while in an awkward position in the Men's Room!")

Bill Bridget Thanks for the good wishes. Did you ever meet an ex-roommate of mine named Mike Moslow?

Sally A. Syrjala Did you say "CBC"? Can you receive broadcasts of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation? How about CTV?



Guy H. Lillian III I'm eating my heart out, though I'm glad the bad weather for Mardi Gras occurred when I was not there. ¶ "Romantics are frightened souls;" sounds like a categorical imperative, there, Guy. I have a frightened soul to deal with, too, but when it's conquered, the Romanticism will remain. ¶ "... say swah." No, no, *se* or even *suh* swah." ¶ "(Of course, I'm only a prude as regards myself. Other people can do what they want, and I'll try to judge them by their own standards.)" I agree with all that but the choice of standards—I do believe in absolutes. And I am somewhat friendlier to dope than thou. ¶ Second class citizen, eh? Thank goodness I am a citizen of nothing. *Citizen of the Galaxy* maybe. (Cancel that male consciousness-raising session, you sexist pig.)

Charles Curley A public thanks for bringing me my *LASFAPA* early. Lots of hard-core stuff here, as usual. ¶ Elizabeth Ash-

ley in an SF film? Ook! She was the only redeeming feature in *Coma*.

Tom Digby Lots of good stuff, as usual.

Barry Walden Some good ideas, as usual.

David I. Solo A favourable review of *The Book of Merlyn* is expected in the next Jeff Riggenschbach column in *New Libertarian* (probably Number 3, May 1978). Send \$1 if you're interested. ¶ "Elephant stew" sounds like a perfect idea for a Worldcon Banquet.

NOTE: The rest of this APA is collated backwards in my copy!

Ruth Judkowitz Nope, he wasn't the strangler. ¶ (Comment to Seth) I like your Code of Ethics—or at least that entry. ¶ Huh, I don't pay any tax but Sales Tax and I've got out of that several times. Strange comment on libertarianism, but I guess you never really understood it. ¶

Also agree with you on your comment to Carol about surgery.

Jim Hershberg Ah, another Thompson fan. ¶ It makes you a Literary Slut, of course. ¶ *Saturday Night Live* almost induced me to replace my TV. But if there's any night I'm unlikely to see a TV program, that's it. If they change the day, though... ¶ Your parody was far better than Mazursky's original. I think you may have writing talent (and I'm a paying editor). ¶ I stuck around for commenting, see? And I'll add your objection to *Close Encounters of the Absurd Kind*. ¶ *You are only ¼ Russian? Then ve vill only burn ¾ of you* ¶ I used to do political things like that when I was 16 or so. Grew out of politics eventually—and was never, ever a liberal *spit!*

Fred Mazursky I'll ignore rather than patronize you.

Virginia Bauer Interesting going from Coke to "diet Pepsi," especially since Tab usually tastes better than most diet colas. Pepsi Light, on the other hand, is so good I've considered squirting lemon into all my colas. ¶ But what better purpose could ink and paper be used? And, yeah, how come Cantor always puts you in the back of the disty—and collates you backward on top of it?

