

The Canadian Fancyclopedia: M – Version 1 (June 2009)

An Incomplete Guide To Twentieth Century Canadian Science Fiction Fandom
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And the West Coast Science Fiction Association (WCSFA).

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Canadian fanzines are shown in red,
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M

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MACABRE

-- **Faned:** **Jack Doherty & Don Hutchison** (members of The Derelicts, aka Toronto SF Society). A perzine published out of Toronto in the late 1940s, folded after the second issue.

Taral Wayne wrote: "*Two issues of another Toronto zine, MACABRE, introduced two promising young artists in 1948. The editors, Joe Doherty and Don Hutchison, were their own illustrators, and varied in quality from bad to surprisingly good cartoonists. Although they were clearly unprofessional, Hutchison at least had talent, and the two issues they produced before disappearing from fandom gave them little time for development.*" (TW) & (JRC)

1948 - (#1 - March) - The cover of Taral's TORONTO THE GHOOD reproduces a number of classic Toronto fanzines, including the first issue of MACABRE. It is drawn by Don Hutchison and depicts a balding, flat-nosed, snaggle-toothed ogre of a mad scientist staring fixedly through turret-lensed glasses at a clutch of tiny frightened octapoid critters held firmly in his clenched fist. MACABRE indeed!

Leslie A. Croutch contributed one of his "HODGEPODGE" articles, complaining creatively about unions: "*We could go on forever but what's the use? Even when you go to heaven you'll likely have to*

pay dues to an angel's union", as well as offering odd bits of advice such as how to add 3-in-1 oil to typewriter ribbons to prolong their use.

I do not know what other articles were included in this issue. At least one copy is known to exist in the hands of a Canadian collector.

1948 - (#2 - Jun) - 34 pp. The cover, drawn by Doherty, depicts an elf-like figure, complete with pointy ears & pointy boots, holding a panel which obscures his body. He is looking down at the panel disapprovingly, and no wonder. It depicts a muscular executioner, naked but for strapped boots, a belted loincloth and a rough hood, standing feet apart, his hands grasping an enormous axe. On the chopping block a headless corpse is splayed, one arm dangling, blood still flowing from the severed neck and dripping over the edge of the block. In the sand at its base a curiously flattened head stares sightlessly skyward. In the background stands a long line of dispirited fellows, dressed in modern shirts and pants, but barefoot and their clothes ripped & torn, awaiting their turn. Even more MACABRE than the first cover!

Crutch contributed another "HODGEPODGE" in which he referred to the famous vision of Ezekiel: *"...I rather think that what Ezekiel saw was not so much a vision, though he thought it was, but an actual occurrence. But it was so strange and so out of his ken, that he thought it was a true vision."*

Another article was "ANIMALS OR GODS?" by David H. Keller M.D. It possibly discussed human nature and the future of same. Keller was a very prominent American SF writer in the 1920s & 1930s, with stories like "The Human Termites" (SCIENCE WONDER STORIES 1929) & "The Revolt of the Pedestrians" (AMAZING STORIES 1928). After serving in WWII, he retired & took up writing again, not only professionally, but for fanzines as well. Writing in THE FANSCIENT in 1950, he stated: *"Many years ago I promised to help any fanzine editor who sent me an S.O.S."* There can be no other explanation for his inclusion in this very obscure Canadian fanzine. Pure generosity on his part. Most of his fanwriting went to US fanzines, but some went to Toronto's CANADIAN FANDOM and Leslie Crutch's LIGHT.

"This issue has several above average illustrations by the editors. The tone of the zine tends toward dark humour." (TW)

At least two copies are known to exist: one in a Canadian collection, the other recently acquired by an Australian collector.

In the infamous "ZAP ZAP" article By George Bain in the July 5th, 1948 edition of the Globe & Mail, there is a reference to (probably) the 2nd issue:

"The fen are kept in touch with one another and the writers of their favourite type of literature mostly by fanzines. One of the latest of these is a jolly little number called simply, MACABRE. It is advertised: 'Want to feel disgusted, scream in horror, beat your head, kill your mother-in-law? Then read MACABRE.'"

MAD COMICS

-- Where the POGO comic strip was the 'literary' symbol of 6th fandom, MAD comics (the precursor to Mad Magazine) was adopted by 7th Fandom, though not without opposition, as witness this material in A BAS #0 (Jan 1954):

"While Pogo has little to do with SF, so many SF fans seem to be Pogo fans we feel we should pass on to you the pronouncement of Norman G. Browne that Pogo is passé, Mad Comics are the thing."

*Perhaps Mad Comics have replaced Pogo amongst the bird-baths" (another symbol of 7th Fandom)
"because they are pretty obvious even to the meagre minds, whereas Pogo requires a modicum of
intelligence and perspicacity."*

In the same issue it was reported that: *"..there is no joy in 7th Fandom tonight, mighty Mad
Comics has struck out. Yes, youngsters, Mad Comics has folded with its 6th issue...We are glad to
report that none of the Toronto Fen are shedding any tears over the timely demise of Mad Comics..."*
(A false statement, Mad carried on, even unto this very day.)

This is hardly fair. While Mad Magazine did slip into a rut for many decades, the early comics
contained much joyous, sharp-witted satire. The 6 issues in question included the SF parodies
'BLOBS!', 'GOOKUM!' and the immortal 'SUPERDUPERMAN!', plus other goodies like 'BLACK
AND BLUE HAWKS' and 'MELVIN OF THE APES'. All this eventually culminating (in my mind at
least) with the appearance in issue #11 of Wally Wood's wonderful 'FLESH GARDEN' spoof of Flash
Gordon. So what's not to like?

[See **BROWNE, NORMAN G., 6TH FANDOM, 7TH FANDOM, BIRDBATH]**

“THE MAD DOGS HAVE KNEED US IN THE GROIN”

-- Famous pronouncement by Harlan Ellison detailing how fannish opposition put an end to 7th fandom
which he had helped create at a May 1953 meeting – known to fannish history as HEcon – held in his
home in Cleveland. Canada's Norman G. Browne also attended, soon becoming the most strident 7th
Fandomite, even outdoing Harlan as an irritant, and thrusting the movement head first into controversy
and conflict. Browne's plan to take over FAPA particularly aroused the ire of many oldtime fans,
including veterans of First Fandom.

I believe Harlan's quote covers both specific acts of condemnation such as declarations of
subsequent fandoms in order to smother the 7th, and also numerous scathing editorials and articles in
fanzines which heaped odium on the 7th Fandomites. At any rate Harlan seems to have been pretty
bitter about the tidal wave of condemnation, even though he himself had quickly rejected Browne's
actions as juvenile and needlessly provoking. I believe Harlan's original intention had simply been to
rejuvenate fandom by moving it forward into fresh and imaginative venues, and things simply got out
of hand, in part due to Browne's overly fanatical proselytizing.

I can't resist quoting Dick Eney from FANCY II: *“Some speculation followed on such questions as
how high a dog would have to be to knee Ellison in the groin, and whether the dogs were mad before
coming into contact with the 7th Fandomites.”*

A MAN AND HIS MIMEO

-- **Faned: Colin Hinz.** Pubbed out of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. His *"attempt to explain himself."*

1986 - (#1 - Fall?)

MAPLECADE

-- **Faned: Sansoucy Katheror Walker.** A clubzine (?) pubbed out of Greely, Ontario, for various
Maplecons. More or less a special Maplecon edition of her genzine CASCADE, which came out
beginning Dec 1981.

Writing in his Vanapazine DOPPELGANGERS #3, Neil Kaden commented on #1: "Frankly quite disappointing. The flavour is that of a Trek zine. A page & 1/2 editorial by the editor was the only personal flavour, & half of it 'requirements for submissions'. Contributor Elizabeth Holden did show promise in her writing -- wanna break into faanish genzines, Liz?"

Wrote S.K. Walker in Aug 1984: "MAPLECADE is now paying for stories at a rate of about half a cent per word (\$5 per magazine page of about 900 words)... The magazine uses stories & poetry & assigned art & articles; it does not use news, reviews, or letters. I'd like to have more SF to balance the overabundance of fantasy I receive..."

And in Oct 1984 Walker wrote: "Since I operate on a shoestring, I can't afford... to advertise. I used to trade ads with other zines; but carrying ads makes the magazine subject to sales tax in Ontario, and I can do without that hassle.... I find in practice it's difficult to use non-local artists... With our postal system, last minute assignments can't be counted on... secondly, it amazes me how many artists are inaccurate in illustrating a story...if the scene must be re-done, more time is lost..."

1981 - (#1 - Sep/Oct)

1982 - (#2 - Nov)

1983 - (#3 - Jun)

1984 - (#4 - Jul) - "With this issue MAPLECADE & CASCADE are amalgamated into one annual, paying small-press publication. Contents this issue include stories, articles, poetry & art, mostly by Ottawans; includes a story by Charles Saunders & an article by Larry Niven." - (GS)

1985 - (#5 - Jul) - "...features Ben Bova (GoH at the last Maplecon) and K.P. Czech." - SCAVENGER'S NEWSLETTER (Jul 1985)

1986 - (#6 - Jul) - Final issue. "...lineup is almost entirely Canadian authors & artists, including the first author I've been able to get from the West: Janet P. Reedman of Victoria." -(SKW)

[See **CASCADE**]

THE MAPLE LEAF RAG

-- **Faned: Garth Spencer.** The most prominent Canadian newzine of the 1980s. Garth won the first Fan CASPER (Now called AURORA) award for this. Pubbed out of Victoria. Typical issue had news, conreports, coverage of Cdn SF clubs, Cdn con listings, Cdn fanzine reviews & the latest controversy re: the CSFFA awards, and often professional & small-press writers market news. Garth kept to a six week schedule remarkably well. Robert Runte tongue-in-cheek referred to his NEW CANADIAN FANDOM as "the annual genzine supplement to Canada's national newszine MAPLE LEAF RAG". (Details to be added)

"This week I went mad and invented another fanzine: THE MAPLE LEAF RAG..." - (GS)

1983 - (#1 - Nov) - The cover, by Jeffrey Taylor, depicts Prime Minister Trudeau, dressed in a 'Capt. Canada' style outfit, wife Maggie in a typical brass bra get-up standing behind him, a frog in a beret & a beaver in coveralls covering behind his legs, as he stands defiantly facing a clutch of reaching tentacles, while a sad-looking long-haired, mustached observer gazes down like a sentient sun in the sky. The latter represents...the artist? The average voter? Some Anti-Trudeau politician? I have no idea. Nifty cover tho.

In his editorial Garth argues that, while NEW CANADIAN FANDOM covers Canadian fandom in depth, "there is a need for a regular, more frequent zine..." (covering) "...a broad range of clubs, zines,

cons and events as they happen..." He goes on to say: "Part of the reason for a National Canadian zine of any kind is to let you know there are other clubs out there... there are serious issues and even juicy fanfeuds going on in the Great White North. If FILE 770 can cover this sort of thing in the states on a fairly frequent basis, why not someone in Canada?"

Garth also contributes an essay about the then current controversy over the Canadian SF & Fantasy Awards (now called Auroras). The eligibility rules had recently been changed to exclude all but actual citizens. This left writers resident in Canada but not yet citizens out of the running (as per example: Spider Robinson). This in turn beggared the question, what is a Canadian? Garth commented: *"I am one of those sick-and-sorry Canadians who feels that Canada isn't a country yet. We won't be for a century or two. In publishing and 'culture' especially, the U.S. is an overbearing presence -- which isn't their fault, it just happens that Canada as a whole is, so far, too spineless to create a presence and identity of its own... Runte may believe there is a Canadian culture and a Canadian style of SF in the making; I'm afraid I don't see it yet."*

It should be added that this kind of introspective withering is in itself a superb example of what makes Canadians distinctive & unique. It's a national trait to worry over whether or not we actually exist. Even Lenin thought it impossible. Perhaps we are simply an incredibly successful hoax?

A lengthy listing of Canadian Clubs and zines rounds out the issue which was distributed free *"to any Canadian zines, clubs, fans & concoms known to me."* Subsequent issues would be available for 'The Usual' or for 50¢ each.

- (#2 - Dec)

1984 - (#3 - Jan) (#4 - Mar) (#5 - Apr) (#6 - May) (#7 - Jul) (#8 - Aug) (#9 - Oct) (#10 - Dec)

1985 - (#11 - Jan) (#12 - Feb) (#13 - Mar) (#14 - May) (#15 - Jun)

- (#16 - Jul) - *"Garth's newszine covers primarily Canadian fannish news. A noble effort, but the coverage is a bit spotty, and the tone gives the impression that we Canadian fans take ourselves very seriously, at least those who correspond with Garth. The zine fills a niche. Check it out."* (SG)

- (#17 - Aug 1985) (#18 - Oct) (#19 - Nov)

1986 - (#20 - Jan) (#21 - Feb) (#22 - Mar) (#23 - May) (#24/25 - Jul/Oct) (#26 - ?)

1987 (#27 - ?) (#28 - Mar) (#29 - May) (#30 - Jun)

MARAPA

- The Maritime Amateur Press Association. *"...publishes a joint newsletter/fanzine/illustrated communiqué to keep their members across the Maritime provinces in touch on what's happening in the local fandom."* - Anne Marie Feetham (Dec 1984) (Detail to be added)

MARTIAN MESSAGE

-- Late in the 1941 Denver World Convention Western union delivered a telegram sent by Martians. Considering it a lame hoax the concom put it aside, but the infamous Claude Degler got a hold of it and insisted on reading it aloud to the congoers, arguing that it was most likely not a hoax since its *"unknown author had put an enormous amount of work into it"*. This marks the first time Degler came to the attention of mainstream fandom.

The telegram claimed to be from Martians dwelling secretly among us Earthlings, the vanguard of a vast migration to take place when next the two planets were close in their orbits. It seemed the Martians were fond of Science Fiction fans because "*fans are evolved centuries beyond their times, at least in Neuron connections and areas of association mentality*", and as a result the Martians felt "*most at home among these cosmic-minded creatures like yourselves*". Shades of Degler's Cosmic Concept! Except fans at the time put the blame on a fan by name of Dave Elder whom it was believed intended to spoof Heinlein's earlier speech on Timebinding. But the 'Cosmic-minded' aspect is pure Degler, so I retain my suspicions.

At any rate, the Martians promised to show up in time to participate in the next World Convention, and also casually mentioned they planned to destroy Berlin, Rome, Madrid, and Tokyo. This would appear to indicate that the Martians were anti-imperialist, and hypocrites to boot, since they were bent on taking over the Earth. In that latter respect their ambitions were rather less than Degler's. (HWJ)

[See **CIRCLE AMATEUR PUBLISHER'S ALLIANCE, COLUMBIA SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY, COSMEN, COSMIC CAMP, COSMIC CLOD, COSMIC CIRCLE, COSMIC CONCEPT, COSWORMS, DEGLER (CLAUDE), FUTURE FANTASY FRENCH, PLANET FANTASY FEDERATION**]

MEAD BUNNY

-- One of those fannish drinks. Recently invented by Alexandra J. Shaw (at VCON 28, Oct 2003) to help cope with a cold.

Take one small glass / fill with tequila / add one large spoon of Buckley's Cough Mixture / stir vigorously / inhale deeply (as often as you dare) / drink / under NO circumstances repeat for at least two hours.

Nothing to do with mead, oddly enough.

[See **Blog, The Bullfrog, The H.B. Piper Cocktail, Spayed Gerbil, Pan-Galactic Gargle Blaster & Fannish Drinksh Book**]

MEDIA FIVE

-- **Faned: Bill Paul.** Pubbed out of London, Ontario, in the early 1980s, "*by yours truly & fifty diehard fans*". Lasted 8 issues. "*Perhaps the only offset-tabloid fanzine ever produced in Canada.*"

MEGAVORE

-- **Faned: J. Grant Thiessen.** Fanzine devoted to serious collectors of SF literature, with much original research on Canadian SF. MEGAVORE was actually issues 10 to 13 of THE SCIENCE FICTION COLLECTOR, to which the name reverted with issue #14.

[See **THE SCIENCE FICTION COLLECTOR**]

MELVINISM

-- Melvinism is the cult of worshipping Melvin, the BEM of BEMs, and possibly behaving like him, following his example, ktp.

The concept of BEM, or 'Bug-eyed Monster', was coined by US fan Martin Alger in 1939. At some point later in time the minor deity Melvin was revealed and declared the 'BEM of BEM's', which I suppose means he is the personification of uttermost alien behaviour and being, the ultimate outsider. I speculate that Melvin symbolizes fandom's alienation from the mundane world and serves as a sort of guardian to lonely fans bereft of mundane approval and support.

The question is, when did Melvin first appear? I don't actually know. I strongly suspect with the advent of MAD comic, since the writers and artists of MAD were obsessed with the very name 'Melvin.' Quoting Maria Reidelbach, author of 'COMPLETELY MAD, A HISTORY OF THE COMIC BOOK AND MAGAZINE':

"Parodying names was another venue for MAD wordplay. Melvin was the favored name for a while, featured on the cover of the first MAD comic: a mom and a dad are in a creepy mansion menaced by something we see only as a shadow. Dad screams, "That thing! That slithering blob coming toward us!" Mom shrieks, "What is it?" Junior, finger up his nose, deadpans, "It's Melvin!" Melvinmania had struck Lafayette Street" (where the MAD Comic New York office was located) "for the name subsequently is featured in the parodies "Melvin of the Apes", "Smilin' Melvin," and "Little Orphan Melvin," as well as in the names of the artists, all of whom began calling themselves Melvin, too, as in Melvin Davis, Melvin Elder, Melvin Severin, and Melvin Wood."

This would place the coming of Melvin firmly in the short-lived era of the 7th Fandomites, circa 1953/1954, for MAD was their comics icon, meant to replace 6th Fandom's obsession with the POGO comic strip. 'MELVIN OF THE APES,' for instance, appearing in the summer of 1953. My theory which is mine. I'll be happy to find out the true facts of the matter, however.

[See BEM]

MEPHISTO

-- **Faned: Alan Child.** At least one issue pubbed out of Vancouver, B.C., during the fall of 1942. According to Harry Warner Jr. it "*emphasized weird fiction.*"

MERCER'S DAY

-- Was invented in 1957. A British fan by name of Archie Mercer informed OMPA APA members that the deadline for a constitution amendment vote would be April 31st (no such date exists, of course, April being only 30 days long). BNF Walt Willis, then President of OMPA, delightedly declared with his trademark wry sense of humour:

"I have noticed that in past years there has been a lot of trouble in various parts of the world on the first of May, on account of labour parades and Communist demonstrations. So this year I rule there shall be no first of May. Instead the day following the 30th April shall be known as the 31st April and shall be succeeded without interruption by the 2nd May. Instead of May Day, the new Date shall be known as Mercer's Day, in honour of our infallible association editor who has so intelligently anticipated my wishes."

Thus, ever since then, fans have called May Day MERCER'S DAY. (HWJ)

MIDNIGHT WINE

-- **Faned: ?** Pubbed out of Hamiota, Manitoba. "*A new quarterly magazine, is looking for SF, fantasy, horror & experimental stories. Pays in copies.*"

1986 - (#1 - Jun) – “*This is a fair first issue. Not astoundingly great, but a fair first start.*”

"I could nitpick and say the reproduction is not the greatest photocopying I've ever seen, or the stories are average, or the zine is crying for good illustrators; but the point here is: the stories work as stories, the pages are legible, and the whole is laid out to be readable. I've seen much worse, and if the editor can start at this level, I expect his later efforts to be very interesting."

"MIDNIGHT WINE's interest is in horror & dark fantasy. My interest is mostly in the ad I saw here: 'One of the stories in this issue is by an American. Can you spot this story?' and goes on to question the Kanadianischer-uber-allies that occasionally overcomes our literati." - (GS)

MIEL

-- **Faned: Jean-Francois Touchette.** On-line fanzine based in Boucherville, Quebec, circa **1985.**

"MIEL, 'Le Magazine Interactif Electronique', seems to be the first French-Canadian electronic fanzine. SOLARIS indicates that you need a telephone, a modem, a microcomputer and a fairly specific program to access MIEL ("aux specifications suivantes: 300 bauds, 8 bits/car., sans parite, 1 stop bit. Un ecran a lignes de 80 caracteres est preferable mais non essential.") MIEL allows one to read an article and append comments, a la an electronic billboard." - (GS)

In MAPLE LEAF RAG #19 (Nov 1985): "Jean Francois Touchette writes to say that MIEL... didn't get off the ground, and he had moved to France by the time his former address... appeared in SOLARIS. However, he gives a name and address for a current Quebec electronic fanzine..." which MLR editor Garth does not list!

MIMEOGRAPHER'S HANDS

-- This was very like HEKTOGRAPHER'S HANDS, a fannish disease in which unsightly ink blotches appeared on one's hands and other portion's of one's anatomy, but less dreadful in that the blotches wore off much more quickly, in mere months according to Speer. (JS) (DE)

MIMEOGRAPHY

-- A mimeo machine reproduces by forcing ink through a wax stencil. The gaps in the stencil are originally cut, in the case of text, directly by typewriter keys (the type ribbon having been removed), and in the case of art, by a metal stylus (with a rough celluloid sheet under the stencil to protect desktop). The stencil is then placed on the drum of a mimeo machine, and as the drum revolves, with paper sheets passing underneath, ink is forced by centrifugal force from the drum, through the gaps in the stencil, on to the paper. The ink is originally soaked on to a cotton pad. Too much ink, and the printed pages are smeared.

Wax stencils are surprisingly sturdy, capable of printing thousands of copies, and can be stored in case further printing is required. Speer recommends blotting the stencils on newsprint and storing the stencils between sheets of newsprint. In event of a typo, the 'miracle' of obliteration is required.

It is possible to produce multi-coloured images, but with every change of colour a new cotton pad, new ink, and new stencil is required, each stencil cut only with the particular part of the artwork desired in the colour chosen. For example, if you want a spaceman hovering above an asteroid with the sun in the background, your first stencil would be cut with the spaceman alone, and run off with blue ink, your second stencil would be cut with the asteroid alone, the paper being run through again with say, brown ink, and the third stencil would be cut with just the sun, the paper being run through a third

time using yellow ink. If you were really ambitious, the various coloured images might overlap or intermingle, in which case registration of the pages becomes supremely important and supremely difficult. Though the faneds of the U.S. zine PLUTO did it surpassingly well. Still, a lot of trouble to produce colour images, and most faneds using mimeo machines did not bother to try.

It should be noted that the average mimeo machine fans could afford was hand-cranked. The most expensive types were electric. But the hand's on visceral operation of a hand-cranked version was much more satisfying.

Wax stencils were not restricted to rotary mimeo machines (the type the A.B. Dick company manufactured), there were other types of mimeo machines using flat beds. I believe one type was called a Planograph.

(Ah, the A.B. Dick rotary.... Southam Business News employed one in the early 1980s, and when the operator went off on holidays, I, the lowly mail clerk, was given a day's training and then unleashed to operate the man-high machine by myself for two weeks. Within seconds of my turning it on that fateful first day the malignant machine flung itself to pieces. It took me an hour to work up the courage tell the boss the machine had self-destructed. His reply: "*Oh, we were expecting that to happen. Don't worry about it. We'll get a new one.*" Evidently he didn't believe in preventive maintenance.)

The ultimate mimeo machine, the answer to a faned's prayers, was the legendary Gestetner (legendary because for the longest time this European product was not available in the United States. Rumour was that it was the ultimate dream machine with which nothing ever went wrong. Hah! It is to laugh. (JS) (DE) (RB)

[See CARBONZINE, DITTOGRAPHY (DITTOING), GESTETNER, HEKTOGRAPHY, LITHOGRAPHY, OBLITERINE, PLUTO, REPRODUCTION]

MIMEOZINE

-- Any zine printed using the mimeography process.

[See MIMEOGRAPHY, REPRODUCTION]

MIMI

-- **Faned: Georgina "Dutch" Ellis (Clarke).** Per/genzine pubbed out of Calgary in the mid-1950s. Listed in CANFAN #22 as a member of CAFPP (Canadian Amateur Fan Publishers). Did her own on-stencil artwork. Article contribution by Harry Calnek of Nova Scotia.

Harry Warner Jr., on the 1950s, wrote: "*In Calgary, the most notable fan was Georgina Clarke, famous far and wide for her fanzines.*"

"Norm and Gina Clarke have a fanzine that Gina published in the early fifties that contains an article proposing for Canadian fandom much the same type of political organization that Claude Degler pressed for world fandom. It involved every Canadian fan carrying a card of identification that would allow him to crash at the homes of other fans and suggested a very tight regional organization and bureaucratic setup along the lines of the Cosmic Circle." Will Straw, from correspondence to Murray Moore, May 6, 1973. This article may have been in MIMI, or in her WENDIGO which she began publishing in 1955. (LP)

1954 - (#1 - Mar) (#2 - Jun) (#3 - ?)

[See **DUTCHESS OF CANADIAN FANDOM, WENDIGO, FIRST CANADIAN FANED (FEMALE), DESCANT, CANADIAN CAPERS, QUEEBSHOTS, & FIE**]

MIRIAD

-- **Faned: Hania Wojtowicz, Kevin Davies & William F. Marks.** Glossy yet smudgy-looking semi-pro mediazine (5,000 circulation) devoted to SF films. Circa 1980 out of Toronto, Ontario.

"MIRIAD was a super-slick publication that rather bizarrely combined printing full-colour painted covers, slick, coated stock interiors, with type set on a dot-matrix printer... MIRIAD died a slow & painful death and was more or less reincarnated as Vortex Comics..." - Mark Shainblum.

1980 - (#1 - Jul) (#2 - Sep)

1981 - (#3 - Mar) (#4 - Jun) (#5 - Sep) (#6 - Dec)

1982 - (#7 - Mar)

MISS SCIENCE FICTION

-- This was Lois Jean Miles, a young, professional New York model hired by Dave Kyle on behalf of the Hydra Club (a loose association of New York fans who had turned into professional authors, editors, etc.) to attend the 1949 CinVention Worldcon held in Cincinnati and parade in front of news photographers as MISS SCIENCE FICTION *"wearing a walkie-talkie on her head and little else"*.

Lois proved very popular with the press. Contemporary accounts refer to her as a *"cheesecake"* model, so one can assume from the beauty standards of the time she was probably hourglass shaped and well-stacked (to use 1940s terminology), unlike the thin prison-camp-victim models of today.

The idea was not only to attract publicity for CinVention, but to promote the Hydra club and it's bid to hold the next Worldcon in New York. Well, the stunt backfired. Outraged fans, led by Milt Rothman, voted Portland for the next Worldcon. New York didn't get another Worldcon till NYCon II in 1956.

What offended the fans was not so much the Hydra club had brought in the model without telling anyone in advance, and not so much the 'cheesecake' aspect, but the fact professionals were using a fannish venue to promote themselves, as they quite clearly intended to do again if they won the bid to put on the upcoming Worldcon in New York. Fans felt the pros were actively attempting to betray and subvert the fannish nature of fandom's biggest event. So MISS SCIENCE FICTION, and the Hydra club's lobbying at the previous Worldcon, Torcon in Toronto, eventually led to the concept DIRTY OLD PRO entering the fannish lexicon. (DE) (RB) (HWJ)

[See **DIRTY OLD PRO**]

LE MITHRANDIR

-- **Faned: Daniel Coulombe.** A clubzine devoted to the works of Tolkien pubbed out of Lebel-sur-Quevillon, Quebec, circa **1987**.

MLR

-- **Faned: Michael Skeet.** An authorized attempt to carry on the Canada-wide newszine tradition of Garth Spencer's MAPLE LEAF RAG. Pubbed out of Toronto. (Details to be added)

MOHDZEE

-- **Faned: Fred Hurter Jr.** An adzine put out by the Montreal SF Society in 1948 to announce their upcoming publication of CENSORED #5.

1948 - (#1 - Nov) - A small 8-page digest-sized zine distributed free in an effort to convince people to subscribe to CENSORED at 15¢ per issue or 3 for 40¢. The cover is a solid block of nonsense random typing in which can be discerned several sentences such as: "*Ghod what a lot of stuff to write just to get this damn cover filled*", "*If that cheapskate Moe Diner had gone to the trouble of buying me a proper stencil cutter I wouldn't have to sit here pounding the keys like mad*" and "*Nuts to Les Crouch the libertine and the same goes for Basil Rattray who doesn't think that rockets will work.*"

Self-described as "*An Insignificant Fanzine*" which is nevertheless "*a CAFP Publication*", its purpose "*is purely commercial, and it will serve, we hope, to cause the more gullible fans to part with some of their filthy lucre for a subscription to CENSORED which is resuming publication shortly.... CENSORED will be backed by the MSFS to the greater glory of which the rest of this issue is wasted.*" (Fred Hurter)

There follows an account, written by Moe Diner, of the origin of the MSFS in November 1946, the lack of money which prevented them from publishing, and their delight when Fred Hurter, former publisher of "*the defunct CENSORED*" joined their club, which finally inspired them to shell out money for a clubzine if he would do the work in reviving CENSORED. As Moe puts it: "*With fan activity mushrooming, what with the revival of the Toronto group, the establishment of the ambitious Hamilton group, the organization of the CSFA and the revival of the CAFP as an affiliate of it.. to say nothing of the Torcon... it is only fitting that Montreal should take its place in CANADIAN FANDOM (plug for Beak*" (Taylor, faned of same) "*with its own fanzine or zines.*"

And speaking of Torcon (the 1948 World Convention in Toronto), Fred Hurter contributes a poem titled "TOPCON":

*"In Montreal lives
Camillien Houde
A firm enemy of
Toronto the Good."*

*"Since this is so
we can't understand
How our Mayor Houde
Actually could
Let Toronto the Good
Gain the upperhand."*

*"For what else is it
But that;
When the Stf. Convention
Is held at
Toronto the Good
And not in the town
Of Camillien Houde."*

*"But let us be cheerful
And hide our dismay
And send in our dollars
Without delay"*

*"To Ned McKeown
At his abode
at 1398
Mount Pleasant Road."*

There's also an add for MACABRE, "A new Canadian Fanzine. Price 10¢ per copy. Obtainable from Jack Doherty."

I do not know if there were subsequent issues of MOHDZEE, and I have no idea what MOHDZEE means, if anything.

[See **CENSORED, MONTREAL SF SOCIETY, TORCON, MACABRE, CAFP & CSFA**]

LE MOINDRE

-- **Faned: Boyd Raeburn.** A long-lived apazine for ? apa. EG: #7 appeared in May of 1957, #42 in Feb of 1985.

Raeburn was most famous for his A BAS in the 1950s and for co-editing QUEEBSHOTS with Norm & Gina Clarke in the 1960s. He was also a prominent member of the Toronto Derelicts (Toronto SF Society) in the 1950s, and, along with Gerald Steward & Ron Kidder, one of the Toronto Insurgents, a clique devoted to "fandom for fandom's sake, to jazz, and to sports cars."

According to Harry Warner Jr.: "Early in 1955, Steward caused a convulsion to run through all fandom by announcing that Raeburn was a hoax fan who didn't exist. The report almost cost Raeburn his SAPS (Spectator Amateur Press Society) membership."

So it may well be that LE MOINDRE was his apazine for SAPS.

MONSFFA

-- Stands for the Montreal Science Fiction & Fantasy Association, founded in 1987 by Luke A. Fallon & ? Publishes a bi-monthly newsletter titled WARP.

[See **MONTREAL SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY ASSOCIATION, WARP & IMPULSE**]

THE MONTHLY MONTHLY

-- **Faneds: David Vereschagin, Michael S. Hall, Bob Weir & Robert Runte**, the 'Edmonton Gang Of Four'. Additional editors were **Rosanne Charest & Christine Kulyk**. A monthly genzine of high quality. Towards the end, as publication became less frequent, the title was changed to THE BI-MONTHLY MONTHLY. (Detail to be added)

1979 - (#1 - Oct) - Faned: Christine Kulyk - "Actually, this zine has 6 editors, each publishing twice a year... As long as all 6 editors stick to it, this arrangement ought to maintain their monthly schedule, but somehow it seems too good to last... Contents of the first issue are provided by the editors, each sporting fan politics in the best tradition of SMOFS.... Most unusual about MM is the appearance.

David Vereschagin is back on the job and putting his talents to fanzines again. Along with his graphic abilities came an artistic dowry -- it's been too long since Vereschagin art was commonplace in fandom..." - (TW)

- (#2 - Nov) (#3 - Dec)

1980 - (#4 - Jan) (#5 - Feb) (#6 - Mar)

- (#7 - Apr) - *"This is one of the zines that made Edmonton fandom great."* - (GS)

- (#8 - May) - **Faned: Dave Vereschagin** - *"...the characteristic layout & graphics of David Vereschagin, the Gafiated Boy Artist of Canadian Fandom. This issue, in fact, was Dave's, and unfortunately, it is probably the weakest issue of the eight. There were only two articles; a long one on film, written by Dave to refute the anti-intellectual position on film.... that it should be an action-adventure that it makes no mental demands...The issues are so basic that the article is rather tedious... The second article is also on film; Bill Beard's regular column 'Stuttered Motion'. Altogether, a lackluster issue. More interesting than the zine itself was the back-to-back one shot, 'The Domo Gazette', three pages of satire, fun & playful graphics."* - (TW)

- (#9 - Jun) (#10 - Jul) (#11 - Aug) (#12 - Sep) & as BI-MONTHLY MONTHLY: (#13 - Nov)

1981 - (#14 - Jan)

MONTREAL SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY ASSOCIATION (MonSFFA)

-- After the collapse of the Montreal SF Association, organized fandom in Montreal remained dormant till the creation of the Montreal Star Trek Association in 1987. By Oct 1988 the club evolved into a general interest club with a clubzine now called WARP. (LP) (Much more detail to follow)

[See **MONTREAL SF SOCIETY, MONTREAL STAR TREK ASSOCIATION, FINAL FRONTIER, WARP, IMPULSE**]

THE MONTREAL SF SOCIETY

-- Founded November 15th, 1946 at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. It may be the second SF club to be created in Canada (only the Ontario Science Fictioneers predates it, as far as I am aware).

Originally called the 'McGill (University) Science Fiction Society', it was intended as a campus SF club *"able to use the facilities of the university as regards clubroom and notices in the students daily newspaper."* For the purpose of attracting *"the numerous fans presumably residing in the Montreal area... it adopted the name of 'Montreal Science Fiction Society'.* The two names were reconciled with great originality by means of the initials MSFS." (Moe Diner)

"Jack Bowie-Reed, Basil Rattray, & Moe Diner, the organizers, found two dozen members in little more than a year, thanks to publicity in Montreal newspapers & school publications." - (HWJ)

Wrote Jack Bowie-Reed, the Montreal SFS *"adopted CENSORED (in 1948) as its club organ, Fred Hurter Jr. (famed of CENSORED) having happily moved to the 'City of Sin', 'Le petit Paris'."* Just prior to this however, the club published its first issue of MOHDZEE, a small 8-page digest-sized zine, in which plans for the upcoming CENSORED were announced. Readers were invited to subscribe to CENSORED at 15¢ per issue or 3 for 40¢.

As of February 1948, the staff of the MSFS executive consisted of: Honary President - Fred Hurter, President - Moe Diner, 1st Vice President - Cecil de Bretigny, 2nd Vice-President - Bert Joss, 3rd Vice President - Thomas Buck, Treasurer - Basil Rattray, Secretary - Jack Bowie-Reed, Recording Secretary - George Ljelios, & Fanzine Editor - Fred Hurter.

A letter by club treasurer Allan Bernfeld published in CANADIAN FANDOM #21 (Jun 1954) states: *"Just a short note to acknowledge receipt of the recent issues of CANFAN. I've passed them around at the meetings of the Montreal SF Society and they have been received with interest. CANFAN may have the good effect of sparking Fred Hurter into limbering the old multilith so we can whack out another CENSORED. Our normal two year publishing hiatus is now stretching itself out into darn near four years. However, don't hold your breath until you see the issue."*

There were only two issues of CENSORED published under the auspices of the Montreal SF Society: #5 in Sep 1948, & #6 some time in 1951. So the above threat to publish never panned out.

MSFS members Basil Rattray, Moe Diner, Cecil DeBretigny, Fred Hurter Jr. & Allan Bernfeld are Montreal fans listed in the CANADIAN FAN DIRECTORY published by the Canadian SF Association in 1952. Most of the other Montreal fans listed were probably members of the Montreal SF Society as well. They are:

Ivan M. Aron, E.E. Bennett, M.R. Bercovitch, Bill Black, Peggy Brighton, M.J. Bubbis, Fred Carrow, Eugene Cartwright, Alex Church, Edward David, Robert Edgar, John Elder, Leo Ethier, Charlie Falconer, Dennis Gaherty, Jack Goldwater, Paul Gorschkoff, Lucien Guimond, Jane A. Halden, Gerri Hale, A. Held, Vladimir Hospadaruk, A.M. Hunter, Robert A. Joss, Steve Kennedy, Michael Kensman, Gordon Keys, Norm Kipnis, Nixon Knowlton, J.L. Lackman, Jaime E. Lanz, Jean Le Bel, Eric B. Le Clair, Linel Loshak, Douglas B. Lyons, J.E. McAsey, Charles McHale, Gordon S. McKerrow, Alex Mierzwrinski, John Mileus, Calvin A. Paterson, Hugh Peak, Anne Perley, Sylvia C. Pett, Mike R. Quastel, Vera Rawcliffe, C.L. Roach, L.E. Robertson, Al Rosen, Dave Rosenberg, A. Roston, Sidney Schoner, John E.J. Sears, David D. Smith, M.E. Stalker, Peter Tamutes, N.J. Thompson, J. Arthur Thompson, Samuel Trenchard, James Welsh & George F. White.

The Montreal SF Society was a founding member of the Canadian Science Fiction Association (of SF Clubs) in 1948. The CSFA assigned various projects to its member clubs, and for its contribution the Montreal SF Society undertook *"the author pseudonym project"*, which I assume was intended to be a comprehensive listing of SF authors & all of their pseudonyms. Don't know if the project was ever completed.

At some point, probably in the late 1950s, the Montreal SF Society ceased to exist. (Info requested!) (JBR)

[See CANADIAN SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION, MONTREAL SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY ASSOCIATION, MONTREAL STAR TREK ASSOCIATION, WARP, IMPULSE, MOHDZEE]

MONTREAL STAR TREK ASSOCIATION

-- Existed 1987/1988 as a revival of organized Montreal fandom which had been dormant since the demise of the Montreal SF Society. FINAL FRONTIER was the MSTA clubzine until the club evolved into the Montreal SF&F Association (MonSFFA) in Oct 1988 when the name of the zine changed to WARP. (LP)

[See MONTREAL SF SOCIETY, MONTREAL SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY ASSOCIATION, WARP, IMPULSE, FINAL FRONTIER]

MOPING

-- **Faned: Richard Labonte**, Ottawa, ON. Apazine for Murray Moore's Invitational APA/PAPA.

1974 - (#1 - Feb 7) - Richard is living in Ottawa, but is considering moving across Canada, or back to the United States.

- (#2 - Feb 18) - Richard is in Regina, then Calgary, talks about riding the train.

- (#3 - Mar 14) - Richard is in Vancouver, Victoria, Seattle, Portland, and down into California and San Francisco.

MOONSCAPE

-- **Faned: Mogens Brondum**. A small-press SF magazine pubbed out of Swan River, Manitoba, which folded in early 1985. Unknown to me how many issues. (GS) (Detail wanted!)

1983 - (#1 - ?)

MOSS ON THE NORTH SIDE

-- **Faned: Eli Cohen**. Apazine contribution to CRAPA circa late 1970s. At least 14 issues between **1978 & 1980**. Cohen was well known for his perzine KRATOPHANY during the same period. (Details to be added)

MOTA

-- This is the name of the fictional God adopted by the underground priesthood in Heinlein's novel 'Sixth Column'. It is also Mexican slang for pot, and the word 'Atom' spelled backwards, hence the British zine MOTA by Terry Hughes. And it was the name of the Martian in 'The Flying Discman From Mars' film. But in the fannish lexicon it is the name of a minor fannish deity, a green cat who lives on Mars. If you are a follower of Mota, but lapse into heresy, you are condemned to drink yourself to death. Mota believers are noted for their wildly heretical tendencies.

MYLES BOSCON IN 89

-- **Faned: Myles Bos (or possibly John Herbert)**. A bidzine offering a spoof bid for the 1989 Worldcon, pubbed out of Victoria B.C., circa 1986. Fondly remembered by many fans (especially Lloyd Penney).

"Reportedly, Myles Bos was visited by a lightning bolt which came down and told him to hold a Worldcon, 'and the crater is still there', as he told Vancouver's (& BCSFA's) ETHER PATROL in an interview. Activities at Boscon, says John Herbert, will include a video tent (featuring a pocket Donkey Kong game), goats, a torpedo drop zone, goats, two golf courses & an elementary school nearby, goats, a rock quarry, & other places to play hide-&-seek. Post-panel activities include a dead goat party."

"Members of the concom include Myles Bos, 'who can take the simplest task and make it ten times as difficult', Robert Gunderson, who 'halted the Calgary Fan Feud of 1980-82 by threatening to hold

Lloyd Penney's breath until he turned blue', William Froog, 'who slavers to work on security... Because I hate people... I want to mash people into walls for no particular reason', Marsha Chrondrite, 'who just loves all those big long spaceships. They look so strong and hard', Monika Bandersnatch, 'who has invited all the leaders of all of the nations on the planet to attend', & Twinkles the Wonder Goat." (GS)

Lloyd Penney writes: *"One of the best hoaxbids ever...the best fun I'd had in a long time, and I wasn't along in thinking that. Even the fans in Boston who ran the eventually successful 1989 Worldcon bid were tickled by this...they vied for positions on the Mylescon committee. I was to be the ProGoH, too! Paid good money for the position... about \$3.74, or so... If I recall, at the actual Worldcon vote, Myles' House in '89 received 9 votes. Two of them came from Yvonne and me! The many bid publications were drawn and designed by Dan Cawsey."*

In UNDER THE OZONE HOLE # 16 (July 2005) John Herbert contributes a history of the bid written very much in the same spoofing style, but a few nuggets of actual fact are included, such as this quote by E. Bernie Klassen:

"Look, I started it, okay? I was thinking out loud around a table at Mac's 24 Restaurant that conventions were getting too big...Why not something smaller, more personal, more intimate? So I thought of having a con in Sooke. And someone else, it may have been Step[anie Johanson], maybe Karl [Johanson], I dunno -- it was four in the morning! -- anyway, someone said that Myles had a farm! And goats! Well that was it! We cooked that one for a good couple of hours and then John [Willcox Herbert] took it all home and made up the original WORLDCON '89 AT MYLE'S HOUSE flyer and the rest is history. We made buttons, hats, updates -- sometimes we got worried that we may actually have to put this thing on. Eventually we even told Myles about it."

Dan Cawsey, Karl Johanson and John Herbert *"kidnapped Myles and forced him against his will to appear on THE ETHER PATROL radio show, where they were interviewed by Barry Rueger....This group of reprobates were seen at numerous mid-1980s conventions with a flimsy cardboard faux Myles which they attempted to pass off as the real thing. They even went so far as to chair a panel at VCON 14 in 1986, where they insisted they were the driving force behind Myles-Mania. (A tape recording was made, but sadly...it is said to have gone missing." (JH)*

1985 - (#1 - Summer?) - Subtitled: SNEEOLOGY. A three-sheet update published both independently and included in the zine STAR STONE (and possibly other zines). Cover by Portnoy (Dan Cawsey?) shows Twinkles The Wonder Goat reading SNEEOLOGY. Inside artwork replicates the bid badge, a head-on portrait of a snorting, steaming Twinkles.

Arthur C. Clarke and Isaac Asimov are just *"some of the people who will be ... skipping Worldcon 89 at Myle's House....Other guests who will not be attending include Garth Spencer, editor of THE MAPLE LEAF RAG, Canada's answer to Pravda. He will not be hosting a number of panels including: 'Apathy in Fandom -- Who Cares?', and 'Should Alan Dean Foster Novelize Shakespeare?'"*

A full page is devoted to the declaration that: *"The Worldcon At Myle's House will be a Nuclear Free Zone."* The tone is serious, as in: *"The Committee feels that the Superpower's holding of the World as nuclear hostages is the most immoral outrage in human history, and that any step, short of violent insurrection, that can be done to raise this issue in the social consciousness of the nations of the world must be done."* Bear in mind, however, this mimics (and parodies) a previous declaration by the city of Vancouver, B.C. which resulted in street signs on the boundaries of the city announcing *"You are now entering a Nuclear Free Zone."* Neighbouring Burnaby, on the other hand, continued to harbour large numbers of Nuclear-armed cruise missiles (probably aimed at Victoria, the Provincial Capital).

Another page is devoted to a Myles Bos interview conducted by Robert Gunderson:

RG: *"It sounds as if you people feel that you really have a chance of winning the 89 Worldcon bid."*

MB: *"Absolutely. We started this as a joke, but we are now very confident we can put on the bid and put on a successful con. All the Victoria fan groups are behind us 100%!"*

RG: *"That's great. Victoria fandom has always had the tendency to operate in cliques, so it's good to see a project like this bring all these groups together as one big happy family."*

MB: *"Yeah, it's great. Except that the UFCST can't stand SFAV, IFS is linked with farm animals, no one attends Cygnus meetings and The Clan hates everybody. Other than that, everything's going great."*

- (#2 - fall?) - subtitled: LOCK UP YOUR GOATS! "...tells us a whole bunch of things. First, Myles hasn't sold the goats. That's just a story someone made up... (Prime Minister) Mulroney doesn't know anything about the Worldcon bid, of course. The ProGoH position is going to be auctioned off.... NASA supports Mylescon & the Russians are trying to horn in on the act." - (GS)

"Myles Bos is going on a cross-Canada "Lock Up Your Goats" tour in 1986, with The Who's PA system, lasers, smoke pots, fog machines, over four tons of lights, & everything. I didn't even know he could sing.... stops are planned at Vancouver, Spuzzum, Dease Lake, Takla Landing, Smith River, Otter Park, Habbay, Meander River, Entwistle, Didsbury, Manitouwadge, Oba, Moosonee, Val-d'or, Bale Comeau, Richibucto, & other big Canadian population centres..."

Myles is quoted as saying, *"I thought we'd open the show by showing THE ROAD WARRIOR, and then bring out the goats. Then we shoot off the smoke bombs while I sing 'Theme from KILLER SOCKS' on the nose-o-phone.'... Tour jackets & T-shirts will be available soon, as well as the official Myles Bos 1986 'Lock Up Your Goats' Canadian Tour Goat Handcuffs."* (GS)

1986 - (#3 - Spring?) - Subtitled: MYLES BOSCON IN 89.

- (#4 - Summer?) - Subtitled: VICTORY UPDATE. *"This issue chronicles the intense fannish activity in Victoria shortly after Myles won the bid: apparently Twinkles the goat had something to do with it. Myle's reaction: 'His head rolled loosely on his shoulders, and he started making these gagging sounds.'" - (GS)*

MY THEORY WHICH IS MINE AND BELONGS TO ME

-- **Faned: Garth Spencer.** A one-sheet apazine for CANFAPA in the late 1990s. (Detail to be added)