



focal point: two

FP CRACKS UP: Philip K. Dick's "Cantata 140" was released from Ace Books February, under a delightful new title. The story, about a rent in the space-time continuum and a house of prostitution on an artificial satellite, is retitled The Crack In Space. Lovely, lovely, lovely...

DICK GEIS, whose fanzine Psychotic was a Leader in its day (mid-fifties), was convicted in a Sioux City, Iowa Federal Court of "obscenity." The principal defendant was one Milton Luros, who is or was not unknown in sf circles; he was editor (or publisher?) of a couple of sf magazines in the mid-fifties himself. Four corporations -- Sun Era Inc., Parliament News Inc., Dondon Press and American Art Agency -- largely owned by Luros and eight "associates" were convicted on as many as eighteen counts, including "mailing and shipping obscene literature into Iowa." Don't ask us how corporations can be convicted. Geis was convicted on only one count, however. The defense is expected to appeal, having contended that postal inspectors could not make a case against them in L.A. and moved the case out to ~~Sioux City~~ Sioux City in order to get a conviction. Extradition from California to Iowa would seem quite tricky, even if the conviction were upheld, which is extremely unlikely.

DALE TARR, a member of First Fandom and the Cincinnati Fantasy Group, suffered a stroke recently and is recovering now at his home after being hospitalized at Jewish Hospital in Cincinnati. Fortunately, the stroke was not too severe, and Dale is making a good recovery.

OZARKON I: The St. Louis Science Fiction Association is sponsoring a new regional con, to be called the Ozarkon, this year. Guest of Honor will be Focal Point's own art editor, fabulous fannish fan Ted White. It will be held at the Downtowner Motor Inn, 12th & Washington Sts., St. Louis, Missouri, 63101. Membership in the convention is \$2 to James Hall, 202 Taylor Avenue, Crystal City, Missouri, 63109. The rooms will be \$10 for a single and \$13 for a double; these are special prices, so while reservations should be made directly with the hotel, anyone interested should obtain the special rate card from Jim Hall. The con is to be for the most part informal, but they do plan some program. Oops! Almost forgot; the con's being held the last weekend in July.

COA:

Mike Irwin, 242A Brackeridge Hall, Austin, Texas, 78705  
Andy & Barbara Main, P.O. Box 4602, Santa Barbara, California, 93103  
Len Moffatt, 5804 E. Gage Ave. (Apt. 5) Bell Gardens, Calif., 90201  
Pvt. Steve Stiles, US 51 554 783, Hq & Hq Co Tr/Sch Box 683,  
Ft. Eustis, Virginia, 23604

THE COA ABOVE for Len Moffatt came with a note about how the PO had changed its (as we laughingly call it) mind about his zip code, deciding that it really should be 90201 rather than 90202 as they had told everybody there previously. Both envelope and letter contained the little "Add Zip to your mail -- always use Zip code" stamps. Do we detect a note of sarcasm there, Len?

FOCAL POINTS WANTED: We need copies of FP #1, #6, #10, #15 and #16, for various piddle on our mailing list who have asked for them; we'll extend FP subs 2 issues for 1 if you're willing to let them go, for those issues. We have extras on all other issues and they're available for 10¢ ea., or 2/15¢.

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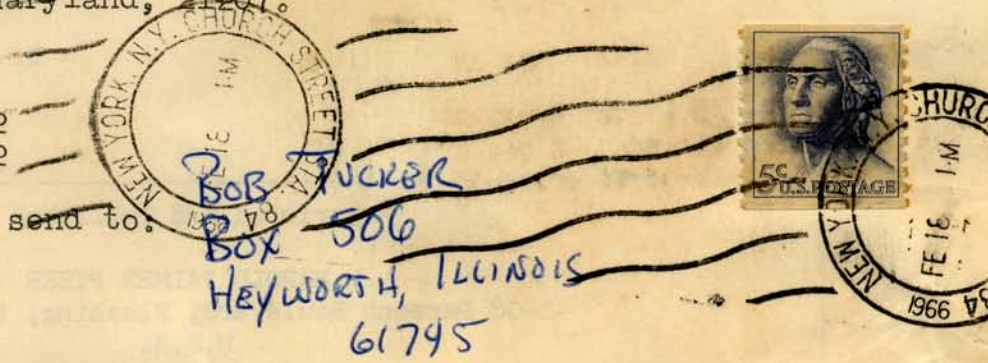
focal point: four

TO BE PUBLISHED: The Tokyo Sogen Co., Ltd., No.16, 1-chome, Shin-Ogawa-Machi, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo is planning to publish the following paperbacks (in Japanese, natch): ERB's Mars series (10 vols.), Venus series (4 vols.), EESmith's Lensmen series (6 vols.) and Isaac Asimov's Galactic Foundation series(3 vols.). Price is 50¢ per volume, plus postage. The cover jacket on Princess of Mars is reported as beautiful; if it's worth half a buck to you...

CLUB NEWS: Jack Chalker reports, "At the general meeting, elections, and party at the Holiday Inn last January 8, 1966, the Baltimore Science Fiction Society changed officers. I retired undefeated as Chairman, that post going to Mark Owings. I, instead, popped up as Vice-Chairman, or Chairman of Vice, whichever you prefer (the BSFS V-C has power, incidentally -- the officer structure's something like FAPA's). Secretary is Edward Krieg, who defeated incumbent Steve Patt. Treasurer is the only unchanged office, remaining in the ~~xxxxxx~~ hands of Ron Bounds, who now has another 13 meetings (26 weeks) to juggle the books." And to think! This come verbatim from the typer of the man who would bid against New York in '67! Why, the shame of it is enough to make us raise our head in ire at this blantant something or other, were it not for the fact that such blather would take up too much space. :: Mike Irwin mentions that there is an sf club in Austin, Texas, which he is in, attended & sponsored by Chad Oliver and Randy Garrett, the former a teacher at A.T., the latter a resident of Austin. More information can be obtained by writing Mike; his COA appeared on pp. 2 of this FP.

SNIPPETS: SP4 Earl E. Evers (RA 51 533 159, 269 Sig Co (Svc), APO New York, N.Y., 09041), besides reinlisting (\*sigh\*), has obtained a tape recorder and is interested in getting "good folk tapes". He would like not only catalogs of commercial type tapes, but information about others who'll make tapes for him; he'll pay expenses. :: Panic Button, fanzine-turned-semi-pro, reportedly folded, appeared on the New York stands not too long back. :: Harlan Ellison has done the screenplay for a mamoth all-star Embassy (Joe Levine) release, THE OSCAR. Edie Adams, according to the ads, plays Trina. Has Harlan done Tucker one better, or was there actually a Trina in the the book by Richard Sale? The world premiere, anyway, is on Feb. 15 at the Egyptian Theatre in Los Angeles. :: Jack Chalker, Jerry Page, Mark Owings need \$100-\$250 to form a hb specialty publishing house; if interested, write Jack Chalker, 5111 Liberty Heights Ave, Baltimore, Maryland, 21207.

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