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THE FAMILY OF LOVE by Alastair Hamilton

The mystery which surrounds the heterodox sect known as the Family of Love has been a source of endless fascination to scholars. On one hand some of the greatest humanists of the late sixteenth century were alleged to have been associated with it — the printer Christophe Plantin, the philosopher and philologist Justus Lipsius and the Spanish Biblical scholar Benito Arias Montano. On the other it acquired a sinister reputation of antinomianism particularly in England where it survived into the seventeenth century and, as a spiritual movement, took its place amongst the non-conformist movements under the Commonwealth.

Professor Hamilton's is the first comprehensive study to connect the Family of Love in England with the sect on the continent. Working from extensive primary sources in Holland, Belgium, Great Britain and the United States, he provides a detailed study of the careers of the two main ideologists of the sect, the founder Hendrik Niclaes and his schismatic follower Hendrik Jansen van Barrevelt (Hiel). He gives a lucid account of the various humanists connected with the movement and analyses in depth the ramifications of the Family of Love in the Low Countries and England. *The Family of Love* will prove to be the definitive history of a neglected but significant sect in Europe.

Professor Hamilton was educated at Eton and King's College, Cambridge. Formerly Research Fellow at the Sir Thomas Browne Institute in the University of Leiden, he is at present Professor of English at the University of Urbino. His publications include *The Appeal of Fascism* (1971) and *The Alumbrosos* due to be published in 1983 by James Clarke and Co. Ltd.

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**FAMILISTS** (fām'ilīsts), religious community founded in Friesland in the 16th century by Hendrik Niclaes. Niclaes, a merchant of Munster & originally a Roman Catholic, claimed to have been chosen prophet & prepared by special outpouring of the "spirit of the true love of Jesus Christ." His teachings combined elements of German mysticism with Anabaptist doctrines & the ethic of religious perfection. Making Emden his headquarters, he spread his beliefs, travelling much, particularly in Flanders & England.

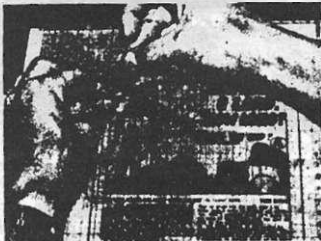
At Emden was first established (c. 1540) the Family of Love, as his community was called. It held that the divine spirit of love within it placed it above Bible, creeds, liturgy, & law. However, since no specific form of worship was prescribed, many of its members remained in the Roman communion. They were, however, bound together into a hierarchical communistic organisation. In 1560, Niclaes had to leave Emden, & he escaped to England. There his movement gained adherents although its emotionalism was frowned upon by the orthodox. There was some government procedure against them under Elizabeth I & James I. Although the sect died out in the 17th century, it strongly influenced similar radical groups.

(From The New Columbia Encyclopedia, Columbia University Press, 1975.) (Does it sound familiar? He! He!)

### HOW THE MO BOOKS ARE MADE! --By Ho

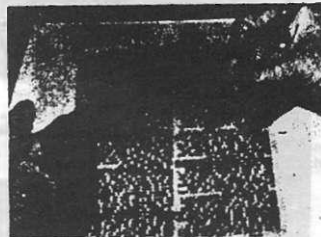
1. THE STORY OF THE STEPS OF PRODUCTION OF THE MO BOOKS IS AN INTERESTING ONE FULL OF MANY LITTLE DETAILS. This story we hope will help you appreciate what a miracle the Books are. Of course the story begins with the Lord giving Dad the Words to pass on to us. After they have been initially printed in the Family News Magazine, the films of the text of each Letter are collected together and mailed to us in Hong Kong.

2. THEN BEGINS THE PREPARATION WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE BEFORE GIVING THE FILMS TO THE PRINTER. Letter numbers are added at the top of each page, and page



numbers at the bottom to make finding the particular Letter in the Books easier for you. Any corrections needed on the films such as reduction or enlargement of the text or artwork is done so all the pages will fit the uniform Book format page size.

3. EVEN CUTTING AND SPLICING ON THE FILMS IS SOMETIMES NEEDED to make spelling or typographical corrections & to



Photos by Ho & Michael. July, 1981

replace copyrights or faint text lines & paragraph numbers. Touch up of the artwork & Letter Titles on Letter covers is done with opaque paint so that no white dots appear in what should be solid black areas, & any little black dots that shouldn't appear in the white areas are scraped off the films.

4. THE SUMMARIES FOR THE BEGINNING & THE INDEX FOR THE END we receive in the original form, and any layout needed is done along with the title & credit pages. These are all then shot onto film & the page numbers are added to complete the Summaries & Table of Contents with the number of the page where each Letter begins.

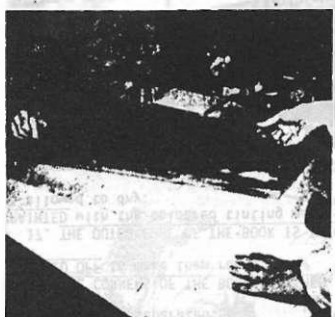
5. THEN ALL THE PAGES OF FILMS ARE COUNTED UP & DIVIDED INTO GROUPS OF 32 as this is the number of pages to be printed together on one sheet. These groups of 32 page sections are called signatures, & we plan out how many of these signatures it will take to make the Book & where there will be any blank or note pages.

6. THEN THESE CLEARLY MARKED & LABELLED GROUPS OF 32 PAGES OF FILMS ARE READY TO BE TURNED OVER TO THE PRINTER. At the printers' shop our positioning instruction marks are translated & written on to the films in Chinese so the Chinese



worker who does not read English can still find how to follow the page order & put all the pages in their correct place on the large sheets, so that when it's folded up all the pages are in the correct order following one another. We work out with the printer what will be the width of the margins around each page of text allowing for that which must be trimmed off in the binding.

7. THEN A CLEAR PLASTIC POSITIONING GUIDE SHEET IS MADE TO SHOW WHERE TO POSITION EACH PAGE OF TEXT ON THE BIG SHEET TO BE PRINTED. All the pages of films are then taped down on the big clear plastic sheets in their correct positions. After this is all completed,



the large clear plastic sheet holding 16 pages (which is one side of the printed sheet) is placed over a sheet of oxalid blueprint paper & exposed with a very bright light to transfer the image onto the paper, sort of like a giant photocopy. One of these is made of each large sheet to show what will be on each side of the final printed sheet, & then these are stuck together.

8. THIS PAPER IS THEN FOLDED & TRIMMED EXACTLY AS THE FINAL PRINTED SHEET WILL BE INTO A BLUEPRINT OF THE 32 PAGE SECTION THAT THAT SHEET WILL BE. We then go through these 32 page sections page by page to check & be sure that all the pages are in the correct order following one another & that the proper amount of margin is surrounding each page of text so that no print will be in danger of being trimmed off.

replied. So the groom put his ear to the other breast & said, "I don't hear anything." His friend answered, "That's because you're not plugged in!"  
—Sent in by Nathan; U.S.A.

**AN OLD JEW WAS DRIVING ALONG IN HIS FANCY CAR** when an old Chinese man accidentally bumped into him. The old Jew got out screaming, "You guys are always making trouble! First you bomb Pearl Harbor! Now you wreck my car!" The gentleman replied politely, "But sir, I am not Japanese, I am Chinese." The Jew replied, "Japanese! Chinese! It's all the same!" The Chinese gentleman retorted, "Well, you people don't have a lot of room to talk. You're responsible for the sinking of the Titanic!" "What do you mean?" replied the Jew. "The Titanic was sunk by an iceberg!" The Chinese man answered, "Iceberg! Goldbergl! It's all the same!"  
—Sent in by Zattu & Anne; Caribbean.

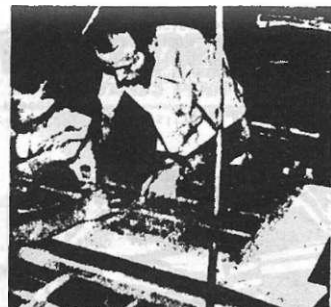
had me—I was free all evening!"  
—Sent in by Bani & Mercy; U.S.A.

**HERE'S A JOKE MY FATHER HEARD IN CHURCH:** A man caught a wolf & decided to see if it could be trained. So he placed an ad in the paper & got two responses—one from a man & the other from a woman. First the young woman went in to the cage. The wolf showed no hostility but instead licked her hands, her legs, all over! The owner turned to the man & asked, "Could you do that?" He said, "Sure, if somebody will hold the wolf!"  
—Sent in by Jack; WIM.

**A MAN HAD JUST GOTTEN MARRIED** & having a very close friend, invited him to come along on their honeymoon. Their room only had one bed so they all three slept on the same bed. In the middle of the night the groom woke up to see his friend with an ear on one of his bride's titbits. The groom said, "May I ask what you are doing?" "Listening to the music," the friend



HOW 'BOUT THIS FOR THE "8TH SUPPORTER"!  
(From "Oull" Magazine—their pic, our caption!)  
(Sent in by Michael & Patience; NWIM.)



9. WE SEND A COMPLETE SET OF THE BLUEPRINTS TO DAD & HIS TEAM TO MAKE A FINAL CHECK OVER to see if they spot any corrections or changes to be made before approving it to be printed. Their corrections & changes are then made & a final correct set of blueprints is made. Any corrections we find needed in page order or page positioning are also made. This is double checked that all is correct & ready for printing, then we give the go ahead to the printer to print it!

10. THE PAPER WE USE IS A VERY THIN LIGHTWEIGHT HIGH-QUALITY BIBLE PAPER which must be run on an especially finely adjusted printing press at a slower than normal speed. Printing this Bible paper is especially difficult & requires great care & accuracy.

