

IN DEFENSE OF ACKERMAN  
-Ted Carroll-

There is probably little reason for this scathing defense of Britton's favorite American fan -- plenty of your own countrymen will have taken up the cudgels long before this ever reaches you. However, I guess I'm more entitled than any of them to have a little say in what the "British Boys" think of their pet Angel.

That was a neat piece of work reproducing the anonymous letter Joe Gilbert had sent him, Corrie. I admire you for it, and the mere fact that you saw fit to publish it is commendable in itself. Most countries have their gutter rags, borrowing in the name of their own half-wit minds. You receive an occasional overflow of such from them, usually brought so brightly jealousy or some misguided conceit that they ain't being done right by the populace. My one regret is that the FARA's name had to be brought into it. It makes it look as tho' one of the members wrote it, altho' it would have been read by a larger audience. (Your own letter or article which started the pot.)

Well, here's my Open Letter in reply to that note

Anonymous letters were the stinkiest outlet from deranged minds, Nat. Any clean-thinking American, despite his dislike of Acky, would still have written his name beneath the truth and from your adopted recently. But that would have injured your little standing, wouldn't it Nat? You'd've been tossed on your ear, head.

From the poor-quality English that you contrived to make into a slashing attack, many things immediately strike the reader. Nat. It seems that you don't like Acky sending us magazines -- naturally you haven't done so yourself. I doubt if you've even thought of sending copies to your own friends in the Forces. Your brain is far too small to see -- solve such an idea. Furthermore, where did you get the idea that we sent Corrie back books in exchange? You didn't even know, little rat, that he had been sending magazines over here on a fairly large scale, until he publicly mentioned so, did you? Neither did I, and I'm one of his best friends. For over two years he kept sent off parcels -- of magazines that he kept me'd like, and it wasn't until many of us had mentioned it to believe that we realized he was helping us more as he possibly could -- without striking out his stock and asking for more -- to be draped on it.

ee, Nat, we don't send him books in exchange, unless it happens to be something he really wants for his collection, or a book that somebody specially requests and is obtainable only in this country.

So you'd like to be my proxy, would you, Nat, and stop him down for being "fresh" by publicly sending up wife's names. Get back in the slime you've crawled from, and stay there. What is you know about friendship?

Finally -- we'd like Ackerman over here -- for keeps. That's maybe also you a chance to get in the limelight of American affairs. For obviously your whole "total outlook is based upon the fact that you haven't made the grade, hence when you get out of the childhood stage and get some sense -- if that's possible -- you'll be able to do something that will earn you some genuine recognition.

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The suggestion of British fans paying for Foveia's trip over here after the war was a private idea and opinion of quite a number of us. It never was for public presentation at this stage -- I believe that it was Dr Smith who originated it. Anyway, we thought it would be a small idea -- but it was promptly rejected by Foveia himself. You had to mention it publicly so that some of his enemies could use it as a lever against him. Well, Nat, if I paid his fare over myself, I'd still be hopelessly in his debt!

You had you hide under anonymity, Nat. I'd look you up someday.

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IN REPLY TO US ALL

The following information appeared originally in the Enigma, that near-left fanzine, but it's worth repeating here for benefit of those few outsiders who do not read that abominable peerless foulness:

The Office of Censorship in Washington has requested that we cease the practice of publishing names and addresses of fans in service, both at home and abroad, because of the danger this entails not only for the lives of these fans, but for security of war our shores.

They pointed out that men in service are forbidden to correspond with strangers, and the En list encouraged just that, as well as giving in some detail the positions of certain units and forces. This will be a blow to the 'free fanzine for fans in service' movement, but the various fan editors will have to get along as best they can hereafter, by sending fanzines to home addresses, and such army addresses as they get from the interested fan himself, hereafter. En will carry only the names of the fans who are in service, but no other information about them.

WANT LIST

The following books are wanted, providing they are in good condition, and are reasonable in price:

SCOP by Ben Prinos; DIAL OF THE LOST LAMB by Edson Marshall; AFTER THE AFTERGLOW by Arthur Mazerand; CIRCUS OF DR LAD by Charles Finney; MR LINSEP by Theodore Pratt.

Nat'll bet you never recognized this as Nat Parker's

