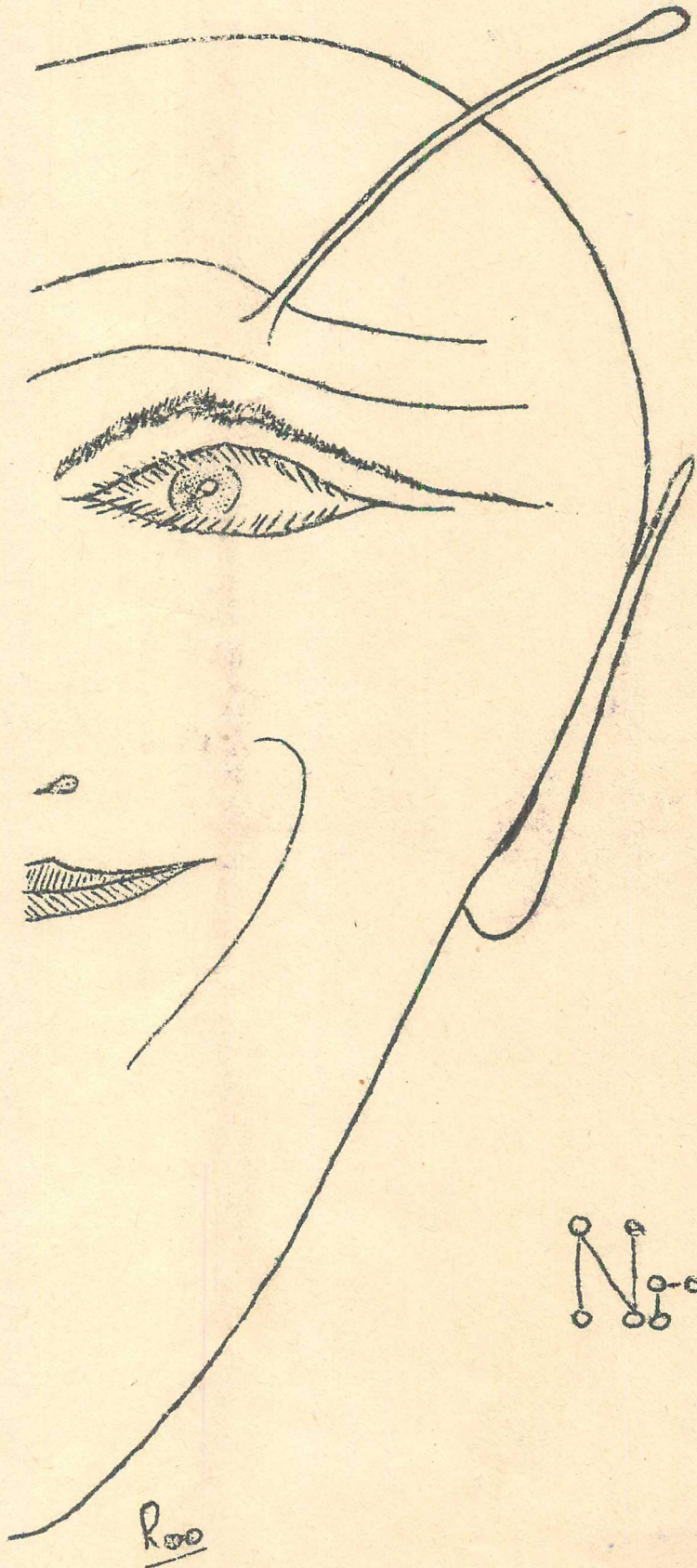


9 May 62

the
Bug
Eye



No. 10

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Vol. 2 No. 3 March/April 1962

Hel Klemm

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ETHEL FOR T.A.F.F. !

"America I've given you all and now I'm nothing".

To get business out of the way first:

Burkhard Blüm asked me to publish this announcement: R.A. Heinlein's Denvention (1941) speech, THE DISCOVERY OF THE FUTURE, will be translated into German and published by him as a 'separate print' of his 'zine SF TIMES. German title: DIE ENTDECKUNG DER ZUKUNFT. For details write to : Burkhard Blüm, Hofheim/Ried, Jakobstr. 17, W. Germany.

There haven't been any fanz reviews in Bug Eye for almost a year now. This fact has made me unhappy ever since, and you can't imagine how glad I was when about a week ago Les Gerber offered his services to do a regular review column for me. Thus, from now on send fanzines for review to : Leslie Gerber, 201 Linden Boulevard, Brooklyn 26, New York, USA.

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I SURE AM A REAL FAN dept. cont'd:
It was at the age of 12 when I found out I was somehow different from the other kids. It's difficult to explain but I was always in 'opposition'. At first this didn't disturb me at all, however, I grew older & became more and more radical & got more and more enemies. My teachers accused me of being an 'asocial element' and an 'exaggerated egoist', and my chums considered me a madman. Then I discovered fandom and that was my last escape. In fandom I could let off steam, no one took offence at it, I could (and can) write and publish whatever seemed to me and even if it was a bit queer, no one called me crazy. Quite on the contrary, I'd say. But there's an even greater advantage fandom can offer: you learn to discuss. Before I got into fandom I was

completely incapable of carrying on a discussion, but after reading several issues of Warhoon, Habakkuk, Yandro, Discord, etc., I know all the tricks! -- -- -- -- -- Oh well, between writing the last sentence and this lies a period of a whole month, and I forgot what I wanted to write. Let's turn to another subject:

As some of you may know, the German Communist party was prohibited in 1955, the result was that the party went underground. Today it is the strongest underground movement we have in Germany; it has circa 15.000 .. 20.000 active members and publishes around 10 ~~periodicals~~ not to mention the numberless propaganda sheets and pamphlets.

It was last summer when I got into contact with the communist underground movement in Hamburg. I met a guy at the CNVA march in Osnabrück, made friends with him, and he invited me to attend a meeting of the group. So we hitch-hiked to Hamburg, and the next night he took me along to that meeting. Describing the way to the house where the group came together would be a whole story in itself. I never expected Hamburg having so many Paradise Alleys! But I digress, when we arrived there was already a group of about 20 members assembled. Never having met a communist before I was highly astonished at seeing these young highbrows; at least 10 of them were students, the youngest 17, the oldest 28 years of age. I had always considered commies as being factory workers, colliers etc., but these guys weren't that at all!

After I had been introduced to them (as guest, mind you!) the (informal) meeting began. It would last too long to write up the following discussion in full, but I can say that it was by no means polimic or somesuch, quite on the contrary, I should say.....and, incidentally, no one tried to convert me....! On the whole they were nice people.

Don't ~~misunderstand me~~ I'm NOT a Communist, and I'm far away to become one, but I'm fed up to the gills with those John Birch types who speak of commies as if they were beasts and to be lynched!

Now it is for you to keep the lettercol swingin'....What'cha think, Gem Carr, Bob Leman, Don Ford,.....

-COO-

NOTE CHANGE IN ADDRESS NOTE CHANGE IN ADDRESS NOTE CHANGE IN ADDRESS

Our Postmaster General has changed the postal zones. My new and correct address is: Helmut Klemm, 16 Uhland St.;

ap 413 Rheincamp-Utfort/Eick,
(22a) Krs. Moers,
West Germany

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continued p.19

VOTE E T H E L L I N D S A Y FOR TAFF

THE QUESTIONABLE

QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE

-4-

by

Larry Williams

Those fen who attend high school or college needn't read this. I attend high school so I'm not going to read it. With all the work required of a student very little time is left for fannish activity. Fannish students already know what this is all about, so reading this article would be a waste of time. I'm writing it for the benefit of those fen who have graduated and forgotten the problems involved in being a fan while in school. That's right, this article is an excuse for inactivity or seeming laziness on the part of fan students.

For instance, I'll take a typical school day as an illustration of fan's activity. I get up at 7:00 a.m. This prevents staying up until 1:00a.m. working on my fanzine or catching up on correspondence left to rot for a month or two. I catch the high school bus, get to school, and leave homeroom (some home!) at 8:20 for the first period, a class lasting one hour. Let's say I enter the plane geometry class. Thruout the class we discuss the science of plane figures, etc., and at the end of the class the teacher tells us that for the next class we are to do examples 5-11, 13-18, and 1-20 on pages 178, 180, and 181 respectively, and that during the next class we shall be tested on the last three chapters. Nice of her to tell us a whole day in advance, isn't it?

Next I have the pleasure of entering a class on World Civilization, which is actually world history. But World History is a subject slated for another year, and they can't make it seem that they have two years of the same stuff set up, can they? The assignment in this class is always reading about seven pages of pure hell on which we will be quizzed the following day.

Then I have Latin II, and we are told to do twenty or so sentences translation, and that we will be quizzed on it the next day. These sentences always seem to take me about one and a half or two hours to complete. Remembering the structures and some of the harder vocabulary is next to impossible.



The next class is physical education. On alternate days we have studies, but this isn't one of those days. I strain myself in several places and then get thrown into the lunch room, to eat a lunch made by my mother. It consists of sandwiches, etc. but is easier to digest than school lunches.

Then on to biology class. The teacher tells us to read chapter 12 and then says that we will have a test on chapters 9, 10, 11, and 12 on the following day. My biology teacher is unrelenting. No matter how many times we ask to be told two or three days prior to the test, he still tells us one day prior, on the grounds that we wouldn't study any earlier anyhow. But I would; this biology class is hard to learn. It's even harder to "digest" than school lunches.

As hideous as this discourse may sound it actually happens regularly. The one hour regular study after last period doesn't put much of a dent in this homework. Unable to do anything but rest before dinner, I don't do homework or fanac then. I start homework at about 6:30, and work till 9:30 almost without exception. On a night after the described day I'd go till 11:00 or 11:30, and maybe get up at 6:00 a.m. for a refresher study.

Now, I ask you. When does a fan have time to work on letters or his zine with work like this? Over the week-end, you say. Maybe some fans do, but I don't. I life it up to the last branches of possibility over the week-end. I do work on fanac, but not long.

You can understand why the teenage fan isn't as active as you'd like, why his letters take months to be answered, and why his fanzine comes out annually every summer. I'm going all the way on my fanzine. CINDER will see one more issue and then it will fold. I'd like to continue it, but it's too much work when I'm in school.

Some students gaffiate while in school, and return later or maybe never return. I won't go quite that far, but my activity is small.

So don't blame a fan student if he doesn't answer your letters on time, or doesn't send his fanzine in trade for all those issues you sent. His teachers are probably publishing final exams at that time. Teachers are merciless.

- finis -

HARRY WILLIAMS

Rolf Gindorf:

THE GERMANS,
THE NAZIS, THE JEWS—
-6- AND]

An Essay In Demythologization

" ... at the moment there are more than 160
ex-Nazis in our government!"

(Helmut Klemm in THE BUG EYE No. 9)

+++

It was when reading this statement in the last issue of THE BUG EYE that I began to wonder about the fact that, in all its issues circulated throughout American and English fandom, there had never - except an editorial note by Helmut broaching the subject - been one word by any of its German contributors about those things which are supposed to come to everybody's mind whenever there is mention of The Germans. Could it be possible, I asked myself, that those Anglo-American fans were ready to f o r - g e t all that had happened in the name of the German people - did they consider it some unpleasant and remote dream from the past that could never again come true - or were they perhaps too c o u r t e o u s to bring up a subject which they might think would hurt our feelings? Is there not one among our British and American friends, I wondered, who marvels at the thought that these German fans are children of the same people that produced a Hitler and a horde of Eichmanns, that proclaimed anything un-German as vastly inferior and sub-human, that developed the Auschwitzes and Dachaus to their all too well known point of nauseating perfection, and that answered their leaders' magical "Do you wish Total War?" with an all but orgiastic affirmative roar?

There are those - and undoubtedly they will say so next issue - who have persuaded themselves that bygones should be bygones, and who are satisfied that those events are a thing of the past. I have not, and I am not. I believe that a German - and not only a German! - should talk about those things and of his attitude towards this entire complex, in the one German fanzine that is addressed to those that some of us were still taught to hate.

"A people under the whip of the modern totalitarian State cannot defend itself, cannot rebel: it is slave in the most complete, absolute, terrifying form --- slave in a physical, moral, spiritual sense." Thus wrote Curzio Malaparte in a letter to the Ger-

man readers of KAPUTT, I think he is only partly right --- and he does not touch at all on the decisive question of what makes a people accept and actually welcome a totalitarian system in the first place. -7-

Judging by the available historical evidence, it becomes apparent that the Germans as a people have never integrated the essence of freedom or democracy into their psycho-sociological matrix, into their social bowels. It may be argued that the same holds true for all other peoples as well, but even if this is so the fact is most obvious among the Germans. They have preferred to be ruled rather than to govern - which, traced to its Greek origin, means 'to steer'. Their preferred political roll has been a passive one, provided that their rulers gave them sufficient bread and work with which to fill their time. If it was a matter of 'panem et circenses' for the Romans, it was 'panem et laborem' for the Germans. - Despite their Schillers and Humboldts, the Germans as a people have defined freedom as lack of responsibility, and democracy as the new system to bring every factory hand his Volkswagen. - The same, I repeat, may be said of other Western societies to a certain degree, but it appears to me that this attitude is particularly evident among Germans --- they are profoundly apolitical.

It is this apolitical frame of mind - more than any deep-set guilt complex - which makes the average young German of my post-war generation strangely reluctant to discuss any of the set of phenomena that made up what I call the Third Reich Syndrome. I have emphasized young here not because the generation that was adult at that time is any less reluctant to discuss those events and their own position towards them, but because their motivations for this behaviour are fundamentally different from those of the young - for obvious reasons. I believe that it is of vital importance to overcome this reluctance to face facts and draw conclusions from them, if we wish to avoid the reappearance of this Syndrome. It was - and is! - the resultant of certain factors which had - and have! - their origin in psycho-sociology. As such, they may occur again - not only and not necessarily in this country, but anywhere and anywhen. Only by rational analysis can we hope to gain intellectual control over what are essentially emotional problems, which may - and will! - face us again --- any one, any time.

With his belief in the security of the old Empire shattered by the outcome of World War I, and his deep dissatisfaction with the subsequent Weimar democracy's blatant inefficiency to cope with attacks from left and right, the average German of the twenties began to feel a longing for a Stable Order. In addition, the effects - both economic and moral - of the Versailles Treaty were making themselves felt as a tremendous burden on the nation. Finally, as a result of the great economic crisis that began in the United States, a large portion of the German population was unemployed, and the masses of the jobless, compelled to live off relief, contributed to the general unrest. All these factors combined to create the right atmosphere for a sudden change, to pave the way for a radical social and political upheaval without the majority of the population ever becoming quite aware of it.

Out of the political, economic, social and psychological ruins of the Weimar Republic, at the height of the carnival

of alternating governments and rivalling ministers, there could be heard the strong and confidence inspiring voice of the chairman of the National Socialist German Workers' Party, Austrian-born Adolf Hitler. His rise to power was not, repeat not an expression of any popular German will to achieve world dominance, nor was it a popular German support of the methods to be adopted later on by the Führer with a view to reaching that aim. It was not --- not in the initial phase up to, say, 1935, for in that period Hitler's Party promised and achieved definite results in the socio-economic field, results which all his predecessors had failed to obtain. After having been appointed Prime Minister in a parliamentary procedure by Chancellor Hindenburg, Hitler and his stable of first-rate experts managed to provide work - practically overnight - for the millions of unemployed through large-scale government schemes such as the Autobahn and the Reichs-Arbeitsdienst. The government - Reich, state and local - gave loans to every house owner, enabling him to have the long overdue repairs made. A grand social security system was introduced, ensuring that any aged or disabled persons were cared for decently. Above all, the government and the Party were quick to recognize the immense value of influencing the nation's youth, which they did in a thoroughly efficient way: by appealing to their desire to 'belong' and to identify. A nationwide youth organisation with generous hiking, camp and jamboree schemes was initiated, and a special government department was in charge of youth questions.

All this may appear to be an attempt at excusing the Germans, at finding a plausibly-sounding rationalization for what has been done by Nazi-Germany. It is not. Instead, I am trying to cast some light on the circumstances that led to the happenings briefly referred to in my first paragraph, and to find out, if possible, whether Nazism and anti-semitism as epitomized by the Third Reich was exclusively a German phenomenon, or part of a European trend that happened to be most pronounced - through a variety of factors - in Germany. Of course, this will automatically lead up to the question of whether Nazism, or Fascism, or some other totalitarian régime will again assume control of this or any other country of what we like to call euphemistically the Free World.

With the Germans' belief and confidence in himself and his Party firmly established as a result of his spectacular successes in dealing with domestic (social and economic) problems, Hitler gradually began to shift the emphasis of his crusades and public addresses towards international politics. At this point it must be stressed that Hitler had stupendous oratory skill, and exercised a tremendous, almost hypnotical influence upon the masses of people when making one of his speeches. Not that he was by any means an 'educated gentleman' - he had not even finished high school -, but whenever he addressed an audience he was sure to win them over. In this, he was even surpassed by what was possibly the greatest and most dangerous demagogue --- Dr. Joseph Göbbels, his Reichs-Propaganda-Minister (sic). It is quite impossible for any non-German (in terms of language, that is) to clearly recognize and appreciate the full oratory and psychological impact of the speeches of those two men alone, and no amount of translation will ever be able to make a non-German actually feel and fully understand what the average 'man-of-the-street' German --- and not only he! --- must have experienced at hearing one of the great speeches.

Born in 1939, three months before the Germans invaded Poland (by shooting "back", of course!) and thus provoked the declarations

of war from the Allies, I had never consciously heard any of those dialectical masterpieces at the time they were given. However, I have heard recordings of them (some of which were marketed, incidentally, by American firms), and I can very well imagine their effect on the Germans at that time --- their emotional appeal is based on the same set of syndromes that causes, analogically, the great successes of, say, rock 'n' roll. Hitler and Göbbels, as well as others of the Third Reich leaders, were to become the first pragmatic, ruthless, and fully successful practioners of mob psychology with all resources of a modern industrialized state at their disposal. -9-

At this stage it is again necessary to remember that the Nazi government was, at least initially, a legitimate one. Typologizing the various systems of rule we can distinguish, as outlined by Max Weber, between legitimate and illegitimate rules: a form of government can be said to be legitimate when the ruled believe it to be legitimate. Apart from and beyond that it is merely a political, social, and economic order of power relationships. Legitimate rules can be classified as follows:

- a) of a rational character (when legitimacy is built on the validity of 'legal orders', and on the right of certain persons to enforce these 'laws', leading to modern bureaucracy)
- b) of traditional character (based on the belief in the 'sacredness' of handed-down traditions and certain persons ordained to exercise control)
- c) of charismatic character (grown out of the belief in supposedly super-natural or at least extraordinary faculties of a certain personality, seen as 'Führer').

I think that the Third Reich was clearly a charismatic government, and it was - except possibly in its later stages - legitimate because the people believed it to be so.

Following the crisis of liberal democracy in Europe after World War I, of the capitalist economic system, and as a result of the revolutionary changes brought about by the rise of the modern industrial society with its fundamental re-orientation of social awareness and institutions, there arose in Europe what has been generally termed 'Fascism'. It constituted a pan-European opposition to and counteraction against parliamentary democracy of the traditional type - despite the seemingly final victory of democracy in Europe after the War. This was particularly pronounced in Central and Eastern Europe, where democracy had no traditional standing and was actually considered an alien element by large parts of the respective populations. At a time when America was again turning towards isolationism and Russia was in the middle of her consolidation period, Europe was unable to cope with the changed situation - particularly with the atomism and complexity of modern industrial society - except by taking refuge to totalitarian systems. We must remember that fascism (or its German form of 'National-Sozialismus') was by no means restricted to this country alone, but could be found in various forms in many other countries (Mussolini in Italy, Dollfuß in Austria, the dictatorial monarchy in Yugoslavia, Franco and Salazar on the Iberian Peninsula, as well as the fascist or extreme right-wing parties and groups in the Netherlands, Belgium, France, England, and other countries). All over

Europe these fascist-totalitarian tendencies led to an exaggerated flight into anonymous community and racial primitivism --- but it was in Germany where these tendencies gained complete control, for reasons I have tried to analyze above.

Let us resume our look at the German scene. The Party soon concentrated on two central subjects in their efforts to gain full popular backing: the conviction of Germany's being threatened by her neighbours, and the belief in the total inferiority and Evil Influence of the Jews. - To bolster the former, the Nazis could successfully play upon the deep-seated popular bitterness over the Versailles Treaty, the tremendous reparation payments, the continued occupation of sizeable German territories by foreign troops, and a multitude of other circumstances which combined to give the Germans a feeling of national shame and down-grading, forcing them into a back-to-the-wall position. Instead of rationally analyzing this state of affairs and its underlying reasons, they were only too glad to follow the Nazi propaganda that it was all the fault of the other European countries, who kept intriguing against peaceful innocent Germany. - As for the second, the Party propaganda was well aware that there had always been an undercurrent of latent anti-semitism --- not only in Germany, but also and to an even higher degree in other countries of the so-called 'Christian Occident'. By utilizing this almost mythical resentment of certain parts of the population, by holding an alleged racial inferiority and evil spirit of the Jews responsible for all that went wrong in the world, by creating a racial mythology thinly disguised as science, where the 'Nordic' or 'Aryan' race was the only one privileged to live decently, Hitler and the propaganda experts of the National Socialist German Workers' Party told the people, in effect, that all the bad and evil influences in the world were not of their own origin and making, but solely the result of "International Jewdom's" scheming.

This touches, of course, on the psycho-sociological complex of minorities and prejudices. All men are subject to prejudices and biases to a more or less pronounced degree --- but it is the "more or less" which makes all the difference. Stereotyped prejudices are generally used to enable participation in moralo-social prestige and power, both represented by one's in-group. Equally generally, they are caused and motivated by combinations of the following behavioural attitudes:

- a) tendency towards stereotyped thinking
- b) hostility towards out-groups
- c) admiration for the power represented by one's in-group.

As shown by Adorno, Frenkel-Brunswik, Sanford, Levenson, and other sociologists, such a situation tends in most cases to group members holding out-groupers ("the Others") responsible for their own inadequacies and weaknesses - which are usually the result of a weak ego combined with a poorly integrated super-ego.

Operating on these premises: the wide-spread resentment of what may be termed the Versailles Complex, as well as the immensely skilful exploitation of the Party's describing the Jewish minority as the source of all Evil, coupled with a simultaneous elevation of the 'Aryan race' to the position of world leadership 'by divine right' (Hitler made a point of always referring to the "Providence" that was guiding him!), Hitler and, more specifically, Dr. Göbbels, were able to create an atmosphere of chauvinis-

tic fanaticism that mobilized an entire people's tremendous emotional reserves. Driven by this fanaticism, which was shared -11- by the majority of the German people, the Nazi government could publicly discriminate the Jews, confiscate their property, imprison them at will, put them in "concentration camps" (which, incidentally, did not have to be invented by the Germans), and all the time look for what it called "a definite solution of the Jewish question"... without the Germans as a people ever wavering in their enthusiastic and almost orgasmic support of and identification with the Nazi government.

Oh yes, there were individuals - intellectuals, priests, socialists, communists, homosexuals, and 'ordinary citizens - who were a g a i n s t the Nazis for some reason or other, who realized what had become of the "Workers' Party", who actually rebelled against their philosophy of "Und willst Du nicht mein Bruder sein, dann schlag ich Dir den Schädel ein!" ('If you won't be my brother I'll smash your head'), and who criticized - privately or publicly - the ruthless prosecution of anything un-German (i.e., un-Nazi) or un-Aryan, but they were so insignificant as to never even achieve martyr status until after the re-education started by the victorious Allies. No, there can be no denying the fact that the overwhelming majority of the German population - at least ninety per cent. - were fully behind the Nazis, supported and b e l i e v e d in the discrimination of certain minority groups for racial, religious, or other 'reasons', and were willing to prove to the world that they were right by winning a war!

They did n o t win the war, and if I believed in God I should certainly thank him for that. The way I have been moulded, with the attitudes and outlook on life I have developed so far, it would be absolutely inconceivable for me to accept and support any political or ethical system discriminating individuals or groups solely for reasons of racial origin, or solely for being different from me. Of course, I as well as anybody else am compelled to make d i s t i n c t - i o n s from a pragmatic point of view, to set up a system of objective-relative values: the Congolese tribesman is less to be trusted in matters of brain surgery than a trained neuro-surgeon; a business enterprise will probably value an executive more highly than an individual mechanic, and so forth. All these "discriminations", however, are made exclusively on the basis of intelligence, competence (or the ability to make use of the former), and maturity. I am completely unable to persuade myself emotionally that the sole fact of somebody being Jewish, or American, or Russian while I happen to be German should make any basic difference eo ipso! What determines anybody's "value" for me - for we cannot avoid valuing constantly, whether we want to or not! - are (aside from the host of personal factors that make us distinguish, individually, between 'beauty' and 'ugliness', between 'sympathy' and 'dislike') the above-mentioned three co-determinants, viewed in the light of the person's environmental background, and what he/she has made out of his/her life!

The principal difference, of course, is that I am intellectually aware of the relative and limited nature of these values, distinctions and discriminations. I know that they can, at least to a certain extent, be measured and analyzed - and therefore c o n t r o l l e d !

It is interesting to speculate on what would have become

of me. if I had grown up under a totalitarian system of the Nazi type --- where my environment would not have permitted my adopting what I call "multiple orientation" towards any direction, where the books and ideas that shaped my present personality would not have been available to me, where I would never had a chance of ever suspecting that they existed at all, and where I would have been subjected to a way of life whose flaws should have been obvious to the parent generation, but which might have been perfectly acceptable to the youth born under this régime ...

I am convinced that, given adequate methods, any population and any mass can be brought to sincerely believe anything. **Masses of human being can be manipulated at will, provided a sufficiently powerful group - politicians, advertisers - use suitable methods of psychology and sociology, bolstered by the immense equipment, scientific and economic, available today --- and more so in the future.** The question remains, does this also apply to the individual? George Orwell answered that question in the affirmative, and I am afraid that a premature denial might be wishful thinking ...

There is one more point that I wish to comment on, the one that started me on this article in the first place: Helmut's statement, in the last BUG EYE, that "... at the moment there are more than 160 ex-Nazis in our Government!". This assertion is both correct and incorrect - depending on your definitions. At any rate I felt that it was *ambivalent*, and indeed it caused harsh comments in German fanzines to the effect that "TBE was irresponsibly damaging Gerfandom's reputation abroad". If Helmut's statement was ambiguous and thus misleading, the comment quoted above was downright asinine, completely unaware that this is not a science-fiction fan magazine to represent Gerfandom abroad, but an amateur journal publishing, among other things, its editor's personal opinions. I may not agree (to quasi-quote Voltaire) with your opinion, but I shall fight for your right to express it. If this may prove sometimes dangerous in the field of politics, it has my unqualified support as far as fandom is concerned.

There may indeed be 160 "ex-Nazis" in our government (i.e., within prominent positions of the Christian Democratic Party or the Free Democratic (Liberal) Party), and it should not be surprising for the admittedly Socialist son of an old and, I understand, influential Social Democratic Party member to stress this fact. Helmut may be perfectly right in his figures --- and yet miss the decisive point. I have said that at least ninety per cent. of the adult German population were in favour of Hitler's policies (either explicitly and fully realizing their import, or - as in most cases - implicitly by closing their eyes to what went on around them) and, even if not actual Party members, pro-Nazi. They were *at that time* -- up to 1945, or 1943 perhaps. However, on the other hand we have the fact that not even one per cent. of Germany's population of today (of predominantly the same population, the same people, that cheered a Hitler and clamoured for Total War!) are even remotely dreaming of starting or supporting another fascist régime, or another Thousand Years' Reich. The overwhelming majority, to a great extent the same people who smashed Jewish homes in the infamous Kristallnacht, are *today*, at present peaceful citizens and good little democrats who genuinely abhor the idea of violence and racial discrimination. You do not believe it? I could not, either --- not until I realized to what tremendous extent people are influenced to change their attitudes towards what they

always believe are 'fundamentals', and to what terrifying degree people's "basic dispositions" can be - and are! -- manipulated by skilfully manoeuvred or sometimes unconscious changes in the politico-psycho-socio-economic matrix of societies - and their operators.

-13-

Hence the same "ex-Nazis" who today hold public offices, all the Globkes and Heusingers and Oberländers, may be just as genuinely democratic today as they may have been Fascist during the Third Reich! In fact, nearly all Germans, as we have seen, were pro-Nazi at some time ... and where was the new German Administration supposed to get its executives from, if not from the ranks of those who had been adult and intelligent and competent at Hitler's time?

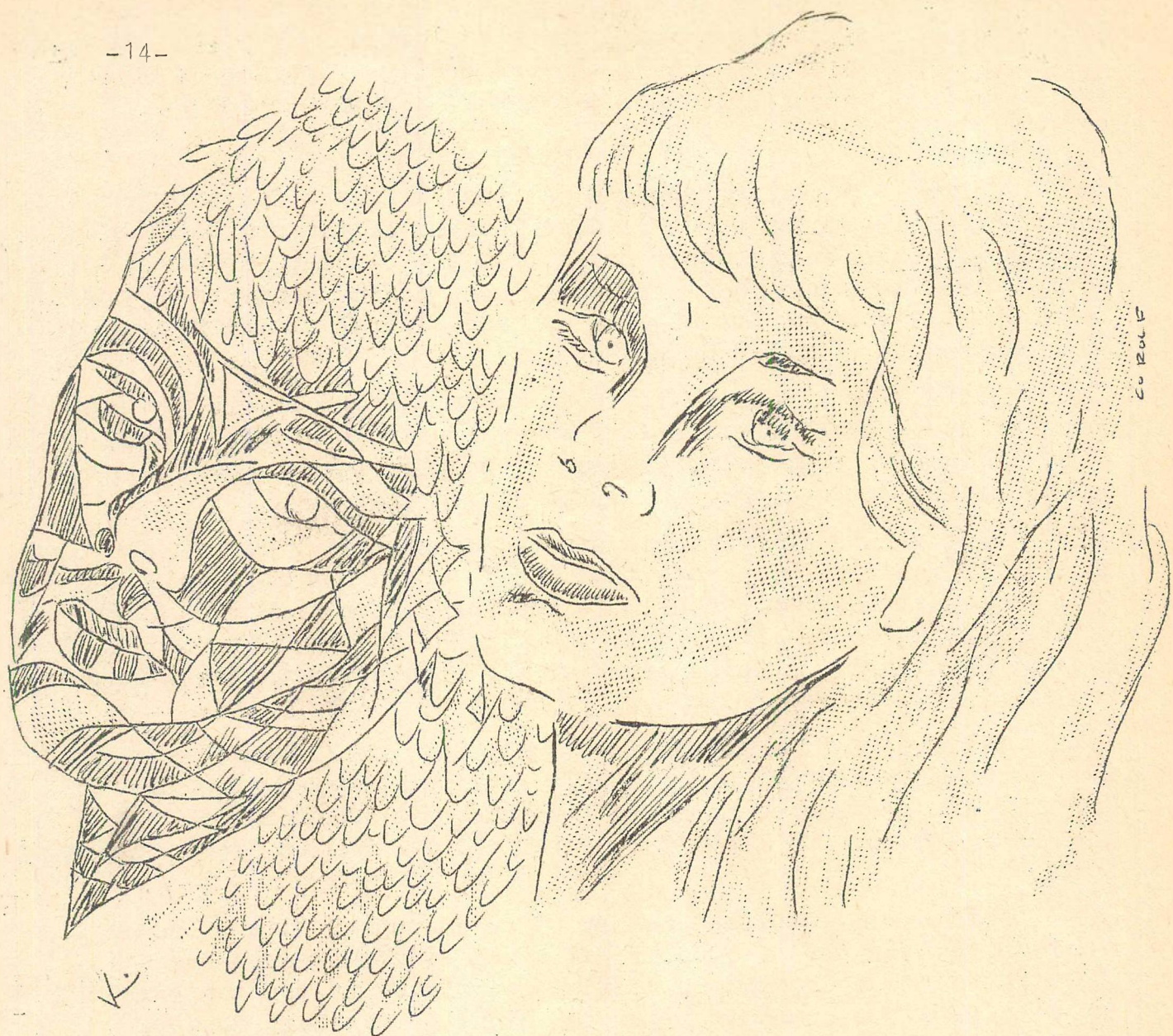
Yes, there are "ex-Nazis" within the present German government, just as there are 'ex-Nazis' or 'ex-Communists' within the Social Democratic Party. However, I do not think that this must be in any way indicative of their present political attitude. If Change is the essence of life, as Heraclite formulated his philosophy of "panta rhei" some 2,500 years ago, man is certainly the epitome of Change.

Of course, I did not have my present views as outlined above from the start. There was a time when I considered any adult German to be a war criminal, or at least a person that had, consciously or subconsciously, tolerated what had happened in the name of Germany from 1933 to 1945. I do not think so any more. Instead, I accuse the Germans - and most of the other Europeans with them! - of having been blind towards the dangers of Nazism, or Fascism, of having all too willingly permitted themselves to be ruled instead of to steer themselves. I am afraid that the same may occur again, though not necessarily first in this country. This time it may be the extreme right in France, or maybe the extreme left in Italy ... with another Chamberlain in, say, Great Britain misjudging all the evidence and adopting a fatal appeasement policy ...

What makes me afraid of this is the general complacency and indifference of most people about politics. Democracy can only work if people are aware of their roll as citizens, and have an informed outlook on life - and I have my doubts on both points. I have observed this political indifference especially here in Western Germany, but I know it exist also in other European countries (even in Great Britain, which I tend to regard as being rather firmly entrenched against sudden outbursts of radicalism), and particularly in the United States, where a truly amazing political machinery has been allowed to establish itself without efficient control - all 'checks and balances' notwithstanding. And when I talk with Hitler-generation Germans of today about their views on the Nazis of twenty or more years ago, I am likely to hear comments like " ... well, they sure did a lot of nasty things, but if they hadn't touched the Jews, and hadn't started the war --- who knows where we might be today?"

I'm glad I didn't find out.

ooOoo



SOMETHING ABOUT CATS

A Thematic Study of H.P. Lovecraft

by Bob Lichtman

Gypsy Rose Fernnefanne lay lazily on the lap of the Director of the LASFS. "Purr, purr, purr," was her remark as she stretched her legs at the ends of which are six-toed paws. "Goood Gypsy," said the Director of the LASFS, stroking her sleek fur several times. "Purr, purr, purr," said Gypsy.

After a while, the keen nose of the Director smelled something, or so it thought. It sniffed a little more, and then dropped the cat on the floor and moved away.

"Oh," said John Trimble, watching the proceedings, "she's doing that again."

"Yes," I said, gasping for a breath of fresh air. "Yes, Meyer, she's doing that again."

Poor Gypsy just didn't understand at all why she was being so suddenly ostracized. At least three times she tried to get back on my lap. And as many times as she tried, she was bodily dropped back on the floor with a word of admonition. Once a stinker, always a stinker.

-000-

-15-

There is something about a cat that drives a fan to paper and typewriter and well-chosen words of description. If the sum total of the anecdota horrida about cats was removed from the fanzine output of the last year or two, it would make a sizeable hole in the contents of many fanzines, mostly various Los Angeles apa and general zines and a certain Bay Area phenomenon entitled HABAKKUK.

But let us not think in those terms. After all, if you removed the material about cats from the last several years' output of fanzines, it would include this article. The gentle reader might be better off for this, but the tame editor would be very perplexed indeed.

One evening John Trimble started constructing verbal geneology charts for the family of cats that has followed Los Angeles fandom's General Headquarters from Fan Hill to the FanHillton to Mathom House. He was really getting quite involved by the time he finished it, and at that I suspect he was only keeping track of the cats he knew about. Lord knows how many have strayed or been given away!

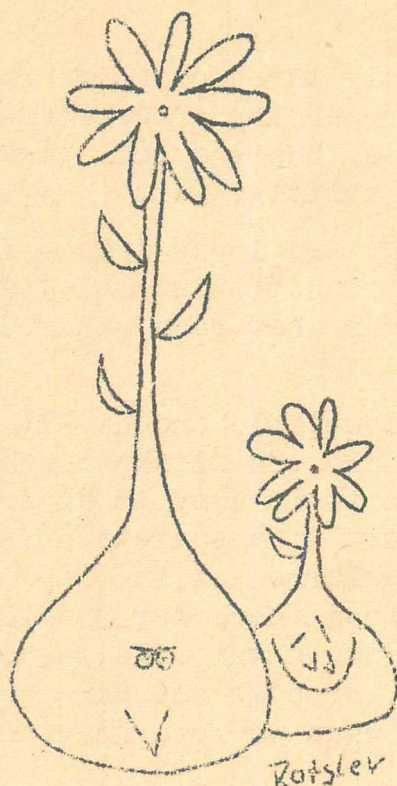
It is sort of amusing, in a quiet way, to listen to someone outline a family's history and suddenly realize that you knew them all, every one. At one time or another, I've had an encounter with all of the Los Angeles cats, but I don't remember all of them as distinct personalities.

I think the earliest memory of an encounter with a Los Angeles cat that I have is summer of 1960. I had tired of about four hours of job-hunting that hot summer day and decided to walk up to the top of Fan Hill to see if anyone was home at either the Right of the Left Breast.

As it turned out, no one was home at either of the two apartments at which operations were being based at the time, but roaming around outside of the Right Breast of Fan Hill was the kitten, Typo.

"Meow! Meow!" said Typo in a very loud voice for such a small cat-child. He came timidly around the corner of the apartment's outer walls and then broke into a run towards me. I was standing at the door knocking occasionally, and Typo started in rubbing against my leg. I tried at first to ignore him, or at least to give no indication that I noticed what he was doing, but finally it was too much. I picked up the kitten, Typo, and made friends with him. This didn't take too long. Typo was a very friendly cat, he was.

Yes, indeed, Typo sure was a friendly little kitten that afternoon on Fan Hill. He did all he could to keep me around as long as possible. That is, as I was writing a note to the Denizens of the Right Breast telling them I'd been there, Typo obliged by walking all over the piece of paper I was writing on. Not only that, but as he walked he would put the entire weight of his little body to the job of pushing my pen out of my hands.



When I finished the (very sloppy) note and put it in the mail chute, I took Typo kitten around the apartment once to see if there was someplace he could find another diversion, namely some food. However, nothing was to be found, not even a bowl of milk, outside the apartment, so finally I settled for putting him down on the rear steps and slinking away.

It didn't work too well, and let me assure the reader that there is nothing on earth quite more heartrending than walking out on an affectionate kitten that doesn't want to be left alone, especially when under other circumstances you wouldn't want to leave him, either.

He meowed after me as I walked down Figueroa Terrace. It certainly wasn't a wonderful thing...

-ooo-

I first met Gypsy Rose Fernnefanne under rather similar conditions. A job interview early last summer had taken me over into the vicinity of the FanHill-ton and since I didn't feel it would be worth going back downtown that day, I dropped in on fandom.

There was quite a bit of fandom there that afternoon. I remember that Bjo was sick in bed, and that I sat talking to her much of the afternoon. Larry McCombs was there, and so was at least one other FanHilltonite. Fritz Leiber was working on The Silver Eggheads in another room, and once during the afternoon he had a phone-call and I took it in to him. (In fact, I hadn't even known he was there until the call came.)

There was a kitten-type cat roaming around the room. She would peer into this and look up at that, would disappear occasionally and reappear again in the oddest places. I followed this kitten for a while out of the corner of my eye and finally my curiosity got the best of me. "Whose cat is that?" I asked Bjo while pointing a finger at the Gypsy.

"Oh, that's Gypsy Rose Fernnefanne," Bjo explained. "Ann Chamberlain brought her over the other day. Isn't she a coll?"

I had to agree that she was, and about that time she hopped onto the bed, stumbled around a bit, sat down, got up, and then crawled into an open box of Scottissues. She turned around a bit inside the box of tissues and then settled down comfortably. Her head peered out of the top of the box.

"Hi, Gypsy," I said stroking her head gently.

THOUGHTS NOT TO PROVOKE

-18-

by

Burkhard Blüm

Without any doubt you will not be interested in, but nevertheless I tell you that it was 6 o'clock in the morning when I went to bed -- I had found something interesting to read. You'll agree with me: this justifies me to be tired. And you will also agree with me when I tell you that my thoughts would only provoke you to sleep, and that is a cause important enough to write no thoughts to provoke.

It's not long ago I gave up an old dream: to own all fanzines ever published in Germany. I'm sure I own 75%, beginning with VOID, AD ASTRA, FANNANIA, and some issues of ALPHA containing articles by Julian Parr, and ending with the 23rd issue of G.SF TIMES, which is the latest because I just mailed it this afternoon.

I'd still like to own all fmz, but I do not have a storehouse, just a single living room and that's why I'll sell at auction most of my fanzines in the next months. I'd still prefer to own them all, tho.

I haven't many books -- s-f and non-s-f -- but always when I read a book I wanted to buy it and to collect it. Now you'll cry (because now you know what kind of person I am) -- this fuggheaded sercon pedantic completist. You'll be amazed: you're right.

I feel the desire to collect and to preserve. Fortunately I have neither much space nor much money, or you'd find a curiosity shop when visiting me.

Often enough I did wish to have a photographic memory -- that's the only help. I hope your descendants will get such a memory so that they never can forget what they once heard, saw or what happened to them, a memory that will never leave them in the lurch. It would be a step forward in the development of mankind.

Prof. Dr. Stammer, dean of the zoological department at the University of Erlangen told me some weeks ago that mental development of mankind is only a vague theory and nothing definite can be said.

You can definite say that mankind did develop and that we are no homo neandertaliensis' (but sometimes apes -- no, shut up!) -- and why should development have reached its end? I'd accept this idea if mankind built up a world protecting them from every change. But they try to reach space, they wanna reach the bottom of the sea -- and even if they did not change by these influences there are some people knowing that men not only can be amended but ought to. And ~~this~~ is my hope: that someone would dare experiments with men.

But I always fear mankind would somehow be confronted with a world without technique and would not be fit (obey that darwinistic terminus!) to survive -- that probably is one of my true causes to preserve all and everything -- this wish that mankind would develop by learning new things but not forgetting the old ones.

My 'supermankind' would survive also if everything vanished except some men with their bare hands and the primeval forest. This superman would arise as quickly as he fell down. I cannot bear the idea that mankind

wouldn't have any chance to survive - maybe it it because I do not believe in such things as life after death or god and other christian or religious values. I know that death is death, and so I always want a chance.

A darwinistic extremist may be of the opinion that mankind would not be worth survival if it wasn't able to survive in a changed world - in a world that again became a 'barbaric' world. I don't care whether he's right or not (probably he is), but I can reply that the highly developed mankind I hope will grow up would be able to survive and therefore hold its ground.

These are only words - or something more maybe, these are dreams. To justify these dreams (or words) let me say that dreams are to find people liking them and trying to put them into reality. I'm sure there are fans dreaming the same dreams - fans who too, do accept the idea that mankind not only can be changed by nature, but also can be changed by mankind, and that mankind not only can be changed by mankind but also ought to ...

Burkhard Blum

%%%%%%%%%%THE END%%%%%%%%%

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(Editorial continued)

Recently I got a letter from Aritzne Toyoda, a wellknown Japanese fan and pro-author; he wanted me to publish this: "I hear some European fans use the word "Japhandom" instead of Japanese-fandom. Bitte, don't use this word "Japhandom"! We Japanese don't like to be called "Japs"."

Aritzne and some others are planning to publish the English edition of Uchujin. As he told me the first issue will be out Real Soon Now. Ask him or Takumi Shibata for a copy. : Aritzne Toyoda, 35 Kaya-Machi, Maebashi-shi, Gumma-ken, JAPAN. Takumi's address in the lettercol.

I have left "Julius-Stursberg-Highschool" last week because of difficulties in mathematics, and am now on Old Aldolfinum Hi again. Nevertheless I got a wonderful leaving certificate. Conduct grade: "B" !!! Oh well, +sob+ good bye Lora, Christa, Ellen, Helga, and you too ~~Wago/Gernsback~~ Iris. +sob+ "Helmut Klemm," said Rolf Harder to me, "you certainly are a wonderful thing."

All artwork, except pages 31 & 32, stencilled by Rolf Harder. Illustrations on pages 14, 27, 28 & 35 are reprinted from STELLARIS & the MARIO KWIAT ANTHOLOGY. Stellaris: Helmut Herdt, Ober-Rosbach v.d.H., Am. Friedberg, Aussenliegend 1, W.G./PLEHBOI, the MARIO KWIAT ANTHOLOGY: Mario Kwiat, Muenster/Westf., Box 4002-K, W.G. Hel Klemm

Experience

by

Dorothy Hartwell

cool, and low
like a blue note
like a night wind
whistling low -- and late

hot, and gay
swinging, passionate, free
flaring up like a dawn
like a horn
new born

then cool,
low,
like a dying breath
a futile serenade

BERRY in GERMANY

by

John Berry

I was deeply interested in Rolf C. Gindorf's RAMBLING FAN, in as much as he puts forward the theory that we might have sat together in the Y.M.C.A. in Wuppertal. It would indeed have been a trick of fate if we had done so, but, unfortunately, the couple of times I did go to the Y.M.C.A. were in 1947-48. I think the most that we could stretch coincidence on this point is that we might have sat in the same chair....

However, now that Rolf has brought up my visit to Germany, and as I'm very hard up for subject matter, I think I'll bore you all with a couple of pages of my experiences when I was in Germany, after the war.

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Rolf says that I was a 'candidate for a commission'...actually I was commissioned in the Infantry in early 1946, and by the time I was in Wuppertal I was a lieutenant, albeit a rather bewildered one.

Unfortunately, I forgot the name of the barracks my regiment occupied. As far as I recall, there were two separate barracks, about a mile apart. One was empty, although I visited it a couple of times for security reasons.

I was very impressed with these barracks. Some of the barracks I'd been in England, especially during the war, were wooden huts, very cold...but the German barracks were massive concrete buildings, many storeys high, with thick flat concrete roofs on which we used to sunbathe.

I've mentioned the Schwebbahn a couple of times in my writings (in fact, one of my SUPERFAN stories in JD-ARGASSY, which should be

due, features a ride in the Schwebebahn) and once again I was thrilled to see it and travel in it. Actually, when I was in Wuppertal, the military were not allowed to travel on it, but the prospect was so fascinating that I disobeyed Standing Orders by attiring myself in civilian clothing and, with the assistance of a most charming and beautiful fräulein named Margot, (I'll tell you about her when I've got a few thousand pages to play with) actually travelled on it. My subterfuge was obvious, because all the German passengers looked at me...I probably looked about as German as an Englishman having a feed of fish and chips in Scunthorpe...but I'm glad to say that the military authorities didn't find out....and I have to admit that I was so enthralled with Margot that the experience of Schwebebahn travel, inspiring though it was, was not uppermost in my thoughts at that time. At least, I can always say I travelled on it, and I also have several photographs of it....

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Of course, being in an Infantry regiment, I had my own platoon, some thirty or forty men, mostly young soldiers who had done their basic training in England and had been posted directly to Wuppertal. One of my favorite jobs was to take them out for a week or so in forests deep in Germany, where we slept in bivouacs and did tactical manouvres, etc. I have already written about some of my experiences then (because queer things used to happen to me then, as they do now) the most humorous incident, when I was chased by a savage dog, was published in OBLIQUE in 1956, entitled HOUNDED, and was recently reprinted in German in the fanzine ALL in 1961.

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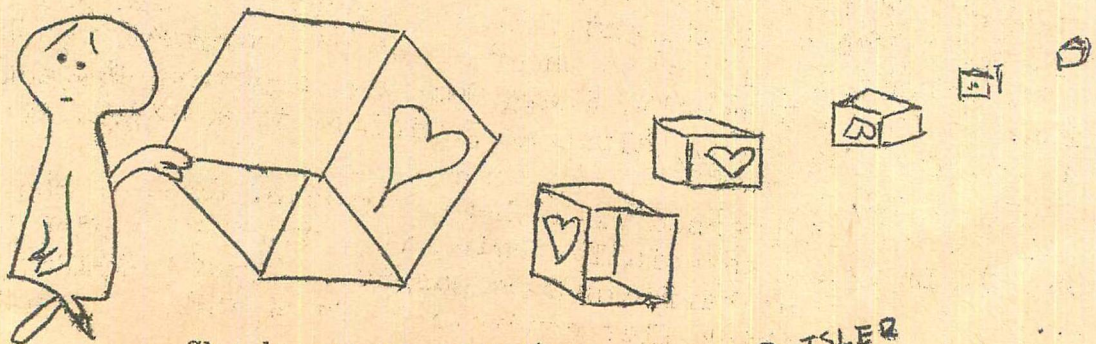
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One of my happiest memories of my stay in Germany was when I went a trip down the Rhine. I had a job of guiding an army truck with a few soldiers in it from Wuppertal to Königswinter...a simple task because of the availability of the autobahns, the only difficulty was trying to keep the driver from being hypnotized by the ribbon of white road snaking out in a straight line ahead of him. Come to think of it, I was hypnotized a couple of times myself, too.

We stopped the night in an hotel, and early next morning boarded a steamer and headed south down the Rhine. We travelled as far as Coblenz before turning back. Many memories remain...including the stirring sight of dozens of castles on the high ground on each side of the Rhine.

-21-



She keeps me guessing

ROTSLER



Some of you know that I am a castle-phile, and I was even in those days, because I took note of all the castles I saw...including Hammerstein, Brohleck, Rheineck, Ockenfels, etc. I still have photographs I took of the enchanting houses perched on the sides of the Rhine, and vineyards surrounding them. I'd very much love to do the same trip again.

Back at Königswinter, we crossed by ferry to the western bank of the Rhine, and drove northwards, stopping at Bonn, where I took the opportunity to visit Beethoven's birthplace, and get a plasterbust of him from a shopkeeper in the centre of Bonn...our finances being cigarettes. Unfortunately, our driver was still hypnotized, and after we'd got the truck

back out of the hedge, Beethoven was minus the tip of his nose. Northwards once more to Cologne.

It still amazes me when I think of Cologne Cathedral (which at that time was celebrating its 700th anniversary)....so solitary it stood amongst the acres of rubble surrounding it. I am not a religious man, but sometimes I stop to ponder over the miracle of Cologne Cathedral...and I do really think it to be a miracle..

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During my stay in Germany, I visited many major cities, such as Düsseldorf, Münster, Essen (Cologne and Bonn, which I've already mentioned) and many others. And when I left in 1948, I could converse quite comfortably in German (Margot was a very good teacher.) I mean of course that I could make the civilians understand what I said. There must be a few more horrible sounds than a Birmingham accent playing with the German language, and many of the German civilians I spoke to used to ask me to repeat what I said, not because they couldn't understand, but presumably because they were bewildered at what could be done with their language.

One of the things I recall most is that German girls were all very attractive, and had good figures (and I'm a sort of authority on that sort of thing)...that German youth were all very keen on sporting activities...football and athletics, etc. ...and that German chimney sweeps wore top hats.

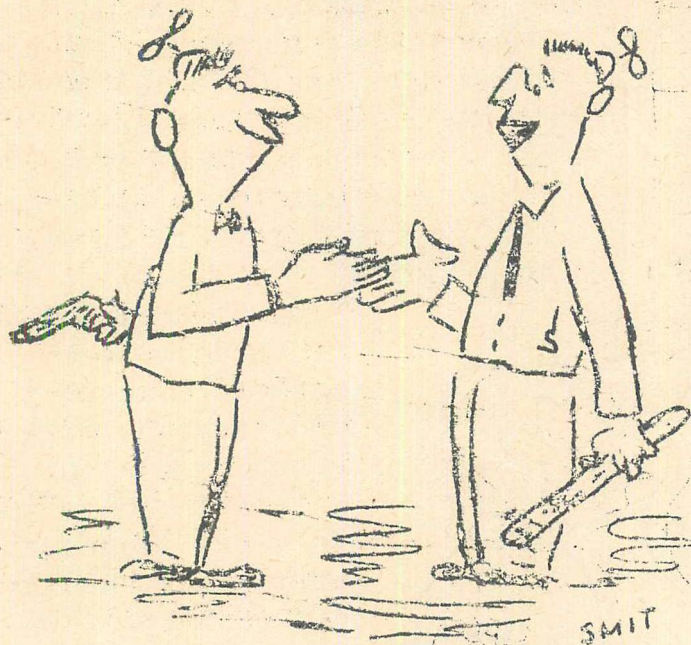
One German custom I liked was the practice of shaking hands every time they met each other...just the

sort of thing to cement
friendships, I should say....

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I FEEL THAT MUTUAL TRUST IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS A UNITED GERMANY.

In retrospect, I suppose Rolf Gindorf might have come into contact with the ghost of my aura. He might have travelled on the same Schwebebahn coach as I...he may even have used the same chair in the Y.M.C.A. as I..... I wonder.....did he ever know Margot ???

John Berry
1961

- finis -

THE MOUSE AND THE LADY-FAN

Hans Franzke

As we all know, no girl likes to meet a mouse; but sometimes the mouse meets a girl. Then the mouse walks around the girl (if she is a big portion) or it runs away (if she is thin enough). Why? you wanna know? Well, the small girl perhaps will be able to catch the mouse --- the big one never! --- As we all know, there are black mice and white mice, but some people just don't believe in white mice. They tell you there aren't any white mice, just black ones.

Some lady-fan entered my restaurant, where I have fifty white mice to control the cat, who goes for the goldfish in the bowl if the are no mice. This lady-fan now did know that there are white mice, and that still makes me unhappy. If she hadn't known of white mice, maybe she'd have thought the mouse, which went high into her jacket, was a bird or something similar harmless. But knowing what it was, and seeing the cat coming, too, she ran to the door for ladies. Sorry to say that the mouse still was with her, and that the cat in fact reached her also in time. I can tell you that a cat out of control is more difficult than a pair of dogs, and here nobody had hold of the cat, beside the hold the cat had of the lady with the white mouse. When the waitress came to fetch a white table-cloth everything was over already. The lady-fan was covered with the precious white of my cloths, the mouse was covered by the cat and the cat by the lady's rest of jacket. So you know why I sell "White Lady" only in my restaurant now, and why I've now about 1 000 000 mice, since the ~~cat is dead~~. Does anybody want some white mice? They're real, I guarantee!

W H N E F

SIEGRIED RAGUSE, Berlin W. 35, Alvenslebenstr. 17, Germany

Dear Hel,

Thank you very much for TBE 9 etc. Since everyone around there seems to speak/write English, I will try to dig out my school English of a long time back and we'll see. Well now, TBE is a good fanzine as far as I'm concerned.

However, since I'm living in Berlin I was particularly interested in the letter of comment by Bruce Henstell, who asked: Can the allies hold West-Berlin, and why should they do it? The answer to that question is YES. The allies can hold West-Berlin, and they will do it. The question of allied troops is a matter of prestige. If the allies, particularly the Americans, evade the communist challenge in Berlin there is no doubt that some day Russian soldiers march on American ground. There won't be a war, because nobody wants to start an atomic-war. Not even the Russians (the Chinese maybe - they are the winners anyway!). We ought to remember that the Russians are damned good poker players. Berlin is more than a speck of land, as Bruce Henstell puts it, West-Berlin is the symbol of freedom in the struggle for world power. Berlin is but one step - the German Federal Republic would be another. The next steps would be, according to Lenin, Western Europe, and then the world. I recommend to everyone who shares the somewhat short-sighted opinion of Bruce Henstell, to read that excellent piece of fiction by Constantin Fitzgibbon "When The Kissing Had To Stop". This writer has clearly realized the deadly menace of world communism to the free nations of the world. However, I don't blame Bruce Henstell, because his point of view isn't exactly new to me. There are lots of West Germans who think so, too! Germany is the enemy of yesterday and there is no doubt that a lot of Americans have been killed by German soldiers, and vice versa. At certain times in history American and England were at war, and France and England too, today these nations are allied against their common enemy.

PETER SINGLETON, 10, Emily Street, Burnley, Lancashire, ENGLAND

Dear Hel,

Thanks for TBE 9. I offer you my opinion that somehow you have managed to produce yet another highly entertaining issue, to be sure.

I happily discovered that I had remembered vividly the details of Wolfgang Pippke's initial instalment of COOL CATS and I for one had no reason to recap - which is a remarkable feat as far as my almost non-existent memory is concerned! I was flabbergasted to the very core of my mis-begotten soul by the sheer magnitude of the experience. Imagine little old me actually remembering something! Just consider the basic significance of it all, or something. Of course I enjoyed the article and I'm looking forward to it's conclusion, if you see what I mean.

Rolf Gindorf's RAMBLING FAN bit had me splitting my sides with Merry bhortles at the superb wit deployed; or perhaps it's just my warped sense of humor that's making itself felt. Also Rolf brings to mind (oh yes, I DO have a mind lurking in here somewhere, despite indications) the fact that the total personal contact with fans I have made at the moment stands at the enormous total of exactly three fans! Staggering, isn't it?

I couldn't agree more with Inge Hartmann about contact with ETs and I sincerely hope that the human race matures a hell of a lot before it gets tangled up in inter-relations with aliens from Out There. Just think of the political complications that would present themselves! A real free-for-all, I'm sure.

-25-

KEN CHESLIN, 18, New Farm Road, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, ENGLAND

Hi Hel,

Rolf: I read it once, can't remember much about it now, and I don't faunch to read it again just now, it seems to be a happy chitter-chatter type col.

I don't know what old Nero is mumbling about, with his "I am ego, you are ego" things...surely it is perfectly obvious that this is simply a case of liking what your used to...Brave New Worlders wouldn't want to be part of our world any more than we would want to join them, both of them, thru their societies moulding, look upon the others...culture... as degraded and pretty horrible

Personally I think Nero is horrible and uncivilised, he hasn't the decency to offer to eat his revered old grandfather, and so obtain the old gentleman's good qualities. Actually the saying.. "one man's meat is another man's poison" is, literally, true only an infinitesimal ((?? infinite simple ??)) number of times...mostly, what one man eats, another can.

Similarly, one man's native customs, (i.e., a satisfied burp to show your gratitude for a meal, in some arab tribes) are rude, insulting, or criminal to a man from a different cultural background.

Man is largely a creature of environment. Bring 2 Englishmen, 2 Yanks, 2 Chinese, 2 Malaysians, 2 Negros, 2 Japs, 2 Amerinds up to a diet of human flesh from early babyhood, and they'll be quite happy with it, no matter how horrible their relatives may think about man's "instinctive" aversion to "un-natural" practices, etc.

Can you make sense of that? ...anyway, that's all I'm saying about it, so too bad if you can't..hum.

Hans Franzke: Wishful thinking, but I found it highly amusing for some reason .. highly amusing. (I suppose it was supposed to be fairly serious?)..

MUNICH ROUND UP...the title is English...what language is the gino in? ((German.))

Chuck Devine: Like his description of this mad 4D MAN film... highly chucklesome...mebbe I'll even go to see it if it comes around here.

Personally I'd say remove all West Berliners to W. Germany, remove everything useful to W. Germany, then completely flatten Berlin and present it to the Russians

Phil Harrell: I don't care much for Rat er, RAY Bradbury either, tho I acknowledge he is popular with some people. I think his writings, apart from being highly repetitive in mood themes, ~~af~~ are pretty ordinary. Ordinary insubstantial dream stuff, that is. He doesn't write (many) decent stories, all he does is use words to paint moods.

Hollywood buying his stories...THAT is proof of quality!!!???

ARCHIE MERCER, 434/4, Newark Road, North Hykeham, Lincoln, ENGLAND

Dear Hel,

Tower for THE BUG EYE 9. So German doctors (doktors) have bad writing just like English ones, do they? Sorry, I'll have to remember to route any future handwritten letters via George Locke. ((for heavens

same don't!! At present George has not any typer at hand, and HIS hand-writing is even lousier than yours! -hel}}

-26-

Yes, but while you're on the subject, Utfort/Eick? Why not just Utfort or just Eick? {{twin-villages. There are lots of 'em in Germany. Kamp-Lintfort, for instance, or Mönchen-Gladbach, Marl-Hüls, Kempen-Kre-feld, St.Peter-Ording, etc....-hel}}

I liked Rolf's account of fans he has/hasn't met. He doesn't want to let not having met Berry get him down, tho -- I haven't met Berry ei-ther. (Or, come to that ROLF). It was interesting to see a genuine Con-tinental reaction to Brian Burgess. He's just been to Hel (in Poland) from where he posted an OMPA postmailing.

The end of the Tentcon was really a farce wasn't it. Of course it could have been continued from that point still -- but that's a lovely note to end on, nevertheless

Inge Hartmann hasn't got such a good grasp of English as you others mostly seem to have, but her message is clear, and I tend to approve of it.

There was an article on Saturnalia in an Art Hayes OMPazine a couple of years back, which I thought pretty brilliantly done. This bit, how-ever, isn't nearly so good -- in fact if I hadn't read the other one I don't think I'd have even considered it worth having read.

I particularly liked Joe Gibson's letter. Doesn't Greg Benford know that "Waltz" is a German root? This "Sturegon" had me fooled for a bit, until when you did it the second time I realised you meant "Stur-geon".

P.S. Laufenlassen von Motoren bei geschlossenen Türen und Fenstern verboten! {{that's a contradiction in itself, I'd say. German caravan?}}

DONALD WOLFFHEIM, 66-17 Clyde Street, Forest Hills 74, New York, U.S.A.
Dear Hellmut:

BUG EYE shapes up very nicely. A sprightly magazine by a fan whose personality is beginning to shine through with a very pleasing glow. Only one thing troubles me. After reading that you were marked impertinent "in a girls' school" I was rather puzzled. I has always as-sumed that Helmut was a male name, but now... So... Sind Sie, oder sind Sie nicht ein Mädchen? {{it IS a male name...the female form of Helmut would be Helga...-hel}}

(That always gets me--for Germans, young girls or unmarried women are neuter! No wonder young German fans are so irretable with all those misleadingly shaped neuters around!)

Wenn Sie nicht ein Madl sind, dann wie gehts bei die Präu-leinschule? {{Ghu, that's a long, long story, and sometime I'll write it up in full. I've been fired from Moers Adolfinum Highschool for some reason or other, and that "Präuleinschule" was the only school around willing to accept me.}}

I wish I could believe you when you assert that there are no Nazis in German fandom. Question is, are there any Nazis in Germany? Of course not. There are some people, true, who are ardent nationalists, want the Eastern frontiers moved back, would like a Big army, would like maybe a little revenge on those horrible Russkies and Polacks and may-be English and French pigs too, never really cared for Jews, and of cour-se agree that Communists must go! But they are not Nazis, perish the thought.

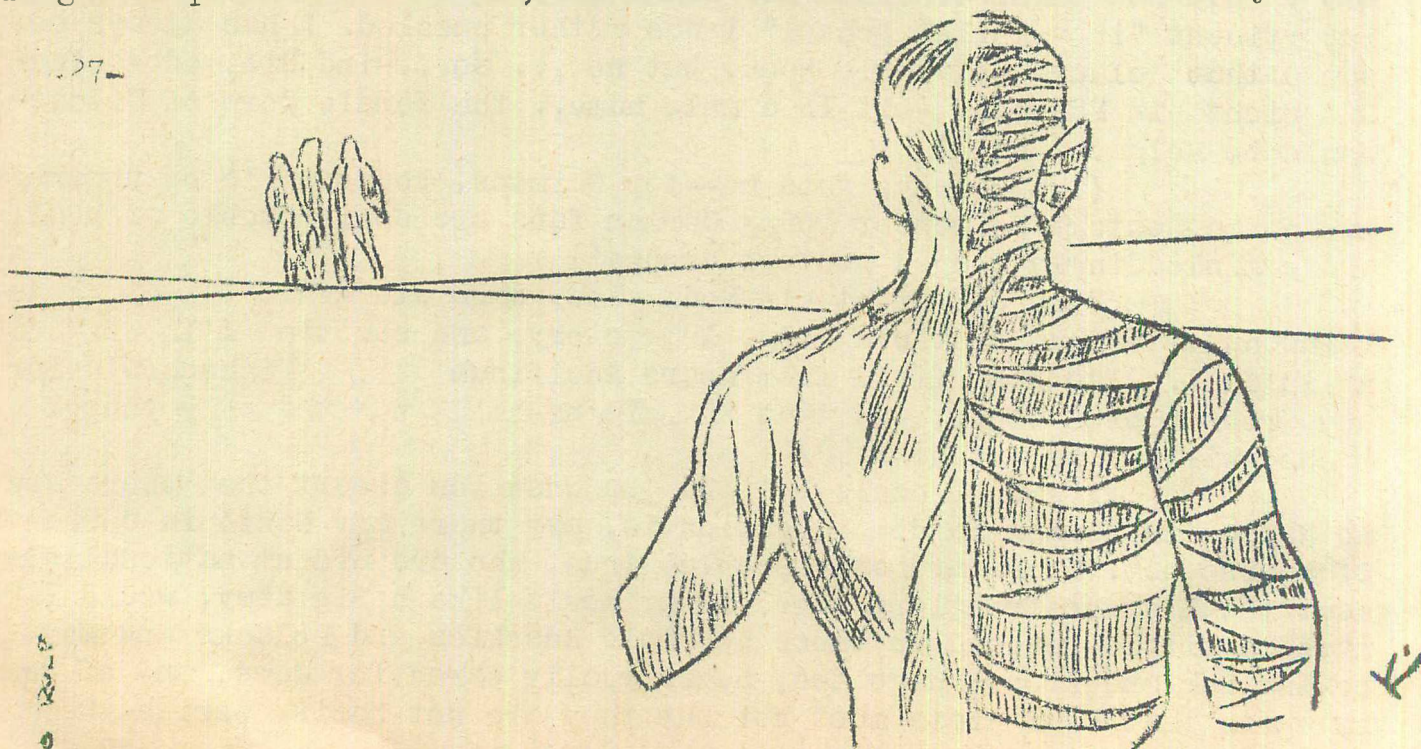
But German fandom is almost entirely restricted to people who were either only babies or not even born during the Third Reich. So naturally none of them ^{are} Nazis. The horror is that they may have learned to think like Nazis without knowing what they are doing.

However, you're a shining light and more power to you. I'd like to see you give some details on your remarks about lots of Swedish fans being Neo-Nazi types. ((ask Sam Lundwall, Box 409, Hagersten 4, Stockholm, Sweden. In SCIENCE FICTION NYTT 19, (a Swedish fanzine) he condemned a certain Stockholm fanclub of being a Neo-Nazi underground movement or somesuch.))

ANDY MAIN bem, 163A West 10th Street, New York 14, New York, U.S.A.
Lieber Helmut,

Your editorial I find interesting and entertaining, tho short. I am one of those who prefers to see as much of a particular fan appear in his fanzine as possible; I therefore like to see a lot of Hel Klemm in BUG EYE. What's this about Swedish fan & Neo Nazis? I know of only one Swedish fan who has demonstrated feelings toward the Nazis which were at least not inimical, but even he wasn't too wild about it, and besides, he has the misfortune (in this context, at any rate) of having been born a Swedish Finn, and the Finns should be expected to have a rather unusual seeming attitude (or at least it should not seem too surprising when it appears) toward the Nazis, due to their special circumstances: during the war it was the Nazis who helped them and were on their side; they were attacked and almost conquered by a country who later became one of the Allies, and still (deplorably) dominates Finland to some extent, the USSR. Goddam Communists anyway. (("America it's them bad Russians. Them Russians them Russians and them Chinamen. And them Russians...." Hah! "Her make us all work 16 hours a day....." "America I feel sentimental about the Wobblies."))

Conservatives generally have a nasty habit of "red-baiting", as it's called here--any non-conservative is called a Communist and challenged to prove it isn't so, then not even allowed to have his say about



the matter. This is one of the most elementary tactics of the celebrated John Birch Society, about which I and a friend of mine made some study shortly it became generally known; my home town, Santa Barbara, California, has one of the strongest JBS movements in the nation, and is known among JBSers as a "fertile pasture" as it were for ultra right wing stuff. In fact, my high school, ol' San Marcos High, had the distinction last year

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of having in attendance the youngest member of the JBS in the country, one Jim Spalding. He was the son of a local JBS leader, and it was his quiet and sort of tentative efforts at making converts that first tipped me and a few friends off about the Society.

As one who almost always composes fan writing on master, I could scarcely complain about your doing the same; unless you did it very badly, which you do not.

Rolf's article (the last part of same) is, of course, of interest to me, as another language fan. The number of language fans in fandom seems to be growing considerably.

Burkhard Blüm is a Kook.

Pippke's "article" seems typical, in quality, of the sort of thing one often finds in neofanzines, where the writer has nothing in particular of interest to write about so he writes about something not of interest.

Franzke & Hayes are From Nowhere, man.



CS ROLF

Oh, no! Another goddam movie review. I really never expected Chuck Devine, who is a nice guy and a Good Man otherwise, to sink to this very lowest level of fanwriting. Echhh.

Now for HAMMER: Ernsting & Scholz yammeryammer in a manner which I have come to mentally associate with German fan, with their seemingly never-ending sercon approach to life, and by extension to fandom. In Germany even the "fannish" fans are sercon as ----, about "fannishness," forghodsake. Calvin W. "Biff" Demmon's letter is the best of the lot, tho not up to vintage Demmon. Well, now, I'm another linguist here. I never did well in the sciences, but I always got good grades in English, French, German & Latin. Well, now, I know of some people who refuse to use German products because of this silly sort of thing. As for me, as a general rule I dig using German products, mainly because they're usually better than their American counterparts. I have a German typewriter, German-made camera (Kodak Retina), German taperecorder (Wollensak) and I had a German car, and will probably buy another one next time I purchase an automobile. Or maybe I'll get a Swedish one. Those Saabs are nice little wagons.

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RON BENNETT, 13 West Cliffe Grove, Harrogate, Yorkshire, ENGLAND
Merry Christmas, Hel,

Many thanks for BUG EYE. The main item for me this issue was the letter from Phil Harrell.

To summarise, Jack Chalker wrote that Bradbury published crud in his first zine and Phil wrote that these were fighting words, and that Bradbury's so-called crud was and is better than most s-f published today.

Well, it's a long time since I read anyone tear down a logical argument with a load of rubbish, but my ghod! what is Phil Harrell thinking of?

Bradbury published FUTURIA FANTASIA when he was about 13 or 19 years old. At that time he was a member in LASFS and was, I gather, regarded as the clown of the group. If anyone would come out with a corny joke or an even cornier pun, then that was Ray. I take it that Phil has not seen a copy of FUTURIA FANTASIA? I have and believe me, it was poor. So were most of the mildly amusing stories Ray wrote for the other LASFS publications, fanzines like MIKROS and THE DAMNED THING. This is fact: Bradbury's early fan writings were not even in the same category as Alan Dodd's film reviews.

To say that these stories compare with anything written today is ridiculous. To compare them also with anything Ray has written professionally is equally as ridiculous. I like and admire Ray's pro writings as well as anyone (understatement of the year?) but a failure to recognise how much Ray matured in his strides towards Giant Satus is a handicap that obviously requires a white walking stick. Sure, MGM may pay Ray \$ 120,000 for a movie script but I wonder how much Goldwyn would pay to read Hollerbocken.....

WIM STRUYCK, Willebrordusstr. 33 B, Rotterdam 11, HOLLAND

Dear Helmut,

I did like very much to hear that you are not a Nazi. I didn't think so, but you never know. I'm still more glad to hear that there aren't any in German fandom. By this, you may understand that I don't like Nazis. That's right. Somehow strange, because I worked in

Germany during the war and knew several people who were undoubtedly nazis, and still weren't bad at all. Just like you can't say that Commies are bad people. But when we talk about nazis, we think of concentration camps, murders and torture, and when we talk about Commies we think of murders too and of atombombs, loss of freedom etc. ((Aw come, Wim, you're exaggerating [about Communists, that is]. Stop that idiotic black-and-white-drawing of the bad & goddamn Communists and the friendly freedom of the western world; that's balmy! Just look at America, I'll be johnnied if you still consider her a Free Country!))

I think there are in our world a certain kind of people who want power, who like torture and are generally bad. What they call themselves nazis, Communists, capitalists or whatever you want... just isn't very important. They are here and everywhere. And so many people (good people) are dumb, and just walk behind the wrong leaders. ((!!!!))

I think that's about what Inge Hartmann wanted to say. (by the way, I know there are nazis among the Swedish fans. I knew one personally and disliked him from the start, before I knew about his ideas).

Tho I don't agree with everything Inge says, I very much agree with the end of her article. We, humans, are just not civilisized enough. We may think we are, but we're still very far from a real civilisation. All of us. And we just can't change that. Not now. We can only try and wait a few more thousands of years.

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Dr. ANTONIO DUPLA, P.^o M.^a Augustin, 9, Zaragoza, SPAIN (Excerpts)

...but, if you dislike Wagner, over musical reasons, for his influence on Hitler and the nazis, let's remember that, tho not a very likable character, he was persecuted, jailed and exiled for his liberal opinions. And if I am not wrong, the only explicit manifestation of nationalism in his work is at the end of "DIE MEISTERSINGER" and that's a cultural one.....

BERNDT RUTHSTRÖM, 8 Brahegatan, Stockholm Ö, SWEDEN

Hallo Hel,

In your editorial you say that there are no nazis in German fandom. You also say that there are lots of them in Swedish fandom. There have been some (just some, three to five). What I know now they have disappeared (from the nazi-propaganda, that is). In Sweden there are perhaps a hundred to two hundred nazis. Actually they aren't many, but still they are too many. They should be adjusted but heavens know how. When the nazis have their meetings here you can read in the papers the day after that there was a "small" battle between nazis and others. That's not the right way to adjust them! They have the rights to have their opinion. And if their opinion is "nazism is the only way" then we haven't gotten the right to beat it out of them. I think the only way is discussion with those poor creatures, and to prevent anti-nazis and those who have no opinion from becoming nazis. Then nazism will die. As I told you before there are people who say that we must make our children remember how cruel the nazis were, so that they won't do the same thing. That's wrong too; perhaps the children take an interest in nazism, and that isn't the intention, is it? Often it is written that the nazism was unhuman.

Whatever we do we are human, because we are human beings. I know it sounds ridiculous, but I think it is a too idealistic thought that the word "human" gives us. Everyone is bad somehow, some people are rotten. Well perhaps that is too strong, but I don't like it, we're no Gods.

That's like a greater problem on this planet. That is, as Inge Hartmann was talking in "Past - Present - Future", the Negro problem. If a man is black, there is no reason for hating him! But I suppose this should be told to the Americans.

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Shall we tell other beings of the universe that there is no peace on Earth? We don't have to they will know - if they come. I wouldn't be surprised if some time in the future I read in a newspaper "Russians (Americans, choose yourself) shot alien from outer space", and everybody will be happy about it, perhaps not the s-f fans but the others. No, we are too cruel and especially too suspicious. So something should be done, but what?

ROY TACKETT, 915 Green Valley Road, N.W.,
Albuquerque, New Mexico, U.S.A.

Iwakuni, Japan

Hel,

THE 9 came in a few days ago and I offer you my congratulations. Now you are putting out a German fanzine. Good. I think that this is the best of the various issues of THE I have seen simply because your contributors are Gerfans. As some of the letter writers point out we look for reports, etc, of Gerfandom in THE BUG EYE, not the works of Anglo-American writers. We can get them elsewhere. So. Anyway, it appears that you have THE headed in the right direction and I hope you keep it that way. ~~44~~ I'll do my best, but I can't guarantee for the rest of Gerfandom. They're still boycotting me.....-hel-44

I enjoyed Rolf Gindorf's column very much. Rolf writes well and has a light touch that makes his words pleasant to read. Let's have more of this sort of thing.

Burkhard Blüm's "Thoughts to Provoke" don't provoke me very much. It seems to me that we are fast approaching the Orwellian world of "1984". I suspect that Orwell may be a better prophet than Huxley and Rand.

And quickly thru the lettercolumn. Buck Coulson has cited Silverberg and Ellison in his argument against fiction in fanzines. Oh, come on, Buck. You have just shot down your own argument. When it comes to Silverberg & Ellison, well, I prefer fan-fiction.

TAKUMI SHIBANO, 118, O-okayama, Meguro-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN.

Dear Helmut,

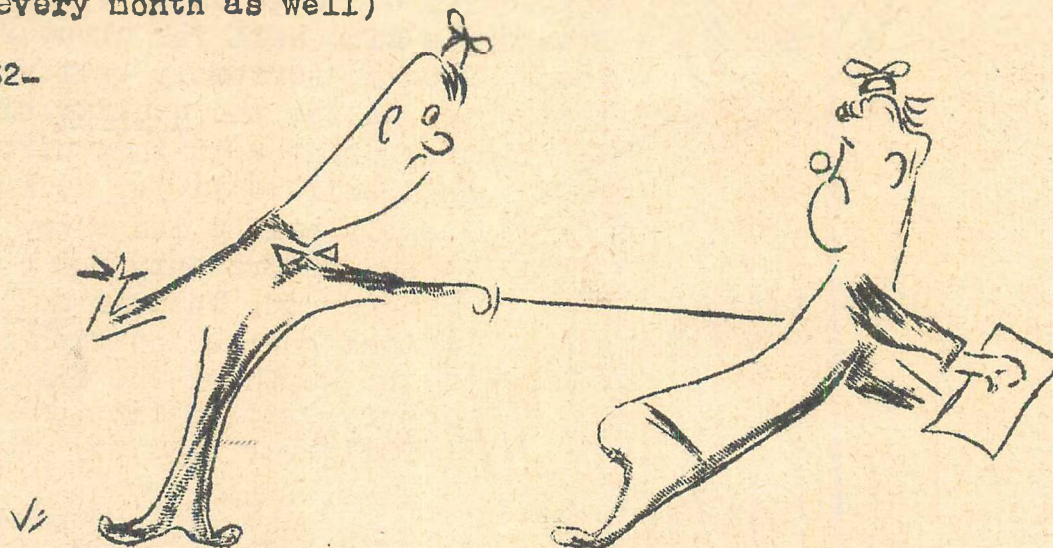
I received your THE No.9 just now, and No.8 formerly. Thanks. It's a very good idea, I think, to trade all for all, though I'm afraid you can't read Japanese. My English isn't the best, and my German is even worse. I'm going to hand the zines you sent me to some of my friends (members of my group) and have them (stories & articles) discussed by them. Anyway, I'm glad to know your noted English speaking fanzine. I sent you UCHIJIN 51 a week ago or so and formerly No. 49. I think I can send it continuously to you.

May I tell you of myself and of my club? I was born in 1926 and graduated from Tokyo Institute of Technology in 1950 and am a math-

artist teacher at high school. Married and have two daughters. I established my fanzine UCHUJIN in May 1957. It has about 200 subscribers⁺ (containing writers) and a circulation of about 400. The second fanzine in Japan is "NULL" that has some 30 members. Besides that there are three more little fuz here in Japan now.

We've only one prozine, it's SF MAGAZINE, the Japanese version of F&SF. It was established in Feb. 1960 and has a circulation 10,000, they say. (This is not a pure version but publishhes Japanese writer's works almost every month as well)

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I already published a short review of German fandom and of the '61 "Bad Honburg Con" in UCHUJIN 52, which I can send you before long. (It's the January issue and they are printing it now. Our language is not good for amateurs to print and I've got to employ specialists to have it printed. It's rather expensive but 200 members suspend the expenses.)

I am now planning to send out an English speaking version of UCHUJIN. Three young members are eagerly programming it and Roy Tackett says he will assist me, and I hope its first issue will appear in May or June 1962. It will be named "Uchujin" or "Cosmic Dust" and published 3 or 4 times a year.

LENNY KAYE, 418 Hobart Road, North Brunswick, New Jersey, U.S.A.

Dear Hel:

...all this signifies that German fandom is coming of age. I tape-respond with Burkhard Ziegert, have an on and off correspondence with Klaus Eylmann and receive at least two German fanzines....THE and ANABIS. Both strike me as very well done efforts too. Keep improving as soon we'll have to have three TAFs. One for the U.S., another for England, and still a third for Germany.

Andy Main ben is a liar. (He called me the East Coast Bruce Henstell at the Phillycon and I think I'm entitled to a little nud-slinging also.) Anyway, Chuck Devine was startled in fandom as a protégé of Guy Terwillegger who discovered him in his English class. PILIKIA, it seemth to me, was an offshot of TWIG's fanzines.

PETE MANSFIELD, 14 Whiteford Road, Slough, Bucks., ENGLAND

Dear Hel,

I like what Inge Hartmann is trying to say very much. That, I feel is the sorry thing about this world....every thing is figured in terms of 'I' or the race to which 'I' belong: instead of being a collective we meaning the whole of mankind.

+ (club members)

DAVE LOCKE, P.O. Box 207, Indian Lake,
New York, U.S.A. Hel.

Phil Harrel is terribly inept at arguing. He tries twice in his LOC and fumbles both times. Re Bradbury: Harrell quotes Chalker: "Bradbury started out with fanpubbing---and putting his own cruddy stories in his zine." Harrell arguments: 1) copies of Bradbury's zine sell for about \$20 an issue. Does he seriously believe that that price is for the quality of the fiction printed in that zine? I

can't believe it is. 2) MGM recently paid a large sum of money to Bradbury for a movie he wrote. What in hell has that got to do with proving the worth of the first Bradbury-written fiction? Has Phil ever read any of the first Bradbury? Most of it is really sad. Doesn't Phil realize that the difference between Bradbury's first stories and his later stories is the difference between garbage and groceries? 3) "How come he is one of the top writers today and a kings ransom is paid for any and ALL writings that Ray has EVER done in manuscripts." I wasn't aware of the fact that the pro markets were reprinting Bradbury's first fan-written s-f stories. I didn't realize they were reprinting most of his first early pro-written s-f stories (or fantasy if you want). If they are, I haven't read any. However, there has been one example of the pro market reprinting

poor Bradbury stories: THE GOLDEN APPLES OF THE SUN.

Most of the stories within were failing attempts of Bradbury to create mood stories without gimmick endings. They failed, because the stories lacked satisfactory endings (in fact, they lacked endings period). If Phil will read this book he will see good examples of poor Bradbury, and if he can see the difference between this type of writing and the type Bradbury is famous for, he can surely get an idea of how glumful Ray's very first stories must have been.

His other argument: "how mayn Americans publish a zine in completely foreign language." Why should they? The majority of fans are English-speaking. It is easy to see the advanta-



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FOR CUCKER. HE'S JUST WENT TO
PICK UP SOME WAW MISTOOK HIM
FOR ROO EBERT AT THE CHICON.

ges of a Gerfan pubbing a zine in English, but a USA or British fan pubbing a zine in German? Yes, if the majority of fans were German, but they're not. Why should an English-speaking person publish a fnz in Swahili? {{you read Mickey Mouse comics, don't you? -hel}} He would have little reason, whereas a person speaking Swahili would find many advantages in pubbing a fnz in English. (these last two sentences are an attempt at finding a parallel -- if, a fictitious one.) {{I take it for a rather ridiculous one... -hel}}

14, Indiana, U.S.A.

Dear Hel;

BETTY KUJAWA, 2819 Caroline, South Bend

...Gene is out of town this weekend -- hes the German speaking member of the family -- though perhaps its best... hes not here to tell me what to say in German -- permit me to regale you with a War Story...

...Gene was a radar man on a baby air-craft carrier in WW2 in the So. Pacific and then the So. Atlantic and round Africa and India -- their job was to hunt down Nazi submarines. One happy day the Marine pilots corraled not only a sub but also a 'mother ship' (supplying the subs with feul, food and beer) the officers and men were brought aboard the Mission Bay and Gene was assigned the job of interpreting-----with his high-school German. The scene was all very sercon and grim and unsmiling.. ...Gene attempts your language--what with his Indiana version and using the wrong words the scene rapidly changed!! The Officers all broke up and went into fits of laughter and giggles...I mean it really broke the ice... everyone relaxed. The Germans were, it turned out, uneasy as to what kind of treatment the Americans were gonna give them and were quite glad to be out of the sub and off the ship headed for a pow camp in America for the rest of the war.....

And now to BUG EYE---and thanks a heap for sending it to me---found it excellant--most entertaining and great fun. Although I was surprised at little things that showed so many similarities between us--not so much Gerfandom as the every-day stuff you casually mentioned here and there. That you, too, have a statute of limitations rule and your quip about pharmacists trying to read the handwriting of doctors on perscriptions--- this last must be universal, then..as per- scription writing is a standard joke here, too.

Now that I think of it I'm woefully ignorant of West Germany of today -- out side of the info on Berlin and the Wall, and the condition of your industries and something of your government and the leaders (I, too, admire Willy Brandt)...{{BETTY!!!y o u li- king a socialist??? I'll be doggone! Your republican comrades will be shocked at that!....Kimi ni take. -hel}}... heck, the only view I get of Germany is from movies on tv---the Horst Buchholst ones of young juvies in der leather jackets on the motor bikes..



am a avid admirer of horst--reminds me of the late James Dean. (an Indiana boy, you know.) That you on the cover, dear? Hhmmmm, youre a strange looking fan, arent you? Merci for the info on your address--this sort of thing I like to see in zines. And attending a girls school--my you ARE a fan for sure! And graded as 'impertinent', yeah...a fan all right.

Rolf's report of fen he has known is also the sort of thing I enjoy muchly. By the way, hitch-hiking is illegal in my state, too--in most states of America from what I hear--and with good reasons, I might add.. taint safe. ((hitching is NOT verboten in Germany! Why, I just returned from a hitch-hike trip to Bremen..and no cop troubled me!))

Yeah!! As I often tell people English is INDEED a form of Low German--anyone hearing (not reading) German spoken can catch that, I

feel. In my Encyclopedia British and American you find listed as of the Germanic sub-family in the Low German bracket--

along with Old English, Middle English, Middle Scots (now how did that get in here!)), and even regular Sottish. As a Scottish-British-American this fact always amused me..its really under the heading of Anglo-Frisian

Must be this head cold thats making me stupid but have no reply to 'Nero' Blüm!..didnt read ANTHEM...as yet, I intend to, eventually..mayhaps he'll get some intelligent answers to those problems elsewhere. Being the human I am I really cant conceive what it would really be like being a human as they are depicted in BRAVE NEW WORLD..happy though they may be to me it would be horrible..happiness, yes, but the drive, the dynamism, the ..uh..zest of life or whatever, mutated and changed like that, well I

wouldnt desire that for myself no matter how great the happiness..I would expect that civilization would eventually decay (course all do, dont they?) and crumble. Its a horror story to me, tho, being an individualist of the first water.

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These first names of German fen confuse me at times -- dunno if the fan is a gal or a boy -- Inge here could be a girl..and her article inspired mucho mucho comments in my little heart--would that I had the time and space to go into them all. I agree the Germans may have learned nothing from past history--and that goes for any nation or race...agreed. Inge generalizes too much by stating without qualifications that its only the black skin of the American Negro that makes him hated in America. As one who has given and done more in helping the American Negro (in case you saw me anti-Negro) I insist there are other problems involved, too. When Germany (or England--and right now England is finding out the problems and on the whole behaving rather badly and shoddily about it) has the population of Negroes to match ours and under the circumstances social and economical to equal ours..then a German can speak of this with some know-how. Till then--well you have to BE here to understand all the angles. One point I'd like to make---there are more Negroes in Universities in the U.S.A. than there are students in Universities (of ANY color or race) in all of the British Isles.

Another point (and on half of this I can speak from personal experience)--there ARE two places where color and race have merged very very nicely, indeed, and on American soil....I speak now of our state of Hawaii and the Free Commonwealth of Puerto Rico----and its a joy, a real joy to be there and see this. After traveling all my life thru our deep south to then stay in San Juan Puerto Rico and SEE what can be done is an inspiring experience.

Gregg obviously hasnt heard of other fandoms that I used to have contact with--dunno if they are still in existence now or not... but there was a s-f club of native boys in Lagos, Nigeria and a very peppy active club in Athens, Greece I should be giving this info to Harry Warner! He may not even know about it either.

Now the Best Letter Award goes to Good Old Joe Gibson--it was superb..

Speaking of your Volkswagens taking over America--hah, it isnt that.---Germany IS taking over America in a far more devious way --- oh yes, I bet, no one but I have discovered!! All one has to do is look about any neighborhood----you see German dogs are taking over the states!

Once it was the Cocker Spaniels, English and Irish setters and French poodles as far as the eye can see. But today in my neighborhood at least, I find herds of Schnauzers, dachshunds by the gross, milling throngs of Dobermans and German Shepherds, Shepherds coming right out of the woodwork! All called Hans and Fritz and Adolph (~~unioni~~!))---- the Shepherd next door (the most beautiful adorable darlinest dog ever) is named Ludwig, Mad King Of Bavaria and their cat is aptly called Lola Montez...I got fannish neighbors.

Excuse the typos...excuse the spelling...damn head cold... sniffle. WE fly south in a few weeks for Florida, Cat Cay Bermuda, and Puerto Rico--as it is ten below zero today I shall be glad to go--we will stay south till April--happy happy! How cold and how hot does it get where you are????(We've nearly the same climate as the British Isles.-hel))

115 WILSON, 201 Madison Boulevard, Brooklyn 26, New York, U.S.A.

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Dear Helmut,

One thing which strikes me is that you seem entirely too self-conscious about the Nazi question. Your heated denials that there are any nazis in German fandom aren't really necessary, I think. If any German fan should happen to have nazi sympathies and expressed them somewhere in print, I would have nothing to do with him, but I wouldn't avoid all of German fandom because of one person, and I wouldn't think much of anyone who did. People who accuse all Germans of being nazis are usually either bigots looking for a target less well defended in this country than Negroes and Jews, or just not very rational people. I am Jewish myself, and I certainly don't consider that German fandom owes me an apology; it seems to me that you are offering one, and I wish you wouldn't. Naturally, a fanzine from Germany is bound to draw questions from American and British fans about Nazis, but I don't think the subject should dominate the fanzine to any extent.

Rolf Gindorf continues to be the best writer that Gerfandom has now, even though I found his column a little less interesting this time than it is usually, because of the subject matter. (I don't like "Fans I Have Met" articles, especially since I once wrote one in SAPS and it was terrible.) But the rest of the German fans represented in this issue are all interesting to read, even if it's only because I'm fascinated by the way you people can write my language and I can't write yours. I don't agree with Nero Blüms estimation of Ayn Rand's Anthem -- I thought the book was more a display of belligerent egotism than anything else -- but at least his column lived up to its title; I was provoked. The summary of Ayn Rand's philosophy doesn't seem fair to me, because I've always regarded it as the direct opposite of totalitarian communism; this is not a recommendation to me, because I don't like any system so extreme, in either direction. Burkhard makes "pragmatism" sound as though it were just a system involving support of the individual, instead of a cult glorifying the concept of individuality, and extending it even beyond its limits, which to me are wide enough. (Incidentally, Ayn Rand spoke recently at Brooklyn Collge, which I attend. Her talk provoked a demonstration among the audience; some of them cheered and others hissed loudly. She later wrote to the school newspaper saying the students who hissed had a right to hiss as long as they did not disrupt her talk, which they did not. I may not agree with her, but I admire her fairmindedness.) "Cool Cats On A Hot Tent-Roof" was a bit loosely constructed, and I found it funny to read of a German talking in British slang, but there were some lines in the piece which hit my funnybone just right, especially that "You stink!" thrown in without any warning. I don't believe the story, of course, but it's probably true.

I want to mention how pleased I am to see the attitudes expressed by Winfried Scholz, but I'd better qualify that or you might think I approve of the idea of English and American fans explaining everything to German fans. I hope you won't feel that English and American fans set the rules for fandom which have to be followed, because that's nonsense. What pleased me so much was the statement that "Real fans are intelligent enough to participate in a serious discussion and they are human beings enough to show their sense of humor." I wish I'd said that.

The reason our government does not support the German Socialist party is probably that the word "socialist" scares too many people

in this country; I hope you don't think Germany is the only country that has trouble with over-conservatives. But I didn't realize the American government has such influence on German politics; and I don't like the idea at all. ~~West Germany is the 51st state of the USA, I always say.~~

What? Rüdiger is quitting fandom? ~~(I didn't say that! I just announced that he's quitting GENERAL or FANZINE fandom.)~~ Do something will you! I owe my first contact with German fandom to him, and I'd hate for him to drop out of fandom completely.

HECTOR R. PESSINA, Casilla 3896, C. Central, Buenos Aires, ARGENTINIA.

Dear Helmut,

Thank you very much for the copy of THE BUG EYE 9 that you have sent to me. It isn't the first issue of your magazine that I receive as I still have a copy of no. 6 that you mailed to me some time ago. I couldn't send either a LoC or an article at that time but I can now and I will.

I'll try to outline the Argentine fandom and s - f in this country, but this will be a short article.

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SF IN ARGENTINIA

There is only one fan club at present, the CLUB ARGENTINO DE FICCION CIENTIFICA or ARGENTINE SCIENCE FICTION CLUB with about 25 members. The emblem or symbol of the club is the KLEIN BOTTLE. The CAFC has a well-stocked library of about 500 volumes which includes books, magazines and pocketbooks in Spanish, English and other languages. All members may borrow books and read them at their homes. The club publishes a clubzine called FICCION CIENTIFICA Y REALIDAD or SF and Reality edited by the President of the club. The zine has clubactivities, stories by local fan and others translated from foreign fanzines, articles, movie & book reviews, etc. The first issue was mimeographed but the second, which will come out very soon, will be printed.

There are no prozines in Spanish at the moment, and Spanish-speaking fan have to read paperbacks or starve....or learn English, of course. Four publishers, two in Spain and two in Argentine bring out the only s-f material available to those who can't read English. The publishers are: NEBULAE and CENIT in Spain, and MINOTAURO and FANTACIENCIA here. The publisher that has put out most books is NEBULAE with about 77, followed by CENIT with 21 books. The Argentine publishing houses put out the best titles, especially MINOTAURO which has brought out such classics as MORE THAN HUMAN by Sturgeon, CHILDHOOD'S END by Arthur Clarke, THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES, THE ILLUSTRATED MAN and FAHRENHEIT 451 by Ray Bradbury (the GOLDEN APPLES OF THE SUN is due to appear this month), THE SPACE MERCHANTS by Kornbluth/Pohl, and others. FANTACIENCIA has published Williamson's THE HAPLOIDS, DRAGON'S ISLAND, Kornbluth's TAKOFF, Wyndham's THE DAY OF THE TRIFFIDS, Asimov's PEBBLE IN THE SKY, etc.

The Spanish publishers have put out the following: 1) NEBULAE : SLAN, VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE by A. E. van Vogt; THE PUPPET MASTERS, THE MAN WHO SOLD THE MOON, THE GREEN HILLS OF EARTH (the title of this pocketbook is LOS NEGROS FOSOS DE LA LUNA or THE BLACK PITS OF LUNA), by Robert A. Heinlein; THE CURRENTS OF SPACE, I, ROBOT and THE NAKED SUN by Isaac Asimov; NERVES, ...AND SOME WERE HUMAN by Lester del Rey; EARTH-LIGHT, PRELUDE TO SPACE and EXPEDITION TO EARTH by Artur C. Clarke, etc. 2) CENIT : Philip K. Dick's SOLAR LOTTERY, THE WORLD JONES MADE, THE VARIABLE MAN, and THE MAN WHO JAPED; Jeff Sutton's FIRST TO THE MOON;

Richard Wilson's AND THE TOWN TOOK OFF; Algis Budrys' WHO; Murray Leinster's THE WALING ASTEROID, etc.



Some years ago there were three prozines in Spanish. They were MAS ALLA, URANIA and HOMBRES DEL FUTURO. MAS ALLA ran for 48 issues, URANIA for two and HOMBRES DEL FUTURO for 3. Both MA and HDF had lettercols but only that of MA lasted enough to create a sort of fandom which later broke up when the prozine folded in 1957. MA was similar to GALAXY and had some features from that US prozine, such as Willy Ley's articles. Many of the stories, novels and serials in it came from GALAXY too. These novels and serials included: THE DEMOLISHED MAN by Bester; SON OF MARS by Cyril Judd; THE LONG LOUD SILENCE and THE TIME MASTERS by Wilson Tucker; THE CAVES OF STEEL by Asimov; THE FOUR SIDED TRIANGLE by William Temple; COSTIGAN'S NEEDLE by Jerry Schl, and many others. And MAS ALLA published a number of stories and short novels by Argentine writers too. I'm writing on an article about these stories and authors, which I'll send to faneds.

Argentina has two or three other cities that may have a fandom, but I don't know anything about them. They are ROSARIO, CORDOBA and LA PLATA. Rosario is the second largest city in this country and URANIA was printed there.

The CAFC has plans for a national convention of s-f fans in the near future and is interested in convincing film-distribution companies and cinema managers to hold a Science Fiction Film Week before the year ends. This show will include modern s-f films as well as classical ones. Lectures, exhibitions and all sort of activities are included in the future plans of the CAFC.

The favourite writers among Argentine fans are Asimov, Bradbury, Bester, Clarke, Heinlein, Sturgeon, Wyndham, etc. The best novels are THE DAY OF THE TRIFFIDS, MORE THAN HUMAN, CHILDHOOD'S END, THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES, THE DEMOLISHED MAN, THE MAN WHO SOLD THE MOON and SLAN.

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Well, now I'll try to write a LOC too.

I'm glad to see that all the inside contents are in English so that I can understand it all and won't have to look up any words in my dictionary. Your explanation about the address and the place where you live is interesting and useful. Mine is very simple as you can see, just a Postbox #3869 or Casilla 3869, Correo Central de la General Post Office or Central Post Office. I can't help agreeing with all your concepts about politics but I'd rather not comment on them. I have always admired people like Bertrand Russell and other pacifists who don't care a damn what other people think when they risk everything they have, even their own lives to show the Great Powers how dangerous

at can be?

I enjoyed Rolf C. Gindorf's RAMBLINGS very much because I do agree with him that the best way of writing something when you haven't prepared anything is just write whatever comes into your mind as your fingers -- or finger and thumb as there are some people who type with a finger and thumb only -- hover over the keyboard of your typer. The problem with me is that during the long and hot Argentine summer I can't make myself sit down at my writing table and begin to type a long letter to some correspondent in USA, ENGLAND, AUSTRALIA, JAPAN or GERMANY, I just can't do it. Besides, the pictures of beaches crowded with bikini-clad females and with the smell of the sea over them don't help you to get inspired. Oh well, I'll go on with the LOC anyway. If any of your readers is kind enough to supply me with brief biographical sketches of some of the best-known s-f writers of Germany I'd appreciate it much (very much).

Inge Hartmann has written a fine though rather short article that deals with almost everything fans are concerned with when they want to think seriously. How many times have we wondered what would happen if an Earthman succeeded in leaving Old Mother Earth and set foot on another planet and met another intelligent "alien" race. Would that human being represent one of the nation in which the planet is divided or would he show those aliens that they can trust Man and are dealing with a united world? The whole world is guilty of the crime of war and as such it should be put on trial not merely those who lose. I have recently seen some of the films based on supposedly secret photos and documents from the countries which took part in the Second World War. According to the postcard advertising on the films they are strong accusations against the whole world but they only show that one side was right and the other one was wrong. They are Blitzkrieg and Victory at Sea.

That was a funny and entertaining tale written by Hans Franzke. I enjoyed it very much.

I saw the 4-D MAN at a local movie-house last year and found it rather interesting. The Spanish title was ORGIA DE TERROR or Orgy of Terror/Horror and it was difficult to associate this title with s-f until you looked at the English one below it. The fact that it was in color made it a little more bearable. // It's interesting to see that most of the novels mentioned by Walter Ernsting have been published in Spanish. They are NON STOP (Nebulae Books, translated as VIAJE AL INFINITO or Journey to Infinity) THE LONG LOUD SILENCE called EL CLAMOR DEL SILENCIO and printed in MAS ALLA. The BRIGHT PHOENIX by Harold Mead was published by Fantaciencia Books as EL FENIX BRILLANTE. I'd like to correspond with the The Saint if he's willing to correspond with somebody in this remote corner of the world.

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Hector R. Pessina

WE ALSO HEARD FROM: Seth Johnson: "...Ted White is already using QWERTYUIOPress for his fanzines." I said QWERTZUIOPress, get it??? Just a joke. Incidentally Seth, your letter was rather crackpottery in part, and Rolf Gindorf said to me, referring to you, "he's crazy as a beetle." Show me something good and logical articles/letters that your are interested in. // BOB SMITH, BOB GREENBERG, MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY, DON FICCI, LINDA CLARKE, INGE HARTMANN and anybody else whose letter I lost. We got Christmas Cards from: Brian Burgess, Peter Mabey, Brian Jordan, Dorothy Hartman, and Wim Srtuyck. Well folks, guess that's about all, till nextish.

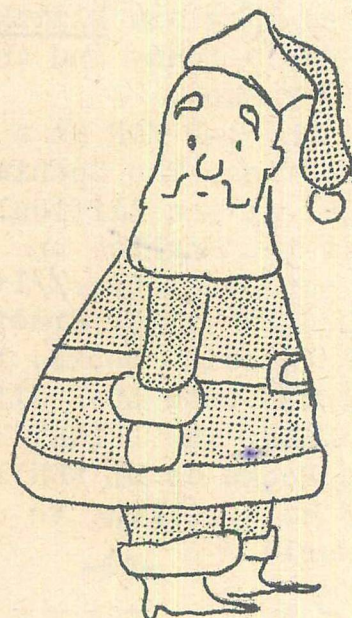
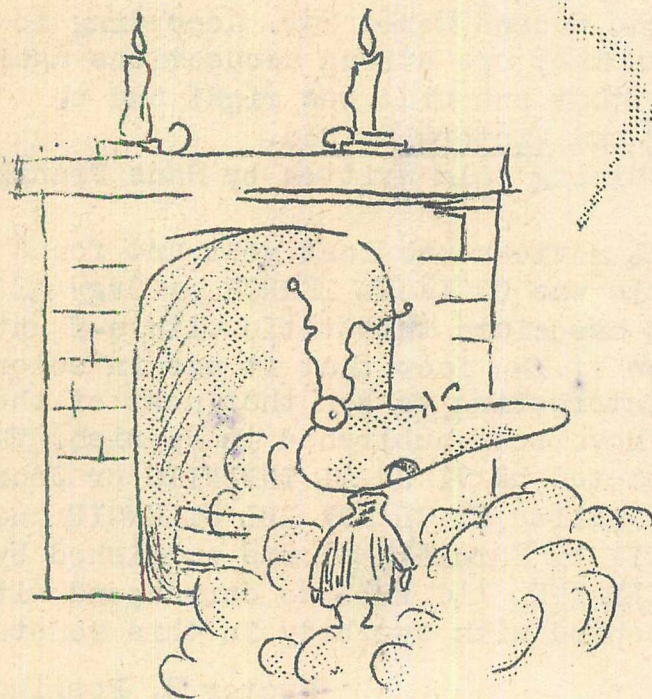
Hel Klenn

This stencil was originally intended for the German edition of SHAGGY's CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT. But Rolf Harder decided against it and gave it to me. -hel-

We trade
I'd like to trade (all for all) TBE for _____
Send me your _____ zine, huh?
Bitte, send an LoC AIR MAIL if you please
I'd like to print something by you!
You CONTRIBUTED
You commented
Your name's mentioned
Please review it. In _____

Other: _____

your sled is
double-parked!



HAPPY EASTER

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