

COSMIC

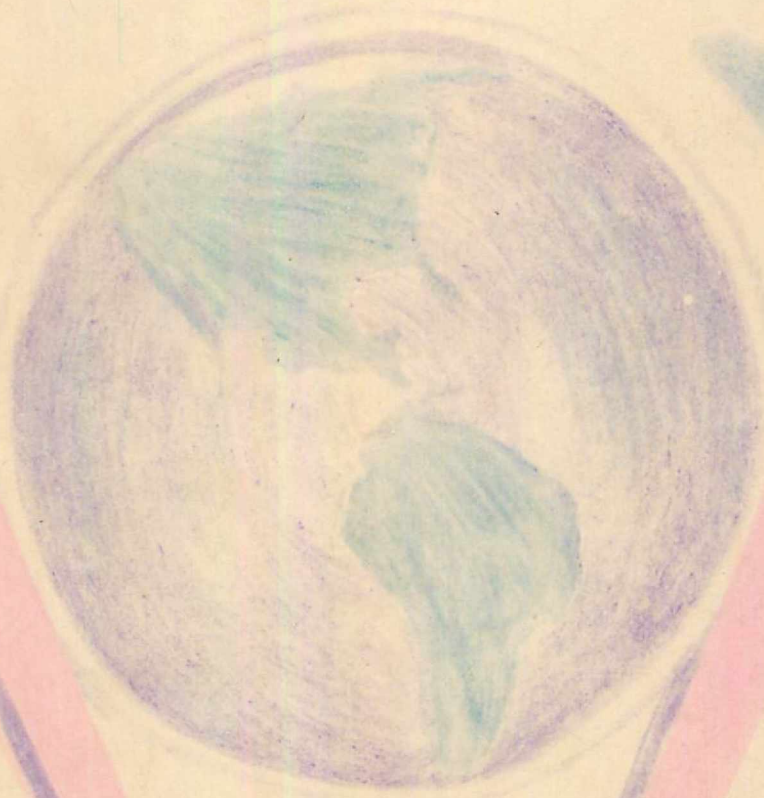
CIRCLE

MONTHLY

Official Publication Of The Cosmic Circle Organization

Volume 1

Number 1



COSMIC CIRCLE ANNOUNCEMENT

COSMIC

DIGEST

Volume 1

Number 1

Cosmic Digest Vol.1 - No.1, Quarterly. Free to all members, 5¢ to the public. 20¢ for a year. This is No.1, and features the COSMIC CIRCLE ANNOUNCEMENT. Future issues will contain a digest of most important material appearing in the official publication called COSMIC CIRCLE MONTHLY (free to inner circle members, 10¢ to others, 15¢ to outsiders). Address all inquiries on requests for membership or information, or money, stamps or for magazines, to Vergie Allen, 214 North 20th St., Newcastle, Indiana. You may write to Helen Bradleigh, if you care to do so. Please put in care of Vergie Allen at the above address.

Always feel free to write for any reason. For further information or questions you may wish to ask, we are always glad to be of assistance. All mail answered. If you know of any sfans or readers near you, send us their addresses. A copy of this announcement will be sent to them, also. This is being sent anywhere in the World -- 15 countries at present. 1,250 copies. More will be printed if necessary!!

Additional copies of this first issue may be obtained free by writing address above. This Digest has by far the largest circulation of anything in SCIENCE FICTION FANDOM. An ad placed in COSMIC DIGEST will get you more results in the world of Fantastic Thought than anyplace else you could possibly place it. Fifteen (15) words for 50¢. 5¢ for each over 15. None accepted for less than 50¢. For pictured, feature or displayed ads, write for details.

This issue is financed by Helen Bradleigh. 1,250 copies. Original announcement written by Helen Bradleigh for the Cosmic Circle. Digest by Don Rogers (called "Superfan"). Stencils by Raymond Washington, Jr. For full text of this announcement, plus many other highly intelligent and informative articles on many subjects and current topics of fandom, send 10¢ to the above address for the COSMIC CIRCLE MONTHLY.

For the amazing TRUE adventures of SUPERFAN and other true fan and fantastic experiences, send 5¢ for a copy of TRUE FANTASTIC EXPERIENCES. 12 issues 50¢.

Thanks are due also, to Morrie Jenkinson, Jr., and D.B. Thompson for help and advice, and to others who in any way assisted or were of service.

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COSMIC

COUNCIL

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Don Rogers ----- | Coordinator |
| Helen Bradleigh ---- | Psychological Advisor |
| Rex Matthews ----- | Technician |
| Raymond Washington-- | Official Secretary |

logical deduction from observation of nature's laws instead of supernaturalism. No research based on experimentation, the trial-and-error method.

That which was to someday bring about the new race lay slumbering in the germ plasm. And long and terrible to contemplate was the dark night of superstition that held its grim sway so long over the world and mind of man!

Through the Dark Ages, when the most abysmal ignorance and crass superstition prevailed — when religious wars of mass annihilation were fought — when the first scientists were burned like Bruno or made to retract their "unholy heresies" like Galileo's theory of the earth and planets circling the sun, the light of Science and Thought burned low indeed.

It was not until after the discovery of America and the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries that science and invention got their first real start. Man began to experiment, to entertain doubts as to the validity of the old hide-bound suppositions handed up from their Cro-Magnon ancestors (or perhaps from the Neanderthals before them). The light of reason began to flicker feebly, then burst into an ever-brightening flame. A flame of Hope for the human race!

America was a democracy. Men were freer, practically for the first time, to think, to work and invent. One invention followed another with amazing rapidity. The steam engine, electricity, gasoline engine, airplane, radio, atom smashers and television were produced. The list is endless: all the inventions of our modern times.

With the increasing part science was playing in our daily lives, and with so many people interested in science and scientific theories, some authors and imaginative persons began to speculate and imagine what things would be like, what inventions there would be 100, 1,000 years from now. What would the future be like? They wondered if there would be ships to travel to and from other worlds just as ships travel to other countries across the seas today.

So they wrote stories about these things, and many more. It was a new kind of literature they created. They were pioneers: Jules Verne, H. G. Wells, A. Merrit, Rider Haggard, and Ray Cummings, to mention a few. In the early 1900's, a new field of literature and human endeavor was introduced.

Science Fiction, or Scientifiction as it came to be called, was for a coming generation. It was, and is, the literature of the future. It was not until the April of 1926 that the first magazine devoted entirely to science fiction appeared on the newsstands. It was the old AMAZING STORIES. Later came WONDER and ASTOUNDING. Following, came all the others, until just before the war there were some 18 professional publications, of this type, and a veritable host of amateurs.

Science Fiction Fandom has slowly developed, grown and evolved through the years, adding converts to its ranks in all parts of the country, England, Australia, etc.

It is presumed here that the reader has at least a vague, or fair knowledge (as the case may be) of Fandom. What it is all about, who the leading fans are, etc. It is impossible to dwell at any great length here on the almost endless history, complications, and ramifications of fandom in general.

However, if you are somewhat new, or not well-acquainted with the fan world, or just an interested party and wishing some informa-

CLUBS OR CENTERS OF THE COSMIC CIRCLE AS OF JUNE, 1943:

ROSE CITY SCIENCE CIRCLE — Newcastle, Indiana
 CLARK CITY COSMIC SOCIETY — Indianapolis, Ind.
 THE IRINGTON CIRCLE — Irvington, Ind'pls, Ind.
 THE COSMIC THINKERS — Live Oak, Fla.

OFFICIAL STATE-WIDE FEDERATIONS,

ILLIANA — Cosmic Club
 FLORIDA — Florida Cosmos Society
 GEORGIA — (name undecided)
 UTAH — Utah Cosmic Fans
 OHIO — (undecided)
 KENTUCKY — (undecided)
 TENNESSEE — (undecided)

OUTPOSTS OR REPRESENTATIVES.

MUNCIE, IND. — M. Jenkinson
VALDOSTA, GA. — David Miller
BOSTON, MASS. — A. L. Schwartz
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH — A. Maxwell
OPELOUSAS, LA. — James Maxwell
EBECK, QUE. — Jadine Hear
WINDSOR, ONTARIO — Albert Bakst

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COSMIC FANDOM AND THE COSMIC CIRCLE

For several millions of years creatures that could be called human have struggled on the long rise upward to intelligence and civilization. For much of that time they have lived much like the other great simians, without benefit of clothing, fire, stone implements, or even bow and arrow.

Over a million years ago man began to use stone implements, discovered fire, and somewhat later began living in primitive communities, to domesticate animals and plant crops, and there came the invention of witch doctors, tribal taboos, and ceremony, clothing, morals, and what-have-you.

It was only about 8,000 years ago that crude picture writing and hieroglyphics were inaugurated, and the first date in recorded history is something like 6,000 years ago.

Since this date the empires of Sumeria, Phoenicia, Ur, Crete, Egypt, Carthage, Greece, Rome, and many others have risen and fallen. One bloody war, tyranny, and dictatorship has followed another.

The COSMIC CIRCLE is opposed to all forms of dictatorship, and the Cosmic Civilization which our children will one day build will never crumble to ruin and pass like the others into the dust of centuries. The Race of Cosmic men and women will be invincible because they know and believe in the COSMIC CONCEPT, the Cosmic Viewpoint of things. We are they whom H. G. Wells has termed "Star-Begotten."

Men have been abject slaves to the crosses, - most idiotic superstitions and hocus-hocus-imaginable! Men have t o r t u r e d, k i l l e d, and offered up human sacrifices in the name of tribal priests, superstitions, powerful tyrants or cruel gods. No conception of intelligent reasoning, science and logic, and the brotherhood of men. No systematic search for truth and knowledge based on

tion, please feel perfectly free at any time to write for any information or assistance to the COSMETIC CIRCLE in care of Vergie Allen, 214 North 20th, Newcastle, Indiana.

As E. E. Evans stated in a paper he read before the Denver convention in 1941, Pandom has at last come of age, and it has reached a much more mature state of affairs. Fans are doing things in more of a business-like manner.

But all this, though showing much progress for a start, is in itself far from being enough, nor does the current status of fandom anywhere near represent a desired attainment or an ideal state of affairs! There is much lacking -- much left to be desired. Let us for just a moment examine aspects of the set-up.

What is a FAN? A fan is a reader of science fiction and fantasy who writes to the reader's columns, to other fans, writes for or puts out a fanzine, or who is a member of a fan club or takes an active interest or part in other activities pertaining to fandom.

Fans write letters to the magazines, to fanzines, carry on correspondence, collect magazines, books, (some of them phonograph records) and have get-togethers, where they love to talk and chatter about all manner of things — artists, illustrations, this story "stinks" or this particular one should have a bouquet of orchids. Or so-and-so is a louse, an introvert, or even less complementary assertions! There is too much of this latter sort of thing in fandom.

There is nothing in all the world like the downright ecstasy and cosmic companionship afforded by an all-out fan gabfest! These things are infinitely desirable and such fan activities should be made more numerous.

The point we are trying to get at is this: While Fandom is on a high path, a road of promise of great things to come, we cannot help feeling that these things alone are not enough — that while we do all these things, too, they are not sufficient by themselves. This is not all there is, or is to be, of the lofty ideals and the great purpose and plans we believe in for the future of our beloved Science Fiction Fandom. No! A million times no.

It is only natural that attention be paid to the illustrations, whether the magazine's edges are trimmed or not, and to whether your fellow fan is a louse, or perhaps has just been victimized like poor old Yagvi. But entirely too much attention is paid to matters like these, and not nearly enough to the science and concepts in the stories, science in general, and the leading scientific discoveries of the day, some of which many fans have never even heard of, and which are just as wonderful as most of those in the stories! or to even the most ~~basic~~ knowledge of what is now known of physics, astronomy, biology, psychology, relativity, electronics, etc., which most of the stories are about, or make reference to.

Many fans have shut themselves, into their own little world of prizes, fanzines, and fan activities to such an extent that they are literally strangers to their own families. They give very little thought to, or even know what is going on in the universe outside their own little circle of fans, or to the sociological and psychological conditions and developments, of which their fandom is an integral part, and which determine the Future they constantly rave about!

Now while it is a truism that most fans know tremendously more about science and scientific theory than does the general public,

many fans display an ignorance of even the most simple facts of science which is as pathetic as it is depressing.

COSMIC FREEDOM

Science has to explore the entire field of reality. Everything — absolutely everything — is in the realm of scientific investigation. S. F., as its name implies, is literature with a scientific basis or background of science. Therefore S. F. may be written about any science, or everything or occurrence whatsoever! Science Fiction is as broad as Existence, as big as the Universe.

And so we have called ourselves COSMIC FANS, and the World-wide Organization of cosmic-minded men and women the COSMIC CIRCLE, because we are fans of the entire cosmos. We are "fans" of everything — of all that is, that was, and that ever will be!

And now the time has come when we wish to announce it to the world, and to all those who now feel themselves in accordance with our doctrine, who are interested and wish to know more. We are definitely science fiction fans, but of a Fandom that is fuller, broader, and greater in scope. Hugo Gernsback and other "old timers" must, we believe, have envisioned something like this.

We want to know and intend to know what the latest discoveries are and what is now known of Electronics, Biochemistry, Astrophysics and other branches of science. The stories we love often contain mention of these. How can we understand or appreciate the stories if we do not have even a brief working knowledge of these? (Much information can be picked up in the Science department of a public library in your spare time.)

We are vitally and intensely interested in the affairs around us, sociological, psychological and scientific — in world conditions, in the great humanity, of which fandom is a part.

We are interested in that humanity. We hope to convert many of them to our cause. We think we may be able to someday better those conditions, because of our understanding of science, and of human nature, and our intense and burning desire to see and live in a better world, like the ones we read and dream about in the portals of science fiction.

By now someone may be calling us vain idealists. An idealist is a desirable being. A man who has ideals has something to work, and live for. Many of the world's greatest thinkers were idealists. There's one thing wrong with most idealists — they are usually not practical enough to put their ideas across, even though those ideals are sound and workable.

We are trying to avoid that old mistake. We intend to get back of our ideals, and push and shove, plan and work, until we get some RESULTS.

That's the trouble with many fans. They aren't interested enough in the purposes described. They are more content with just sitting by, and letting things happen as they will, content to talk about, and comment on future civilizations, but never, never trying to do anything that would perhaps better ours, and help to bring about that scientific world of the Future, or start a big campaign to get the general public interested in S. F., which would eventually do a great deal toward bringing about a scientific civilization and the liberal democracy we are working for.

We are going to do all in our power to further Science Fiction and Cosmic Fandom, which we believe is to further humanity and make the world a better place to live in. Our unofficial motto could well be, "I came, I saw, I DID SOMETHING ABOUT IT!" and not "I came, I saw, I RAN like hell."

Wherever big things are being done for the advancement of the human race, wherever scientific investigations are going on, there is the good probability, at least, that some Cosmic fans will be there, in the foreground or behind the scenes, in there pitching, doing their part. There will surely be one connected with these happenings in some capacity — certainly there will be Cosmic Fans vitally interested in them and keenly studying and observing the outcome and possibilities.

THE NEW RACE OF COSMEN THAT HAS EVOLVED FROM SCIENCE FICTION FANDOM.

So this is an announcement of COSMIC FANDOM ("fans" of the entire cosmos), and the COSMIC CIRCLE (A World-wide organization of cosmic-minded men and women), but it is more of a DECLARATION OF EXISTENCE:—the existence of a new breed of thinking people, a new way of life, a cosmology or philosophy of all things, known as the COSMIC CONCEPT.

All life evolves and changes—the Universe changes and evolves. Virus, bacterium, protozoa, worms, fish, amphibians, saurians, mammals, and men. This is inexorably decreed by the Second Law of Thermodynamics.

Man is still evolving toward a higher form of life. A new era is ~~erupting~~ ^{erupting} upon the Stage. Homo Cosmens, the COSMIC MAN, will appear. We believe that we are mutations of that species — we, and all others who think and believe as we do, be they near or far. It is not a matter of race or religion; anyone who thinks we are on the right road of the future, who looks beyond the horizon of today, who probes the nature of things and tries to interpret his observations with a minimum of blind faith in tottering theological fantasies, is one of us.

The majority of our adherents are science fiction fans, and this is as it should be. However, we are convinced that there are a considerable number of people like ourselves on this planet, if only we could locate and get in touch with them. Someday we will find most of them, and then we will do great things together.

A trilogy of books (3) is being written, "THE REVOLUTION OF MANSON," "THE COSMIC CONCEPT," and "NOVA TERRA" (the New Earth). It is hoped that the first should be ready for publication before too long.

They will explain everything about the Cosmic Concept and Cosmic Fandom in beautiful detail, with analysis of all history, whys and wherefore, the world today and possible near future, with a general fitting together in one vast cosmology all the sciences, and all things. It will embody a wealth of psychological material, a treasure-house of data on the workings of the human mind—and possibly alien life-forms. But its greatest significance will be man's long rise to intelligence and reason — how he has struggled from one superstition and philosophy to another, until finally there evolved the COSMIC CONCEPT.

THE COSMIC CIRCLE

WORLD-WIDE ORGANIZATION OF COSMIC MINDED MEN AND WOMEN

Who is a Cosmic Fan? A person with a cosmic viewpoint of things, a follower of the Cosmic Concept. A seeker after truth and knowledge, an advocate of that fuller and broader fandom described, a fan of all the Cosmos. The Cosmic Concept is a cosmology of all things — a cosmic philosophy. Anyone in the whole world may, if they so wish to consider themselves, be called a Cosmic Fan.

The COSMIC CIRCLE is a world-wide organization of cosmic-minded men and women. The COSMIC COUNCIL (or "High Command" as sometimes humorously referred to) at present consists of four persons (see bottom of first page), or three Cosmen and a "Cosmette" (word coined by Rex Matthews). Don Rogers, Helen Brackleigh, Rex Matthews, and Raymond Washington, Jr (Of the Star Flecked Cosmos) make up the Council, the governing body of the Cosmic Circle.

Then come the various officials, heads of departments and committees, directors of various research projects, state and local representatives, etc. These are all in the Inner Circle, as is also anyone who pays the fee of 95¢ (semi-annually), which includes the official publication, COSMIC CIRCLE MONTHLY (12 issues.)

The Outer Circle consists of anyone who wants to be in it, anyone who considers themselves to be a Cosmic Fan, or cosmic-minded man or woman. There is no charge of any kind for anyone to become a member of the Outer Circle; there is no obligation, no strings attached whatsoever. There is nothing that you have to buy, and no activities you must take part in.

After you have completely read this, you will surely know whether the title COSMIC FAN applies to you or not. You alone are the sole judge! For who could know better than you, whether you could be called a cosmic fan? (If you desire any information, or are just an interested party, remember to always feel free to write!) To be a Cosmic Fan, a member of our Outer Circle, it is only necessary to **SLY YOU ARE ONE**, by dropping a postcard or letter to 214 N. 20th, Newcastle, Indiana, right away!

Newcastle, Indiana, right away!
Just state that you want to be a member — "I am a cosmic fan," or anything else that you want to say. Your name will be entered in the BOOK OF THE COSMEN (which we believe will contain the intelligence of this planet), and you will be sent free the quarterly COSMIC DIGEST and other bulletins and information from time to time, so that you may keep in touch with all that's going on.

You will be sent a membership card, stickers for your fan mail, and a sample group of colored scientific envelopes. The resources of the Organization, in the various services and free helps, and the Planet Bureau of World Information, are advantages and services you may use if you so desire, as a member of the Circle.

There is absolutely NO CHARGE OR OBLIGATIONS of any kind whatsoever connected with this! The services mentioned are actually free to anyone who sends a postcard and wants to become a member.

No one in the Outer Circle is EVER required to do anything else. You can always stay there if you wish to do so. We reiterate, there is no charge of any kind to be a member of it. Simply send a postcard, when you have finished reading this.

We are a live-wire, sincerely friendly bunch of fellas and gals, men and women who intend to really do things and accomplish something. If you want to get together with a group who has all sorts of long-range plans and activities scheduled, many of which are now in progress, who are actively and sincerely working for the best interests of Fandom, one who is really going to put Fandom on the map in every state in the Union, working to the end that Fandom will become a power or influence in the post-war world at sometime in the future --- then by all means get into "THE CIRCLE"! We need the support of all sincere and cosmic-minded fans, men and women everywhere. We need YOUR support!

If you are a new fan or just a reader, we will be glad to give you a hearty welcome, and we invite you, personally, into our friendly Circle. Here is your chance to get in touch with all the fan activities that are now going on, plans for the future, etc., in our big Cosmo family all over the planet.

If you want to publish a fan magazine and don't know quite how, or don't have the equipment and material, we will give you every possible assistance, even to part of material and mimeographing! If you are desirous of forming a club in your city or area, we will give you names of fans in your vicinity, offer you suggestions as to charter, title, or be of any assistance possible in helping you get started or plan activities. IF YOU DESIRE THIS AID. The Cosmic Circle Supply Depot (where papers, inks, stencils and all fan supplies may be obtained at considerably reduced prices and discount to members); the Fanzine Bureau (which will help anyone in ~~the world~~ plan and publish an amateur magazine, or publish it for them if they out stencils ~~and~~ furnish supplies, or even furnish supplies for them at a low cost); the Manuscript Service, in connection with the Office of Cosmic Education (which will furnish you with material for your publication free, if you request it); and the Planet Bureau (or Bureau of World Information) where members may obtain any scientific or factual data ~~they may require~~ ~~all~~ these advantages are at the disposal of ~~the members~~. It is their privilege to make use of these and many more services offered, if they so desire. New services and departments are being added from time to time, as the need for them arises, and as soon as their existence is justified by expansion of the membership.

While we greatly desire and need mature fans, older fans, still we must ALSO HAVE younger blood and the inspiration and dynamism of youth. If you are "14 years old and read Amazing", or indeed if you are ANY age and read ANY magazine, you may join too! No one is barred because of age, sex, race, or creed.

Here is the chance for every young reader and fan to get in with the bunch of older fans, and find out what it's all about. Who's Who in fandom, how to publish your own magazine, or take part in any of the other important fan activities, or at least to know and keep in touch with all the big things that are going on! and also to get acquainted with many other followers of science fiction, fantasy, or weird, just like you and of your own age!

If you care to write to Helen or Don, Raymond or Matthews and tell us what your hobbies and interests are, we can find you correspondents in your own city or vicinity! **DO GET IN TO THIS WITH US, FANS AND READERS! THIS IS A PERSONAL INVITATION FROM ME (Miss Helen Bradleigh) TO EVERYONE WHO RECEIVES A COPY OF THIS, TO SEND A POST-CARD NOW!**

JOIN OUR "CIRCLE" OF COSMIC MINDED PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF:

THE COSMIC CIRCLE!

And this is an appeal to all interested GIRLS and GIRL FANS! A lot of girls are interested in science fiction, fantasy, or weird. We have several in our organization and are very proud of them. (Maybe this is because gals are just naturally so smart or their intuition tells them stf is the literature of the Future, and Chasneh and "Cosmettes" are the people of the Future, and the Cosmic Concept is the cosmology, philosophy, or "religion" of the Future. Of course, I'm prejudiced by being a girl! -- Ellen)

But seriously, this is an invitation to all girls and women interested in science, stf, fantasy and weird to write to me, Helen, personally — for any information or to become a member. The girls must all stick together. COME ON, GIRLS! SEND THAT CARD or letter, RIGHT AWAY. Helen BradleIGH, c/o 214 N. 20th, Newcastle, Indiana.

And boys, and boy fans too: there are really a lot of swell gals, mutant maidens, scientificalls in this organization — Cosettes who are distinguished persons in the circles of Cosmic Fashion. I can assure you, you do not know what you are missing, if you do not get into it at once! A postcard can make you a member of the Outer, 95¢ can make you a member of the INNER CIRCLE, which includes the COSMIC CIRCLE MONTHLY, which in addition to all the other great features, contains one of the swellest letter sections of all fashion, personally answered and conducted by Helen.

To young fans and readers: I would like to add that we are not cynical, snobbish, evasive, superior, or uninterested like some fans you may have written before! We can find out what you want to know from us, and be warmly welcomed into the group the same as anyone else, and treated just as though you had been in fandom for years, like the old-time fans!

Remember, this can be YOUR organization, the same as it is anyone else's! All you must do is let Helen or Don KNOW OF YOU. Send that card at once! Then all fannon will know of you, and through the DIGEST and COSMIC CIRCLE MONTHLY you will know about ALL FANNON! Remember, there is no charge or obligation of any kind to be in the OUTER CIRCLE (and only 95¢ to be in the INNER and receive the C. C. MONTHLY.)

This is as good a place as any to state that this organization does not desire to interfere, oppose or compete with any other club or organization. We indeed desire greatly to co-operate with the F. F. F. and any sincere groups or persons, who have the interests of fandom and Cosmen at heart. Any person who is a member of some other club or organization may become a member of the COSMIC CIRCLE, and vice versa. This is absolutely not a radical or military organization! Any possible ~~future~~ changes in laws or anyone connected with this Society might advocate or campaign for, would have to be brought about in a democratic way, by the vote and consent of the people.

We are for the Allied War Effort and a United Nations victory 100%! There is no other hope for humanity, for Cosmic men and women. This is a struggle for a planet! Unless the forces of Enlightenment win, there could be no Federation, no glorious scientific civilization of the future like we plan, no progress for mankind.

a United Nations victory is unthinkable.

FREE CONTEST PG. 1 → 20 VALUABLE PRIZES

JUST FOR DROPPING A POSTCARD.

There is no catch to this. It costs nothing to get in this contest. It is free and the prizes are free. All prize winners will be announced in the C. C. MONTHLY. Anyone, whether member or not, may enter. You don't have to be a member to get in the contest. It is for you, and you—many of you who are hearing about the C. C. for the first time. To get in the contest all you have to do is drop a postcard with your name and address.

The purpose of this contest is to know how many copies were actually received. Many of the addresses we have are old, and people have done a lot of moving around since then. Also to hear from as many fans as possible and get the opinion of fandom on the matter. We regard and value your opinion very highly! At any rate, we want possibly EVERYONE who receives this, to send a postcard to 214 North 20th, Newcastle, Indiana. There is no obligation of any kind for you to do so, and you MAY WIN A VALUABLE PRIZE!

to do so, and you MAY WIN A VALUABLE PRIZE!
After all, it costs a lot of money to put out 1,250 copies of
this (over 1500 are actually being put out.—Don.) and we have kindly
sent you a free copy, in a spirit of all sincerity. Would you please
do likewise, by at least sending in the one cent card! It is sort
of a matter of honor.

Please understand that this DOES NOT make you a member, by sending the card to us in our contest! Indeed, you may be violently opposed to it, and still be in the contest and win a prize. It was stated before, that all you had to do to become a member of the outer circle was to drop a card—this is true. But you must SAY you want to be a member, or in some way signify your desire to become one. Otherwise you will merely be entered in the contest, and of course will not be a member. As previously stated, you may even be definitely against it.

definitely against it.

In other words, WE WANT EVERYONE TO SEND IN THE CARD whether for or against! This is sufficient to enter you automatically in the contest. Nothing else to do. If you ALSO wish to become a member, merely SAY THAT YOU DO on the card! But either way, whether you do or do not, you are privileged to enter the contest.

or do not, you are privileged to enter the contest.

RULES: 1. This contest is open to anyone, whether members or non-members of C. C. Anyone may enter (except the Council of 4 and high officials and their families.). To enter simply send a postcard with your name and address on it. It is not even necessary to write anything else — naturally we would prefer you giving a few words about your opinion of our Organization and the facts in this announcement either pro or con! Please feel free to express your honest opinions! This is free America, remember.

2. Names from all cards received will be written on equal size slips of paper, and deposited in the contest box. There will probably be several drawings, so you may have several chances to win a prize, simply by sending in one card. Date of drawing and deadline will be announced soon in the C. C. Monthly.

3. Slips will be drawn from the box after it has been thorough-

Number 1

The

Cosmic
Digest

[illegible]

To me has fallen the task of stenciling all of this first issue, as well as writing a great deal of it, if not all. I was to have received material from Don Rogers (Cosmic Circle Society), but none has arrived. Please bear with me while I explain further.

If there are any mistakes, or misleading statements in this issue they will be corrected in number two.

As for this Digest, it is written mainly for fandom, but not exclusively. We wish the support of the fans especially, as science-fiction fosters and encourages our aims, but we also operate on the principle that there are many intelligent persons who do not read science fiction, but would favor our movement. Our appeal is meant to be universal.

Raymond Washington Jr
Editor:

Cosmic Bulletin

[Faint, illegible handwritten notes]

What We Are About

"We'll build a stairway to the stars,

A wondrous stairway to the stars---"

SO GOES the popular song. It's several years old, but man's desire to conquer space is older. And his desire for utopia is older still.

We of the Cosmic Circle realize, as do most thinking people, that this world of ours is in one hell of a mess. It's easy to throw up your hands and say "Don't look at me! I know that's true, but I didn't cause it, and what can I do about it?"

In the opinion of this writer, no one creed or manner of government now in use is anywhere near perfect. We all know our own democracy is shot through with dirty politics, but we won't go into that here. "What can I do?" You can't do anything at all, by yourself.

And neither can a score of us, or five hundred of us. But if enough people decided to do something about it, something would be done.

At this time there seems to be a widespread desire among the peoples of this earth to improve things. In the words of a British military commentator whom I can't remember, this is one of those times in human history where we must either get a lot better or a lot worse. We can't just skid along in the same old rut.

Science-fiction fans aren't in the rut. (Real fans, that is.)

A number of weeks ago I was privileged to talk to Don Rogers the principle fan of Indiana, about this and many other subjects. He stayed several days at my home. One of those days we held an uninterrupted session from 11:00 P. M. to 7:00 A. M. Rogers told me of a proposed organization of his. He had thought out the details carefully. My first thoughts were, This isn't anything new. The readers of Vom have been tossing it around for months. The general fan impulse is toward the improvement of world conditions.

(It is sometimes greatly enlightening to read Vom. The fans can write very well. Their ideas, most of them, are basically sound, and at least something to think about.)

Rogers had a proposal. A definite beginning. The organization of a club to be titled "The Cosmic Circle."

I expressed the opinion that the word 'circle' implied a restricted organization. I suggested 'thinkers'. Rogers stated that then the implication would be that the members thought, and did not act. That, too, was out.

But it was agreed that the organization was for thinkers, people of tolerance, not bound up in a narrow, warped creed. In other words, people not in a rut.

There must be many such people. Fandom is the only kind of fraternity (a very improper word) where people are expected to be of a certain intelligence, as far as I can see. And, since the directors are all science-fiction enthusiasts, our primary desire is to obtain the support of fandom.

What are our aims? I understand them to be the betterment of world conditions, the forming of a bloc of voters who want a scientific and liberal government, a club to unify people who think and who favor the cosmic ideals of science fiction. We intend to advertise for members in professional publications when it seems advisable. We hope to bring about great changes for the better in future years, but we acknowledge that it will be a slow and tedious process.

But there's got to be a starting point somewhere. We don't expect to accomplish miracles overnight. But we do expect to accomplish something.

When any group of people decide on accomplishing something, the first and foremost thing to do is to get organized. That is what our society is for. We need your support.

The final details are not worked out yet, but they are in the process of being worked out. A Constitution is being prepared. Meetings are being held. Publications are being planned. Stationery has been ordered, and stickers shall be forthcoming.

This is not "just another club", a passing whim, or a wildly impossible venture. The officers are sincere, and mean to carry on regardless of obstacles. There is little chance of the society being dissolved because of the officers being inducted. Their positions are pretty stable at present. The High Command, Cosmic Circle Society, consists of four people: one is a girl; one has been rejected by the Army; one is under-age and shall continue to be for months to come, and the remaining officer seems to breeze along with no fear of the long arm of his Uncle.

When our membership expands, we may hold conferences at the central headquarters in Indiana.

We do not set ourselves in rivalry with any existing fan organization. This is one of our basic premises.

If you are interested in the society, and wish to know more about it, write to Vergie Allen, 214 N. 20th, Newcastle Indiana.

—The Editor.



Join:

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The Cosmic Circle

Society

An Organization Of Thinkers.

Headquarters

21. 5. 0th St.
Newcastle, Indiana.

The COSMIC COUNCIL

Don Rogers

Bob Matthews
Helen Breleigh

Raymond Washington, Jr

Purpose:

To unite cosmic-minded people

Lay a foundation for improving world conditions

Exchange ideas

If you wish, you may be listed as an outer-circle member by writing to Don Rogers, expressing your sincere interest in this society, and your willingness to have your name listed in the book of members, a publication to be issued when the society gets well under way. Your name will be then entered in the ledger of the Outer Circle, you will receive, free, each issue of the Digest, and perhaps other information. The dues for the Inner Circle will probably be announced later, in a future issue of the Digest, or the Cosmic Circle Monthly.

At any rate, you can all write Rogers and ask to be listed in the Outer Circle. Further details will be sent you.

All comments on this issue reaching the editor will be forwarded to Rogers and the others.

