

THE MISCELLANY

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Soliloquy by Looie the Fooie: "This is really the first chance, during the Christmas Holidays, that I've had a chance to do anything in the stfal line since last September.: But to get on to the main point, I'm really quite surprised at the vast changes the past three months have wrought in the fandom I once knew. Jimmy Taurasi(You didn't answer that letter I wrote you) has handed over FN to Will Sykora, whom I am proud to call a friend; so many new fan magazines have been started, and many of them are surprisingly good; a few fans have dropped out (I'm not out nor do I think I will drop out.) and have been replaced by new, more enthusiastic fellows, such as Joseph Gilbert, Paul Freehafer (I know he's an old time stf reader, but he's a new fan), and the Rochester group, all the members of which are much more active. I plan to be somewhat more active in fandom just as soon as I get my mid-year exams out of the way, and if some of you former correspondents and any others desire to start up again, I would be only to glad to do so. My address is Louis Kuslan, Box 76, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut.

Oh-yes, before I forget! I must put my two cents in to condemn with the rest of you the great and increasing number of pro magazines. Enough is enough! Cease, ye publishers, before the ~~deem~~ comes! At any rate, long may editor Campbell continue his editorial sway, and to the depths with Ziff-Davis, and the others of that ilk.

Please excuse the many incoherencies and the poor typing. I am typing without a dummy, and without correction fluid, and improvising as I go along.

"Cosmicomments"

"The Reader's Roost"

Letters we've received on the second Anniversary Issue of Cosmic Tales:

From Jack Dean, Red Bank, New Jersey: "Speer was interesting all around. The pro writers were especially weak. McIlwain fair. And we come to the star of the evening and morning which shines oh so bright and so pretty--How many years have I waited to read "Yi-Das!" The mood of that story has always been near me. I sometimes find myself thinking of such places with a tingling chill, and yet feel the temptation to wish I could linger for a while...For rereadability alone, "Yi-Das" is way above most professional work in the commercial magazines. A cheer for Boyer! "

Sam Youd, the poet and editor of The Fantast, Hants, England: "I didn't care a lot for the cover, but I have never seen a drawing by JVT I did like, so what? (Jimmy, don't mind what these naughty boys say about your art work. We still love you.--eds) I'm awfully surprised that Dave's little piece came first---it was far, far below his standard except for the first sentence. Too stodgy. Boyer's short, now, was something to go to town about. The ending was lamentably weak, but the writing -- wow! It's lucky for fanmag editors that J.E don't write for the pros. I was terribly attracted by the green lizard...Ramblings was good as usual, and I greatly missed the readers' letters...Speer made a nice job of converting my maudlin discourse into something like sense, and left it very nice for the next person to carry on! "

Harry Spaceways Warner, Hagerstown, Maryland; Current Cosmic

completely colossal! Clear cut! contents, collectively cosmic cover! (See, Jimmy. Someone loves you besides us.) Contents: Boyer, Keller, & Speer lead in no particular order. Lineing about as good as I've ever seen--at least in my copy. Truly great--shame you have to drop it for a while. (Say, Harry. Don't you trust Gertie?)--editor Lu)

New Fan Ray Sienkiewicz, Scranton, Pennsylvania: "The Moon Artist" was unusual and I enjoyed it immensely... "Yi-Das" was one I didn't like. (Ray, you, out of over twenty fans who commented on the story, were the only one who cared not for Boyer's short. Read it over again for the effect of the smooth, flowing style, the excellent construction, and real, fantastic atmosphere.--Lu) "One Can Never Know" was the second story I didn't like. (Wouldn't you like to know who wrote it?--Lu)

The Juffus, Washington, D.C.: I'm not commenting in detail on fan fanmags any more, but I do want to congratulate you on the anniversary CT. Best features were Keller, Boyer, and Youd (both); not so good were After the Dark Age, Invincible, and One Can Never Know--in every case, because there weren't enough to them. (Sorry that you're retiring for the umpteenth time, Gen; we'll expect you back in a few months.--Lu)

Forest J. Ackerman, famous fan and esperantist, Hollywood, Cal.?

If preceding issues of this pub, under previous co-eds Kuslan, were "Cosmic", the 2nd Ann surely was Galactic! Suns, what a celebration-umber! I didn't care for the cover but Speer's Scribblings stood out in the articles (I like articles best) & 'Bristol' should be writing professionally, I believe after reading his episode of "6 Against the Past". Dr Keller's insanity yarn was no doubt authentic as to case-typs. A booky to British brother Burke for the quirk at the end of "Nemesis of Time". Mary Eyer's point well taken in "Invincible". McIlwain did alright with "Peter Paine". Difficult for me to determine whether I enjoyed Boyer or Burke the better, in the fiction: Uno's was pure stf; Jos', pure phantasy. I liked the imaginative quality of "Yi-Das" a lot. "One can Never Know" was unusual. (You met the unusual person who wrote it!--Lu) After the looney "Moon Artist", which I read first becaus of its author, I selected "After the Dark Age" because of its title. If I am not mistaken, Furrroughs wrote "Swords of Mars" & Kline "Swordsman of Mars", & now another "Swordsman of Mars" by Haggard to add to the confusion of swordsmen of Sarvon & Saturn & Ttsetrah! But has Haggard hit on something, is the tagline on the tale true, & if so??

I have to laf every time I think of Luisko (Lou Kuslan's adopted Esperanto name, folks) when we met at the Convention. He talkt to me for 3 mins. bfor surprisedly exclaiming, "Why, you aren't wearing ordinary clothes, are you?" & and me in an eye dazzling outfit of colors & strange cuts, called "futuristicostume"! (I was misquoted--Lu) About 6 mos. bfor the "Nycon", Luisko wrote me: "I am just itching to meet you!" I imagine after the xperience, seeing & all as how I made such a monkey of myself, U were just itching, Lou? (Naw!--Lu) Give my--regards--to fratino 'Gerko' & good luck to the new publisher. Aside: 60¢ attach for 4 more cyps this big no. I think its a good investment."

More Talk---

Some of the new fan mags seem to have promising futures. I hope they have the best of luck, and speaking about luck, I wish Will Sykora plenty of it for his editorship of Fantasy News.

By the way, if some of those fan editors to whose magazines neither Gertie or I subscribe would send me a copy of their magazine to my college address, given elsewhere, I would be only too glad to make some sort of subscription arrangements.

Say, isn't California going to town, what with six or seven mags out and others on the ways? Well, we can always use good ones!

And in conclusion, We, Gertie and I, wish you all a happy New Year, and may FooFoo bless you all So long...