

JUNE 1949

SAPIAN

Edited - Published By Ray C. Higga,
813 Eastern Ave., Connorsville, Ind.

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* Volume Two "styled by the higgs" Number One *
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SAPIAN CHANGES FROM DIAPERS TO TRAINING PANTS

Just one year ago this month (June), I was made an honorable member of the Spectator Amateur Press Society, and blossomed forth with my first issue of SAPIAN. Without doubt this ish was more or less 'corny', and still is for that matter - but I have enjoyed every minute of my first year in the SAPS.

True - with this issue, starts Volume Two, thus SAPIAN with a year on it, and a heck of a lot of experience gained, changes from diapers to training pants. SAPIAN having cut its first tooth, while the poor editor has just lost the last of his - both having finished their basic training expects 2 go places - just where, I don't know exactly - but have in mind for one place, the CINCON. The other place, I shouldn't mind, as it couldn't be any hotter there than it has been in my home town. So! - - - guess I can take it!

As I recall, my first issue of SAPIAN was of the eight page variety, with format of 8½ x 11 size. How well I remember the front cover VERSE AND MUG!, the verse 'going over' better than THE MUG!

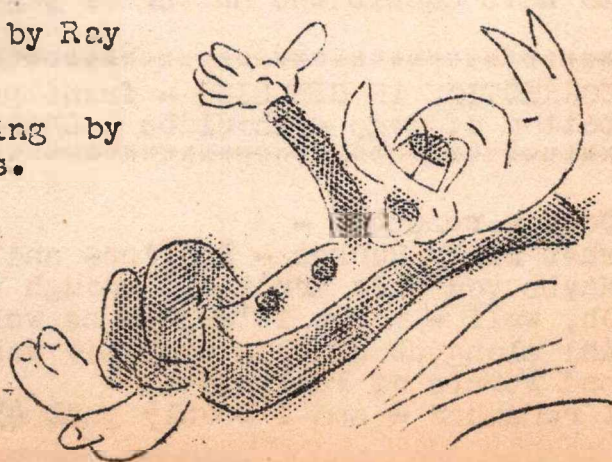
The second page entitled Introducing --- A NEW SAP. Of course that was me. I gave away all the secrets of myself, and now you know as much about me as I do.

Page three contained white-ups concerning STF AMATEUR PRESS MONTH, and SIXTH WORLD STF CONVENTION.

A colored comic THE GLOBLIES by Ray Nelson took up page four.

Page five - a full page drawing by me, received lots of comments.

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Having become a member of SAPS a little late in the year, I missed one mailing, but received what zines that were on hand, and so I dubbed my review column RAY'S RAVIN'S, which came up next on pages six and seven, also had a clever little cartoon on page six - my art ability (?)

Ending the whole mess was a full page announcement concerning the Torcon on the back cover.

- thus ended my first issue of Sapien, one in which in years to come, will be to me, a collectors item - to others - oh, well, it's already landed in the waste basket!

Sapien V/1 - N/2 appeared in the October '48 mailing following my first ish in the July '48 mailout. This zine was much larger, consisting of some twenty pages, with a fine front cover pic by me. The complete zine carried a varied variety of colored pages - and some lively art work of Rotsler and myself. Trip To The Torcon For Two Only by Harry B. Moore was a hunderinger, as was What's Rotsler Got I Haven't Got. Not until you read to the end did you discover that I was not in earnest --- but only kiddin'. Very humorous as was FLASH!! FLASH!!

I missed the January 1949 mailing entirely - just to get a breather.

However we came back strong in the April '49 bundle, in which we contributed two humorous zines.

V1/N3 dated January consisting of twelve pages had three full pages of reviews - "Bitter with the Sweet", I call it - SAPS now rule the world was a bit of nonsense - a poem Ever Onward with a drawing by the editor was included. Lester Fried contributed a fine full page drawing, with Charles Henderson throwing in a comic page. Announcement of Cincon, and of Editors Efforts and Stf. Album followed. Thus was ish number three.

In the mailing too for good measure was V1/N4 - a slap stick ish, or April Fool contrib.... The Morgue was my review column...an editorial on Cinvention....and then lots of humorous and crazy quilt poems (?) and drawings. A front page drawing by yours truly started things off. 'Twas six pager.

Thus in four mailings '48-'49, I have had four zines for a total of some 46 pages for Volume One. Thus starts Volume Two in which I hope to have double the number of pages - and much better material.

CORRECTION IN SPELLING - front page this issue - seventh line from bottom of page - should be - AMATEUR - darn this three finger typing

Do you remember -

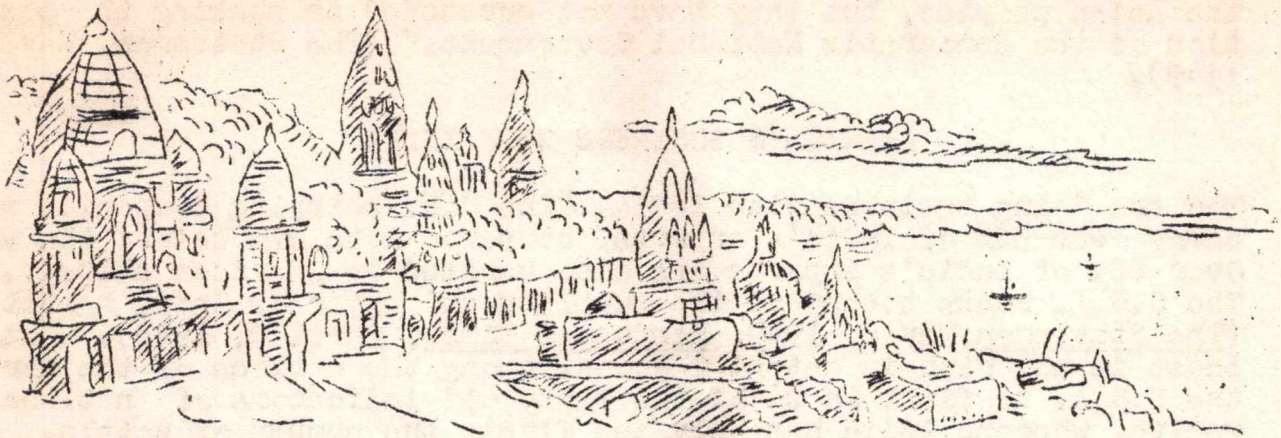
what Billy Burkes - Teddies- and - Envelope Chemise were?

Maybe you kids aren't old enough to remember this.

Oh, well - maybe it's just as well!

And along about this time too was The Iron Claw, Elmo The Mighty, and Perals of Pauline?

I remember - and I'm only past 43!



I N D I A

By

Dr. Henry H. Presler, Leonard Theological College, Jubbulpore, C.P. India.

India lies below, spread before my eyes. I am looking towards the South. Six thousand feet below our window the Great Plains stretch for eighty visible miles from the base of the Himalayas. The rivers wind into the distance. Steam is rising from the tropics, forming clouds that float below us.

I see more than plains, rivers, steam and clouds. I see a great people. Since before the American Revolution they have been under the influence of England, absorbing the political, social, economic and religious patterns to which we Americans, too, are accustomed. Recently they declared their political independence of England, but not their cultural independence. They are amazingly like us in some ways. You would feel at home among them. You would exclaim, why, your political ideas are just like ours! Just read the following quotation.

"INDIA'S CHARTER OF FREEDOM"

"....All power and authority of Sovereign Independent India, its constituent parts and organs of government are derived from the people; wherein shall be guaranteed and secured to all people of India justice, social, economic and political; equality of status, of opportunity and before the law; freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, worship, vocation, association and action, subject to law and public morality;....adequate safeguards shall be provided minorities, backward and tribal areas, and depressed and other backward classes...." (Jan. 22, 1947)

Indians believe in democracy, and in the republican theory of government. They are your friends, and mine.

COMMUNIST FAILURE IN INDIA

Their customs, philosophies and religions are opposed to Marxism. Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, the British Commissioner General in South-East Asia, said on May 23rd, "The Communists have tried to stir up

trouble in India, who in many ways has made herself the leader of the Asian peoples, but they have not succeeded in shaking the position of the democratic National Government." (The Statesman, May 23, 1949).

AMERICA'S BUSINESS WITH INDIA

You are doing business with India. "The U.S. shipping companies now carry over 52% of India's exports, compared with 27% before the war. Over 80% of India's imports are also handled by American ships..... The U.S.A. ranks second as the supplier and buyer in India markets." (The Statesman, May 9, 1949; Hindustan Times, April 9, 1949). But India is not rich in material goods. Among the nations of the world the U.S.A. is first in 24 of the forty old indicators of national wealth, whereas India has only one first, the number of cattle. (Hindustan Times, April 26, 1949).

CHRIST'S BUSINESS WITH INDIA

India is, however, rich in people. Her population is reckoned at 400,000,000. Since my return, various missionaries from all parts of the country have told me that interest in Christianity is stronger now than at any time in their memory. Even in Delhi, the national capitol, and a Mohammedan area, this is true. One reason given is that the people of India were greatly aided during the independence rioting by the impartial missions. Another reason given is the peaceful withdrawal of Britain from India, which later historians may call "the greatest and most hopeful event of the 20th century." With the taint of imperialism removed, Indians are at last ready to look at Christ.

"YESHU MASIH RAJ"

Still another reason is that after the withdrawal of the British, the government services declined in efficiency, and widespread graft increased. The Central Government is making vigorous efforts to check the corruption in bureaucracy, but it remains the concern of all. Not far from our mountain home an illiterate hill woman was asked why she kept a watch dog. Her answer has caused a good deal of amusement among us, but the answer nevertheless reveals the attitude of many common people. She replied, "When the Yeshu Masih Raj was here, everything was safe. But now I have to have a watchdog!" Those words in the Hindi language mean, the Jesus Christ Kingdom. It was just her quaint way of saying she felt safer when Christians were at the helm of government.

However, it is hoped that conditions will improve. One English missionary said to me today, "I'm really glad the Indians are running their own show now, because the doors are open to the gospel, at last!"

THE OPEN DOOR

The Prime Minister of India, Pandit Nehru, was asked recently as to the future of Christian churches in India. He replied: "The Indian State is completely secular -- it gives complete freedom of religion. We do not show any privilege to any one religion." (The Statesman, May 7-49)

Since returning I have met with courtesy and cordiality everywhere.

A similar experience seems to have been that of most missionaries. However, in certain isolated and remote areas our Indian ministers have had difficulty. One such area is near to Jubbulpore, the home of Leonard Theological College. The Indian District Superintendent, one of my former students, baptized twenty candidates in a village. On the way home he was arrested, and thrown into jail by a Hindu magistrate. The bail demanded was high. So the Christians in our area (the size of a large American county) contributed several thousand rupees, and freed him. The native police said, "If you baptize again, we will jail you again." He said, "I will continue to baptize any worthy Indian who wants to be a Christian." A local American missionary said, "I will go to jail with you." Other Indian ministers said, "So will we." There the matter stands until this "county" joins the Government of India under the new Constitution. Thereafter, the law of the area will be reversed, and complete freedom to baptize allowed. Such incidents are rare, and represent the vestiges of a disappearing feudal order. The door of India is turning on its ancient hinges, opening wide the opportunity to present Christianity.

WHAT FORGIVENESS MEANS

In May 1949 the world was astonished that India chose to remain at the side of England in the British Commonwealth of Nations. How could the former slave (India) forgive its former master (Britain)? Listen to these Christian words of her Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, describing his thoughts at the famous conference of Dominion Ministers in London:

"I wanted the world to see that India was prepared to co-operate even with those whom we had been fighting in the past, provided the basis of co-operation today was an honorable basis, was a free basis and a basis which might lead to the good not only of ourselves but of the world. (Our decision to stay with England) brings a touch of healing with it. In this world, which is so sick, and which has not recovered from so many deep wounds caused during the last decade or more, it is necessary that we touch upon world problems, not with passion and prejudice, and with too much repetition of what has ceased to be, but in a friendly way...

"I think the chief value of this declaration is that it did bring a touch of healing in our relations.... Good always draws good from others, and a big action which shows generosity of spirit brings generosity from the other side..... Our ways henceforth will be friendly ways. Attempts will be made to understand each other, to be friends with each other, and to co-operate with each other: and the fact that we have begun this new type of association with a touch of healing will be good for us, and good for them, and, I think, good for the world." (The Statesman, May 17-18, 1949)

I have quoted this wonderful speech in order to impress upon your mind the thought that Christianity in India has not only won four million converts; it has captured the imagination of India's leaders. The moral teachings of Jesus are -- consciously or unconsciously -- the ideals the present government proposes to practice. And, once the moral supremacy of Jesus is admitted, the way is open to accept him as Savior, and to go on to the position of Christian theology.

BUT THERE ARE DIFFICULTIES

To implant the religion of Jesus in the heart of the common man is not easy. There are so many hindrances, so many disappointments. For instance, ten months ago the missionary noticed the unusual intelligence of three Indian children, Prem, age 11; Sosan, age 8; and Phul, 7 (a brother, a sister, and a brother). He said to their father, "The Christian mission offers your children, through the generosity of American Christians, a chance to go to school. We will feed them, clothe them, care for them, and educate them. We will give them a chance in life, and the Christian religion. All you do is agree to their entering our school and remaining until they graduate. You may see them any time except during class or meals, and they may go home to you on week ends and holidays." The Hindu said he would think it over.

Then he disappeared with his little ones. Ten months later the missionary visited a distant city, and saw the four on a street corner, begging. Prem was in rags; Sosan was covered with sores; and Phul was half sick. "Why did you not accept our invitation, and save your babes this misery?" he asked the father in sorrow. The man replied, "Without them, nobody would pay me any attention when I beg."

This story is also a parable. The gospel is the free gift of God unto salvation to whomsoever will accept it. Nobody can force us to accept it. If we refuse religion, how impoverished our lives!

IF THE MASSES ARE NOT CHRISTIAN

"There is one quality we have to acquire," said Mr. C. K. Krishna Monon, High Commissioner for India, "and that is the capacity for working together. When we acquire that we shall be able to take our place among the nations of the world with complete confidence." (The Statesman, May 17, 1949) It is my opinion that this "capacity for working together" will be lacking until Christianity permeates the masses.

LEONARD THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

A strong class of young Indians who have not refused but accepted Christ will begin ministerial studies on July first. Some of them would not be coming except for you to whom this letter is addressed. In the months ahead you will become acquainted with them.

The monsoons will begin about June fifteenth. Then I shall leave this mountain retreat to go down into that steamy land now spreading so far below me. Our seminary opens July 6th.

MAIL FROM AMERICA

Letters from the U.S.A. are most welcome to lonely missionaries. Sit down and write, why not? Use an ordinary strong envelope, and a five cent postage stamp. Enclose clippings, church bulletins, etc. Send us a letter.

Sending personal greetings to all.

Editors note - The Rev. Preslor was formerly at the Grand Ave., M.E. Church in Connersville, Indiana.

"The Lobster"

By RAY C. HIGGS

Upon the midnite dark -
I heard a sound as clear as a lark,
It was beckoning me to come,
And tell no one, but keep mum,
So quietly I arose,
And straight ahead I followed my nose.
Suddenly I came upon this monster,
In the appearance of a lobster.
He gathered me in his slimie arms,
And told me of my lovely charms.
Then I had to be awaken,
By the smell of fried bacon.
But remembrances of the event which occurred,
To you and me - all would be allured,
So I hope to return and debate,
The return of my dental plate;
Also my wig, artificial limb, and such -
Cause I need 'em - oh, soooo much!

(Sloppy writed by the author November 1948)

A T O M I C P O W E R ! !

This is the fourth year of the Atomic Age. Although first neutron-Uranium chain-reaction occurred in Chicago laboratories ten years ago, the Atomic Age was actually ushered-in with Hiroshima. Atomic power was first revealed as a destructive force, unparalleled and almost unbelievable.

Bikini tests and the dropping of two small bombs on the Japanese convinced us that war has become too horrible to contemplate, yet in our insanity we still accept and prepare for it, rather than turn our energies to preservation of peace.

Atom bombs changed the whole strategy of war. In the minds of thinking people nuclear force scrapped huge navies and mass armies overnight. Universal military training became a useless waste that only the misled and the professionals continue to advocate.

To-date the World has looked upon nuclear power solely as a destructive force, but the future holds promise as more and more, under the leadership of David Lilienthal, the Atomic Energy Commission turns to civilizing purposes.

We now have 30 atomic plants operating in 15 states, and the biggest single construction program in United States peace time history. We are producing reactors to breed atomic fuel, to generate electricity for ship and airplane propulsion, and for other peace time pursuits, as well as military weapons. Also a new source of energy has been found in the atomic pile that may allow application of energy without danger of radiation.

Utopian visions for the future open up as unheard of energy and power are discovered and controlled for medical research, nutrition, food production, space exploration, and other peace time pursuits. Government control is assured as we get our first view of the Atomic Age.

- Dean S. Bollman in CANDLEBEAMS

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HAVE A LAUGH

"Who's calling?" was the answer to the telephone.

"Watt."

"What is your name, please?"

"Watt's my name."

"That's what I asked you. What's your name?"

A long pause, and then, from Watt, "Is that James Brown?"

"No, this is Knott."

"Please tell me your name."

"Please tell me your name."

"Will Knott."

Whereupon they both hung up.

Editors Note - and henceforth do we!!