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O VIER-
SEAS
BUREAU

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Pacem Terris!
Peace on Earth, Best Wishes.





The NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION'S

OVERSEAS BUREAU.

BUREAU REPORT, 1969.

This is what hopefully will become something of a more or less regularly based production by Overseas Bureau reporting on the function of said bureau. This is #1, #3 OBM, June, 1969.

It is published by Michel Barnes, Overseas Bureau, 1716 Summerlane SE., Decatur, Alabama, 35601. U.S.A. It is free to everyone mentioned, fanzines reviewed, contributors, and the people listed at the beginning of the body. The reason why I've listed the people this is going out to is so that you will know who each other are, and because I would appreciate you commenting and SPREADING THE WORD regarding the N3F.

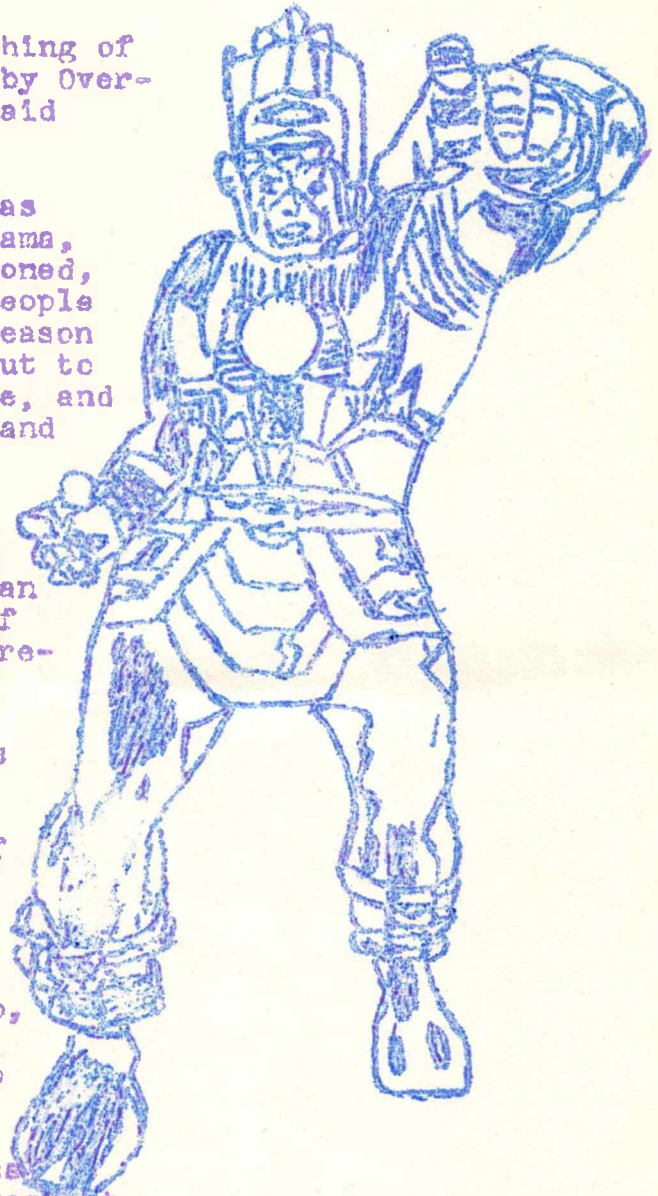
This is not going out to everyone in the world that I know of because: first, it is not general issue and interest; and it is an experiment. Inside you will find mention of several projects I've planned; I would appreciate your comment and advice on these.

I do have a favor to ask you, and that is simply that whenever possible, and if you want to, please PLUG, MENTION, REVIEW, OR SPEAK OF this zine, the Bureau, and N3F. If anything in here is worth reprinting - please do!

A Word On The Art: As most of you will notice, the artwork is not all original. No, I did not go swiping stuff out of other fanzines - I used what I consider to be the purveyor of some of the best artwork around (but natch) - comic books! So, art credits should go to Marvel Comics, DC Comics and stuff like that. As I'm not even the greatest mimic around, some of the artwork thusly stolen is lacking - and for that I apologise. Other artwork is furnished by Mike Blankenship (the 3 pixs from Edgar Rice Burroughs), and Darrel Schweitzer - the headless centuar.

With that I begin. Naturally, I wish to offer you my best wishes for a pleasant summer and a happy vacation. And I hope to hear from all of you soon. Until then.

Michel.



I write most of you in personal correspondence, but since this should be going out to people (clubs, etc) that have possibly never met or talked/written with me, I thought I might include a brief bio. But, while I've got your attention, an announcement:

LOOK FORWARD TO A CHANGE-OF-ADDRESS
from OVERSEAS BUREAU!

Yes indeed, I'm moving. This September, 1969. Please send all correspondence to my Decatur address until I notify you different - and, if somehow you send mail to the Decatur address even after September, don't worry, my family will still live here - indeed, all mail is being forwarded... To where? College. Ye Ed and aspiring poet is going off to the Big Place.

And where is this lucky place? New Mexico, Santa Fe.. A very beautiful college of the name St. John's. Naturally, I will have a P.O. Box but as yet I've not been told what it will be. CoA will be announced in TNEF and BSFA Bulletin, and hopefully in several other news zines. But, as I say, you can still write to my Decatur address, and eventually I'll get the letter and reply.

To myself... As most of you know, I'm 17 years old, having been born one rainy Sunday morning, March 9, 1952. And by the way, yes the name is MICHEL - the full nom is Michel René Louis Barnes... My mother is a native of France, Marseilles to be specific, and as such the blood lingers on..

I've been a member of NBF for only a year, and a fan (of sorts) since about the age of 11-12, though I never discovered fandom until I was 15. I guess I'm still in the Neo-stage; my fannish-ness takes on a strange color as it is.. If I knew what I was talking about I'd be sercon, and if I could ever relax I'd be fannish.

My favorite authors include Asimov, Clarke, Heinlein, Sturgen, R.E. Smith, Del Ray, Tolkien, I dig Robert Sheckley very very much - and I didn't like LORD OF LIGHT, but though DANGEROUS VISIONS was quite great. I don't read the proxines, but I dig the old pbks like DOC SAVAGE. I am an avid fan of ERB, specifically the Martian series. I like Fritz Leiber, Hal Clement, and -very much - Ray Bradbury (Martian Chronicles). I read some comics, irregularly, and am a great fan of the old Avengers and The Prisoner.

(telephone number is (205) 353-1945; after 6pm
please)

continued...



On something of a non-fennish vein, my favorite authors are: Aldous Huxley (whom I veritably adore), Franz Kafka, Dylan Thomas, and -- who else? - Tolstoy! William Golding, William Goldsman, ... T.S. Eliot, e e cummings, Emily Dickenson, Stephen Crane - all as poets tho. Ashley Montagu. My interests include poetry, philosophy, politics, psychology, writing, anthropology, military strategy, Diplomacy - and the game, too- publishing/editing, billiards, journalism, sociology, and the list goes on. I fancy myself an Existentialist, and have recently gotten myself into some political connections (being way over there on the very very Liberal side).

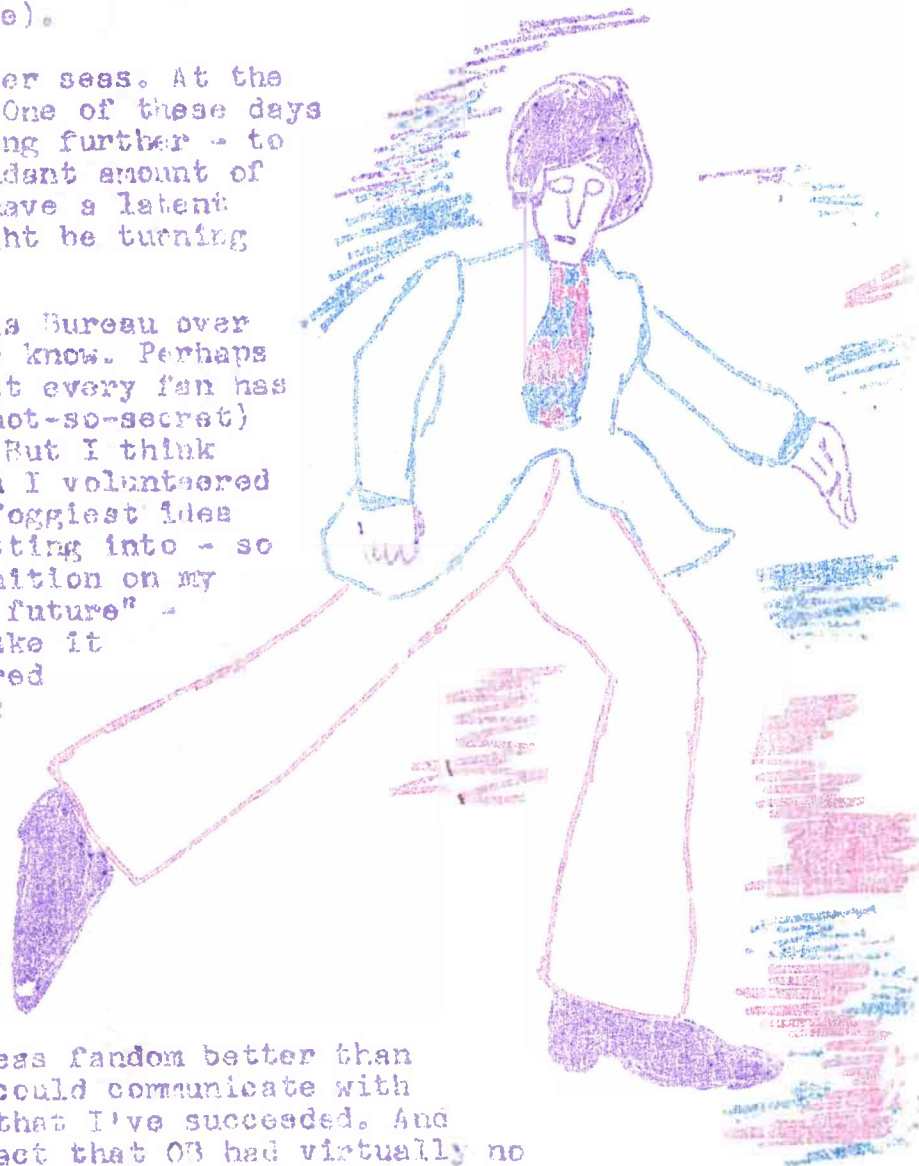
I spent over 3 years over seas. At the Azores Islands, specifacly. One of these days I'll be going back - and going further - to Europe. I have a rather abundant amount of relatives in France, and I have a latent French citizenship, so I might be turning up there eventually.

Why I ever took Overseas Bureau over I'm not quite sure I'll ever know. Perhaps it was that secret dream that every fan has of becoming the secret (or not-so-secret) master of fandom, BNF, etc. But I think not. When I joined, and when I volunteered for OB I really hadn't the foggiest idea as to exactly what I was getting into - so there could be little premonition on my part regarding my "glorious future" - so, you will just have to take it on my honor that I volunteered for these following reasons:

First, I wanted to work; and I have always had a sense of belonging with non-American people; due to my childhood and the super-abundance of foreign persons visiting I knew more of "foreigners" than most people, and I though that therefore I might be able to help overseas fandom better than most fan since I thought I could communicate with foreign fan better. I hope that I've succeeded. And then there was always the fact that OB had virtually no past for me to live up to, and I could pretty well do it the way I wanted to. And finally, it was there - sitting, waiting for me.

Another thing about me is that I fancy myself a writer and poet, and I therefore always have something or other around that I will offer as a contribution - so, if any fanzine editor needs a contribution I would be quite happy to help. And if anyone wants to correspond to discuss any of the topics I've mentioned, please do! I may be a bit late in replying tho. Ah well, I'd best end it here. I offer you my best wishes, and hope to hear from you soon - for your reaction and comment. Please remember, I'm here to help you. And I hope this thing proves to be both enjoyable and helpful. Peace, and good hunting!

Yours,



N3F
Overseas Bureau Report

This is being circulated to all elective posts of the N3F; the editors of TNFF and TIGHTBEAM, Janie Lamb; Information Bureau, Membership Activities Bureau, Publications Bureau, Publicity Bureau, Recruiting Bureau, Welcommittee Chairman (and possibly entire membership), Lending Library, Writers' Exchange; Fred Lerner, Anthony Lewis; Archie and Beryl Mercer, Jean Muggoch, Bryn Fortey; Ethel Lindsay, Michel Feron, Jacques Ferron, Jean-Paul Cronimus; Peter R. Weston, Thomas Schlueck, Dieter Steinseifer, Harold Fisher, Luis Vigil; Takumi Shibano, Mike O'Brien; Mauricio Kitaigorodski, Askold Ladonko; Jerry Lapidus, Joanne Burger, Albert Lopez; and all members of Overseas Bureau. Please forgive it being ditto.

I have been chairman of Overseas Bureau for almost a year now - having been accepted by Don Franson to the office in February of 1968. From Art Hayes and Don I received advice on how to handle the Bureau... I also received word that previously the bureau had been little or nothing, and that anything I might do would be a step in the right direction. From the overseas fen themselves I received the news that they had never heard of or from a chairman of OB, and most of them considered it to be a "projected" position. I asked for Overseas Bureau because I am part of fandom, and I am very interested in it - it means a great deal to me... Also, because of my family position I have a natural tendency towards Europe and "Overseas" countries. Finally, I enjoy writing. So I went into OB slightly (?) neo-ish, very eager, and wanting to work.

I soon found out that there is no effective liason between Domestic fandom and that abroad; it is all throw-together and sparotic. The best liason exist between the N3F and BSFA Ltd. - and no one need say how strained that it! Therefore I contacted all the Neffers (Overseas) I had listed on the roster and from there went on to non-Neffers fans. With their aid I was able to form some sort of a functional liason between American fandom and that abroad. There is still much to be done, particularly between fandom in France, Spain, Italy, and Sweden with the United States. BSFA (Jean Muggoch) has better contacts in these countries than I, and through her EUROPEAN LINK news from them is relayed to me, aside from personal letters.

The purpose of Overseas Bureau is to handle all the affairs (and troubles) that Overseas Neffers might have regarding their membership with the N3F. This is at best a vague deffinition, and I hope I have not usurped anyone's power in my extension of my duties; I have considered it proper and my function to attempt some contact with any fen possible - fen that ARE "Overseas", but are not necessarily Neffers. To serve Overseas Neffers it is necessary for OB to be cognisant of Overseas fandom as best as possible; this includes suscribing to fanzines, corresponding with all possible fans, and affilating in one way or another with all possible Overseas groups. Whether this is my official function or not is irrelevant; it is necessary! Therefore, the resourses of OB have been - more or less - available to almost all Overseas fen: I will do my best to help any fen that I can in any way possible if I can - I cannot, however, place the resourses of other bureaus at their disposial, such as the Lending Library, or such. However, since BSFA members are (by deffinition) members of the N3F they can make use of N3F functions, and therefore I can place the names of those that have indicated their wish in CorryBu-for they want correspondence, and as members have the right to this prekeledge.



Exactly HOW to OB should function has always been rather vague or tentative, and usually unique and independent. And I haven't change any of that (for the most part); Overseas Bureau offers a system of services that are princably organized to be of aid:when the need arises instead of just being there, taking up time and energy. And, in the same philosophy, the people who have volunteered to work in OB are for the most part on their own - though I outline projects and efforts and maintain communication. In many cases OB is a one-man bureau, yet in many others it is a group effort - in fact, very much of a group effort.

CATHERINE CRONIN: 108 Laurel Ave., Binghamton, New York, 13905, USA.; takes care of the OB fanzine distribution to Overseas fen - any Neffers (or otherwise) who might be interested in receiving American fanzines should direct their inquiries towards Catherine who will post zines (of the fan's choice) to him at a predeccribed rate (listed on the fanzine form). Catherine also sends fanzines en masse to Overseas fen who have offered to distributed them among the fans of their country. Naturally, there is no cost for this.

ED and DAVE REED: 668 Westover Road, Stamford, Conn., 06902, USA.; in general maintain correspondence with several Overseas fen, spearhead the attempt to contact Russian fandom, and will assist in publicizing the N3F. Also, Ed will (eventually) publish a bi-lingual (French-English) fanzine, and does translating of French and English. ((He also publishes - non OB - L'ANGE JACQUES and IT AIN'T ME BABE))

MIKE ZAHARAKIS: 525 23 St. NW., Minot, North Dakota, 58701, USA.; Being Publicity Bureau Chairman (and a Director of N3F) Mike does publicity for N3F and this will include (to a more complete extent) Overseas fandom, particularly Australia and (soon) France. Also, Mike is going to supervise the re-organization of Inter-APA (International APA) along with other fen (of his choice). ((He publishes MANTICORE, RAKI, and INSOMNIAC, along with being a member of TAPS

Mike Horvat: P.O. Box 286, Tangent, Oregon, 97389, USA.; is helping to compile the International Fandom booklet we've been working on, and is also forming a Ham radio circuit - internationally if possible. Furthur, he corresponds with several Overseas fen. ((He publishes CRABAPPLE GAZETTE))

Leo (Leonid) Doroschenko: 410 Springfield Avenue, Newark, New Jersey, 07103, USA.; takes care of all Russian translation. He will soon be publishing an all Russian fanzine, and now cooperates with Ed Reed on attempting Russian fandom communication.

And finally, is

Mike O'Brien: 158 Liverpool St., Hobart, Tasmania, 7000-; who because of the large and complex situation in Australia is both OB's and Publicity Bureau's representative there in an attempt to situation N3F on the continent, and to establish contact between the U.S. and Australia.

*** *** *** *** *** ***

The situation of OB and its purpose calls for a listing and explanation of what exactly we have to offer... our projects and our endeavors.

First of all is the FANZINE SERVICE (Catherine Cronin) which provides for Overseas fan American fanzines of any sort which are rather hard to locate for many European and Asian fan (not to mention everyone else). There are two processes: 1) the fan asks for particular fanzines (or just fanzines) and (preferably) fills out a form - the cost of postage is split half-and-half, with OB and the fan paying. 2) One fan will volunteer to distribute a group of fanzines to various interested fan in his native country. The zines are mailed (at our cost) to the fan, and he takes it from there.

It is our hope that some sort of international exchange of fanzines could take place on some sort of regular basis - Inter APA is being revived for this purpose, but should any faned abroad wish to send over a number of his zines for us to distribute to interested persons WHO WILL REACT we will do so with great pleasure.

LENDING LIBRARY EXTENSION (Michel Barnes): Acting in cooperation with Eliner Polard, OB will extend the availability of hard-to-get books to Overseas fan; simply by asking (and, on occasion, paying a small sum) the stock of books that the Library maintains becomes available for Overseas fan. This is hoped to be of some assistance to Overseas fans who find it hard to purchase new books quickly because of publication problems in their native countries.

Naturally, OB will obtain for any fan any book, fanzine, material, information, contact, etc. that anyone might request. All that need be done is to ask, and we shall do our best to comply.

BSFA CORRESPONDENCE: Several British SF Association members are interested in corresponding with American fan; since BSFA members are at the same time Hef-Fers, their names and interests will be published in THFF (under either/both OB and CorryBu), in any OB Memos, and any fanzine that might wish to help. Naturally, any Overseas fan that might want American fan correspondence and can not find any for himself can contact us, and we will find someone interested and suited to correspond.

FRENCH LANGUAGE DESCRIPTIONS and INTRODUCTION TO THE N3F: Available soon will be short booklets describing the N3F written in French (as, next to English, this a quite international language). According to the response and demand, further French publications will include INTRODUCTIONS TO FANDOM, FANZINES, a fanzine of INTERNATIONAL FANDOM, and perhaps a fancyclopedia. Anyone interested-to contribute, or to receive/distribute these, or merely with suggestions please write Michel Barnes or Ed Reed.

AWB: Amateur Writers Enterprises will be extended to Overseas fanish liason and will translate manuscripts, and publish fiction from various countries, plus making available "foreign" (ie. NEW) material.

And further, OB will translate any material in FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH, and RUSSIAN

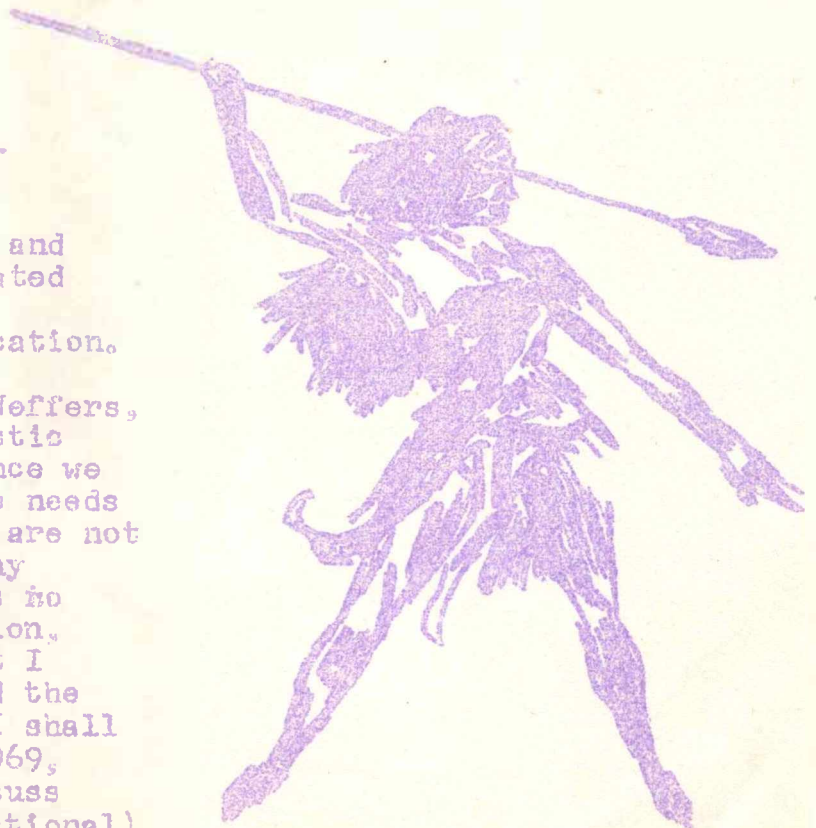
INTERNATIONAL FANDOMS booklet: Now being prepared is a booklet on the fandoms of various countries around the world, written by the fen of the specific countries. Each country is far from being represented, so we could use articles (any length, any style) on the condition and general type of fandom in your country.

INTERNATIONAL HAM RADIO: Many fen are also short wave radio enthusiasts, and enjoy talking with other fen via radio. Therefore, Mike Horvat is organizing a INTERNATIONAL assimelation of sf-and-radio enthusiasts. If you are interested please contact Mike.

NEWS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND NEW MEMBERS: Whenever possible, OB will serve as a medium for news release; someday FANAGRAM will be published, but not until an adequate amount of news can be gathered together. Therefore, we are requesting that any fen who has any sort of news regarding the fandom in thãer country to please contact either Michel Barnes or Mike Zaharakis. If nothing else, it will be published in TNFF, TIGHTBEAM, OBM, and probably many other zines... And naturally correspondence is quite available; any or all of us would be quite happy to correspond on any basis requested with any Overseas fan... And finally, OB would like to see NEW MEMBERS in the N3F from abroad. Not because we wish to tax the N3F funds but because it will be good for the fans, N3F, and fandom all around the world. American fandom is not perfect, and N3F gives every fan a good place to reach many other fans. Besides, it is the largest (best organised??) fandom in the U.S. - and the U.S. still produces a large amount (the majority???) - again) of sf material. It is a friendly, informative place with lots of room to grow.

Finally, Overseas Bureau will try to act as mediator or liason between the interests of American fandom and that of Overseas fans. A small example of this is our offer to air mail TNFF and TIGHTBEAM to any Overseas member who felt that they would not be able to "keep in touch" or participate in N3F considering the mailing lag. In any other case possible, the Overseas Bureau will also make sure that the rights and abilities that are generally associated with being a member of N3F are not slighted because of geographical location.

It is our purpose to help Overseas Neffers, and to maintain liason between Domestic fandom and the sf fandom abroad. Since we are naturally rather ignorant of the needs of Overseas fen (since we ourselves are not Overseas fen) we would appreciate any suggestions, comments, and advice as to what activity, project, representation, etc. et al. It is our (my) hope that I Michel Barnes will be able to attend the German Con in 1970, but if I can't I shall be in Europe during the summer of 1969, and would be more than happy to discuss the affairs of European (and International) fandom then. Write if interested. Please.



SOME CONVICIENT BUREAU REFERENCES

The three most important addresses are those of your:(the N3F) president. For the year 69-70, that is: Stan Woolston, 12832 Westlake St., Garden Grove, California, 92640. Next is Janie's address, where you send the dough. And that's Janie Lamb, Rt. 1, Box 364, Heiskell, Tenn. 37754. And the next important is the Directorate (chairman), and for 69-70 that's Elaine Wojciechowski, 4755 N. Keystone Ave., Chicago, Illinois, 60630. Write Elaine for any particular comment or suggestion that you feel should be initiated before the Directorate (as well as Stan and Janie).

The editor for TNFF is: Wally Weber, Box 267, 507 Third Ave., Seattle, Washington, 98104. And for Tightbeam it's Gary Labowitz, 1100 Betzwood Dr., Norristown, Pa., 19401. To Wally you submit any sort of material that goes into TNFF, or merely make comments. Gary naturally gets your LETTERS! Also, very important, is ELECTION TELLER, Harry Warner, Jr. 423 Summit Ave., Hagerstown, Maryland, 21740... To cast your ballot and take part in elections your vote must be mailed to him. And I ask you please, do vote. Overseas participation in the last election was not overwhelming.

For all the collector's, write C.W. Brooks, Jr., 713 Paul St., Newport News, Va., 23605. He publishes a fanzine or o.c. devoted to all sorts of collecting, which contains ads, information, news and articles on authors, sf-dom, and various phases of collecting.



Complaints should be made to me - that's why I'm here. Whenever something goes wrong, or you feel that you are being slighted, write me, and I will forward it on to the proper people, plus attempt to end the problem. However, if you have something of a general nature, or if you feel that the problem is important enough to deserve more attention, then write: Bob Vardeman, P.O. Box 11352, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87112. He will forward your complaint to the president and the Directorate.

If you wish to correspond with persons in the N3F then the club is set up to publisize your wish: Sherry Hale, 6109 Sandy Lane, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72204, is head of CurryBu, and will submit your name and the information you give her about yourself for publication in TNFF. I suggest that you also let me know, and it will be pubbed in OBM, etc.

If you are trying to start a fanclub, please report it to me, so a listing can be made. And you might get some suggestions from Fred Lerner, 98-B The Boulevard, E. Paterson, New Jersey, 07407, head of Fanclubs Advisor.

For activities like Chess, wargames, and such, write Don Miller, 12315 Judson Road, Wheaton, Maryland, 20906. He will put you in touch with other people who share an interest in these activities. And, if you are interested in some particular hobby of yours, perhaps stamps, astronomy, photography, etc. then write Michael Young, 1416 Polk, Corinth, Mississippi, 39934. This is a new bureau, and was opened to better aid Neffers.

Information Bureau is handy, and the address is Don Dranson, 6543 Babcock Ave., N. Hollywood, California, 91606. News should be sent to (me) (and) Neffer News Bureau, Mike Zaharakis, 1326 S.E. 14th, Portland, Oregon, 97214. Mike also has Publicity Bureau, and can give you advice on publicizing your club.

If you are interested in fanzines, there's New fanzine Appreciation Society, Paul Crawford, 505 N. West St., Visalia, Calif., 93277; by joining the NFAS you promise to respond to any fanzines you receive. Look for the listings in TNFF for fen who are interested in receiving fanzines. Publications, aid and assistance, might be had from Wally Genser, 10257 Fifth Ave., S.W., Seattle, Washington, 98146. And The Neffer Amateur Press Alliance (and Welcomittee) is: Art Hayes, Box 1080, South Porcupine, Ontario, Canada. This if you wish to join the N3F apa.

For writing, there's Alma Hill's Writer's Exchange, 463 Park Dr., Apt. #11, Boston, Mass. 02215. And the N3F Short Story Contest: Leo P. Kelley, 100 E. 85th St., New York, New York, 10028. Dead-line is November.

The rest of the bureaus, Manuscript, Tape, Recruiting, etc. I won't go into, aside from the fact that they are rather nice to have, but the occasion to use them from Overseas doesn't often arise - due to postage, what all. Oh, there's NFFF (TNFF) Trader, ads in TNFF: K.M. Carlson, 1028 Third Ave., S., Moorhead, Minn., 56560. Ads are free.

Let me state that please, if at all possible, write ME or other OB-members first regarding your situation... I have much less to do, and fewer pressing urgencies than any of these good bureau heads. And I am here to help you.

For the benefit of both Overseas fen and domestic, I will list for you the extent of Overseas Bureau's contacts with various nations. They will be modified by: Correspondence, meaning that OB and someone in that country corresponds, and that we are in a position to help you. EXCHANGE, means a regular exchange of fanzines, etc. et al takes place... And CLUBS means that we are contact with some officer of the national club(s). ID means that we are in indirect contact - through another club, or newszine. All countries not listed have no formal contact with the Overseas Bureau, although we do have plans for establishing correspondence - such as with Norway, Russia, and perhaps other nations.



EUROPE.

Belgium. Correspondence.

England. Correspondence, Exchange, and Clubs. Overseas Bureau maintains several extensive correspondents with BSFA, including the Secretary, and the heads of several bureaus. Since the N3F and BSFA are almost one and the same, ties between the two clubs are quite extensive.

France. Due to the nature of French fandom extensive correspondence is almost impossible; however, OB maintains correspondence and has a infrequent exchange of fanzines and newszines.

Germany. Correspondence, and club contact. For anyone that is interested, Overseas Bur. maintains a listing of some German newszines. Also, we are in contact with three of the officers of SFCD, the sf club of Germany.

Italy. Only indirect news; we have written, but have received no response. The same with IRELAND.

Spain. Irregular exchange, and addresses. Spain writes very rarely, but we have made contacts, and we can put you in touch with fan and clubs there.

Sweden. Correspondence, and exchange. We are in correspondence with a member of the single Tolkien club in Sweden, and receive fanzines and newszines regularly.

Thus far we have no direct contact with any of the Iron Curtain nations, due to political pressures from both sides. The reception of, and the writing to, a person from/to a nationally-accepted hostile country could cause unfortunate circumstances. Until we are further informed, there can be no correspondence carried on.

PACIFIC OCEAN - ASIA-AUSTRALIA.

Australia. The N3F and OB maintain excellent relations with fan there; OB is on a correspondence and club basis with fan there.

Japan. Regular exchange of fanzines, and correspondence.

SOUTH AMERICA, and AFRICA.

Argentina. Correspondence.

Ecuador. As far as our correspondents go, there are no more fanzines or letters in the country.

Venezuela. Correspondence.

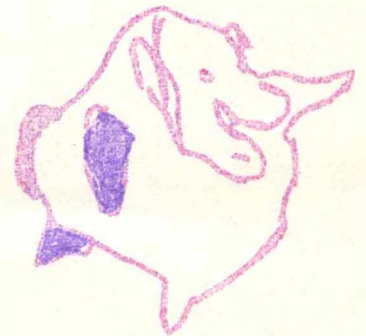
AFRICA.

South Africa. Excellent correspondence, and soon, on a club basis. Overseas Bureau is helping to start a club in Pretoria, and soon possibly a fanzine will come out of the country.

**** * * * * *

FANZINES

an overseas
fanzine review
column - of sorts.



The zines listed and reviewed below are in no particular order, aside from being grouped in with other zines of their nation. I have progressed in no order whatsoever, save random circumstance.

DIONYSOS (Sweden). Rudy der Hagopian, Tredje Långgatan 45, 413 03 Göteborg, Sweden. Newszine. Sub.: (Overseas) 10/\$1.00 mailed via sea mail; 10/\$2.00 mailed via air mail. Available for news, arts, letters, or trade. Ditto.

This is a very enjoyable newszine - despite the fact that it is written in Swedish (I think). It is neat and attractive, and gives all the appearances of being thorough. The nine pages of number 6 are illustrated with some excellent drawings, and the news spread out before me appears to be dealing with all forms and sorts of fannish news and activities. Rudy himself is a fan of horror movies and the comics, and as such the cover is a picture of Frankenstein's Monster, with the caption: The Master is dead! Meaning, the death of Boris Karloff.



The zine contains news on such items as BARBARELLA, Tolkien Society of Gothenborg, the club Cosmos Film Inc., and something regarding Arthur C. Clarke's Expedition to Earth, not to mention the Star Trek books, 1 and 2. Various books

such as Code Three, Dolphin Boy, and Daughters of the Dolphin that are being published in Sweden are commented upon. There's short news of Swedish tv programs of sf interest, and a listing of Nebula Award

nominations. Plus, Harlan Ellison's short story, THE BEAST THAT SHOUTED LOVE AT THE HEART OF THE WORLD.

Further, there are several comments upon comic fandom, and the pro-zines. According to Rudy, SPIDERMAN, and other Marvel comics are available in Swedish - with some interesting results. However, Rudy's greatest interest in comics is the French-Belgium zines. Unlike American comics, French zines seem to be more like magazines, though I've seen only a few of them myself, and may be mistaken. They not only have several installments of story regarding the main character (a jet pilot by the name of MICHEL, and Mickey Mouse, etc.) but contain also various side stories, articles, and silent amusements. All, for roughly the same price.

Back to DIONYSOS; it is truly an excellent newszine, and well worth receiving.. even if one cannot read Swedish. The frequent mention of English titles suffices to convince the reader that lo and behold, the editor is talking about the same thing as the native does - but in his own language. Promotes common bounds.

EUROPEAN LINK (England) Jean G. Muggoch, 15 Balcombe House, Taunton Place, London, N.W. 1. England. Newszine. Sub: 1/6d. Mimeo.

This is also a very enjoyable newszine, though it takes on a different nature than DIONYSOS. LINK is a massing of news from all over Europe into brief note-style sections. The news is always thorough, complete, and interesting.

LINK is the organ, I assume, of BSFA's counterpart of the N3F's Overseas Bureau; and Jean is my opposite number. And her contacts are excellent... Her newszine is the only, or at least one of the few, place where one can get news of Italian fandom, and has some sort of regular report on Iron Countries (Romania, Czechoslovakia, etc.).

For now, Jean is serving on the Committee for the EasterCon, (or rather, was), and is working towards Helcon, which keeps her rather busy I know. But LINK is still the best European newszine, and no knowledge of Non-domestic fandom could be complete without a sub. What can I say? Get it!

*

SPECULATION, Peter R. Weston, 81 Trescott Road, Northfield, Birmingham, 31, UK. 35¢ @; 3 for \$1.00, no checks please.) Will trade. Mimeo.

A thoroughly fantastic genzine. SPEC. is the best fnz devoted to the serious discussion of sf that I've seen to come out of Europe. It is tight, with very interesting articles, good repro, and interesting art. If it hasn't ever been nominated for the Hugo, then it should be! And soon!

I have found foreign fanzines to be quite different from American, and well I should. I think that to some American fan English and other country's zines will be displeasing, or at least



unappealing... There is a different sort of approach to the entire affair of being a Fan, and to even sf. There is more personality in Non-American fanz, and the editor doesn't worry so much about making trivial mistakes, or at least doesn't let this worry stop him from doing whatever he wants. European zines are more apt than American to contain just a few pieces by some of the editor's friends and the rest just the editor talking - about his family, life, sf, fantasy, children, and a cozy little bookstore on some little street - and the deals there. And there's a greater mish-mash of material - not necessarily related to sf but still high on the author's interest. And further, the zine looks like and reads like it was put out by friends in the midst of some charming afternoon. I like European fanzines, they show more of the editor as a person, instead of as a live-for-truly fan, who breathes conflu but has never tasted the air on a beach, and even if he had he'd have thought it un-fannish and crawled back into his dingy room, and go do something Good and Fun - like smear his hands with printing ink.

But SPECULATION, despite its size and overwhelming sense of BIGNESS is still (what shall I say?) homey. It is easy on the nerves, a blessing to the ego, and wonderfully enriching to the mind. It tells you things, and entertains you in the manner that is strikingly English; in a charming manner, but still frankly. Unlike Domestic zines who seem to find it necessary to crack a whip and release the lions as a means of holding your pleasure and attention.

But I do warn you: SPECULATION is sercon, and for those of you that don't like sercon - American, French, British, or Lower Burma - best stay away. It will rock you.. (P.S. The Letter column is quite good too).

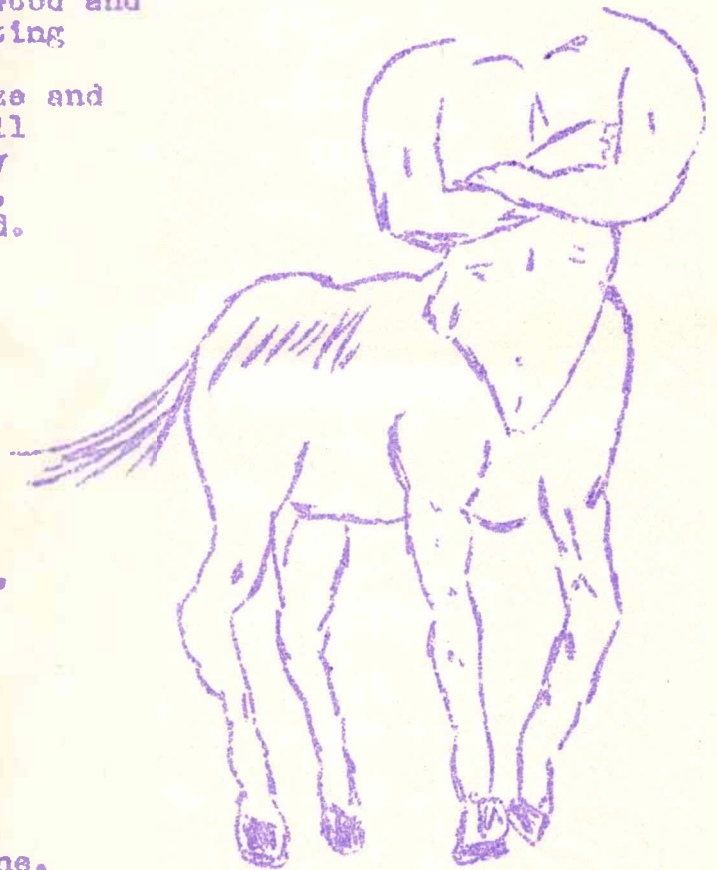
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RELATIVITY, and RELATIVELY SPEAKING, Bryn Portey, 90, Caerleon Road, Newport, Mon. NPT. 7BY. (Eng.) Fimeo, genzine (first one is; and) Letterzine. Trade, LoC, or Contribution.

While I'm muttering on about the calmness of English zines I might as well bring in this (these) and other zines.... I will take them point at a time..

R and RS are companion zines; the LoCs to R are published in RS. The exact point of this I'm not sure, but it is done well enough so that there is no pain. In R (#2) there contains articles, shorts, and poems; and RS (no number) (though of the same month, April) contains letters on the firstish.

The articles in R/#2 are on such subjects as speculation (as to What Will Happen To Man), the Increasing Popularity of Sf, and a thing called



Broadside, which is Soc to end Soc. But it is good, as the rest of the material. No one will ever win a Pulitzer for it, but no one should ever be ashamed of it...It will please the eyes and soul of its readers.

I have only one complaint about English fanzines (and this one is carried over to other zines) and that is the quality of repro (I should talk.) The quality of mimeo seems to imply that either English typers or English mimeo supplies are somewhat lacking in quality. There is a great tendency to have letters blurred or what ever. Some things are hard to read, and art doesn't come out clear. Perhaps the stencils are of some different substance than ours, or all they've got are whiteones, which are impossible for art! In any case, the quality of repro is apt to be lacking - though the quality of material is not. If you can put out a bit of effort to read the material (wading through the blurr) then you will find yourself delighted by the material itself. Folks are nice, and human (which, you suspect, some American fen are not.) (as if they wanted to be).

**

SEAGULL, Rosemary Nicholls, 32 Coniston Ave., Headington, Oxford, OX3 OAN. (Eng.) Trade, contrib., LoC, and being a friend. Mimeo.

A firstish I have before me - though the second ish will no doubt be out by the time THIS THING gets out (or maybe the third and fourth ish). And considering everything, it is a nice little firstish.

As I rattle on and on, and read the British zines I notice something about them (particularly in firstish and second ones); they are not intended to be as the same thing/idea as American firstishes. Firstishes are graded rather harshly - no, your life doesn't hang in balance, but it is hard to live down a bad first ish. And as such, most young fen decide to play it safe for a few issues: no "Why don't we--", as much art as possible, good ole sf, one or two fiction pieces, a poem, and some sort of article or two on an author in vogue. Then there might be one little thing stuck in by the editor to make it "individual" - like a "Organize a Lemming March to the Sea" campaign, or an article on On Being A Little Brother - or, The Beauty of the Sea-Flower (and is there one?).. This continues for numerous zines - with as many Con reports as can be scrounged up, and the ed. madly writing to Big Names so that somewhere he can drop them... No, don't smirk, I know fen like this personally. But British zines - ah, well, that's a different color on the horse, indeed.

SEAGULL is nice; the title tells you that. Anyone who names a sf zine SEAGULL can't be all bad - even if she tried. And to fill up space with mere chatter about friends (no, not various and sundry fen-hosts, but fen friends) and use their nick-names, now that takes nerve. Over here, someone might reply with a smirk and drop the zine: neo. But neos are nice, I think...

In the mag there is - to give you a wee bit of a taste - an article on Naarnia, or the books.. And it is nice: personal, kind, sweet. I liked it. And poetry.. Naikus. And one by Mary Reed - which, sorry, I did not like. It failed to grap me - it left me flat, and it was only words on paper. BUT, aside from that (Mary Reed, I must say, has had some damn good stuff elsewhere. This particular poem just didn't turn me on. You may like it) the material is good.... An article on Robin Hood? in a fanzine! Yes, but it is good - well-written, informing, and not out of place. Why I don't know, but it just isn't out of place.. As with any other zine on the Island, if it's Your Zine, and You Like Something, then put it in!

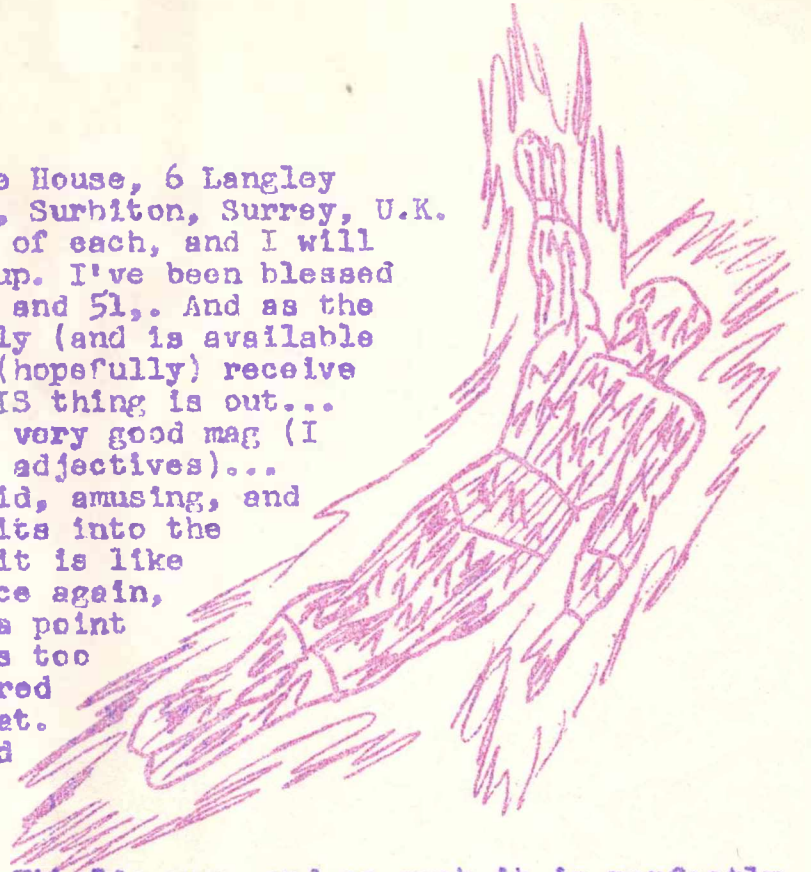
Do sub to SEAGULL, or contribute. She has excellent taste in music, and can use some help and practice.

SCOTTISHE, Ethel Lindsay, Courage House, 6 Langley Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey, U.K. & HAVERINGS.

I have several copies of each, and I will comment on them as group. I've been blessed with S numbers 49, 50, and 51. And as the zine comes out quarterly (and is available for 4/\$1.00) I should (hopefully) receive another by the time THIS thing is out...

In any case, SCOTTISHE is a very good mag (I appear to be running out of adjectives)... Interesting, well-done, solid, amusing, and fit for all. I suppose it fits into the genzine bracket, but if so it is like few (American) genzines. Once again, and I do seem to be making a point of this don't I, the zine is too personal to be just considered a genzine, and let go at that.

In all issues the art is provided by ATOM, and therefore one can always count on superb art: we are never dissappointed. The material is drawn specifically for Ethel's mag, and as such it is perfectly matched.



And the written material is just as inter-woven and representative of Ethel as the art: For the most part, all interior contents consist of Natterings - Ethel on things in general; Nibblings, Ethel on books (a damn good mention of BUG JACK BARRON in #50), and letters. Yes, interesting letter... And as such - the zine goes on.

To be exclusive and yet still entertaining is a talent to be envied - few faneds risk it, and few should. But in Ethel's case it is a magic, and that she is talented and pleasing to read ("listen to") is only apparent. Her zine carries with it such grace, charm, not to mention down-right interesting things that all effort should be made to obtain it.. Do take notice..

And don't forget HAVERINGS, which is Ethel's fanzine review zine, and occasional newzine. Once again she does a thoroughly splendid job in her comments on zines and faneds. The pool of zines is international, and supplies good reading.

But I'm running out of adjectives... Write Ethel.

WADEZINES (1 + 2). Audrey Walton, Mrs. 25, Yewdale Crescent, Coventry CV2 2PF, WARKS, (Eng). Available for contrib., LoC, money (I guess), or inquiry. Mimeo...

This review will be even more prejudiced than all my others. Mrs. Walton has contributed to my zine very generously, and we maintain a wonderful conversation by mail. I like Mrs. Walton, and I couldn't ever say a bad thing about her zine.. (nor any other zine I review; I can't help it.. I'm friendly - and soft-hearted. I have 4 cats). It is a good zine.. It is personal, reflective, and - very important - interesting. Audrey approaches sf and related matter from a literary point of view. The first ish had material on, The Theature 2068, an "SF Discussion", and "Thoughts on Stoneleigh in Arden".. Finishing with, THE LAST WORD, a fantasy-satire. And from the beginning to end, we are given Audrey's comments on various subjects, and we are entertained and pleased.

The zine is some sort of a family project - or appears to be. Art is abundant, and it is good - though, sadly, repro isn't.. This problem clears up some in number two, but it would go well if electrostencils might be

employed. Issue number two is much better, it is easily read as (as Audrey says herself: "I have now tamed my typewriter tension, subdued my stencils and daunted my duplicator") the repro is much better. The art does not come out as well as one might hope, but it does come out - which is better than some of #1.. The contents include Letters, an article on Los Angeles (and thereabouts), and an excellent treatise by Audrey on censorship (well worth the entire issue.) Finally, there is a cartoon or comic strip entitled WAYLAND the Smith, which is drawn and written by Mrs. Walton. It is quite good though slow in starting.

Perhaps influenced by her own particular interest and writing style WADEZINE as produced by Mrs. Walton leans towards children's fantasy, in content and in art... And as such it cannot be described as a magazine. Mrs. Walton herself describes its motives as promotion of serious discussion of such subjects as Sf, Fantasy, Literature, Poetry, History, Drama and Art. The only poem in #2 is by me ("It was great,") and as such the only comment I can make on it is that I'm proud that she saw fit to print it.

WADEZINE is an interesting experience. It will not appeal to a wide sort of people, and doubtless it will appeal most especially to people GREATLY interested in the subjects enumerated by Mrs. Walton, and will only truly come over in its full light to those people who correspond with Mrs. Walton, or know her. On this condition, for WADEZINE is, if Mrs. Walton will allow me to say so, a personal zine in that it will not reach all of fandom. If I've delivered something to you in this review, and if you can understand the full impact of my stranded sentences and adjective phrases, please write Audrey for a copy.

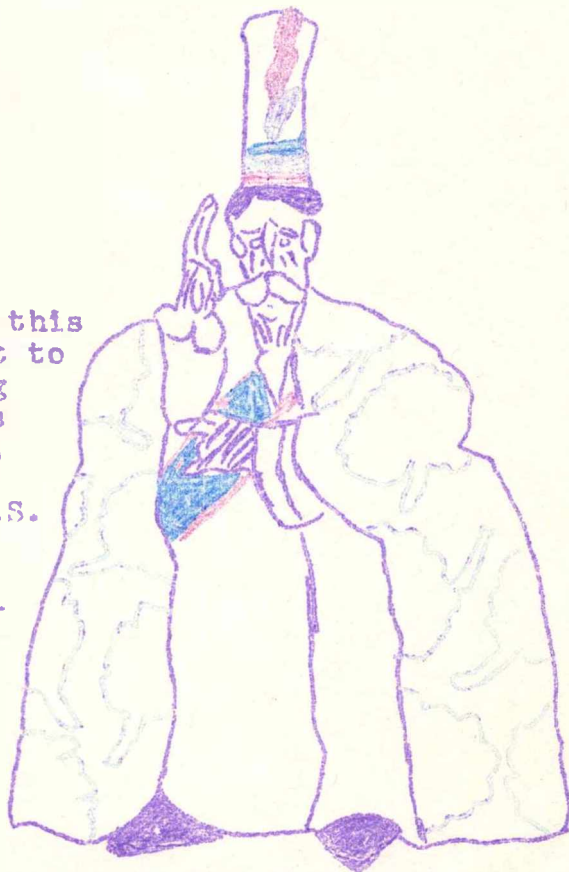
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MOON-SHOT ONE-SHOT, by Mrs. Beryl Mercer,
10 Lower Church Lane,
St. Michael's, BRISTOL
BS2 8BA, (Eng). Limited
edition, one-shot, no longer available I
guess. Himeo..

This one-shot is again an example of wonderful feeling - deep sensing. The zine is dedicated to the Apollo 8 crew who -- aside from delivering a miracle to the world -- circled the moon.

Beryl maintains, and rightly so, that this is a moment so fantastic that someone ought to give thanks. So the entire zine is a living and existing, tangible expression of thanks to the American people for Getting There...

I was surprised to learn that of 100 copies ran off, 90 went to people in the U.S. I thought Americans were a bit too stuffy for that. I don't remember reading any particular comment in an American zine paying any heed to the Trip. There was some talk about Was It Worth It? And: Big Deal, Wake Me Up When We Get To Mars.. but that was it - sadly. As Beryl says, perhaps it takes someone from another country to realize the full impact of this achievement.. Getting very personal, I was once told, in a letter from a friend





In France that the Gemini launch was something he was overwhelmed with, and he went on to say that surely I must be supremely proud. I was, but not in an emotional sense - as he obviously was.. Which I didn't understand. But thinking upon it I came to the conclusion that I was too busy thinking about running to be amazed at walking. This was it.

And as such I think that perhaps many people should take an opportunity to sit and think. Mrs. Mercer did it, and what she had to say afterwards was beautiful. I'm glad I've got a copy, and suggest that on the day Someone gets a Man on the moon, we listen to her, and to the people who are rightfully awed and heart-struck. As I said before - in a vague passing on SEAGULLS too many

fen seem to be profoundly embedded in a world of singular things such as corflu, ink, reams, mimeo machines, egoboc, and getting a plug. I don't like it, I don't think it is right: I don't think it is fannish. Most of us maintain that Sf is not an escape device.. Neither should sf fandom. To those that it is, I strongly suggest another medium: herien, dope, booze, STP, and other such nicities.. For that is all you are if you stuff sf up your eyelids for the purpose of hiding. You are belittling every decent sf author who has lived. And you are making it hell for the rest of us. None of us need another coward. We've got enough with our own gigs, remember that.

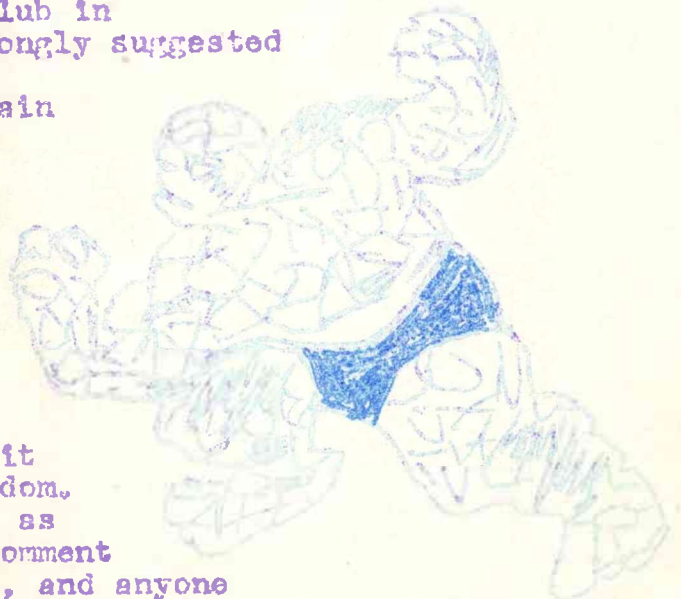
The one-shot was a poem and a prayer - the former was a grand success.. As to the latter, we shall have to wait and see.

B.S.F.A Bulletin; BSFA, 10 Lower Church Lane, St. Michael's, Bristol, VECTOR BS2 8BA, (Eng).

These are the official organ of the British Science Fiction Association, Limited. The first is produced from the office of the Secretary, the latter from the editor - who merely speaks for the membership. BSFA is the largest sf club in Europe, and all European fen are strongly suggested to join. The merits are obvious. Besides, this also brings forth certain priveledges of N3F membership as BSFA and N3F are closely aligned. (see previous comments).

The Bulletin is a frequent publication of club business and sf announcement; it goes out to all BSFA members. It is quite handy as it has some very good news on the scene there.

VECTOR is the official organ, and contains all sorts of things in it that might apply to the club and sf-dom. The zine is really very interesting, as it contains articles, Letters, and comment from pros, semi-pros, the membership, and anyone who feels like taking a shot. It provides very interesting lit and gives a good picture and representation of fandom in England.



FRANCE - from the "C.L.A." - Jacques Ferron.

1. L'ARTEFACT,
2. SOL (III)
3. L'ENGORVI
4. Sunsay Or: The 13th Month

I will treat these four fanzines as a group for the simple fact of my bewilderment, and for the not-so-simple fact of their own particular self-grouping. They are all published by the C.L.A., a literary group which, it seems is headed up by a M. Jacques Ferron of Paris - specifically, Longjumeau. It is a "federation" (?) of authors in various countries, Spain and France (naturally) being two that I am certain of. As my French translating is rather tattered I will not dare any further guessing...

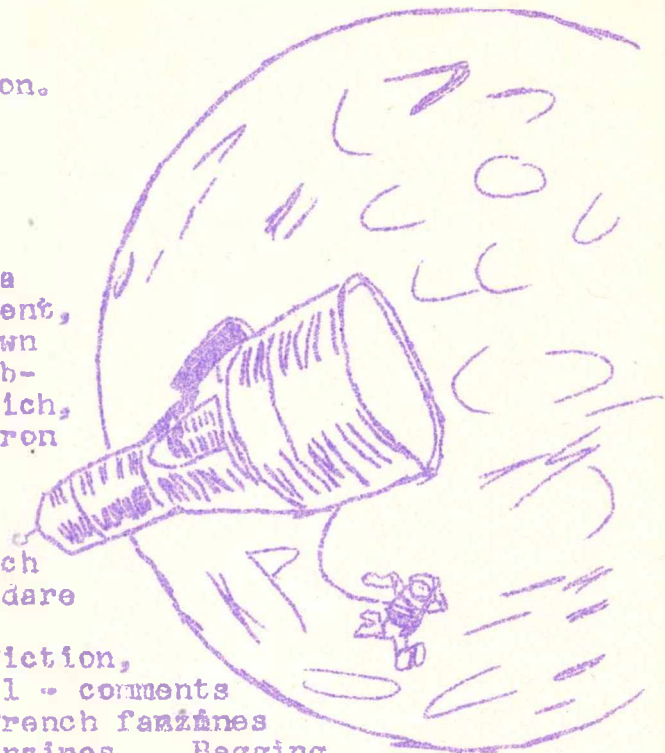
L'ARTEFACT appears to be a zine of fiction, with the traditional - no, anti-traditional - comments of the editor. Perhaps I should explain: French fanzines appear to be unlike any other country's fanzines... Begging pardon for my preference towards French items, they appear to be virtually a devil of wit, and to be reconed with only with the use of asbestos gloves. Throughout the four zines there is a never-failing abundance of wit and outlook perpetrated upon the reader, and in the words of my dear French mother; Once, Children Were Never Allowed To Read These Things!

SUNSAY (or: The 13th Month) appears to be the most biting and subtle. The last part of the title is explained on the opening page with some sort of comment regarding the old practice of having a 13th month - a month that did not actually exist, but was "paid for." In any case, there proceeds some most interesting items, one of which struck me most particularly. Under a column regarding various "Saints" (for the French are truly are religious people...) there is listed St. COPYRIGHT. It goes on: a martyr in the U.S. Due to his talent, he was condemned after being accused of plagerism, and was punished by castration. And this is the reason why we all say (in reference) "Reproduction forbidden." In the original French this is beautiful! And I did truly love it...

Further, there goes on with an article about the effect of various zodiac signs on people.. 3 in particular. And the author uses fandom as a sample (example) group for his discourse. For those who don't know French very well - past fluency - this reading is not advised. The French employed is the literary French of authors etc. and the slight-of-hand method employed in the writing is a very delicate thing indeed to grasp. The zines are clearly produced and intended for a limited audience, and this is understood quite readily. It isn't mass-consumption stuff.

L'ENGORVI GALACTIQUE, "the only live journal of sf" (in France, we assume). More of a fannish blend. The editorial starts out with an essay of French fannish conditions; the conclusion is superbly French: FANDOM EST MORT, Vive FANDOM! And what are we to think? French fandom is a fan on the street, or in his library - typer pounding away, his mind slicing away. But I'm conducting a farce: I don't really understand the position of French fandom - does anyone?

I must remark here that all these zines are written in French - completely. Except for a short part in this one: a short story by Mr. Ferron, entitled CROCODILE, which was translated by Jean Muggoch... So, there is a little something to toss the non-speaking readers. The greatest sadness comes from not being able to read the article on the next page, called THE



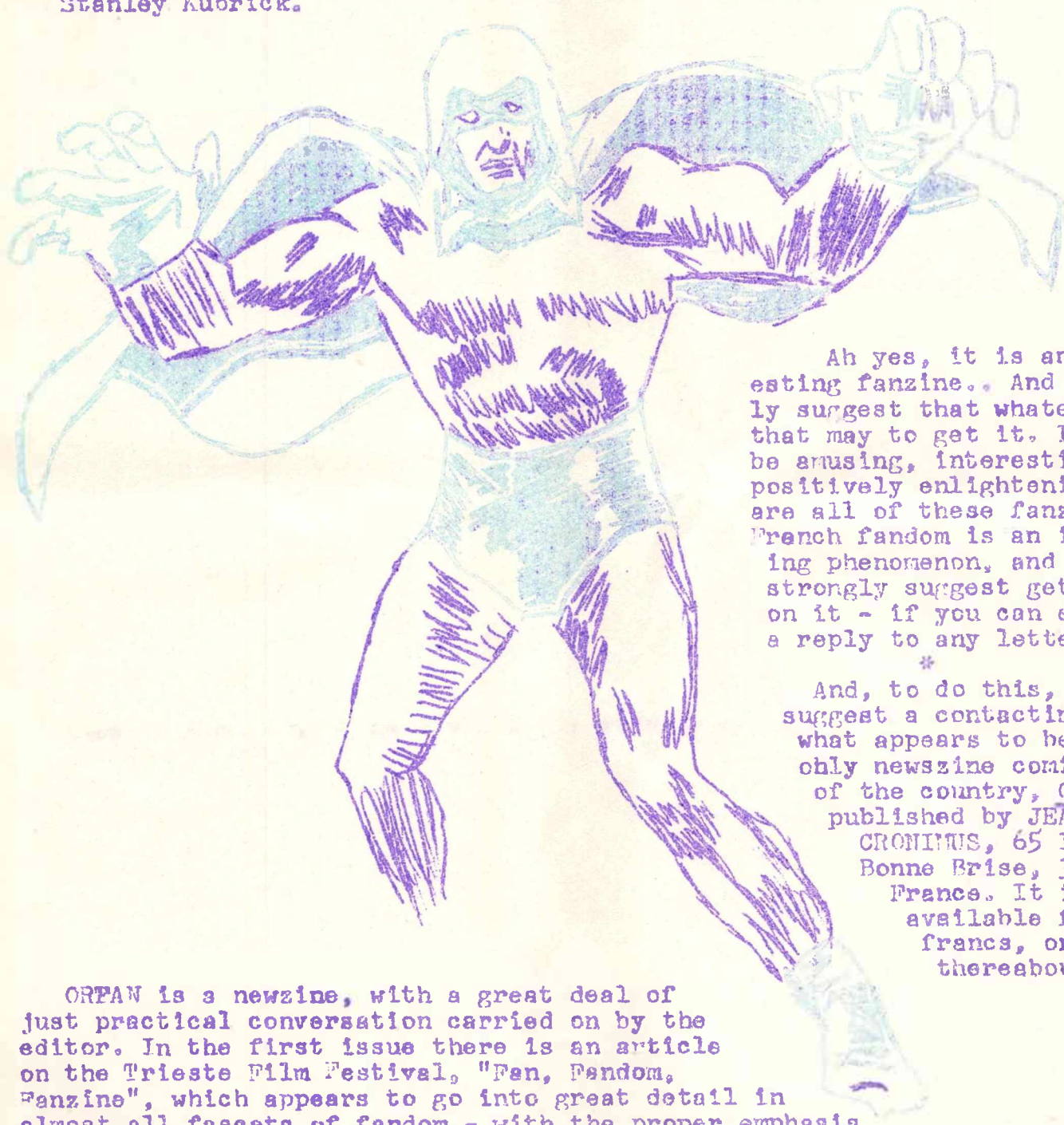


Faint, illegible text in the upper right section of the page, possibly a header or introductory paragraph.

Main body of faint, illegible text in the middle section of the page, appearing to be several paragraphs of a document.

Further, there goes with an article about the effect of articles
and the effect on people. In particular, the author uses London as a
case study. The article discusses the impact of various factors on the
city's development and the role of the government in shaping its future.
The author argues that a combination of economic growth and social
reform is necessary for a sustainable and prosperous society. The
text concludes with a call to action for policymakers to address the
challenges facing the city and its citizens.

DANGERS OF SCIENCE FICTION.. And, in SOLIII, the cartoons - which I must explain: The editor has taken famous drawings, sketches and carvings, all of a Greco-Roman nature (Gods, warriors, orgies - with the people nude), and has added captions to the scenes. Which is like the sketching of a mustache on the Mona Lisa, or better (if you will pardon this little burst) yet, blackening one of the teethe... It can only be accomplished with some wit and amusement if the criminal is a comic and an artist. And, to see my mother crying from laughter -- something very rare -- the ed. must be second only to the perpetrator of the great train robbery.. or Stanley Kubrick.



Ah yes, it is an interesting fanzine.. And I strongly suggest that whatever fan that may to get it. It will be amusing, interesting, and positively enlightening.. As are all of these fanzines. French fandom is an interesting phenomenon, and I strongly suggest getting in on it - if you can ever get a reply to any letters.

*

And, to do this, I also suggest a contacting of what appears to be the only newszine coming out of the country, ORFAN - published by JEAN-PAUL CRONINUS, 65 Impasse Bonne Brise, 30 Nimes, France. It is available for 1.50 francs, or 30¢ thereabouts.

ORFAN is a newszine, with a great deal of just practical conversation carried on by the editor. In the first issue there is an article on the Trieste Film Festival, "Fan, Fandom, Fanzine", which appears to go into great detail in almost all facets of fandom - with the proper emphasis on American foundations... And finally there is an excellent listing of newszines and fanzines available from Europe, and the U.S. For everyone, this zine is recommended as it is a most practical and interesting zine. It is, too, entirely in French, though the most important names and descriptions are still able to be identified, and addresses and types of zines are easily read.

IMPRESSIONEN, (Germany), Harold Fischer,
14 Waller Str., 28 Bremen-Walle,
W. Germany.. AND: Hans-Werner
Heinrichs, 129 Frankfurter Str.,
6079 Sprendlingen, W. Germany.
Photo offset, newszine&comment, irregular..



IMPRESSIONEN was published as an attempt to publisize German fandom... Harold makes the statement that IMPRESSIONEN was published up to the 4rth edition in the U.S. in German, and due to requests from English-speaking fen he is publishing it in English from Germany. The entire story on this I'm not sure of, and I admit my ignorance.. Until Harold sent me a copy I'd never heard of it - from Germany or the U.S... But now that error is rectefied, and it is my pleasure to tell you of Harold's zine.

The zine is 4 pages long, all photo offset, and is, in general, a sort of news and comment zine... It contains items such as "Analog" being available at the Munich railroad terminal for \$1.20, but the big thing is the inside two pages which are devoted to Perry Rhodan and Hen Dhark, two famous and well-circulated sf (opera) heroes in Europe in the pu&b and pbk. The illustration includes pictures of cover and art.. Also, there is a listing of popular sf publications in Germany (companies such as UTOPIA, TERRA,) and the HEYNE SCIENCE FICTION paperback books, being mostly British and American reprints, German editions of F&SF and GALAXY.. Each costs 60%, and according to Harold are first class books.

Finally, to close the zine, there is the first part of an article about a trip to Heidelberg, which is the site for the 1970 WorldCon bid of German (HeiCon!)

All in all, a very friendly, helpful zine... Perhaps there are other editions out - or more are planned. I hope so.

* *

SOL (43), Thomas Schlueck, 3 Hannover, Georgswall 5, Germany. Mimeo (it looks like), highly (every couple oh years) irregular. This issue is Autumn, 1967.

According to Tom, SOL used to come out quite regularly, but lately all signs of regularity seem to have vanished. If and when another SOL comes out no one knows. But this review is to give you an idea regarding European fandom and zines.

The zine contains mostly comment... Talk, chatter, nostalgia, bits&pieces, hearsay, and dribblings. It's excellent. Talk on conventions, French singers, knights, hippies, all sorts of cool. It is beautiful. And better yet is a column that I've seen in no other zine - a "Personalia" column, containing comments to and from various kind fannish people. It is a good Thing, very interesting, very informative, and very personal. In fact, the entire zine is very personal - but, and I hastene to add - not in a gushy, fakey way (as too many observers are - myself included most particularly). The chatter is sincere and interesting - perhaps because the personalities of the authors are amiable and interesting. Sounding off I may be, but too many faneds fill their writing (editorial comments) with rather sickening trite which do nothing but inflate their nebulous ego even further - "And then I did this... and I said that... knowing all the time that I... For I... Smiling, I - ... My head bowed."

But none of SOL's comments are like that. They are all interesting, and un-imposing. I liked it, and I hope that means something - for few chatter zines overwhelm me with their literary merit - such as SOL did. It could easily be the best zine in Germany - or Europe (though in a different category than SPECULATION) - at least of those that I've seen. Anything that Thomas puts out will be well worth reading, so get on his mailing list - or get on some list somewhere so that you will be in line to receive it.

Putting it simply, this is European - German - fanish scribes at their best. Frank, simple, charming, interesting, informative, well-done and sincere. I can say no more than GET IT! or attempt to. You will not be disappointed.

UCHUJIN (Cosmic Dust), (Japan), Takumi Shibano, 1-11-10, O-okayama, Meguro-ku, Tokyo, Japan. Printed, bound. Monthly. The professional fanzine it seems.

I do wish I could read Japanese - for I am missing what appears to be a most beautiful fanzine full of talk and news on all phases of fandom.

The zine is published in the fashion of a pulp or at least in a very pro fashion: printed covers, wrapped around, the coverpaper of a material heavier than the cover of our prozines.. The front (remembering that the zine opens from the left to the right) has in Japanese the title, with the date and number, and then one-third of the 6x8 $\frac{1}{2}$ (15x21 meters) cover is a picture by a "Mahiro" - always, and in a particular (modern) style that is at the same time both striking and poetic..

Flipping through, one sees the neat rows of Japanese script, with occasional titles like "SF", "FANZINES" - etc... There are usually about 4 neat, white pages, all professionally printed. There is little art, though recently photos of visiting fan or fan mentioned in articles have been printed.

When Hugos become truly international, and Japanese fandom can press its point, Uchujin should come up for a Hugo. And Mr. Shibano will be justified in receiving the award; the zine is beautiful, portraying the serious attempt of the fan and fanned to communicate regarding the field of sf and sf related material.

Already Mr. Shibano has received some credit; he was an honored guest at the 1968 World Con - Baycon - and many many fan know of "Cosmic Dust", but ~~more people~~ should know. This is fanzine at its finest, and something that fandom should be proud of... The quality, the style, the general impression - which is a strong one to so overwhelm even a person who cannot read Japanese - is something which portrays and honors the spirit of SF and Fantasy - a beauty of thought and action, of communication and dream - a poem. And like the cover, the zine comes on like a poem, a masterpiece, a dream. The best thing from across the liquid blue...



-- fini --

INTERNATIONAL FANZINE.

Reading over the fanzine reviews I hope it becomes apparent that there exist a great deal of talent in the fannish communities outside the U.S.. Since I've discovered this, I've tried to use Overseas Bureau to publicize this talent which is mostly unknown to the American fan... But the best publicity is a demonstration, and though I could not

arrange that for this edition, I will try to publish as my next Overseas Bureau publication a fanzine (of the genzine sort) of non-American material. I already have several bits of fiction from English authors, and I think I can scrounge up some further material.. If you haven't contributed - please do!

But the important thing is - would anyone be interested?! I would plan on distributing these to various countries, perhaps even as initial contacts for fandom in several countries... When exactly I could have this out I'm not sure, but this would depend greatly on the preliminary response I would receive from the Overseas fan themselves, and any interested domestic fan. I'm asking for all possible publicity - like plugs in fanzines, asking, begging for contribs - and particularly advice: my fanzine publishing ability leaves something to be desired. If someone thinks that they could do a better job than I then if he will volunteer I'll do all the rounding up of material, and he can give the orders on production... For I see this as an important project - something giving a wide example of fandoms on the basis that fan understand most... Oh yes, it will have to be at least bi-lingual - so, please someone, write in and suggest which languages. Or it might be multi- with portions in various different languages. But I'll need volunteers - HELP! (Who knows, I might even need some money!)

So any ideas or suggestions regarding this would be greatly appreciated. If you even think it worthy of time and effort I'd appreciate a card or note. If you even care, and/or if you're willing to help, or advise, then please let me know. I would be eternally grateful.

By the way, I take this opportunity to remind faneds that I would greatly appreciate copies of their zines to send to interested people on the other side of the sea. This applies to people on both sides. If I could get more non-American zines I could send copies to Big Name fanzines for review; and if you American faneds would send me copies of your zine I could get for you interested subbers and contributors. SO, SEND FANZINES!



On The N3F, World Fandom, and Our Future.
World Cons, and the Hugos.

Mr. Luis Vigil of Spain brought up a subject which has thus far served to initiate some speculating and considering, not to mention concern, on both parts of the sea. That World Cons (and the Hugos) are not truly World Cons is apparent. It is an American regional Con, and foreign fans are merely more welcome to it than at the other regional cons. As has been said, Americans like and want the biggest and the best, and to say "Continental Con" would imply, by God, that American fandom has competition- which everyone knows is ridiculous. (!) So, it's World Con, by name at least.

American fandom is now finding out that this condition can no longer continue. Although European fans are far from united on their stand and standard in their out-rage, all agree that things could be improved.... They all agree that the Con is an American invention - but do we have exclusive rights over it, and if so do these rights include almost patronizing control? And every fan knows that most of sf material comes out of the U.S., but is this to assert that the material which comes from elsewhere is in a minority and therefore not worthy of consideration? No fan really believes this. Any reader of Tolkien, Clarke, Spinrad, can ever ignore foreign produce and still support fandom.

And that's the point - through my weak literary skills. Overseas fandom is still fandom - our fandom and their fandom. It's no different than West Coast fandom and East fandom (No, I'm not going into that). Just distance - roughly the same distance too.

And as such we are - voluntarily or not - treating our fellow fans incorrectly. We are dealing the bad cards, stacking the deck against them, being smug on our pedestal. And this must stop.

Several suggestions have been brought forth. I can only echo them, for each of them has their merits, and the field is pretty well covered by older, more experienced and powerful fans.

But I can say that I think it best that the Hugo committee make sure that foreign nominations are possible, surely this simple suggestion must be already in practice. However, I must remark here that the chief fault in the system lies not in particular rules of the Con, etc., but in the attitudes of the people who WANT THEIR CONS WHERE THEY CAN GO TO 'EM AND TO HELL WITH EVERYBODY ELSE (GOD DAMN IT!) The present distribution of Con sites is unfair - it does not bring into consideration the factors of fan population or need... except American.





Hopefully, HeiCon '70 will become a reality. Once upon a time I suggested that non-domestic use this opportunity to push through whatever plan they might find convient. I amend this; I am sorry for this emotional, down-right childish out-burst. I amend it to the simple suggestion that since World fannish attention (most important, all those people involved who usually don't care) will be focused on the occasion that it be used as focal point for the presentation (dramatically) of "Overseas" fandom. I have enough faith in Overseas fen to know that they would imitate their American fannish confederates by disregarding the American sf accomplishments for the 1969 production year. So, the opportunity should be taken; European fen (since they will be there in vast numbers) should take stock of their situation, considering their numbers and general fannish contributions which make them part of the fannish community in the world. Then, with American (nervous) attention on them, using the full impact of the office of 1970 World Con Committee, the fen should announce their interpretation of the situation.

But who takes the moment to amend the WorldCon rules - 1970 or 71? I don't know. I am ignorant of some parts of the Con operation, and this aspect I will not flash my conceit on.

There has been a plan proposed for regional Hugos. In my humble opinion I think this is a good idea. If it is possible, if it will fit in with the present rules and procedures of Hugo award I don't know. I always thought that Hugos were functions of the World Con, or at least the World Con Com. Perhaps some adjustment will have to be made. I am aware though that there is a great deal of material being produced overseas that has yet to catch American attention, and thusly goes un-rewarded. As I've said, European (etc.) fandom should try to correct this in 1970. I do think that once American fen better realize the situation - that proper recognition and respect is being held from deserving overseas fen and fandom - they will voluntarily move to correct it. However, I may be talking out the side of my mouth. But we shall see.

Space does not permit me to go into the full detail I would like to regarding the World fannish situation. As in the mundane world, communications between various peoples are strained - and this is sad. Yet the irony is that it appears that fen can informally communicate with each other across great spanses via letters and zines, but when it comes down to actual recognition aside from paternalism, Americans are a bit lax..... To be honest, I am not sure of the success OB is having - I can not say if we are really "reaching" anyone or not. I don't know how we are being taken (with a grain of paternalism, no doubt... Yes, I know) but I hope and continue to work on the basis that something somewhere is being accomplished. Any comment to the otherwise would be greatly appreciated as I can not function without information.

(to be continued - eventually - in next OBM)

Ah, well this is it. I hope it did something good.. I hope some points were cleared up, and I hope someone got something good out of it. But then, I hope alot.

Some personal requests: if any one knows someone else, or they themselves are interested - very much, or just barely - in one ALDOUS HUXLEY and his works then I'd be pleased to receive a line from you. Also, Dylan Thomas, James Joyce. And it seems that I sense a growing interest on my part towards the French Revolution, and one M. Karat, but then again I may just curl up and crawl away...

I see the need to warn you that the summer is coming up - vacation time! I may or may not be traveling during the June-August months, so I might be quite tardy in my replies. But, I will eventually write - don't worry.

Oh yes. I am the proud possessor of a collection of (what I call) "French soldiers" minatures that my relatives in France have sent me over the years. This includes representations of Gauls, the Romans, Middle Ages, Napoleon and his soldiers, the French Foreign Legion, and modern paratroops. I haven't the foggiest idea as to their scale; one of the horsemen is about 5-6 inches, base to helmet tip. I am led to believe that they are rather expensive. My point is: can any one tell me more about their general status, and about the completeness of their availability (for instance, I would like to complete my collection of horsemen from the Crimean War), and if accessories (such as artillery) are available. By the way, these soldiers are hand-painted, and constructed of light plastic (some of them), some of iron, some of a kind of plaster, and all of them are quite breakable.

If all goes well, I will start publishing some sort of personal genzine.. You will hear more of this later. I remind you of the N&P SHORT STORY CONTEST - I have forms for all those interested.

CHANGE-OF-ADDRESS FOR MIKE ZAHARAKIS:
1326 S.E. 14th,
Portland, Oregon, 97214

With this, I close.

Write!



1914

July 2nd 1914

Dear Mother

I received your letter of the 29th

and was glad to hear from you. I am well and hope these few lines will find you the same. I have not much news to write at present.

I am still in the same place and am doing as well as can be expected. The weather is very hot here now and I am suffering a little from the heat. I have not much news to write at present. I am still in the same place and am doing as well as can be expected. The weather is very hot here now and I am suffering a little from the heat. I have not much news to write at present.

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