

2963 Santa Ana st,  
South Gate, California  
April 2, 1959.

Dear Ted,

I write words regarding Void of eighteen. It has been such a long time since the last one -- even though it had Warners outstanding article-- and this was so White looking, that in my mental-maze I wasn't sure for a while what it was. But, when it got through to me, I was glad. It is good to see a regular size zine reach this large a number. Few old timers around these days. If you do make it a monthly, it will be grate. --- You may even reach a balance of power. Jim is no loss to me, I chose not to believe in him anyway, so it doesn't matter. What with things as they are it is playing it safe not to believe in half the people you read about, and not believe the other half.

I will agree with most of what you say about "fanzine fandom." It is about the same thing I think of when I use the term "active fandom." To be active, you have to have some idea what is going on, and to do that you almost have to have read fanzines. Both yours and my Germ would ofcourse cut a lot of people out who are regular members of local clubs. --- But, it isn't a love of ayjay that does it, or we would be reading deadly dull and flower tripe, as in the AAFA, and others. I suspect that you and a few others really enjoy the publishing end itself. But mostly I think it is a means to an ends. And the ends is communication. I think it is a more common symptom of actifanism, to have a need to exchange ideas, than to put out a fanzine. So, fanzines answer the need, but are not the reason in themselves. Why we must exchange ideas and opinions is a subject to take up at a later broadcast.

As for The Other Fandom, it was very interesting, but do to recent events I thought it referred to something else. At the present I'm on the track of what might actually be an other science fiction fandom. One that might be as large as our own, and though 20 years behind us in time, very active. And not in another galaxy, but in another language.

I mean the almost mysteries International Science Fiction Society. I first read about it in Sones newzine from Australia. It talked about large memberships, with headquarters in Vienna, Austria. With branch offices in most of the major countries of the world, except America and England. (The French Canadians have a branch) This seemed hard to believe, so I wrote Piare Versins, who was mentioned, for more details. And he writes that it is all true. There is a large, active fan network throughout Europe, and a number of other countries. The ISFS seems mainly to co-ordenate the branch activities out side of Austria, and run it's own local. It's 2-0 is in three languages. Versins says it is much like it was here in the 30's. A grate thirst, and very little stf to be had. So they put out fanzines, with their top people writing, just as Lovecraft, Smith, Kuttner, etc, did here. --- All this, and we-- or atleast I--never hearing about it.

I don't know if what they are doing is good. I doubt that it is new. But it is alive with people looking for the same things we do. And seperated because we can't understand each other. I'm going to try and publish Versins letter in FAPA, and hope that some one that can read French, German, or something will take an interest. It may not be worth it, but it shouldn't be over looked merely because no one knew of it. (Don't discount it as a fan club like the NFFF. Remember, it was founded and run by BNF for years.)

I find it a little odd that Geis didn't send me a copy of his things, seeing I had a large sub cut off. Maybe he just didn't send it to anyone lieving near him. -- By the By, got a phonecall from Alex (Rich?) Kirs, about a month ago. Well, he spoke to me though a non-fan type who wouldn't give me his name, but kept relaying my words to Kirs. They had just hit town, and were looking for help in finding a job. To be exact, some one with a car whos expenses they could pay will being driven around from place to place (A needfull, and not unusual re uest for new arivals,). I've done this for a couple other people --one a goodlooking girl-- so was not put out, but wasn't well enough to do it. Have spent the last three weeks in the desert, trying to burn some health into my lungs, so never did get to see them. When I think of the fan types that come West and go to Berkeley, I could cry.

With the sad thought that #15 is probably allready in the mail, I will fold my typewriter (I really can, with this old Corona) and depart. Money being like it is, there isn't any. But none the less I shall try to write each time, tell the agguers set in. I find, in #46 CRY's case, that it is easy to write one a month, than bi-yearly.

Yours

Rick Sneary

South Gate again in 2010!