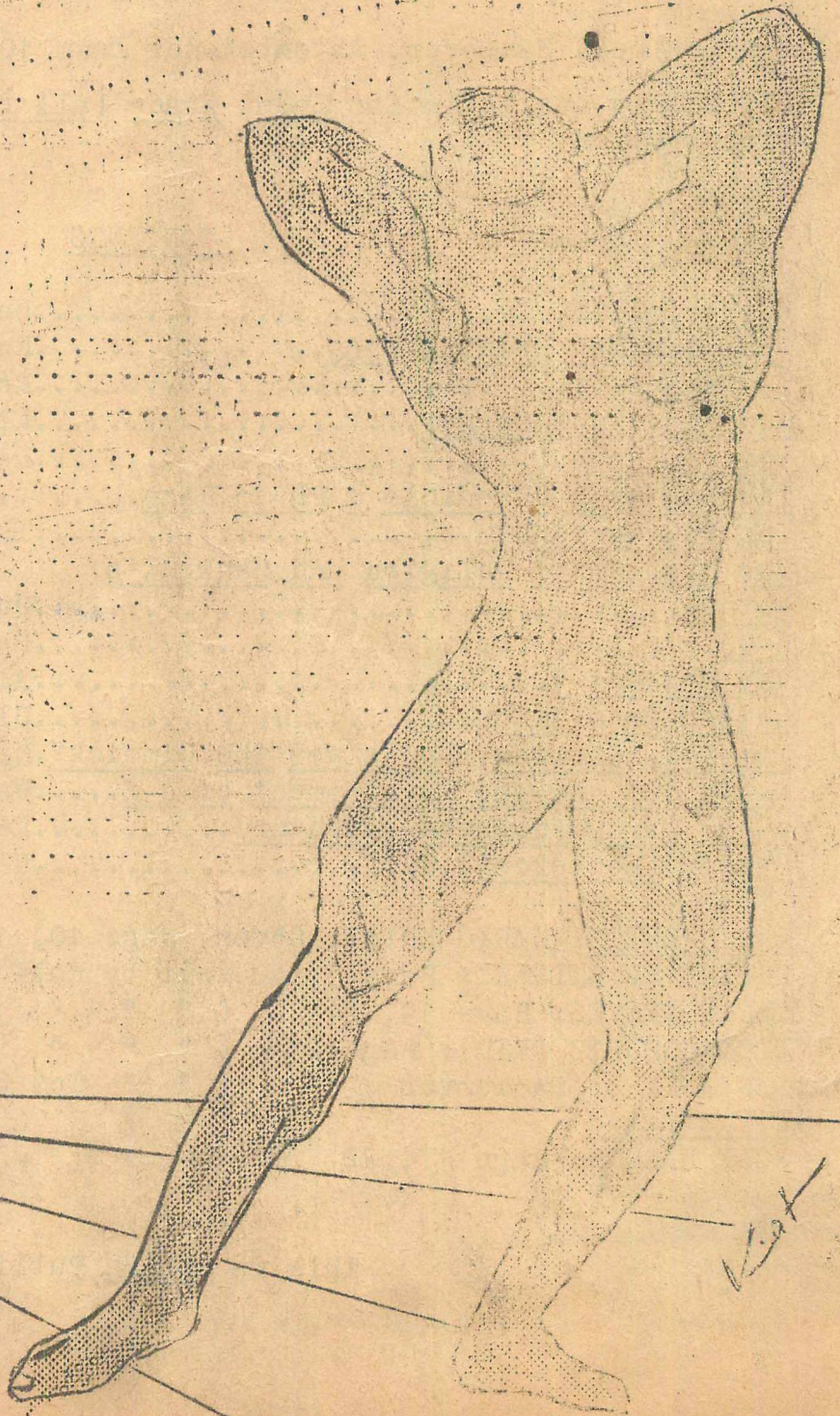


the bug eye

7



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Drucke die

BUG EYE

No. 7

-bi-monthly-

March/April 1961

TBE is edited and published by:

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BUG EYE is available for LoCs, Trade (all for all) or review but not by subscription!

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ROBERT E. GILBERT: Page 3, 20 (cut by Rolf Harder)

TERRY JEEVES: Page 19, 24 (" " " ")

DICK SCHULTZ (RIP): Page 21 (" " " ")

DAN ADKINS: Backcover (" " Tom Schlück) reprint from Sata

Illustrated

ROLF HARDER: Page 17, 22

This is GOLEMM Publication No. 4 !

There has been a great change during the last three months. We've decided to write TBE only in English and to publish another fanzine in German language for German fans. The first

addition of this all-German fanzine will maintain the tradition of the

first three numbers of BUG EYE and publish only translations of articles, faan fiction, etc. from Anglo-American fanzines in order to accustom German fans to English-speaking

fandom. (The Anglo-American fandom is nearly unknown to Gerfans). If anybody of you were interested in this zine, LYRA, he might write to me. In any case I'll send LYRA to every faned, from whose zine we have translated something.

The Swedish-Section won't come out. Instead of that Sture will inform you from TBE 8 on in a regular English column about Swedish fandom.

In the wellknown Gerzine SOL there are published since a long time series of discussions about SF and Religion, and it would be nice, if anyone of you would take interest in these subjects....eh, Mike Deckinger?

Send your articles to Wolfgang Thadewald, HANNOVER-Süd, Stoltzestrasse 58, Germany

EURUTOPIA CON DEPT.:

The second Eurotopia Con will take place from Friday the 2nd June 61 - Sunday the 4th June 61 at Bad Homburg, near Frankfurt/Main. Nearly 120 persons are expected. Sam Lundwall and Sigurd Banjan from Sweden, Alan Burns from U.K. and Pierre Versins and other members of the FUTOPIA organisation from France have announced to come. If you intend to attend the con, write to: Winfried Scholz, BIELEFELD, Falkstrasse 2, Germany.

I regret that the editors of BUG EYE aren't able to come. Rudi has to work and I have no holidays at that time. To hell with school! But we'd be glad, if some British fan would attend the con, because it is to be an international meeting. +)

PLEASE GIVE FINALLY A CHANCE ALSO TO THE GERFEN TO JOIN THE WORLDFANDOM!

+) But you'll meet Rolf Gindorf there...!

Hel Klemm

DEAR ENGLISH-READING FANS,

some people told us in the last time that they were missing something like an editorial or so in our fanzine. Others wanted to have more articles and/or stories by German authors. Well, so we did our utmost and I am sure that those guys are quite content this time.

Even I intend to ramble a bit in a sort of lingo of which I hope that you are able to understand it. I am not used to write more in English than those few letters I write to my private friends. And these friends claim that my letters are as short as they are rare.

But the other editor of this THE BUG EYE writes a lot more letters to fans all over the world. It is Helmut Klemm who does most of the stencil typing for TBE and beside of that all the repro. He is indeed a very eagerly fan tho not in school. His most famous maxim is; "I am only fifteen!" And I am sure that some of you certainly read it before. Anyway he is the youngest fanzine - editor in Germany and as far as I know at this time the only one who puts out an all-English fanzine in Germany.

Helmut had to repel several attacks from several other Gerrfans as well as from his own parents who are not quite so convinced of the good things behind fanpubbing as he is. The opposition against him in Gerrfandom arose because he has a little bit of a dictator who wants to convince other people of his own taste. He wasn't quite lucky in trying that but he found some friends who think the same way as he does, who prefer international fandom and not only that of about 100 activ Gerrfans.

One of these friends is Rolf Gindorf (21) the man of whom Chuck Devine said in the last issue of TBE, "He speaks better English

than I do!"

When you read the last three issues of TBE you surely will remember the three articles by him: GERFANDOM REVISITED, CHIT FOR CHAT, and ON UNDERSTANDING FANDOM. He has just ended a series of articles, letters, and comments on his own and others articles and letters, written under several pseudonyms in the various fanzines of Germany. He says he was doing an experiment with all that kidding the Gerrfan but I am sure he only amused himself very much when nobody found out that only one person was writing so many different items with which he attacked a lot of fans as well as his own pseudonyms.

So much about the two main writers for THE BUG EYE. And now I want to introduce myself a little bit since I hope that you will hear a bit more from me in future times. We decided to print only English stuff in TBE anymore and so I have to write some more material in your language if I want to remain in the editors panel. Hope you are not too disappointed about that.

But now more about me. I am 21 just like Rolf but am by no means able to write or read or speak as well English as he does, tho I have been to Portsmouth/Engl. twice for a fortnight. Nevertheless I like to correspondent with fans abroad but up till today I liked more private letters so that not always a wide audium could notice the mistakes when I wrote English. And now after I once started to write for a fanzine in English, I may even start to do a regular discussion corner or something like that for TBE.

(That is, in case the reaction on my writing in this is not too bad.)

-4-

by
RÜDIGER
b.

GOSE JACOB

I, CONMAN

by Rolf C. Gindorf

Doing Con reports is one of those things which is bound to bring upon you the attacks of some fen who, for some reason or other (most probably other) just loathe them. Well, of course we all know that Alan Burns doesn't like to be told that Sherra McGonigle wound up in somebody else's bed (and after going thru' this experience several times you're apt to develop a certain frustration about it, no doubt), so I'll try to skip any parts which might make him envious and confine myself to the more prosaic aspects. I am talking, in case you didn't guess, about the Second Niederrhein (Lower Rhineland) Con, which was held in Düsseldorf over the January 14/15 weekend.

Now, cons in Germany have often tended in the past to have a somewhat somber trait, being burdened more often than not with such unpleasant things as hassles about statutes, closed-door conferences of clubs' officers, and a general indulgence in club politics. Although fans had been warned beforehand that ours was to be a more or less regional, decidedly unpolitical and even (shudder) 'faanish' affair the final count showed a total of 38 which had travelled (to U.S. readers: a queer form of 'traveled') as much as 500 miles for the event,-- a very good showing indeed for such a newfangled thing.

Not expecting too many attendees on Saturday the 14th we had arranged to meet for the afternoon in the pub where the Düsseldorf-Duisburg-Wülfrath (that's me) group usually have their meetings when in Düsseldorf. It's a very big place that offers the great advantage of hardly having any customers to offend. The idea of renting a hotel or some such place had to be dropped as all hotel owners that we approached insisted on our guaranteeing an extremely big turnover far beyond the means of the average attendee. I suspect that those worthy gentlemen, taking us for the suckers we look (a nice example of a neatly applied pluralis majestatis), hoped to compensate with one clever move all the losses sustained through last year's bad weather period,-- For Sunday, the main con day, we had planned to rent a club hall in 'Die Brücke', the distinguished International Cultural Centre run by the City of Düsseldorf. As they had let us use a room at the 1st Niederrhein-Con, organized 3 years ago by Julian Parr of the local British Consulate General, we didn't expect any troubles from that direction. So I was a bit surprised when, in answer to my request (which I had to submit in writing) I received a note informing me that "the matter has been referred to the Director of the Institute for decision", and would I please furnish further information on the purpose of 'my organization'?- On getting in touch with the 'Brücke' I found the Director to be a Frau Doktor von Müller, who didn't know anything about the previous con, and proved to be highly suspicious of people in

general and science-fiction enthusiasts (I never dared to speak of 'fans' to her!) in particular: she informed me right then and there that she did not intend to make "the facilities of this Institute -6- available to some subversive Communist underground organization"! Now every time I hear the word 'subversive' used as a cliché something goes 'click' in me and I get ready to fight, but the terrible thought that Frau Doktor von Müller, bless her pure heart, might know All About Michelism and the Futurians made me think twice. So I told her instead over the phone that we were a group of people interested in the Scientific, Cultural, and Literary Aspects of Our Future Civilization, with no political ambitions whatsoever but being Deeply Rooted in Western Culture and the Principles of Christian Ethics (for a moment, I thought of mentioning our Firm Alliance to NATO, but then decided against it), and --- it was sufficient; I had apparently impressed her for the moment, but it was not until I had sent her a detailed analysis of science fiction, the statutes of the SFCD (which, by some clever sleight-of-hand of one of the Hanover boys working for the Internal Revenue Service, was recently officially recognized as furthering public education +haha!+, with dues and donations deductible from your income tax), and made a personal call on her (introducing myself in grand style with my business card from the company I work for) that final victory was won and the hall leased to us. But you know, ever since the con was over I've been brooding over what approach to use next time we want the hall; somehow I can't help feeling that Frau Doktor von Müller won't fall for that line again ...

You will have noticed that I still haven't got down to the business of con-reporting. In fact, I don't intend to in the sense of giving a detailed chronological account of the affair, but shall describe and talk about such incidents and events only as come to my mind while writing this. (Incidentally, I ought to confess that I'm composing this on stencil again, as I did with my previous columns with the exception of that in BUG EYE No. 4; so all the blame for the lousy stencil-cutting etc. kpt. usw. should be put on me.)

Well, after the first two dozen or so fans had arrived and the initial bubble of excitement to be found among old friends meeting after a long time had died down sufficiently to make individual voices again audible we got ready for one of those bull sessions which cannot be described but must be experienced. - As you may know there have been for some time now two schools of thought in German fandom: the 'sercon' and the 'faanish'. Of course that's an old story to you, but don't forget that over here things have been developing along somewhat different lines, due to both the youth of German fandom (hardly six years) and the predominantly prim and demure peculiarities of German character - and this applies to an even greater extent to the Austrians and Swiss. So it was only natural that our fan-sf-stories. It was not until about a year ago that a 'new spirit' began to make itself felt: some fans, who had been in contact with English and American fandom, began to introduce a lighter, less ponderous element to the fanzines. When this was violently attacked by the conservatives as 'childish', 'having nothing to do with sf', 'stupid', etc. it was small wonder that some (especially of the younger) 'faanish' fans reacted by emphasizing the very aspects so heatedly attacked by their opponents. In point of fact, however, describing these two groups as 'sercon' and 'faanish' is inadequate: our 'sercon' types, to all intents and purposes, are equivalent to 'conservatives' (I'm trying very hard to avoid the term 'reactionary') to whom sf and fandom-as-they-see-it are purportedly "high ideals" they are "eager to defend with fire and sword" (sic) -- but at the same time, and more basically, they are to them the frame within which they yearn to compensate their frustrations and hold the po-

sition of importance they may have failed to achieve in mundane life. The 'faanish' fans, on the contrary, may be described as the 'liberals' among Gerfandom: while they don't care for 'primary sf' (i.e. sf-stories) in the fanzines they prefer 'faanish' (Anglo-American sense) stuff and exchange of views on such 'secondary' sf-aspects as fall within the range of philosophy, sociology, and the humanities in general. Their main idiosyncrasy, however, is that they don't have to look up to fandom as their mainstay of life - and thus don't have to adopt the ponderous, missionary-like attitude of the 'conservatives'. It's basically a matter of position, if you dig me ...

This entire last paragraph was mainly written to enable you to savour to the fullest extent the delicate episode that happened in that historical afternoon of Saturday, the 14th of January 1961. To wit: one of the more prominent attendees was Winfried Scholz of Bielefeld, secretary of the EUROTOPIA, who had recently gone on record as opposing our type of 'faanish' fandom with such statements as "... the German public is prude-" ('prude' meaning in this context a mixture of prudish, prim, demure, and fuggheaded) - and so I am prude, too!" Aside from this Winnie also happens to be one of the nicest chans you can find around here.- We were sitting in a rather large pub which we had nearly all to ourselves, with only two or three mundane customers in evidence. So we didn't feel any too restrained, and our group was not exactly silent and orderly, to put it mildly. True, we had seen the waiter make a disapproving face at us, but what the hell, the place was doing a landslide business with us whereas it was usually empty. It was in the middle of a particularly animated discussion (I'm trying my hand at the British phenomenon of understatement) that Winnie discovered that his glass was empty. He stopped for a second to order another bheer - and then it happened: Winfried Scholz, bespectacled, dignified, thirtyish Secretary of the Federation of Continental SF-Clubs, proud owner of one wife and two kids, main prop of the (self-styled) mature serious-constructive faction of fandom --- was refused to be served on grounds of "puerile behaviour detrimental to the reputation of this House", to quote the waiter.

It must be admitted that it didn't take the sercon-types very long to recover from their gasps of shocked disbelief; given some time they'll develop something of a routine at it, I'm sure. Anyway this was definitely more than we could stand, so after briefly considering (and rejecting) the suggestion of massive retaliation we decided to leave the bloody place for another, more promising (we hoped) locality. We were lucky and found a nice place soon enough, where we stayed and continued the brag session until late that night.

The next morning saw us all in front of the huge building of the 'Brücke' when the attendant let us in at 10 a.m. As there were some new faces we hadn't met before we arranged a sort of round-robin introduction, with each fan saying his name and a few complimentary remarks about himself. Shortly afterwards the day had its first highlight when Jürgen Mann of Frankfurt arrived. Those of you who remember my last column in TBE will appreciate the delicacy of the situation. Jürgen and I hadn't met previously, so he didn't know that the guy sitting beside the only free chair in sight was, of all people, I. When I told him my name he flinched only slightly but remarked, after looking me up and down, "Ha, you look just like I thought you would!" - and left me to make of that whatever I liked. Then we got to talking things over, somewhat along the lines mentioned three paragraphs previous, and it resulted that the statements to which I had objected in no unclear terms had really been based on a misunderstanding. Well, I've never been one to rub it in, and when I saw him off to the station past midnight we parted in a spirit of good fansmanship - in the Bob Shaw definition...

-8- After the lunch recess Ulf Mische of Bielefeld (who had stayed for the night with another fan at my place) gave a talk on German sf which, he said, was still mainly crud, having not yet passed the blood-and-thunder space opera stage. - Next on the programme was an auction of a variety of books, promags, fanzines, artwork, and assorted paraphernalia. The Düsseldorf-Duisburg-Wülfrath (haha!) group having no fund to speak of, three fans had arranged among themselves to pay the fee for the hall and the attendant. Moreover, an auction of material donated by members of the group was scheduled to cover at least part of the cost. Subsequently a contest for the one least suited to run the auction was held - and promptly won/lost by, of all people, your columnist, who hasn't read a German sf-publication in years. I thought briefly of gaffiating for good, but - well, you know what the road to hell is paved with ... So I was left that Sunday afternoon with the task of selling some hundred pounds of material I knew next to nothing about. I still don't know how I managed, but the final count showed a turnover that covered not only the entire rent - DM 65.-, or U.S.\$ 16.25 revaluationwise, if you'll excuse the Madison Avenue word - but left also a little over DM 5.- for the group treasury, as if we had one. This may not seem a staggering amount to you, but it surely is as far as German fan auctions are concerned, especially if you take into account that, official rate of exchange or not, the dollar in terms of actual cost of living is closer to one mark. -- The item that drew the highest bids, incidentally, was the photostat of a letter-card sent by "a certain export merchant" to Jürgen Mann. On reading Jürgen's article in his fanzine TELESKOP I had informed him with a few nicely turned words of my regret at his failure to see my point and my intention of replying to it shortly. When things started rolling Jürgen sent a photostat of this card to a friend of his, for all I know Klaus Eylmann of Hamburg, asking probably for support of some sort. At the con he had apparently got it back, and when I spotted it beside me on the table I realized its potential as a money-raiser and filched it for the auction. I turned out to be right; it was a hard fight between Jürgen, Klaus, and Thea Grade of Wiesbaden, who finally got it at DM 5.10

At 6 p.m. we left the 'Brücke' for the pub we had discovered the previous afternoon, to spend an extremely fannish night there. I won't be likely to forget soon the fannish banter that was freely flowing, or the moment when Winnie Scholz (who had never been the same since his being refused beer the previous day) exclaimed, after a furtive glance around him, "Why, if that's fannish I'm all for it!", or Klaus "Ego" Eylmann, trying desperately to decide which side he was on, as he was busily taking notes of as many gags as he could write down in shorthand for publication in his (very regular) newszine GOSHOBY-CBOY, or ... or ...

What could you say more of a con than that everybody had a grand time?

+++++

I shall have to conclude this stencil on a note of tragedy. Fans everywhere who knew him will be shocked and saddened by the news that Jürgen Molthof of Düsseldorf has died, aged 21, after a car crash. Though not being well known abroad - he corresponded only with a few fen in America and Sweden - he was perhaps the most active and enthusiastic fan in Germany. Aside from his tasks as chairman of our group, editor of our fanzine SPACE TIMES, and German agent of the Continental and FAN he kept an incredibly large correspondence. His honest and outspoken comments made him one of my closest friends. Nine fans were present when he was buried. And as they lowered him into the grave I remembered, all of a sudden, the lines of Bret Harte's poem, 'What the bullet sang', that I had read some five-six years ago: "... and now I live - and now my life is done-", expressing so well the old media in vita in morte sumus theme.

We shall not forget him.

+++++

I don't want to participate in a feud between fans, who are fighting for a matter, which is not worth to fight for. I only want to tell you that the fannish stuff, Rolf Gindorf yearns for in his columns, appears already in many Germanspeaking fanzines.

These fanzines have the policy of including nice fannish items. SOL for instance, which is published by four sf-groups in Northwest-Germany, has begun to publish John Berry's THE GOON GOES WEST in German. And several other fanzines beside THE BUG EYE are publishing very nice true fannish stories. But I have to agree with Jürgen Mann that all this would be boring, if there would be published only such stories. Since we in Germany have no SF-magazines, it is inevitable to publish sf-stories, and some are really good. Moreover, some sf-enthusiasts are contents to publish facts about astronomy and other branches of science. TELESKOP has published too much of this stuff, but it has improved very fast under the editorship of Jürgen Mann.

Although I like fannish stories I am wholeheartedly behind Jürgen Mann, because he knows what he writes, even if he dislikes fannish stories. Besides that the editors of this zines made some very unfannish moves calling Jürgen Mann a "pig", mentioning untrue facts in the last TBE and so on.

THE BUG EYE had a good start, but now it doesn't represent German fandom any more, only a very, very small group of hyper-fannish fanatics, who have fallen from the sound of German fandom and are muddling in a corner.

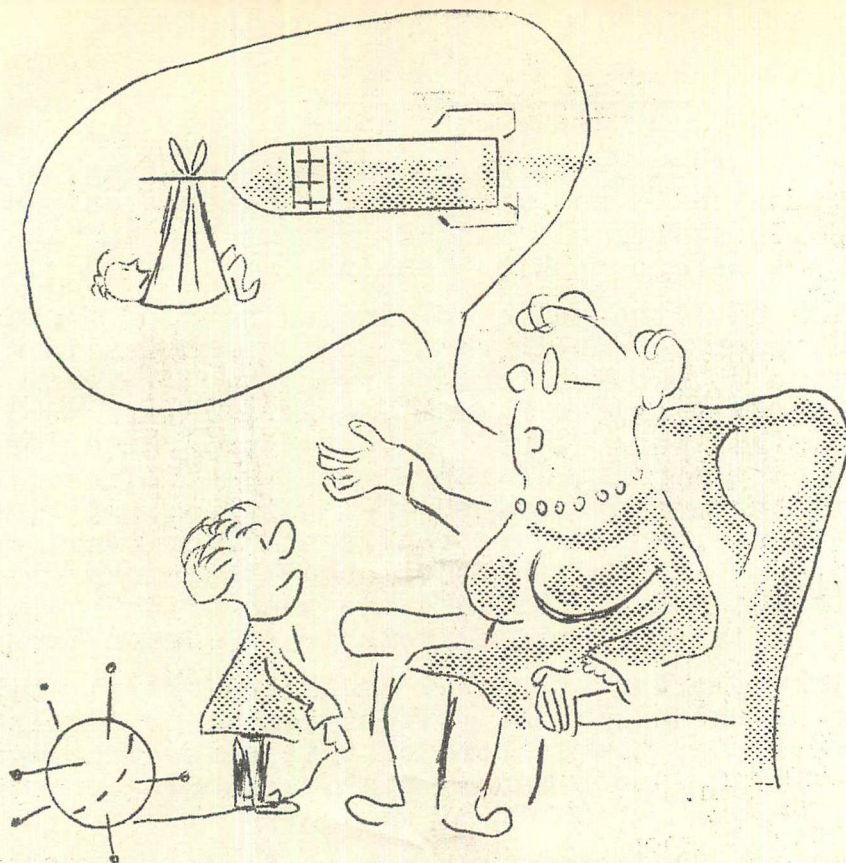
TELESKOP will appear again and I hope that it will publish true fannish stories too but will not omit sf-stories and literary articles so it will get the appeal that attracts the normal German fan, and which THE BUG EYE has lost. You see, it is only a matter of proportion.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I did at first not wish to bring this article, as it is totally beside the point. But Rolf Gindorf himself asked me to, "for the sake of fairness, to let Jürgen also have his say".-

In the beginning I will say, that THE GOON GOES WEST, and the other fannish stories which Klaus Eylmann has mentioned, have appeared after the campaign was started for a more fannish fandom. When Rolf wrote his first article about this, these sorts of stories were as good as unknown here, only MUNICH ROUND UP printed something a little like this, but different. But when more and more fans liked it some other fanzines also published something, sometimes good, and sometimes bad and primitive. Now some of those, who were at first bitterly against fannish stories, are bringing them, but do not admit that their first reaction was wrong.-

Such words as "pig" etc. I often use when I write to fans I know are about my age, and when I want to tease them for something. This word has in German sometimes another meaning than in English, and I and some others use it frequently without insult, I have also once called Rolf Gindorf so. Besides to Jürgen Mann I had it crossed out and replaced by a normal address. I think that only fuggheads would earnestly object to this, even if it is not very mature maybe.--Furthermore I and my friends do not want to represent German fandom, we are quite glad to have fallen "from the sound (?) base". We want to be ourselves instead. Or does K. Eylmann suggest, that he prints only things, which he hopes will appeal to the "normal" German fan? This is not my aim!

But what is most astonishing, is that Klaus Eylmann is attacking Rolf now, although he wrote at first in his reviews, that he likes his columns very much, that he should continue like this, and that they were "great", the same columns which Jürgen Mann has attacked! Very strange, it seems!-- Now that Jürgen has publicly retracted his former statement, and Rolf and he are on good terms, I will close this argument definitely.--- hel.



"Oh, that lost sense of wonder ..."

THE BUG EYED CHRONICLE

Yup, we've done it at last and pubbed a photo page. Partly because SPACE TIMES, the other mag perpetrated by our group, will run it too, but mainly to shatter a few illusions you may have had about the screw-ball types whose crazy stuff you're reading. So here goes (l. to r.)...

[1] Düsseldorf-fen Wolf 'beatnik' Pippke and mate are rather envious onlookers as EUROTOPIA-Winnie Scholz demonstrates what made him turn to faanish fandom to Mario Kwiat, star artist (sample above).

[2] Mario Kwiat introducing Wolfi Thadewald of Han(n)over to surrealism

[3] Apparently they have progressed to the finer points ...

[4] While cute Annemarie Soyka, who is supposedly Rüdiger b. Gosejacob's girlfriend, has a very interesting (we're told) talk with Rolf Gindorf, the latter has noticed the intruding camera and promptly assumes an air of intellectual superiority.

[5] Jürgen Mann, deploring the lack of intellectuality in our 'zines.

[6] And that's him: Helmut "I'm only 16" Klemm, editor-in-chief of this sterling fanzine!

[7] Sercon-turned-faanish Thea Grade behind a dummy coke bottle.

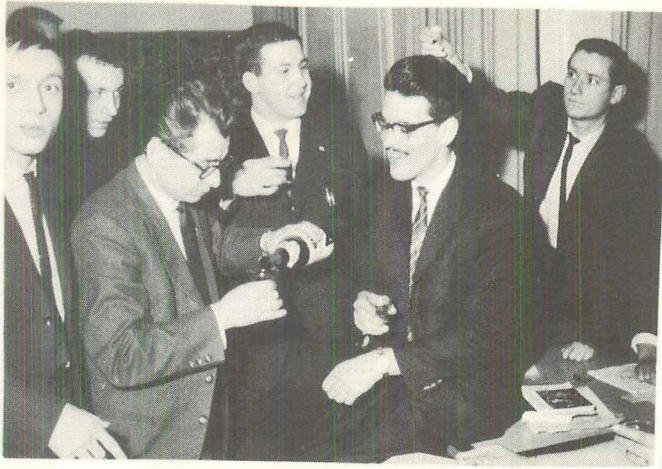
[8] won't be of particular interest to you, but [9] shows Klausiboy Eylmann of Hamburg. For full appreciation turn fmz. by 180°...

[10] During auction: Rüdiger b. Gosejacob, Rolf GINDorf, Jürgen Molthof.

[11] a femme-fan section, while [12] shows Rolf in full swing, flanked by Düsseldorf-fen Jürgen Topp and Jürgen Molthof.

[13](?) may get us an action for damage to German export industry: Rolf 'Egghead' Gindorf, who succeeded in being photographed throughout the con in decidedly un-eggheadish poses, lecturing neo-femme-fan Marion Duval of Düsseldorf on certain interesting aspects of trufandom ...

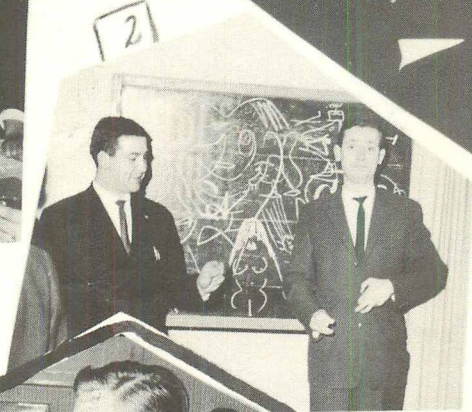
Note: Those names which were omitted are of fans who won't be likely to come in contact with international fandom.



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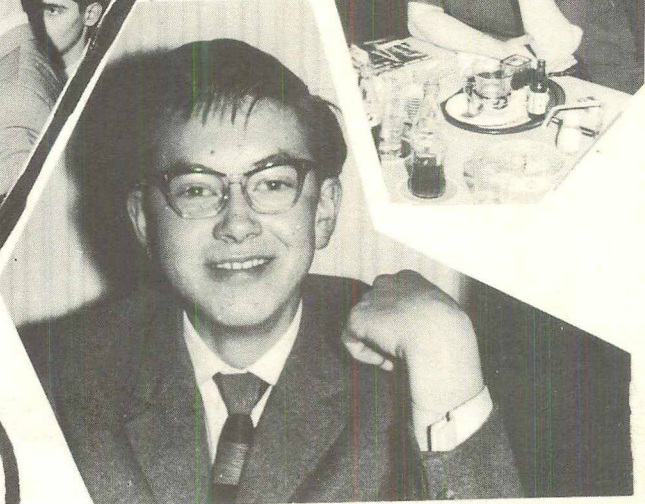
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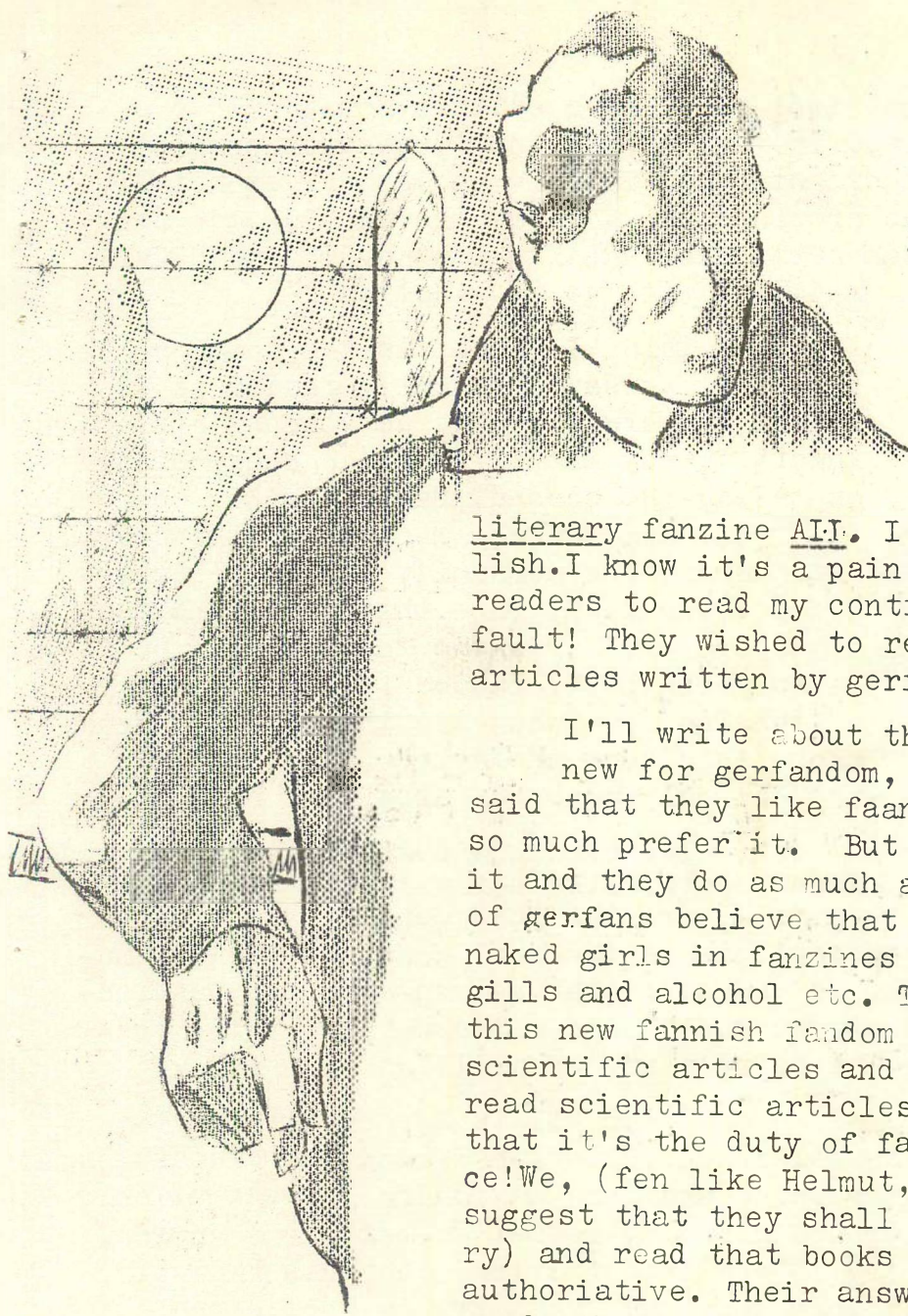
understand all, I agree //

-11-

THE NEW GERFANDOM

by

BURKHARD 'NERO' BLÜM



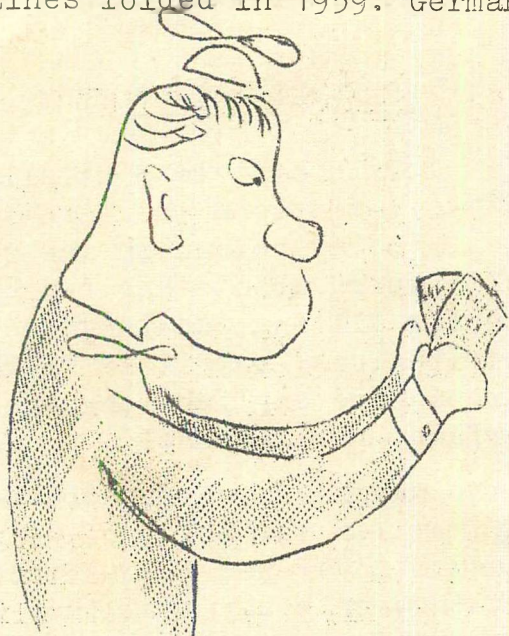
This article partially is based upon the first article of my column in the new literary fanzine AI-I. I'm sorry about this bad English. I know it's a pain for all english-language readers to read my contributions; but it is THEIR fault! They wished to read more english-language articles written by gerfans: here is one!

I'll write about the new faannish faandom -- new for gerfandom, not for ye. A lot of people said that they like faandom and I was amazed that so much prefer it. But they only say that they like it and they do as much as before -- nothing! A lot of gerfans believe that the faannish fans like only naked girls in fanzines and frivolous notes about gills and alcohol etc. They try to demonstrate that this new fannish fandom is worthless; they cry for scientific articles and stf-stories. They want to read scientific articles and try to make it credible that it's the duty of fandom to teach the fans science! We, (fen like Helmut, Rüdiger and Rolf, for instance) suggest that they shall by books (or go to a library) and read that books which are more detailed and authoriative. Their answer is that nobody really reads the books. By Ghod, who is foolish enough to believe that the guys who do not read that scientific books, do read this terse articles?! ME?? Do you think I'm drunken?

Others cry for stf-short-stories. Most of you did never read such a "story". Thank Ghu! I tell you: I don't understand very much of literature and it is for me a punishment God's to read such a schizophren nonsense. Ghod Ghod Ghu -- it's a strain for the reader, not for the writer!! 99% of this 'stories' are too bad to be used as an emetic / glad to be sure that only a few gerfans 'll read this and most of 'em will be too lazy to look up the word 'emetic' in the dictionary. Welch ein Glück! (Andy, that means 'what a good luck') / In the opinion of some fen fanzines are to publish s-f and to breed new profis. for a long time, I had the same opinion. But now I'm a little more critical and I know for sure, 99% of the fan-'authors' will never write something worth to be read! (don't blast Nero, he means "will never write science fiction stories worth to be read!" -- Hel.)

But a few serconfannishness rested. Some writers know how to write. And really, the young authors who are potential profis should be able to publish their works and to get LoCs. And therefore I suggested that one or two (not more) literary fanzines should be pub-

-lished (and in anglofandom, too) which have editors competent to select really good stf-stories. In this 'zines the 'potential profits' have a chance to publish their stories. This is necessary, especially in Germany, 'cause we've no prozine! (= (note by the ed: Our two prozines folded in 1959. German edition of GALAXY with no. 15 and UTOPIA MAGAZINE with no. 26 --Hel)=)



This, I think, is the best we can do. Some fen say: "Fannish fandom is NO fandom", others say: "The serconfans are no fans!" To say the first is as nonsensical as to say the second. Fandom is the community of the fen, an abstract word like church, which means the community of the religious people. You don't know what this word mean because everybody knows that as well as I. Let's go on : OK, fandom is the community of the fen, but what are the fen? Everybody knows this, too: the males (and females) who not only read but also like s-f.

The serconfans and also the fannish fans - both, like s-f without any doubt. So it's more than nonsense to say: WE are the real fans, THOSE are NO fans! And it's quite as mad to say: 'This is the real fandom', 'cause fandom is the community of fans. We can say: 'the sercon- and the fannish-fandom are two subdivisions of the whole fandom and we prefer the fannish fandom', but not more. The sercons are as well fen as we!

We're all in agreement: the main characteristic of the fans is tolerance! But when I read the discussions in our German fanzines about sercon- and fannish fandom I see that only very few fen know, what tolerance actually means! We both have chosen, and when somebody wants to try to convince a friend that his kind of fandom is the better one, or when some fen try to decide on principle what for a fandom is 'better', they should finish to argue with this arguments in person and infamously.

En, it's more an article against some kind of discussion in its last part. But I think it's also interesting for anglo- and sverigefandom.

BURKHARD 'NERO' PLUM

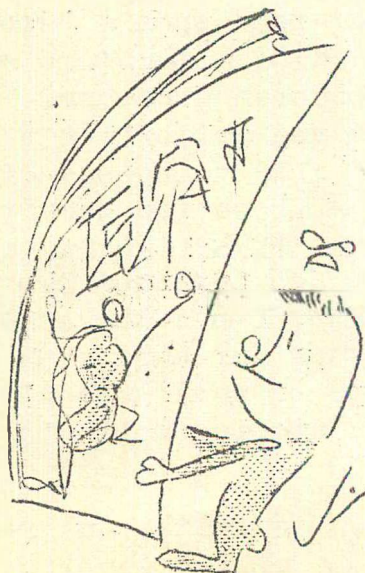
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I know, Nero's English isn't half as well as Rolf Gindorf's...but you must consider he is only 17. Well, I found this article very interesting and worth printing and I hope confidently you've understood all parts of it.

-12-

--Hel

FANZINES, wanted by Hel Klemm: HABAKKUK 1-4, SMOKE 1-3, SIGMA OCTANTIS, all, except no.4, ((IS JOHN MUSSELS GARIA ? ? ?)), LES SPINGE 2, WRR all, RETROGRADE 1-6.



You all are fully aware of the importance of the said theme, and I suppose that everybody may like Science Fiction stories dealing with such interesting problems. Our German SF-writer Jürgen Nowak has a special liking for this subject, and Julian Parr - one of the universe's most famous SF-fans - writes on Jürgen's latest edition ZWISCHEN SCHÖPFUNG UND UNTERGANG (literally translated: BETWEEN THE DAY OF LORD'S CREATION AND DOOMSDAY) as under:

When Jürgen Nowak first brought out his "SF-Zyklus" DER SCHÖPFUNG ACHTER TAG, I was full of praise, for it dealt with what is to my mind one of the most important themes SF authors can tackle: the problem of religion and mankind's future. As I said at that time, the SF fan cannot ignore the important role played by religion (and especially organised religion) in mankind's past and future social development - even though it might have no part in his life as an individual. The SF enthusiast's special viewpoint - one broadened by intimate acquaintance with the innumerable possibilities the future holds in store for mankind - gives him a new approach to this problem, and Jürgen Nowak's booklet was a fine example of this.

The present anthology is an enlarged version of the first, with a new title and additional tales in Jürgen's inimitable style, with its concise expression of taut thinking and imaginative concepts, pared down to their essentials. For the receptive reader who missed DER SCHÖPFUNG ACHTER TAG the new edition will stimulate speculation about the new light SF can throw on biblical phrases and events (made clear in Achim Bay's effective introduction) and on religion's place in a future world - or rather future universe. It is true that the booklet has retained several of the shortcomings apparent in the original: the garbled quotations, distorted to suit the stories (and thus betraying the basic purpose of the book and weakening the impact of some of the stories on the discerning reader); and the unfortunate choice of capitals rather than italics for the biblical quotes (and pseudo-quotes). But other reviewers have dealt with these points at length.

On reading the second edition my immediate reaction - apart from the pleasure derived from its undoubted entertainment value - was to seek evidence of development. What progress has been made or can be made, now that a link has been established between science fiction and the Bible? The recent publicity given to a Soviet scientist's speculations about the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah being due to an atomic explosion shows that the basic idea has become quite popular, and we shall doubtless see more SF stories with biblical connections in the future. (Since they will probably be longer and more elaborate, they will have greater appeal to those who criticised Jürgen Nowak's "short shorts" for their strenuous economy - although to my mind it is shortsighted to apply conventional criteria to a booklet so obviously designed to stimulate thought and speculation rather than merely to entertain).

Jürgen should not, in my opinion, go over the same ground again by giving us further "short shorts" of the type he has done so well; nor should he follow the advice of several critics and expand his cameos into so-called "real stories". Other writers will be able to do this adequately. His booklet ZWISCHEN SCHÖP-

FUNG UND UNTERGANG, shows that he has the combination of imagination and intelligence, untrammelled by convention, necessary to probe into fields as yet unexplored by the average SF author - particularly in Germany.

It would be presumptuous of me to direct his attention in any particular direction, but I will suggest some books which might give him and others inspiration: e.g. Frazer's "GOLDEN BOUGH", Velikovsky's WELTEN IM ZUSAMMENSTOSS, and - of course - the works of Charles Fort. Whatever their theme might be, however, I am certainly looking forward to Jürgen's next writings.

Julian Parr

●●●●●●●●●●

If you are interested in this very excellent anthology containing twelve "short shorts", please write to the German SF book club

TRANSGALAXIS

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German

Price: DM 2,-- plus postage -- or equivalent

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News

by Hel Klemm

THE GOON GOES WEST IN GERMAN! John Berry is re-writing his monumental travel report for the wellknown Gerzine SOL. The first two chapters saw an enthusiastically reception by the readers.

TELESKOP DIDN'T FOLD. Jürgen Mann, who announced two months ago, he'd **stopped** pubbing TELESKOP, handed the editorship over to Hans Peschke of Mönchen-Gladbach. Jürgen Mann himself intends to publish a irregularly News-zine.

A NEW FANZINE RECENTLY CAME OUT. The Hamburg Science Fiction Society finally came out with the first issue of its long announced zine ALL. For a first ish this is pretty good. Stories by Alan Burns, Robert Sheckley (translated 'course), Wulf A. Lutz and Peter Kuhlmann, all very readable...if you speak German...Sture Sedolin on Swedish Fandom is poor translated...by me...this is the only thing I have to complain, tho'. Get it!

NAME CHANGE. GOSHOBOYBOY, German only bi-weekly News-zine, gets after No. 25 a name change to SF-NACHRICHTEN.

THE EDITORS OF BUG EYE KEEP ONE'S DISTANCE FROM THE I.S.F.S.!!!!
WE'VE NOTHING TO DO WITH SCUPLA'S ~~COMM~~ GROUP!!!!!!!!!!

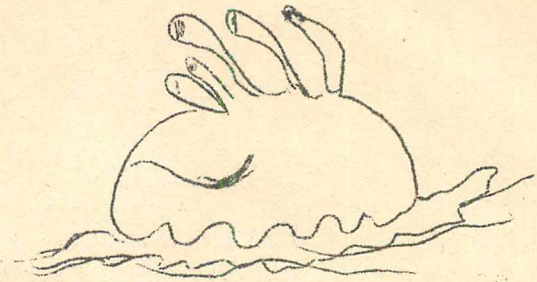
Hel Klemm

[illegible]

Actually, in HAUFEN MIST 2 is written in Haufen Mist, Andy..... --hel



-15-



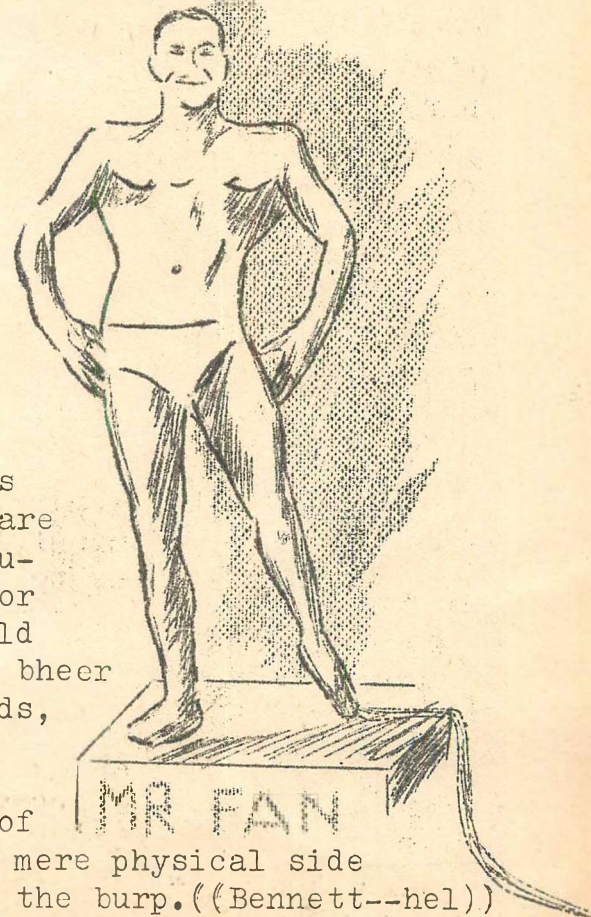
WHY NOT EAT ?

by

ALAN BURNS

The heading of this article is short for the simple reason that it would take too much space to write the full heading which is "Why not Eat instead of indulging a Mere Brutish Intake of Energy". Well why not, after all we have to keep going somehow, so why not enjoy stoking up? The conventional picture of enjoyment is all wrong too, that of a fatso stuffing himself with food from a groaning table. A good meal consists of not too much food, of the highest and purest quality (unless you are drunk, when the quality isn't so important), a nicely set table, and someone, preferably of the opposite sex, of high intelligence to talk with. This last is important, the highly paid courtesans of Ancient Greece weren't highly paid because of their delectable talents at the satisfaction of bestial lust, these same talents were well known to every young female slave (but have subsequently been lost), no, these courtesans were highly paid because of their intelligent and entertaining table talk, the same thing is done to-day with the Geisha girls of Japan. But now to get back to the business of eating.

You will be told that you should chew your food thoroughly, that you shouldn't drink with meals that you should do this, that and the other. Experience teaches me that this is all rubbish, chewing is merely a means of breaking food up small so that it goes down to the stomach easily, you watch a savage eating, he wolfs his food, chewing just enough to reduce it to small pieces that won't choke him, then swallows. Drinking with meals is of course something that depends upon what you are eating. If you are dealing with scalding hot goulash you will want something cooling and water or light ale is the best. But if you are eating cold sausage or a salad, then you will want a strong beer or a light wine to wash it down. With heavy foods, like a thick hot steak with all the fixings, a rich burgundy is the right drink, it cleans the palate and allows it to appreciate the mixture of flavours. So therefore we have disposed and the mere physical side of eating, with the exception of the last echo, the burp. ((Bennett--hel)) Now why convention decrees (in Western civilisation) that a hearty and

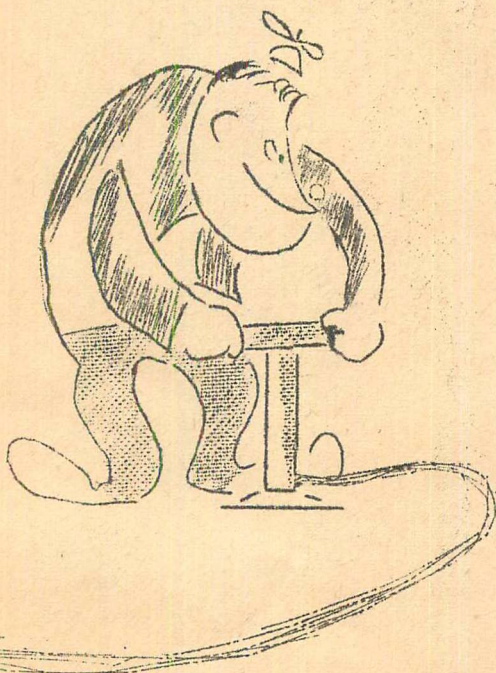


and contented burp is bad manners and eludes me. It could be because western technology crushes down the spiritual things. Rise from an Arabic meal without burping and the headman will have you executed for insulting his house, the burp signifies contentment and the full stomach. In a small restaurant in Yugoslavia that I know there was an almost continual music of burping, and the food was of the best. There were kebabs, alternate pieces of liver, steak and kidneys put on a skewer and barbecued over a charcoal fire, and then a lobster salad, whose centre piece had been in the sea that morning, and followed (simply enough) by a bowl of peaches and grapes. The Yugoslavs alas do not have good coffee, a wise man refuses the coffee, it took only two cups to make me wise.....

Now as to the preparation of the food. The man who can't cook is not worth a light, Dr. Johnson agrees with me when he says "The man who cannot look after his belly can look after nothing". Why are the highest kitchen posts held by men? A man has imagination, that is why. I'm not decrying women as cooks, some women are quite good when they have been suitably trained, and the newly married husband should take his wife gently by the hand and educate her into the art of cooking. A friend of mine got married and told his wife on the morning after the wedding night that he would show her the first principles of cooking. After he had unwound the frying pan from around his neck where his ever-loving spouse had wrapped it, he put it back in its place and selected a griddle. Upon this he cooked bacon until it was just crisp and put it on strips of toast in a warm oven. Rapidly he put eggs on the greased griddle, gave them two seconds to jell and then broke the yolks with a sharp knife and worked the eggs until they were a froth of golden yellow delight. By this time the perculator was bubbling merrily and the plates that were warming in the oven were right. The bacon on toast was put on the plates, with the scrambled eggs, and coffee was duly poured out. The amazed wife was quite willing to learn after that. So my friend next instructed her in the art of making goulash which is not so difficult as it sounds, nor yet very easy.

Now there has been more talk about the implements of cookery than enough, and so I shall say not a word of pans mixers and the like, let us now talk about what you eat off, rather than what you cook in, and the eating irons also we shall mention. Now it is my eternal lament that pewter plates have gone out of fashion, I have yet to see any, though I keep an eye on the local second hand shops. I have a pewter tankard that is quite good, although it is of modern make, and the alloys have not the qualities that they had in the old days. Well now, I speak in favour of pewter plates, I have not tried plates of treen (or the ignorant may say wood) but they were supposed to be better than pewter; but at least it is possible to buy metal plate to put your joint of meat on, for the rest you will have to use china. Idiots buy dainty thin plates that a slight breeze will blow away, wise men buy plates as thick as they can get them so that they act like a thermos flask and hold the heat. These plates then will be of three

sizes only. Small, for holding a roll or a sandwich medium (a centimetre



or two greater in diameter than the small plate,) for light snacks and large (three to four centimetres greater in diameter than the medium plate) for the main course. There are wide, shallow dishes that idiots serve soup in, but for myself I like soup served in a deep basin. Of eating irons there should be a small knife with a serrated edge, this cuts bread, then a knife with a long (but not flexible) blade with an edge with which you should be able to shave, and a small knife, also murderously sharp for dealing with fruit (a medical friend of mine uses a small scalpel with an interchangeable blade). Your fork should at the most have three prongs and be two-thirds the length of the largest knife. A spoon? Well, this is a matter of personal choice, some clumsy people use a fork as well as a spoon for eating dessert--we can't all be clever I guess, but a spoon properly used should be enough. For soup a big heavy spoon is of course necessary. There are people who desire to impress others with their social excellence and have rows of implements at each side of their unfortunate guest. Sensibly the Eastern peoples keep the implements down by the simple process of serving bread upon which the eating irons are wiped ready for the next course.

But I see that I'm committing the usual sin of talking too long, so I shall end by saying this. The essential thing at any eating session is time. If you haven't time to eat and let it settle then don't eat. It is this that is responsible for the myriad stomach complaints in every country where meals are eaten hurriedly. Time allocations are two hours for a main meal, an hour for a light meal and half an hour for the odd sandwich. So to everyone I say, why not eat ? ? ? (but properly).....

ALAN BURNS

&%&%&%&%&THE END&%&%&%&%&

LETTER TO A

WITCH

BY

CLAY HAMLIN & MIKE MITCHELL



Dear sister Hecate,

Your latest parchment was just received and I was very happy to see the photo enclosed of the latest addition to the family. Cute little monster, isn't it.

By the way we got a great laugh out of an incident recently when one of those silly Saturnalian agents who are trying to spy on us went and tried to disguise himself and attend our festivities at the latest Walpurgis Nacht. That costume he was wearing was much more suitable to Halloween than Walpurgis. And all he got for his trouble was a through soaking from a thunderstorm that "just happened" to come along.

The weather is absolutely horrible around here lately, sunshine glaring down every day, winds so gentle they

couldn't tear the lid off a wet paper box, and the air filled with stench of flowers. And if that wasn't enough, the hideous cacaphony of the (Pardon the language) birds. They finally interfered so much with a delicate incantation I was doing that I had to lose my pet vulture Krushchy, on them. He flew up high, and then went into a dive directly into a swarm of those creatures, losing cries reminiscent of the screams of the damned. It made me a bit homesick, but we haven't been troubled by those creatures since.

But we did have one good day, it dawned dark and drizzly, the clouds sank lower and lower, and grew thicker till at noon it was almost dark enough for a stroll in the cemetery. Then came a thunderstorm, and the black sky was gay with lightning. I could almost hear the crackle of burning barns.

Our political campaign is most amusing this year. Seems someone in the Bureau for the Perpetration of Unethical Practices is tied with the Demoncrats, and has accused our candidate of honesty. Something about turning down a perfectly legitimate bribe to appoint one of his friends to the position of treasurer of the Damnation Army. Lots of graft there you know, which is why I was happy that they actually went and appointed an accountant, myself. Got to save jobs like that for political patronage you know. Course my agent gets her share, she is a sybyll who is making quite a name for herself recently in predicting the werewolf races down at Belpheger Stadium.

I have another new job recently too, lecturing a group of the Hellfire Girls on Use of Income Tax as an instrument of damnation. Thats a fine group, its kept many an apprentice witch from winding up in Sunday School or a choir. Girls nowanights are no more inherently good than they ever were, they are simply looking for some excitment.

Activity at the Koven Klub is increasing. The nights are growing longer now, and the vacation season is ending. The Weird Girls have just returned from Stygian City, all three of them are well pallored. Those who vacationed in the mountains had a poor season I am told. At Venusburg for instance, there was a solid week of sunshine.

Well, first thing we know it will be Halloween again.
Till I see you again, don't take any silver nickles.

Your brother,

Beelzy.

Clayton Hamlin in a letter:...But by all means publish that Letter to a Witch in either English or German, or in Martian if you prefer.

Hel Klemm: This latest group meeting of the Moers Science Fiction Group depraved in an only petting party!

GIMMICK, GIMMICK, WHO'S GOT THE GIMMICK ?

-19-

by

MIKE DECKINGER

There's one thing I like about films; they're so unpredictable. Unpredictable not only in content, but in novelty.

The first big novelty is all due to the work of Mr. Edison and this was followed by the talky, which was just a revolutionary when it was first introduced, as was the television when it too first arrived on the scene, almost as if to herald in the new age.

Well, we're in the new age by ghod. We've got everything we can possibly use in this new age and more. We have bombs to blow us off the face of the Earth, and if that doesn't entirely do the trick then the radiation will. We have commercials, designed to drive viewers away from their tv sets in ever increasing droves.

Yes sir, we are sure thorough about what we are trying to do.

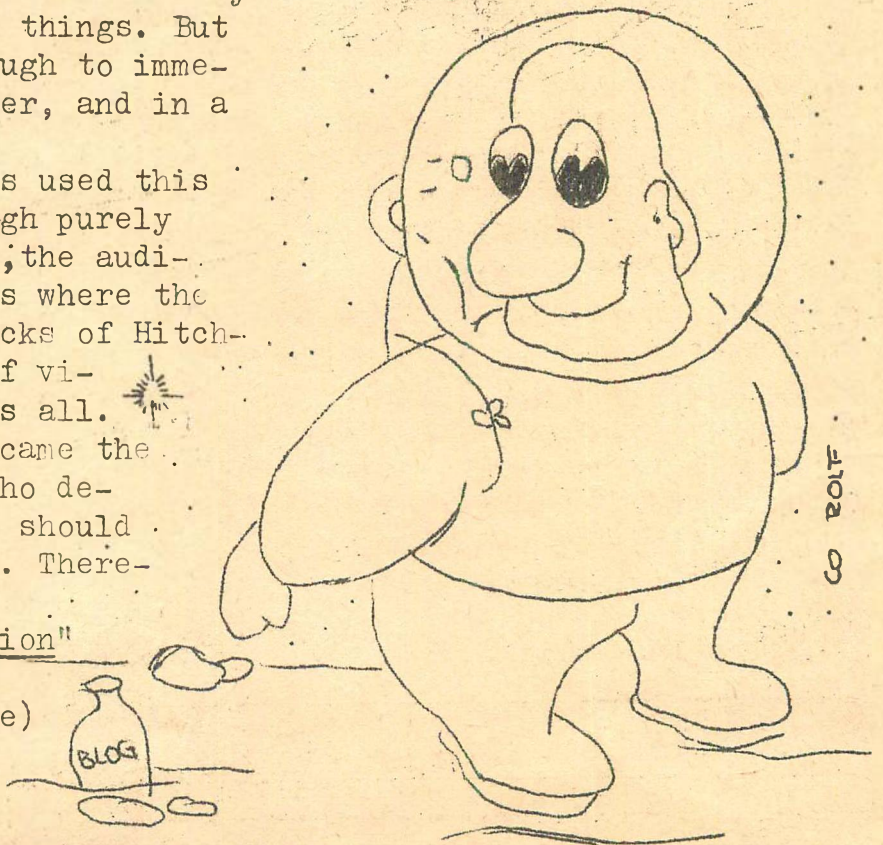
And finally we have the film gimmick.

To really appreciate the film gimmick, one must be a con-issuer of films (like me) and really get to know how things work out, to understand how the gimmick fits in.

Believe it or not, Alfred Hitchcock was the first to exploit the gimmick craze with his earlier films like THE LADY VANISHES, THE 39 STEPS, and THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO MUCH (the original 1935 version). It was Hitchcock's premise that there must be some sort of sustaining point, to a film that keeps the viewer glued to the screen. It must be noticeable to all those watching and it must not be too hidden. It can be a chase for a stolen diamond or a seemingly pointless manhunt or any one of a hundred different things. But it must be interesting enough to immediately appeal to the viewer, and in a sense, carry him a long.

Hitchcock has used this trick countless time, though purely on a visual level. That is, the audience can see it, but that's where the perception ends. The gimmicks of Hitchcock play upon the sense of vision and hearing but that's all.

Then along came the late, lamented Mike Todd who decided that the olfactories should have a hand in the fun too. Therefore, he christened a new device called "Smell-O-Vision" (though literally such a process would be impossible) and made SCENT OF MYSTERY, a delightful little pursuit film with thrilling



Teeves



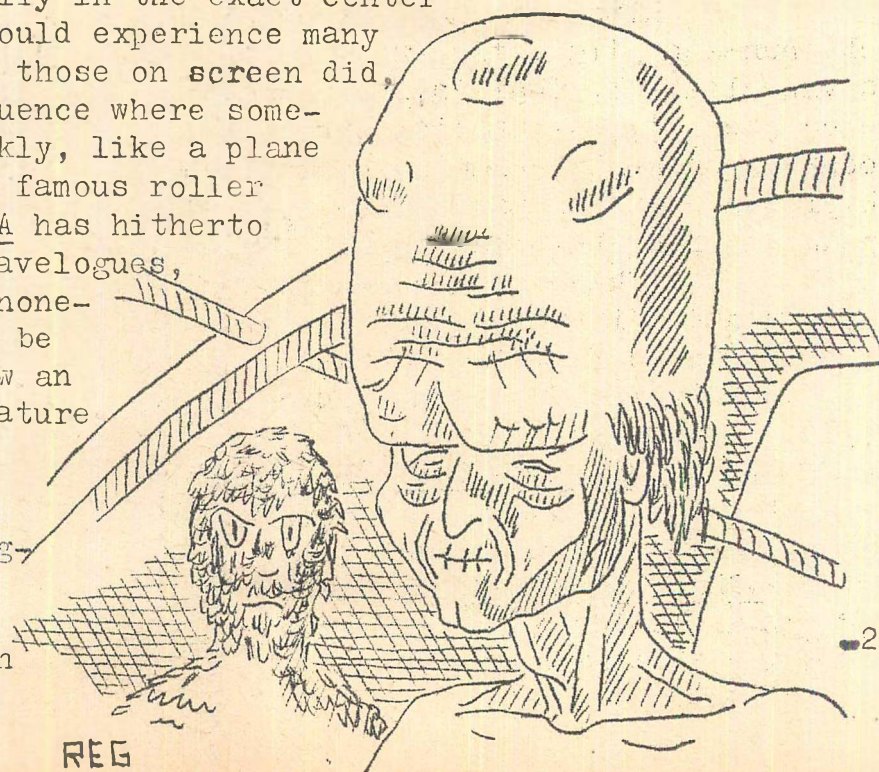
scenery , plenty of suspense , and an added attraction which had never been seen before: smell. Little ducts in front of each seat in the theatre emitted smells corresponding to the action on the screen for a short while, just long enough for a viewer to get a sizeable whiff of them, and then were blown away. While the whole system was unusual, the film could easily have gotten along without the smell.

Another similar "smell" device, released about the same time as "Smell-O-Vision" was "Aroma-rama" which was used in a travelogue called BEHIND THE GREAT WALL. Like the

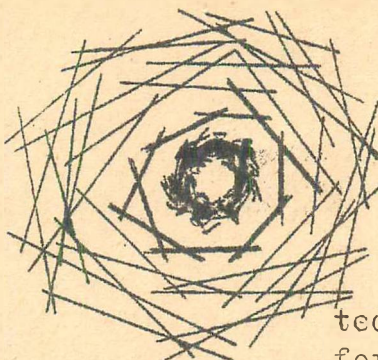
Todd invention, it was used once and then shelved. As a matter of fact more widespread showing of SCENT OF MYSTERY has been halted. (by Mike Todd Jr. I believe, who only wants the film to be shown at a theatre with "Smell-O-Vision" installed).

Visual gimmicks began in 1952 with Lowell Thomas' THIS IS CINERAMA (title of the film used to introduce the gimmick, CINERAMA). It was based on the proposition that more range the eye took in, the wider the perception and the more it would experience. A revolutionary new screen was unveiled for this, which divided into three segments. Three cameras housed in small booths were required for the film, each showing 1/3 of the picture. When combined together on the screen, what the viewer saw was a wide dazzling panorama of sight and sound which seemed almost to engulf him. Seated in the proper location to receive the best effect, usually in the exact center of the theatre, one could experience many of the sensation that those on screen did, particularly in a sequence where something is moving quickly, like a plane or train, or even the famous roller coaster ride. CINERAMA has hitherto been used only for travelogues, very attractive one nonetheless, but it would be interesting to see how an actual full length feature would fare under the CINERAMA treatment.

Probably the biggest handicap to a widespread CINERAMA showing is that it can



cc Rol F



-21-

only be shown in theatres with specially equipped screens and booths. On a normal flat screen it would not work, and thus and theatre that pre-sents it must undergo a compleat overhauling first.

Three dimensional films started out big and then took a turn for the worse, after about two dozen such films had been made.

Probably the biggest drawback was the necessity for the viewer to to wear specially treated poloroid lenses, which unified the two images on the screen in to one sharp picture that had definite depht to it.

glasses of having aside wore off

as an uncomfortable nuisance, and to duck your head to miss the arr to let the charging horses race

ded the the novelty ow, or move by soon

more to the ot of his ture, part neccs nui- as pre- or ab- and son was ne- pe was pu- it. not

Actually the 3-D offer in audience participation her gimmick thus far. With 3-D the depht was so terrific that the seat unconsciously fit himself in for at times you could feel as if of it. The 3-D glasses themselves sary nuisance, though I don't sance is the proper word. They necessary for viewing the pic- scription glasses are for people impaired sight. There was out them that was uncomfo- I tend to think the big- for the 3-D films' lack of the fact that the viewers, ver quite adjust themself to of picture they were watching to great, unlike CINERAMA, and lic could either accept it They chose the latter, proving not ready for it.

films had than any of illusion viewer in to the pic- you were were a think ture as with poor very little rtable, gest rea- success could the ty- . The change the viewing or reject they were

is the the TING

Right now responsible for the latest series ridiculous skeloten in HOUSE ON ((DAS HAUS AUF DEM GEISTERHÜGEL shockbox in THE TINGLER ((SCHREI RIP -LER KOMMT))), and the Ghost Viewer

William Castle of gimmicks, HAUNTED HILL, --Hel)) WENN DER in

RIP



Don't miss BUG EYE 8, John Baxter!
We'll publish a story by Chris
Miller about a pet kangaroo!

13 GHOSTS. And these are just the beginning for Castle, he is really cashing in on the audience's gullibility to be the first to try out some new gadget.

As I mentioned in an article I did for another fanzine, the next gimmick might be a special device to raise the heat of the theatre 10 degrees whenever Jayne Mansfield or Marilyn Monroe come on the screen.

But of course this idea is blatantly absurd. Why we'd never get a gimmick like that for----

-----almost ten years, I'd predict.

BBBBBTHE ENDBBBB

MIKE DECKINGER

Gerfandom and the development of s-f

by

WALTER ERNSTING

What America has done in 35 years and has been managed by the British in about 20 years (and less), the Germans did in not yet seven years. But don't believe that therefore Germans are modern or tolerant.

To make a long story short (because quite a lot has been said about Gerfandom and still more written) here some important dates: In the year 1953 the Pabelverlag published the first s-f serial with the hero Jim Parker (like Captain Future by E. Hamilton) and in 1954 followed the first serial with translations: UTOPIA-Großband. I was the editor of this still running serial that time, and because I've been a fan (never mind the meaning of that word!!) 'since about 1933, I saw in such a serial the one and only occasion, to gather the unknown fans in Germany, Austria and the Swizz, to let them know, other exist, to give them a chance to become friends. Well, I established the METEORITEN with letter department and special room for the immediately founded "Science Fiction Club Deutschland", which got 800 members very soon.

Some more serials were published. First I became editor of the UTOPIA-Magazine, later I did help the Moewig-Verlag to publish TERRA-Kleinband and after that TERRA-Sonderband (most translations).

A NEW FERDY FUGGHEAD ADVENTURE

-24-

It was in the year 5567 that Ferdy Fugghead became the first Earthman ever to perfect a method of identifying with absolute certainty a member of the wily aliens of the Empire of Ootang.

For years the Ootangs had been spying on the Terrestrials, their ability to change their shape at will made them ideal for such work.

Not that there was really much difference between Earthmen and Ootangs mentally, which made it all the more insulting when the Ootangs referred to Earthmen as big, clumsy shape-fixed apes..... upon hearing this the Terran Government decided that they'd had enough and sent a fast ship with Ferdy Fugghead aboard out to the perimeter of the Terran Protectorate with instructions to take the Ootangs down a peg or two, which was a little difficult as no one had figured out how to tell an Earthman and an Ootang apart anyway.

On arriving at a perimeter planet Fugghead immediately imprisoned the six likeliest suspects and at the same time ordered 24 tough women space sergeants into the cell block with orders to nag the six suspects in six-hour shifts.

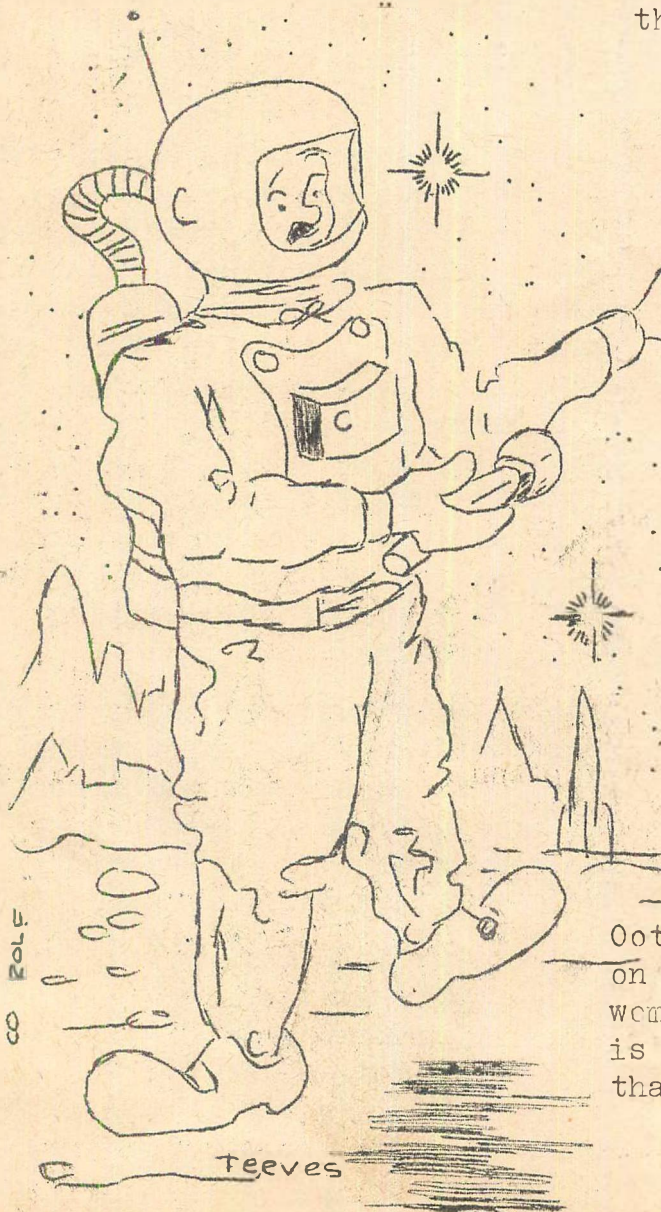
Although extremely puzzled at these strange orders they obeyed, after all, Fugghead had the full authority of the Terran Government behind him..

And eventually, after nearly a week of continual nagging and berateing, one of the prisoners broke down, and as his features flowed and changed confessed the he was an Ootang.

Fugghead immediately arranged for a Galaxy-wide TV broadcast and dragged the Ootang in front of the camera.

"Do you admit", he said, "that we "apes of Terrans" have made monkeys out of the Ootangs"...the prisoner sobbed, but on seeing the row of untired space-women he hung his head, "yes, that is perfectly true", he said, "I admit that I'm a Harangued Ootang. "

KEN CHESLIN



W A N E

I think the lettercol is this time a great improvement
contrary to the last one. Let's start with :

RUSS BROWN 2102 Albans, Houston 5, Texas, U.S.A. first his comment on
No. 5 : ((I'd asked him for a copy of HORIZON))

Dear Helmut,

I'd be more than happy to trade HORIZON for TRE---if I still pubbed ZON. There hasn't been an issue from me in over two years. That's not to say it's gone for good--I'm struggling to escape the slimy clutches of gafia even now. Just yesterday I drug out my ditto and said in contemplation of the dusty object for an hour or two.

I have indeed been gafia!! Fmz and much correspondence over the last year have gone un-answered. YOU see before you one of the first letters I've written to a fan in many a moon. (And if any-body can really gafiate it's a Texfan--just ask Dodd.) Maby with this letter I can begin my return to the ways of the trufan---maby...

But anyway, returning to the subject at hand--namely BUG EYE. Your zine was essentially a pleasant one. It made me regret that I couldn't read German and had to limit myself to the English section.

Gindorf had a pretty readable style, and makes a pleasant columnist. I presume that his campaign for more faanish fans is directed at Germany,((yes)), for I don't think there's much need of such a campaign elsewhere, ((I see, you were really gafia!! There are a dozen sercon zines in your country at the moment! Alas 6th fandom is over!)) In fact, maby there's a need for a zine or two in the Gernsback tradition ----of course, his description of Thea Grade's zine "filled with serious articles on astronomy" doesn't move me to rush out and get a life-time sub. Gindorf's mention of INFIBULATION was kind of interesting--it is an intriguing and unfamiliar word.

According to my dictionary, instead of being limited to animals, it is used specifically in connection with primitive people.... ((aia, and are you there ???))

Stenfors'chicks didn't seem quite up to their usual eye-easing par. Noticed these illos in CANDY F. Was unjust to Bo--'fraid it must be your stencil cutting.

Dodd was Dodd. What else can I say---that I recognized at least one of the films reviews as a reprint and/should be credited as much. ((all reviews were reprints!))

Well, let's see what RUSS BROWN has to say on TRE 6:

Dear Hel,

Gindorf's column was intersting--now that Gerfandom has got a real, honest-to-ghu feud, you will undoubtedly be accepted by fans everywhere. Man, you've arrived. While on the subject of Gindorf's column, I notice he says that certain unorthodox literary historians attribute Shakespeare's writing to Chaucer, I must agree, calling such a literary historian "unorthodox" is more than just. Guess he meant Bacon or maby Marlowe ?

The thing that stuck me most about Dodd's column was that a pmz actually went down in its price. As Alan says: "A worthy ambition in any era." But perhaps not practical--for it seems that the prouines here

in the US that have failed to match price hikes have folded.....

Thea Grade, Cheslin and Burns all very readable.

-26- Deckinger's piece was clever and fannish, too. (Luck on your crusade for a more faanish Germany---perhaps you ought to translate stories such as this...) ((We've done, and are still doing it! Rudi has translated THE DISAPPEARING FAN by Willis, B.Nero Blüm POSTMORTEM by Warner, Tom Schlück SCHOOL DAZE by Berry and he's also translating THE GOONS GOES WEST. You see, we've tried it..... I'm translating THE BLOGGINS SAGA at the moment.....))

One of the early lines in THE STAPPLER AND ME almost stopped me from reading it. ("after I have been allowed to explain about troubles putting the fanzine together,") I was scared to death that it was going to be another of those lengthy "my trials & tribulations as a faned."

Best--

Russ

ALAN BURNS, Goldspink House, Goldspink Lane, Newcastle/Tyne.2, ENGLAND :
Dear Helmut,

This BUG EYE 6, well now your stapling is lousy, but inside I observe an article about an enchanted stapler, I showed to Nothing my own stapler who snorted and said that only ill-bred foreign stapler would behave in such a way, and that as an English gentleman he would have nothing to do with it, and added that the only decent thing about NORTHLIGHT was that it was immaculately stapled.

But back to BEM (which means Bug Eye Magazine) I observed also an article by Ken Cheslin on walking. This is not for me, after about twenty-five kilometres I begin to tire slightly, unless I've good company, curious how the company seems to vanish after about ten or of fifteen kilos tho'!

Thea Grade's letter was interesting, and I can't conceive of vodka and orange brandy as a very potent or even palatable cocktail. A much nicer drink called Monk's Ruin is made by taking a glass of good brandy and a glass of Benedictine and taking a mouthful of one and topping it up from the other, take another mouthful and top it up again, using the same glass you started with, anyway by judicious manipulation you end up with a half and half brandy and benedictine. Now you may reasonably ask why not mix the two together and have done with it? Well the secret is that the individual mouthful varies. The girl friend will take a little sip and top up and so the drink will be blended right to suit her, now me, I take a hearty swallow, and top up with half the glass and it's just right for me. By the way, have you ever tried Danzigergoldwasser? Its a potent drink that you are served in thimble-sized glasses and it has minute pieces of gold leaf floating in it. Just the thing for a cold day. Which brings me to an appointment I am making. The bug Eye now has a wine and food correspondent---ME---in earnest oof which I enclose an article.

Now as to the rest of the BEM--well of course the illos and layout are good--Alan Dodd on old Mags--well they are useful, if toilet paper is short (the pulp paper was soft and comforting).

Regards

Alan

PETER MABEY, 10 Wellington Square, Cheltenham, GLOS., ENGLAND :
Dear Hel,

I cannot comment on Rolf Gindorf's article fully, not having seen the original one in TEE 4, or Jürgen Mann's: but I do agree with you that there should be enough room in the country for the 'fannish' and the 'sercon'. After all, nobody is going to forcibly disband the sercon groups or

force anyone who doesn't want to read humerous to do so!! They can go on electing one another to posts, passing resulations, and generally telling the rest of fandom what it should or shouldn't do - and we can ignore them and go on enjoying ourselves! But there is, alas, a type of mentality that regards enjoyment as somewhat sinful, and certainly irresponsible; and so we get the sercon fan who explodes at the very idea of fannish fën, and all but demands that they should be abolished. I don't think much can be done about him, tho'.

Alan Dodd's 'Review from the Past' is of interest - though I've not looked to see if I've a copy of the zine he discusses this time, and so can't comment on his opinions of the stories. As far as the fanzine reviews are concerned, further comment on my part is hardly possible - especially as I've only read a few of the ones reviewed.

Although I suppose I could find out what the German parts are all about by looking up most of the words, I don't know enuf of your language to make this other than an excessively slow process, so I regretfully omit to say anything about them also. Perhaps if I spent more time with the entertaining bilingual story by Chuck Devine it would do me some good!

All the English parts are good -- particularly Ken Cheslin's article which gets nicely out of the usual fannish rut. (The trouble about ones like Mike Deckinger's is that however well done - like Mike's - they do eventually lack of variety: so an illustration of the fannish attitude of a different type is most welcome)

Thea Grade runs on entertainingly: does she really look like the picture on page 7? ((hihi..... of course!!)) - if so, she must be a very popular dentist! (Or perhaps to her patients, she looks more like the left one on p.9!)

With best wishes from all here

-27-

Peter H. Mabey

BOB LICHTMAN, 6137 S. Croft Ave., Los Angeles 56, California, U.S.A. :
Helmut:

Bug Eye is rather an extraordinary fanzine--since it's the only German fanzine I receive, outside of Eylmann's SAPSzine, it gives me a peek into an entirely different range of activity. Unfortunately, it isn't quite representative of German fandom as a whole. ((How shall I say that we don't intend to represent German fandom!!!!!!))

I've come in late on this article by Mr. Mann, so I'm not quite sure what he's talking about, or for that matter Rolf Gindorf. It sounds to me like the start of a good-old-fashioned feud, and as such a lot of fun to non-participants. Not having seen both sides of the argument, however, I cannot do the fannish thing and take sides. I will note, however, that "we're losing money" is a rather limp excuse for folding a fanzine. Fanzines have never made money as a whole, though some isolated magazines have cleared a small profit. For instance, Laney's Acolyte after the first few issues not only paid for itself completely but there was enough of a surplus that Laney could produce with the extra money a quarterly FAPAzine of 10 to 12 pages! I believe that LeeH's Quandry at least broke even--I know that towards the end she actually had to turn away subscriptions because the circulation was getting to be altogether too high. Doubtless other fanzines have made money, too, but these are two examples I know for sure right offhand.

Yech! If I'd known that my article in Ryan's zine was going to inspire something like this thing from Deckinger, I'd've had second thoughts about writing it. My article was only intended as a what-if sort of thing, without ever to go into details, but Mike has, and somehow it just doesn't come off.

Incidentally, my name is spelled "Lichtman" and not "Lich'man". ((hi, Art Hayes!)) Perhaps the last is proper German, ((NO, Lichtman is German!)), but I'm not. My father is German--second Generation German, however--and my mother is Austro-Hungarian. My mother also speaks Hungarian rather well, as does my father to a lesser degree, and since I never bothered to pick up the tongue I find it endlessly annoying when they exclude me from the conversation that way. However, by brother and I know French...

Fanzine reviews are interesting, especially yours. I might pass on the editor of SOL the word that his title has been used before, and probably before he started this current reincarnation of it. ((SOL came out in July '57, and I know for sure that Rheinhard Claus, the first editor, didn't know that Ish had used this before yet. At that time only a few Gerfans knew something about Anglo/American fandom at all!)) Back around 1951 and 1952 a Stateside fan by the name of Dave Ish produced a passel of rather good issues under the title SOL. Also SPACE TIMES has been used before, by some English fanzine that has long since ceased publication.

Staplers can be a lot of sweat sometimes. ((Ohhhh, yes!)) I started out in fandom with a Tot 50 stapler, one that would only staple about 10 sheets of paper decently. It soon got rather run down and so I purchased a little Imperial stapler, which had the same capacity. However, I used the Imperial to staple much larger projects. When I stapled an 18-sheet fanzine with it and the recipients almost all complained about it shedding its backcover, I decided that I'd pool my resources and get a decent sized stapler. So for around three bucks I purchased a Bostitch which has a capacity of at least 30 sheets of paper and have been using it ever since. However, on occasions it gives me lots of annoying trouble. For instance, right now it likes to feed the staples crookedly out of the opening so that they break in two when they enter the paper. The Shaggy crew has the best stapler made in this country; it's a Swingline 13 which takes a 1/2 inch staple. ((Did Donaho staple the latest HAB with it?)) You can staple around 75 sheets of paper with it at once.

I guess that does it. best

Bob

CHUCK DEVINE, 922 Day Drive, Boise, Idaho, U.S.A. :

-28-

Dear Helmut,

I liked Rolf's article. When he really has something to talk about he is very good. His chatter is fun too but this ish he was better than usual. Jürgen Mann sounds like a Großer Dummkopf!! ((hahahahahahOgawd!)) I make more "printing errors" than Rolf. Since Herr Mann seems to be such an expert on the English language, ((hi!!! just ask Cheslin!)), why doesn't he write me so I can improve my poor. (I've only been speaking English for 17 years and Mr. Mann can, no doubt, offer many suggestions to improve my speaking if he can find so much wrong with Rolf's.)

TELESKOP died because it was losing money? What fanzine ever made money? As far as I know, we all lose money.....

Alan Dodd didn't interest me as much this time since I have never

read any of the magazines he reviewed.

Thea Grade's letter sounded like a lot of letters in CRY! I liked it; I'd like to send her a copy of PILIKIA. ((Her adress: Thea Grade, Wiesbaden-Kastel, Hochheimerstr. 1, Germany))

I liked Ken Cheslin's article too. I also love to walk. (Mainly because I have to. I haven't got a car and U can't afford a bus) I remember one time I didn't think much of walk tho. A friend and I had driven out onto the desert (really more like a prarie) and it had just rained. We were tearing along an old road that must have been left over from the days the indians were running around Idaho. It was really a sheep trail and, of course, we got stuck in the middle of a huge mud-puddle. We hiked about 18 miles back into town.....

Mike Deckinger is picking poor old Oral Robert's now? He ought to be ashamed of himself! Doesn't Oral have the right to make his living the way he wants? Just because he claims to be a Saint and can heal people by shouting at them is no reason for Mike to make fun of this fine ~~bastard~~ man. (I'll bet Oral Roberts goes to a doctor whan he's sick.)

Ken has the right idea in his letter. I don't think that any fandom can be all sercon or faanish, though. Even in the past years when American fandom was supposed to be very "faanish", we had discussion zines. CRY of the Nameless usually had more discussions going on in it's lettercol than J. Campbell had in his Astounding editorials.

More reviews by Dodd! Ghod! (I don't think Peggy Rae McKnight has a deutsch boyfriend. She commented about having a boyfriend but he was not German in one of her letters to me. I think she just like the word "etwas". And, besides that, when someone asked her "what does "etwas" mean?" she could answer: "Oh, 'etwas' means something." "Yes, I know it means something, but what does it mean?" I bet that after a while she could drive a person out of his mind!'

My German must improving! I could read some of "Fandom in Frankreich".

Jeffery Trueheart was rather confusing when it was compressed into one page. Hummmm, What childish nonsense!

The artwork seemed better thish, except for the illo on page 5 which looked sloppy.

-29-

Blessings,

Chuck

ROBERT COULSON, Route 3, Wabash, Indiana, U.S.A. :

Dear Helmut:

Thea Grade demonstrates the perversity of womankind in BUG EYE 6. She writes a letter of comment. Does she write it to YANDRO, which has a perfectly good lettercolumn? No, she writes it to BUG EYE, which doesn't.

Personally, I'm all in favor of more German participation in TBE, as long as the kindly eitor translates it into English for me: I mean, I can read the words of Alan Dodd, Alan Burns, Ken Cheslin and Mike Deckinger in almost any fanzine--or in letters, for that matter. But I don't get the encounter Rolf Gindorf, Michel Ehrwein or Hel Klemm outside the pages of BUG EYE. ((hu!! Rolf Gindorf has had several letters in SHAGGY, ORION and some more, Michel Ehrwein isn't German but French and he has had an article in NORTHLIGHT 10, Hel Klemm, finally, is letterhacking to almost any zine he gets!!!!)), So, even when the English or

American contributor is actually a better writer -- and he isn't, always -- I'll be more interested in the German one. (I don't mean for you to cut all international participation, but the more German contributors, the better.)(You see, we've done our best...content!?)

Since you seem to be discussing serconnishness vs. fannishness, I will put in a word. I think that the basic concern of fans should be s-f. (We are, after all, s-f fans, and the individual who doesn't like science fiction is bound to be an outsider as far as the group as a whole is concerned.) However, there's not ^{enough} science fiction in the world to supply all the fanzines in the world. Bruce Pelz makes up two-year indexes of YANDRO and other fanzines; counting up in his last one I discovered that in the past two years I had reviewed 178 different fanzine titles. Not issues, remember, but titles; I'd reviewed several issues of most of the titles. Now there are not enough different aspects of science fiction to be written about; when you get into the hundreds of titles, either you're going to have a lot of articles which simply repeat each other, or you're going to have to find something else to write about. Actually, in practice we get both. A lot of the articles on stf are simply dull repetitions of what someone else has said, and we've found other things to write about. American fanzines print articles on politics, comic books, television, philosophy, ((Jazz!)) and so on; British fanzines print articles about British fans. Now in Germany you probably haven't reached the saturation point yet; There are probably enough possibilities for articles on science fiction that would be new to your readers to keep you going for a while. But you're going to run out sooner or later, and it's better to have a balance of "serious" and "faanish" publications than to start going in cycles like American fandom has done: first all serious zines, then all fannish, then serious again, etc. (And if anyone mentions fiction, there isn't enough of that to fill 178 fanzines, either; not even bad fiction.)

"Jeffery Trueheart" comes out better in German than it did in English.

With all due respect to Gindorf, I disagree with him about the purpose of fandom. It does provide "a meeting ground for novel and unorthodox ideas" (I'm a bit dubious about the "intelligent" part), but that isn't its purpose, that's just an added advantage. The purpose of fandom is the same as the purpose of any other hobby; to provide amusement for the participants. The fact that fandom provides something in addition to amusement, merely means that it's a valuable hobby--it remains a hobby, to be enjoyed.

Bob

P.S. Thea Grade should come to the US if she likes to drive cars. 180 miles? A mere jaunt! We go to Milwaukee (250 miles, approximately) several times a year just to see fans.

And now, our fan in JAPAN: ROY TACKETT, MSgt LeRoy H. Tackett, USMC, H&HS-1, (Comm), MWHG-1, 1stMAW, FMFPac, c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif. U.S.A. ((uffff!))

Sunday, 12 February 1961,
Iwakuni, Japan

-30-

Helmut,

A bit of comment on the last BUG EYE although I'm somewhat handicapped in that I am here and the magazine is some 7,000 miles away in Albuquerque. However, I shall call on my memory, which is sometimes faulty, and see what I can do.

I think this last was pretty good issue. It shows much more balance

than your previous one did. I think you can reach a good balance with a column or two of chat about German fandom in English, and of course, your columns in German and Swedish for your German and Swedish readers. A story or two and a lettercol and you've got a good combination for an international fanzine.

As I mentioned previously I think your best course, as far as your English section goes, would be a run down on what is doing in German fandom and with German science fiction and fantasy. I don't think that I would concentrate too heavily on reviews of Anglo-American books and fanzines as we get that in our own zines. You can, of course, cover these in your German section for your German readers, but your American and English readers are going to be interested primarily in what you are doing there.

As for your fiction and general articles they would be of interest to all your readers. You might, as you did with the item by Chuck Devine, publish them in both English and German, however, this would probably cut down the amount of material you would use unless you let the magazine get completely out of hand and the page count go way up. I would prefer to see your zine stay about the same size as now and come out regularly rather than have it with an enormous page count and appear only infrequently.

I gather that German fandom has been rather on the serious side and is now attempting to break out into general fannish foolishness. Or at least part of it is anyway. Here again, you should work for a balance between serious and fannishness. Don't, for heaven's sake, abandon serious material completely to lose yourself in the morass of fannishness for the sake of being fannish.

A good editorial policy is to have a little of both and not too much of either. ((you see, I've obeyed to all your advices. Content!--hel))

So. And here I am in the land of the rising sun wishing that it would rise a bit higher. It is cold, wet, and windy in Japan at present. I have been here only a few days so haven't gotten a chance to do much looking around as yet. Iwakuni is on southern Honshu about 40 miles from Hiroshima. This is a new part of Japan for me. Last time I was out this way I spent most of my time in the Tokyo area.

The librarian here on the base tells me that there is quite a bit of Japanese science fiction available, however I shall probably have to go to Hiroshima to find it. Iwakuni is a rather small town so there won't be much available here. The problem, of course, will be to recognize the stuff. I fear that unless I can find a cover featuring rocketships and beams I'll have trouble finding Japanese science fiction. ((O, there are a lot of J.-s-f!!! Even SLAN had been translated into Japanese a couple of years ago! And...haven't you seen the famous Japanese "s-f" movies?)) And then there is the problem of how to read it once I find it. Since I have no Japanese at all it will be meaningless to me. Maybe I can prevail upon the librarian to do some translating for me. I rather doubt that I will be able to find any English translations although you never know. The spread of English throughout Japan is rather phenomenal so I just might be able to come up with something.

KEN CHESLIN, 18 New Farm Road, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, ENGLAND :

Howdy Helmut,

Rolf C Gindorf...like him or more truthfully I'm pleased he has more or less the same viewpoint on fandom as I have...nothing really to add to my ideas of fandom, just say again, "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy"..like a proverb..

Rolf U. Harder made a better job of that illo than I did, dunnowhy he should just copy illos, looks as if he could draw his own.

Thea Grade...I wish I could understood German, from the look of this "letter" there is a lot lost in the translation, even if Thea did it herself.

Thea a big-shot sericon type eh?, interesting. I wonder just why she decided Fannishness was the True Way of Life. Actually, it is curious to see, or at least sense, in between her fannish writing, the determination and single mindedness almost, of her sericon days peeping thru'. Actually I suppose she is a highly fannish fan, when her initial enthusiasm has worn off a bit she'll very probably read much better, I mean her writing is almost desperately fannish...Like perhaps she is trying too hard at the moment. Anyway, good luck to her I say.

So Alan Burns wants specialisation eh?...but then he says something about you've got to keep learning something new to stay adaptable...I just don't get it.

Say Helmut, Have GOSHOBBOBOY, HYPERSPACE, PIONEER or STUNK got an English section?..and what does STUNK mean? ((no! Only STUNK has had in No.5 a little English section but they gave it up. STUNK means stunk!! IT's the worst fanzine ever published in German speaking fandom!))

Ah, by far the best thing in this is the Chuck Devine thing, "The Stapler and Me". 'Wouldn't have been out of place in one of the big-time fanzines...An excellent story that you may be justly proud of printing.

That mad strip by Chuck amused me, I couldn't read the words of course, but illos make the "story" almost clear. A sort of crazy Buck Rogers type of strip. Mickey taking tho'.

-32-

yours,

ken cheslin

Well, the best letter now comes last: CRAIG COCHRAN, 467 West First Street, Scottsdale, Arizona, U.S.A.

Hi, Bug Eye,

I'd had just distant glimpses of Gerfandom until TBE came, but I have heard about its overabundance of serconnishness, so that might just be the reason I never got in too deep. However, now that I've seen TBE, I know ~~I never want to get in~~ that I was completely wrong in one phase, at least. TBE has the aurora (?) around it that makes it not serconsercon all the way through, but just a little on the edges with the rest humor, fun, and faanishness. Of course, you aren't wide-spread or publized enuf for you really get in with "the group" of faanish zines and have it be known that all Gerfandom isn't sercon. ((You're

wrong! TBE has a circulation of 150 and it goes to nearly every faned, fmz.-reviewer and letterhack!!!!))

Lately I've become a bit worried with Habakkuk, Kipple, and Esprit, to name a few, sprouting up all over and predictions coming in that this will be the new trend of fanzines in the near future of fandom. I'm a faanish fan and don't wish to see faanishness engulfed by real serconnishness nohowever; don't get it that I dislike the serconzines, as I've said somewhere or other before, but it's just that it'll be a pity if they continue to grow and soon outnumber faanish zines. Terry Carr will stand in till the last, I'm sure, but I don't know whether I could take it. Perhaps I could join in on to bring faans back into faandom. They're fine to have around and make intersting reading, but if you get too many of them...!capooey!

I'm in fandom for fun and something different that my mundane life brings (ghod, let's hope that fandom never gets as warped as my mundane life!), and not just to talk about serious subjects alla time. I mean, after all, mundanism is sercon and faanishness shouldn't be....completely. A little, fine; more, terrible. Can you ever get a laugh out of a real sercon zine?? Maybe occasionally, but they weren't meant for fun and laughter, but for serious discussion and that's what I don't want. Even discussing stf continuously gets boring and the few stf slanted fanzines (Mondy Evening Ghost, Ciln, Polhode, New Frontiers, Speculative Review) etc., now circulating are quite enough. They're dwarfed by faanishness, luckily.

The perfect fanzine that I've run across is Redd Bogg's Discord. In this zine, we find Redd's wunnerfully different humor mixed with his wunnerfully different serconnishness to make a perfectly well balanced ~~zine~~ fanzine. Yup, he got no.1 on my Fanac Poll ballot and Hugo ballot. Let's hope he wins, huh?? Habakkuk got about 5th, I think.

LONG LIVE FAANISHNESS O'ER THE EARTH !

-33-

Best,

Craig

Well folks, I think that makes it. We also heard from:

ROBERT E. GILBERT (sorry Bob, your LoC came too late), ART HAYES(ditto) , PEGGY RAE MCKNIGHT (she promised to write something about the PSFS in Germen (!!!!) haven't got it till now, tho'.) RIP SCHULTZ (too short), MIKE DECKINGER (ditto), ah, yes, Dr. ANTONIO DUPLA (he got a copy from Alan Dodd and liked TBE"very much". thanks, Doc, what about an article for me???) Hmm, suppose that's all, nextish will come in May/June.

Alan Dodd then will be back again with his REVIEW FROM THE PAST and the DODDMENTS. It will also contain Sture Sedolins col on Swedish Fandom in English, and a piece of faan fiction by a German fan. O yes, we have some talents here!!! Nero Blum for instance, he has an amusing, witty style I also hope to stir Ulf Miehe for doing a reguarly column about German s-f and fantasy. Tom Schlück, too, will be back again nextish with some of his best drawings. But still WE NEED ARTWORK, FICTION, ARTICLES !!!!! SEND US LOTS OF LoCs!!!!//~~ENEY FOR TAFE~~//PLEASE TRADE ALL FOR ALL!!!!!!// I intend to join an APA soon, send me your APAzines, bitte. RIP!, es muß heißen: Die Staatengeschichte. Wissenschaft,/ Hel Klemm und Ich. !!!!!

BUG EYE



- ☒ I'd like to print some-thing by you
- ☒ Bitte, send a LoC
- ☒ I'd like to trade (all for all) POL HO DE
- ☐ Why don't you send me your zine in trade
- ☐ We're in trade, ghu will save ya
- ☐ You CONTRIBUTED
- ☐ Your name is mentioned
- ☐ You reviewed it, do it once more, bitte
- ☒ You commented
- ☒ Review it, please
- ☐ You're a BNF
- ☒ Please send me your NAPA zine, too
- ☐ Why don't you
- ☒ You're JOHN BERRY
- ☒ You like Willy Brandt too
- ☒ You're a personal friend
- ☒ Other: PLEASE accept TDE as a trade for P.

Thanx NORM METCALF for sending me all your APAzi-nes.

DICK ENEY FOR TAPP

