

EMBER #7

A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF MUSE NEWS AND VIEWS

12 August 1946 Write DONN BRAZIER 1329 N. 3rd St., Milwaukee 8 Wisconsin
52- LETTERS FROM YOU: "Wasn't that a nice write-up in SCIENCE ILLUSTRATED? Surprised the hell out of me. The copy of Amz in the foto was the only disappointment. Who is this Groff Conklin? I seem to remember the name 'G. Conklin' from somewhere. I first thought that it had appeared with 'Calvin Perego' in collaboration for stories in the old Astoundings, but failed to find it upon researching. Could it be another penname of TCMcClary's?"-- Don Bratton of Hollywood. Joe Kennedy sends compliments "Received EMBER #2, and for a single sheet found it a very readable and thought-provoking publication. Format good, numbering of items reminiscent of BLOOMINGTON NEWS-LETTER." Another locality exhibits the peculiarities mentioned in item 13, for Albert Lopez writes "There is a place in New England reported by Ripley, I believe exhibiting characteristics similar to those you mention."

53- Milton Rothman writes, "Here's an item that might be amusing for Ember: You will recall a fuss made a couple of years ago about a 'magnetic current' supposedly discovered by Felix Ehrenhaft, a New York physicist. Astounding carried an article and it was in the papers. Then Astounding dropped it like a hot potato, although they'd promised further reports. Well, it seems that Ehrenhaft is still around writing copious letters to THE PHYSICAL REVIEW, which print abstracts of them with a straight face. Apparently nobody pays any attention to them because in every letter he has a new and momentous 'discovery', all of which causes not the slightest excitement among scientific circles."

54- CLIPPINGS from the mundane newspapers: Carlson sends two- PREDICTS TRAVEL BETWEEN PLANETS and MOVE OVER GARGANTUA, BROTHER MAN MAY BE MOVING INTO THE ZOO. The first clipping stems from AAF remarks on the subject--to the moon in 18 months and to the planets within 30 years. Major Calhoun, basis of the story, seems to be ahead of his time for the general run of the military. He expects the AAF to have a man carrying space ship within five years. The second is an editorial from the Minneapolis Tribune under H V O Eiren's by-line. The substance of the piece echoes some of Campbell's mutant worries--the globe will be taken over by the super-mutants who will stick Homo sapiens in cages. Dunkelberger sends a long clipping with the following explanation: "The article was written from my notes as Clarence had left for Mazila the previous Tuesday. Clarence is an old pal of mine. He was a member of the former Minn Dak Fantasy Society." The article tells of transmitter used in Moon Radar. Contact being built by former Fargo 'Ham' Operator, Clarence A. Helritz. There is a small cut of him along with the story written by Richard Olson. (By the way, though space won't let me print clippings intact, I retain them and will mail same to anyone so requesting. After a reasonable time lag I will expect them back of course.)

55- Paul Klingbiel cards me: "Following is a quote from 'Can You Beat It.' by Robert Pilgrim appearing in the JEWEL NEWS for July 29 (Courtney the Jewel Tea Salesman)- The Chinese have never taken to cheese -- and neither have the Chinese rice...rice, staple food of China, is also the staple of the Chinese Mouse and is used for bait in mousetraps."

56- On 6 August I was busily scanning some astronomical slides at my desk in the museum, when I suddenly became aware of intruding elements: a glance upward confirmed my intuition. There stood two fans, old timer Phillip A. Schumann, editor of PSYCHO and T////////, and a new person I had never seen. This person wore a fuzzy, cream colored mustache. It's name was Nicholas Carr -- from Chicago. Due to the shortness of the visit not much real s-f chatter was possible, but come again, Nic -- and bring your mustache.

57- A change of address: a card from Tucker (possibly known also as Justin Miles tells me that incidentally to Pacificconning he took a job at a movie studio in Hollywood, and is now living at 649 S. Bixel St, Los Angeles 14. The deal will last at least 2 months, he says. If you want a copy of the FINE LINE INDEX for 1945 write Bob; maybe he still has some available. Cost ?? Apparently there were 95 separate titles distributed thru general circulation.

58- While looking thru the astronomy books at the library the other day, I paged thru a book written in German. The title is DAS LEBEN AUF ANDEREN STERNEN, which they tell me means 'life on other stars'. The book is apparently a translation from either Swedish or Norwegian, whatever LUND means. The author is Kurt Lundmark; the publication date in Germany is 1930. Some of the photos and sketches in the book are very interesting, since they deal with life on other worlds. The little fellow over at the left is a sketch of a being from Mars. To me he looks a little like a chick embryo with tentacles.

59- WHILE THE BOMBARDMENT WAS KNOCKING THE TRENCH TO PIECES AT FOSSALTA, HE LAY VERY FLAT AND SWEATED AND PRAYED. "Oh Jesus Christ get me out of here. Dear Jesus, please get me out. Christ, please, please, please Christ. If you'll only keep me from getting killed I'll do anything you say. I believe in you and I'll tell everybody in the world that you are the only thing that matters. Please, please, dear Jesus."

THE SHEDDING I LOVED FURTHER UP THE LINE -- WE WENT TO WORK ON THE TRENCH AND IN THE MORNING THE SUN CAME UP AND THE DAY WAS HOT AND LUGGY AND JERKY AND QUIET. THE NEXT NIGHT BACK AT THE VILLA ROSSA HE DID NOT TELL THE GIRL HE WENT UPSTAIRS WITH ABOUT JESUS. AND HE NEVER TOLD ANYBODY. -- From Chapter VII of IN OUR TIME by Ernest Hemingway.

60- George Metzel reads in several Sabereports: "I am no more a witch than you are a wizard", Sarah Good stormed at her persecutor the Reverend Mr. Noyes in the Salem court at the height of the Salem witchcraft delusion, "and if you hang me God will give you blood to drink!" This seemingly impotent threat found curious fulfillment years later when Noyes died of apoplexy. -- from THE BIOGRAPHY OF COTTON MAYER, 1910, Chapter 3. George says further: "Nathaniel Hawthorne whose ancestor Justice John Hathorn was one of the persecutors at the Salem witchcraft trials made literary use of these historical facts in THE HOUSE OF THE SEVEN GABLES."

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