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brazier-
1324 N.33
Milwaukee

EMBER

93- THIS AND THAT: Klingbiel sends a news clipping called "Island in the Sky". Three photos and a too-brief text explain that a Donald J. Ritchie of Detroit, backed by a nice looking young lady Miss Jacqueline Lamb, 19, of St. Louis, has ideas for a man-made "planet". The sketch of his satellite is a ringed ring approachable by spacecraft. Does anyone know Ritchie or Lamb? Clipping: Milw. Sentinel 5 Sept 46. # Bob Bloch says: "Promotional plans on my album are sketchy...I know only the following...It consists of 3 double-faced 12" records, containing 3 complete STAY TUNED FOR TERROR shows. Album title is ~~STAY TUNED FOR TERROR~~ distributor is Mercury Records, and release date is tentative for end of this year. WT will cooperate with use of its name, probably run an ad. Inside cover of album will feature story on WT, the radio show, and yours truly." Plans are afoot for 39 more stories on STAY TUNED FOR TERROR, says Bloch. They're also going to try a wider audience than the first series was given. (Watch for a short autobiographical sketch of Bob in the near future to appear in this sheet.) # George Tullis jokes: "Remember when I was stationed on the HOLLYWOOD at Milwaukee's Lighthouse Depot? My yeoman striker was Jim Byrne, who would often remark about his social life, 'Y'know, the trouble with me, George, is that I got too many embers in the fire.'" # Assorted comments from Milton Rothman: "See the latest Air Trails, the first under Campbell's editorship. It promises to become a general science magazine a la the rotogravure section of Astounding." (refer #72 EMBER) "The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin had an editorial last week on space travel in which Campbell was mentioned. The same paper had a feature article about what kind of books people are taking out of the public library, and it said the run on fantasy books is heavy these days." # Says Arthur Joquel: "Wasn't 'Time Locker' a Gallagher story in ASF? If so, wonder why it was changed to 'Galloway' in the Healy-McComas collection?" # Dunk writes that recordings of music from LAURA and SPILLBOUND are equal to if not superior to LOST FRIEND. Former Victor Red Seal; latter Victor Black Label. # Add to poisons that leave no trace: STREPTOGENIC SULPHATE, used on soap opera "Road of Love" and caught by Bob Stein. # Albert Lopez says that the chemist quoted in hereport 46, Dr. Luder, happens to have been his old college chem prof. He adds that Luder is quite a brilliant man. Did you notice that the National Science Foundation, born in the Senate July 3 was killed in subcommittee six days later?

94- Arrivals this week: THE ATOMIC AGE 3#16&17 Joquel; STEFANO #59 Hevelin; NUFF Special Bulletin, Aug 31, Dunk. Of interest in the pro field are HARMERS for Sept. which has a wonderfully sympathetic article -- almost as though fan written -- by William S. Baring-Gould. It is almost 6 pages. It begins with the Newarkon and explains Fandom, conventions, what happened to AMAZING, and the future of s-f. This, with the Science Illustrated article previously mentioned, makes only the second favorable discourse on our hobby which I have read. ENCORE for Sept. reprints Benet's TROPOLITAN Nightmare, a classic poem. WEIRD TALES for Nov. with a nice Dolgov cover with what looks like a good line-up of short stories.

D.B. Thompson's new address: P.O. Box 427 Hays, Kansas

PACIFICONTRACETIVE - or: Lost in the Fourth Convention, by Milton A. Ackerman
* * *

Bright and early one sunny California morning the train pulled into Los Angeles' Union Station, the fog billowing around us in great opaque clouds. I staggered up the ramp, bag in hand, to hear that familiar cry in that familiar voice: "Bothman!" Naturally, it was Ackerman. With him were Dale Hart and Goldstone, who did not look as much like John Garfield as he does in a picture of him that I have. However, he still needed a shave. I was quite flattered that they arose at the hour of five AM just to meet me, and was pleased to find that I was the first foreigner to arrive for the convention.

The next few days (for this was July 1st) were a riotous round of fan-erifanac, meeting people coming in, and trying to keep Elmer from getting drunk in the clubroom, as impossible as preventing ten pounds of plutonium from exploding. The first morning we breakfasted in Slanshack -- "we" being Ashley, Myrtle, Liebscher, Wiedenbeck, and the abovementioned trio. A stranger soon arrived: Max Sonstein from middle California. There is a person, new to fan-erifanac, but a most avid book collector. We spent the afternoon driving to various book-stores, while Max loaded his car with box after box of books. An amazing spectacle. He, I spent 50¢ for an old dos Passos book, which is still in Slanshack.

Came evening, we went to the Clubroom, to find erifanac of great intensity in progress. Crifanac, a wonderful word coined by Burbee (I believe), means "critical fan activity." And in this case, assembling of the Combozine was going on. A gargantuan task, believe me. Which is the main reason there will be no Combozine at the Philcon. We have nobody here like Evans who will stand in the clubroom all day long and pound the stapling machine. Elmer was sitting in the clubroom with his customary bottle of wine, and we had a joyful reunion, after which I had to drink the rest of his bottle of wine in order to keep him from getting drunk. I should have done it more often. A most pleasant method of keeping Elmer from getting drunk. You see, when Elmer finished his bottle, he would start teetering back and forth, and eventually would collapse flat on his back upon a row of previously-arranged chairs. Whereupon he would remain there until morning.

Tuesday was a hectic day.....
(to be continued)

EXPLANATION: Milt writes me that he's tired of people hollering for a report on the Pacificon. Thus the beginning of a 6½ page report above. I'm one of those people who have hollered; for haven't you noticed too that all fanz have slid by without full reports, most of them full of such excuses as 'no time', 'no space', and now some have claimed it's outdated. Not for me it isn't; nothing, no matter how far removed in time, is outdated when it's still unknown. I debated whether to wait for October 1 when ELBER goes to 2 sheets, or start the story now. You see the outcome of the debate. The story will be concluded in the first 2-sheet issue.

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