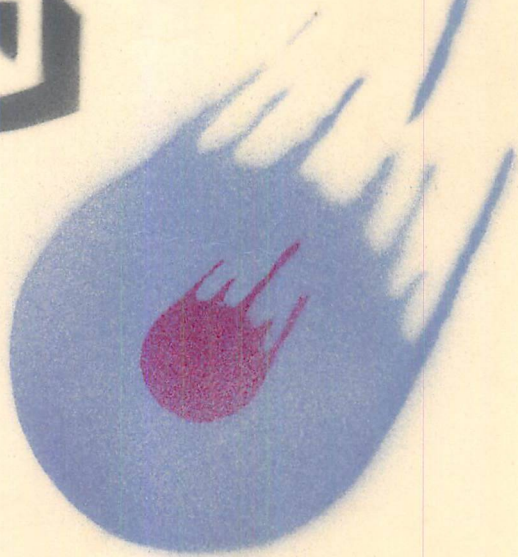


EN ARDE



EN GARDE!

A FAPA PUBLICATION

WHOLE NUMBER V.

Presumptuously presented for public perusal by Al & Abby Lu Ashley
of 86 Upton Avenue, Battle Creek, Michigan.

MARCH 1943

" where credit is due."

EN GARDE and FANTASY AMATEUR covers are designed by Jack Wiedenbeck and Al Ashley. Jack cuts the masks. They are reproduced via airbrush by Al Ashley, assisted at various times by Abby Lu, Earl Perry (the newest Galactic Roamer), and Jack Wiedenbeck.

Take our erasers and our cuspidor mats but spare us please our correction fluid!!

THE ELASTIC LIMIT

It was sometime in February, 1926 that Hugo Gernsback sent us a print of the cover of the first Amazing Stories, with an announcement of this new magazine to be devoted entirely to science-fiction stories, printed on the back. How many of you can appreciate our feelings from then until the first copy appeared? We shall probably never again reach a peak of anticipation as high as that which we reached then.

That Amazing arrived. Nor were we disappointed. It merely whetted our appetite for more . . . and more. When it appeared on the stands, we counted out our twenty-five cents with trembling fingers. Reverently we carried it home, and were soon pouring over it with avid eyes. But, alas, too soon it was read from cover to cover. Then we were faced with twenty-nine dismal days of torture, waiting for the next issue.

Most of that early science-fiction was pretty crude. But even as this crudity began to force itself upon our consciousness, the quality of the stories commenced to undergo a slow, but continuous, change for the better. At first those simple, obvious plots and scientific ideas were sufficient to send our imagination soaring in the most gratifying fashion. Then as the effect began to wear off, along came E.E. Smith, and Campbell, with their epics of cosmic scope. Our slightly jaded fancy revived, took off like a rocket, and was soon bumping against the ceiling. The stupendous possibilities and concepts suggested by those stories stretched our imagination to a point where it seemed almost unbearable. Each story seemed to have reached the ultimate, yet each succeeding story surpassed the one before. Without doubt they became, as Doc insists, pure fairy stories. But they gave our mind and imagination a work-out such as they never had before.

Then, for a few years, science-fiction went into a slump. Perhaps it was only natural. Maybe it was a good thing in a way. One may build up one's muscles with exercise, but the exercise must be broken with periods of rest to be effective. So with the mind, and the imagination.

page deuce.

The science-fiction slump continued longer than was really necessary or desirable. But finally Street & Smith took over the defunct Astounding Stories, revived it in determined fashion, and caused the future of science-fiction to assume brighter hues than ever before. A genuine touch of quality commenced to creep into the stories. "Thought Variants" and "Novas" appeared at intervals. Once more our imagination spread its wings and soared aloft; this time with increased vigor, and to find its "flight ceiling" much higher than it had previously been.

From that time to the present, the evolution of science-fiction has been slow, but steady; a steady upward climb. Much has appeared that was mediocre, or even downright deplorable. But those magazines that have attempted to feature the better fiction in this field, have offered us stories with ever-improved writing, and ever-increasing ability to stir the imagination.

Yet, today, there is a growing clamor that something be done about ASTOUNDING, still the leading exponent of the best in science-fiction (although others are now crowding close upon its heels). They say Astounding is slipping. They point to various stories as proof of this statement. Our first reaction to such charges was one of surprise. We had noticed no such slipping. So we decided to investigate, study the problem, find, if possible, some reason why a growing number of fans seemed to find these recent stories unsatisfactory. We did!

In the early science-fiction stories, long scientific dissertations were considered necessary to justify the more fanciful parts of the tale. But this was gradually eliminated to a great extent. The reader was considered capable of assuming automatically the various scientific bases upon which the future projections were made. More time passed. The broader aspects of Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry, Geology, Biology, etc., became worked to death. Writers began weaving their yarns about some single, more or less obscure, scientific principle. Finally even this source approached the point of exhaustion. It was then that the writers turned more and more to the less exact sciences of Psychology, Politics, Economics, etc., and their possible future trends.

About this time, many of the fans began to complain that the stories were slipping. Their complaints indicated considerable uncertainty about the exact reason for their dissatisfaction, but dissatisfied they were. The stories built upon these less exact sciences were, of necessity, more subtle. Consequently their stimulus to the imagination was also more subtle. Can it be possible that the imaginations of some fans are too gross to be moved by these present-day stories that the natural evolution of science-fiction has produced?

The science-fiction of today stretches our imagination further than we would have believed possible ten years ago. Our mind can envision concepts far, far greater than it could in 1926. Nor do we sense any sign of an approaching limit to this growth. We find the stories of today utterly delightful, and more thought and imagination stirring than any that have appeared so far.

Fellow fan, has your imagination reached its elastic limit? Do some of the stories of today elude your mental grasp? Has your mind and imagination failed to keep pace with the evolution of science-fiction? Do you think ASTOUNDING is slipping????????????????????

". with jaundiced eye"

THE PHANTAGRAPH: The Objective Approach was rather good --- in a gruesome sort of fashion. However, this rather sadistic treatment of the female of the species seems kinda wasteful, and hardly in keeping with the spirit of the times -- what with Salvage Drives, and all that sorta thing. Liked Damon Knight's poem. Article on Fascism undoubtedly contains some grain of truth. Cover -- blinding!!!

POGORUS: The Editors Think expresses something we might all do well to realize. But we probably won't until most of those eighteen year have passed. Are Fans People reminds us of some of the reactions to bits of humor (alleged?) that appeared in NOVA. Some fans either have no sense of humor, or else it is badly perverted, or distorted, in some way. We say more humor. The cartoon was liked. When The Martians Came was swell. Strange that Stf balads have taken so long to make their appearance. The ending of this one was clever, and we hope to see many more of the same calibre. Nomination For Top Spot -- we love you, PogoRus. Sorry about the demise of the Harbor Fantasy League.

CALIBAN: A very promising first effort. Review of last Mailing was interesting. The Hermit Sits Alone was thoroughly enjoyable, and we hope to see a good-sized edition of this department in each issue. Purely Personal -- keep it. This business of "science in Science-Fiction stories" may not be just what it seems on the surface. About all of the better known scientific ideas have already been treated in Stf.; most of them to the point of exhaustion. While new twists to these old ideas will continue to appear from time to time, it is doubtful if the demand can be supplied thus. Therefore, the time comes when stories must be woven about lesser known bits, and subtler phases of science. When the major scientific discoveries, inventions, theories, and ideas of several centuries of the world's scientific progress, have been dealt with in little more than a decade to the point where they become "old stuff", what could be more natural in the evolution of Stf., than that "heavy science" should be supplanted? We still long for more of the "heavy science" of cosmic scope such as Smith, Campbell, and Williamson gave us, but most of it is necessarily a thing of the past.

THE FANTASY AMATEUR: No, no! Not on de end of de face. If you must pat us on the back, please study up on the anatomy.

WALT'S WRAMBLINGS: Printing this complete chain letter was one of the happiest thoughts any fan has sired in a long time. Even though I'd already read part of it once, I really enjoyed this. Keep up the book club idea too, Walt, and amplify it in every way possible. And don't miss any of the mailings.

FAN - TODS: Yesterday's 10,000 Years seems to be something new under the sun in the way of a department. We like it immensely. It is good for a great many laughs, and we hope you continue it as long as possible. Review section gives promise of becoming one of the best. Aren't you a bit harsh with Noyes regarding his Organic Chemistry? What if a few outer electrons did take it into their heads to wander off when he wasn't looking? How was he to anticipate that? As for the excess protons left in the nucleus, maybe, sore about be-

page force.

ing jilted, they picked a fight with some negatrons, or, perhaps, picked up with some "camp-follower" of an electron that chanced by, and retired to some obscure corner of the atom to "neutralize" their feelings. After all, the ordinary equation makes no allowance for indicating such things as isotopes. And you must admit he kept it in the (halogen) family. Tsk. Tsk. By all means keep this mag coming regularly, Norm.

HORIZONS: Glancing Behind Us good as usual. Music For The Fan good for those who like it. Presumably there are sufficient members who will find it interesting to warrant its inclusion in a FAPA mag. On Dit good as usual. Don't you just abhor that expression? But what can one say when nothing in the issue happens to inspire elaboration or contradiction? It was all interesting -- beyond that, "no comment". Cover fine, even if the title is rather deceptive.

READER & COLLECTOR: We love the "tongue-in-cheek" atmosphere that permeates this whole magazine. Such sly, good-natured correction of the errors of others should never be offensive. The faint indications that others possibly find it so amazes us no end. Our only complaint is that this seems to be another FAPazine that is difficult to comment upon. We particularly like General Delivery. Wish this could be as large as possible, and in every issue. Cehddy on, Heck ol' chappie.

S F CHECK-LIST: The obvious amount of labor that goes into printing and assembling the material for this publication, amazes us. We feel impelled to wonder how it all started, the editor's motives in both commencing and continuing it, what eventual goal he has in mind for it. Doubtless all fans share our feelings as to its desirability, and we can't help thinking they'd also be interested in the answers to some of the questions that bother us. Swisher, old thing, as long as you don't usually have something in each Mailing, why not run off even a single-sheeter, answering some of these questions, and giving us a little chance to get acquainted with you, and your outlook on science-fiction and fandom? Perhaps some of the older fans already know these things, but the last couple years have brought so many new ones that your potential audience is bound to be sizeable.

MUTANT: We're not sure just what to think of that article on Surrealistic Jokes. To the average person, the scene portrayed in a surrealist painting is absurd. The dominant characteristic of the jokes Walt used for examples, is absurdity. Does that make them surrealist? Unexpectedly coming upon something absurd has a tendency to titillate one's risibilities. Yet we've never been aware that a surrealist painting was intended to provoke laughter -- though they doubtless do in most people. We just can't help feeling there is some wacky reasoning involved here someplace. As for the jokes, the first inspired a mild response. The second left us still straining with eager but unfulfilled anticipation. This disappointment then made it difficult for the third one to be appreciated as much as it might. We have a suspicion Walt padded all of these jokes to increase the length of the article. Had they been told in the fewest words possible, they might have been more effective. Chauvenet's article on poetry was thoroughly enjoyed. All in all, Mutant seems to have a promising future ahead of it. The mimeography was excellent.

EN GARDE: We dood it.

X, the futurian review: One of the damndest mags yet, but we must admit we got quita bang out of it. Reading between the lines, we gather that the Conway line had its ups and downs. The symetries of goddamus might bear a little developing. This whole mag may smell pretty bad -- we wouldn't know. But we'll take a chance on another.

RAMBLINGS: It all seemed to be interesting. But somehow it left us feeling slightly dazed. Maybe we were just sleepy when we read it.

SALUTE: Who said you could borrow our "Tendrilly" to sign off with? We don't quite approve of reprinting pro stories in fanzines. But we concede that you may have been in a difficult position with your need for material, and the haste with which it had to be published. Perhaps someday you will be able to publish again, and with better results.

KONAN: We liked this very, very much. While not certain about the rules governing this form of poetry, we had an idea that rhythm was the predominant characteristic. It ought to be, anyway, for ease of reading. And you seem to have fallen down a few places in this respect. But considering the length of this effort, you may be forgiven. Oh yes, that stapling at the bottom we don't like. It may be novel, but it's awkward. You are to be commended, Jack, for such an ambitious undertaking, so well done.

SUSTAINING PROGRAM: Campbell's speculations re U²³⁵ did not satisfy us. As the Eich were so fond of saying, "they were neither complete nor conclusive". In fact they were rather sketchy. We want to read something that goes into more detail, even if it is merely speculation. Second item, page six, stirs us strangely. We love to be disturbed. If you have read between those lines, give with it, leedle choom. If necessary, we can accept an assurance on your part that what you read between those lines is mere supposition, and attach no blame should you ever be proved wrong. Items From My Scrapbook extra good. Orchids for gesture of support to Acky's Foundation. This is one of the best ideas Fandom has yet brought forth, and we are behind it one hundred percent. Guess we're safe on that word it is death to pronounce, 'cause we can't pronounce it. Can you? Back page delightful.

THE LETTERS OF HENRY S. WHITEHEAD: Very well mimeoed, and thoroughly interesting. More!

A TALE OF THE 'EVANS: Our vote goes for keeping FAPA separate from the NFFF. We see nothing to be gained from such a combination. We grieve with the rest that this mag must be temporarily suspended. May its revival be not too long in coming.

SCI-FIC VARIETY: No comment. We try to keep our neck out of these attacks and counter-attacks. ghod knows we blunder into enough of them unknowing and unsuspecting, perhaps giving the impression that we side with one side of the argument. You see, whether or not we do, we don't intend to do so openly, for we find all fan feuds, major or minor, to be decidedly deplorable. Yes, Tuck, we recognized this mag for what it is. Guess how?

YHOS: Another honey of a cover. Good going, Art. Homo Futurus is another excellent, thought-provoking article. We could go for further discussion of this topic. In fact, a great many fans could write

page sexy.

at length upon this subject of future evolution, and raise the level of fan literature by so doing. Wild, illogical guesswork is, of course, not called for. But, on the other hand, it seems to us that the writers should not be too greatly hampered by thoughts of what one or two unpredictable changes might do to their chain of logical supposition. The imagination should be given comparatively free reign. Speculations as to probable future developments of government, various sciences, and the arts, as well as the race, would prove thoroughly entertaining to the reader and, no doubt, suggest many a new story idea to those fans who are, or are about to, break into the pro-writing field. The evolution of even such commonplace things as children's toys can suggest many intriguing possibilities, as demonstrated in Lewis Padgett's story in the February Astounding of this year. We reiterate, more of this type of article! Review dept., good as usual.

CENSORED: Cover an excellent job of screen-process. Extramundane Terminology a good article on a good subject. But it should and could have been more comprehensive. The Watcher seemed to indicate that the writer had the ability to handle language, but the way the story was handled made it sound more like the synopsis preceding the last installment of some serial. One should not attempt to crowd too much background into a story of this length. Lesser Gravity was greatly superior in this respect. Unscientifacts seemed a little too strained. The Bone Of Dissention could be developed into a good department. The Missing Universe was quite interesting. All in all, you have a pretty good mag, Fred.

THE MADMAN OF MARS: This retching ((pardon, typo error. Last word was meant to start with "f".)) tale continues to amaze and amuse us. This lost supper novel. ((too many "P's")) will doubtless rank long ((was that the proper tense?)) in the annals of fandom. Carry it on ((or off, or out)) by all means. If you concluded it, even after the duration, it would be offal. ((darn our spelling.))

GUTETO: This mag shows signs of heeding some of the criticisms that have been made, and of taking steps in the right direction. We too hope you are wrong about stfans, Morajo.

PVT. MILTY'S MAG: Glad to see you back, Milt. Hope you can continue despite the handicap of being in Service. Your one-sheeter very interesting.

PHANNY: New cover process seems to be very effective. Subject matter in this issue is very interesting, but any worthwhile remarks on my part would bear considerable thought before being made. At the moment, I haven't the time for that thought, so will wait 'till later to dip in an oar.

INSPIRATION: Several thoroughly enjoyable pages of fan-chatter. One can really appreciate a little of this sort of thing. Now and then a FAPA mag which doesn't call for a lot of deep thought, yet is still interesting, does not come amiss. We rather tend to agree with Lynn's suggestion regarding increased FAPA membership. Also, we sometimes wonder if the activity requirements aren't a little too lax. If one item a year is to suffice, why shouldn't that one item have to amount to more than it now does? The FAPA is a definitely established organization now. More and more fans are clamoring for admittance. Why shouldn't the standards be raised a little?

SARDONYX: En Passant inspires us to rise and remark. But our natural caution sets in, so we check ourselves, half-risen, and plop back to our former position. It occurs to us that maybe Doc himself might be better fitted to make those remarks. We shall attempt to persuade him. Perhaps his answer to this article will appear in the June En Garde. Review of Fall Mailing interesting. Thanx for clearing up mathematical befuddlement. And that goes for all others who participated in this respect. P.S. We made our point. Now are you happy?

SUMMARY: Considering that our review has run over four pages, the December Mailing must have been a big one. Anyhow, may there be many happy returns of the day -- the day of big mailings.

Wesighwestretchwegapeayawnthenbreathingdeepadozentimesattackanewjob.

SPECIAL DELIVERY (INSURED)

While composing the review of the previous mailing for the Fall En Garde, a troupe of Gremlins descended upon us. To pull a typical pro-editor trick and cut out the best parts of a long story, they managed to hide our copy of the June R & C. Thusly, we overlooked it in our comments. Thusly, also, we brought about the thundering indignation of one H C K, which resulted in the "fate worse than death" of having our fanzine disparaged. Herewith, we rectify our error, and hope he too gets rectified and "alternates his current" notion.

A.L.A & A.L.A.

READER & COLLECTOR Volume II Number 6 June, 1942: This superlative publication leaves us without our usual supply of adequate superlatives. It has reached such dizzy heights of literary excellence that our mere "three-hundred incher" has difficulty bringing it into clear focus. We gush --- like a fire-hose.

You wonder "how big is a pipe?" That's a pipe. It's easy. And as for the length of a peice of string -- we know that too. It's "too short". Try wrapping a package sometime and you'll discover how right we are. Now we'll ask one. How far can a man run into the woods?

We too are saddened by the failure of some people to understand your penchant for comic books. Guess you can read them if you want to. Just because they managed to go to High School is no reason why they should feel superior.

If you wish to see a file sputter, just put an irregular piece of metal in a lathe and hold a file against it. But we must admit we never felt any rotten urges in our wrist, but then, maybe that's just because we live the clean life.

You guessed right about Censored. They do have different spelling rules in Canada. They even put a "u" in "color". And they call the last letter of the alphabet "Zed". Queer people, these furriners.

In the fourth item on page four, we find the amazing word, "slimny". But we concede that it may be a typographical error. You probably meant "slimmer", or "shimny". We submit that "salacious asp" would be more hissably qualified.

Your article on "remainder" books was certainly enlightening. We shall attempt to bear this newly revealed wisdom in mind.

English As She Is Wrote, seems to be sad but true. We shower our stencil with tears -- but don't worry -- it's waterproof.

Page twelve provided one of the best laughs we've enjoyed for a long time. Now are you happy again, HCK ?

WHEREIN A COMMON MAN LOOKS AT THE POST WAR WORLD

by

Ol' Man Evans

Reading with a great deal of pleasure lately, that at long last the statesmen, politicians and business men of this and other countries are beginning to take some thought of the necessities of the world that is to follow the present international crisis, it occurs to me to put down some of the thoughts that have come to me regarding those problems and their possible solutions. Realizing fully that I am one of the "Little Men" whose ideas are not usually considered worth while, since I have neither made a fortune or a glamorous name in politics, I know that it is a "labor of love" only, and done purely for my own "amazement". But perhaps you may find some interest in it. Also, in doing this, I feel that I can better clarify in my own mind the sort of things I want to see done in the world, which will help me build more firmly my own inner, personal Utopia.

There are, of course, thousands of separate items to be considered in building a post-war world that shall grant all men the Four Freedoms and more, but I shall not attempt to enumerate all these. Rather I shall pick out a few of the more important (as they seem to me) items, and concentrate on them.

First, and by far the most important, it seems to this observer, comes the problem of EDUCATION. Although it has been grossly misused from our viewpoint, yet I think our educators can well take a leaf from the doings of Hitler, in the matter of the mass-education of our Youth. But where he used it to make them a war-minded people believing in him as a sort of God, I would see our educators use some of his methods to teach our children Peace. If the young children of the world were so taught, for the next two generations, that War is the terrible thing it so self-evidently is; that it is wasteful of the man-power and the raw materials of the world; that it only causes death and untold suffering, while never, in any way, shape or manner, contributing anything worthwhile to the world's economy or happiness, I believe we would eventually come to have an Earthful of people who realize that by peaceful arbitration, rather than war, all the problems of the world could be settled justly and correctly. Teach these children not that they are some race of super-men that must rule all others as slaves or vassals, but that all men are truly brothers. Teach them that the greatest man is not he who kills the most enemies, but he who furthest advances all of mankind by his life and his works. Teach them that the raw materials of the earth are a common heritage, not only of the present generations, but of all generations to come, and that they must be wisely used for the advancement of mankind, and not for his destruction. Teach them the simple truths of planned evolution---that as a farmer never kills his best cattle and uses the scrubs for his sires and dams, so mankind should not kill off the best, physically and mentally, of each generation, and let those who happen to remain alive through the conflict bear the duty of reproducing. This, to me, is the sheerest of all man's idiotic doings. Think of what unguessed heights man might easily scale were all the efforts of all

the peoples put towards building up all the races and all the peoples of the earth, for even two or three generations. We would not then have a world-wide Utopia, but who can doubt for one moment but that we would have an infinitely better world.

Second in importance, as I see it, is to build a practical and secure ECONOMIC WORLD for all of us. We have largely solved those most pressing problems of Production, although there will always be new methods and new commodities presenting their own individual and diversified problems. But our Economics are largely the same as the ones used a thousand years ago, although made a bit more complex and up-to-date. But the problem of adequate Transportation and Distribution have not yet been solved in any manner equal to our needs. I do not mean merely building more railroads or steam-ship lines, nor the newly-developed air transportation services that are coming into use now and in the immediate future. I mean the problem of having the surplusses of one country adequately distributed to another nation or section of the same nation where it is needed more, so we do not have the spectacle of one having to ration sharply an eatable commodity while another has to burn its surplusses because they cannot sell nor distribute them. This is surely another height of folly which we can well overcome. Our Economic Statesmen shall have to become world-minded, rather than nationally-minded only. When they have done so, we shall have raised the economic standards of living of all peoples to a point now enjoyed (part of the time) by only a few. Surely there are brains enough in the world to work out such plans if they are given a chance by our present war-minded political leaders!

Along these same lines, is the problem of giving work to all the peoples of the earth, and a comparable wage and living condition to all producers of wealth, materials OR IDEAS FOR ADVANCEMENT. It can be done by comparatively simple, yet careful planning, consistent education, and the Golden Rule applied to business tactics, so that all people, wherever situated, would get comparatively similar emoluments for similar work done or materials produced. And for our scientists and scholars who advance our civilization and happiness for all, our highest honors and rewards. Thus may all come to enjoy the nearest approximation of parity; the more abundant life and its attendant rewards. Not socialism; not share-the-wealth; but an economy where there will be an equal chance for all, ability considered, and comparably equal rewards for equal results and efforts.

I place third the problem of KEEPING THE WORLD'S PEACE, altho in this generation, at least, it will have to come first. If the leading statesmen of each country will only justify their right to the name of statesman, and think of the good of all rather than the selfish interest of their own constituents only, as was done at the close of the last war, that problem need not be too difficult to be solved. A World-wide Policing force, manned, equipped and paid for by each nation in ratio to its man-power, wealth and production equipment, but so arranged that the personnel originating from no one or two or three nations can ever gain full control, can be worked out. Indeed, this observer has long thought that it could be so done, that membership in this force would be a special accolade of Service to Humanity, and its membership, enlisted for the definite period of, say, ten years only, with no re-enlistments, could be regarded as "Citizens of the World" during their enlistment, and have

page decrepit.

the trust and faith of all peoples because of the rigidity of their code of conduct, and the fairness of their attitude to all, while wearing the uniform of the World's Most Honored Body. Also, by putting the term of enlistment, both for officers and men from highest to the lowest, at a small, definite period, there would not be the possibility of some dictator-minded individuals gaining control of the Force to the detriment of the peace of the world.

Fourthly would come the matter of GOVERNMENT. It is our belief that each country, while retaining to the full its own sovereignty, should participate in some type of World Congress, which should pass on the larger aspects of international questions that concern directly all the peoples, rather than merely those of an individual country. I do not think the time has yet come for a planetary government of all peoples, but surely there should be a Supreme Co-ordinating Body which can look at problems in their world-wide connotations. This body should, emphatically, have powers that will give teeth to its findings, yet so fashioned that there would be no possibilities of the men of any nation or clique of nations gaining a complete control, to the detriment of lesser nations.

Fifthly, there is the need of providing an OUTLET FOR MAN'S NATURALLY COMBATIVE SPIRIT. This does not need a war to satisfy---for Americans, especially, have proven that sports, business and scientific investigation can be equally useful and attractive in using this combative spirit. There is such a great field in medical research; in the studying and improving of mechanical devices and the invention of new ones; in the just-developing explorations into the fastnesses of men's own minds, that can easily be substituted for the combat between armies and nations in deadly battle and destruction. There are great sections of the world that are still not fully explored, and hundreds of these sections where there is practically no settlement or using of the land and its resources. The battle with nature needed in overcoming these areas and making them of value to mankind can easily use the full endeavors of countless thousands of Earth's population for centuries. The battle against mankind's germ opponents can well be used to enthuse and take up the energies of more thousands in each generation. In the greatest cities of every land there are the slums which present a definite challenge for their erasure and the providing of decent living conditions for the millions who dwell therein at present. There are, already envisioned, thousands of new mechanical aids to good living which need to be worked out, then manufactured, sold and installed. Yes, there is no lack of definite goals for mankind which will take all his wit, energy and combative instincts, just to satisfy those needs already seen, to say nothing of the great discoveries and inventions of the future.

In all these things is needed additional and correct education so that the man who discovers a new Truth, or does something for the benefit of mankind will be highly praised and as signally honored as we now praise and honor the heroes of war. These latter always have reams of adulatory literature written about their exploits, but a humble college professor or thinker, who does something that will advance the civilization and happiness of Man all too often gets no notice from the general public. Make the latter as famous and well loved as the former (it is all a matter of publicity), and the status will quickly change for the better.

It will be noticed that no mention has been made of the more pressing immediate problems which will follow hard on the heels of the cessation of the present war. The feeding and rehabilitation of the suffering peoples of Europe and other countries which have been enslaved and starved by the war is a gigantic problem of itself, but one that should be met with the considerations of the following years kept well in the forefront of all plans, while the immediate tragedies are being ameliorated.

It is this writer's sincere belief that mankind hasn't yet even begun to touch the heights to which it can attain. True, we've made great strides in the past half-century in mechanical gadgetry, but they are not, in and of themselves, facets of the real desire of humanity. They are but the tools which we have not yet learned correctly to use. Our putting them to the destruction of war shows us that very clearly. Mankind is like a small boy suddenly confronted with a chest of tools, with which he proceeds to try to build his grandiose dream castles, and winds up with lacerated fingers which need surgical attention. So mankind has used its bright new tools for the purposes of death and destruction, when they ought to have been used solely for the advancement of all mankind to a higher and better standard of living and general happiness and well-being.

Please God they soon will be thus used.

Another day another dollar---but the income tax man will get youhsowatchout!!!

INSCRIPTION

Nature is an hermaphrodite. And Life and Youth are her children. Love is the name of their marriage. The Emotions are their children. Because brother and sister married, all the Emotions are mad: some more, others less.

Life and Youth might turn to that unknown creature, Death; but Nature goes on forever, dragging her grandchildren with her. And Time bothers them not, but sits and plays Eternal Chess with Death. But ever and anon, Life returns, bearing Youth in his arms.

((Forry the Ack sent this to us before entering the Army. Who wrote it is beyond our knowledge. There seems to be a germ of something in it. But whether it is a germ of worthwhile thought, or a germ of madness that escaped from the unknown writer's mind to scamper all over our nice white paper, we are not prepared to state with any certitude.))

HistoOasAistoGorQistoXorSistoZorEistoLorPistoWorKistoR-goodoldH2O!!

THINGS TO COME

Raymond A. Palmer recently informed us that the series of articles appearing in Amazing Stories under the heading, "Scientific Mysteries", will one of these days be combined and published in book form. Those who have enjoyed this series will now have something to look forward to.

page deduce.

THE CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WOMAN

Chemical Symbol ----- W O E

Atomic Weight ----- In the neighborhood of 120 lbs.

Occurence ----- Can be found wherever man exists. Seldom occurs in the free or natural state.

Physical Properties -- All colors and sizes. Always appears in disguised condition. Boils at nothing, and may freeze at any moment. Melts when properly heated. Very bitter if not used correctly.

Chemical Properties -- Extremely active. Has great affinity for gold, silver, platinum and precious stones of any sort. Able to absorb expensive food at any time. Undissolved by liquids. Sometimes yields to pressure. Turns green when placed next to a better looking specimen. Ages rapidly. The fresh variety has greater attractions. Highly dangerous and explosive in inexperienced hands.

Physiological Properties -- Highly exhilarating when used moderately. When taken in greater than therapeutic quantity, causes physical, mental, moral, and financial degeneration.

damnitallcantthinkofanyinterlineationtofilluothisspaceaintitawful??

PAGING MR. WELLMAN

by Dalvan Coger

Can ye exponents of reincarnation,
Tender me an explanation?

Do departed souls of Martian sons
Inhabit earthly chrysanthemums?

oneactplay:(highfalsetto)ismyfatherinthere?(gruff)gitawayfromthemswe-
ingingdoors!

A FABLE

Once upon a time there was a ship sailing along on the ocean. It sprang a leak. They brought down the ship dog and stuck his nose into the hole. Bye and bye the hole got too big for the dog's nose, and anyway the dog's nose got very cold, which is why dog's noses have been cold ever since. Then they got the captain's wife to put her feet into the hole, and that's why women's feet are always cold. Then they got one of the men to stop the hole, and that's why men always stand with their backs to the fire.

THE POYNIA-VU

By Weaver Weinbaum & Phil Lehr

Anson MacDonald, never sounding more like Dr. Keller in the instance, in a passage in "Beyond This Horizon --" caused a character to philosophize, "The trouble with modern doctors is they don't treat people, they treat diseases". That line stuck in my mind as a particularly pregnant piece of dialog. Oops, pardon the armyese; considering the tender sensibilities of civilians present, I'll say "cogent" !

Yet, a person with another point-of-view would have declared of doctors, "The trouble with our medical men today is, they treat patients and not diseases!" One laying the stress on the psychology of the situation, on the individual's reaction to hiser ailment, holding that say tuberculosis requires a different treatment for one type of person than another; while the other would argue, "Nonsense! A disease's a disease, regardless who contracts it; forget the body it's contained in & concentrate on it."

Which is which? Each may seem indubitably so, stated with a positive dynamism on the part of the speaker. But considered dispassionately, wouldn't the wise solution be a balance? Should not something like this be said? "The trouble with our world of medicine is the predisposition of some of its practitioners to regard sickness as primarily for mental manipulation, while others, disdaining the psychological side entirely, materialistically concentrate on the purely physical."

Contrariwise, I might be reading a fanmag article by BEB rather'n writing a little stinker myself.....

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MY YIM

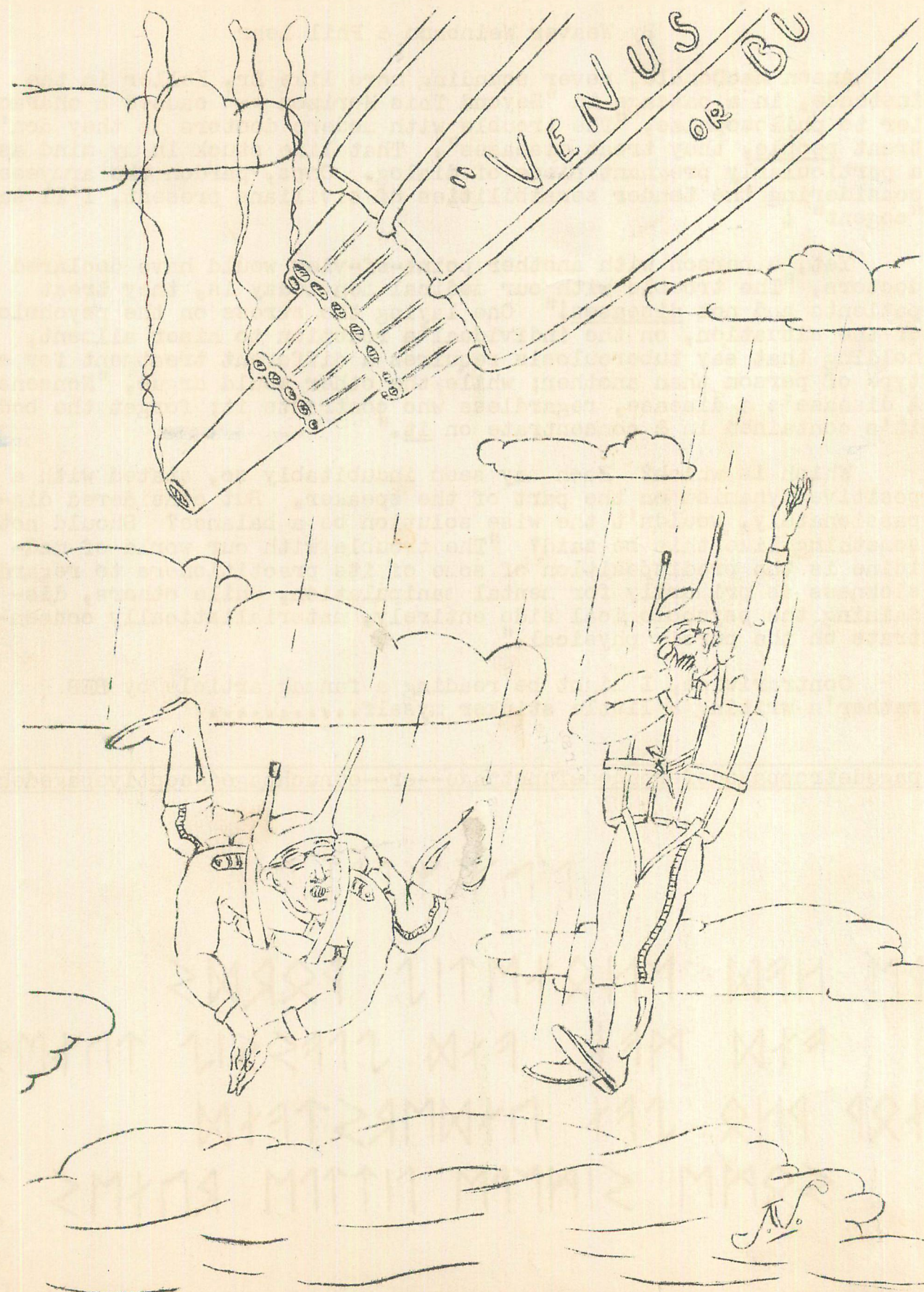
PM NFM MNQ+MTIS PQRMS

FTW AFP FTW JFSSIS THTMS

YXP PNQ JFT NTHMRSTFTW

SQAM SIAMM NITTM RHTMS ?

pagedevinepageduodenum.therewhatdoyouthinkofournennumericalsystemeh??



"I hope those Astronomers knew what they were talking about! "