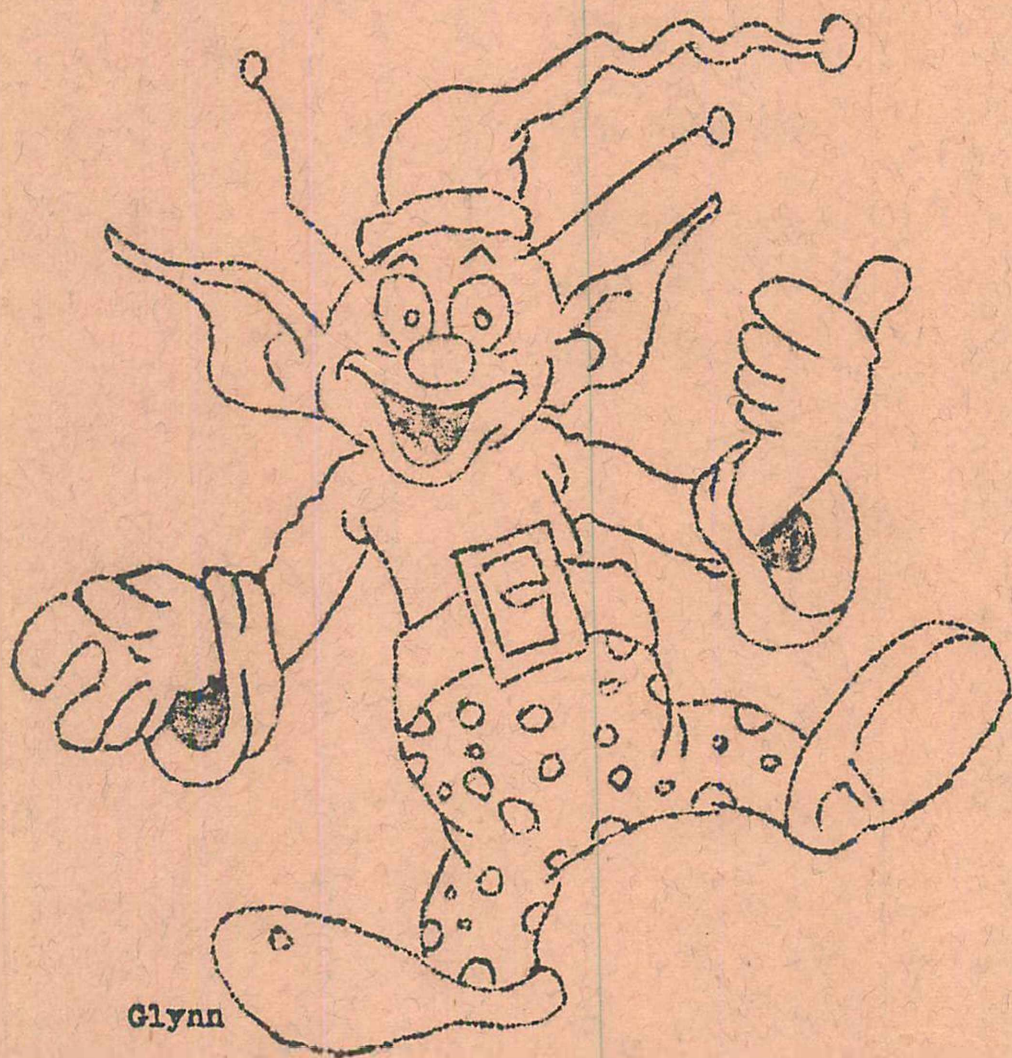


# EXPLORER

OCTOBER 1956





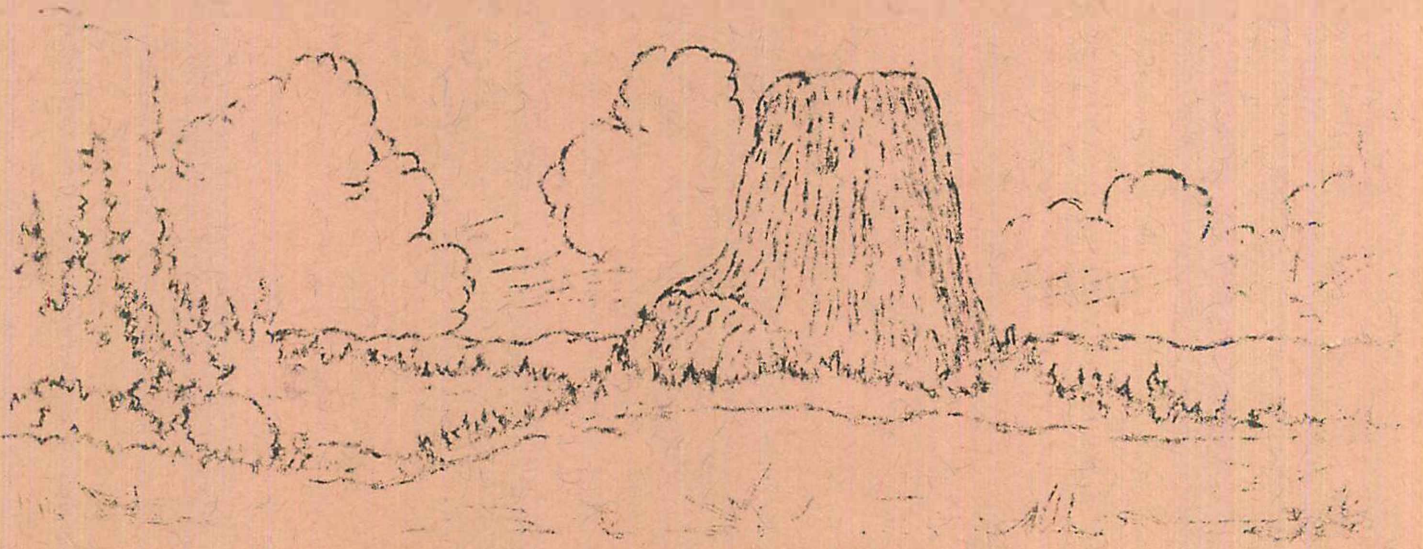
OCTOBER 18, 1956

EIGHTH  
ANNIVERSARY

of  
the  
Founding  
of  
ISFCC

by  
RICH ABBOTT

to  
whom  
we  
Dedicate  
this  
EXPLORER





## SCIENCE and FANTASIA

A New York Times report from West Germany says Germans are getting so fat that it is causing trouble for the German Federal Railways. "They complain that seating arrangements on coaches have been disrupted--seats that used to take four passengers now will accommodate only three." The "corpulence of the passengers" also increases the "operating expenses" of the German railroads by forcing them to "widen car doorways and aisles, and to make wash-rooms roomier." (ref. LABOR)

Tampa, Florida. (AP). Several months ago Robert, a generous cat, allowed Oscar, a hungry frog, to share a plate of hamburger... Robert didn't realize the future woe he was dealing himself. Oscar continued to come around to take not luck. Now grown fat and sassy on cat food, the frog has brought a covey of young ones.. At meal--time the frogs line up on the back steps until the food appears. And Oscar isn't above giving Robert a thumping kick with his strong legs if the cat gets in the way..

Futuristic Trains - built by the Budd Company - one of "tubular" design goes in regular service on the Pennsylvania between Washington and New York; the other, a "two story" type, will provide luxury coach service on the Chicago-Los Angeles run of the Santa Fe, starting July 15th (1956). Unlike the other trains, the "hi-level" coaches of the Santa Fe's new "El Capitan" are about two feet higher than conventional coaches in order to provide seating for passengers on an upper level and space for luggage, lounges and machinery below. One of the five nine-car trains was exhibited in Washington after a preview run from Pittsburgh over the Baltimore & Ohio. Like the General Motors "Aero-train," the Rock Island "Jet Rocket" and the New York Central "XPLORER," the Pennsy train, named "Key-stone," features a lower center of gravity and lower weight than conventional coaches. Also, the cost is lower. The seats of each coach are on two levels. One, only two feet above the track, accommodates 56 passengers, and the other, over the wheels at each end of the car, seats 26..

St. Petersburg, Florida. June 20. (LABOR). A Taxpayer here claimed a refund of \$200 on his 1954 Federal income tax but never received it. So on his 1955 return he listed the \$200 as a bad debt. Quickly then he received a letter of apology from the Federal tax bureau, enclosing a check for \$200.

Filling in one of the government forms concerning the death of one of his cows, the farmer came to the query, "Disposition of carcass." Shaking his head, he wrote, "Kind and Gentle."

A certain "best-seller" novelist was walking with a friend when they passed a house on which a tablet had recently been fixed to commemorate the fact that a poet once lived there. "I wonder what they'll put over my door when I pass on?" said the novelist, musingly... "House to rent," replied his friend promptly..

A man crossing a street got his coat-tail fanned by a madly speeding nidget car. His revenge was instant and devastating.. "Who threw that?" he yelled.

from Bobeff -- Moral Indignation is Jealousy with a Halo..



## SCIENCE and FANTASIA

There's danger in the casual use of the new "tranquilizing" drugs, the American Psychiatric Association warns. Such "peace of mind" drugs have proved a boon in treating patients in mental hospitals, where use can be carefully controlled.

American Doctors believe Brainwashing has no permanent effect. It can wear off in a few months, and often backfires, generating an intense hatred of those who inflicted the torture. However, in some cases--the victims who had no previous strong convictions--appear to experience long-lasting and even permanent changes in their attitudes and behavior.

Metuchen, New Jersey. June 21. (AP). A nuclear physicist has warned that the world's population may feel deadly effects of radiation--if nations step up their testing of atomic weapons. Ralph Lapp, who worked on the wartime A-bomb project, said that a progressive increase in such tests will release enough dangerous radiation by 1962 to give everyone in the world the "maximum permissible amount." He added that the deadly effects would not be felt until the late 19-70s. Radioactive particles will hang in the upper air until then. Lapp, of Washington, D. C., is no longer associated with the atomic energy program. He delivered his warning in a talk to the Middlesex County Medical society..

Two Frenchmen, brothers Jean and Henri Dessens, reported to the Academy of Sciences (France), on experiments they conducted in the Belgian Congo. They light a big brush fire, covering an area 5 to 125 acres, on a day when wind air pressure conditions are just right -- for the formation of rain clouds. The fire causes a cumulus cloud to form. Then, if all goes well, it rains.

In 1954 there was a newspaper item (with photo) of a boy eight years of age, Brian Van Dale. He was a 10th grade student at County Day School in Norton, Massachusetts, and had an I. Q. of 185, (forty-five points higher than the I.Q. of a genius). Brian spoke several languages and was proficient in Hebrew, Arabic, Greek and French. He was expecting to be ready for college at the age of ten. School officials thought that they might hold him back from college until the age of 12, when, they believed, he would be more emotionally equipped for higher education. (If any reader has late news-information about this lad- please send it to Eva Firestone, Upton, Wyoming)..

When referring to "Flying Saucers" Official American reports use the term UFO - Unidentified Flying Object. The British prefer the term UAO- Unidentified Airborne Object. Other countries have their own designations. The fact that the United States, Britain, France, New Zealand and Canada have established commissions of enquiry at various times is proof that "Flying Saucers" are being taken seriously. One of the latest books about them is by Jimmie Guieu, a French writer, who tells in chronological order of many sightings in Europe. He ridicules the fantastic explanations put forward by the authorities for many of the eyewitness accounts of the phenomena.

Recently- there was received in Upton, Wyoming- two slick magazines addressed to Eva Firestone- but alas! She has never been able to read what they say.. Thank you- Annie and Jean -Pictures in the magazines were understandable.. Hah! Ought to send to you a story in SIOUX!!!!



# AS I SEE YOU

Some Views of a Few ISFCC Members by Tony Glynn

You must, of course, often wonder what they look like, those folk whose names you see peppered around EXPLORER so often. Well, I dusted off my old crystal ball, sharpened the point on my drawing pen, gazed into the orb, drew what I saw and here's what came out:

ONE was revealed when the crystal cleared to show a view of Wyoming. Most dominant feature of the whole state was the little lady you see here.

That's EVA FIRESTONE, who bangs her typer and grinds at her duper day and night. Note the interesting development of her right arm, caused by so much hard manual work. Eva never sleeps. The only bed she ever gets near is the bed of her duper.

And it's all done for the sake of ISFCC, folks. When EvaF feels in a boastful mood, she strips her arm, shows her muscle and mis-quotes Bill Shakespeare:

"This muscle I had for ISFCC's sake!"

TWO is the esteemed GREG BENFORD. Being an army officer, Greg is an interesting and Custerish figure, sprouting whiskers all over. My crystal globe reveals that Greg, in spite of his rather ferocious appearance, is one real good guy.

Some folk may declare that army men do not always make the best of presidents, dropping names like Zachary Taylor and U.S. Grant; but we can argue to the contrary using names like Ike and Greg Benford!

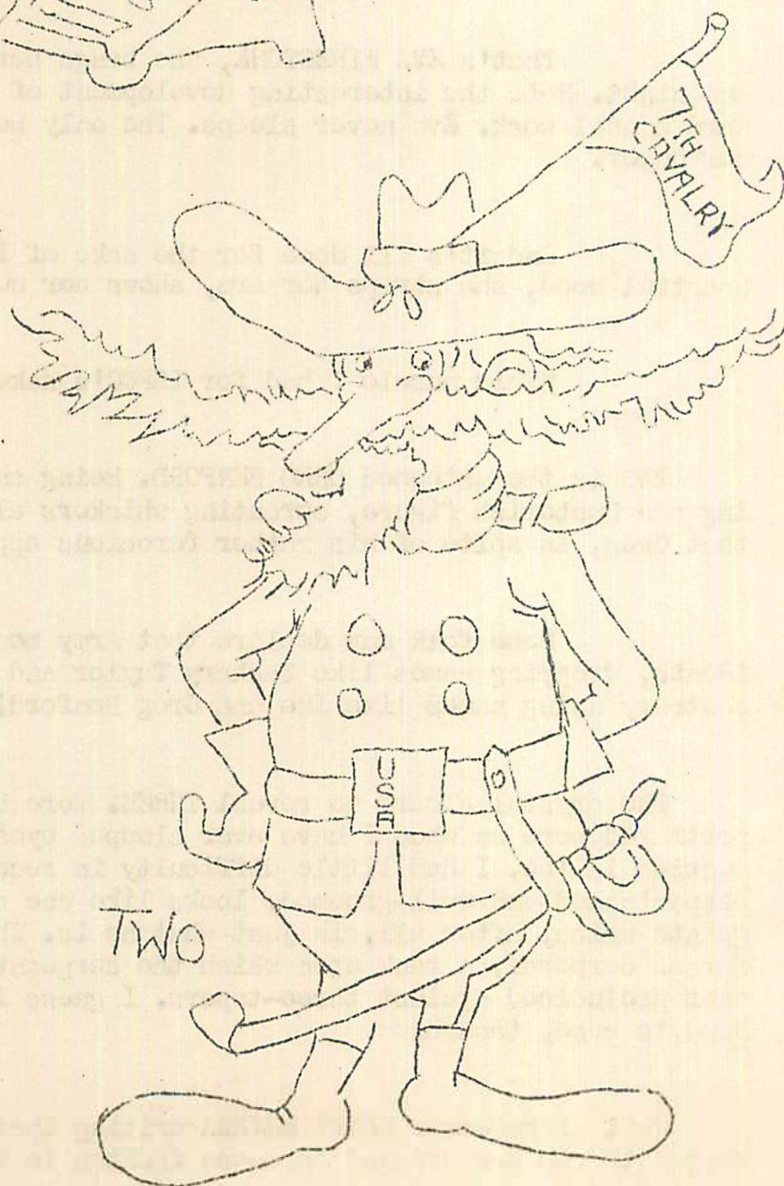
The crystal clears to reveal THREE. More army, yet! This is the only ISFCCer portrayed here on whom I have ever clapped eyes before. Since I saw him at a convention in '55, I had little difficulty in recognising SANDY SANDERSON. Sandy is bespectacled and well-groomed, looks like one of the more intelligent British sergeants which, after all, is just what he is. When I was in khaki, I only got as far as corporal, a rank upon which the sergeants always pass the buck, so I'm somewhat prejudiced against three-tapers. I guess I could forget the prejudice in Sandy's case, though.

Hah! I remember BETTY KUJAWA writing that, because of her name, some folk expected to see her dressed Japanese fashion in kinono etc. To conjure up number FOUR,



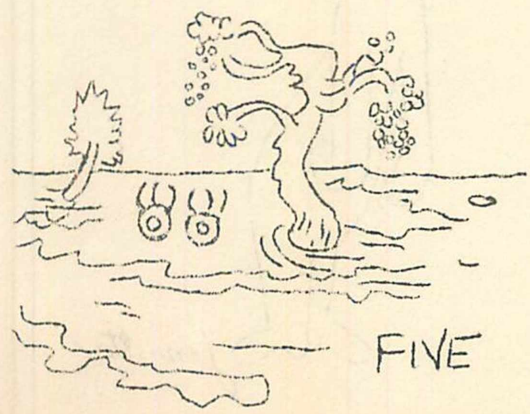
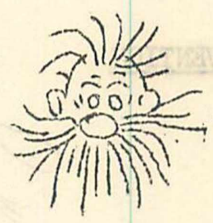
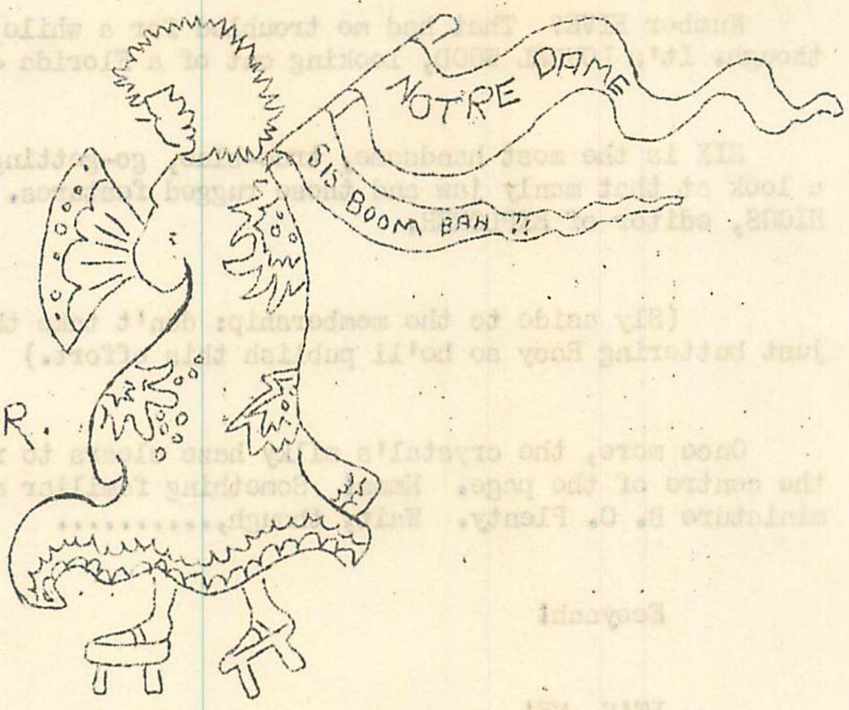
# AS I SEE YOU

By  
Tony Glynn





FOUR.



FIVE

SIX





I focussed the crystal on South Bend, Indiana, and there, trotting among that city's crowds of All-American football players by the lotus-scattered waters of the St Joe river, was a quaint Madame Butterfly-like figure. What do you know?

Number FIVE? That had me troubled for a while, too. I finally figured it out, though. It's LOUBEL WOOD, looking out of a Florida everglade!

SIX is the most handsome, true-blue, go-getting, real-live guy in ISFCC. Take a look at that manly jaw and those rugged features. He is none other than RAY (Racy) HIGGS, editor of EXPLORER.

(Sly aside to the membership: don't take this enthusiasm to heart, I'm just buttering Racy so he'll publish this effort.)

Once more, the crystal's milky haze clears to reveal the thing you see in the centre of the page. Hmmm! Something familiar about that. Looks like a miniature B. O. Plenty. Wait, though,.....

Eeeyeah!

IT'S ME!

15TH WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

September 6, 7, 8 -- 1957

LONDON - ENGLAND

Chairman - E. J. Carnell  
Secretary - Roberta Wild  
Treasurer - Charles Duncombe

JOIN NOW! SEND ONE DOLLAR TO  
CHARLES DUNCOMBE, 82 ALBERT SQUARE  
LONDON, ENGLAND. An additional \$1  
is charged if you attend!



UK's FIRST World Convention !



## ZERO MINUS ZERO

There were six of us in the lab that last day, Halliday, the nuclear physicist, Ruskel, the editor of the "Globe," Dr. Hans Berger of Mt. Kilimanjaro Observatory, the chemist John Langar, Lola and myself. Lola was a sort of all-around girl. You know, handy for emptying waste paper baskets and the like. Besides she was a 38-25-38. I don't know why I was included in this charmed hexagon, unless it was because I had inherited something like 11 or 12 million bucks from my father's second cousin in Argentina.

The lab was something I financed myself. A sort of spectacular hobby, under Halliday's guidance.

It was Halliday who spoke first.

"I have harnessed a magnetic force for use on an outer space vehicle."

"Like the flying saucers' people, maybe?" Ruskel queried.

I have no doubt that he was joking, but the effect on four people was startling. Halliday's head snapped back, like a birch sapling, suddenly released from a ground tie. Berger's face changed to a chartreuse color. John Langar bit off two inches from the unlit stogie he had clamped between his stainless-steel teeth. Lola was carefully filing her olive-green nails.

Five minutes later the six of us were examining a sheet of paper prepared by Halliday.

It was Halliday who spoke first.

"The zeta meson, having a mass 550 times heavier than either the negative electron or the positive positron has a lifetime of 10-12 seconds, and therefore is the ideal....."

"Ohhhhhh," chirped Lola, "that's a CUTE name, zeta messa."

Halliday rewarded her with a shriveling glance.

"The zeta meson," he continued, "is the ideal force to use, because of its brief life, and it minimizes the explosive forces in the supposedly stable fundamental particles."

Lola was busy, changing the color of her long nails to a chartreuse, evidently trying to match the hue that was on Berger's face seven minutes earlier. I remember wondering, idly, at the time, if that nail polish would shine in total darkness.

".....neutral pi meson has a smaller mass, but an even briefer life span," Halliday was droning on.

John Langar's stainless-steel teeth lined themselves into a perfectly lovely smile as he queried, "Since the n.p.m. has no charge, then how will you direct it along the cyclotron tube?"

It was Halliday who didn't speak.

"The positive chi meson is a better force, for it is 1400 times heavier than the electron, and has a brief enough....."

Hans Berger's statement was interrupted by Lola's sudden squeal: "BEEF enough? There's beef enough in the refrig....."

There was a two minute silence.

"Lola," I said softly, "go out to the back room, and bring back six cans of cold beer."

Lola left.

"You are tampering with unknown forces," Berger went on, "and no one has ever ascertained the polarity value of the zeta meson. It could be either negative or positive."

"I have ascertained its value. It must be negative." This from Halliday, of course.

"you know what Einstein said about...." began the editor of the "Globe."



"Einstein?" interrupted Halliday, "Even Einstein's theories are going to slip off into outer space when I get my vehicle started!"

Hans Berger moved over to the long table in the center of the room. "All right. Let's see a demonstration."

It took Halliday two minutes to set the dials, one minute to close the switches, and half a second to say,

"Now watch!"

Absolutely nothing happened. No crackling of sparks, no humming of over-worked transformers, no clicking of hundreds of relays.

I heard Halliday mutter, "...poor contact on one of major..."

I remember how we were standing around that table. I had my back to the large window, and was about fifteen feet from the center switchboard. Ruskel and Berger were to the left, facing the huge tube. Halliday, was, of course, right at the big board, his right hand on a D-switch. Only Langar was over towards the door that led to the back room. The latter was bending over, picking up the two inch stub of the black stogie he had bitten off with his stainless-steel teeth, barely fifteen minutes ago.

The back room door flew open, as Lola came charging through, screaming, "There's a mouse.....!" Which is as far as she got... The door, of course, bumped Langar. He put out his hands to break the fall, and his right hand pushed the only switch that was near enough. It was enough. The entire lab was suddenly lit up with a chartreuse light (sure is odd!), while everyone froze to his (or her) position. And everything in the center of the room disappeared. That's what I said. Disappeared. That included Halliday, Berger, Ruskel and Langar. And Lola. A wind rushed past me, hit the large window behind me, and then swept upwards and out through the 12 x 25 foot hole in the ceiling, a perfect oblong. THAT opening wasn't there before.

I'm no physicist, so I don't know what happened. Maybe Halliday had never used that switch before. Maybe Lola's chartreuse finger nails had something to do with it. I do know that the authorities interrogated me for a week straight, trying to learn what happened to all those people. I told them the truth, of course. For some reason they didn't put me in a soft-walled mansion. They couldn't prove much, either, so I was released.

I often wonder what dimension, what plane or alien world those five were transported to.....

\* \* \* \* \*

It was some twenty-five years later, in the shell of the lab that I found a disk of metal. A burnished thing, it was, of some unknown ore. It measured half an inch thick, and two inches across. There was a symbol etched upon its surface. A small circle, then a line, and a small circle again. Zero minus zero, seemingly, yet the symbol could be used anywhere in the universe. What gave me a start was that the disk was colored chartreuse!

---Mark R. Curilovic---

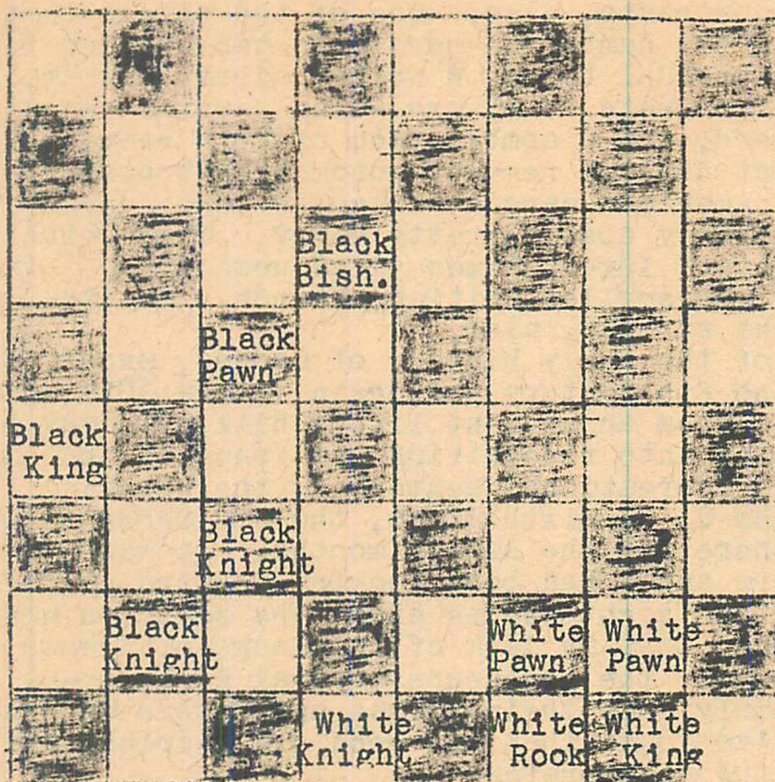
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Newspaper clipping from England:- (Empire News Reporter) - The mysterious message from "outer space" that a flying saucer, hovering over Los Angeles, will try to communicate with earth on November 7th- reported exclusively in the Empire News last Sunday- has caused world-wide interest. Radio station WFAX at Washington, D. C. broadcast a summary of the Empire News story. Station CJOR, Vancouver, Canada will join Katy (San Luis, Obispo) in a two-minute radio silence to try and pick up the saucer's signals.



# CHESS PROBLEM -- composed by Mike and Pete

Black to checkmate in one move. (2 solutions)

B L A C K



or, in notation,

- 1.
- 2.
3. 364
4. 2o5
5. k7
6. 2n5
7. 1n3FP1
8. 3NiRK1

(in #8. I'm not sure if the notation is 3NiRK1 or 3NiRK1.. Pete's pencilled note is blurred)EF)

Solution will be mailed to anyone interested, by Mike Lyons and Pete Hartman.

W H I T E -- It looks as if White has an apparently invincible citadel; however, Black has a pretty little mate in one move.

## STAR EXPLOSIONS -- Bob Farnham

(AP). Old stars ending their careers in enormous explosions may be the source of cosmic rays, according to Dr. Phillip Morrison of Cornell University. The source of cosmic rays has been a long-standing scientific mystery. Explosion of a single star-called a supernovae- would outdo thousands of atomic bombs.

Some of these rays pass through your body every day. If they happen to hit an atom in a critical part of a gene, they may cause damage in the same manner as radiation from an atomic blast.

Dr. Morrison said: "The probable origin of cosmic rays has passed from the area of free speculation into one in which direct observation is brought to bear."

The Russians now claim to have invented the spectroscope and spectrograph.. Say they, is not the Red Shift proof of that? (petehartman)  
The USA produces 70% of the world's corn; 90% of which is used in TV commercials.... (bob farnham)..



## CANNES, FRANCE

-- Charles Lee Riddle

Cannes is a beautiful city--make no mistake about that. It looks beautiful from a distance as you pull into the harbor, and the beauty does not fade upon closer inspection either.

It is a city of contrasts, also. One of the things that impresses the visitor is the number of people on two-wheeled transportation. It is not unusual to see a white haired grandmother come scooting down the streets at 45 mph--upon a motor scooter. Bicycles, motor scooters, and a combination of both prevail, although there is a great deal of regular automobile transportation. Many popular makes of American cars can also be seen upon the streets, but I imagine they cost a pretty penny, what with the transportation, excise and luxury taxes piled upon them. There are quite a number of the smaller British, French, Italian, and German cars roaming the streets, also.

Little is known of the early history of Cannes, except that it was destroyed in the 8th Century and again in the 10th, and recolonized from Genoa. From an ancient little hill-town way back when, it has catapulted into recognition as one of the most fashionable resort and recreational centers in the world.

As a member of the U. S. Sixth Fleet, the USS CASCADE (AD--16) had been ordered here for the summer months. It was my first trip to European waters and I had been looking forward with anticipation to touring and sight-seeing along the southern coasts of France. I discovered that my lack of knowledge of French posed no problem, for most of the shopkeepers speak English --- and those who don't certainly make their prices and offers understandable. Besides that, I've found that the good old American dollar bill acts as a wonderful interpreter.

Prices are high compared to the rest of France, but comparable to the beach resort prices in the states. About the only thing that is cheaper (comparatively) than the states is price of meals in the restaurants. I had, one evening, a seven course meal, running from soup to dessert and lasting about two hours, for only 620 francs, which is less than two American dollars.

Of course, there is the shadier side of Cannes, as there is in any seaport; if you're looking for it you can find, though the police manage to keep things under pretty close control.

There are miles and miles of white sandy beaches around and in Cannes, with many famous and beautiful hotels along the beach. About the nearest comparison I can make to an American city is that Cannes is like Miami and Palm Beach--but with a French accent. The Riviera is probably the world's most famous playground for movie stars and VIP's of the world. It must also be remembered that it was here that the notable Bikinis made their eye-opening entry into the world of fashions--and it is notable how they save on material.

Within easy traveling by superb trains, and to the east, is Nice and Monaco. Nice, of course, is also very famous for its beach resorts. Monaco, while being known for gambling casino at Monte Carlo, has been known recently as being the site of the most reported wedding in history. It is built on the side of a mountain and contains many beautiful walks up and down the hills. Incidentally, it has the only television station on the Riviera.  
(continued next page)



Cannes has an excellent harbor and is the homeport of boats and yachts of the many wealthy who visit here. Errol Flynn had his well known "joy-boat" tied up here for many years, as did King Farouk (until he lost it).

The boulevards of Cannes are something out of a dream, especially so during the summer, with a cooling breeze blowing gently among the palm trees. It is a common scene to see couples strolling along, arm in arm, a beautiful moon shining on the sands, somewhere the music of an accordeon, all blending and making it something to dream about after leaving. ---C.Lee R.---

\*\*\*\*\*

1955 puzzle by Wm. MacPherson

REWSNA eht

(fill in With titles of fanzines)

(elzzup ot)

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 b r O  
 t s e u q m a e R d  
 a f s i E  
 e n i z v e R b

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE GUILD

- pete hartman (1953)

Secretary's report-- AqBr CYK 583

Everything was normal. Until I came to Dean's notebook. It had rubber bands through the holes. I thought it odd, but it carried no suggestion of what was to come. I examined it more closely. Each rubber band was one band. None had been cut. Each was a Moebius strip..

The next day, more odd things happened. Before class, Dean was showing off his skill in legerdemain to his classmates. A bit of clever prestidigitation, I thought. He was manipulating small bits of paper. They would float, disappear, and reappear in his nimble fingers.

In class, the chalk kept falling out of the chalk tray. It rolled far. And rolled back. Dean kept grinning.

His mother had invited me to come to supper that night. I took Dean home. After supper, he invited me up to his room to see his collections. I saw coins, stamps and rocks. He skipped one cupboard. I dropped a subtle hint. He opened it.

Inside were a slide rule, several bottles of airplane dope, several peyote buttons, a stained handkerchief, a pair of dice, some mystic and Yoga books, two packs of ESP cards, a myriad of moebius strips, two miniature plastic Klein bottles, and a couple science-fiction magazines. Quite a cupboard.

He began to confide in me, after gaining my word of secrecy. He said his project had begun when he read about metaphysical experiments and "spi"-chical people in a science-fiction magazine.

From that meager beginning, he had begun to read other books and hit on hypnotism as the answer. But who would hypnotize a seven-year-old? It was then that he thought of using a self induced



semi-narcotic sleep.

He had bought a bottle of airplane dope, rich in ether, which, he knew, was non-habit-forming. He would barely dip a handkerchief in it, stuff the cloth in his mouth and breathe through it like a filter. This instilled a narcotic-hypnotic sleep with heightened powers of imagination and suggestion. He later obtained some peyote buttons from his college senior brother. These are also non-habit-forming, but, he said "give dimensions and color to sound and produce colors not found upon earth."

He said that he would pretend that he was a computer and multiply huge numbers together in his head. The slide rule was for a check. The answers were always right.

He took to reading Yoga and mystic books. In one he found Moebius strips and Klein bottles. He explained that you had to sort of twist a cube around itself to make a hyper-surface the same way you twisted a plane to make a Klein bottle and a strip to make a Moebius strip. After having done this, the psychokinesis came easy. He said that while he was in one of his trances, he had tried to influence dice and had run through the ESP cards. It worked and he had taken the big step toward all metaphysical phenomena.

He said that it was like typing or calculus. If you got into the field just the least little bit, all the rest came easy. It was with his new-found telekinesis that he had twisted the rubber bands, made the chalk spill, and done the magic. He wanted me to help him with telepathy. He had not yet experimented with it.

So, I telepathically took him into my confidence, and inducted him into the Guild. I explained to him that under Guild rules, we were not allowed to help anyone discover psychical processes, but were to take in anyone that had independently developed any psychical skills. He was embarrassed that he was not alone, and that I had been able to do much greater things than he when he was so proudly explaining everything to me. But I consoled him by esping that he was the youngest member we had.

We then teleported to Tibet where I introduced him to the Chief, the Tu Hi Lama. We all temporported back half an hour so as not to miss the start of the Build meeting. I introduced Dean to all the gang, who politely quirtled. We stayed for the meeting and then went home.

I now esp him differential equations, vector analysis, and the theory of equations while the rest of the class does per cent problems.

End of report,

Respectfully submitted, Abqr Albert Vernon, Secretary.

-----

TO THE STARS ----- Pete Hartman

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, How I Wonder What You Are.  
Up above the Sky so High, You'll be a space station, By and by.

Scintillate, scintillate, globule vivific;  
Fain would I fathom thy nature specific.  
Loftily poised in ether capacious,  
Strangely resembling a gem carbonacious.

-----  
The novice astronomer polished the telescope mirror with steel wool.  
The next night they discovered 20 new spiral nebulae. (pete hartman)  
-----



15th World S.F. Convention

September 6, 7, 8, 1957

LONDON ENGLAND

London won the bid over Berkeley, California by an overwhelming vote at the NewYorCon. For more than a year, Fandom in the UK has been planning for a World Convention in London, and they are well prepared. Active participation in work of the committee has been pledged by:

Chairman - E. J. Carnell  
Secretary - Roberta Wild  
Treasurer - Charles Duncombe  
Publicity Liaison - John Brunner  
American Publicity- The Bulmers\*  
British Publicity- The Clarkes\*

(\*Ken & Pam; \*Vine & Joy)

Frank Arnold	Nigel Lindsay
Fred Brown	Dave Newman
Dave Cohen	David Page
Philip Duerr	Dorothy Rattigan
Peter Hamilton	James Rattigan
Ewan Hedger	John Roles
Terry Jeeves	Ken F. Slater
Eric Jones	Peter West
Ethel Lindsay	Walter Willis

\* \* \* \* \*

"When a chemical engineer asked me what science fiction is, I defined it thusly: Ideally science fiction is literature which deals with the impact of technology upon people."

--Rich Abbott--

\* \* \* \* \*

(AP) - The Universe appears to be expanding at the same rate, in all directions from a common center. That conclusion was expressed by teams of astronomers who have completed a 20-year co-operative study at Mt. Wilson-Palomar, and Lick observatories in California. They said their conclusions were based on substantial new evidence. Worked out in the study of red shifts--the shift, toward the red part of the spectrum, of features measured in spectrum of extra-galactic nebulae, of galaxies. Uniform expansion of the universe had been inferred previously from relatively few observations of redshifts. The studies, while indicating the universe appears to be expanding uniformly in all directions, also suggest that the expansion is slowing down with time.

-----  
Mimeo, and other troubles, prevents publication of HI #12 - WYOMING  
-----

General Fandom - Non-ISFCCer  
Address Changes

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Mike Wallace  
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Evington, Leicester,  
England



The United States English  
-or could it be fan talk?

BAFFLEGABB is Multiloquence characterized by consummate interfusion of circumlocution or periphrasis, inscrutability, incognizability and other familiar manifestations of abstruse expatiation commonly utilized for promulgations implementing procrustean determinations. (Shining lucidity, no?)

And our spelling is so rational--- Box: the plural is Boxes, but the plural of Ox is Oxen, not Oxes. One fowl is a Goose, two are called Geese; yet, the plural of Moose is never Meese. You may find a lone Mouse or a nest full of Mice; but the plural of House is Houses, not Hice. If the plural of Man is always Men, why shouldn't the plural of Pan be Pen? If I speak of a Foot and you show me two Feet, and I give you a Boot, would a pair be called Beet? If one is a Tooth and a whole set Teeth, why shouldn't two Booths be called Beeth? If the singular's This and the plural These, could the plural of Kiss be ever called Keese? We speak of a Brother and also of Brethren; but though we say Mother we never say Metheren.

Then the Masculine pronouns are He, His and Him; but imagine the feminine She, Shis, and Shim ! ine

#### Aerial Explosion Mystery

Night of September 20th there was a mysterious explosion in the skies over Wind River Range. (Western Wyo) Two men northeast of Riverton saw a flash of flame and a large puff of smoke followed by two smaller puffs of smoke. They did not see any planes. Later a Civil Air Patrol ship flew over the area but found no evidence of a downed plane or anything else as possible cause. "Civil aeronautics authorities reported no civilian or military air-craft were unaccounted for." (AP).

SOUTH GATE IN '58

INFORMATION  
PLEASE

Alberta Leek, when a girl living with her parents, read a stiff story running in a promag., but was never able to get the final issue giving end of story and to this very day her mind wonders and wonders.. and wonders.

Trouble is- Alberta doesn't recall title of the tale, nor that of the magazine, nor author, so after you've following, if your memory may give any clues, send information to Alberta, Please.

"The protagonist, a young man, went to see his girl friend's father, a professor. While he was at their house something (I can't remember what) happened that caused a slice of Earth to fly off into space. The Earth sliced off right back of their house. After this happened, two suns were in the sky. Half mile away there was a country club where all the people were having a good time and never even noticed what had happened. Suddenly the sky was full of black blobs. One sank down through the professor's shoulders and another was going after the girl. The young man was going to help the girl when one of the blobs touched his shoulders and that's where it ended. Continued next month and I did not get next month. I remember there was a picture, on a left hand page, of the professor bending at the knees with one of the blobs half sunk in his shoulders,-- the girl looking up in horror at one right over her head, & the young man starting towards her. Funny how I can remember that and not the name of the story." (Mrs. Richard Leek, Oak Ridge, N. J.)..

LONDON IN '57

SOUTH GATE '58



## THERE ARE LIGHTS

- Mark Curilovic

A phosphorous phox named Philly O'Phlox  
Was weaving his weary way  
In a mystical mixture of mist and moonlight  
While nondering on poultry for nrey

A dairyman's dog, with a fear of the fog,  
was guarding the chicken coop,  
When he spotted the glow of the phox down below  
And was knocked for a luminous loop

## TREASURY REPORT

### Renewals

Wrai Ballard	1957	\$1.00
Tony Glynn	1957	1.00
Terry Jeeves	1957	1.00
Janie Lamb	1956	1.00
Dennis Murphy	1957	1.00
Addie Huddleston	1957	1.00
Carolyn Higgs	1956	.50
Ray C. Higgs	1956	.50
Lee Riddle	1956	1.00

17th May balance -	\$12.38
Renewals -	8.00
	<hr/>
	20.38
Paid for July EXP.	13.16
	<hr/>
2nd October bal..	\$ 7.22

### Address Changes

Greg & Jim Benford  
c/o Lt.Col.James A. Benford, 051676,  
G-4 Sect. Hq. V Corps  
APO 79, New York, New York

Loubel Wood  
119 SE Second St.  
Dania, Florida

Richard F. Abbott  
1800 Riverside  
Monroe, Louisiana

Ed Robinson  
3031 Hickok Way  
Riverside, California

\* \* \* \* \*

### New Train Christened 'XPLOER'

Cleveland, May 23. - The New York Central's new ultra-light-weight, low-slung passenger train christened the "XPLOER" by Linda Martin, six-year-old granddaughter of V. R. Martin, NYC engineer. This train to give regular service between Cleveland and Cincinnati, O.

??Janie The Lamb??

Janie, who's lost, asks the Policeman on the corner: "Please, Mr. Policeman have you seen a lady with out a little girl that looks like me?"

### A DIXIE TALE

R.V.Hunter of Charleston, S.C. had the last laugh on a NYC pickpocket. Visiting in the big city, Hunter was robbed of a hefty bankroll consisting entirely of imitation Confederate \$100 bills, which had been printed, as a stunt, by the Charleston Chamber of Commerce.

- - - - -  
"I seem to be all thumbs.  
Will write more when I can  
make my TYPing legible."  
-Jim Caughran-



## WHO DOES HOW

In 1947, Science News Letter reported that a professor of Northwestern University compiled a list of methods for solving problems, which were used by people who dislike the idea of staying with a problem until it is solved..

Going Around: Dodge obstacles and issues or try another approach.

Escape: Ignore the problem or quietly wait until something else happens to relieve the situation.

Diversion: Try to divert attention from the problem by flying into a tantrum of ill-temper.

Dismissal: Pretend it is not important and needs no solution.

Excuses: Try to blame other conditions or people.

Reflected Glory: Hang around brilliant people who are willing to solve the problem, and then take the glory to your own self..

Dreaming: Completely ignore the real problem and daydream about imaginary success.

Seeking Attention: Try to attract attention to endeavors, even if it is not favorable.

Quitting: Play sick or childish to avoid being expected to solve the problem.

Forgetting: Just forget the whole business..

## WHAT CAUSES FREAKY WEATHER

--a 1950 reference--

It is due to cosmic radiation; It is caused by the frequency of sun spots; The earth is wobbling on its axis and ready to take a flip-flop; The whole thing can be attributed to the heat created by our modern cities; Television is heating up the air; The A-bomb they dropped in New Mexico; The warm-water Japanese Current has been diverted by the Russians...to make U.S.A. weather the freakiest in the world, and thereby create discontent..

Frankly- this is 1956 speaking -It must be the Republicans!

## MAN ON MOON BY YEAR 2000

(bob farnham)

An American rocket expert told a British audience that man will land on the Moon before the end of this century. S.C. Durant, consultant to the U.S. Dept. of Defense said: "Within ten years the scientists will have men flying into space in man-made satellites. I estimate the first trip will take anywhere from 6 hours to a day. Within 25 years man should be flying around the Moon. I confidently predict that the first Lunar Landing from Earth will be achieved before the end of this century.." (AP)-Aug.1956.

\* \* \* \* \*

An elderly lady was receiving instructions in egg-blowing. "Just perforate the apex," said her educated grandson, "make a corresponding aperture at the base, apply the egg to the lips, and forcibly exhale." "Dear me!" murmured the lady. "What improvements they have these days! In my day, we just made a hole in each end and blew."



NEW MEMBER -- William C. Rickhardt, 21175 Goldsmith, Farmington, Mich.

Writes that he is seventeen; that he might be of some assistance to the club, as he has easy access to both a ditto and a mimeo; also- all sorts of typers --including his own- "a true antique."

All members of ISFCC are glad to have you join us- William C. Rickhardt, and we hope you will enjoy membership in the ISFCC.. Welcome! The dollar received pays your dues to the end of September 1957.

Note from WYOMING:- Dear Members, Instead of having HI #12 published as a separate zine, I've sent most of the material for this EXPLORER, and have discontinued HI. If some of this material displeases- am hoping you'll pardon me because I intend to pay at least half of the publishing expense of this issue of the EXP. My mother has become very feeble and is not improving, therefore, my hands are too busy taking care of her to find spare time for any extra fan activities, at least for some time to come- Anyway, my mimeo and I couldn't seem to co-operate anymore- and one typer (which I had been using for stencil work) practically fell apart, and this one am now using has various loose springs- needs reconditioning- so- guess you see by all this- that I am not merely gaffa- and trying to quit. I really had a lot of fun publishing HI, and greatly enjoyed all the contributions from many of you. At some future time, if the mimeo-- is adjusted properly- also my typers- I'll probably get out a oneshot at intervals- but that won't happen until months from now. And it's my hope that some member- who has been in ISFCC over two years, and is past twenty-one years of age- will volunteer to be Treasurer. It is time for a change in that office- I've held it three years- which seems long enough- even though I really have been interested in keeping such records for ISFCC. Best of Wishes to All of You -- Eva F.

Recent letter from Dave Cohen of Manchester, England, gives names of two more members on the committee of the 1957 World S.F. Convention.. Charles Duncombe and Norman Shorrocks. And quote: "Action has already been taken, a central sorting house run by Dave Newman--- at his own expense where the Provincial Committee Members can send suggestions, the best to be sorted out then sent to London to the Central Committee. Roberta Wild, the World Con Secretary distributes amongst Committee members the details of the Minutes of Central Committee meetings. The Liverpool Group has taken over the programme arrangements, and a no better crowd for the job could have been chosen. Myself, I just offer suggestions and ideas to whichever group it may concern. Also the Manchester Circle are preparing a play, recorded, for London." There is talk about a chartered plane for ten of USA.

L O N D O N in 1957

(AP)- Three Navy pilots streaked across the continent and back in an elapsed time of 10 hours, 49 minutes for the 4,924 miles and refueling stops; in Navy F9F8 -- Cougar jets. Last year the time record was 11 hours, 27 minutes. The three men making the trip in this year- 1956- were ages- 38, 35, and 24. Last year's trip was by one man- a member of the California Air National Guard..

Eloucester Echo: Sigurd Gaasland, of Nord-Rana, Northern Norway, was out with his cine camera on Aug. 11 when he saw odd objects on the horizon and was able to photograph one of them. It is clearly to be seen on the film. It is round has a dark stripe thru its centre and appears to rise to the centre in stepped platforms. Reuter has stated it appears to be a flying saucer. The objects were reported to have been seen by a number of people in Northern Norway.



58, Sharrard Grove  
Intake, Sheffield 12  
8 April 1956

Dear Eve,

I have just read Terry's copy of your letter dated the 26 March, I have.

Dear Eva,

n't been at base since the 18, roaming instead about the continent coor

Terry here, I hope that you don't mind our little  
dinating the membership of the ISFCC here, I began at the Benfords the  
system for saving paper, but after all, we poor British fen  
17th then on to Antwerp and fanjan arriving the morn of the 19. I stay-  
even have to write on the backs of old bus tickets for weeks

ed until the 23rd then on to the Bulmers, 1955 TAFF representatives who  
after we've had a convention. As a matter of fact, I rather  
treated me to English hospitality until Good Friday. Anne Steul and I  
suspect that the next issue of 'Hynhen' will be printed on  
met Jan at the station and went on to Kettering. You'll hear more of  
the backs of old Belfast bus tickets. By the way, this let-

this later. Right now Terry and I are waiting for Eric Benccliffe to  
ter also symbolises how closely knit the ISFCC organisation  
stop in; here he comes down the walk now... Eric says he is too busy  
is over here. You know the sort of thing, I drink what Ellis  
at the present time to join in the clan; perhaps at some future date...  
orders, and he pays for what I drink. A very symbiotic ar-

Bob Miller was to send our proposed constitution on to you; I discussed  
rangement. You ought to try it sometime. I have allowed El-  
it with Terry and with Ethel Lindsey who are both in agreement with the  
lis the honour of thrashing me twice at chess, but naturally,  
basic premises. Terry suggested that the Treasurer should be a member  
as a tru British host, it would be in the sheerest bad form  
for at least two years before being eligible to serve as Treasurer. Also  
if I were to thrash him, so you see, I actually had to LET  
that an illness clause be provided to allow for a condition of GAFIA...  
him win. He would have cried all over my asf if I hadn't.  
Last night Terry and I toured the pubs of Sheffield.

Have fun stencilling this, Ellis.

ISFCC.....  
Be assured that I wish you all the very best of luck with the  
rather than be held down to 'activity requirements' and such.  
he takes on but I prefer to do this in an unofficial capacity  
I most probably be helping Terry out with any ISFCC chores  
ry, and the odd one-shot when the inspiration comes along. I  
to just amble along in my own way, publishing Triode with Ter  
the effort put into these is hardly worth the results. I like  
not to get involved with societies and such for all too often  
volved. And then, I'm rather a fanarohist by nature, I prefer  
would like with the amount of time which I'm already in  
the ISFCC but at the moment I am unable to cope as well as I  
this is Eric Benccliffe.... Sorry I am unable to join  
Dear Eve,

P.S. This is not a round robin, more nearly square-- Ellis.



## TUBELESS TELEVISION SET?

1956. Los Angeles (AP): Tubeless television set that will last a lifetime is envisioned by Richard B. Hurley, design specialist for Convair's guided missile plant at Pomona, Calif. He told the Society of Motion Picture & Television Engineers that a long lasting television set could be built using tiny transistors in place of vacuum tubes.



from Alan Bramhall "M. Curilovic's notes on atmospheric discharges, detectable on low frequency wave lengths, reminds me of the curious rythmical impulses, picked up by Marconi as far back as May, 1919. During his experiments with long wavelength propagation and detection. The wavelength used being 150,000 meters. At this period no terrestrial signals would be radiating on this frequency. Impulses were rec'd, which were regular and appeared to be some form of Morse code... The cause or origin has never been found and remains unsolved."

from Cromwell, Connecticut in early October comes word that Dennis has sighted more mysterious flying objects in the sky- This news was in a Round Robin started by Alberta. And a personal letter dated Sept. 30th says that Bridey Murphy isn't his long lost cousin, because she claimed to have had red hair.. "I don't know of any red-haired Murphys. I'm black haired."

Quote from FANTASY-TIMES: "To join the convention (British), it will cost fans in the US only \$1, though it will cost them another \$1. if they attend the convention. This was also the arrangements at the recent New York Convention. We suggest that all readers of Fantasy-Times join up with the convention right now by mailing in \$1 to Secretary Charles Duncombe, 82 Albert Sq., London E., England. 113 fans joined the 15th S-F Con.. at the recent 14th.."

AND do not forget the OLYMPICON -- at Melbourne, Australia, -- December 8th and 9th, 1956

The Only Convention with Olympic Games on the programme! Robert McCubbin, 90 Lilydale Grove, HAWTHORN EAST E.3, Victoria, Australia, is the Organiser- the one to receive your one dollar via air mail please. This will bring you all the benefits of the Olympicon.

Toronto Daily Star July 9th. The signals from Venus are so like those of our radio telegraph transmitting stations that Dr. J.D. Krause, Ohio State University radio astronomer had trouble telling them apart. "They're caused by something other than lightning discharges or static.. some other type of mechanism is involved.. Dashes last about a second and come in bursts and are unlike a second noise heard from Venus, the crackling believed caused by thunderstorms.. they come in a random pattern.."

QUO VADIS?

AD STELLAS!



## QUOTES from SAPSzines

The most commonly used object in Fandom is the typer. In many ways it is the most reliable tool used. Goes on for years. Writing oft'times stupid stuff, patiently bearing up under hecto ribbons, stencil cutting and having thick envelopes forced into it. But years of fandom will affect even the typewriter...soon it will have as many screws loose as its owner. About the time you are rushing towards a deadline you lose the part that controls your spacing. The rollers swell and wear and the line of print gradually lowers on one side. Of course the typer has the co-operation of your fingers in foul-ups. You fumble and hit a couple keys at once and get a nicely jammed typer. Things have indeed come to a pretty pass when you can't count on your fingers to get the correct result. On the whole, though, the typer is the least perverse of all fannish accessories.

All young fen have bright ideals, narrative or artistic, but their path is beset by the mimeo, a menace mechanistic. Got my new mimeo today. I am scared of it. According to the catalogue, it is smarter than I am.

This first job of mine with a mimeo is turning out kinda good. Maybe I'd better knock on wood.. Gads, wonder how many more mistakes I'll make before I'm through? Tsk, blame it on the mimeo..

My Typer has come to life. It has developed a soul, also a few loose screws: this typer can't spell worth a darn..

The fanzine... even though it is full of sly and exquisite humorous touches, there is none of the infantile whimsy that mars so much of the out put of fan mimeos...An odd cover, but nice..Felt like I was running up a ladder on my eye balls while reading the title. Am at an utter loss for a statement to express how much I enjoyed every madly mimeographed word -- and who cares if the mimeo graphy was lousy? I read it twice (Haw! I had to!)and plan to read it a couple more times at least.

If that mad mimeo still has its machonnement psychosis and continues to malassimilate your stencils, I'll be glad to offer my assistance.

\* \* \* \* \*

### AMAZING FILM TO BE SHOWN IN BRITAIN

Empire News and Sunday Chronicle, Sept.30,1956. (Jack Thomas) :-  
Remarkable evidence produced of the existence of Unidentified Flying Objects.. It is a film made with the co-operation of the U.S. Armed Forces and the official blessing of the U.S.Defence Department. A full-length documentary by United Artists- to be publicly shown in a few weeks. It contains two colour sequences-one of them shot by an amateur cine-fan. After the most exhaustive investigation, the best authority could say,was "Not balloons, not aircraft, not birds, not faked." The first was shot on August 15, 1950, at Grey Falls, Montana, by Nicholas Mariana, business manager of the local baseball club. He managed to get a 10-second exposure of two mysterious metallic objects moving about the sky and above the ball park. Two years later the U.S.Navy's chief photographer, Delbert Newhouse, highly experienced aircraft observer, got the second sequence near Tremonton, Utah. Using a 16mm camera at two different lens settings, he secured clear pictures of 17 silvery objects of immense size darting about the sky. After seeing the film "Unidentified Flying Objects" in a private theatre in Soho I'm convinced of this: "The Utah and Montana films are not fakes. Mariana and Newhouse saw and photographed something which travelled at fantastic speeds, and performed remarkable aerobatics."



Gary Labowitz

Dear Racy::

Wow! This should explain that I just received the July EXP. That Glynn artwork is really swell! Hey, Tony, can I have some?

I would like to stick my two cents in before everything is once again quiet. I am in favor of the new constitution and standing rules. First, it means that each member must write at least five sheets of material. I am certain that anyone can do this. In addition you could always pay the cost of publishing 4 sheets of stuff. I know this is not too expensive. Big cost is machine and the money spent getting experience using it. You forgo this. I for one am now offering my machine for hire by any member if this new constitution goes through. I will cut stencils and mimeo and mail. You pay for paper, stencils, and postage. Stencils may be furnished by you if you wish - cut or uncut.

Just got a card in the mail today informing me that I may join FAPA, so I must rush out and get out a one shot to the membership.

See you all next issue, KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, RAY.

(I have no doubt that there is a 'woman behind you'.) RIGHT?

Keep smiling,

Gary

-----

Alberta Leek

Fellow club members:

I got a letter from Jan today and he said that all the votes aren't in yet on the new standing orders for the club.

How about every one, who hasn't sent their vote to Jan, taking a look around, find your ballot, mark it and send it over to Jan.

This is your club and you should have your say about what goes in it. After all, if you don't vote you can't complain about how things are run. You wouldn't have the right to.

So come on, if you like the standing orders or if you don't how about saying so with your ballot? This has been unfinished business long enough. Let's get it finished.

Yours for a better club,

Alberta

-----

Jo-Jo Higgs

Fellow ISFCCers:

Each and every issue of EXPLORER seems to be getting 'bigger & better, and the July ish tops all so far. The art work on both front and back covers by Tony Glynn were excellent...Infernal Disorder by Terry Jeeves was very humorous.... Chocolate And Cheese by Jan Jansen was tops..we like to read material like this from our overseas fen...Glynn's interior art work was TOPS---let's have mo' and mo'..that was SOME MUSHIN', Denny old boy..isn't fate just like that...who dares say ISFCC isn't International..just glance at the roster and see the many overseas fen..Annie & Jean Linard came forth with a very interesting letter..Gad, one can visit the various foreign countries by just reading EXPLORER..Yes, if we were all like Eva our club would TOP all other organized clubs. Let's keep going forward! We have a most wonderful start.

lovin'ly yurs,

Jo-Jo

-----

Bob Farnham

Dear Racy...

Just received my copy of EXPLORER. A splendid ish, Ray....

Where did you ever get my picture for the front cover? It is the best resemblance I've seen yet. Sure looks like me all right...

Was Tony Glynn in Cleveland or did you send him a pic of me?

I've lost 50 pounds since you saw me and 13 inches off my waist-line. Diets is



hell what I mean but the end results are pleasing.

Not much to say this time; arthritis has been making me miserable since November, 1955...haven't much ambition to do other than grunt when I get up and groan when I sit down..what typing I have done has been in EXP, HI, and TNFT....

Between rounds with the doctor, the diet, epsom salts and the tortous smell of frying chicken I'm enjoying (WHUTT??) life a lot.

Dunno iffen I'll see another con or not...my hands are not too pretty anymore because of the arthritis...they look like I was about 5,000 years old...

Found a family of 5 in Atlanta whose kids have never taken a bath, and the parents have not had a bath in 25 years...

They take showers.

Best wishes...

Bob

-----  
Jim Benford Dear Racy:

Liked the last EXPLORER. Hope you like the enclosed artwork & writing. If you don't just fling it back. Thanks and keep up the good work.

Jim

-----  
Gary Labowitz Dear Racy,

I enjoyed the discussion by Rich Abbott. Enclosed is my bid for the emblem. Printing it on membership cards would be nice.

Keep smiling

Gary

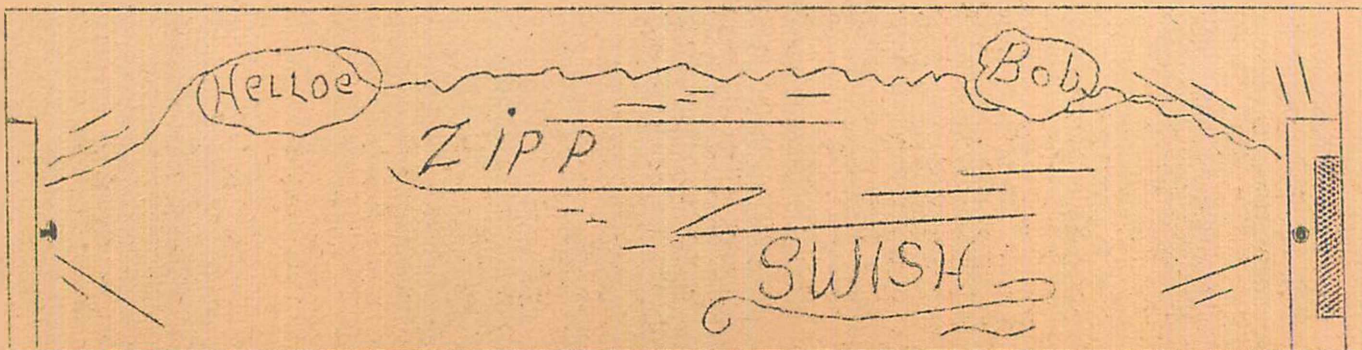
RCH to GL - I'm keeping the art drawing you submitted for the frontcover of an ISFCC BROCHURE that I will issue very soon.

-----  
Carolyn Jo Higgs Dear Members:

In the very near future Racy is publishing a ISFCC BROCHURE, a collectors item, no less! It will contain the finest contributions of stories, poems, art work, etc that our members can prepare. It will also carry the winners in the Laurette Poll which will be taken following the publishing of the December EXP. I suggest to all loyal ISFCCers to get busy now, and start preparing your contribs... desired are poems, art work, cartoons, fiction, etc. Get in on the fun & enjoyment!

Carolyn Jo

-----  
JANIE LAMB "VISITS" BOB FARNHAM!!





# R A C Y ' S   R A V I N ' S :

Since required activity has been voted in ISFCC, and 20 credits per year is in order, at least four pages of material printed, I would like to know how many members owning mimeographs would be willing to handle work for those who do not have ways of printing their zines. I believe it would be a rather nice--idea if each member owning a machine, and willing to help other members, place an item in EXPLORER saying so, also your charge for the work. Likewise-- those not having machines-- if you want some one to run off your work, state so via EXP. Drop us a word or two, will you?

Here is a good way for ISFCC members to get ego-boo in a brand new 1956 YEAR BOOK being published by the National Fantasy Fan Federation (NFFF): Please write the following info to ED ROBINSON, 3031 HICKOK WAY, RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA-- at once! Your name and address, Birthdate, Married? --to a fan?, Which sf mags do you read, Do you collect original sf mag illos, Do you read sf-fantasy books--do you collect them, Do you read or collect fanzines--which ones, Do you publish a fanzine--give title and price--what mags have you rubbed in the past, Do you write for fanzines, do you draw illos- cartoons, Do you belong to fanclubs--local--regional--specialty--national or world-- were, or are you active in these, Do you have a net fan project-- what is it? PLEASE ANSWER THIS AT ONCE, FOLKS!

Be sure to read about the ISFCC BROCHURE in the December section..

# \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* # \* #

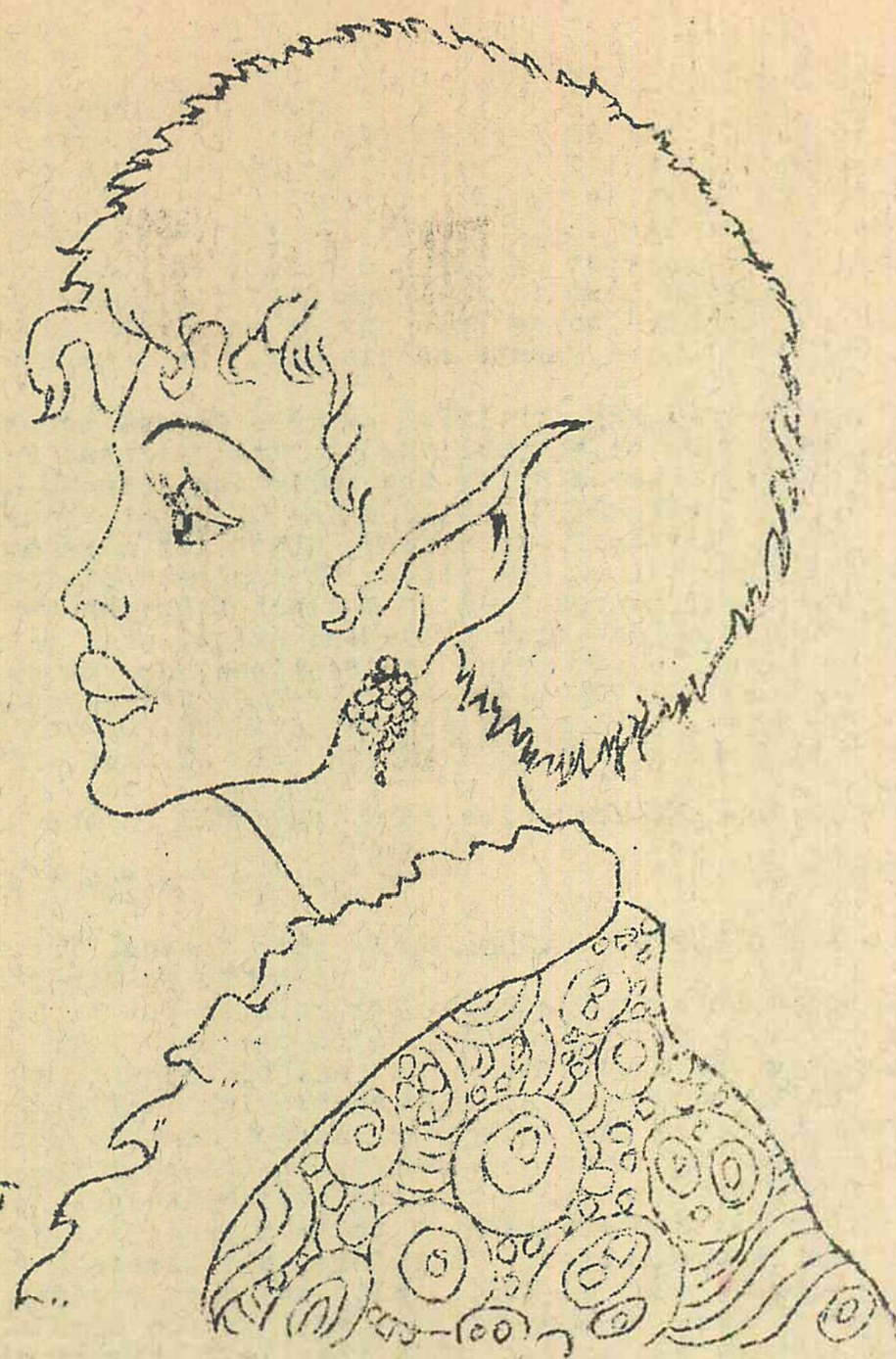
Now- W Y O M I N G YODELING -- Dear faaans, The Oct/Dec EXPLORERS came to me via express the 22nd of December (this is the 25th) for mailing out to membership-- were a few pages to mimeo, and any which are poor work --you know, lousoy! those are the ones I mimeo'd. All of the work by the OE are good, so-- don't go jumping him for amateurish lookin' pages run off on my baffling little ole Montgomery Ward & Company duplicator. I want to mail the zines to you members in the next two days. With approval of the officers, I'm turning over "Internal Revenue" department to Ellis Mills who consented to be a candidate for office of Treasurer in next election. Therefore, all please from henceforth-- send your renewal dues to Ellis, also any dues you may be paying for new members. Each member who sees an X in the circle on backcover, Please promptly, if not sooner, mail your 1957 renewal dollar to the now Treasury-Man:-

T/Sgt. Ellis T. Mills  
AF 1525 9311  
7406th Support SQDN  
APO 57, New York City.

Oh yes, nearly forgot to give myself credit in print-- so I can get my activity requirement piled up for 1957-- Plenty much of the material in this issue is contributed by me-- and I'm paying publishing expense, plus mailing postage.. but no more fellas-- no more. I is now flattened all out financially -- and must disappear from the scene for a number of months -- Don't go now feeling sorry-- for me that is --It has been a lot of fun for me-- and the main reason have to fade out is that I've too many home duties for the present and therefore-- just simply no longer have enough time for more than a required membership activity-- All of you be good to Ellis, please.



GLYNN





# EXPLORER



DEC. 1956

Richard Z Ward



# JAN'S JOTTINGS . . . .

Dear Friends,

I do not know whether I am indeed addressing 65 friends, members of the International Science Fiction Correspondence Club, or whether this report is only scheduled to be read by nineteen of you. Yes, indeed, only nineteen of you deemed it worthwhile to send a ballot in on the new constitution. On a constitution strangely enough, that is worded so as to evoke your interest, if interest you have left, for it will force out anyone who does not vote on future ballots, who will not in one way or another get something done for the good of the club or its members.

Actually one must wonder whether the Explorers sent you are even opened up to read, or whether they are just casually glanced at to be dumped into the first convenient disposal chute, wastepaper basket or fireplace, without even bothering to see what is going on.

Some few of you have stirred out of lethargy and sent in a ballot, surprisingly enough voting 'yes', and I sincerely hope that you were aware of what you were voting for, and were insistent yourselves that there was something wrong in your previous existence.

Other more active people, who have done quite a bit of letter writing in the club itself, have voted against. Only one gave clear and defined reasons for his feelings, feelings which I can understand, and will personally answer- the rest hiding themselves behind the general and illogic remark that a person 'should not be forced to do anything against his will'. I wonder whether these people have ever considered the laws that govern them, laws of their country and the laws of the church and what is generally called 'public morals'. They are all conceived to restrict people from doing just as they please, forcing them to things they dislike. Yet without them we would be rather in a mess.

Imposing another series of does and donts upon you may strike you as overburdening your shoulders. In which case I can only advise you to follow Popeye's advice and eat more spinach! It may help! I think I can understand how some of you became involved in the club, without feeling very much interested in actively participating in any of the club's work. I have seen people (from other clubs) pestering friends to join because they wanted the club to grow, without wondering whether those friends were people who wanted of their own accord to join any group whatsoever. Even more especially a group where some sort of activity could be expected from members. They just weren't interested and nothing the club leaders would and could do would interest even them. But they simply joined to please a friend, or even more likely, to get rid of that friend's nagging.

This method is not generally in use perhaps, but it does happen, and you might have been the victim. Or as happens during a membership drive, perhaps you were even offered membership with your friend paying your dues, at least for the first year? It has happened, I know. (Look at me!) Your friend probably thought that after reading through a few issues of the club's magazine, and corresponding with some of its other members you would be only too willing to join the general fray with all your energy.

In either case, you are deceiving us. And the other members. You pay your dues and expect to be left in peace. We offer you something more. We offer you the chance to keep the dues, and allow you to be certain to be left in peace. By us at least.

Others have joined the club when they first entered fandom and thought that the ISFCC was the place for them to correspond with others who shared their delight for science fiction and allied interests. Unfortunately those they contacted were inactive at the time and they soon developed a suspicious attitude. After all



you don't keep on writing to people when they don't answer. (And haven't I found that out due to my accident!)

So another group dissolves as possible active members and becomes one of a now unfortunate large proportion of 'I couldn't care lessers'. A few of you kept on in the hope that things would improve, others did the right thing and dropped out. Perhaps some of you didn't want to forget the club entirely because you still had one or more friends who might have taken you up on the question of why you dropped out, and you didn't want to offend him. This offers you an out - you can say I insulted you.

Indeed, perhaps I have.

And what is worse, if I have, I am not sorry. The original cause lies with you. If you had been the active fan you should have been when you joined the club there would not have been any need for harsh words and a constitution that forces people into activity.

But there is yet another section that exists around these parts. Those who are still active in parts of fandom, yet are just barely alive in the ISFCC. Just barely, because other than sending in your dues no word is ever heard of you. This may mean that you are overburdened with your activities elsewhere. In which case I wonder whether that dollar couldn't be used far better in improving your work for whatever section of fandom you are still actively interested in. Is it just that those other parts of fandom order you to join in their activity or quit? In that case I trust you'll take the ISFCC constitution as doing the same others are doing and will join in our particular group activity with as much spirit as you may be devoting to the other sections.

Don't please feel that I want to get rid of you all without any further ado. You have your chance of proving that you are worthy of membership simply by joining in activity. The new constitution though effective immediately can't operate on you for a year. I can't say that you are not going to be active during the first year under which the constitution will be applied, the passage of time will show you up as either unworthy or otherwise.

There is still another way out in case you're wondering. Seven of you can make out impeachment proceedings (which will fail I must add because I am doing the job I was elected for). But you could in the end force through a voting on the matter and if all of you inactive members voted, I would be out. But perhaps your voting on the matter would charm you because you had then seen that one could be active and enjoy it, and the matter as to why I was voted out would no longer be applicable. After all you'd all be active that way.

The actual voting results:

On the constitution: FOURTEEN for. FIVE against.

On the Standing Orders: THIRTEEN for. SIX against.

With smaller margins larger things have been decided.

Actively yours,

Jan Janson, Secretary ISFCC

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THE EXPLORER - Official Organ of the International Science Fiction Correspondence Club. Vol. 7 - No. 5 - December 1956

President- Greg Benford, c/o Lt. Col. James A. Benford, 051676 G-4 Sect. Hq. V Corps. APO 79, New York, N. Y.

Vice-Pres.- Terry Jeeves, 58 Sharrard Grove, Intake, Sheffield 12, England

Secretary- Jan Jansen, 229 Berchemlei, Borgerhout, Antwerp, Belgium

Corr. Mgr.- Ellis Mills, T/Sgt. AF 15259311 7406th Support SQDN APO 57, New York City.

Treasurer- Eva Firestone, Box 515, Upton, Wyoming

Official Editor-EXPLORER- Ray C. Higgs, 813 Eastern Ave., Connersville, Indiana

Membership dues- \$1.00 per year plus activity credits. Dues to Treasurer!!!

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BECOME ACTIVE IN ISFCC NOW! REMEMBER- DUES PLUS ACTIVITY CREDITS REQUIRED!



# GREG'S GROANS . . . .

Fellow Members:-

As usual, another fine issue of EXPLORER...and this time there's more vast improvements all around.

Tony's illos were a great addition to the material side, and I'm glad to see him back in action once more. We could use more fen like him around the ISFCC to contribute top-notch illos and prose.

Glad to see more people writing to the club zine. I am struck by a pang of regret when I survey my words printed so evenly here. Seems I promised to get out a whole gang of things on IAPA and write letters to people and all sorts of typical actifannish things. Trouble is, I didn't nohow. Y'see, I've come to find that actifandom is taking more and more of my time and the ISFCC sorta slipped away. Sorry I couldn't come through, but I suspect some other members are having the same trouble and I'm not alone.

By now I suppose it will have been decided by a couple peoples that the RRs aren't going so hot. True, true. Ellis and a couple (all of one) friends came over a couple 'a nights ago and we all jumped into his delapidated '50 Ford (which is sold up the river by now) and crawled along out to Rheinmain. Met Bob Miller. Sorry to say, Bob has gone completely gafia and won't be able to keep up his ISFCC work. So...if there are no objections from the membership, we'll just substitute Ellis for Bob and let him keep up the RRs until the term runs out, eh?

We're really interested in starting these RRs now, and at long last can ask the membership to give forth with the missives. Deluge my old mailbox, says Alberta. Same for Ellis, I might add. If you're at all interested in writing to the rest of the members, drop Ellis a line. Or better, a letter.

You might wonder what we talk about at these fabled meetings of the Frankfurt Group. So do I. Tho I'm present at all of them they are somewhat fuzzy the next morning and the details (such as where we went, what we did, etc) aren't clear. However, I do remember something of these meetings, notably a conversation, like so:

Jim: Hey, Ellis, how does radar work?

Greg: Mighod, Woody, you just missed that car!

Woody: Hey, look you guys, if you wanna drive I'll stop and let you take over...

Greg: Does anybody here correspond with Cliff Gould?

Jim: Hey, Ellis, how does radar work?

All of this natch esoteric, but I must explain that Woody is the only one of us who drives a car well, and we just like to keep on kidding him about it it..the other stuff is too esoteric to explain.....

Well, I'd better be going. The material was definately an improvement this time Racy, and if you keep improving we'll really be the top fancub in a short while. Why not -- we already have the best clubzine?

-----  
"I hear tell the only thing Bob Farnham likes is fandom and staying alive."  
-----

This space-warp idea has possibilities- but how would I store it?

Luck - Greg

Prez of ISFCC



# RACY'S RAVIN'S . . . . .

Fellow ISFCC'ers:-

Providing you have read JAN'S JOTTINGS...and you better...may I kinda repeat some of the things you had better grasp. As you have noticed the results of the recent voting on the constitution and standing orders came out thus:-

On the constitution: FOURTEEN For. FIVE against.

" " standing orders: THIRTEEN For. SIX against.

In other words- both the constitution and standing orders passed, and are effective immediately- but can't operate on you-the members, for a year. Thus if you do not live up to the new rules during the coming year- the gate is wide open for your exit! Thus to be a member of ISFCC now you pay \$1.00 membership dues, plus providing at least 20 points thru activity requirements. Those activity credits can be earned thusly:-

5 points per page published by a member at his own expense and distributed to the whole membership

4 points per page for contributions and quoted letters of comment within the ISFCC.

2 points for mention of letters of comment received and 2 points for participation in a round-robin letter at the conclusion of each round.

Membership dues:- Dues are established at one dollar per fiscal year. The fiscal year runs from 1st of March to the last day of February of the following year.

Voting procedure:- Nominations and applications for office must be received by the Secretary by the first of February of each year. Here are the offices to be filled:-  
President, Secretary, Treasurer, Activity Manager, Official Editor..

For more details on the whole thing I would advise you to read and reread JAN'S JOTTINGS in this issue of EXPLORER.

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As the year of 1956 is slowing, passing...and will soon be gone, I wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every officer, also each individual member of ISFCC for the cooperation given me as editor of EXPLORER. To say a mere thank you seems to be such a tiny thing to do, but down in my heart I am most grateful to all of you. I do hope you will continue your activity during the coming year of 1957 and put dear old ISFCC and the EXPLORER on the str map. IT CAN BE DONE.. ISFCC WILL DO IT! I KNOW YOU WILL NOT FAIL ME! PLEASE... At this time I would like to WISH ALL OF YOU A "MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR"...and God Bless You! May I have the opportunity to serve you as editor for the year of 1957?

According to the new constitution EXPLORER will be published at the club's expense in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER and DECEMBER... thus during 1957 you will receive EX at the given times mentioned.



Here is something I'd better repeat again:- If you wish to run for office- the Secretary must be notified by the first of February. Jan Jansen is now serving as Secretary. Those ISFCCers running for office will be given due mention in the March ish of EXPLORER; & the ballots will appear in the March issue.

After the ballots are received, you must vote and mail to Secretary so as the ballot will arrive prior the 15th of May. The results of the election will be in the June EXPLORER.

Elected Officers will serve from 15th of June to 14th of June of the following year. Be sure you read this very carefully...because ISFCC is YOUR club!

As far as I know, the present officers are still SERVING until after the results of the election, so, I suppose I am still editor of EXPL. Thus I am asking each one of you to contribute something for the March 1957 ish of EX...a letter, you must have something to say.. a poem or an essay or art work. EXPLORER is your club's Official Organ... thus EX relies upon the contributions from ISFCC members. At the present time, I cannot give any closing dates for receiving your contributions for pubbing...But I can say...after you read this issue, get out that old inky pen or blunt pencil, and fire away with a contrib! DO IT NOW!

Would you members of ISFCC care for something nice...in the form of a 1956 ISFCC BROCHURE containing info on all members, laureate winners of the contributions appearing in EX during 1956, a complete index of all material printed in the 5 ish's of EX during '56-namely January, April, July, October and December EXPLORERS. Sounds interesting doesn't it? It would give all of you lots of ego-boo, and would let the stf world know that there is such a club as ISFCC!

Here is all we ask you folks to do:-

1) Give out with a page or two of info about yourself-when did you become interested in science fiction, when did you join ISFCC, names of other clubs you belong to, conventions you have attended, do you publish a fanzine-give name or names, in other words....let the world know about you...you deserve a little ego-boo! You write it...we will publish it!

2) Get out the 5 issues of EXPLORER for '56-Jan, Apr, July, Oct/Dec. Look each issue over very carefully and list in order:-  
a)- the five (5) best poets and their best poem  
b)- the five best letter writers, in what ish did their best appear.  
c)- the five best feature writers including humorist, essay, fiction, etc. List name of article and month of EX it appeared in.  
3) List the ten TOP members in ISFCC, and give your reasons for your choice!

Don't be stingy with words! I'm paying the expense of the ISFCC BROCHURE! The complete book will be crammed full of ego-boo for each one of you--if YOU will just send in the above info. Yes. ISFCC BROCHURE will be more than just ONE mag--in fact-- it will be THREE 'big' mags in ONE:-

1) EXPLORER INDEX - listing everything that appeared in the five issues during 1956.  
2) Laureate Winners (list 5) and the five winning contributions in art, poems, features include fiction, articles, essays, etc. and 5 best letter writers.  
3) Ten TOP ISFCC members and the reasons for your choice.  
EACH MEMBER OF ISFCC will receive a copy of ISFCC BROCHURE - so you want all the ego-boo you can get inside this zine-YOU must supply us



with all the dope and answers. A goodly number of the ISFCC BROCHURE will appear at each and every convention and conference meeting held during 1957...also at the WORLD CONVENTION to be held at LONDON...(you overseas fen get behind this cause it's a very fine way to advertise ISFCC at the London agent- take note Jan, Ellis, Gregg, Jim, Tony, Terry, etc....and lastly...ALL THIS INFO will be compiled in a JUMBO 1956 FANFARE BROCHURE for stf-fsy fen everywhere! Enuf said! Send all the above info NOW to:-

RAY C. (Racy) HIGGS  
813 EASTERN AVENUE  
CONNERSVILLE, INDIANA, U.S.A.

Please take note Gregg or Jan or some of you big whig officers. J. Stan Woolston of 12832 West Avenue, Garden Grove, California, who serves as President of the NFFF, (National Fantasy Fan Federation) announces the presentation of a 1956 YEAR BOOK. Stan desires write-ups on all organized clubs such as ISFCC and OMPA, and I (Racy) promised that either Jan, Gregg, Jim etc and etc (one or all you guys) would supply him with several (many) pages of info. So- you fellers get busy now and send that info to Stan. Makes good advertising for ISFCC and OMPA. See how interested I am in ISFCC. Are you folks interested?? What about a write-up on prozines and fanzines put out 'over-thar'...movie and book reviews...yes!...and thanks to you gentls!

Here is a must! A collectors item...no less! NYCON 11 MEMORY BOOK just recently issued by K. Martin Carlson and Ray C. Higgs- a nice 'big' book with nice printed covers selling at \$1.00 with contributions by such ISFCC members as Carlson, Firestone, Higgs, etc. Write Carlson at 1028 Third Avenue South, Moorhead, Minnesota or Janie Lamb, Route One, Heiskell, Tenn.

#### OH! MY OPERATION!!

On October 26, I (Racy Higgs) was admitted to the hospital and was operated on for gafia, non-activity and similar ailments- ruptured hernia by the official name, and to this date December 7, am still making my home at said butcher shop.... now carrying a twelve inch gash....plus a loss of some \$600 in wages, plus a hospital and doctor bill of a mere 500 bucks more or less..so goes the world..at least I have in my position about one yard of cat gut!

Why aren't you members of ISFCC using the Trade Manager's Bureau? For shame!! This is one of your benefits. Get on the ball....use it! Write Alberta Leek, Oak Ridge, N. J.

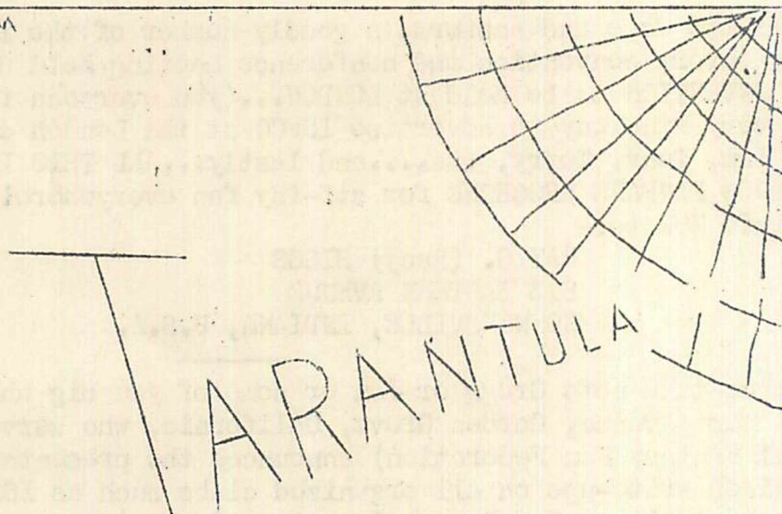
Here is something you ISFCCers do not want to pass up...it's the new fanzine CONTACT issued twice monthly by the Contact Group consisting of Ron Bennett, John Hitchcock, Ellis Mills and Jan Jansen. CONTACT is the brand new 'newszine' giving ego-boo to fans, fan events, etc and is open for your contributions to publish. To those living in USA write:- Dick Ellington, 299 Riverside Drive, Apt. 11A, New York 25, N.Y. and the sub price is \$1.00 for 24 issues. Overseas fen write Ron Bennett, 7 Southway, Arthurs Avenue, HARROGATE, Yorks/England. It's 7/- per year for 24 issues.

15TH WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION - SEPTEMBER 6, 7, 8, '57 - LONDON - ENGLAND

I would like to have a good write-up on the OLYMPICON which by the way is being held at Melbourne, Australia, Dec. 8 and 9. Send \$1.00 to Bob McCubbin, 90 Lilydale Grove, HAWTHORN EAST E.3. Victoria, Australia. Give 'em a lift-folks! You folks attending- I could use a nice write-up on the con!

— Racy Higgs





BEMS INC. - - - A Movie Review

The other day when I had nothing else to do besides write letters (which becomes very boring at times), Jim and I decided to take a jaunt down to the local cinema and see a film called "Tarantula".

The thing opens up with a pretty shock bit about a man staggering across the deser. This guy has a distorted and twisted face which is designed to scare the pants off everybody within hearing distance, but merely makes the brats in front yell and scream. After the ones in the seats down by the screen quiet down the plot rolls out like a second-grade thriller...which it was.

A small-town doctor in Arizona (the Hero, natch, who is young and handsome and single and chock full of guts) has to look over the guy above and immediately declares that due to the condition of his muscles he couldn't have died from anything else but a rare disease (five cases of it reported in the history of man, so of course he'd know all about it, being fresh out of school) which requires years to produce the distorted face. Then somebody comes along and says the man looks something like the assistant of some professor who lives out in the desert all alone and experiments on Strange Things.

Hero drives out to investigate and picks up a girl along the way who is supposed to be the new assistant for the doc. Turns out at the doc's lab that the assistant took off a while back because he was lonely. Hero swallows the story and goes home, leaving things to rattle around for a while until the doc is working late one night in his lab and another guy with a horrible face comes from upstairs where he must have been hidden and starts a fight. Seems the doctor is experimenting with some special atomic food (the substance is never made quite clear) that feeds up the growth of the body cells, causing the distorted face. In the process of the brawl the cages are smashed and a tarantual which has been treated with a high dosage escapes into the desert. The man with The Face knocks the doc out and injects him with an overdose, so he will Suffer The Same Fate, and passes out dead on the floor. Herr Doktor buries the poor slob and goes back to work, not knowing he has been injected.

After a few cattle are killed and the cops got called out to investigate it our doc gets the disease good and his face starts twisting up. The girl assistant is shocked but won't tell...or can't, since she is kept in the house and isn't able to get to town. About this time the tarantula is at least a half block wide and has



to pick up something besides cattle to live on. The fearsome night comes and he first raids a horse ranch, getting most of the livestock and the rancher.

Then comes the only scene I really like in the entire pic...the spider comes over a hill just as a truck with two men in the cab drives down the highway. The tarantula is a big thing by now, and scares the driver to no end, so he's unable to stop and runs right under his legs. Our Boy picks the entire truck up with his pincers and hurls it over a roadside wall. Next day the cops find some bones by the smashed truck and natch everybody gets scared and paniky. Hero takes some of the strange white liquid he finds around the scene to the Big Name Scientists upstate and finds it is a type of acid used by spiders to dissolve their prey and therefore make them easy on the stomach. (Gory, isn't it?) By this time the tarantula has killed off a few more people who were out on the desert and Hero, suspecting that Something Is Wrong, hotfoots it back to the doc's lab to get the girl away to safety. You'll notice the deep concern he has for Herr Doktor. Spider Boy meanwhile has come to the lab-cum-house where the girl is and bends down over it. mystified, I guess. Hero's girl goes to bed but can't sleep, so she gets up and walks back and forth in front of a big bay window, not caring in the slightest what goes on outside. Here's another scene designed to chill the bones right off any self-respecting movie-goer, but it falls flat since the tarantula, which has been called "the most deadly killer in the world" puts his eye (or one of them, at least) right outside the window AND JUST SITS THERE. For about 30 seconds this goes on...the girl paces back and forth and the spider watches. Then, without batting his eye, Our Boy leans on the house and stuff starts falling from overhead. Now she sees the eye, and runs like the devil to get out of there. Naturally, this leaves doc to be eaten alive by spider boy.

Hero arrives and speeds the girl off in his car, the tarantula in hot pursuit. They meet some cops on the road back and plan to kill it by explosives and/ or the Air Force. Leaving two patrolmen behind to try to slow him up a bit, they race for town. They die a horrible death...one of suspense, as the dumb cop can't start the car and as a consequence is slaughtered on the road. By this time the explosives are rigged and when they are set off do not affect the tarantula in the least. The Air Force contributes some shots of fighters training which would have more like they were the real thing used for the movie if they didn't mix the films and show different models taking off and bombing. Anyway, these fighters drop bombs and rockets, and not until THE THIRD PASS do they score on a target more than A BLOCK WIDE. Then proceed several mock scenes of spider boy burning and The Big Beast Is Dead. Unfortunately, as many semi-horror pics go, this one cuts off right here.

As you may have accertainted from the above, the movie is to be missed if at all possible. Save your money and buy a mimeo or something.

— greg benford

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Romson Productions will film "The 27th Day." The screenplay is by Robert Fresco.

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Allied Artists are filming David Duncan's novel "Dark Dominion". Sidney Salkow will direct with William F. Brody doing the producing.

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Universal-International will film a Science-Fivtion story entitled "Deadly Mantis." Co-starring will be Craig Stevens and Bill Hooper. Bill Alland will do the producing and Nathan Juran the directing.

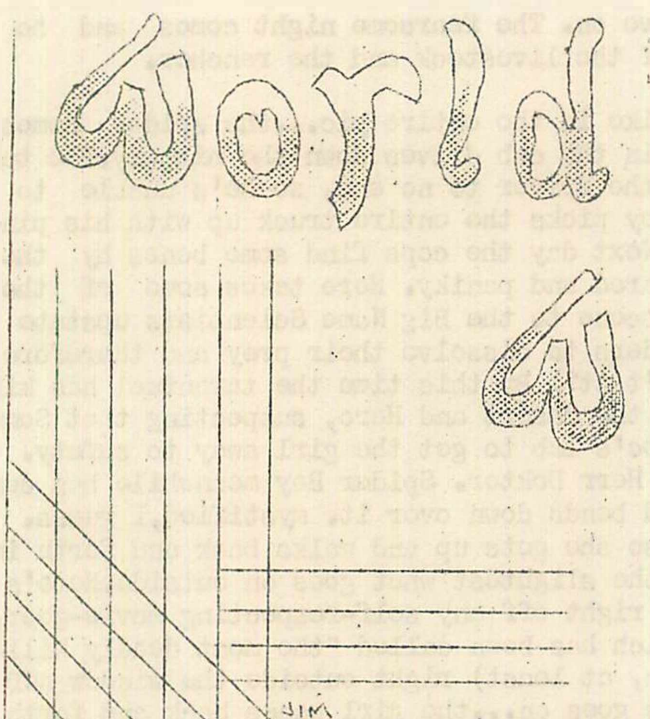
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U-I will produce "The Land Unknown" starring Jock Mahoney.

Columbia will also film "The 27th Day." The big stars will be Arnold Moss, Geo. Voskovec and Valerie French

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# World

# Without

# End

This time Hollywood has really outdone itself. I really didn't think they could get an old and hack plot as this. The whole thing starts when the first Mars expedition is lost and runs into a time warp. The ship then crashes on Earth in the year 2508 and the crew wanders around the countryside until one of them finds some dog-size spiders and manages to get caught in a web. Rest of crew then fights off obviously fake spiders and draws its companion to safety. That night they are attacked by human mutants resembling cyclops, who bash at them with stone axes. Heroic Earthmen are hardly scratched and easily shoot a couple of Beasts which scares the rest away.

Next day they are attacked again and run into a cave where a panel opens and they enter the Underground Civilization where they meet tired-looking men and (of course) Beautiful Girls with Short-Snorter (courtesy Dean Grennell) Dresses. After much talking they find their quarters and tour the city. Meanwhile we are brought up to date. Seems an A-War has given mankind the one-two punch and all that's left is the mutants on the surface and the fagged-out super civilization underground.

Our Boys figure their chances of hitting another space warp are pretty slim so they forget about the ship and decide to help the Fagged-Outs get back on the surface. They put their plan up before the council and it's rejected. Reason: Fagged-Outs are yellow.

Fagged-Out Villian is jelious of Hero, who is stealing his girl. Enter Cosmic Intrigue: Villian takes guns which were taken from Our Boys when they entered and hides them under one of their beds. Slave Girl spots him but keeps her trap shut. Guns were missed and search finds them and heros are sentenced to be sent to the surface with just what they came with...

Slave Girl goes to Tell All to President of Council but Villian finds out and conks her one. He then proceeds to the surface. Authorities give chase, but Villian runs straight into an ambush by the mutants in a scene that looks like a Saturday mateene. Heroes can now chase the mean old cyclops till their hearts' content but for some reason Super Science can't make guns but can make bazookas.



The poor cyclops are then slaughtered and the Hero fights the chief for control of the tribe. Big Man tells the rest to scat and they hobble off down the trail.

The last scene shows the building of the first settlement on the surface which looks suspiciously like the suburb of Hollywood. If you weren't reading stf back in the thirties, this is a typical example. Miss if possible.

—jim benford

### JUST FETCH ME THE LILIES' - I'M CLEAR GONE

I'm all for a good three months rest...no work...just lay around in bed & read science fiction zines, smoke big-long black cigars, drink bheer and watch TV...YES! I'm all for the like of it...BUT...I do detest the way I had to go about getting to do all of this! Yes indeede! It seems that all I had to do to receive this grand and glorious vacation, was to rupture myself...which did happen on October 8, and now on December 7 they are carting me home...where I'll remain until the first of the year... '57 that is! Simple enuf...isn't it?

It sounds just about like a story book fiction...but to those who HAVE...must PAY!....and bro—ther, I'm paying!! First they come at you with a big Ray gun and you see, hear feel and smell no mo'...next approach is via the carving knife way... what wonderful paterns they can come up with..using your belly for the carving table...when they tire of playing tit-tat-to on your 'down-stairs'...they chase down a pussy and give you a yard or two of cat-gut. Now..all's over but paying the bill! (Did I utter bill???)

Trying to forget the \$900 I'm loosing thru wages....plus the hospital bill, I have been lucky enuf to receive via the mails that most wonderful 500 plus page of FAPA mailing.

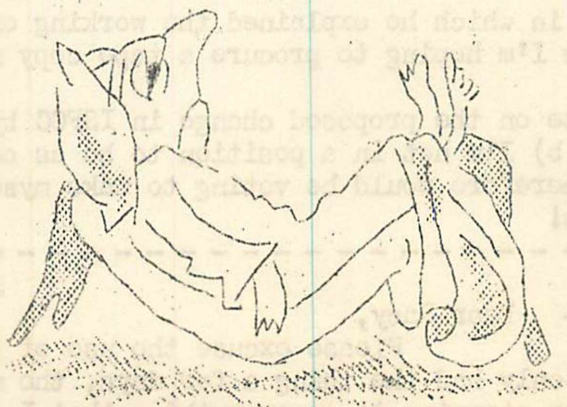
I also had the pleasure of receiving a grand SAPS mailing...and it was mailed out just 12 hours after the deadline...sure...Big Howard knew I was in need of some reading matter.

Also received a nice-big ish of TNFF, also the monthly bundles from UAPA OF A, AAPA, NAPA and UAPA....and the OO -EXPLORER - from ISFCC! Gee, ain't it wonderful to be operated..to rest..read..drink bheer..and to be an amateur journalists!!!

on

Long live mundane (amateur ajay) journalism and science-fiction-fantasy journalism  
...Racy Higgs

just fetch me the  
lilies!





RICH ABBOTT - Dear Ray,

I enjoyed the July EXPLORER very much- it was one of the most interesting you ever published. Most heartening was the concentrated work done by Tony Glynn.

I hope some ISFCCers went to the Convention. I was in Pittsburgh visiting our ISFCCer Berk Moore the weekend before the Con, but had to hustle back to the seat of our Southern Heritage by Labor Day. Had quite an enjoyable time in the Steel City visiting the Publ Planetarium & Museum of Natural History, etc. The only Con I ever went to was Chicon-10th World Convention in 1952. Went with Ellis Mills and enjoyed myself, but discovered that hell-raising was half of the deal, and I could do that anytime.

I have a new address again, and may have another one in a few months. Perhaps things will be slightly more settled after awhile.

I received a copy of the proposed Constitution etc. I forgot to mail my disapproval to Jan Jansen, but that's of no importance. Pres. Greg informed me that if I didn't fulfill the requirements, I'd have to quit it (ISFCC). Since I'm lethargic, I might as well resign as of Oct. 18, 1956- the 8th Anniversary of ISFCC's founding. (Ed. note- ISFCC was founded by Rich Abbott) Let me add, though, if the club ever needs any specific task done, I'll be happy to do it.

Random notes:- Alberta Leek wrote, said she liked the idea of a club emblem. Might as well put it on the ballot in November. Also I recently saw Sattelite in the Sky, a British effort. Not even TIME magazine was sarcastic enough (impossible). I thought it set serious science fiction cinema back to before Destination Moon.

I see the membership is 60 now. That's short half its 1951 membership. But N3F was almost 400 then and has fallen a lot more. Also I remember in 1950, Ron Friedman has his Universal Musketeers with 90 members- defunct now, I presume. So if many ISFCCers are provided with a strong motivation to do something for the club, we can still grow. As for eternal life, I'm pesemistic because fandom is incapable of contributing to either science or literature, so it has no ultimate purpose. Oh well...

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STAN CROUCH - Dear Racy,

Ellen and I just returned from the World Convention this week so I thought I'd write you a line. We both joined FANDROIDS, it being our first world con. There's a vast difference between a world con and a smaller affair. Although we enjoyed ourselves, we enjoy ourselves anyway- wherever we are- so suffice it to say that for the most part, we were glad we made it- even though in future we both will probably prefer a conference of sorts.

Like all fanfests, we met many nice fans- including Wilson Tucker (I'd exchanged tapes with him years ago), E E Evans, Ken Krueger, Bob Fritz, Bob Hoskins, and dozens more. Attended a party by the Cleveland group, where we had a delightful time in general and no one suffered from thirst-

The highlight of the affair- for Ellen and me- was the speech by John W. Campbell, Jr. on Scionics- in which he explained the working of his adaptation of the Hieroglyphic Machine. Now I'm hoping to procure a tape copy from Frank Dietz's original.

I withheld my vote on the proposed change in ISFCC by-laws, because a) I'm not paid up for 1956, b) I'm not in a position to be as active as required by the new constitution and therefore would be voting to make myself in-eligible. Best wishes to you and yours!

-----

B. T. 'Terry' JEEVES - Dear Racy,

Please excuse the use of the rubber stamp as a letter head, but as I have only had the thing a few days, the novelty hasn't worn off yet. In fact I still keep stamping it on everything that I can get at. The family



have started complaining...seems they don't like wandering around with my name and address stamped on their foreheads. Miserable non-fen.

Explorer arrived this morning, only thing in the mail, and I'm tempted to add.. 'Thank Goodness'..Put down that cmidel, while I explain. I had already cleared my outstanding mail, when Exp thudded through the letter box, and the postman trudged away, relieved of his burden. Now that I've read through Ex (notice that abbreviation is getting shorter each time) I have started to write the letters arising from same, and here's why I'm glad that only Exp (longer again) arrived. So far, I've written to three new members, and this letter is no. 4 is to you. After that, I have lines to drop to Jan Jansen, and Tony Glynn. FIVE letters from one fmz. arrival. I thought fanac in general accepted one scruffy postcard as adequate evidence of receipt..and that not essential. Have just removed my sock and recounted. Not FIVE letters, BUT SIX! I am prostrated!

Now to Explorer. Cover and interior illos, simply great. Boy, am I glad to see Glynn is mnce more out of the glades of GAFIA. Must drop him a line and ask him what the hell about some work for Triode. Interior layout is better than ever, and I liked Jan's 'Chocolate & Cheese'...I must try that combination sometime. I liked all the letters, even Curilovic's so honest description of his own poem, but thought that the badge design were too much alike to be offered as possible alternatives. Why, if you wore either of them on the slant, it would immediately become the other. Oh heck, scanning the mag, I find that yet another letter is in order. To Eva, explaining that I paid up my dues to Ellis Mills about 3 months ago. On top of that, I gave him the akkers for subs to asf, and Galaxy, plus a book order. So far, ISFCC says I owe 50c. My asf and Galaxy subs have lapsed, and no book has arrived. I know Ellis did send the sub money in, but WHEN seems to be the big question. By the way, what's Alberta Leeks full address. I know Oak Ridge is bigger than a one horse town, and feel tather chary of writing to her at plain 'Oak Ridge'. Surely there must be some more to that address??? (nope- just plain old Oak Ridge, New Jersey)

Now to our motto/credo, or what have you. I don't care for it as it stands, it's a good line, but to my mind, far too pretentious for our small club. Rock's version, is a much more laboured version of the original. I keep trying to think of a third version, but all I get is, - The Stars, as infants we boggled at them, as men we worship them, and as decrepit old pensioners we shall drool over them (particularly Hedy Lamarr)

Must belt up now, or I'll never get anything done.

47 Causeyside Street  
Paisley,  
Renfrewshire, Scotland

Dear Racy:-

Can you send me any American news on the 1957 Worldcon to be held in London in Sept. Issue 3 of COSMOS BULLETIN is enroute to you by ordinary post. Hope you like it so you can give it a boost in the American fanzines. Here is the first publicity notes released from London on the Worldcon. They may be of some use to you in the zines. Will Blast Off. All the best - your friend, GAVIN BROWN

Ed note) Thanks for the Conotes, also for the COSMOS BULLETIN (which is on its way) see here folks- why not write Gavin about COSMOS BULLETIN. I hear it's good!

N O T I C E ! I would like to receive copies of ALL fanzines being published overseas...please take note..fan editors in ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, GERMANY, IRELAND, FRANCE, and elsewhere.

Will be glad to exchange zines, gives reviews, also accept contributions of art work, articles, fiction, poems and what have you!

SEND DIRECT TO RAY C. 'RACY' HIGGS, 813 EASTERN AVENUE; CONNERSVILLE, INDIANA, U.S.A. YOU FOLKS OVERSEAS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO JOIN UP WITH ISFCC - \$1 PER YEAR PLUS ACTIVITY (REQUIRED) CREDITS.



TRADE    MANAGER'S    REPORT

Lookie! Lookie! Lookie! Lookie! Customers!

Gavin Brown wants American sf. Will trade American and British sf. Can get 30 issues of Burroughs pocketbooks, 10 hardcovers. Also a few Wheatly and Lovecraft.

Betty Kajawa would like to have "Earth Abides" and "Shadow on the Hearth" by Judith Merrill. Also "Ape and Essence" by Aldous Huxley.

Jean and Annie Linard are almost desperate for some good sf. We of America & England have lots of good sf so how about sharing it with our French friends? They have taken on the enormous task of learning English (they've done a good job of learning it in a short time too!) just so they would be able to read more sf. They don't have much of it in France but we have plenty so how about sharing ours? Get in touch with them and work out a trade between you.

I also have a request for any material by Jonathan Norton Leonard in regards to the research business at White Sand. Do you have any you'd like to trade for some sf? Drop me a line.

Here is an excerpt from Gavin Brown's letter he asked me to pass on to you:

"Come on you trading fans and readers, wake up and put some life into the trading bureau. You join a club, Why? You don't join in the activities, why? Don't be a wall flower all your life. Help others in the swapping trade.

There are fans over here who are not as lucky as you are in getting sf. Always remember, that by helping the club you are helping others who are not so fortunate as you are in getting sf mags."

If you desire addresses of the fan above..send a self-addressed-stamped envelope to Alberta Leek; Oak Ridge, New Jersey.

-----  
P O C K E T B O O K S  
M A G S    &    B O O K S

Write me your wants  
K. M. Carlson, Moorhead, Minn.

-----  
A COLLECTOR'S ITEM! NEWYORCON MEMORY BOOK - 160 pages with printed covers! Price only \$1.00! Only 100 copies published - better order NOW! Send monies to:-

K. M. CARLSON  
1028 Third Ave., South  
Moorhead, Minn.

JANIE LAMB  
Route One  
Heiskell, Tenn.

-----  
Write STAN WOOLSTON, 12832 West Ave., Garden Grove, Calif. if you want your club represented in the forthcoming YEAR BOOK being published by NEFF. Data and info wanted of all organized clubs..SAPS, FAPA, ISFCC, etc take note!

-----  
Wanted for MEMORY BROCHURE - write ups, art work, cartoons, features and complete main address- all material pertaining to the NEWYORCON. Send direct to:-

RAY C. HIGGS

813 EASTERN AVENUE

CONNERSVILLE, INDIANA  
-----



ADDENDA from TREASURY Office

Renewals

Richard Billings - 1/57  
Greg Benford - 57  
Jim Benford - 57  
Ellis Mills - 57  
Joel Covey - 1/57  
Mark Curilovic - 57  
Ralph Holland - 1/58  
Eva Firestone - 57  
Frances Evans - 1/57

Address Changes

Richard F. Abbott  
2709 S. Grand  
Monroe, Louisiana

(this above is since the one on  
the blue page, and Rich says he  
may be transferred again)

A/3c Harley Richard Billings  
AF 25002274  
HQ. Sq. 52nd FITGRU  
Suffolk County AFB, New York

Robert Hoskins  
Box 158  
Lyons Falls, New York

H. P. Sanderson  
c/o 7 Inchmery Road  
Catford, London SE 6. England

N F F F Election for 1957

President - Stan Woolston was re-  
elected by another landslide. He  
rec'd all votes except five which  
were divided among his two oppo-  
nents. Ralph M. Holland was elect-  
ed Chairman-Director. *Acton*

A small group of Science-Fiction fan are engaged in publishing a let-  
terzine for and by stfen aged forty-five and up. Any reader (of this  
EX) of required age who may be interested, please notify E. Firestone  
Upton, Wyoming. There are no dues, nor subscriptions in cash.

THE SOUTH GATE IN '58 PLANNING COMMITTEE -- Len and Anna Moffatt,  
Lew Kovner, Forry Ackerman, George W. Fields, Rick Sneary, Walt  
Willis and Art Thompson.

WESTERCON X, the Tenth Annual West Coast S.  
F. Conference will be held at the Hotel Knickerbocker, in Hollywood,  
California, July 4, 5, 6 and 7, 1957.

NEW MEMBER

Peter O. Ibroyo -- 1957  
Regional Mechanical W. Shon  
Public Works Dept.  
Ibadan, West Nigeria

(sponsored by Abbie Huddleston)

Reserve Fund for 1957 - \$16.50  
" " " 1958 - .50

NEW MEMBER

Mike Gates ---1957  
c/o Col. J. R. Gates  
Dept. Chief of Staff  
Office of the C. G.  
Hq. NACOM, APO. 757

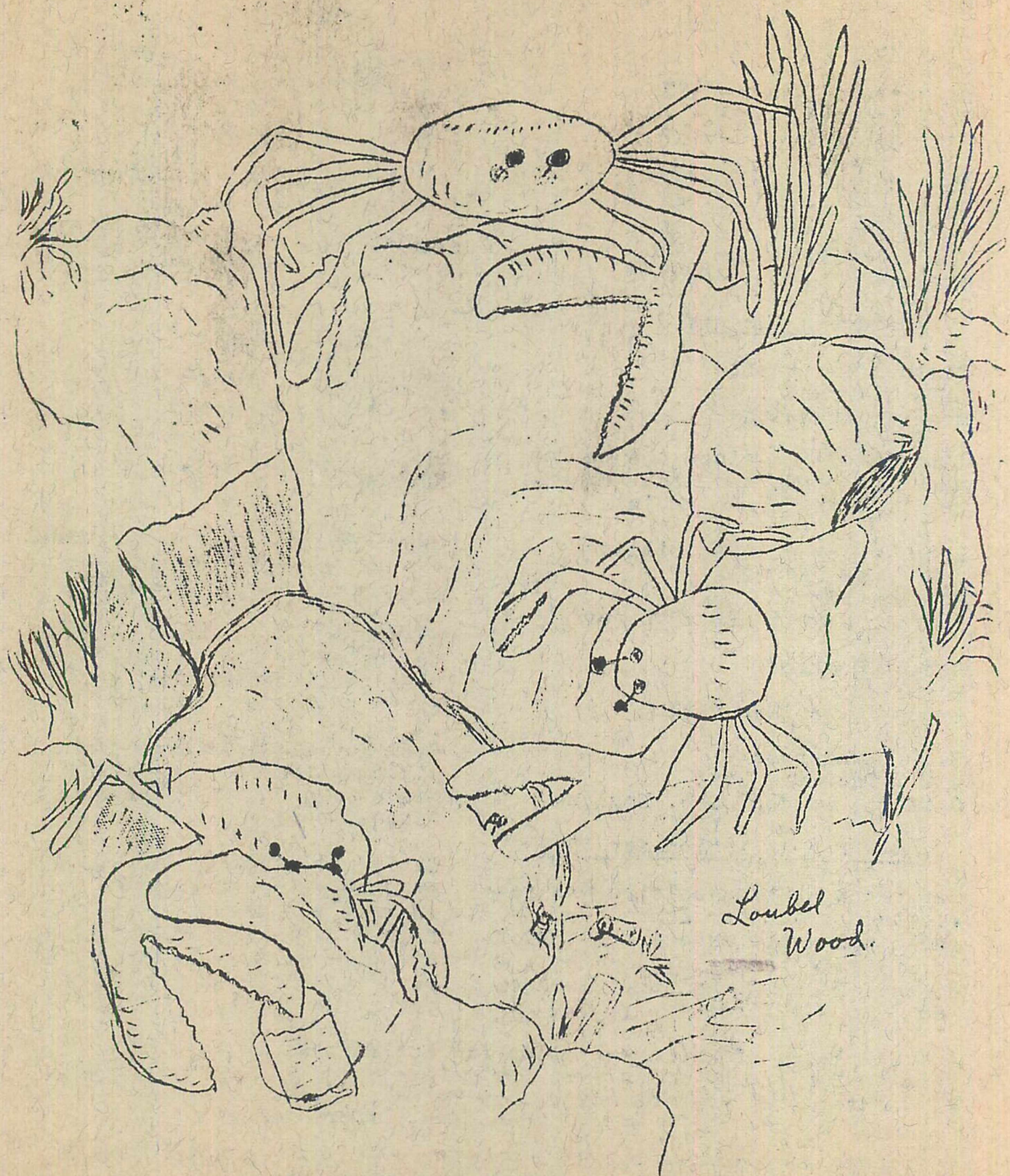
Gene and Betty Kusiawa are hav-  
ing wonderful vacation for two  
months at Pompano Beach, Florida

SHAMROCKS ON THE TIDE, a book  
of poetry by Dennis Murphy, has  
been published by the Candor  
Press of Dexter, Missouri.

(you may obtain a copy for \$1.  
directly from Dennis Murphy,  
Route One, Box 249, Cromwell,  
Connecticut)

Satire articles by Bob Farnham  
are appearing at regular inter-  
vals in the Dalton newspaper (I  
forgot name- but is a leading  
newspaper), and the editor has  
requested Bob to keep up the  
contributions to his paper...

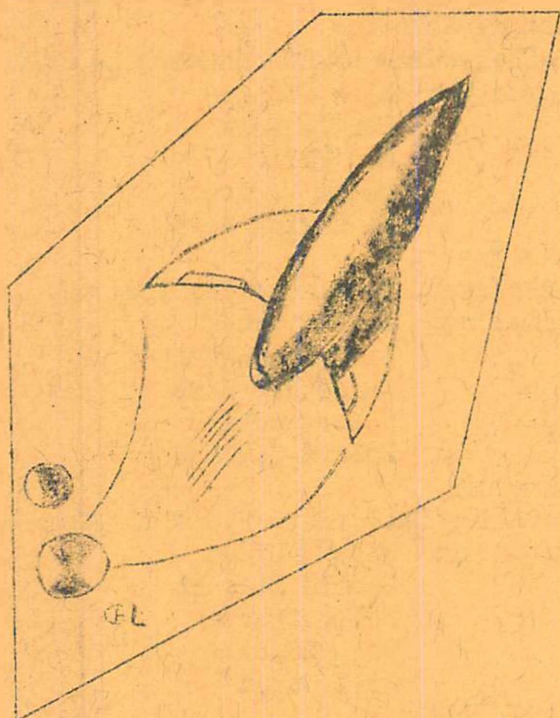






# YOU SCRATCH MY BACK... ...I'LL SCRATCH YOURS

By Little Ray



## LONDON INVITES YOU

LONDON 1957  
SCIENCE FICTION  
CONVENTION

Londonium! The venerable and vital, exciting and friendly city on the banks of Old Father Thames. British fandom is holding a science fiction convention in London on the 6th, 7th and 8th of September, 1957. It's the 15th World Science Fiction Convention, and it's UK's FIRST world con!

This will be the first convention in London since the very successful Coroncon was held at the Bonnington Hotel in 1953. During the interim, the National British Convention has been held once in Manchester and twice in Kettering. Each of these conventions had a personality all its own.

Now London - doyen of convention holding cities - is once more welcoming science fiction fans and enthusiasts to what will be the finest convention any of them will ever have attended. Fans from all over Europe as well as representatives from America came to the First International Convention - the renowned Festivention in 1951. We in London have the knowhow. We have the enthusiasm. We have the background. We have the professional men of science fiction - the authors - the editors - the publishers. We have the readers, the aficionados, the fans. We have the city - the city that has so much to offer volumes cannot contain it all. And, we have all England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales to add their support.

But, over and above all these splendid assets, there is one extra essential we must have.

We need YOU to make the gathering complete.

...and so it's the 15th World Science Fiction Convention, September 6th, 7th and 8th to be held at ROYAL HOTEL, WOBURN PLACE.

JOIN NOW! Folks in the States send one dollar to Charles Duncombe, 82 Albert Square, London, England. An additional \$1 is charged if you attend.

It's UK's FIRST World Convention - in good ole LONDON - ENGLAND. U R WELCOME !



T A F F     -     1 9 5 7

Since neither the winner or runner-up of the 1956 TAFF accepted, a brand new contest is being carried on for 1957. If the winner of the election proves unable to travel the opportunity will be offered to the runner-up, and then to #3, provided he got more than 25% of the total points. If he cannot go, or the amount in the Fund is not enough to send anyone, the money will be held over to 1958 and there will be an entirely fresh election. (Note: as of close of nominations, I have on hand \$222.00 and there is about \$60.00 additional being held by Ken Bulmer....Don Ford)

The list of candidates follows:

George Nims Raybin  
401 Broadway, New York 13, N.Y.

Nominated by: Earl Perry  
Ian T. Macauley  
Sandy Cutrell  
Jacob Schlzinger  
Jim Holtel

Stuart S. Hoffman  
Box 13, Black Earth, Wisconsin  
Nominated by: Robert Bloch  
Bob Tucker  
Frank M. Robinson  
Marvin W. Mindes  
Dr. D.L. Corbett, Jr.

Dick Ellington  
299 Riverside Dr. #11-A, New York 25, N.Y.  
Nominated by: Art Saha  
Bill Donaho  
Dan Curran  
Patricia Werner  
Ruth Landis

Richard H. Eney  
417 Ft. Hunt Rd. Alexandria, Virginia  
Nominated by: Ted E. White  
Lee & Larry Shaw  
Bob Pavlat  
John Hitchcock  
Dr. W.H. (Bill) Evans

Forrest J. Ackerman  
915 S. Sherbourne Dr. Los Angeles 35, Calif.

Nominated by: Rick Sneary  
Len J. Moffatt  
Ron Ellik  
Helen M. Urban  
E. Loring Ware

Ed McNulty  
5645 Winthrop, Indianapolis, Indiana  
Nominated by: Delray Green  
Bill Ludington  
James R. Adams  
Robert Adair  
Robert Coulson

Boyd Raeburn  
9 Glenvalley Dr. Toronto 9, Ontario, Canada  
Nominated by: Howard Lyons  
Gerald Stewart  
Pat Patterson  
Ron Kidder  
Bill Grant

Robert A. Madle  
c/o Bob Pavlat, 6001-43rd Av. Hyattsville, Md.  
Nominated by: Bob Pavlat  
Dot Cole  
Richard H. Eney  
Phil Bridges  
Forrest J. Ackerman

Votes must reach: Don Ford, Box 19-T, RR #2, Loveland, Ohio, USA before July 1, 1957. Please write your first, 2nd & 3rd choice of a candidate to be sent to the 15th. World Science Fiction Convention being held in London over Labor Day, 1957. Your 1st choice will be awarded 3 points, your second 2, and your third 1. Smartest way to boost your favorite candidate is to write his name in all 3 choices for a total of 6 points. To be eligible to vote you must contribute a minimum of 50c or 2/6 to the TRANSATLANTIC FAN FUND (TAFF). Persons living outside the U.S & Canada may send their contributions to: H. Ken Bulmer, Tresco, 204 Wellmeadow Road, Catford, London, S.E.6, England. In any event your ballot should be mailed to Don Ford.

NYCON II MEMORY BOOK - NEWYORCON 1956

If you are looking for a collector's item - better purchase a copy of the brand new NYCON II MEMORY BOOK published by the National Fantasy Fan Federation for the NewYorCon. The 'king-size' publication was handled by K. Martin Carlson and Ray C. Higgs, project coordinators. The book carries some 160 pages, more or less.

Within its nicely printed covers- the editors start out with a well chosen dedication to: HUGO GERNSBACH, "the Father of Science Fiction"



EEEVANS, "the grand ole man of NFFF"

NEW FANDON, "who gave fandom our first World Convention"

DAMON KNIGHT, who wrote the article "Unite or Fie!" published in FANFARE which brought about the 'birth' of NFFF

THE NEWYORCON COMMITTEE for sponsoring the 1956 World Convention

NFFF 'FIRST' MEMBERSHIP as published in BONFIRE in 1941

Some of the high-lights within NY 2 MEMORY BOOK are:- Memories Of The First Convention written by James V. Taurasi, Sr., editor and publisher of the famous-zine FANTASY-TIMES...The Life Of The Fan by Milton Alpha Rothman... a re-issue of N3F's first official organ BONFIRE...Fantasy Pseudonyms...The Impact Of Science Fiction On World Progress by Hugo Gernsback...and many other surprises! The combozine sells for \$1.00 and only 100 copies were printed. To order a copy write to K. Martin Carlson, 1028 Third Avenue South; Moorhead, Minnesota- or Janie Lamb, RR One, Heiskell, Tenn. Here is a comment just received:

Dear Martin:

Many thanks for the MEMORY BOOK, which you may be sure I'll plug as you suggest in FANDORA'S BOX. And I'll definitely mention that a \*supplement covering the Convention itself will be available later. Come to think of it, thus far I've seen very little about the con: only two reports, as a matter of fact. Considering that there were at least 1200 attendees, this isn't much of a reaction. My own comment will appear in the next issue of IMAGINATION, any day now.

You and Racy certainly did a nice job on this MEMORY BOOK and I hope it's going well for you.

Again, my thanks,

Sincerely,  
Robert Bloch

#### NEWYORCON MEMORY BROCHURE - Supplement of NYCON II MEMORY BOOK

Something good has come at last...if a promise is made...it is kept...thus the \*supplement of the NYCON II MEMORY BOOK as mentioned above in Bloch's letter will be as promised. The NewYorCon Memory Brochure, as the supplement will be known will contain around 50 pages (more or less) and will go on sale soon. The Brochure will carry some of the finest write-ups of the New York shin-dig...varied enough by various writers to make it interesting reading. For info better write K. Martin Carlson sending along for a reply a self-addressed-stamped envelope. First come-first served!..is all we can say now!

#### 1956 YEAR BOOK PROPOSED BY NFFF

J. Stan Woolston, 12832 West Avenue, Garden Grove, California, who is serving as president of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, announces the presentation of a YEAR BOOK for the current year of 1956.

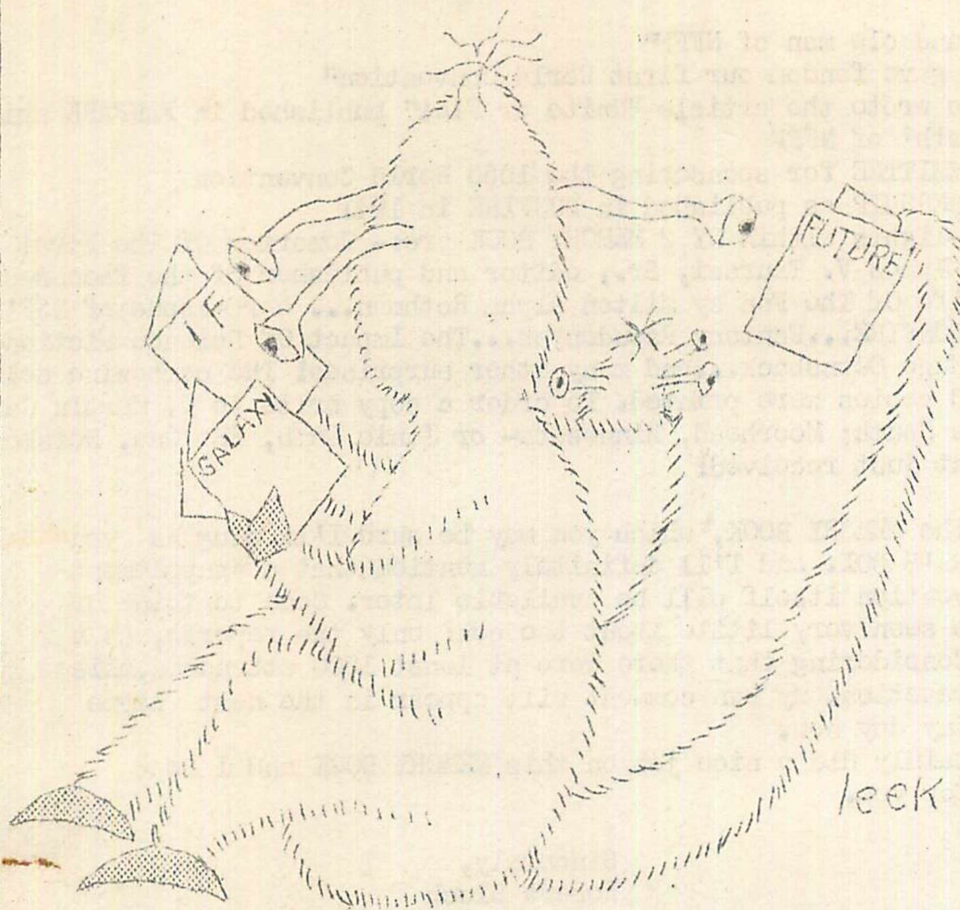
The YEAR BOOK will be presented to fandom around the latter part of this year, or at the latest- the early part of 1957.

The YB will contain material from 'all fandom'- fans and pros -organized clubs and organizations - and folks who are just interested in stf-fsy.

Data and info from all clubs including FAPA, SAPS, NFFF, ISFCC, etc is desired.. also any suggestions you may wish to make will be given due consideration. Prozine reviews..book and movie reviews, and indices are badly needed for the YEAR BOOK.

Let's help make the YEAR BOOK a collector's item for all fandom! Get in touch with Woolston at once!





Where do they get  
such fantastic ideas  
for their life forms??


# THE EXPLORER

EVA FIRESTONE  
BOX 515  
UPTON, WYOMING

PRINTED  
MATTER

RETURN  
POSTAGE  
GUARANTEED!

AN  
AMATEUR  
PUBLICATION!

 PAY 1957 DUES!