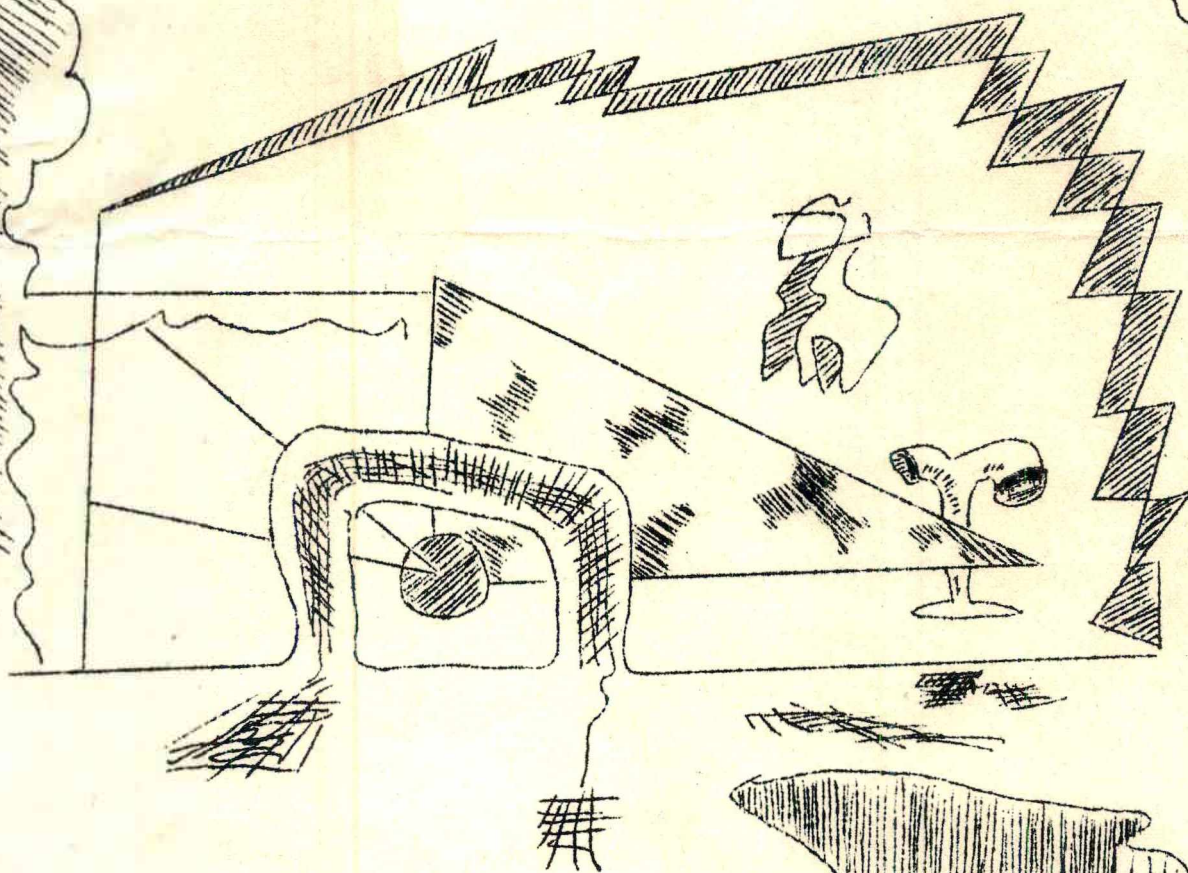


THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN

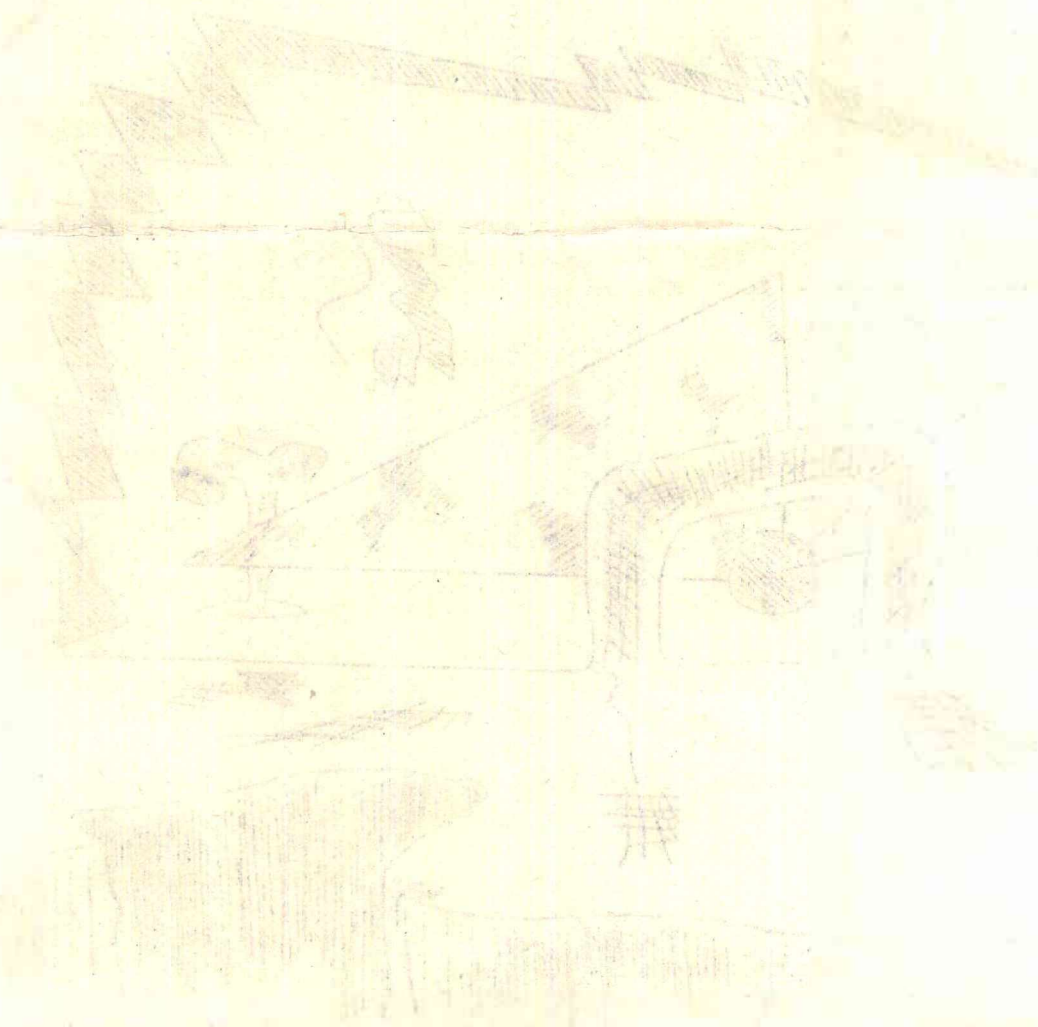


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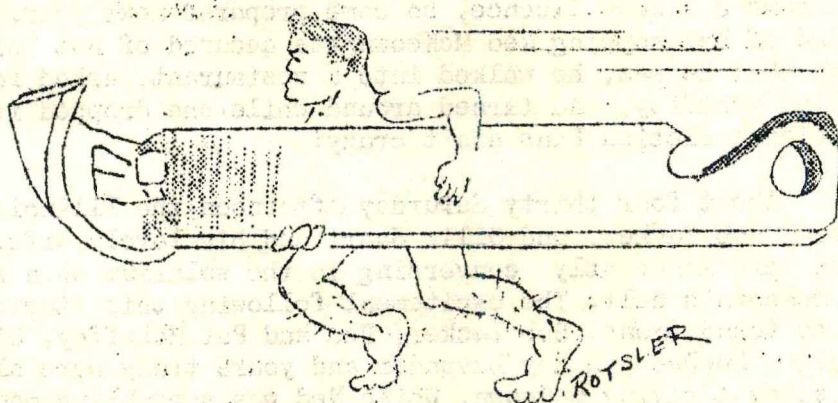
JUNE

1951

THE NATIONAL FANTASY MAN



AND THEN THERE ARE THE KIND ---



By BETTY SULLIVAN



YOU'VE read about the Eastern Conferences. You know about the Western Conferences. Now the Mid-West has Conferences. The first Mid-West Conference was held at Bellefontaine, Ohio; May, 1950. It was a new idea then, the brain child of a few avid science fiction fans from Cincinnati, Columbus, and other Mid Western cities. The second Mid-West Conference--that one was something for fans to remember.

Would you like to come with me, one mad member of a mad group of people known as science fiction fans to the maddest, most hilarious week end I have ever spent? Let me take you with me, and try to show you what you've missed-----

Pat Mahaffey, and a gentleman unknown to fandom, and myself started things out in a truly fannish fashion by getting lost on the way to Indian Lake. We left Cincy at ten P.M. Friday, May 18. Some four hours later we bounced into Wapakoneta, Ohio, tired, but content in the knowledge that our journey would soon be over. For the next three hours we drove on an empty gas tank, with all roads detoured, all bridges out, all signs defaced beyond legibility, and all highways leading back to Wapakoneta!

We staggered into the beautiful Beatley's-on-the-Lake hotel at an unholy hour Saturday morning to find a few die-hards still indulging in hall-crawling, which is a favorite pastime of Conventioneers and Conference attendees. The fans stricken with this particular disease are many, and as yet no cure has been found. The first symptoms become apparent when the victim refuses to go to bed at a decent hour. In the final stages the sufferer can usually be found at five or six in the morning, with a bottle in each hand, wandering aimlessly through the halls of the hotel knocking on doors. The schools which teach courses in hotel management are doing some very important research in the field, and may solve the problem at any moment.

At seven thirty Saturday morning, Lloyd Eshbach of Fantasy Press couldn't sleep. Since misery loves company he dragged two partly conscious females out to breakfast. When WE left the restaurant we were incapable of too much movement, so we fell into chairs in the solarium. We proceeded to indulge in such sparkling conversation that we soon drew quite a crowd.(at least, Lloyd Eshbach did).

At about this point in the game, Pat Mahaffey tripped Ned McKeown of Toronto, and he stayed around hoping to get even with her. He did. He took her out in a rowboat and shifted a large part of the water in the lake to various portions of Miss Mahaffey's anatomy. A non-swimmer myself, I just sat and hoped he wouldn't turn the boat over.

Back at the hotel we found Mr. and Mrs. Don Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pratt of Cincinnati, Roy and DeeDee Lavender, and others had either arrived or arisen in our absence. In the company of the afore mentioned people, we started out in search of food and drink. Food we found, but no drink, believe it or not. Only three places in town have a liquor licence, so come prepared next year, fellow guzzlers. During this period of bar hopping Ned McKeown was accused of not being a gentleman. In order to prove that he was, he walked into a restaurant, asked for an ice cube, presented it to Miss Mahaffey, and turned around while she dropped it down his neck. Don't tell me Science Fiction Fans ain't crazy!

About four thirty Saturday afternoon the Illinois delegation arrived; Bea Mahaffey, Bob Tucker, and Ollie Saari and his lovely wife. Shortly after about a dozen of us were innocently conversing in the solarium when some villian removed and hid Ned McKeown's belt. The excitement following this startling incident rocked the hotel on its foundations. Bob Tucker, Bea and Pat Mahaffey, Ginny and Ollie Saari, Lloyd Eshbach, DeeDee and Roy Lavender and yours truly were alternately suspected and questioned by a raving McKeown. While Ned was scrambling madly around looking for his belt, an amazing child whom I later identified as Harlan Ellison of Detroit wandered through the solarium. He paused, looked at McKeown and muttered "And then there are the kind that they don't lock up."

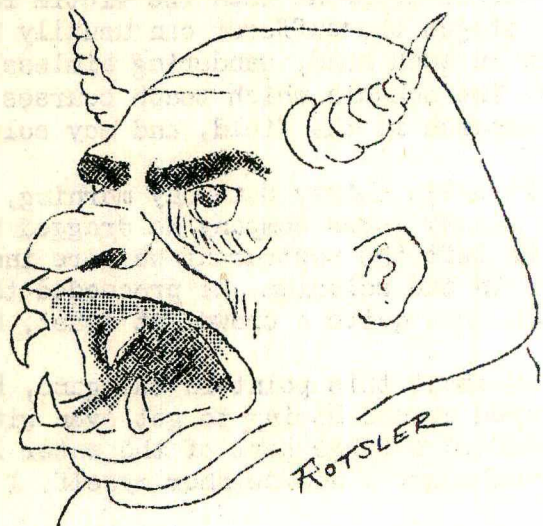
This of course stopped everything cold. Any attempts at humor were stillborn. NOBODY, not even Bob Tucker or Lloyd Eshbach could think of a topper. Ned McKeown's belt was found later in the evening hanging in his closet. We attribute the recovery to a gentleman who is known to write mystery stories, although we had no direct proof.

Later in the evening a movie was shown in the hotel lobby, followed by introduction of everyone present. It had previously been decided that the pictures would be sold by raffle, thus giving everyone a chance to take home an original. After some eager youngster tried to sell Bea Mahaffey a chance on the cover painting from Other Worlds "Eye of the Temptress" she and I escaped upstairs. Soon a poker game was in progress, much liquor was imbibed (most of it by a gentleman from Tronto) who nevertheless proved entertaining enough to keep myself and several others glued to room 61 until 5 A. M. Sunday morning. The suggestion has been made by Charlie Tanner of Cincy that a bronze plaque be placed in the door of room 61 commemorating this occasion containing the words "Grant's Tomb". (All in fun William.)

I arose at ten Sunday morning and wandered out to get a glass of tomato juice and a cup of black coffee with Bea and Pat Mahaffey, Ted Dikty of Shasta Publishers, and Ned McKeown. (The other gentleman from Canada was unable to be present.)

From that time until the banquet at noon we wandered around, talking to Charlie Tanner, Lou Tabakow, Darrell Richardson and others in the hotel and by the lake.

At 12:30 we joined the group moving towards the dining room. Lloyd Eshbach was the first speaker to be introduced after dinner. He didcussed future books from Fantasy Press. He hopes to publish a new series of books for Science Fiction collectors in the near future. These books would put between hard covers some of the many great science fiction stories written for the magazines and never before publish-



ed in book form. A limited edition to sell to the collector at 2.50 per copy. He is also planning to print a science fiction book plate, with name, at 1.00 per hundred, with a choice of 4 well known science fiction artists.

Randy Garrett of Battle Creek was the next to speak. He discussed the technical aspect of writing. Frank Robinson spoke for a few moments on his stories, past and future. Bob Tucker took the floor and presented a door prize. It was given to the loudest, most heard, easiest found fan at the conference. The winner was Harlan Ellison of Detroit.

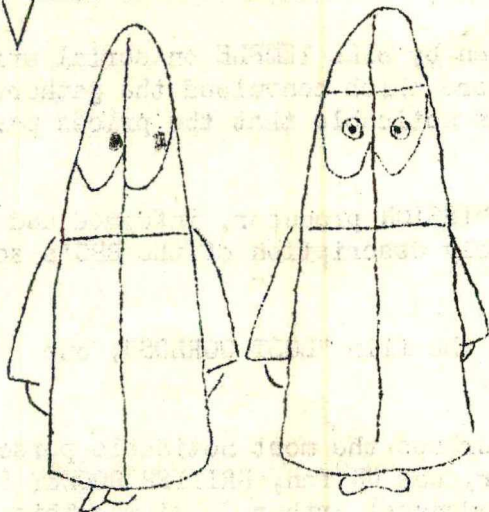
Charlie Tanner spoke briefly of great Science Fiction stories of the past.

Lou Tabakow of Cincinnati took the floor at this point and brought up the question of next years conference. Doctor C. L. Barrett explained that if we cared to hold the conference at Beatley's on the lake next year with 50 rooms guaranteed before May 15 the hotel would be turned over lock, stock and barrel. A vote was taken and the decision was unanimous. BEATLEY'S ON THE LAKE IT WILL BE IN MAY 1952!

For the next few hours people talked, mostly, saying goodbye to the good friends we see so seldom. About 4 o'clock people began to disperse, goodbyes, plans for the future were in the air.

I know I'll see you at Beatley's next May, and every year thereafter. The Mid-West Conference has become second only to the World Science Fiction Convention and I wouldn't miss it for the world!

You're not a sf fan until
you have attended at least
one World Convention!



NOLACON

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WORLD SCIENCE FICTION
CONVENTION

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New Orleans, La.

Send your dollar NOW for membership to
HARRY B. MOORE
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NEW ORLEANS, LA.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION



Reported by
LYELL CRANE

WHITE HORSE TAVERN - LONDON - THURSDAY EVENING - 10. MAY. 51

Two days before the event, unofficial introductions for the INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FICTION FESTIVAL CONVENTION were made at the WHITE HORSE TAVERN to the accompaniment of the turning of magazine pages, the clinking of glasses and the thunder of a multitude of simultaneous discussions.

ROYAL HOTEL - LONDON - SATURDAY MORNING - 12. MAY. 51

The first official session opened with an informal gathering during which the representatives from FRANCE, USA, CANADA, UK (including ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, WALES and NORTHERN IRELAND), HOLLAND, SWEDEN and AUSTRALIA were present. Most of the visitors from the more distant parts had not made the trip especially for the convention, but were lucky in that their business visits corresponded to the convention dates.

WALTER GILLINGS was the first official speaker and recounted the difficulties which confront the professional UK magazine publisher in the science fiction field.

FORREST ACKERMAN, US fan, collector, author's agent, etc...then gave the meeting a very detailed and optimistic picture of the US professional field. He also stressed that US fandom was making headway in its fight to shake off the Buck Rogers and ray-gun tradition.

A much less serious discussion was given by BILL TEMPLE on serial writing, followed by a science fiction skit on a soap opera which convulsed the gathering. The first auction was held at this stage, and it was noticeable that the prices paid were much less than at corresponding US conventions.

JOHN CROSS, a BRITISH BROADCASTING COMMISSION producer, informed and entertained the gathering with an optimistic and lively description of the BBC's science fictional activities in radio and television.

The evening finished with a showing of the film "LOST WORLDS", one of the very early science fiction films to be produced.

On this first day of the convention, perhaps the most noticeable personality to emerge, or shall we say to fail to find cover, was UK fan, BRITISH ROCKET SOCIETY enthusiast and both UK and US author (under pseudonyms) Arthur C. Clarke. This worthy gentleman took the continuous barrage of quips and criticism to which he was subjected with amazing aplomb. One might almost imagine he'd had practice.

ROYAL HOTEL - LONDON - SUNDAY MORNING - 11. MAY. 51

Mr. E. J. (Ted) CARNELL, Convention Chairman, Editor of the UK science fiction magazine "NEW WORLDS" gave a realistic statement on the policies of his magazine. While not under estimating the difficulties of producing a specialized magazine in this country, Mr. Carnell and his group plan to forge ahead and depend on their initiative to overcome the difficulties.

THE INTERNATIONAL SESSION was opened by Ted Carnell as Chairman and was first addressed by Lyell Crane, just over from Canada. Lyell Crane contended that, as in the case of fandom in English speaking countries, it would be necessary for fans to develop in non-English countries before the readers and markets would be available to science fiction in the language of that country.

FORREST ACKERMAN gave details of the increase in fan activities in the USA. He mentioned the fact that some of the better stf books were now available in school libraries as literature and were regarded as "respectable". He mentioned the unsatisfactory attitude of reporters of "COLLIERS" magazine during an interview on stf and the firm treatment that they received at the hands of the fans and professionals present. Mr. Ackerman also mentioned the much more satisfactory attitude of the reporters of "LIFE" magazine in this matter. On the whole, he concluded, the US fan movement has grown up and is now commanding a firm position, rather than finding excuses for its existence.

GEORGES GALLET of FRANCE has been reading stf in the form of Jules Verne and Rider Haggard for as long as he can remember and is actively associated with presenting French language stf to the French readers. Mr. Gallet had a number of titles on exhibition in attractive format which were reprints of US stories. Mr. Gallet concluded that for the EUROPEAN public, the stories must be believable rather than copy the advanced stf published in the more specialized magazines in the US.

BEN ABAS from the NETHERLANDS pointed out the difficulties of spreading stf in a country where English is not generally spoken and where stf is not published in the language of that country. Mr. Abas is in a very good position to know of these difficulties as he was associated with a group who produced several issues of a financially unsuccessful Dutch language stf magazine. Mr. Abas is a professional artist and had on display about fifteen striking stf illustrations in both colour & black and white.

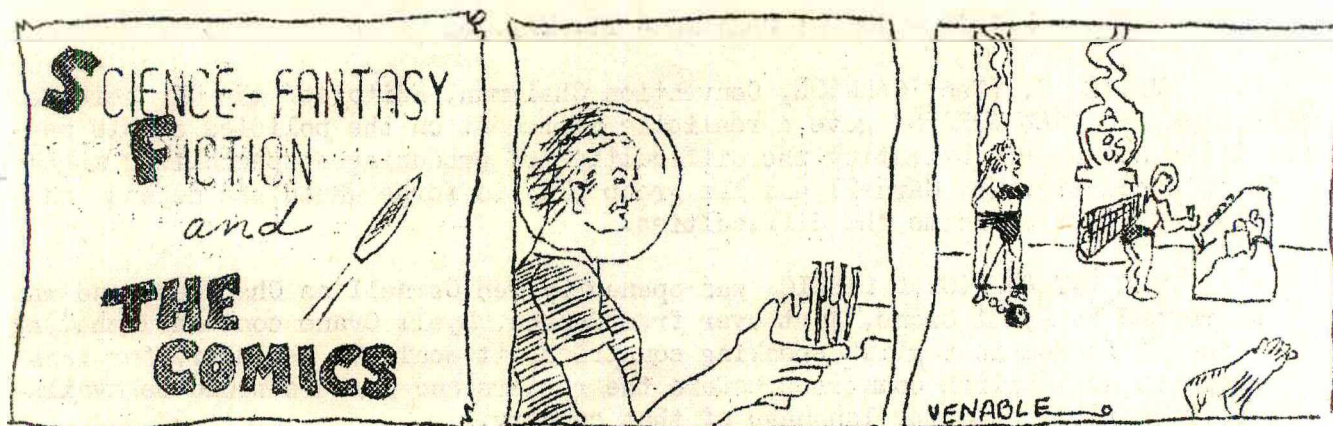
SIGVUND OSTLUND from SWEDEN, KEN PAYNTER from AUSTRALIA, WALTER WILLIS from NORTHERN IRELAND commented on stf activity in their areas. Mrs. Ackerman, who gave a talk on DIANETICS, described some GERMAN stf that had been sent to her for examination. FRANK ARNOLD from the UK gave a talk on the history of science fiction literature.

During the afternoon, the INTERNATIONAL FANTASY AWARD for the best work in the field in 1950 was presented. This award was followed by a Dianetics lecture, the second auction and films which included a fine technical rocket film in colour.

The ending of this very successful international gathering was the vote of thanks to the organizers and assistants. The Chairman, Ted Carnell summed up the convention as probably the first science fiction gathering at which the attendance was truly international.

OFFICIAL FIGURES IN REVIEW
CHAIRMAN - E.J. (Ted) Carnell
TREASURER - Charles Duncombe
SECRETARY - A. Vincent Clarke

Total Registrations - - - - - 201
Total Attendance - - - - - 150
Attendance Outside UK - - - - - 16
Fairer Sex Present - - - - - 40



BY
BILL
VENABLE

For years now the more erudite of science-fiction fans have been rubbing their hands and shedding tears to view the degradation of science-fiction in its popularization for human (as distinguished from *fan*) consumption. Having made a fetish of this, it is a common thing for one to hear two fans remarking mournfully back and forth: - "Isn't it terrible what the movies are doing to good s-f stories," or, "Look at this Buck Rogers strip! How can people read trash like that?"

The plain facts are, boys and girls, that stf has made more headway with the average American in the cheaper forms than the more distilled form that we, along with nuclear physicists, are accustomed to consume. As a good example, notice the watered-down form of science-fiction that is presented to the public via the radio, television, movies and comic strips. Let us take the comic strips in particular, for if we should not I would have to go back and change the title on this: which I am too lazy to do.

Comic-strip and cartoon science fiction follows the higher forms on general lines; you have your space-operas, your mad-scientists, your first-trips-to-the-moon, your dangerous-invention themes all represented. Buck Rogers and Flash Gordon represent the space-opera theme; while Superman, Captain Marvel and other such strips at once encompass the mad scientist, the dangerous invention and the epic-of-the-advance-of-science plots. Most other strips manage to stray far enough from reality to get a bit of stf thrown in, rather like spices in a pudding. Popeye, Snuffy Smith, Li'l Abner, Abby & Slats, all enjoy occasional diversions on the fantastic and science-fiction theme. In fact, the comic strip and cartoon world seems to thrive on fantastic themes, with true-to-life ideas being the exception rather than the rule.

Many fans ask themselves why the science-fiction theme in comics should undergo such a general degradation in that medium. Although some stf comic strips, or strips with fantastic plots, such as Li'l Abner, are high quality fantasy, the general run of comic strip science fiction is rather poor. Probably the answer to this is that Joe Public simply cannot take such concentrated science-fiction as the average fan could; it would knock him out in a minute, like drinking a fifth of whisky all at once. Being a plebe in the field, the average man must start with simple, even childish forms of our beloved stf. In the first place, he has not the back-ground in general science to understand half of what John W. Campbell prints. For another thing,

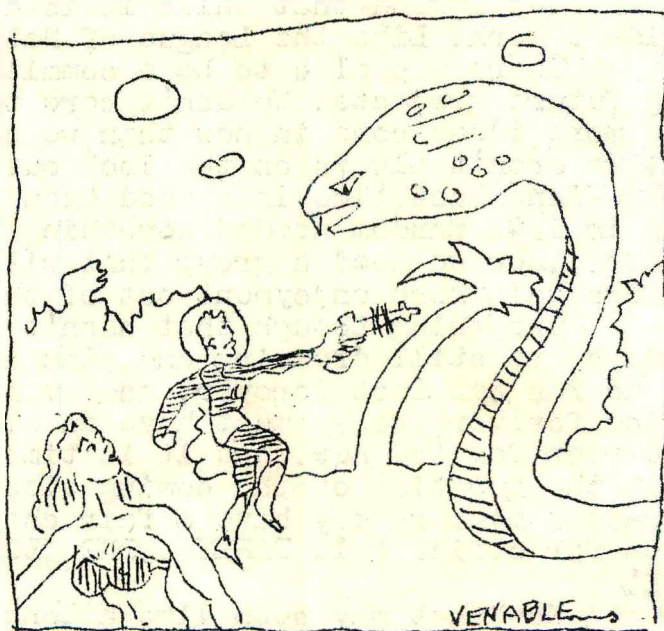
his literary tastes are probably very bad. The poor simp can't raise himself to enjoyment of the higher forms of any literature, let alone science-fiction. Finally, he never took an interest in it beyond the supine level of the comics, and so never progressed beyond that low form of the art.

Serious forms of science-fiction never really got anywhere in the comics. Fantasy themes are most generally used in the laugh-provoking sense, as in Li'l Abner, where they reach their greatest heights. Captain Marvel and Superman are really parodies on science-fiction, since they exaggerate the plot until it reaches the level of a farce, and provides a more subtle laugh. Buck Rogers and Flash Gordon, the two main attempts at serious science-fiction in the comic strips, remain on a childish level simply because the public will not let them go any higher. If someone were to draw up THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES in true top-flight stf form, the confused and irritated public would no doubt give it no second look. And you can't run a successful comic strip that way.

So, chillun, don't grieve at the ridiculous nature of serious science-fiction in the comic strips; it takes the role of a mere diversion for John Q. Public, who is simply hopeless as far as fans are concerned anyway. However, I would like to see a serious attempt at a strip in one of the better fanzines. Publishers, don't take Flash Gordon to represent the highest level comic strip stf can reach. Probably the first publisher to print a successful stf comic will cover himself with glory. Why not take a chance?

As an aside, it is interesting to note just what tastes fans themselves have in comic strips. Most popular, I think, is the ever-lovin' Albert & Pogo comic. Some of your most famous fans would give their right arms for a rare issue of this. Follow up with Li'l Abner, Walt Disney's Comics and Stories (which is surprisingly good) and . . . Andy Panda! All are terrific comic strips.

As a last note, I would suggest all good fans make it clear that science-fiction fandom disclaims the Buck Rogers type of thing. Most people who have anything to say about science-fiction, when asked for specific justification for their criticism, turn to Buck Rogers and say, "How Ridiculous." My answer is, "You're so right." Left without a leg to stand on, the science-fiction critic goes home in disgust. If you should break in on him at this awkward hour you will find him thoroughly absorbed in the latest Avon FANTASY READER. All of which goes to show absolutely nothing.



REPORTS TO THE MEMBERSHIP

NFFF PRESIDENT

RICK SNEARY
2962 Santa Ana Street
South Gate, California

Last issue I told you about some of the dreams that I saw in the future for the NFFF. A day when it would really circle the world with branches in all the corners of the globe, and only a small central committee over it all. These dreams seem pretty big to me now, though they are possible in the near future, IF we keep growing. But a couple weeks ago while looking up some reference material in the Fancyclopedia, I came across the part devoted to the NFFF.

There wasn't much, back in the days when it was written the N3F was not much over a year old, and didn't appear to have much better chance of survival than any of the rest. In those days as now, fan clubs were being formed overnight by eager fans in all parts of the country, and when the interest died out, so did the club. The NFFF though has been lucky. There has always been a new fan, or a new group to step in, just when it looked like we were going on the rocks...

But what interested me was that the founders had plans that were even greater than those I mentioned. ART WIDNER and DAMON KNIGHT brought up the proposal for a independent fan organization, at the Denvention, in 1941. They hoped that it would include ALL fans, and in a sense BE fandom. The US was to be divided into regions, which would be self controlled, but answering to a National Board.

There were plans for several committees and a permanent judicial body that would settle fan differences. This latter idea has been talked over a number of times, even since I have been around, and it has always been agreed that while it is a good idea in theory, that it wouldn't work. Like the League of Nations, it wouldn't have any teeth.

There was also to be a committee for the sole purpose of planning future projects. We don't care to worry about that now days. We have more ideas come in now than we can find workers to do them. Not that we aren't always on the look out for new ideas. The one purposed by Ev Winne last time is a good example of the type of thing we want. Back in 1941 fandom needed something to pull the feuding factions together... Now we need a group that will help the hundreds of new fans & readers gain more enjoyment out of the field.

One thing though that hasn't changed over the years. The NFFF leaders are still dreaming and planning for a "bigger and better" club. But no fan can last forever, and even the most loyal member can't hold office forever, so we must have an election, to clear out the old and make room for the new. And it is time that you all started thinking about the question of the coming election. As you know, so that our over-seas members may have a fair chance to vote, we must have candidates for office file EARLY... THE SECOND WEEK IN AUGUST IS THE DEADLINE!

Now that may seem like a long way off, but don't put off making

up your mind. If you have the time and are seriously interested in improving the NFFF, you SHOULD run for office...either that of President or Director. IT IS YOUR DUTY TO YOUR CLUB TO RUN. Don't put it off just because you never held office before, or are afraid you don't know the club well enough...I assure you, the ONLY way you will LEARN is by DOING. I ran for Director the first year. I was a member. Of course I was defeated, but that isn't important...I ran, and helped make the election a real fight..and I felt I was a part of the club..

I've said it before, and I'll say it again, YOU ONLY GET OUT OF A CLUB WHAT YOU PUT IN IT. Don't sit there on your end wishing that we would do more for you. GET IN AND DO SOMETHING YOURSELF! FILE NOW! CAMPAIGN NOW! VOTE IN NOVEMBER!

WELCOMMITTEE

EVA FIRESTONE, IPRO
Box 395
Upton - - - Wyoming

Dear Fans:- There have been complaints about our Welcome leaflets. First of all, don't blame the Mailers. At NO TIME did they have a complete stock of all supplies. My report in Feb. TNFF was premature. However, at the time written, I did have impression all would be published by date the OO came out. No one is to blame. We were unable to find publishers for so great an amount of mimeo work. Several have at least four sheets (eight pages), and we need 450 to 500 of each in order that every member may have a copy, and a reserve for future new-members, Take 450 of one 4-sheet leaflet-1800 papers to mimeo and on both sides! Some of them have five and more sheets.

NFFF EDITORS - Len Moffatt and Stan Woolston - 1950 FAN DIRECTORY, booklet listing 404 members of Fandom. Printed thirty-six page slick, indexed. Postpaid 25¢ from Len Moffatt, 5969 Lanto Street, Bell Gardens, California. Chuck Baird - Fan Clubs Check List; Ed. Beck - Fantasy Pseudonyms; Walter Coslet - Prozone Check List; Sam Moskowitz - Welcome Booklet; Eva Firestone - Fanzine Check List.

NEW FANZINES - TLMA, OO of club, The Little Monsters of America. Contributors of the June issue are - Manly Banister, Nancy Moore, Battell Loomis, Elaine Fruchey, Basil Wells, Wilkie Connor, Lynn Hickman, and the art work by Arden, Cray and Lach. Editor is Lynn A. Hickman, 408 W. Bell Street, Statesville, N. C. SLUDGE, to be printed, size of the famous Irish SLANT; write to the editor - Bob Foster, 2 Spring Gardens, Southwich, Brighton, Sussex, England.

BRITISH WELCOMMITTEE - Organized by Bert High, 4 Manfield Street, Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham, England, for European NFFF members. Bert is the Chairman. Welcomers in the States will, however, please continue sending Welcomes to new-members overseas.

CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE - Chairman, James Taurasi; F. Lee Baldwin; Nancy Moore; Bill Austin; Ev Winne. (no other information at this writing). A note here from Rick states that J. Taurasi is editor of FANCYCLOPEDIA, and the YEAR BOOK. Also that Stan Skirvin is Chairman of our Regional Conference committee.

LITTLE CAT CRITERS - Postscript from Rick - "You might list Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered as Bird Watchers."

"1941 NFFF - 1951" - Word from Bob Silverberg is that this article, eight pages long, will be published in SPACESHIP-WYLDE STAR #14, out in September. The month ten years ago NFFF was organized. These two Fanzines are now combined. Alan M. Grant having resigned temporarily from Fandom and NFFF activity.

FREE FANZINE FOR MILITARY FANS - UTOPIAN free on request to any Fan in the armed services in the States. R. J. Banks, Jr., 111 South 15th Street, Corsicana, Texas, is the Editor-Publisher. He is giving a special rate of five issues for \$1.00 to all N3Fers. Non-members receive only four. R. J. also offers a one dollar subscription to any UTOPIAN subscriber who brings in five new subbers who have never before received his Fanzine.

FREE FANZINE FOR EUROPEAN N3Fers - Fans over there, request copies of SLANT from THE Irish N3Fer. The name - Walter A. Willis. The address - 170 Upper Newtownards Rd., Belfast, North Ireland. This tall (over six feet. Minus-the-brogans??) lean Pixie Mutant has a zine worth request.

WELCOMMITTEE - Hostess, *Emili A. Thompson, 3963 NE 9th Ave., Portland 12, Oregon. New member names are numbered according to order in which they joined NFFF. Lists are received by committee at intervals of five/six weeks. Welcomers are divided in work of sending greetings in this way:- % help in other ways; * write to all, # write to Even numbers; \$ write to Odd numbers. Between February 2nd and May 1st we received 38 names.

Ruby A. Anderson \$	Charles Irons \$	Don T. Regan #
William Berger *	DeeDee Lavender %	Robert Statton *
Ruth Bernstein \$	Roy Lavender %	June Superak \$
Lawrence R. Campbell \$	Virginia Lelake #	Bill Warren #
Jean Carroll #	Ann Lee McLeod #	Ev Winne %
Zoe Ferguson \$	James Maneval #	Neil Wood \$
Eva Firestone *	Claire Miller #	Ivan Woodell #
George H. Galiarde #	Charles Moslander \$	H. R. Womaski *

NON-RENEWAL COMMITTEE - Chairman, Robert D. Statton, Box 520, Beaver Falls, Pa.; Ev Winne; Sam J. Basham; Samuel Lepsky; Lee Hoffman; Chester A. Whissen; Joe Low; Eva Firestone.

NOR-WEST SCIENCE-FANTASY CLUB - New British Fan organization holding meetings at Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo Rd., Hightown, Manchester 8, Lancs, England. Secretary is Dave H. Cohen, 32 Larch Street, Hightown, Manchester 8, Lancs, England. Because of Ted Carnell's book sales in and around Manchester, A.V. Clark hinted to Dave with the question "Why no get-to-gether of Stf readers like the White Horse Tavern in London?" This set Dave to making plans, and with the help of Ken Slater made contact with various inactive fans. They were interested. "Came 'Taffy' Williams, Eric Bentcliffe, and Frank Richards. We met at the Oxford Hotel in Manchester. Found that I had a grand bunch to form the hub of the club, Chaps I could depend on. Ken sent addresses of others, also published an announcement." This brought in eight more and NOR-WEST S-F Club is growing rapidly, with fine prospects for a roster of around 100 in the near future. There is one Fem-member! British prozine, SCIENCE FICTION-FORTNIGHTLY gave them a plug. They hope to be soon publishing an OO. 22nd of April, a reporter from a weekly newspaper attended a meeting and interviewed most of the members. "Taffy" gave the Club ideals:- To discuss authors, stories, and matters of interest between Fans of widely spaced localities, and "general chinwag of Science and the Future." To contact various Fans over the World, to exchange magazines. In other words - to be of assistance to all Stf readers. 26th of April they met to form the Constitution. Plans are being made for a lending library (this is report of April 26th), and to have actifans as guests. Derek Pickles and Mike Tealby promised to come. Frank Richards was to write an article about the club for S-F Fortnightly. Eric Bentcliffe suggested that advertising posters be published & distributed to the various book shops. The proposal was accepted, and Francis began designing them (who is Francis?). Another proposal by Eric, and accepted with "a hearty cheer," was to invite members of the United States Air-Force stationed at

Burtonwood, near Warrington, who were interested in Science fiction. Dave wrote the letter of invitation and it was mailed to the editor of the U.S.A. newspaper at Burtonwood. In April, four of these club members joined NFFF, and others are being recruited.

"BEYOND" - a new Fanzine in England. Michael Tealby, 8 Burfield Ave., Loughborough, Leics., England, and Dave Cohen are the editors. No data received at this writing. Michael has another zine - WONDER.

OPERATION FANTAST NEWSLETTER - Lithographed. Derek Pickles mails this to NFFF workers in the USA, and to Fandom in the UK, for Captain Ken Slater. This is a good service for NFFF. Fellow members in the States - we could help pay expenses by sending prozines to Derek for resale. Our Representatives have been, and still are, paying out of their own pockets for us. They haven't received funds from our Treasury. If each one of us sent just one current prozine, it would certainly help very much. And if you wish to trade books and magazines with Dave H. Cohen, for benefit of the NOR-WEST S-F CLUB, please do so as soon as possible.

PhantasMAgoria - the Fanzine published by Derek and Mavis Pickles is now up to twenty four pages. The sub is 3 issues for one prozine. No. 3, is to be a "Festival Convention Special" a commemorative of the EUCON, and we in the U.S. should receive it early in July. An article about people and events at the Eucon written by Bob Shaw, and another one by Clive Jackson, and a short by Pete Ridley. Alan Hunter, artist for the prozine, NEW WORLDS, will have an illoed article in No. 3 Phantas. Alan is N3Fer, and has had this change in his address - 124 Belle Vue Rd., Southbourne, Bournemouth, England. Almost left out - an article written by our NFFF Irishman, Walt Willis, will be in this No. 3 ish.

N3Fer SOLD MORE FICTION - Ed Ludwig, two years a member of NFFF, writes excellent Stf. This spring sold stories to FANTASY & STF and to OW, also an article to another prozine.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND - What's up down there? No word for light years. I better see a report from you in this June TNFF, or there'll be trouble. Roger - how come no Circle Letter? Broke your arm or typer?????????????

ART RAPP - Hello!! from all of us. We certainly do miss you.

FEM N3Fers - Attention Please! Is you or is you ain't gonna send some news to me? You represent one fourth of the membership and should have at least one whole page of this report. Start thinking this over, and the first week in September mail letters of Stf and Fandom news to me. How about it? My birthday comes along in the middle of that month you know. We could have two pages in the October TNFF if you do this.

NOTES FROM OVERSEAS - Bert High, Chairman of British Welcommittee, writes:- "My aim is to increase N3F membership in this country, and already have a number in view. Received TNFF and printed notepaper...please express my thanks to all concerned. Derek sent list of British members (who had not renewed their dues) asking me to do something about it, so I got busy...His monthly Newsletter will ask for volunteers (Welcomers)...A lot of N3Fers would like to write to members over there (in USA)..GALAXY or any STF magazine, what are the chances getting hold of these? If any American member would like some of the British stuff, my address is - 4 Manfield Street, Stockton-on-Tees, c/o Durham, England."

NEW MEMBER - David Edwards, 57 Longfleet Rd., Poole, Dorset, England. He is sixteen and an invalid. Interested in discussing astronomy and future space-travel. Fellow members - Please write to David. He is bedridden so much of the time and has consid-

erable pain. Help make his life interesting by sending letters and cards.

NFFF MANUSCRIPT BUREAU - Read the report in this TNFF, from Chairman, Ken Krueger, 11 Pearl Place, Buffalo 2, New York. Send material to him and later see your work published in Fanzines. Ken has this department very well organized and is giving efficient service. You can depend on him.

ANOTHER NEW FANZINE - IT - Mimeo - 26 pages. Editor, Hal S. Stevens, 685 So. 9th St., Coos Bay, Oregon. First issue has lead story by David H. Keller. IT published by Galactic Pub. Co., 545 N.E. San Rafael, Portland 12, Oregon.

PUBLISHERS-EDITORS OF FANZINES - Send information to me (Firestone), and all who are giving a discount to NFFF be sure to advise. I will continue compiling list after present one is in hands of members.

N3F WRITERS - Send that article to Ray C. Higgs, editor of TNFF. Show him you appreciate his efforts in giving us a good OO. Let's make TNFF first in the Poll. TNFF is without a single ARTICLE for the next ish. PLEASE help us out, won't you?

MANUSCRIPT BUREAU

KEN J. KRUEGER,
Chairman
11 Pearl Place,
Buffalo 2, N. Y.

MATERIAL ON HAND - Report as of May 1, 1951.

Articles - One

Poetry - Thirty-one

Fiction - Three

Drawings - (a) - Full page - Seven
(b) - Small - Fourteen

MEMBERS OF THE NFFF - PLEASE READ THIS. - Right now the Manuscript Bureau is a relatively unknown function of the NFFF. It needn't be that way. Steps are being taken to enroll almost every fanzine in a co-operative group using the mmsboo as a focal point. This means that we are going to need your help more than ever. We need articles of all sorts. If you want to see a fantasy movie, let us know about it. If you read the latest books as they come out, write a book-review. There are endless things that can be done. If you write fiction, we can use it, but at least write. If you have the slightest unklung of being an artist, send in some drawings.

Now -- these points are important:

- 1 - If you submit a drawing - draw it to size. Most fanzine editors aren't artists. They can't reduce your masterpiece and still leave it yours.
- 2 - Plain line drawings are far easier to reproduce than fine detailed ones. However, if you are really good and don't want to stint yourself, we may be able to place it with some wealthy lad who'll have it lithood.
- 3 - The usual word rate on fiction is about 2,500 words. Longer than that is hard to place right now.
- 4 - Put YOUR return address on your material. In many cases there are complaints that the editors do not send copies of their 'zines to contributors. This is mainly because they don't know where to send

them. So, if you want to see your stuff, remember that return address.
5 - In all cases the mmsboo will try to place your material where it will best fit. We won't send off your serious discussion of dianetics to a fanzine that donates nine-tenths of its space to humor. In this case the fan-eds can help by telling us what they want.

FAN PROJECT-CARD INDEX FILE

JANIE LAMB - - - - - Heiskell, Tenn.

URGENT!! URGENT!! ... I'm desperately in need of someone to mimeo some cards for the file. If you can do this please write to me at once. There's only a few of the little boogers...Only seven or eight hundred. Come on every one...Let's see who will be first. I'd dearly love to have these mimeo'd as soon as possible. If you can't do all of them, maybe you can do a few, so please fellow bems, won't you answer my SOS? I can't promise a Finlay master-piece...but I can promise my undying appreciation.

DIRECTORATE

Roy Lavender, Chairman of the Directorate
Box 132, Delaware, Ohio

As Chairman of the Directorate I have repeatedly requested a report on the status of the fanzines sponsored by NFFF for inclusion in my director's report.

To date Max Keasler is the only one who has given any response.

I see nothing to be gained by continuing this state of affairs. Accordingly, I am once more repeating my questions:-

1---On what date will you mail the next issue?

2---How many paid subscribers do you have?

3---Is the fanzine paying its own way?

My report will go in to Ray Higgs not later than June 21 and will either include your reports or the text of this letter and a completely negative report.

I need hardly remind you that on this tenth anniversary year of the founding of this club we are nearly half way through the year with only slightly more than half of the membership renewed. This is directly due to the fact that the members are not getting what they are paying for.

Keasler's reply on the above three questions:-

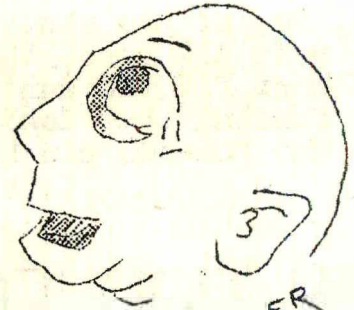
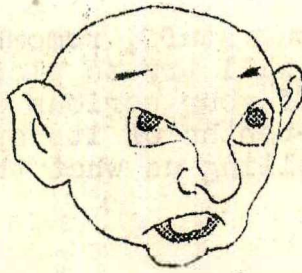
1---Next issue (of A-N) will be mailed around the first of July.

2---There are 24 subscribers, some for one issue, some for up to 12. He expects to gain at least ten subscribers with this issue.

3---Hell no it ain't paying for itself! The last issue cost a total of \$17.00. He (Keasler) and Bill Venable split the cost.

Ed. note - Just received the subscription list together with the readied stencils for FUTURIST from Redd Boggs. He lists 58 subscribers viz:- 34 @ 25¢; 6 @ 50¢; 8 @ 10¢; 3 @ 15¢ and 6 @ \$1.00. FUTURIST #1 was sent free to the membership -#2 now ready awaits the "go sign" -- what now - brown cow? - All subs begin with issue #2.

And now if we could have heard from Duggie Fisher, Jr. concerning POSTWARP. This letterzine 'used' to be mailed out when Rapp had it. Bob Johnson in letter to me says "he forwarded my \$1 subscription to you, Dug" --yet I haven't received a single ish. (rch) SUBZINES SPONSORED BY NFFF MUST BE MAILED OUT! EDITORS MUST RECOGNIZE NFFF SUBSCRIBERS! ** Or as Roy Lavender says -"I see nothing gained by continuing this state of affairs."



ROTSLER

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INDIAN LAKE

by Bill Berger, Harlan Ellison, Al Wilson and some humans! ? ? ? ?

FRIDAY NIGHT....May 18, 1951....a bunch of fans arrived (naturally, or we wouldn't have anything to write about) and after dispensing with all the pinball machines in the lobby, went upstairs and began tearing each other's hair out over the question of dianetics. It was one of those quiet affairs. In the discussion, in the left corner was Roy Lavender, wielding a large engram, while on the opposing team, all deep in reverie, were Dr. C.L. Barrett, Dee Dee Lavender, two swell fellows from Canada (one of whom was Ned McKeown), Frank Andrasovsky, Ben Jason, George Young and his young associates from Detroit, Ben Singer, Nancy Moore, and several other people.

At this point, the sound of the telephone in the lobby broke the stillness of the fine discussion, and Roy Lavender, hurrying downstairs (tripping over Mrs. Beatley, the owner of Beatley's-on-the-Lake Slan-Shack), found that there were two more fans waiting for admission to the convention at the town of Bellefontaine. Having nothing to do, and wanting to get away from the dianetics discussion anyhow, took his wife, battered car, and three of the----oh, Jedus here goes Ellison trying to get literary again. Roy picked up Harlan Ellison and Steve Schultheis----now that plug is over with.

Now that we have Ellison writing his own version on another typewriter, here are THE FACTS:

There was, we understand a long and quite political discussion on Friday night concerning Truman, MacArthur, Korea, etc. Unfortunately none of us here in Cleveland got in on it so we cannot give an account of it. That discussion is something we really regretted missing, and next year we are going to take off a day earlier from work so as not to miss anything.

On Saturday the fans began pouring in. Bob Tucker from Bloomington, ILLINOIS; Bea Mahaffey (Assistant Editor of OTHER WORLDS), Don Ford from Cincinnati with members of his family, Stan Skirvin from Newport KENTUCKY (now at OSU in Columbus OHIO); Darrell C. Richardson (who had eggs and coffee for breakfast); E. J. Burden and his family from Cleveland; Ray Beam from Indianapolis, Julian May (editor of Science Fiction International's INTERIM NEWSLETTER) from Chicago, ILLINOIS; Warren Rayle (Cleveland), Nick Falasca (Cleveland---now studying music at Bowling Green University); Lou Tabakow, (head of the LOU TABAKOW FAN CLUB) from Cincy; Ted Dikty of Shasta Publications in Chicago; Lloyd Eshbach of FANTASY PRESS in Reading, PA.; Frank M. Robinson from Beverly Shores, INDIANA; Charles Tanner from Cincy; Mr. and Mrs. Pratt from Cincy; Mr. and Mrs. Randy Garrett; Mr. and Mrs. Basil Wells (Springboro, PA.) Jean Carrol (New York); Ben Jason (Cleveland); Ben Kiefer (Columbus); Jack Cpstello (New York); Alan Kopperman (Cleveland); Robert Silver (PA); Howard Devore (Detroit)---he has 800 stf mags for sale); Robert Klawsw (vegetable soup, cheeseburger and milk); Pat Mahaffey;

Robert Joseph (Cleveland); Reva (Detroit); Donald Barrett (Bellefontaine); Fred Kloe-
tsch (Steubenville, OHIO) Betty Sullivan (Cinci). There were more fans yet, but Doc
Barrett, being busy with his medical and surgical practice, hasn't sent us a copy of
the list yet.

We had an interesting talk with Jack Costello. He is stateside contact for Capt. Ken-
neth Slater and the BRITISH FANTASY LIBRARY in England, and can get us a lot of good
British stuff. Plug, plug, plug....well, why shouldn't we?...he talked to us..that's
John Costello, 321 Crimmins Avenue, Bronx, New York 54, New York.

Several members of the Fortean Society were present, which is as good an excuse as
any for getting in a defensive dig at those who have been panning "Forteanism", a
term which Tiffany Thayer has had the unwisdom to adopt. Forteans are extremely diver-
gent beings and resent classification in the same category with each other. Some
do. One of us does. There seems to be the general impression in the fanzines that
Forteans "believe" in Fortean phenomena. WE have heard of some "believing" Forteans,
but have never had the misfortune to meet any. The function of the Forteans we know
is TEMPORARY ACCEPTANCE, not BELIEF. Fort himself said in his books that he reserved
the right to, at any time, deny and ridicule the ideas and statements brought forth
in his own books. Back to Injun Lake.....

This body of water consists of a hundred-square miles of dirty yellow navigable liq-
uid surrounded by the highly commercialized resort communities of Russell's Point and
Indian Lake, as well as Black Hawk State Park. It is the largest lake in the world to
be completely surrounded by Ohio. There are dozens of small islands dotting its sur-
face, and they look like swamp grass to us. The prices charged at Beatley's On-the-
Lake Hotel were reasonable, which surprised us, as most resorts that operate on a
half-year basis charge double prices where they can make up for the long cold win-
ters. Try St. Ignace MICHIGAN some time if you want to test that claim. Lou Tabakow
and some other of the hardier souls went swimming Sunday morning off the dock in
front of the hotel, which had adequate accomodations for the entire group. We went
swimming later....the water was just right...cool and invigorating, but not chilling.
The air was just the right warmth also.

At noon Sunday occurred the banquet. We found that the groups were more or less sep-
arated off by cities at each of the large tables----Cincy, Cleveland, Detroit, Chic-
ago, Indianapolis, New York. This was slightly unfortunate, some of us thought, but
possibly it put some persons more at their ease. Everything was so friendly and in-
formal, without being sloppy, throughout the entire convention, however, that we feel
that more mixing around at the banquet at the start would have been desirable. After
consuming our hearty meals, the menu having been accurately predicted by Ben Kiefer,
speeches were permitted: Lloyd Eshbach of FANTASY PRESS and Ted Dikty of SHASTA tell-
ing us about their new publication. plans. Bob Tucker, a hurt look on his face, was
passed over as loudest fan at the convention, in favor of Harlan Ellison, who re-
ceived a book in consequence.....Alan Kopperman still is not speaking to Ellison
for taking his seat and airily disposing of the former's cask---er, flask----- of
Amontillado.

Then came the raffle and auction of pictures----and still later on - "the good byes"
until next year --same place. Better come!

CORRECTION - On page 4 last paragraph - fourth line - third word should be discussed
and not didcussed. Oswald, that little typer louse got too many d's in the word.

N&F FORUM

To The Editor
Cormacville,
Ind.

111 South 15th Street
Corsicana, Texas

Dear Ray,

I can certainly sympathize with you, turning out some 500 copies of TNFF, for I am working currently on a 500 copy, 60pp. edition of my own UTOPIAN. In its idle moments, my feeble brain has come up with some idle facts about it: When I get through, I'll have a stack of fanzines some 10 feet high; I will use some 600 staples and about three solid hours of my time in stapling them; I'll have a total of just over 18,000 mimeoed sheets; the mass of fan work will weigh approximately 180 pounds. Good Ghu! And you're doing a comparable amount of work every two months; not to mention FUTURIST and whatever else you may produce!

I was gratified to see the results of the Laureate Awards Poll. I have a couple of gripes about it though! Firstly, why not give first names of those fans listed? I know most of the winners and others, but plenty of the members will be unfamiliar with them. Turning to the Roster will be of little help, for many of those last names apply to two or more members, and some of them don't even belong to N3F. Also, why not give the figures in the ratings? Many fan (I'll bet) were quite anxious to know just how GALAXY and ASTOUNDING compared. Just rating one first and the other second is quite unsatisfactory to us curious ones, there could be as much as fifty votes; or as little as one, difference. Of course, the listings of last names only in the fan classifications and no figures whatsoever made the ratings look much neater than those of last year, but there are plenty of us who would rather have facts and figures than neatness.

One other note on the mountainous job you are doing, I haven't yet received a faulty copy of TNFF, even though you have such an enormous amount of work; while many lesser fanmags, with runs of under 100 are almost unreadable! Congrats on a job well-done.

Here are some further suggestions for the Laureate Awards. I published these in one of my columns earlier, but believe they should be also presented to the membership first hand. I think we should have separate awards for fan columnists! Under the current set-up, columnists, fiction writers, and article writers are lumped under one classification of FAN WRITER; while FAN POETS, a group no larger than any of these others, has a separate award all its own. The ideal set-up, to my way of thinking, would be to have separate departments for all three of these groups. I don't dream of achieving anything like that in the near future, though, so I'm campaigning for a separate classification for columnists, as a stop-gap. BEST FAN LETTER WRITER would also be a welcome addition to these awards, for letter-writing is a bigger fan-industry than any other.

I remain,

R. J. Banks, Jr.

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1558 W. Hazelhurst Street
Ferndale 20, Michigan

Dear Mr. Higgs:

April TNFF was a wonderful surprise to me, and I am delighted with the membership roster. William Berger should be complimented. I loved those rocketships on the cover, but I can't find any initials. Did you draw those? The articles were all good.

After observing your grand mimeo job, I hesitate to send you a sample of my efforts - STAR LANES, but I would like you to enter my contest. I started this sheet to try to introduce SF to 321 Amateur Journalists (UAPA). I thought a contest might help get some interested.

Heartily yours,

Orma McCormick

1441 Overing Street
Bronx 61, N.Y.; N.Y.

Dear Ray:

It is greatly to be doubted whether you will have even the slightest recollection of me, as I hardly remember sending you the pic. Yes, I am Richard Kirs, (in fandom, addressed as Richalx). The lad who did the cover (short intermission while my swelled head pops). Now there is a question I would like to ask you - can you use any more covers for TNFF? Preferably done by me. Can make more space-ship designs, much better ones than the one I sent you. How about a pic of a battle between spaceships? Now, now! No, I am not a spaceshipmaniac. I'm just a landscape artist who seeks escape!

Slandishly,

Richalx Kirs.

58 Sharrard Grove, Intake
Sheffield 12, England

Dear Ray:

Many thanks for the latest issue of the NFF (Thank goodness everyone knows what NFF means so that there's no use to write it in full).

First let me comment on the poll results. An excellent idea, and excellently carried out. The results are surprising in parts - to me at least. I wonder what JWC thinks at being pipped by Gold's GALAXY? I see that in spite of my lone vote for myself as best fan artist - modest type, everyone else must have got at least two votes as I'm not even in the listing. Someday I'll send you a pic, and then you'll see how unfair you've been (maybe).

Next item, at great expense to my souvenir collection of currency, I have forwarded a dollar bill to your secretary-treasurer, so once again I'm a member in good standing. Therefore may I put in a plea for a trade? I have many back issues of various mags and can obtain any British mag or book as they are published. I want various copies of ASF between 39 and 44 (I know) and several copies of GALAXY, plus a sub to same. Anyone interested - drop me a line.

Item - KFS-Ken Slater to you, is having a set of 10 p.c.s printed. They're due from the printer any time now. Price in US is still uncertain, but watch out for his adverts. A 'blurb' on this would be appreciated.

Introducing the SFSS (The Science-Fantasy Suckers Society) Any person sending me a one dollar bill will be enrolled as a member and will receive a letter of thanx signed by the President (me). Life membership awarded to anyone sending me a copy of any pro mag - immortality conferred for a copy of ASF or GALAXY.

I will now fold my tent and silently steal away. When I have more energy, I'll try and write an interesting letter for a change. If you have read this far, blessings be upon you. 'Wanaytu aykar to 'kratch'. The last is low Martian for 'so long'.

Yours frantically

Terry Jeeves

NEFFORUM is YOUR letter column in TNFF! Please use it and every MEMBER of N3F WRITE!

THE UNIVERSITY PRESS
University Of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois

Members of NFFF:

We think the members of the National Fantasy Fan Federation should be among the first to know about the publication of a new science non-fiction title, SPACE MEDICINE: THE HUMAN FACTOR IN FLIGHTS BEYOND THE EARTH, edited by John P. Marbarger. And, because of your special interest, we should like to offer the membership the opportunity to take advantage of the prepublication offer which will go into effect between July 18, and August 10. This offer will permit the membership to purchase copies of the booklet at 25 per cent. off.

So far as we know, this is the first publication of the results of researches on the potentialities of human reaction in flights beyond the earth....that is, it is everything the military will permit us to print. The interesting thing to me, a science fiction fan myself, is that the fictional concepts of space travel I've read are not so different from the factual concepts contained in this book as I would have expected.

Astounding Science Fiction magazine is very interested in this book, and plans to run a feature article about it upon publication. And our prepublication sale will open with a full page advertisement in the August issue of that magazine which will reach the newsstands on July 18.

With your permission, I'll be glad to send enough circulars and postpaid orderblanks to you for distribution among the membership. How many would you need? Or, if you'd rather, I'll be glad to send the circulars direct to each individual, if you will furnish me the addresses.

We consider this an important summary; and, of course, want to be sure that everyone interested in its contents gets a chance to have it. I'd certainly appreciate any help you can give us.

Sincerely yours,
George S. Amsbary
Sales Manager

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OPERATION FANTAST - Printed quarterly. Stf and Fan News. Editor - Captain K.F. Slater--H. Q. 13 Gp. R. P. C., B. A. O. R., 15, England; European Representative for NFFF. American Agent - Philip J. Rasch, 567 Erskine Drive, Pacific Palisades, California. Single issues: 7d. or 15 cents. Post Free. Subscription: 6 issues, 3/- or 60 cents.

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FANSPEAK IN STOCK

FANSPEAK, a glossary of fan slang, phrases and names was written by noted fan and N3F member Corp. Arthur H. Rapp before he re-entered the U.S. Army. Any fan, except perhaps those who are new in fandom, will immediately tell you that Art Rapp, editor of one of fandom's leading zines "SPACEWARP" and former Chairman of the N3F Directors and former editor of "THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN", is also one of fandom's very best writers. You can get your FREE copy by sending a post card to BOB STATTON, 1715 Second Avenue., Beaver Falls, Pa. Another N3F Benefit!

THIS IS NFFF's TENTH ANNIVERSARY! BECOME ACTIVE! PUBLISH A FANZINE FOR OUR ANNIVERSARY

"...COMES THE REVOLUTION!"

By G. M. CARR



SINCE the early days of fandom when certain wild-eyed Utopians among the fans tinged stf with a Pinkish glow, most fans have been more or less afraid to mention that nasty word - Politics. They duck when they see it coming, and refuse to acknowledge any Government earlier than THE FOUNDATION. I think it is time we stopped shaking in our boots and recognized that we have as valid an interest in the way our country is being run as the most conservative greybeard tottering to the polls for the last time. Maybe more so. We have to live in this country for a long while yet, and whether we like to admit it or not, the type of Government we have to live under is definitely our concern.

The Republicans scream that the Democrats are ruining the American way of Life and the Democrats scream that anybody that isn't a Democrat is a candidate for horns and a tail, and they both of them scream that anybody that doesn't like the way they have been running things between themselves is either a Red Herring or something else of the same color.

I was re-reading Mark Twain's "Connecticut Yankee" the other day and ran across his pointed remarks about "a government of rags..." Goodness knows, Mark Twain was as Mississippi mud, but the things he said sounded suspiciously familiar. He actually came right out and said that when a government becomes oppressive it is time to change that government!

Well, it seems to me that is what the Democrats have been doing. They, or somebody, has succeeded in changing the government in my lifetime, even, so that it is hardly recognizable for the one I grew up under. I can't say that I particularly like the change, either.

America has long been called "The land of the free..." When I was young, "freedom" was a strong and virile word. It brought up visions of rugged independence, Pioneer hardihood and self-reliant Frontiersmen with guns over their shoulders. Americans boasted of their pride and courage and accepted charity from no man. The American ideal was "Freedom" - spelled with a capital F.

What happened to that ideal? Where are our rugged individualists that stood on their own two feet and didn't take anything from anybody? Let's take a look at our 'freedom'.

Lately it seems all we've been hearing about is some sort of a qualified 'freedom'. A 'freedom from this' or a 'freedom of that'...What the heck are they talking about?

Take this "Freedom from Want" for instance. I can remember when if a man wanted to build himself a house he could go to work for the sawmill for a few days and get paid off in lumber and build one for himself. When he got ready for electricity he sent off to a mail order house for the materials and put in the wiring himself. Same with plumbing. If he couldn't figure out how to do the job himself there was always a neighbor who would do it for him and trade him for a job he could do. But you can't do that now. Just try it and see. What with building codes and wiring permits and union regulations you've got about as much freedom to build yourself a house as a Polar Bear in the Zoo. Instead we have Government loans, Government Housing, and the G. I. Bill. To say nothing of the trade unions. The same with food. I can remember when a cow and chickens were commonplace, and those who didn't have a cow themselves got milk from a neighbor who did. I remember picking up a bucket of milk on my way home from school, and usually there was a basket of tomatoes or apples or a cabbage alongside it. Oh, sure, you can still raise a garden in your back yard, and if you live far enough outside the city limits you can still keep a cow -- but you can't sell milk without permission, and then usually only to certified dairies. When I was a kid

we carried our own lunch to school and it was up to the parents to see that we were fed. It is different now. Children have been recognized as citizens -- future votes for politicians -- and are wards of the State. No clumsy and inept parents may be permitted to jeopardize their future by improper care. Now they are provided free medical care, glasses, dental work, hot lunches by some branch or other of 'Government', and if the authorities don't like a family's ideas of discipline, they feel free to take the children and place them elsewhere. It is not unheard of to order the parents sterilized, as well. This is Freedom?

The same thing goes for these other "freedoms from..." Fear, for instance. The Government pledges the world "Freedom from Fear". How can the Government take away Fear? It is a part of every human life, fear of the dark, fear of death, fear of old age... Maybe they mean to provide a regimented security so rigid that there is nothing left to anticipate? (Except Death, of course, but that comes under the Department of Religion.)

Take this "freedom of religion" and look at it. All it boils down to is freedom from the necessity of believing in any God, in any personal responsibility to a concept of Deity, or any definite code of right and wrong. Religion has become merely a permissible pastime for those who choose to practice it, so long as they do not insist on any inconvenient ideas such as refusing to take an oath, or salute a flag, or kill other humans in another colored uniform.

Freedom of speech is a nice-sounding phrase, especially to people who vocalize as much as we Americans do. But what does it mean? Just that our Government (at present, anyway) doesn't go much for standing people up against a wall and shooting them for an incautious remark. That, in itself, is a very good thing, or I wouldn't be able to think what I'm thinking, much less write it down on paper and ask other people to think about it, too. But that's about as far as it goes. You can still get fired from your job and have your future prospects blasted by an unpopular remark, you can still be sued for libel for an untrue one. People still get slapped down for going around shooting their mouth off, and it still takes courage to stand up for your convictions.

The dictionary defines "Freedom" as "independence" and also as "special privilege." Even the dictionary doesn't seem to be able to make up its mind, so no wonder I'm puzzled. Does "Freedom" mean a paternal Government that provides carefully for every need from pre-natal care to post-cremation interment? Or does it mean still, what I used to think it meant, the right of the individual to stand on his own two feet and look after himself and his own.

In my lifetime we have already fought two wars for 'freedom' - at least that's what they told us at the time - and now the newspapers are full of the third war being waged to bring 'freedom' to the peoples of the world. It sounds good to us Americans and we're all for it, but sometimes I wonder just what kind of 'freedom' it is we are fighting to give them. If we are really sincere about rescuing other people from the grip of an Iron Hand, why don't we take a look at the Velvet Glove that's smothering us? If a regimented existence is bad for other people, why should we cling to it ourselves?

Maybe I'm just too stupid to figure this out for myself. Maybe I need somebody else to straighten me out on it. Maybe it is just a question of semantics. It is really Freedom that we Americans want for ourselves and for the peoples of the world, it seems to me that this increasing dependence on letting the Government give us the things we should be doing for ourselves is the wrong way to go about getting it. But if what we really want is a regimented security, why not have the guts to admit it? What is Freedom, anyway?

OVEIR HEIRE

By F. J. ROBINSON

What is British fandom doing is the question some fans have asked. The answer is - plenty. By now most U.S. fans will have heard of the Convention organized in London over the Whitsun holidays (May 11-13) to coincide with Festival of Britain year. We are happy and proud to say that it was a great success; certainly far more so than anyone hoped.

To review the events completely would require the whole of this magazine, so I will merely cover points of mutual interest. Right from the start it had been intended that the convention would be as international as possible. The world situation among other things prevented several overseas visitors from coming as they had intended. We were extremely glad to see quite a large number of fans from many countries however, when the proceedings finally started. These guests of honour were headed by Mr. and Mrs. Forrest J. Ackermann; George Gafter of Paris, Sigvard Oatland of Stockholm, Sweden, Ben Abbas of Holland, Lyell Crane of Toronto, Ken Paynter of Australia and Cpl. Lee Jacobs of the U.S. Army in France, were the others who spoke during the convention.

Having heard of the trials and tribulations of those fans, we felt quite an organized crowd ourselves, though 4E said that, compared with U.S. Fangroups, we are quite anarchistic. However in spite of this we do manage to get things done - hence this convention. I don't know the exact figure, but would say that somewhere in the neighborhood of 150 people were present over the weekend. Our one great regret was that our leading fan Ken Slater was prevented by circumstances from attending.

4E gave us a picture of current activities in the U.S. field speaking on movies, books and magazines, as well as fan activities. It seems we have much to look forward to in the not too distant future. A group of London fans calling themselves the S-F Soap Opera Repertory Company reduced the audience to tears (of laughter) with two sketches entitled, "Life can be so Horrible," and "Who goes Where." In the latter, Audry Lovett proved to be the loveliest monster seen in many a year. Mr. John Keir Cress of the B.B.C. gave an interesting account of his activities in broadcasting science-fiction on the radio. Arthur C. Clarke followed with an interesting and amusing account of his experiences on television.

Sunday provided the highspot of the proceedings: The awarding of the Annual Fantasy Award. A very fine model of a spaceship was presented to Forry Ackermann, who will present it to the winners for 1950 on his return to the USA. In his reply 4E said that we in Britain had come up with an idea that has not ever been tried in the States. This award has not yet been given a title and was only referred to as an Oscar. Personally I plump for Stella(r).

Wendy Ackerman held the audience for well over half an hour in a state of awed silence with a brief outline of Dianetics. Even "yours truly" now has glimmerings of the principles. Bill Temple with characteristic wit remarked that he now knew enough about the subject, to be able to say 'yes' and 'no' at the correct moment in a conversation.

There was a film shown each night; many interesting and unique including a copy of Conan Doyle's "Lost World," some amateur shorts of 4E and some rocket take off shots belonging to Arthur Clarke. In the best convention traditions there was an auction each evening. Many rare and interesting items came up, including vV's own annotated copy of SLAN. A considerable amount of original artwork was auctioned, including some superb specimens in colour by Ben Abbas of Holland. We are all very

grateful to a number of U.S. book publishers, who donated books to the auction. And there was a greeting telegram from August Derleth.

Summing up - this was undoubtedly the biggest thing that has yet happened to the British fan field. There probably will be many more conventions here in the future, but never will another be quite like this one - the FIRST International Science Fiction Convention.

Finally, a few odd notes - The SCIENCE FICTION FORTNIGHTLY, which has kept up a steady stream of good quality stories, has been forced to a monthly schedule by shortage of paper supplies. SCIENCE FANTASY, Nova's second magazine will increase, to the size of NEW WORLDS, with its next issue. New editor, Ted Carnell announces many changes in layout and policy. NEW WORLDS #10 now on sale has increased its price to 2/- from 1/6. Two new fan ventures are announced from OPERATION FANTAST. First is a set of Ten Fantasy Fan Artists postcard drawings. These will sell for 2/6 a set. Artists include Allan Hunter of NEW WORLDS fame and Terry Jeeves who has had much artwork in various fanzines. Second venture is a combined Fan-Service which will bring together several individual activities, including Derek Pickles' Press Clipping service and "yours truly's" book and magazine binding service. New fanclubs are springing up all over Britain. Dave Cohen has organized one in Manchester...Ken Smith in Newcastle and Peter Hallifax in Bournemouth.

If any fans would like information about activities "over here" not mentioned, I'll be pleased to receive a letter from them when I'll do my best to answer their queries.

Until the next issue when I'll be back with all the latest news from this side of the pond, will now say - Cheerio - Fancerely. Fred J. Robinson. 37 Willows Avenue, Tremorfa, Cardiff, Glamorgan, South Wales, G.B.

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PROJECT TOPSEY

When the P.B. Checklist was started we expected to dig out about 200 titles of fan interest. Ha! at the present time the list has grown and grown to over 500 items. At this point we have decided to cut the list off fairly soon. Complete data will be listed as much as possible on each title for we are listing:-title, author, publisher, date, number of pages, whether S-F, fantasy or weird, country, novel or short story, and brief description of the plot. A supplement can be published at a later date with new data and titles or with missing data. About 20 fan collectors are acting as co-compilers, including fen from U.S., Australia, Britain and Canada. They are doing a fine job and prove once again that fans are a wonderful group of people. Members requesting the Checklist have their names placed on the Checklist's mailing list. So please bear with us for a bit longer.

- Bob Troetschel
Ev Winne

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JOIN THE CORRESPONDENCE BUREAU

Since the piece in the April TNFF regarding the C-B, a number of volunteers have written in to say they wish to take part. C.B. covers letters to fen in service who request North American fan correspondents and the same service is to fen who reside abroad. It will also cover invitation to fen to become members of N3F. If you are now sending out such letters on your own, then by all means continue to do so and ALLAH

bless you! At the same time, we urge that you register with C.B. It will aid the club by preventing duplication of effort. On our part we can supply you with names and addresses, with application blanks and club benefit lists and an outline of helpful suggestions.

In securing correspondence for foreign fan the N3F is co-operating in a joint effort with Science Fiction International. The same basis of co-operative effort is expected between Fantasy Veteran's Association and N3F on letters to fan in service. Beyond this we also have our own club's contacts. A great opportunity exists to help many fan by inviting them to join N3F for many will be looking for just such a friendly offer.

As soon as we hear from you we will forward the C.B. outline and questionnaire. No fan will be expected to do any more than is easily convenient. We'll be looking forward to hearing from you! Just drop a postcard to Ev Winne, % John Nagle, 182 State Street, Springfield, Mass.

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APRIL ISSUE OF TNFF RETURNED TO US!

The following did not received their TNFF for April because of change of address and not notifying us. Same issue can be had (if you choose) by writing the Secretary-Treasurer.

Henry Georgi
Kay Brickman
Frank Groves
Geo. O. Smith
James Dunn
Al F. Lopez

Robert G. Thompson
Ivan Woodell
Virgil Finlay
Sam Moskowitz
C. Stewart Metchette
Mari-Wolf Graham

George Williams, Jr.
Marvin Hirsh
Rog Phillips
Robert Resch
Molly Hardy

YOU MUST always notify the Secretary-Treasurer of NFFF as to your change of address - and he in turn SHOULD send the editor these changes MONTHLY!

----- * -----

NEW MEMBERS - and a great big WELCOME to each one of you!

David Edwards-57 Longfleet Rd., Poole, Dorset, ENGLAND
Ray Schaffer, Jr.-122 Wise St., North Canton, Ohio
Charles Anderson-Box 2602, Va. Tech. Station, Blacksburg, Va.
Emil P. Uhor-844 Clifton St., Follansbee, W. Va.
Ted Serrill-R.D. 1, Harrisburg, Pa.
Henry Ebel-665 W. 160th St., New York 32, N.Y.
Norbert Huschorn-853 Riverside Dr., New York, N.Y.
Bert High-13 Marlborough Rd., Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham, ENGLAND
Graham B. Stone-- Box 61, The Union, University of Sydney, NSW, AUSTRALIA
Charles R. Harris-90 Maxey Rd., Dagenham, Essex, ENGLAND
Boyd Raeburn-18 Momona Rd., Auckland, S. E. 4, NEW ZEALAND
F. A. Coulter-254 Antiqua St., Choistchurch, NEW ZEALAND
Ken Krueger-11 Pearl St., Buffalo, N.Y. (omitted from Roster, last issue TNFF)
J.A. Phipps-Simplex Time Recorder Co., Ltd., Eastern Main Rd., Laventille, Trinidad, British West Indies
William F. Nolan-4458-56th St., San Diego, Calif.

KEN KRUEGER, 11 PEARL STREET, BUFFALO, N.Y. is the NEW Manuscript Manager. The Bureau is in NEED of MATERIAL, and Ken requests you send something NOW!

RENEWALS TO MEMBERSHIP

Jean Carrol
Walter A. Coslet
Jay V. Miller
D. Cameron Montgomery
Roy Cummings

Len J. Moffatt
E.E. Smith
Martin Greenberg
Ed Zimmerman
Ray C. Higgs

Mrs. Loubel Wood
Roscoe Wright
Lyell Crane
R.J. Banks, Jr.

----- *

ADDRESS CHANGES

Jay V. Miller-2622 N. Monitor, Chicago 39, Ill.
Dr. E.E. Smith-1646 Oakwood Ave., Des Plaines, Ill.
Frank H. Parnell-23 Finchley Rd., Ipswich, Suffolk, ENGLAND
Roscoe Wright-146 East 12th, Eugene, Oregon
Ed Zimmerman-146 East 12th, Eugene, Oregon
Alan Hunter-124 Belle Vue Rd., Southbourne, Bournemouth, ENGLAND
Tony V. Cooper-10 Essex Rd., Chingford, London E. 4., ENGLAND
Jean Carrol-1658 Broadway, Room 406A, New York City
Capt. K.F. Slater-H.Q. 13 Gp. R.P.C., B.A.O.R., 15, ENGLAND
Jack Schwab, 428 Williams St., Portsmouth, Va.

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FANZINE REVIEW

----- vat comes to our mail box -----

EUSIFANSO - a very neatly PRINTED zine sponsored by THE EUGENE SCIENCE FANTASY ARTISANS and the LITTLE PRESS. Staff is as follows:

Editor - Roscoe Wright
Literary Editor - Billi Harnden
Science Editor - Norman E. Hartman
Associate Editor - Ed Zimmerman
Layout and Art - REW

Contents include:- The Editors Over A Broiling Flame by Lemuel Craig; Vaccination by Lee King; Monsters of the Future by Norman E. Hartman; Time Machine by William K. Granger; Pro-Views by Billi Harnden, etc. REW does well with the artwork, including front cover in black and white, and inside drawings in colors. EUSIFANSO is just 10 cents per copy and can be had from THE LITTLE PRESS, 146 East 12th Ave., Eugene, Ore.

FUTURIST - after a long wait, ish #2 has hit the mails. Edited in excellent taste by Redd Boggs, 2215 Benjamin St. N.E., Minneapolis 18, Minn. and published by Ray C. Higgs, 813 Eastern Ave., Connersville, Indiana. Among contributors are:- Lloyd Alpaugh, Jr. with

Unusual Stories and Marvel Tales; T.E. Watkins's-Fiction of Today; Charles Stuart writes on Old Wine in New Bottles; Con Pederson contributes Centrifugum, and Genevieve Stephens with In the Full Moon's Wake, etc. Front cover by John Grossman, with interior illustrations by Bob Dougherty with a Rotsler sketch on back cover. 10¢ per copy to N3Pers, and copies can be had by writing to William Berger, 912 E. 140 St., Cleveland, Ohio. FUTURIST has excellent mimeo work thruout its pages.

T L M A - edited and published by Lynn A. Hickman; Wilkie Connor, associate editor; Arden Cray, art editor - for THE LITTLE MONSTERS. Contents in-

clude:- God and the Grain of Sand by Elaine Fruchey; Winged Victory by Battell Loomis; A Philosophic Dissertation on Dianetics by Manly Banister; Thud and Blunder by Basil Wells, Engrams by Wilkie Connor, etc. Cover by Don Arden, interior illustrations by Arden Cray, Lach and Don Arden. 25¢ per copy from Lynn A. Hickman, 408 W. Bell St., Statesville, N.C. Mimeo work very neat.

Q U A N D R Y - edited and published by Lee Hoffman, 101 Wagner St., Savannah, Georgia, and selling for 10¢ per copy. Contributors include:- Walter A. Willis; Rich Elsberry, Dennis Strong; Hank Rabey; Peter J. Ridley; Wilkie Conner; Bob Silverberg; Lloyd Alpaugh; with Peter J. Ridley and Hoffman doing the art work which is very clever. Frontcover always appear in a 4-6 color job, which Lee runs off with ONE impression! See it!

W O N D E R - Happy Holiday by Cedric Walker takes up the best portion of this zine, with other contributions by Mike Tealby who presents Spaceships, Saucers & Smokescreens; and John Allen gives out with Can It Be The Martians...etc. WONDER is 40¢ per year and edited and published by Michael Tealby, 8 Burfield Ave., Loughborough, Leics. ENGLAND. Printed frontcover, mimeo interior.

SCIENCE FICTION N E W S L E T T E R - experimental issue in size, format, etc. frontcover carries two photos of London con; also Ted Carnell does Convention Report; with Letters to the Editor, People in The News; The Reporter, etc. covering both the fan and pro world, and does a darn good job of it. Hunting for the dope - Bob Tucker has it in SCIENCE FICTION NEWS LETTER, and you can get it for 15¢ per copy by addressing Bob at P.O.Box 260, Bloomington, Illinois. The zine is in photo-off-set. (Ed. note - Continue with the new experimental format Bob! --rch)

C O S M A G - Edited and published by Ian Macauley, 57 East Park Lane, Atlanta, Georgia for the Atlanta Science-Fiction Organization. 10¢ per copy. Contents The Jovians by J. Lynn Burge; Out Of The Void by Macauley; Who Goes Where by Dewey Scarborough; Somthin' er Other by Fred Chapell; The Scout by Macauley, etc. Interior illos by W.D. Guthrie, Terry Carr, Mac, Jerry Burge and John Rose. Frontcover by Mac.

F A N V A R I E T Y - edited by W. Max Keasler and Bill Venable, 10¢ per copy. Always chucked full of art work with contributions by artists Ray Nelson, Perdita Nelson, Bill Rotsler, Jack Gaugham, Neil Graham, DEA and Keasler. On the reading material side contributions by John Davis, Richard Elsberry, Don Nardizzi, Harry Warner, Jr., Ray Nelson, etc. Frontcover by Perdita Nelson and bacover by Jack Gaugham. Write Keasler at 420 S. 11th St., Poplar Bluff, Mo. for copies.

DEDICATION - to Eva Firestone, IPRO - do we dedicate this June issue of THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN. Eva is one of the hardest working officers NFFF has today, and thus we reward her with this Honor, and all join in saying CONGRATULATIONS FOR WORK WELL DONE!

ELECTION COMING UP! GET IN ON IT!
RUN FOR PRESIDENT OR DIRECTOR!
SEND NAME & PLATFORM TO SECRETARY
WILLIAM BERGER NOW! 2ND WEEK IN
AUGUST DEADLINE FOR CANDIDATES!

N.F.F.F.'s
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1951

THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN
Vol. 10 JUNE '51 No. 3
Ray C. Higgs Editor
Connersville, -- Indiana

ANNIVERSARY



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Stan Skirvin; Licking Pike, Newport, Kentucky
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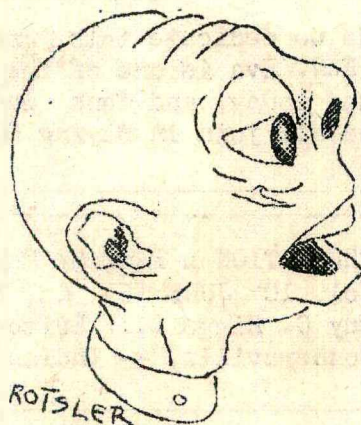


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