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Mark Reinsberg

If I didn't actually know that the greatest renaissance in fan history was under way in Chicago I hardly should have dared ask for the 1940 Convention. If I hadn't been part of the new era in Chicago fandom—one of the newer generation of tans sprung from the dust of the long-dead "old-guard"—it would have seemd impossible to swing such a tremendous project with so little visible support. But I knew of the vastelty & its potentialitys, & being part of the rising power that is the Chicago fandom I felt it was not only possible but the logical thing to do. I almost felt that I shouldn't have to bring the Convention but that it would come of itself—& to Chicago. All the movement needed was a little impetus, which is just what this is. THE NEXT CONVENTION WILL BE IN CHICAGO, & here's why:

States, the most centralized location for a Convention in the country. Hundreds of real tans found it impossible to attend the New York affair because of the distance. In Chicago it's different. We're within striking proximity of more fans than the total attendance at the World Convention—there are over 200 tans in the Chicago area! Died—in—the—wool tans who really never had a chance to get together. But that's only in the adjoining states. What about those prominent fans in LA & the west? Only 3 out of the livest—wire group in the world—in LA—were able to cross the United States——because of the great expense the 3000 miles entaild. I venture to say at least a third of the LASFL members would have come to Chicago—& will in 1940. What about the Milwaukee Fictioneers? They couldn't come to the "Nycon" but as a body they are pledged to be in Chicago. There are hundreds of isolated fans who would welcome the opportunity...ask them.

How many fans & authors ever have been to Chicago? There's another point. Chicago is a wonderful city--2d largest in the country--4th in the world. Many of the world's biggest attractions are here--so it wouldn't be a mere stif visit but a sight-seeing trip for that majority which never has felt the warm hospitality, the infinite variety of this city of nearly 4,000,000...

Every big SF event has been held in the New York area. New York, New Jersey & Philadelphia have held a virtual monopoly on science fiction. All the breaks have gone to the Easterners, & now it's the turn of all the other fans--by far the majority. Then, too, for the interest of all concernd it's best. How many fans & authors would make the same effort to see a Convention held in the East? Not many... Science Fiction needs variety--which is just what a Chicago Convention offers. New people to meet, the spice of a Convention. Here's the chance to meet & talk with all those fans, editors & authors who arent centerd in NY.

& already, before the Convention Committee has been organized, dozens of pledges have been pouring in, ofters of utmost support & words of encouragement. Every fan, author & editor I spoke to In New York areed--pledged support, publicity & attendance. WHAT ARE WE WAITING DR? U all agree also. I know. All we want is your support--your active & enthusiastic support. We must have 200 written pledges--guarantes of attendance. We already've got 50. How can U help? (See back over) Yes, Chicago is coming back...& in 1940 it is C H I C A G O 111

OUR REACTION TO THE

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FROM THE FULL AND ADJURED-UNPREJUDICED REPORT OF THREE DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION -- REPORTS ORALLY DISCUSSED DURING FIVE CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS OF THE LASFL -- AND FROM PUBLISHED ACCOUNTS AND CORRESPONDENCE WITH CONCERNED PARTIES; IT IS THE CONSIDERED OPINION OF THE LOS ANGELES CHAPTER OF THE SCIENCE FICTION LEAGUE, AS OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1939, THAT THE ACTION ON THE PART OF WILLIAM S. SYKORA, SAM MOSKOWITZ AND JAMES V. TAURASI, SPONSORS OF THE "FIRST WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVEN-TION", IN ARBITRARILY BARRING FROM THE PROCEEDINGS ADVERTISED AS "OPEN TO THE PUBLIC" SIX PERSONS -- KNOWN TO ALL FANDOM AS SCIENTIFICTION FANS -- WAS DISCRIMINATORY AND DICTATORIAL, PRE-MEDITATED AND OPENLY CONTRARY TO THE MASS-WILL OF THE CONVEN-TIONEERS, IN IRRECONCILABLE CONFLICT WITH THE DISTINCTLY DEM-OCRATIC IDEALS OF SINCERE SCIENCE FICTION. IN BRIEF, IT IS BELIEVED THAT A MATTER OF PERSONAL ANIMOSITY -- A LOCAL FEUD --WAS ALLOWED TO RUN AWAY WITH REASON ON THE PART OF THE PRO-MULGATORS OF THE CONVENTION. OUR ATTITUDE IS ONE OF SEVERE CENSURE OF A SHAME FUL OCCURRENCE, A REPREHENSIBLE HAPPENING WHICH WE FEEL WE REFLECT ALL FAIR-MINDED FANS IN STATING:

MUST NEVER BE REPEATED!

OUR SENTIMENTS SCARCELY CAN BE TOO STRONG IN PLAINLY CRITICIZING THIS EGREGIOUS ERROR, IN OUTRIGHTLY CONDEMNING THES-OUTRAGE.

AS THE OLDEST ACTIVE AND LEADING CHAPTER OF THE LEAGUE, THE LASFL HAS FELT IT ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE PUBLIC THIS, THE DECISION OF ITS MAJORITY OF MEMBERS, AS ARRIVED AT AS DESCRIBED FOREGOING, AND AS OF THE DATE RECORDED.

SIGNED,

DIRECTOR

SECY

Hello, everybody!

& how r the mems of the imagi-nation this momentous day? Have U all been, er, nation yore teeth & wondring if "Madge" had "pulled a Marvel" & another alledged quarterly (bimonthly in Marvel's case) become a semiannual or some-such? Ours is the Convention-al excuse plus tact that one co-editor has been lining up a better job & the other co-ed was in the process of moving. Then, too, both of us were faced with a Fapamag to make shortly after our return trip from the East, & gave employment to a lot of seudonyms, old & new, to review the Convention for U & especially U while It All was fresh in our minds. Now, with further perdue, we turn U to--

THE VOICE OF THE IMAGI-NATION

From Elmer Perdue, 813 Lewis St, Laramie/Wyo, the conclusion of his great serial offer! What has gone bfor: Our correspondent, noen as "the Ephless", since the "t" key on his typriter is out of order, has been reviewing Mikros #3, characterizing the "Hollerbochen" sequel as "inexpressible", the Browner bieness as a "bushwah", teasing Dale Hart, & complimenting AKBarnes on the Ackerman Exposé. Notes to our Canadian comrad, Baker; apologys to Nancy Featherstone; apologys to U & U for 3 letters from Perdue in one issue; & then, he ended, "as my Japanese phriend Takaharu O'Ryan said to me yesterday," & appended what apeard to b 3 Lines of Oulde Nipponese by Hoy Ping Merritt. Now go on with the letter!

(We have succeeded in securing a translation of the Nipponese-wich has turnd out to b, not Nipponese at all...bet Elmer didnt
noe that...but, we rassured, "Chinese characters intended to be Japanese." Their message is singularly unstartling. They simply say:
"Litt.D., edited by" & a name is given.) "He still hasn't explained
what he meant by it," El continues. "But Ghu only knows what connection his statement has to do with the price uv rice.

"But so much phor

the voice.

"In the latest uv the nickle pamphlets, there isn't much to say. With regards to the tale uv Mr. Ackerman (Honi soit qui mal y pense) (quotation is M. Perdue's & means "Shame to him who thinks evil", the we must admit we don't get it) I can only quote the words uv the Great Italian poet Dante: Si non è vero, è molto ben trovato. (We can't franslate Dante's internalanguage—what a hellish pun!) But \$3551 has written, really, a good Ackermanuscript.

"And to Charlie, my sincere thank. I use to be one uv the gee-oh-dee growlers, too. Now we have Science Phiction; a mag which breathes the soul and spirit uv those times; and I am satisphied. Charlie has disproved his own point ("Has Science-Fiction a Future?", Mikros #4) with his own mag.

our panhandle phriend (nothing personal, Dart) puts an irrelevantitle (Watch yourselph, Elmer! That was an Ackermannerism!) (OK, Ephj?) on an irrelevant manuscript. ("Extremes & Extremitys") I just that uv something, too--Hale spells briks as brix. So in ackermanese, x equals ks. But ks is also ackermanese phor kiss, so x is a kiss. But that abbreviation is as old as Hamilton's plot, so ackermanese loses its neatrism. (Nts!)

"And last, but not , to quote the old proverb, is Mr. Pharley. Comphidentially again, this is the best super-short live read this year. ("The Man Who Coud Turn Back the Clock") It's beautiphully done. In phact (to quote 80-10 117th st.) it was quite spiphphy -- I should be proud to have written it.

WE INTERRUPT AT THIS POINT TO PEN A NOTE TO POSTERITY—IF ANY. "DUMMY" OF THIS DAGE IS BEING PREPARED ON A MOMENTOUS DAY, WHAT WE CALL WARDAY 39. REMEMBER THE HEAD-LINES SEPT MORN? & REMEMBER WELLS! ARMAGEDDON COMES A YR SOCNER THAN HE PREDICTED.

WAR CAN B A HIGHLY STIMULATING THING," HE SAID THRU HIS CHARACTER JNO CABAL IN THINGS TO COME, "BUT U CAN OVERDO A STIMULANT. IF WE DON'T END WAR, WAR WILL END US!" WICH SHALL IT B? TIME KNOWS!

gender personal pronouns they're trying to get into the dictionary? Heesh phor he or one; himer phor him or her; and hiser phor his or her. We need them in English; so why not start popularizing them?" (I cannot guarantee U my use of m will make m popular—in fact past Ack-sperience suggests the opposite!—but I shall b pleased to plug the proposed pronouns. I simply had not heard of m bfor. Morojo, douting any necessity for such words, says she doesnt like the sounds of m, anyway. In fact, we have been arguing ever this for about an hr—will some people please note who seem to consider me a Svengali with hypnoticentrol over her mind & soul? —Forrest J Ackerman) (I HAVE NO SOUL! —Morojo)

El concludes with his idea of Esperanto---"Kun la plia granda rigardo", wich he will no dout b surprised to learn translates (rather ruffly) "With the greater glance"! Obviously El meant "Kun la plej granda bondeziro"---"With the greatest regards." & now I'll tell one on myself: In my very early days as a student of the Universalanguage I sent A. MERRITT a letter wich I signd "Bestajn Volojn". I meant Best Wishes. I learnd a little later I had sent Beastly Wishes.! J



From the Mgr of the Southern California Film Society, 1455 N Gordon, Hollywood, the man who revived METROPOLIS for the imagi-natives, we heard in response to our reservation for seats to the show: "As a cover-to-cover reader of all the fantasy magazines except 'Strange' (and 'Wierd', now that Conan is gone), I was very happy to hear from you. The 30 tickets for Friday, the 27th (of Apr 39), are enclosed. Barrymore's 'Jekyll-Hyde' can be secured but I'm not too sure of an audience for it. I'll get on the trail of 'The Mysterious Island' and 'The Last Man on Earth', about which I don't have any information. "Siegfried' I think is available although probably a bad print. What do you think about the audience for it? " How about the English picture with Dix--'The Tunnel' (under the English Channel)? ~~ Is your group interested in 'Lost World' or have they seen it too recently? " The serials made by Universal are, I'm afraid, too bad to even consider, and 'Things to Come' has probably been seen by everybody. (4e has been very unlucky in the number of times he's experienced it: 13!) Why don't you get a gang together, write a really good story, raise a few dollars for film, props, etc. and let's make a picture in 16 mm.? I've always had the idea that the trouble with attempts by the commercial companies is that they build a lot of futuristic props but keep the dramatic problem, and the psychological viewpoint strictly in the present. They used to have the villain tie the heroine to the carriage of a buzz saw and the hero gallop to her rescue on a horse. Now the same people make serials -- McCrae at Universal for instance. They have the villain put the heroine in a metal room on Pluto and the hero gallop to her resoue, and a hand-to-hand fight, in a space ship. ~~ I'd like to see a film of the future in which most of the ordinary living conditions will be little different from today but in which the viewpoint will actually be changed. If the characters, for instance, are engaged in some hazardous space exploration, with a 50% average mortality, then let half the cast be killed, and the others take it as casually as was done in the War (the First War) under similar circumstances ...

Very Sincerely, DONALD GLEDHILL"

4 Robert W. Lowndes Doe

Le Vombiteur & one of the ex-clud-eds of the CONVENTION, wrote last Mayday: "Dear VOMbi:- Aftr reading th lovlicus messag relayd to me from Madge (YOM #2, Introduction), how can I tel U th horribl news that soonr or latr must b told? Alas, I sift ashes down my back, pul titer th sackcloth, & bang my head against th wall. For, o grievus day!, with th chang of publishrs of Levy, to tak place with th commencing of Volum 3, my lovly simplified speling must go. Nonstoparafing I hope to retain, but Michel positively refuses to mimeo Levy for me unles I spel orthodoxly, & sinc, othrwis Levy would no mor, as it is impossibl for me to keep going with necto, I must yield. The brief ariod between BC (befor Capitulation) & AD (aftr duress) was a happy 1, wasn't it.

That — cheer thee well — beneath his reactionary clothing, Levy's radicl heart bangs teadily, & by th grace of GnuChu, we shall includ at least 1 item in each forthcoming LPA mailing dedicated to the glorius revolution in spelling!

Now to VOM herself, which delited me no end, I assur U (& not merely becaus of pge. 1.). The green mimes ink is wunderbar, as well as the general layout, but culdn't U even up the righthand edgs. What with 3 months interval between issus, don't U think (my voic fades & becomes hesitantly pleading) U mite do it? (Non-nevaire-mon ami. I shudder every time I see strate edges in a fanmag, sympathizing with the poor ed who put in all that time & trouble to cotain them: & in 3 mos. or 13 we cannot consider evening edges at the expense of consuming much free time already far too 1td. --Forry, speaking for myself & Morcjo)

"Soo we com 2 a fork in th road wher we find, lo!'s swastika upon which sitteth Juffus reading HGWells. & Juffus openth his mouth saying: 'By repeating in his editorial 4 th 2nd Starting Stories the purpos 4 sets suggested by Campbell to the Conference, Jno Taine lent support to that as being the recognized purpos of stf.' Recognized by whom. Juffus? By a group of editors, authors, & publishers who stand to make the most money by toning down or obliterating if possible any & all revolutionary elements in the fanfield. Further words of wisdom from Juffus: 'It is foolish to believ that we call say what stf shuld be! Y? Certainly not so foolish as to leave it up to mercenaries who really interested in lining their pockts. Moreover, who, yes who has a better right to define &decid what stf shuld be than those who, in an order wher only that which is profitable is tolerated? It is foolish, I grant U, to believ, even remotely, that the editors & publishers will pay any heed to what the fans want (unless it just so happens that they can make money that way) but that has no bearing on the question of fans determing basic definitions 4 what stf shuld b..."

Ma Av. W Haven Ct wrote the day Pais Kisha famous "fan-a-mag" reviewer of 170 after "Doc" (above): "Dearest "OM: "--" Not unexpectedly, the latest VOM together with the also expected Mikros ardived to delight me. The reason for my not being surprised is not because I'm sikik, heh-heh), but because a little birdy in the person or persons of Dick Wilson, John sichel, and Don Wollheim told me. Yup-they came, saw West Haven, and left for parts Canadian after a delightful hour or so in which we journeyed to the spot where Juffus amputated that well-known telefone pole from the 'Earth's sweet flowing breast'. (I think that's from 'Trees', but I'm not sure). We promptly enshrined the spot, butenuf of prittle-prattle. On to the business of the day! Technocracy, as a form of government and economy sounds most interesting. Methinx I'll go up to the New Haven library and drag down a few musty books on this subject. I'll even read them. Would T. Bruce kindly mention a few of the outstanding books on this subject in a card or letter? I'm really interested. ~ Say, is or is not VOM a regular pub? (A highly irregular pub. some folks say! But, yes. seriously to ansr your question, we intend to keep the Voice coming quarterly.) Wonder what that 1¢ manuscript is about. Must be 'somepin'. Do you know if R.H.Harshall of Hamden is a sffan? If so, I'll try to get in touch with him. (We think he's a she--& not a "Stephan" nor a "Stephanie"!) It's amezing, isn't it, how an accident can produce a nickname as instanced by Juffus alics fanopale. Everyone now refers to him by fp. And, to avoid or rather to crush rumors arising from fp's statement about a yankee thief and his ripetiper, my machine is a remington. Sum fun! Was interested to note Carnell's use of Telegraph Post'as a nickname for Speer. The 'Voice' being a sort of forum, I wonder whether anyone would object to a strong denunciation of Amazing Stories and Fantastic Adventures. Well, anyway, they're both 'stinky'! They're even worse if possible. Ch, well—away with such morbid thats. (We can think of 3 persons officed who would object to a denunciation of AmS & FA, yes: Ziff, Davis & Rap!) Hope the next VOM comes out promptly. Yours for FooFoo, For FooFoo Is Our Saviour!"

DICK VILSON, editor of Escape, now of Futuring House, 585E4, Bklyn NY, found no escape from the viles of "Madge" as he burnd up the miles-hore, we'll let him tell U about it: "Dear Vollbi: For two weeks I'd been carrying Hadge's larynx about God's Country in the bottom of my suitease, intending to take time off from roaring modly down the highways, wearing out part after part of the Plymouth (did the Plymouth Rock?), to write you-all a long letter. Unfortunctoly, those fans we visited who had typewriters kept them well hidden -- or dragged them forth and made us dash off pages of stf-stuff for their magazines (Hi, Zombie!) -and those who hadn't wouldn't lend them to us. So, have at you, now! "The invoice business on page one is veddy clever, tho I can't approve -- as you do -- of D. Lowndes' massacres. <u>Je ne suis pas enchanté, Robaire, mon vieux: j'ai mal à la tête. Oui.</u> Yeah. (The gist of it is that Doc's debauchery of Euessaic made Dick sick in his haid.) Rude Hemken was so fortunate as to be elsewhere when we (you know: Daw, The ichelist & I) phoned her in Chicago. We left a note in her door, therefore, saying could she meet us tomorrow, but she promptly fled to hichigan -- or whatever it was her mother told us via Ar Bell. Arrived in Indianapolis on the very day C. L. Moore was leaving for points west (I believe), so we decided not to snarl up her schedule by calling on her. In Wm/DC we met Speer, Rothman & Bristol (who is not a Fuller Brush Non, but on ex-trapeze artist, b.i.o.n.). Hight as well list those whom we enchanted or scared the devil out of: (chronologically) Doc Loundes, Louis & Goldfish Kuslan, hr & Mrs Swisher, a 2d-hand-book-store-owner: friend of P. Schuyler Miller, in Schenectedy, Larry Farsaci, Bernard Seufert, Richard I. Mayer, Bill Hamling, Hoy H. P. Tucker, Sully Roberds, Wally Marcanette, Mary G. Byers, Speer, R & B (who'd play the calliope if he could find one) and all the Philly Pholk. We have a picture of The Phonepole, by gad! Ah, yes. That 12-issue sub to Nell will have to be changed to a year's ditto to Escape--you know, in that dormant? contest of yours... I must beg you to excuse my non-appearance at your 'Ghost Goes West' revival--my time-machine in the garage, you know (old wheeze) a new fan, Sam Moskowitz ... ! Look out for bombs."

(nufsed): "How du u du uhgen --- At this late date between yawns we aknolej receet of the April Vom and pause to give comment and such, and mightbe give you some possibl material for the coming 1/4ly. "Zo! I am a writer of a 'fasci- nauseating fashm'!!!!! It's a 6-bit word - wish I cud thank you properly. Azza mattah uv fack, youse is 2 complimentry 2 me on pg 2 of the ishu. "Congrats to Dick Wilson passing out a dandy chuckle in his nutty note, wherein he xoresses the joy of Madge's prosence -- reincarnation -- or which. And how nice 'twould be to have a publ. that would grow a gro a gro -- wouldn't it be the nicest ever?!! (gurgle gurgle) "(P.S.--Is my subscription money running out yet---or do you want more anyhow?) (O lady, what queer questions U ask!) "Just got Bradbury's Fufa with the note that I got a whole nickel's wuth comin' yet -- well, ye'll hafta wait until next payday afore I can send you more-- "Nope -- it's just too impohseeblay -- beyond a doot -- me mind can grasp only the seemplost - lafter reading, for the past mateen months on Michelism & Communism & Lovadesism and 'ists and alogies & anomies' (apologies to 4sj) - I still dunt nuh frum nyottin'! M I sposter? "Thank to Hyarnerjr for the aknolejment -- guess I'll take Madge's hint and crown the young feller--or

throw him in a wactum (vacuum 2 u) or sompin -- or dye s'pose he noze by now I prefers not to hear or see the abbroviation Gerty??!!!! ~~ Deah Decah --- doos most or ryono who reads Vom, and the like, edit or sompin' a magazine? I feel quite unimportant--shall I pout? (By all means: Look what it did for Simore Simon!) ~ They -- Perdue shaid nothing of the 'v' key on hish typer being on shick leave - yet he ritesh 'opher'---(okay--I'm waiting for a pun on that 'un.) (ne more purs til U pay for the last we gave U: U still "opher" them!) uh uh uh-shob-saniff-shruff- I warna hee sh'more o' Pedue'sh letter! When'sha nexhet ishew?-- Don't keep me in shushpendarsh 2 long -- ~ On second that - mobbe I'll enclothes a cuppla sense - just 2 play safe and not miss #3 of vom. ~ Wish I cud be in Nyawk wid use falx over the 4th --- ut it just can't be did. Hape to meet some of the Eastern peepuls on my trip in to Ty in October - which is, as yet, only in the first stages of developent. ~ Yours in Maje Nashun----"

"Dear Folks: Sorroy Pauly to hear of 'Madges' demise, but, am equally glad to hear you 'West Coasters' are still contributing your share to dear old stf. "Heres a dime for the second ish o''Voice of Imagination' and, of course, the nickel is for 'Mikros.' Sorry I wasn't able to get the first ish, of the former but for some reason I neglected to write in. I would extend my sub to a longer duration, that is, for VOM but it would probably feld up like 'Madge' or 'Fantasy,' so will send in for each issue as it appears. "Well, without further adicu, I bidyou addiou."

father of Fantast, "244 desborough road, eastleigh, hants, england", transAtlanticly typt in blu: "thanks for the ellay esseffell pubs... the pretty little piece about technocracy is unconvincing (T. Bruce Yerke's "Science Fiction's Chance to Live!" in "Mike" #5), and becomes all the more so by adopting - if only for the purposes of illustration - a monetary standard, but that 4-hour, 4-day wook is intriguing - definitely! lead me to it, and ill guarantee a fantast once a fortnight. " dont really remember much of the others, and as i lent them to johnny burke at the convention on sunday (en passant - lousy) i cant look them up. but VOM is good, and will be until correspondents run out of things to talk about. and as you ban michelism (?) (who said so?) that should happen fairly shortly. " Ackerman has me guessing about his new fan-mag. is it FANS or FANS - SEE THAT! (Its title is FANCY!) in any case it already sounds utterly ridiculous which is, of course, a good sign. " best wishes from Fay to Madge. " Tantasneerly, " P.S. Scuze typing. Trying to listen to 'Il Trovatore' while typing."

newly active fan of 1909 Salzer St. Chas. City.

Ia, has zis to say: "Please send me another copy of 'Scientifaction' and a copy of 'Voice of Imagination.'You can thank 4SJ for this. He initiated me into the mysteries of what he calls 'Mikros' the I can't find that name on the pub at all. "Sciencerely"

603S11, Newark NJ, newly active fan (get out the rubber stamp, J), has zis to say: (Bfor the Nyaon) "My mail box has contained, almost daily some item from some member of the Les Angele's SFL. I want you to know that this generous attitude towards the convention is really appreciated. It sets a good example for others, as factors have already proven. How do Ackerman and Morojo expect the run-of-the mill fan to recognize them at the convention? There will be a mob on the upward's of 500, 60% of whome don't even know that there is such a guy as Ackerman. Our door arrangement will include the passing out of lips of card-board, on which the prominent celebrities (I can hear those vest button's poppin' way out here) Can boldly print their name and podigree, which may help"

juffus" - no accompanying adres: "Gentlemon & Gels-- Since I'll probably have seen your leading lights ere you get this, I'll skip the pleasantries, apologies

re Bristol, etc., which'll already've been delivered in person, at the Big Event, and confine myself to the contents of the VOM published Oh so long ago and dated Apr39. We would explain at this juncture that thru some mixup in the space-time continuum we ha not see Jack Speer's lotter until after we had return from the Convention & consequently were not awars when we met him that he was "Ino Bristol" who so beautifully took us some mos. ago into believing he was a branker fam.) ~ In the first place it's criminal to let anyone take up as much space as I did. (When a D.A. dictates to his Sec'y is that what's known as "the letter of the law"? \ Note in passing: Dick The W desires that VOM go quarterly, to monthly, then bi-monthly, etc. ? (This is lorething we r forever running into. Some readers just never seem to learn the dif potween the prefixes bi- & semi-. They ask for a bi-monthly when they mean they want it trice a mo,; in wich case they shoud say bi-wkly. Semi-monthly would mean the same thing but semi-waly is evry 3-1/2 days! Bi means twice & semi means half. Here is a Little riddle wich, if U can remember it, may help to impress the meanings on your mind, any of U who confuse the terms: "Y is bi-times-one like a train-signaling apparatus?" "Because both r a sems hore (semi-four!;") ~~ Mr Lowndes has a high opinion of his 'Better Case Against Licholism'. It points out, says he, with utmost frankness the real weaknesses and mistakes of the Michelists, etcetc. Smatter fact, the article in question is very typical of Leftist self-criticism (the only kind they have in Russia), in which the writer picks out a minute miscalculation here and there, unimportant things like using words that were misunderstood, of not dreaming to what depths of infamy the opposition would go, but never questioning the ideology's basic roctitude -- and then stands aside and smiles. 'See there? I've criticized myself. Now ab one else need do so.' T disclaim any responsibility for the misunderstandings re the meaning of the term Michelism (Iwonder if they were misunderstandings), since didn't enter the fray till late spring of 1938, nearly six months after the movement and been launched. A check-back will show that for the first few months after the Convention (in Philadelphia), the anti-Michelists said almost nothing, the Michelists loing all the talking. If they couldn't make themselves clear in that time, if they book the rope and hanged themselves, I'm not taking an extra two months in Purgatory for it. "The Michelist program is as hard to corner as quicksilver. Lownles disowns anything Michel says that doesn't jibe with his ideas of what Michelism should bo, Wollhoim disowns Pohl's, Michel's, and his own earlier statements re Communism and me Michelism, and so it goes. It's a nice trick if you can get away with it. One of the bunch puts forward something, and if it gets punctured, the others chorus, 'Oh, ab, that wasn't Michelism'. The answer to Harry Warner-the tendency now is to drop one of the formerly doubled consonants in derivatives (canceled, buses), so 'stylusing' is probably permissible. ~~ Have already writ TubbYerke re Mikros. Name for the little smidgets is excellent. " Haven't received this quarter's VOM yet, but this is probably too late for it. You may be hearing from me again soon. ~ Comme les Japonais diraient en français, 'Puisqu'il faut être'. (Your deutsch must b a dialoct: We can't read a word of it!)

A fine old fan, but young (funny thing about this fantasy field, one can ba "vet" or "make a come-

back" & yet b only in hiser's early 20s), who commutes tween Idaho & Calif, wrote from Payette bfor returning to Pasadona: "I received my package of convention magazines this morning, and being stuck here for the day with nothing in particular to do, decided I would write you a long and rambling letter about them and anything clse that appears to come to mind... "How to do it? Well, perhaps I should take each one and look it over briefly. The 'Official Souvenir Journal' is certainly the best looking of the lot (with possible exception of Forry's Metropolis (have an apple, teacher?)) and is a very nice job. I was rather surprised at the shortness of the list of ceientifictionists—and what a terrific percentage of them are Angelenos! What's the

aul treehole

matter with the Eastern fans? Lots of names there I know, and many more I don't know. I note the name of Emrys Evans there, and I saw a letter from him in the last A Astra. As you may know, he lives in southern Idaho, some thirty miles south of Brise and about a hundred from hore. He was in the College of Idaho when I was thore during the three months in my first year before I was forced to drop out because of illness.) I didn't know nim except by sight, and I certainly had no idea he read science fiction, let alone being interested in it from a fan angle. I expect to Write him a letter soon and see if he wishes to correspond. Brief comments: How come A. Merritt said such a thing? ("ALL LUCK TO THE SCIENCE FICTION FARS -- WHETHER HEY LIKE KE OR NOT") He is about the least criticized of fantasy authors -- or so I chought. Astounding and Thrilling Vonder sure put out the swell advertisements, didn't they? Paul's cut is good-and do the list of program activities sound swell! Darn it, I'd sure liked to have met all the fellows there. Oh, well, the introduction holds out hopes for other conventions in the future. ~~ Advertisement of New Fandom reminds me that I'm getting mighty irked With Moskowitz... ~ Only news I have had of the convention so far was the article in Time. That was an interesting if slightly snooty write-up, but my family will jeer 'jitterbug' at me every time they see me with a s-f magazine from now on. Foo! "Convention issue of Le Zombie was extremely interesting as are all Tucker publications. 'Some pun, eh kid???' And how! SFAbattoir not quite so good. The Fantasy Collector struck me as being one of the most valuable things put out. Farsaci knows his stuff... The addition to Hodgkins' List is good, but I could still add one or two. Incidentally, I wonder to Whom Farley was referring in his article in the Anniversary Fantasy-Fan? ("Do Editors Know What The Fans Want?") ~~ We Have a Rendezvous! was good, though rather . old stuff after all the lectures, etc., at the LASFL. I hope that some of the heat over the subject has died down when I return next fall. Right now I wish to place myself on record as being behind Technocracy in spirit, though not actively just yet, and agreeing with most major premises though disagreeing with some minor ones. I hope the fellows will respect my attitude in the matter and keep beace among us. I've rather tried to do this all along, for instance: I don't altogether like extreme Ackermaneso, but except just at first I've remained neutral. I think socialism is all right, but dislike its mixture with s-f, but I have nevertheless stayed out of most of the Michelism argument. I have some religious beliefs (veryunorthodox and scanty as compared with most religionuts, but there none-the-less) but I've refused to start any argument. So-o-o, I hope Technogramy won't prove an exception to the rule. (We have been sitting here for hrs trying to evolve some proper reply wich would also allow us the opportunity to utilize a lith pun we just devised concerning the Monad Men getting U behind the Techne Ball but all we can say is "Stick to Epperanto, Paul, for no exceptions to any rules!") Van Houten's sheet is very sketchy to say the least. 'The Grab Bag and Fanta Verse are interesting but somewhat messily hectographed. Incidentally I was extremely surprised to see my poem in the latter. Maybe somebody thinks it's better than I do. Reprint of one by my old friend, Duane Rimel, in there too. The Fantasy News included was about as usual, certainly not anywhere near the standard of the Anniversary issue. That was a really good fan-mag, with the possible exception of Moskowitz' very boastful article. That picture by Paul is terrific! ~~ Escape was good though slightly nuts in spots. Perhaps slightly is the wrong word. Perhaps perhaps is the wrong word. ~~ Which leaves just the political documents ... A Warning! seems to be a statement that something dictatorial is going to happen and In your Teeth a statement that it did happen. Maybe the W group were as peaceful in their intentions as Leslie Perri intimates -- and maybe they weren't. Rumour indicated heckling (and how) was to come. What's the answer? (Our ansr, pg 1) ~~ Aow to finish up on Speer's epic book. It was especially interesting to me since I had dropped out of all fan activity about the end of the period designated by him as the First Fandom, and it was in the later period he goes into detail... The book helps me understand wollheim a little better. I got turned against Wollheim from the very first. I was a subscriber and

supporter of Clark's Brooklyn Reporter from the very first, and when the Wollheim-Clark feud came about I got only Clark's viewpoint and consequently was 'agin' Wollheim from then on. Speer doesn't devote enough space to the various Wollheim feuds myway—they were usually the definite shifting points in fandom and in all cases were important. There was the Wollheim-Clark, the Wollheim-Ackerman (to a certain extent, anyway), the Wollheim-Schwartz, the Wollheim-Sykora, the Wollheim-Moskovitz, and maybe a few others. Well, anyway, there were two sides to all of them (uh-huh). Probably Speer is biased in his own way... Well, I guess maybe that's enough at that. I could babble on for hours yet, but it would only try your patience, and I do have a few things I should get done today. Pardon the typing errors, my frands—I haven't been trying to be neat or coherent or anything else. So, gis la reskri-

Fran Litz father of "Sofie", "Ray" & "Annio", 703 Brown St, Rochester NY, is a Martian! He writes of the "Ellay Esseffell" Pubs: "...if you call those sheets of mimeo'd paper, fan-mags, then I'm a Martian!..."

sounds like that 'Welles' stuff couldnt fool me again yet when I heard that two Martians were doming to visit me, I hastily vacated my apartment. Seriously tho' I would have shot myself when my sister-in-law told me that a group of Stf fans from way out west had dropped in on me. Out of 365 days in the year I had to pick that might to go to the movies... My wife made me miss the first Orson Wells broadcast by making me turn the dials to charlie Mccarthy and by making me take her to the movies that right(not that I was reluctant to go)I missed the chance to talk things over...

MOPTO - A Science Fiction fan shouldnt get married." (Hm. how do U think Mrs Unger'd like that Motto? In fact, maybe we shoud send her a markt copy... Huh? Whatzat U way? U're sending autograft set of Merritt first-edits. our way, gratis? Well...on appsed to the charge." (We'll send Mrs Unger 2 markt copys! --Joe King)

in Unknown writes

he complimented the

compositors of The Hyborian Age

on the excellence of their mimeding, declaring it "a pleasure to inspect", & ofcourse

that very letter we-who were the persons being praised--made one of the messiest

cistakes in the whole ish: Here's crossing our fingers & hoping for better luck this

time)

(Hasty explanation: Pardon the blank line--we found we coudnt typ with our fingers crost...) To continuo: "I believe I told you how much I admired the mimos-graphed Hyborian Ago. both for its contents and its format. I hope things are going well with you, and that other publishing ventures will be undertaken. For the present I stay in Chicago... My father, as you may know, is working in 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame.' I suppose fantasy fans are wondering whether Laughton's performance will come up to Chaney's in matter of horror and grotesqueness. I am hoping that the effort to publish Lovecraft's works will be successful! It surely deserves the support of everyone."

"TRUDY" twice: "Dear...Pcepuls-- At long last, eventually, ontlich, und so weiter, I come to write. With all the things that have been buzzin' 'round my cranium since meeting FJA and Morojo, it's wondering I am if I can remember wot's all to be said. "Fustest, it's been rumored that the Blackhawk Grill here is chaining the napkins to the ceiling -- too many in the past month have turned up missing. "It seems the Katheryn Kirchner I know doesn't know Forry. Sew mutch 4 that. "And I enjoyed my visit with your Californians - even tho we did seem talked out at the end. That Morojo arfly cute &...Forrio (sigh-sigh-sigh!) so-oo-'an'some! (I hope you read this 2 the hull outfit - aloud!) (It shoudht b aloud! J)

Incidentally, Forry's collection of pix from stf movies & such is quite enviable. Betcha R'Yawk liked it. ~~ So the old brain got to turning over re an Esperanto name, which was being discussed in the Amazing Office, 4 me. The suggestion of Toho was fearse -- ahem! when the gray matter did a flap-doodle, here's what was on top:-- the cry of the Valkyries - 'Yo to ho to ho'--- so you think up the Esperanto word for Die Walkür - & let's have fun. (It's devilish, it's devastating, it's--Divolkur! Fither that or Valkajroj. Phun?) ~~ Enclosing 25¢ in 1 coin--wrapt in green paper, wich I hope you find and wich will give me two bits' more worth of pubs. Nicht wahr? Yours Trudy" (!)

JACK CHAPMAN MISKE, 5000 Train Ave, Cleveland 0, comments on his encounter with a couple Californians: "... What a shrimp Morojo is! I knew Ackerman the moment I spied him. It was the gleam in his eye. Scienco-fiction fan, I says! And of course you were the only fan hanging around there at seven in the morning. believe I promised to tell...of my trials and tribulations? Well, I got their letter ...about twolve hours after they mailed it. The NYContral trains come in at two depots, so I had to call up to find out which one they would arrive at. In so doing, I found their train was scheduled for 6:25 A.M., not 6:46, as their card said. Wal, like a sucker I forgot that transportation is much quicker in the morning, for there isn't any traffic to speak of, so I left about fifteen minutes too early. Then, too, I thought perhaps their train would be early, so I decided to arrive half an hour early. That made a 45 minute wait. I arose at 4:30 A.H. (!) and got downtown at the ghastly hour of 5:20, where I'd figured on 5:45. I strolled in jauntily, however, still composed, and looked at the board to find what track they were on. Nineteen, it says, and I started to walk over to it. Then I saw something else. Under 'Remarks' they were listed as twenty minutes late. Out of three dozen trains, theirs was the only tardy one!! Well, I shrugged that off philosophically. 'Kismet,' I said, and began wandering around, careful not to stray too far away in case something unexpected happened. About fifteen minutes later I wandered by the board again. Casually I glanced at it, and I very nearly casually fell over. 'Thirty-five minutes late,' it read. 'I can be pushed too far,' I murmured softly yet savagely. And I resumed my vigil. Ten minutes later the board was changed once more. They were then forty minutes late. The train was ultimately fifty-five minutes late, though the board was not changed after that. In case your mind isn't working at the moment you read this, that means they came in between 7:10 and 7:20 A.M.!!! I had waited about two hours!" (& he lives on Train

author of "The Astral Adventures of Peter Paine" &c from 14 Cotswold St. Kensington. Liverpool 7. Eng., advertised that he wanted ar American girlfriend & we sent him Madge. That is, some back issues of Madge. Not that Madge ever was a back number. He replyd: "Many thank for your kindness in sending Madge... For myself—the features I always liked best in Madge were the outrageous Akrmnez and said Akrmz goody typer. Also the dynamic atmosphere of the mag. Tried to interdoos Akrmnez into this country, but was promptly sat upon. My applogies for the delay in this acknowledgement, (or should I say - Ackermanowledgement). Have been hectically hectografing & filandring alternately every nyt for the past month. Have been elected a member of the V.B.I.T. (The Very Busy Individual Tribe). Fantasciencerely a tu,"

THOS HINMON returns to say: "I sure would like to have 'Metropolis' No. 2 if and when it appears. I liked'in your Teeth, Gentlemen' very much and om in sympathy with what she says. If Metropolis No. 2 doesn't come out, please apply the dime I'm enclosing on V.O.M. (It's applyd! Only 2 of U order! the non-existent #2, & U were pals who didnt see the pic. No material whatsoever forthcoming from the 200 at the Nycon. Maybe they all slept thru the showing. For showing your interest, I am going to give U, Thos Hinton, the First Prize of SFD #7--free; & Louis Gelistone, San Francisco, the Scientifilm number of FANTASY, she is yours. FJA) 'Chicago In 1940!' Sciencerly, 'Tomasco' Hinton. P.S. I like the above (Esperants) version better...because it sounds like 'Tobas-

30' which is something hot." (Sufice bone by us. xcopt "c" has a special sound of ts in the synthesized speech so U shoud write it "Tomasko" if U wanna b saucy about it!)

NEW YORK STATE FAN whose name we feel we should best leave anonymous, since we met im at the Nycon & should like to see him alive at the Chicon, says: "I guess now's the time to tell you semething I've wanted to for months. Time after time, when two waded thru the 'blood 'n thunder' of T.W.S with disgust, it's like arriving at a sool, green easis after the hot dusty desert to be able to read the report of the Los angeles Stf. League. This wide-awake group of fans makes the New York bunch look like bunch of naive wrangling schoolboys. Keep up the Good Work, Sciencerely," (Bruce, Fir Secy. take a bow! Ellay Esseffell) (Sorry we can't reproduce your signature, crend, but drop us another letter for the next issue, not so surcharged with ideas inviting sudden death.)

Obliging EVERETT F BLEILER of 58 Round Hill St, Jamaica Plain Mass: "A fow hours ago I was rereading my files of Madge when I noticed a question about Ewers's Alraune which you answered. It was in Phantastiquestions, Several weeks ago I managod to obtain a copy of the book in question, and, so, am able to correct your answor. Alrauno is the story of Alraune Ton Brinken (no Mandragora in it), the product of the artificial insomination of Berlin's lowest prostitute with the seed of Gormany's most vicious criminal. From her rogue father she receives a callous, cold, heartless, cruel, ruthless disposition; and from her mother she receives carnality, sensuality, and a fascinating glamour. She is not very beautiful, but her glamour causes all mon to become enamoured of her, even her foster-father. Her cruelty causes the death of all men connected with her. Finally, she falls in love with the man who suggested her creation, and dies herself. Alraume is not science fiction. The on-Ly scientific element in the entire story is artificial insemination, which is an every day matter. Neither is it weird, except in treatment. It is merely an eretic, ~~ As you probably know, tho written in the modern, naturalistic Hemingway manner, English edition was translated by Guy Endore, author of The Worewolf of Paris. Man From Limbo. (Endoro was seen at a recent Tochnocracy mosting by Bruce Yorko.) Tho English edition has an exceedingly poisonous-looking binding upon which are red mandrakes. Thope you are interested in this info." (Well, indeed we r interested in your info! & so shoud Baker b--it was he who originly askt this q, way back in '37 in our 2d issue. My ansr was based on what litl I nue of the movies, wich pix, incilently, both silent a talkie versions, I had the pleasure of discussing during the Paul Dinnor with Willy Loy, authority on deutsch fantascience films, & it seems the screen versions were more imaginative than the bk.)

Australia, comes flouncing into our pgs with "I have hit the long, lo-o-ng Trail.Cabell, Dos Passos, & other good writers have seduced little Chickadee from the rural throng(or should I say'herd'?) (Pertinent datum: Roberts is only 14 yrs old, we believe.) Di-syllabically-I have coased reading the unblushing, Shameless, ghastly, setting-a-new-low, unadulterated, dear-at-a-dime trash, that I have enjoyed quite more than somewhat the last few years. So we part. I with a few pleasant reminiscences & no regrets, do hereby serve an injunction on science-fiction Friend, you've overstayed your welcome, despite Stuart, McClary, Weinbaum, Lovecraft, Taine & Manning; I formally present you with the Order of the Boot. As we say in the expressive German tengue, Scram, buddy! (Intrested? We shall conclude these caustic omments in our next. Don't miss m:)

Ronouncing & donouncing Stf.

diction," he postcards, "back in the second lesue of THE TIME TRAVELLER, that a big war would start in 1936? (Aye; so well that we risk to quote from memry: "Boware of 1936...the world will then be in a fix...the Devil will be at his tricks...Boware of 1936!") "Well, it seems I was absolutely right -- except that I happened to get the last digit upside down! "Cordially,"

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