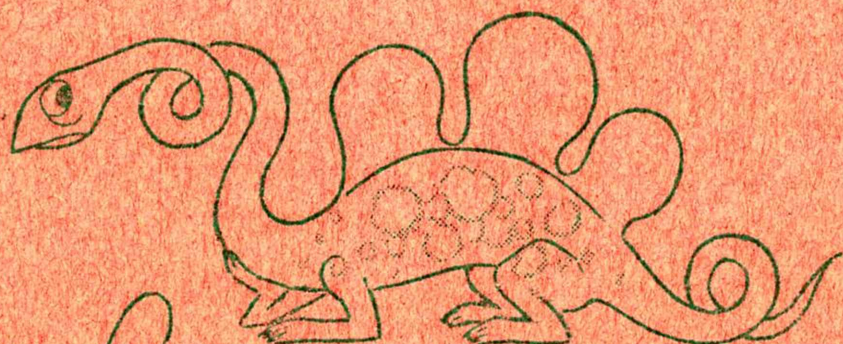


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Voice of the IMAGI-NATION



Rubberneck-

A NOVACIOUS PUBLICATION

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MEDITORIAL
(FJA & Morajo)

We lookt over a quarter hundred letters a couple wks ago, wonderd how we ever coud compress 'em into the 8 or 10 allotted stencils. Each sheet really's packing a lotta wordage, this ish, as we've omitted most the signatures & crowded on 2 lins more per pg. Incidentally, VCM isn't running letters in order rcvd, any longer (didnt last issue); may explain why not, if anyone intrested, at later date; no tym ryt now. With the increasing volume of mail we are having to cut more & more from correspondence--but never to mislead re a meaning nor censor an uncompliment. ~ 20% of our fans sent letters sei up for even edges! We do not wish to offend such friends but request them to refrain for these reasons: It makes it impossible for us to cut anything out (hm, maybe they aint so dumb after all!), while sticking to our sic styl of presentation; at the same tym makes it impossible for us to insert any parenthetical puns (they positively aint dumb!), explanations &c. Eny-hoo, yuh get th' pernt, pals? Also, Lou Chauvenet sent a rettel tpyt drawcab (see your nearest Lookingglass) & Wilson warnd of a Thing to Come from the East Pohl carved in stone--or in lemon juice (tho we don't see how anyone coud carve anything in lemon juice)...& wyl we shoud lyk to accept these challenges to our resourcefulness in reproduction, we either can: take up all our tym & give U about a 2 pg puzzle publication...or carry on without too much trikstuf. We figure The Voice probly is puzzling enuf as it is! ~ Thanx to Walt Daugherty for stenciling Art Widner's "Little Devil from Down Under" on our back cover. ~ & in conclusion we say: Help Us Be Difrent... Help Us Be. Help Us. Help! Help Us; Be--Difrent!! Send in your sub & tell your enemys about our pub: They will thank U & become your friends! Maybe.

Erle Korshak

- who is more than "Just-a-Mere (Stf.) Fan", as his stick-
er proclaims him; is, in fact, publisher of the free
Scientifantasy Pricelist, whose first issue was rcvd
with the popularity of a proper fanmag, rites from the
"Windy City" (its fans create the breeze, no doubt):

"The last issue of VCM is sitting here beside me and urging me to write you a letter giving my comments on the comments so well expressed in the April number. ~ The letters you print have been getting steadily better, especially in fan interest. Your foremat is always neat, your covers refreshing to the eye, and now your Lithograph insert. Will wonders never cease ?? The litho insert was appropriate and was glad to read that exceptional Rothman article. Also liked the Bok illustration you lithographed. However the other doodelings on the litho page were nothing short of puzzling to me...maybe I'm not intelegent enough to get the significiance of some of that silly mixed-up nonesence above the Bok drawing. (Phi on Pohl?) ~ I was glad to see some of the criticisms the ChicaGAL-fan, Trudy, gives us. Her contribution sure hit the spot to my way of thinking. An outstanding example of her criticism can be seen in the letter of Alan P. Roberts. It says in VOM that he is 14 year old ex-fan, Hell says I (U shoudnt say hell, Erle; it sounds like the devil. But Without Horns, who gives a hoot? None But Lucifer--unless it be the Erle of Hell!), he sure started off young. Perhaps his youth is what makes him so fresh. Sorta newly hatched like. An enigma to me is the references he makes to Reinsberg and Kipling. Hell (Heavens, that word again, Erle!), thats the first time anybody ever placed Reinsberg and Kipling in the same catagory!! (& if we were Mark we'd resent it. Hell, who-
ever heard of Kipling? What fanmag does he edit?) ~ Now I can turn the page (with thankfullness) from young Master Robert's Letter, or should I say text book thesis the contents of which tell fandom as a whole that they are a bunch of psychopathic cases. My candid comment is thank God he is an EX-fan. ~ Gee I'm in a good mood after that Roberts letter...I can even read Miske's letters. ~ The letters of Messrs. Lowndes and Gilbert were gratifying. Here I see fair play brought

to light. This should serve as an example for the use of discretion in fandom in the future amongst those who are not sure of their facts. And finally in reference to the part of Tom Himmon's letter in which Tom feels bad because he wanted to come to the 1940 convention as a character he was going to come as, namely Kimball Kinneson. Here is my suggestion, let fandom take notice... Let anyone come as they want to come. Why should we have a list of those who want to dress one way and then let those persons have a monopoly on that character??? That's foolish.. In the first place some guy may want to come as a certain fantasy character and reserve that character for himself. Then he may not get to the convention and a guy who wanted that character will not be able to have him. Further for purposes of competition and to be able to judge the merits of a costume let every one come as they want to. If two fans come as Dracula we can see who had the best imagination and looks most like the character they represent. (Xlnt idea)

KNIGHT's conception of himself, as he parts
Voice. Damon hails from Hood River Ore
where he publishes Snide, the "Thud & Blunder"
at 10c). Sez: "Hi VOM, Enclosed is a little
(We are dooly grateful)

April VOM received, & contents noted. . .
That's what I said last time, only you had "Apr foo" in microscopic type way down at the bottom of the contents page. Gr. By all means continue the contents page. Adds no end of zest, & so forth. I second the notion of 4c as Kim at the Chicon. Me, I shall have to come as The Little Man Who Wasnt There unless I can find some kind-hearted western fan with an extra seat in his car. I'm gratified to note that Himmon likes my fanagency idea. Roberts gives me an inferiority complex. I'd accuse him of writing with dictionary at elbow, but have an uneasy feeling it isn't so. Chee, when I think of what I was like at 14! I say, if you don't mind telling, just what does 4c do at the AMPAS? ("Sup't in Charge of Variotyping, H'wood Rep. of Players Directory"—1940 Census info.) And while I'm at it, what does 6475 signify? (Omgawd — pencils Damon — I just looked at the address on this envelope. Don't mind this.) — Which reminds me, I was horrified the other day to find a letter from "Public Fan #1" in SF — in English! Howcme, are you slipping, or did Charlie translate it? (That lettr was composed on a standard typewriter that rote only orthodox English.) — Everybody else seems to be shelling out more or less generously, while VOM keeps coming to me uninvited. Hence, I shall do the Right Thing."

From New York's glamoradical, the Red PERRI, of 260 St Jn's Pl, Bklyn: "i have a lot of curiosity where the los angeles fans are concerned because they seem to be just as mad, as gloriously insane as we futurians. it perks up my flagging faith in humanity something wonderful, to know that we can always move in on the separating continent and infect it with the same brand of lunacy. i want to congratulate the west coast on having produced a certain Mr. hannes bok. (& to Bradbury belongs the credit of drawing professional attention to him.) mr. bok, is according to what i have seen of science fiction and fantasy artwork, one notch removed from the top. besides being an entirely charming person, he has a very unmistakable talent which will take him places. it is my opinion, but definitely. we futurians, myself definitely included, are all of an agog over the chicon. we view approaching (although still somewhat remote) september with much finger nail biting and all other signs of suspense. costumes are being thoroughly discussed as well as wonderful plans for downright fun. we intend to enjoy ourselves thoroughly and bring along lots of film for active camera work. fans in costume! what a field for candid cameraology! incidentally, i am about to start a column in science fiction weekly on the convention and all contributions thereto will be gratefully accepted. i thought it might be fun to have fans suggest possible costumes for other fans, outline possible jamborees and outings, reveal the deep dark secret of how they are coming (in what manner, as what, for what and to what end) and i meant all contributions!" (We shoud lyk to see U come as the maskt Goetterdaemmerung Brundage Beauty on the cover of Weird, 38 May!)

BOK, NYC:

"Thanx ever s'much for your new Imajjie. Imagine my surprise and embarrassment to

see my card in print, plus dooplicates! If I'd KNOWN, I'd'a made sumpin special. The reprint from Milt's Mag was peechy, give him six hoorays from me. Your spelling is infectious. I'd better be careful or I'll be dcing it soon. Truly,

Beverly Browne

- another Forry-made fan, recruited from the Academy of Sciences (Motion Picture Arts &), adreses her first letter to the

LOO H B

VOICE: "Dear VOM Brief association with one 4sJ has lead to this letter. One can't help becoming interested in in scientifiction when you stop to think that the fantastic of today may be the common every day knowledge of tomorrow, and it's exciting to try to go at least half a step ahead to meet it. The magazine is great. I can imagine the fun they had preparing the table of contents. The editorial was very clever, only wish since both 4s and Morajo are such talented writers, and must know so many fascinating new things all the time that they would write either a longer editorial or an article each beside the editorial. All the letters in the Apr 6 issue gave me an interesting peek into an amazing field of thought. Wonder if anyone anywhere would like to correspond with a sincere new scientifiction fan? (Bev's adres: 6689 Yucca St, H'wood, Cal.) Attached is a little help to keep the publication rolling. (Merely a dollar bill! Anybody else wanna lend a li'l similar help?) Was able to read your unusual spelling without difficulty but as yet haven't mastered writing it. Shall conscientiously practice tho." (Thanku, Bev'y; U r a gentlewoman & a scholar. -4e)

LEONARD GIPSON, Sta Anna Tex: "Quite a neat rag! Clever eh! I dropt out of stf for awhile but with the arrival of a check from Ziff-Davis buying my manuscript 'Sports in the Year 2000 A.D' I am back again with great gusto in the fourth dimension, space travel, technocracy, extra-sensory perception, and all things vital to stf. I hope my stf sports article appears in an early issue and the fellows don't climb on my neck too much for some of the controversial stuff that is in my opus. Now that I have made a sale, my fingers will fly over the typewriter keys with the speed of the African deer bot fly. Once I get settled I will subscribe to a flock of fanmags, among them being VOM. You LA boys seem to be about the hottest stf fans in the country according to fan notes in stf mags. I would like to meet Ackerman, Hornig, Bradbury, et al. Liked 'Science Fiction is Escape Liteature', and all the letters. Having lived in the sticks all my life and not attending any stf conventions or fan gatherings, I am slightly confused as to Michelism, rival fan organizations, etc. I am an old time technocrat and in all probability I would be interested in the activities of the Futurians. Several good puns in this issue of VOM. All bouquets and no bricks!"

A long overdue PERDUE (Elmer, of 1735 Eye St NW, Wn/DC) returns with: "Arrived it this morning the latest Vox Popolij Madje, containing within her self a notification that my stock of credit had expired. . . . and it grieves me sorely to find that you are muchly in error, by six months at least. For it has been at least that time since whatever stock I'd built up, had expired. Or at least, so memory tells me, insmuchs 'tis not been later than last May that I've sent you anything; and yet, you, or some kindly-disposed agency whose existence I am forced to doubt, has sent me since then fun-mags and more serious works virtually innumerable. You will kindly, then, take the writer's most well-meant apologies, at having been so long out of work, that he has been unable to render equitable return on your investment, and you will also, please, accept his profuse thanks for your courtesy. Now for the more sordid details: I enclose a dollar bill, which is all that I can spare from the current pay. You will kindly accept half-a-dollar thereof as payment on those overdrawn copies--and the balance, you will apply to any and all forthcoming LASFL pubs--yea, I shall not even draw the line at Sweetness and Light."

From Canada comes a communication from one "RANDY" VICKERS, 626 Constance Ave, Victoria, British Columbia: Having counted up and found you use an average of eighty-four spaces to a line, I am now going to present you with a straight-edge letter that is not only straight-edge, but is all set up for using in V-M. So now you know why I'm typing across the paper

instead of down, and why this letter is so long in one direction and so short in the other. But now to biz.... Firstly, the explanations are great. At last I discover the difference between FooFoo and FuFa, and get well on the way to straightening out a host of minor tangles. And as for your captioning my last letter "Lost, all lost" may I take time out to claim (puns more puny than punny seeming to be in style) that I was lost but not least. Thank you... It now gives me great pleasure to take that gentle (?) hint which came with the last ish, and ante up my subscription. Enclosed herewith is some doe - to wit, one buck - Canadian. The bank will take about eleven to fifteen percent for exchange (robbers!!) however, you may extract the forty cents from what's left, and send me the balance in U.S. three cent stamps. Since it seems to be the fashion to enclose a suitable illustration along with a subscription, I am sending you a cut of the wrench it gives me to part with the dollar... While on the sordid subject of cash, might I suggest that, if the Eds. are not too far above such common and mercenary matters, a V-M dummy suitably inscribed by a few of the leading lights of fandom, could be very profitably auctioned off? Please consider my humble name as very much in for a V-M dummy in any case... And so I pack up & depart until such time as the spirit should move me to try this luvly and interesting style again - Ever yours for bigger & better ishs. (We would call to our readers' attn that our friend Randy accomplisht the even edges - by some necromancy noun to himself alone - without extra-spacing or space-saving, the usual devices. Dummys of Vow are free to those sufficiently intrested to ask for same; your name is 4th on list--this copy to Russian, #8 to Tom Hinman, #9 Art Wagner, & 10th yourself. Readers will find Randy's wrench reproduced on inside back cover.)

From the Zone des Armées (the Front) in France a letter from 38-yr-old Maréchal des Logis GEORGES H. GALLET: "I am abso-
lutely amazed by the present boom in science fiction and am at a lost to make any-
thing out of it. I thought that a few months ago the staunchest magazines were fall-
ing one by one and the leaders even! and see now how it is. ~ Of course, to tell
you the naked truth I do not find much improvement in stf., even doubt the latest is
the best. But it is an entirely intellectual viewpoint: as a soldier in the field I
take much pleasure in reading every thing that comes my way. ~ It seems, never-
theless, that there is need of something new in plots or treatment because all maga-
zines do look like twins. Except Famous Fantastic Mysteries which seems to be the
best in my humble opinion but maybe I am a little partial because it smells so much
like 'old days'. Astonishing and Super Science are not at all under the average. I
rather like the spirit of adventure and youth that seems to inspire them. By
the way it goes without saying that Mr. Georges H. Gallet 13, Rue d'Enghien
Paris 10^e France will be only too glad to become a member of the Science Fiction-
eers. (POHL PLEASE NOTE) ~ I feel very fortunate to receive so much magazines
from the U.S. It is good when one is unlucky to feel the friendship of far away
fellow fans, and to know that they think kindly of one poor N.C.O. 'somewhere on
the front'." ("Bonne Chance!" - c'est certainement le sentiment des fans amis
américains. We are sending a copy of this to your business address, given 6 lines
above; and another to 333^e Compagnie du Train, Secteur Postal 390, France, hoping
one finds you safely - and safe - and that other fans will write you and send stf.)

HARRY WARNER JR., a Topper in Fandom, honors us with a letter from 303 Bryan Pl,
Hagerstown Md: "I don't see how you West-Coasters manage; especially Forrie and Mo-
rejo with a few fan mags of their own, and a finger in the pie of almost every other
one. ~ To comment a wee bit on Madge which arrived about two weeks ago. The
Cover (Bok's) this time was a masterpiece. Seems that I'm the only one who didn't
like the last one, but this one--! ~ I really liked the contents page better than
anything this issue--Campbell should employ whoever wrote it to do his blurbs for
him. They are snazzy. (ATTN: JWC jnr - Sorry, but we have Bob Hope under exclusive
contract.) ~ Re Carnell's letter: it took one from Gallet exactly three months to
reach me recently; if that's not a record, it's too close for comfort. ~ I am
shocked; amazed, astounded, overwhelmed at your offer of the votI dummy."

LOU "FOO"

KUSLAN, home from kollege for spring vacation komments from 170 Washington Ave, West Haven Conn: "I really like the table of contents...Permit me to retract my statement concerning Dale Hart's sciencefictional decease. It appears that he is still very much a top fan...I must disagree with Dr. Barrett's statement about the great war. I don't think it possible for fandom as a whole to isolate the two warring groups without causing vital damage to itself. After all, both groups make up a large percentage of the top fans, having their fingers in many pies all over the country. And the fight is not confined to New York alone, which is the tragic part. I think that no one will contradict my statement that for a permanent peace to be restored, one group will have to be destroyed, permanently! The hatred, for such it is, is too strong to permit of any other solution. Check me on this, but I have been very intimate with one group, and know how the members feel. And it is very evident how the other side feels...All in all, this issue is very good, and I (Gertie, too) want the next issue to be out soon. ~ See you co-eds in Chicago."

From the Punitentiary in San Bernardino Cal a HAGGARD inmate rites:

"Dear Voz: My first impression of yr Apr No. sent tremrs of apprehension thru me. As I opned the missle an inner voz seemed to be speaking: ~ 'This time it's beat u to it. There's that bookworm again!' ~ But no, twarn't. I c yur scheme now. It's to preserve it unto eternity. U hoped that the illustration would act as a scarecrow for books, or should I hav said scareworm. It's horribly beautiful. Reminds me of the time the cat decided to have catlets in a box of my manuscripts, and did. ~ No, I give up. I can't ackermanese. So I'll drop back to a discussion of that issue, but to give it that different taint which so many fan magazines strive for (taint it so?) I'll take the angle of the bookworm on the cover, who very obviously is making ready to devour the entire contents. ~ Mr. I Gotta Grouch was tough chewing, and it was here I encountered the first staple. It Tuckered me out, but my appetite was far from appeased. Dave McElwain proved a delectable morsel. And he was english stew. Ed Gilbert's shorthand was devoured, and makes fine flavoring, served by Joe Fortier and his pacificoaster. There was something familiar about the Arthur Widmer, Jr. serving, and after chewing reflectively I recognized him as an old friend. And the next thing on the menu was Trudy wonderful. Then, fellow worms, did I take that epistle from down under by Alan P. Roberts. Or did I. Just like Dewey took Vanilla. After panning puns, he became punny. Sounds phoney. ~ Wright now I began to feel full, after I had Comet the next later. Then Rathbone offered his serving, a substitute of Latin soup. He offered Esperanto. And reminds me of that Universal-language someone suggested of using musical tones for alphabets. Justthink of the tone it would add to alphabot soup operas. Speer's offering was Nazi but nice, and anyone could C. Clark was all right but I must have Miske something around here or was it something I saw Bok there in those pages. Gep- right up -son (take the foot of the class) and see what the Doc will order. Gilbert helped out by placing flowers at the head of the table. I guess Himmin Travis can act as pall-bearers. ~ Good Knight, does this have to continue. Well, anywho it's Templetime and another bookworm signing off. ~ Yours phonetically,"

The Great Pensman, father of the

"Gray Lensman", speaks: "Dear Sirs, ladies, co-eds, and what-have-you:- Have you gone completely nuts, or have I? ~ Possibly only a rhetorical question, and certainly of only academic interest. I have been gping to write to you-all ever since I-don't-know-when---pretty nearly every time I get one of your ebullient effusions; but the mess I got today broke up the old lethargy no little. ~ What, may I diffidently ask, is the rime or reason underlying the publication of 'STF STICKERS STATIONERY SUCH-STUFFERY' thatyou inflicted upon an unsuspecting public this time? I read it from cover to cover, but I'll be damned if I could get the hang of the story. The plot, it seemed to me, was weak, the ending stereotyped and conventional, the action strained (like Gerber's baby food), and the continuity very rough. To paraphrase the old black crow, 'Who cares about that?' And, 'Even if it was good I wouldn't like it.' ~ Oh death, where is they sting? One week I get a copy of Shangri-La (What does that mean, by the way?) announcing the discontinuance of VOM and all the satellites---then the happy celebration of the event (it would take more

than a week, really to do such an event justice) is rudely interrupted by the receipt, not only of one VOM, but two---both dated Apr. 1940---and this literally indescribable new monstrosity as well. Hence the question! ~~~ Am enclosing a buck. No particular reason I can see why I should be on your free list---and if you won't stop sending the stuff, I might as well feed the kitty a bit, at least to the extent of some past-due postage. Also it seems to me that I have heard somewhere of choking a cat to death with cream.....!

(Doc's eloquent praise of my latest project, the Stickers Pamphlet, is the best ad I could ask for! After such glowing compliments I am sure U will not delay but send me a dime today for your

copy. Just say "Here's 10c---send me That Sticker Thing." I'll see to it U get stuck! Check me---to 19 decimal places---if U've heard this one bfor---tho I don't see how U could 'cause I just thot it up: A tisket, a-tasket; I'm putting ALL my X in one basket! Zap! Flash! O, tryin' to "ray-pun" me outa Ackstistence, Eh? Ha, ha; yuh justh Smiht me!)

Smith

Oakland, Calif. is represented by JOE FORTIER of 1836 - 39th Ave: "Just to let you know that I really meant that I liked the last VOICE, I am taking precious time out to say so. Truly, I like your cover and think it rather spiffy. Of course, I still think it would be nice to have a back cover too, but I guess that that is asking for way too much. (Entirely) ~~~ This Contents Page was even better than the first and that says plenty! I like those cock-eyed line-ups you feature. But really! ~~~ Nuts to Walt's letter. He must be a moron, though I will admit his magazine is tops -- and then some. I personally thought Fortier's letter one of the grandest yet (yet what?) -- oops, I'm letting my subconscious take hold here. Art's letter was really tres intéressante. Mais plus beacoup. ~~~ Let us not cast snickers the way of our fans of lesser ages for I can well remember what definite views I had a few years ago and I certainly liked to express them and thought most were right. It hurt my pride to hear someone speak up: 'He's too young.'. I am certain, if you will recollect, that you will agree with me. Please don't cut your puns as some would have you. I like to crack those corny cuties as well as the next fellow and we all get a great kick out of the others ill-advised attempt at humor. However, your humor is not ill-advised. ~~~ I don't mind in the least your reducing the size a bit if you continue to offer us such fine features as the special insert page of this issue. The whole idea was very uniqu. And still is. Who does dis guy Miske t'ink 'e is? After all, I have published a few magazines and you can quote me as: The average good fanmag requires a two-cent stamp, two-cents worth of le papier, and plenty of care, ink, envelopes, addenda amounting up to one-cent in actual value, but meaning about five-cents in work. Anyway, stencils, ink, &c., cost much and the regular subs seldom take care of it all. I figure a loss of about two-cents on a dime mag, and two-cents on the five-cent complimentary copies. They send three cents to cover five, why not the ten and make the mag balance. Futurianlycurs, but not Technocratically... WAIT! Readonmygoodfriend! I shall endeavor to answer a question or two of Right's. Listen, ol' boy: Michelism is communism, and nothing more. (Your Editors Say: Communism may be a manifestation of "Michelism" but Futurianism---the new name---is much more than that. For further info adres yourself to Futurian Sec'y Robt W Lowndes, 2574 Bedford Ave. Bklyn, NY.) Technocracy took a nose-dive about '33, but it is steadily working itself back into the fore again. Hundreds of new members are enlisting everyday; hundreds of old members are re-enlisting everyday. What do I think of it? Phooey! It isn't the right solution to our troubles at all. What is Technocracy? Webster says it is the science connected with the adjustment of the machine age to one of mass-production and for the benefit of all. Science? The dictionary will define most any thing such as communism, socialism, or anything else as a science? Technocracy states: it is non-political, non-sectarian, non-religious, &c., so I conclude Technocracy ain't nothing. To end this argument, Michelism is pronounced in this way: Mike--el--ism. (Mike, to 'el wis 'm). (Proper pronunciation: Mi-shell'ism.) ~~~ Such ignoramical conception! Anyone can easily see that Astonishing Stories offers stories with much more original and refreshing plots than Amazing, and just as much with more fan departments, yet only charge half as much as the 'aristocrat'." & that is that!

SMALL TALK DEPT (Excerpts cut from correspondence by Little Scissor) COMET TOM sez:

"Like the new VOM a lot, especially the printed cover and your keeping the contents page. About the most interesting thing in the issue was Bok's page. I also like the comments on my letter. Daugherty's grouch was interesting. Leonard Gipsen was good too." JOE GILBERT: "Rather surprising to receive the Voice, so soon. Glad you're going bi-monthly. If can maintain a steady flow of those clever, TIME-like comments in the Contents page, then by all means retain it. Otherwise, it's superfluous. ~~~ Best letter: Speers. If you don't differentiate between the letters, and material of other nature, then Rothman's exceptionally fine article makes a tie. ~~~ The cover was super-super. Mr. Bok, it seems, has a sense of humor." (That's Wright - U're Wrong!) HARRY WARNER JR: "Keep, in vot!, the contents page; style cover, and by all means the lithographed inserts, though they must be quite an expense. Roberts may jump out the window, I assert, and though it be treason, my cry for ink would be: back to black!" (O, Harry, how could U? Black is hack—green is keen!) DICK WILSON: "Vox Madge received—either your proof reader fell down on hiser job, I had a bad carbon, or I was 1/2 asleep when I wrote that letter. ('Fiah', not 'fish', &c.)" (Yes we concede there is a dif tween a fire & a fish but as for our proofreader we should not wish to fire the poor fish even if he did make a fuelish mistake which we rnt ready to admit as fortunately we were using your letter as a mag-mark in the Jun Ast & "The Carbon Eater" ate all the carbon off bfor Ack could stop it with an ack-ack & now nobody can prove nothin' on us!) LOUIS RUSSELL CHAUVENET: "Calculate on your slide rule, using the best available bottled sidereal time as lubricant, whether the next issue or the last issue is closer to the date you receive this, and commence my subscription accordingly. ~~~ In time, who knows, I may have more to say than this." & time proved he did have more to say: the author of the mirror letter mentiond in our editorial. ~~~ We Turnabout a portion & quote: "Of all the letters in thissh (wonder how that odd s got in?) I liked the Clarke contrib. best. Not only 4 th poetry, but also for (inconsistency arrives on the 4:fourty-for!) th well put objection to th asinine contest in mud-slinging wch thaverage fanfeuled winds down into. I cannot help it but after reading VOM my brain's mined with puns. ~~~ If Trudy doesn't like Gerty, I dont like Trudy, and you may inform th gal that she is hereby named (pass me that champagne bottle) no less than (crash! Tinkle!) Grudy. All hail!" (Riddle: Y is feignd hurt like the aforementioned wine? Gvup? Both r sham pain!) BILL TEMPLE: ~~~ "Again I compliment you & Morajo on the extreme neatness of your production. If genius is an infinite capacity for taking pains, then you are obviously a pair of geniuses (genii?)." & what myt U term an infinite capacity for inflicting pain—as per our puns? Fraps...pungenay? DAVE MC-ILWAIN: "It has occurred to me that if ever USA joins in the war, and the American fans come to Britain — boy, what a happy meeting we'll have. Just imagine the joy of actually seeing our Tuckers, Wollheims (Correction — I understand Donald is a non-interventionist, so maybe we wouldn't see him after all.), Mosks, Taurasis, Madles, Warners, Pohls, Bradburies, & perhaps even 4es in the flesh, even though they be adorned in militaristic trappings. I can almost sanction warfare when it opens up such exquisite possibilities." To return now to our fulllength letters—

DICK WILSON, 2574 Bedford Ave, Bklyn: "VOMnipotent Ones: Here it is Saturday, 4/20/40, A.D. The weather is vile—April showers and general gloom....Scene: The Ivory Tower; Doc Lowndes sits typing Squeaky stencils to the emanations of a Strauss record on the phonograph. Don Wollheim is immersed in Weird Tales. Cyril Vod is perusing the latest Voice and nibbling at his nails. Chet Cohen is designing a Certificate of Officerdom for the Loyal and Benevolent Order of Gafia. I'm pencilling the first draft of this letter on the back of an SFW proof sheet ('Carnell to Edit British Stf Mag'—haw!), using as backing a bound copy of Jay Lucas' 'The Man Who was 63,000 Years Old'. All very stfal an atmcsphere, but scarcely joyous and uplifting. ~~~ I'm slouching on a sofa, being stared in the face by the back of hundreds of examples of novelistic scientificfictionaliterature and a scowling, framed foto of 'The Tyrant of Technocracy' (hiya, Mac!), Howard Scott. ~~~ "Get": 2-pt Argosyarn by Fred MacIsaac, circa '32.) ~~~ To Art Widner: You're on!

See you in Chi, if our respective wheeled demons can make it....Re the first two words on p. 2, featuring I. Gotta Grouch's unagreedwith letter, I gotta printed notice in my car (name of Jenny), which reads: 'We don't give a damn what Confucius say.' PS, possibly short. (No Reiss cracks, Wilson: I didn't Planet that way.) In smaller type it declares: 'We say Eat Spurnmurch's Peanut Butter Sandwiches', but that's a sort of anticlimax. Quick, Chet, the scissors!" (What do U think conscientious editors are for? NB--No Boloney--why, they're for Wilson, ofcourse! Wutsa matter with Dicky Bird? Ho's All Ryt!)

A little from LOWNDES (same adres as foregoing)—pardonu, ke ni ne povus publikigi la tutan leteron, Revelo: "Ioc receiveth the news of ye change of VOM to bi-monthlie withe muchie joye. ~~~ I must thank Joe Gilbert 4 th honorable attitud he has takn in regard 2 his previous remarks; wild that fandom had mor lik hm yea, verily. ~~~ He bemoaneth the non-appearance of another letter by Kay Marlin. (Swelp, me, folks, I just rememberd I used a pseudonym of nothn othern Kay Marlene--astonishing coincidence?--on a letter publisht in 1st about 8 yrs ago. --Weaver Wright) -- He deigneth not to lose sleep over the ravings of one Startreader. -- He becommeth philosophical, albeit unTechnocratic: Even tho it maynt appear so on th surface, peoply r as consistant as all hell; they can't help b othrwis. ~~~ He closeth tho lothly."

GLEN "DEAD N KID" TAYLOR (he informs us there is only one "n" in his name rather than the 2 we used bfor), 503 S Jackson, Kansas City Mo.: "Estimados Angelenos: Greetings from the ☺ of America. Volume 2, No. 1, and The Apr 40 issue have arrived, and their piquant contents have been read with pleasure. The issues were well mimeographed, but like most of the fanmags I get the back pages are coming off. ~~~ Suggestion for fanmag improvement: More intelligent criticism of the science in some of the promag stories. Most of the fan comment and criticism seems to be on the literary style, which is important, but after all it's supposed to be SCIENCE fiction. Recent examples of goofy science- 'Chameleon Planet' in Astonishing; 'Living Isotopes' in Super Science. These writers have strained so hard for the gnat of a unique idea that they have swallowed the camel of illogic. ~~~ Now let me say something aside to Australia's stfanemesis, whose cliché-burdened missive brings a taste of tartness to the April issue-- Dear Alan: I do not wish to arouse further your apparently hard-to-restrain animus toward us queer people who actually like stf, but I can only say that I too was once an adolescent lacking tolerance for the old fogies and their peculiar ways."

Col Mylesworth — prominent Australifan of 11 Northumberland, Clovelly, Sydney: "The fourth issue of your splendid mag was the first I have had the pleasure of reading, though Eric Russell has received and displayed previous three issues at meetings of the Futurian Society of Sydney. I dont know whether letters from abroad are welcomed by you (well we sure do: YES!) but somehow I feel I must put into words the admiration I have for the 14 page, green inked, neatly mimed object. ~~~ I enjoyed immensely the humorous letters by Tucker, Trudy, Reinsberg and others, and at the same time picked up a lot of information on fandom that could not be found in other fan magazines. I have a medium nolege of fandom, and thus references to Thexact, Pogo, Michelism, etc were not as gibberish to me. But what the foofoc does "sic" mean? (See dictionary) ~~~ Cover was QX (New Yr No.). ~~~ Have borrowed IMAGINATION off Russell, and fell in love with Madge. All I get now is the gentle voice of the lovely creature, and Doctor 4e, don't fail to send VoM as soon as the ink is dry and the staples set: I guess subconsciously, I have always wanted VoM: I have always wanted to know just what the 'big names' (note: not mouths) thought, and VoM is the anser."

CROWDED
OUT—COMING UP: A reMARKable letter (from REINSBERG) - a Widnerful letter from Art Jr - a Templetter (from England) & a full-page lithografit Knightmare by Damon the Demon!

"Let bygone be bygone—
BE AT THE CHICON!" EW

This is a half a Bok!
See the Full Page Cover on the next
FUTURIA FANTASIA!

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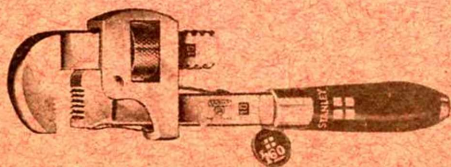
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Pandy's Wrench
(See pg 6)

PERSONALS

And Business Personals

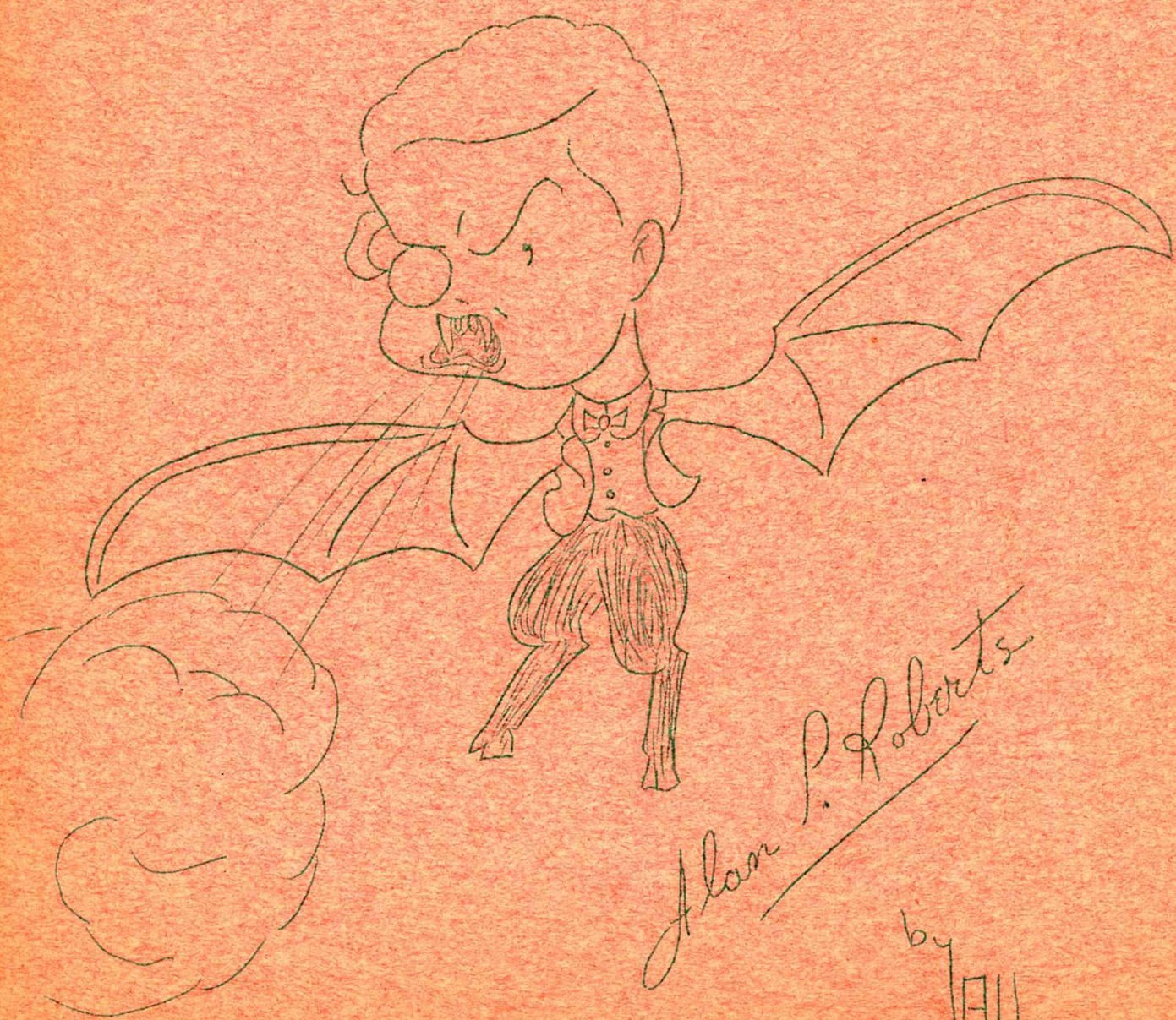
25

RALPH ROOSEVELT THOMAS, known as "The Man from Mars." Even in 1932, I wanted to be candidate on a Satisfaction Party. Found out best to be rich to become President of U. S.

This is put in the paper by Ralph Roosevelt Thomas, to try and save U. S. and foreign nations. England, France, Turkey, could give Ralph Roosevelt Thomas \$300,000,000 to stop wars. I do know how to go to other planets! Anything with enough force can go to another planet. No need of me putting my address in the paper.

Yours very truly,
RALPH ROOSEVELT THOMAS,
Box K3992 Examiner.

COISE of the IMAGI-NATION



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