

Voice of the IMAGI-NATION

A NOVACIOUS PUBLICATION



Ish 10

Dec 40

COVER: B. Frank., now--orange U surprised?

Editorial: Little Sian, What Now?

JJ Fortier: Wanted--One Angel!4

Gerry de la Ree Jr: Go Westwood, Young Fan.....4

Ray J Sienkiewicz (& Co): How about a World Weird Con-
vention--the NECRONOMI-CON?5

Harry Warner Jr: Stretching things a bit.....5

Vol Molesworth: Vifons?6

Ted Carnell: War in the Air--predicted by Wells.....6

Norman Epstein: Dashing diabolical Californian
(speedevil).....7

Arthur Louis Joquel 2d: Arsonist!7

O'Brien-Singleton-Erman: Rest in Pieces.....8

Art Widner Jr: 13? Hey, ain't that unlucky? We're not
only stitious, we're superstitious! .8

Chas D Hornig: Founds Woman's Conscription Movement,
calls it "Draft Eve"!9

Brackett: Now I leigh me Down to Dream.....9

Walt Leibscher: Never sausage a pun as that fun.....10

ComeIremaine: Woud U call the first instal. of a 2-pt
tale by Bond a half-Nelson?10

Elmer Perdue: Aw, who's a-fraud!10

J 'rv' Haggard: Nope, taint done with mirrors.....11

Lupé Amador: Wit Shall It Be?12

FLASH: 27 OCT--SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND: "ALIVE & WELL--CARNELL"

Publisht bimonthly at Bx 6475 Metropolitan
Station, Los Angeles Cal, by Forrest J
Ackerman & Morojo. 10c copy, 60c yr.
Advertisements on arrangement.

ENGRAVING ON THE COVER, eh? Well! Bet U won't bliev a word we say after all the recent horseplay. Nexttime, another novelty.

Early in this coeditorial we want to give credit where credit's overdue. Many of U will remember just a few mos. ago the hue & cry raised on our coeds' ng about the blotchy red cover, & that that was the end of lithograficolor asfaras The Voice was concern'd. U must have wonderd when the very next no. apeard with a fancy effect in 2 colors; this one in brown: & the numerous colord adlets of VOM that're going around in various fanmags. U even may be seeing something decently in red, one these days. The explanation is: a new multilith at the Academy--plus an operator par xln't for it: Ted Emsheimer! Teddy, take a bow. A prince of good-fellows, tho not a fan he is a great guy to help in the best way he can to vitalize the Voice: with litho & color. Thanx lots & lots, Ted. & not to overlook my immediate boss, Sam E Brown, who is a regular reader of science fiction, & keeps an open eye for me for anything he thinks myt be adantable for the Voice (watch for our "Martian" ads in all the fanmags in a few mos.)

MIXUPS HAPN. Heap Big Headache & fandom's latest bone of dissension has been the Newarkon(vention, -ference, -fab). We say, thankfully, has been. What fandom obviously needs is some sort of a Reuter service to spread news around more swiftly & surely. Anachronisticconfusion, but our last-minute understanding is that the entire idea of an Eastern watchamacallit is off. We believe it better so. Also, that several of those who have distinguisht themselves in the fanfield as trouble-makers have turnd pro. Prans now they will trouble us no more. A grand solution.

THE DAMN THING. Have U seen Yerke's new mag? Yes, isnt it! If I may interrupt in the first person for a moment (4e) should like to set a few things strate. Now when I told TB I'd finance the DT for him, it was to be as a silent supporter. I honestly had no idea he was going to stick my name on the cover as Financier, feature an article on me & include me in editorial remarks. In some cases Bruce quoted me as saying things I never did, OK in a way because I'd told him he could make the mag just what he wanted--need not employ Ack'esse, plug Esp, run articles by Weaver Wright or get my approval on the dummer. I've noen Bruce for a no. of yrs & like Tubby desnite his brashness & tendency to be tactless. Bruce is a smart kid. So's Bradbury--always a pleasure to plug Brad. But I wander. I merely wisht to make it possible for Bruce to express himself as a publisher like most every other fan in LA. Lo, tho, he has proved a young Stankenfrein monster, insofaras he publisht a no. of things I do not approve--at my expense! Frinstance, an avowd pro-scientist, my funds finance an attack on the antiscience attack soc'y! Ofcourse, knight's article woud had to've apeard in the Voice otherwise, but it's rather ironical. U'll agree, however, it woud be petty of me abruptly to refuse further monetary assistance for Bruce because of the circumstances. That woud be to say: Play my way - print what I want - or U don't get the backing. The Damn Thing woud then become only an Ackerman organ. So - yes, I am the Patron Saint of the Damn Thing - but Bruce Yerke is yed. & his views on all subjects are not necessarily my own. Incidentally, in case U've not seen this mag yet, sample copy is 10c from Bx 6475.

Also incidently: There still are a few (hundred) cpy's of MONSTERS OF THE MOON left, at 25c per. From the Vom Bx, or 4e personally.

THE VOICE REALLY SPEAKS. Soon circulating thruout the imagination will be a fonograf record, with your coeds greeting U, & including the voices of Bradbury, Yerke, Daugherty & others. Comments will be publisht here! Watch for 'em!

MEXICAN SPITFIRE: Hot Enchiladv is Lupé Amador, the señorita who works (when she isnt thinking of RoberTaylor) at the Ampos (Acad. Motion Pic. Arts & Sciences) & is always after my heart--with a knife! Lupé professes to hate science fiction & expresses her disapproval by bedeviling me at the office. She pours perfume on me, snips my hair, calls me "Rat Face" & periodically hides my briefcase. When we had a nu-typ lithograf plate to test one day, I took a grease pencil & rote (as U see on the back of this ish) VOICE OF THE IMAGI-NATION, intending to blurb a bit about our superb hit, etc. When I returnd from a call to the fone, however (sarcay, I wonder if Loop arranged that?--wait'll I see her mañana), I found...well, U see for yourself. The funny part was, Looper-Dooper in her haste originly had ritten "is a one." "A-1!" I exclaimd; "y, gracias, Lupé!" Then she orased the "a". The other day, because I left when she dropt her lip-stick she came & slasht me on the neck with it. A little later, she left when I dropt my knife... 4e. (This ish publisht 24 Nov 40--4e's 24th birthday! Morajo)

Letter from 2J40yr (10-X-40), 1836 - 39, Oakland, California; or, if U're allergic to algebra (& we woudnt particularly blame U), the translation reads: JJ Fortier (a fan, who rote us a letter on the 10th of October, 1940) from Avenue 39, Number 1836, Oakland, California; stating: "Dear Maggy: I was scienceerely impressed with the latest issue of your daughter. I thought that the spirit fotos were quite full of Stf spirit and all such stuff which makes apparent hoaxes a lot of fun. ~ I suppose that all have heard about the increased enrollmont in Starlight Publications. Perhaps many have not as yet, so here are the interesting facts: Lo Martin is now a member publishing The Alchemist & The Conventioneer. Walter J. Daugherty is also a new member with his Rocket & Shangri-La. (Fortier types in green, enfasizes with brown. We enfasize that such a color combination is buyable for your typytor for \$1 ppd from our mailing adres.) We are nobly gunning for Damon Knight to complete our circuit of the top magazines and fans. We sincerely hope to have Snide under our wing by the time this is published and, perhaps, we may. The other members are Tom Wright, Norman Epstein, and myself. We are publishing The Comet, The California Mercury, The Cometeer, Dawn, Speed Devils, and, maybe, The Oscillator. The Starlighter, scheduled to appear sometime this year, will give complete details of what is going on. ~ The Golden Gate Cometeers are completely organized now, that name being thought more suitable than the former Northern California Futurians insofar as Futurians binds us by name to the New York gang who persist in advocating such things as Technocracy, Michelism, the new movement, etc. ~ I actually begin to believe that Northern California is becoming truly active in the sense of the word that Southern California applies to it. I almost forgot to say that Nicholas E. Kenealy is a new member of both groups and will publish The Cometeer as a supplement of TCM as he is Publicity Manager of the GGC. ~ I hope to see much more of Stf-ette -- will I? (It all depends: Will Pogo stick?) I believe it too valuable for the Stfandom world to lose, what say fan-friends? Originality counts and here it is. If she is interested (Pogo, I mean) contact either Tom or myself concerning Starlight Publications. ~ Is there anyone who is interested in undertaking a 1941 venture with me? I would like to have someone who is fully acquainted with the ins and outs of science fiction, one who is an old-timer, one who has money to invest, and one who has unlimited time as well as a valuable resource of English. I can answer all qualifications but the oldness, money, and time. Time is especially rare to me. I sincerely want to have someone contact me who is willing to take the most responsibility on this venture. It is: A SCIENCE~FICTION~FANTASY COMBINED DICTIONARY & ENCYCLOPEDIA. Okay, so I am crazy! (Rnt we all? It's the prime requisite of being a stfan--They Say. We hope your Dream Fan comes your way!) -- I would like to mention that DAMN is coming along very nicely except for the fact that we could certainly use a few more ads, any autograff foto-autobiogs available and all short material that is good! -- I hope that everyone shows up at this Denvention for I feel strongly that it will be the finest ever staged. I can say that there are five of the eight members of our club going already. We have several more members lined up for the second meeting and believe that many may pledge themselves to come to the Denvention in '41! We favor July Fourth!!!" Sunday; October 20th, 1940: "I continue this rather lengthy letter with more interesting items for all to hear. Well, anyway, I enjoy them. ~ I have never seen anything nervier than the classification of Strange Stories with Science fiction. It is the most nauseating thing I have ever set eyes on. Up until now I had presumed that it was a magazine on a par with Weird Tales or some such, but it certainly is not after once looking at it. I notice that certain fans keep buying this magazine for their files. Certainly they know that such support is going to keep the magazine going. I suggest abolishing it from the Science fiction classification and letting it glide by without any Stfan support. It should soon drop the Stf angle, or completely fold up. Then again, it might reform! ~ I'm afraid that this letter will never see print after a hasty second glance, so I close being, A fellow scientifan," (Another letter from FORTIER in The Denventioneer VOM)

From the Socy of the Solaroid Club, Co-Ed Sun Spots, Ed Stf Scout; Mom SFL, SF'eers, Solaroids, Newark SFL, Intellectual Brotherhood of Pro-Scientists, Futurian Leag, Tex Fantasy Fictioneers; "and, what more do you want?" (ans. A letter to VOM) a communication dated 4 Oct 40, from 9 Bogert Pl, Westwood, NJ: "Just finished reading the October issue of VOM, which was sent in exchange for that 'Super Magazine--Sun Spots?' Yep, I read the whole 9 pages in one evening! Quite an accomplishment. It was really only 8 pages, since I just skimmed through the cover. I'd write this

letter in Ackermanese, but I haven't got the time to stop and figure it out--I'm dumb. Anyway, I have another way of making a mess out of this letter. How?--By just writing it. As youse most probably know,--from reading SSp, my spelling--stinks. Yes, I type the majority of Sun Spots' stencils--and I never hear the end of it. My co-editor Plotkin could spell--he went to Florida. Gactz can't spell either. (Either? Y that's simple enuf: E-i-t-h-e-r. Just remember "i bfor e--except after c"--except in "either", where neither applies. ESPERANTO estas ne konfuza!) Thus--you fans, if you happen to be one of the 50 lucky, who read SSp, will have to endure this outrageous spelling, till I learn something..... Now let me see, what am I writing this letter for. Oh yes, about VOM. The letters were all very very intresting (Uh huh) and I can hardly wait for the next issue. I will have a better cover, I understand. Not that I didn't enjoy this one, but you must admit the illustration was, shall we say--minute. (Yeah; as Mrs Rockne used to say, "My Knute, My Knute!" Only, for the point of this pun, I mustnt pronounce the name a la Warner Bros, but leave the k silent like in "I Was a Knazi Spy".) 'Tommy rate, what (there I go again) there was of it was excellent... Hurry up the Decemner issue. We Westwood Wacks wait.....

friends" of Scranton Pa,

From our "troo

Sam Rustino
&
Rdog

letter dated 25 Oct 40, emanating from 312 E Elm St:

"Dear Co-eds, Should I say 'coeds'? Huh? Let me clear my chest now and get a terrible weight off it. I am sending you a quarter for, of course, the next three issues of a little novacious publication better known as 'Voice of the Imagination'. (Our rate is 10c strate, gentlemen.) Now I take a deep breath and prepare to expell it with a joke or two. ~ There is a lot of talk about a draft going around the country, both the draft

and the talk. Conscientiously I have been thinking about it and saw the simple solution that those who wish to escape the draft should see. If anyone wants to axape the draft all he has to do is close the door. Simple isn't it? I'M surprised too. (Simple aint the word for it--it's odorous!) ~ 'Nycon' and 'Chicon' and especially 'Denvention' remind me to ask what would you call the convention if it were held in Indianapolis? 'Invention' or 'IIncon'. Would the Hagerstown convention be called the 'Hacon'. Some people I know would tell Hamilton, Binder, or any writer that they do not like to Hae (k) on no more. ("It's South of the Border in '51--the MEXICON!") ~ I seems to me that you have quite a reputation, this is for 4c, of having the largest collection of odds and ends in stf. I am sending you a picture of thirty-six different models of 'Rockettes'. Send a stamped self-addressed envelope with a hundred dollar bill to the Radio City Music Hall, New York, and they will send you your choice free of charge. Or do you already have a few around the place? (Y, shore! Didnchu noe I'm a mom of the American Rockette Society? & what society! What models! What streamline shapes! & do they shoot hi! Venus, here I come!) -- I now depart, telling you to follow Harry's advice: date the letters (which we are doing), and give us black ink (which woud mean from 6 to 8 other mags woud have to alter their ink, too, as we publish on a common mimeo). I also ask you to ask D.B.Thompson, if you don't know, what does the 'D. B.' stand for? Delightful Buddy?"

Harry WARNER JR, editor Spaceways, now celebrating its 2d Anniversary, 12 Oct wrote from 303 Bryan Pl, Hagerstown Md: "There really isn't much to say, but I'll stretch it out as much as possible. The Voice came the other day, and was read by me last night. Good issue, although--I fear--a bit skimpy. Convention, oh? I have hopes for a better size next time, at any rate. Best in this issue was Hornig; second Chauvenet and third Ro-berts. I don't think that word should be hyphenated there, but it's so darned much trouble working the margin release for the sake of osthetic value, you know. ~ I'll resist this time the temptation to spicl about various things in order to get my words in green ink. I've been in three or four consecutive issues, I fear, and too much is too much. But my level of unanswered mail is steadily decreasing and I'm now answering and acknowledging things I usually let pass by. As for the cover: foiled! Curses, curses, oaths and profanity! If you have trouble with your 'engraved' one next time, I suggest you merely pin a dollar bill to each copy. That's a steel engraving, no less, and I'm sure all your customers would be satisfied even if you went so far as to charge a quarter for the issue. (I think

it's a steel engraving, that is, but I for one wouldn't quibble over a minor point were you to do it.) ~~~ Va con foofoo."

Vol. Polemics

Head fan of Australia, home adres "Del Monte", Kangaroo Pt Rd, Sylvania, NSW, on 12 Oct sent us a hospitaletter, all set up with tildes etc ready to be run: "It seems as tho' someone has declared unofficial WAR on stefans-- first Woxon (ed IMAGINATIVE STORYS) goes down with double pneumonia; we hear Mustchin is upset in a speedboat accident; Steve Taylor (co-ed AUSTRA-FANTASY) gets diphtheria; Al P Roberts gets in the way of a truck (but it is rumored Miske is responsible); and now Herr Doktor Vomoswoth is superintended by women in white.~~~ Yep - down with, of all the darn things, sugar diabetes. And now I know what Kummer means by giving his spacewrecked argonauts insulin to revive 'em--I've had 30 shots at 50 down to 10 grammes per needle--and Fort! how that semi-grey stuff pumps thru the ticker.~~~Ye Gods et little fishes!~~~ Only other treatment is a diet -- help: I'm starving.~~~ Now down to stf: Capt Future was hokay. Whatever doubts may have arisen in my nimble mind as to the rottenness of the World-Saver are now gone--he's super!~~~ Black Absolute not so hot. The TWS had a good cover (for a change) but is oddly reminiscent of the Oct 38 no. Dunno why! And it's a different "World's Fair" one at that. Didn't like West Point of Tomoro but enjoyed the Stolen Spectrum.~~~ Amazing seems to be definately on the up-and-up again.~~~ Last nite someone was snoring and a chap through an egg at him -- the goog! And that's the eggsact truth--what a fowl thing to do! He crowed over it--but the guy the egg hit couldn't see the yolk--he forgot to duck~~~ Science-fiction plot--no! EESmith reads the Voice and I'm taking no chances! Goway Doc!~~~ Sunday morning: Just read 'Revolt on Io'--pretty good.~~~ Futurians Bert Castellari, William Voney, Ronald B. Levy (ed ZEUS) and Neville Friedlander will be in to see me today. Which reminds me--the FSS has been disbanded and the remnants formed the (Sydney) Science-Fantasy Club. I am Director; RBC Sec'y. Membership includes most of the ex-Futurians. We are still to be affiliated with the Science Fictioneers as Chanter No 9, tho!~~~ I am joining the Futuremen, too.~~~ Perhaps you don't know some news--Wog Hockley has definately started the Futurian Soc'y of Melbourne with Steve Taylor, Marshall L. MacLennan and Peter McPride as members. They issue 'Melb. Bulletin just as the (S)SFC will issue the Bulletin soon.~~~ 6 pger with members on'y writing. I have seen proofs of the first Melbourne Bulletin and its a 4-pg hocktood job with each Melburnite writing a pg. NB~~~ But more of this later.~~~ As to mags, the chivoice was 100%. Say I thot you said nothing was changed. What about Gallet?~~~ Mein Gott! Uh-uh~~~ Here's the senior nurse with a spear--no, my error, a syringe full of glue---insulin, I mean~~~ Groans! sugar-diabeticcommentatorreader!" When Senior Nurse comes with syringe, do not cringe, do not cringe. U are one with HGWells: His life, too, on insulin doth hinge.

Jack Canell of LONDON, whose life well may hinge on something more than insulin: the proper insulation from shot & shell & bomb & gas & such other necessitys & nicetys of civilization. On the last day of Aug he aird us: "I intend to chronicle as many interesting events as possible from time to time, and mail this out when the required 3000 odd words are finished." Unfortunately we cannot publish the 5 pgs but here are some special excerpts. Tod describes "the first air battle I had seen: ...a bunch of some twenty odd Jerry junk-ers beat up out of the sun. Before they reached us, well directed AA fire split them up into smaller groups and then our boys tore into them.~~~ Irene and I couldn't make up our minds which particular section to watch at any one time. We eventually singled out a group of five practically overhead -- they turned out to be two of our Spitfires, two Jerry fighters and a bomber. After a lot of milling around and angling for position one of our Spiti-fires let rip with his machineguns. The shots must have ripped away a wing of one of the Messerschmitts, for it suddenly folded up in midair and came whirling down straight for us with a terrific roar.~~~ We dived for cover, and shook with fright at the unholy row, feeling sure it was our last moment. A rush of air beat into the shelter upon us, and what was left of the Jerry skimmed the house-tops and smashed into some gardens about fifty yards away, immediately catching fire. Chunks of Jerry plane were falling like leaves all round. Meanwhile our particular Spitfire had stopped a packet from the other German fighter, and was on the way down himself. A burst of AA fire wiped that debt out, and again we had falling German metal raining down upon us." Skip to 15 Sep: "My stars and stripes,

this is the first time I've opened this machine since the above was completed. In fact, I found it round the roller, where it was hurriedly curled up when a night raid interrupted my flow of conversation. ~~~ The old family is still in existence despite the terrific aerial war which has been in progress for over a week. ~~~ It's remarkable how we, and the rest of the populace, have changed over to the new order. It isn't a particularly pleasant one, you will probably realise, but we intend to stick it out come what may. ~~~ City life has been considerably tangled up owing to the continued bombing of London. ~~~ I missed one day at business during the last week to get my nerves back to normal. ~~~ The different districts I have been through on my way to Town have given me a comprehensive outline of the damage done to London as a whole. It's been pretty gruesome, especially on the civilians, but the place isn't in complete ruins as reports would seem to indicate. ~~~ Maybe when we start the rebuilding, London will be decently planned as a city instead of the hodge-podge of streets it now is." 2 days later. "I'm so sorry that the above was curtailed, but the Jerry night shift came over, and, as they were operating fairly near here, we thought discretion was the better part of valor, and went to earth. ~~~ Working hours and conditions (as far as I am concerned), are now considerably altered. ~~~ (At work) we have installed the 'spotter' system, whereby someone keeps watch on the roof for local activity, while we work on." 18 Sep: "6.00 a.m. Had to give the above up after all, as there wasn't a lot of light to see by, and things thickened up somewhat. Also I fell asleep. Therefore, I guess this will have to do for this trip." Another pg from the Carmel letter in The Denventioneer VOM. Another letter from Ted next time.

Norman Epstein Editor Speed Devils, writes us for the first time from Oakland Cal, no further adres given. Norm says: "I have before me the December, '39 issue of VoM. Darn good cover, swell mimeo job, don't think much of the monopoly on the green ink. Tain't a bad mag 'tall but could stand a little improvement. Or maybe you don't agree with me, eh what? Why don't you mix a little pica type now and then among that elite? The main point though, is that your letters are too run together. Find a better method of setting them apart. You should make each one stand out by itself. As it is, it looks to monotonous. I know that my opinion isn't worth a d--- (by a "d" we take it U mean an English pence, or 2c. How naive of us!), so you don't have to pay any attention. My advice to you is to disregard it entirely. ~~~ Shangri-la is the best mag I've seen in many a month but you've got some criticism coming there too. That modern type of yours serves the same purpose as bold type in printing. It makes certain sentences and sometimes paragraphs stand out quite effectively, but when you use it completely, teh, teh! ~~~ I ain't got nothin' else to write so I'll try this old gag. C E N S O R E D It worked. Took up quite a little space, too. Bye now."

Arthur Korschak with a signature to rival Korshak's & Misko's, informs us via one those deeppurple typewriter ribbons a la Jack Darrow: "Having a mimeograph, a few supplies, little money, few brains (apparently) and lots and lots of ambition, (heaven forbid!) the mysterious pre-

I have decided to enter precincts of fanmag publishing. ~~~ I have been warned against this move by those who know. But being one of those restless souls who are never happy unless they have their fingers covered with ink, I have with one stroke burned my bridges behind me and prepared to embark on the treacherous sea of publication. ~~~ In a word, then, SPECULA will make its appearance around the second week in December. Present plans call for an issue of 72 pages--small size--though this may be enlarged or diminished as circumstances warrant--and at least a bi-monthly publication schedule, though this is also subject to the whims of fate. Price--10¢, 3 for 25¢. ~~~ This mag will contain mainly fan and amateur fiction, though there will be some departments and articles. It is dedicated to the belief that there is plenty of stf, fantasy and weird fiction written for enjoyment--not for money. The general opinion seems to be that if a fiction story appears in a fanmag, it is only because it wasn't good enough for the pros. I regard that as a base canard, and will refute it if it takes my last breath. (Suffocation--oh, what a death!)

skool, so she took it on the.... Hhahahahahahahahaha. Pokey!

"Is Teknocracy pulling a FAPAct? Ltd memship or sumthng? I havnt herd enything from him. I shoud think hed b intrested in gaining all th nu mems he coud 4 th great coz. (Aparently Mr Hodgkins is too busy with Scottocracy to read VOM; or, at least, to read it attentivly; as wen this complaint was calld to his attn, he profest ignorance of your publish request. --EJjay) -- I've writn enuf now, praps 2 much--so n closing I just wanto say that I njoyd meeting u coeds & Pogo, & thanx 4 th Vomdum, & thanx 2 Pogo 4 many intresng thots & ideas. C U N DENVER!" (Ditto)

Dated
Draft Eve, excerpts from a letter from CHARLIE HORNIG, hi-lites of his 12th cross country trip: "Five days in Chicago--Erle Korshak and Marc Reinsberg met me in Union Station--Erle holding up a newspaper headline reading 'CHICAGO FANS GREET HORNIG!' and shouting 'Extra!' all over the place. Made the night spots Saturday evening with them--also George Tullis. Met that fan who plays the piano at Silver's. Spent considerable time in Evanston with Thelma Shull, the fan and Rosicrucian--also reincarnationist and occultist. Spent one of my night with Otto Binder. Met Trudy Hemken for the first time and the five of us (including Otto, his girl-friend (now wife), and Jack Darrow) took in the sights by motor... One and a half days in Cleveland--met Miske there, also for the first time. What a driver! But I came through it all right. He blew me to some carbonated water--with you were there, Forrie. 'Chuck' Wright is the guy I met in the Chicago night spot playing the piano--I think his name was. He's planning to write a series of science-fiction songs to represent the various planets, for the Denvention! Back in New York--I've already shipped to the printer the complete SCIENCE FICTION QUARTERLY for Winter, 1941. Contents: 'The Shot Into Infinity' by O. W. Gail (but thoroughly degermanized--not cut all all)--'Double Destiniv' by Helen Weinbaum--kaj 'The Wall of Water' by Raymond Z. Gallun (pronounced Ga-loon'). Here's the line-up for the March SCIENCE FICTION: 'The Life Beyond' by John Coleridge (Eando Binder), 'Beings of the Ooze' by John M. Taylor, 'Bargain with Colossus' by Helen Weinbaum (plot by Schwartz), 'The World in Wilderness' by Thornton Ayre, 'Star of Blue' by Milton Kaletsky, 'Science from Syracuse' by Polton Cross (about Archimedes, one of the 'boys'), plus the usual departments. Well--give my love to the bunch in Brown's Thursday room, next Cliffton."

"S-F Forever!" declares Angeleño authoress coeds to take her stand on the Pro-Scientist situation defend one of her storys. 2 Oct: "SCIENCE-FICTION FOR BRACKETT, & pro- & incidently defend a Book with a Purpose. A purpose, incidentally, WARD is defin- with which I'm in sympathy--up to a point. Sneaking as a fan, I think it's high time some of the hoary and dubiously scientific plots were retired permanently. Sneaking as a writer, we arrive, by a curious coincidence, at 'The Treasure of Ptakuth'. (Pronounced Tah'kuth, rimes with Ruth.) I resent the implication that I am ANTI-SCIENCE. I am interested in science for its own sake, and just as thankful for, and appreciative of, its discoveries as the next man. The Messrs. Houton and Bart are, of course, entitled to their own opinions. But I feel that they have gone a little out of their way in regard to my story. (This applies, of course, to Mister Duncan also.) The "fundamental statement" which they discovered in 'The Treasure' was never formulated. The invention which prolonged life at the expense of sleep was, as the editorial writer puts it on another page, neither good nor evil in itself. It had, like radium, X-rays, ultra-violet, and arsenic, a certain effect or combination of effects on the human organism. The people of Ptakuth didn't care for the effect. And this, I humbly submit, was not scientific theory but merely a reflection of my own opinion that I shouldn't care to live indefinitely without sleep. My neighbors are attempting to break me into it gently, but I don't like it at all. If Ye Ed of SFF thinks he'd like it, he is certainly entitled to think so. For myself, a century or two would be quite enough. With respect to the final paragraph in SFF, I should like to ask a question. Are we, then, to be limited to scientists who are shining crusaders in the cause of humanity? I'm not speaking of the ancient "mad-scientist" plot, which should be jettisoned in the interests of art if nothing else. In a yarn upon which I am currently working, the menace is a scientist--a renegade human being who cynically and callously uses his knowledge for his own ends, which are not philanthropic. This, I contend, is a perfectly logical state of affairs.

Scientists, as well as politicians, doctors, and priests, are capable of prostituting their professions. And I think that anyone who finds in a story of this kind a reflection on science itself is incredibly stupid. ~ As a writer, I make this humble plea. PRO-SCIENCE is fine. But don't let it go overboard into fanaticism. ~ I probably shan't be down (to the LASES) this week, so kick ("Did she say 'kick' or 'kiss'?", askt Ray) Bradbury for me--affectionately, of course!--and say hello to the gang. I'm up to my ears in work, which I now tremblingly scan for evidences of ANTI-SCIENCE."

Wall LEIBSCHER, a fine friend we made in Chicago, wrote on 14 Oct: "Rec'd latest issue of VOM and was wera surprisd to see my letter enclosed. ~ The cover painting was sensational. I am going to serve them at my Halloween party--empty sausage skins--Hollow-weenies. Tanks for the idea. ~ By the by - I wonder how many scientists know that sometime in January a new comet will brighten up the sky! Tis said it will rival Halley's comet for beauty and size. ~ I never was able to write a coherent letter so don't mind if I ramble. ~ Went to Milwaukee last week. Unfortunately Donn Brazier was attending a meeting of the Milwaukee Fictioneers. After frantically calling over the city, and Donn's mother about six times, I conversed with Donn for about 25 minutes before my train left. He told me astounding things - the main jist of it was that Robert Bloch had been married that very same day. He also told me that he had the first seven pages of the third issue of 'Frontier' done and that the complete mag would be finished sometime in the near future. (It's out now, & a nifty. Students of the Unknown --followers of Fort--connoisseurs of the curious, this mag is your meat! A dime today to Donn will bring U a sample copy. The adres: 3031 N 36 St, Milwaukee, Wis.) -- Am very glad to hear that plans for the Denvention are coming along nicely. Think I'll send in my half a buck tonight. I know it'll be a success because Wiggins is one swell guy and I'm positive he'll do everything in his power to put it over. ~ Wonder how many fans listen to the 'Hermits Cave'. Tonight they had the story of a sunken treasure guarded over by a living mass of seaweed. Seems the mass of seaweed was some gal's na and he was watching it till she got her hands on it. Needless to say she got it, but not after two grisly deaths and plenty of eerie happenings. Good program. ~ My full initials are WCCL and there is a Jr. on the end of it so I guess Morajo might call me Wococolojo. Heaven forbid. (U said it! "W" in Esperanto becomes "V", & "c's" have a special sound: tee-ess, as in Tsar. ~ If your middle names are Cleve or Carl or Clarence or similar, the "c's" woud alter to "k's", in which k's--ooh, wuta pun!--U myt find Morajo calling U Vokokolojo for long, & just "Kok" (pronounced "Coke") for short. This is sposed to be very refreshing. --Fojak) P.S. Tell Pogo hello and thanks for her special hello and that I send a special hello to her too! Hello Pogo-Stick. Leap Year indeed--humph."

From FOT, ed the COMET: "Am enclosing our check for 40¢ for a subscription to the: VOICE OF THE IMAGINATION. ~ Whether Dold will ever be able to draw again is doubtful. His eyes were failing 5 years ago and I had to argue long to keep him in Astounding. Nevertheless I'm trying through Bill Lawler, to get him back. ~ Have contacted Wandrei, Schachner, Williamson, E.E. Smith, and Leinster. There's a letter on the desk from Nelson Bond. ~ I intend to set the pace again. Hope you like the COMET."

ELMER "JURGEN" PERDUE of 1735 Eye St, DC, declares: "I am informed by reasonably reliable authority that there are only three active fans in LA; and that the three of you, by dint of most meritorious hard work, full-time and so on, have built up a couple of dozen pseudonyms; and have thereby fooled the nation into a belief in the actuality of an active society there. And a meeting of your collective group must be most interesting indeed!

"Plan to visit LA sometime before the Denvention, and give with the truth to the nation. And let us hope that you three will know better, hence, than to attempt a fraud on a scale so gigantic. . . . (Things are darker than you think in Shhh!angry-LA. It is whispard that the Real Ackerman was drown'd in San Francisco Bay, seven years ago; & that the infamous 4sJ is in actuality...a Slangelcho!)

/// Coming next

number: Letters from Rothman, Widner, Clarke, Perdue, Gilbert, Jenkins, Carnell.

While pondering the great emptiness

of your recent ideas, there came to my mind a forced thought, notwithstanding your own opinion to the contrary, that no way new in itself, but which has to do with your unique qualifications. Letter writing is an art in itself, distinctly and different from any other form of writing.

The first thing to consider, naturally, is legitimacy.

admittedly a serious and important question, and one which is of great importance to the Government. It is a question which has been discussed for many years, and it is one which is of great importance to the Government. It is a question which has been discussed for many years, and it is one which is of great importance to the Government.

It is this side to reproduce of Ytilda right at ti

or infections of thought which is as very outstanding and extraordinary.

Naturally, it is difficult to transfer hand-written

words to typed words, but of course any letters that are typewritten

are always, and in every case, printed exactly as received by your

excellent qualification.

...Praying that you will continue this very talented device

I am extending my subscription to JAFI products as per enclosed.

Yours affectionately,

"LIV"

ECCLES
DISC RECORDINGS
Incorporated

PANTAGES THEATRE BUILDING

HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Voice of the
IMAGINATION

IS ONE OF
NOTTY 45's
NITWIT PUBLICATION.

HA