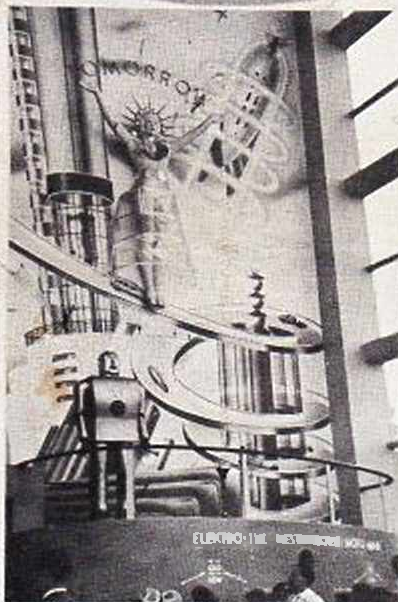


#21 VOICE OF THE IMAGI-NATION

JUST FOR ONE

Vom



FORRY 1984



THE EDITORS SPEAK

COVER is none of the 3 possibilities we had in mind 6 wks ago! It grew out of the British Boys idea. After Connor started ball rolling (did U ever see a bank roll?) with 2 bucks, Connerley sent \$3 for the Cause. Then an Anonymous Angel in Los Angeles furnisht us with lucre to the amount of a lustrum...& we find the total of 10 bucks on the cover & present it to U! Here's who U're seeing: 1 thru 9, Anglo-fans: TED CARNELL, All Out Fan; HARRY TURNER, Tow's artist, publisher the nova-cious femme Zenith; ERIK NELDHAM, general fan; KEN CHAPMAN, Hon Sec (suspended) S-F; MAURICE HANSON, Big Fan; LES JOHNSON, Science Fiction Service (susp.); SID BIRCHBY, w.k. fan; FRANK ARNOLD, author "Xcanica", ex-official the Assn; DAVID MC/ILWAIN, Esperantistfan, editor. susp. Gargoyle, Jon!, kaj aliaj. 10, JULIE "FFF" UNGER. 11, POGO. 12, ROBT HEINLEIN, ANSON MAC/DONALD, LYLE MONROE & (OOPS!). 14, KIMBALL KINNISON SR. 15 (sinisterly significant number!)- JJ FORTIER (2J40yr). 16, That WRIGHT guy TOM. 17, ABBY LU ASHLEY (RuJa-blu, "The Red Lensman"), coed Nova, with 17, hubby AL ASHLEY, ed-in-chief. 19, "DEJAH THORIS" ("Ln-or" Daugherty, Li's own lovely darling). 20, ED CHAMBERLAIN, Shangri-L'Artist. 21, OLON WIGGINS, The Science Fiction Fan. 22, CHAS D HORNIG. 23, WALT DAUGHERTY (with raygun), Pacifi-controller. 24, DON THOMPSON, nice fan. 25 & 26, CHOMETTE SISTERS LILIC & DIANTO (Tongue of Tomoro is their mother language). 27, ART YOUNG (sez he's looking for a sweetheart--adres on pg 10). 28, "HOFFMANIA" Himself. 13, TIGRINA Herself. 29, JOQUEL ITSELF (Madman or Mastermind? Black Messiah or Artful Liah??) 30, The Damn Thing--YERKE. 31, MILTY. 32-38, The Lost Legion: HERBERT HAUSSLER, Deutschland; LINUS HOGENMILLER, when he coind the breve "str"; pseudocide SINGLETON; JOE HATCH, prominent during the Fantasy Magazine era, voluntarily ending his life; Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley's LIL JNR, whose "Ghost" is about to haunt us in a new scientific film; TRUBY HECKEN, once Queen of the Eyrie (WT); JACK DARROW, Greatest Fan of another day. Who's chubby cheek is our Sea Girl caressing? Why, that's BRADEBURY....!

Sidelines: Some long letters had sections condense, this ish, & this practice will be followed in future, unless some great opposition to the idea should develop. To indicate the portions compressed, we at first intended to underline as usual. But our past experience has shown us large amounts of underlining tend to make patches of faint impressions on our pages, a fault peculiar to the LASFS mimeo. To avoid this as much as possible, therefore, in the case of the new abbreviated portions idea, we have devised the "sideline" to indicate section summarized.

Apologys to: Allen Class, Erik Needham, "Dejah" Daugherty, for misspellings of your names, last ish. I was appalled as I noticed first one mistake & then another, for the first time when in print. Only explanation I can make is, I had a terrible tendril-ache the time I cut the stencils. --4e.

Favor for Overseas Fans: Walt Daugherty wishes to announce thru our pgs to any transoceanicomrades who have not recvd his mag Shangri-LA, that cypys of #s 2&3 are available to them for the asking (postfree). Also, cypys on hand of the first 4 Pacificonews, gratis for Aussys, Anglys & Etcetrys. Adres: 846-1/3 W 82 St, LA.

Encomium: We wish to thank Louis Russell Chauvenet, Fandom's Official Fanmag Reviewer, for his unstinted praise & glowing public tribute to our 4th Ann Ish. When Elarcy described it as "lively as a 1913 tennis ball" (NB, Speer: Here is my solution to the problem of how to indicate an uncertain quotation, or a quote with essence of what a person said but not positively the exact words; the occasion arising beuz I'm caut short without a copy of FFF to refer to for LRC's original wording). Anyway, to continue: We were immensely flattend (or, flattered), for, according to the Singapore Caoutchouc Report, 1914 (& we quote from our own translation from the original Singaporeportuguese): "1913 was the island's (Singapore's) greatest year in rubber. The sap yielded an unusually springy (italix ours) product." We leave U to draw your own conclusions about the sap...

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"VOM", MID FEB 42. #21. 10¢. A NOVA-CIOUS' PUB, PERPETRATED BY 45J ACKERMAN & MOROJO AT INTERVALS OF 6 WKS. 10 #S FOR \$1 FROM BX 6475 MET STN, LOS ANGELES CAL. VARIOUS BACK ISSUES AT INDIVIDUAL PRICES.



Boy! Am I
getting blottohirsty

OPENING WITH A BANG! (Boy, is that pop corn!) Milty ROTHMAN, Advisory Board
Head the Natl Fnsy Fans Fedn, 1730 E 17th, hm/BC "I am insane. I have a
pile of mail on my desk big enough to choke a Martian Xlrmfisk. I have dozens of
KFFP trial exams to tabulate (about 20 minutes for each one). I have calculus to
study. I have all sorts of things to do. So I write a letter to VoM. Well,
that's the kind of rag it is. As soon as you receive it you get the urge to write
a letter in reply. I refuse to start by saying Now that we are plunged into
the World Conflict blan blah blah. So we're in the war. So I don't want to make a
speech about how awful it all is and how we must have fortitude and keep our fan
unity together. Things would be a lot better if people talked less. First,
the cover: it stinks. I don't get this nude business at all. I don't object to
nudes, per se. In fact, I love nudes. But the ones you have been publishing are
so lousy! Just look at the proportions of the figures on the cover. And the ob-
scene bulge of the stomach of the one on the left. If you want real nudes, have
Baltadonis draw you some. (Balty was invited some mos. ago but didnt respond.) He
hasn't been going to art school for nothing. (He rather shoud spose not! Tuitions
are customary?) I'm coming to the conclusion that this nude fad is a gag. It
doesn't sound like you two moralists at all. The section of foreign letters is
always a treat. Gawd, but Ron Levy has himself in a mental state! (Levy: Aussie
audubonist who turned his eyes to the greener fields of far Amerifandom, seeking the
Blue Bird of Happiness.) There's not much use saying anything about it, because by
now he has probably come out of it, and feels just a little silly about having
written such a letter while in it. It may comfort him to know that he is not a-
lone. Everybody talks about the necessity of writing serious letters to VoM.
Well, that's a good sign. Perhaps after enough of that we shall actually have some
important essays submitted. I might even write one myself. Trouble is, then I
won't have anything to put into Milty's Mag. (Rothman's own pub, distributed in
FAPA.) (If such a state of affairs can be remotely visualized.) (Ooh. I split an
infinitive.) The future of Milty's Mag is somewhat vague." Milty tells why he
may move back to Philly, where his adres woud re-be 2113 N Franklin St--but confir-
mation of this change hasnt come at time of durnying his letter. Says he may re-
sort to hektoing h's h in future; has learnd some trix about the jelly roll that
shoud result in a good job & bets if they work out halfandom'll return to the pre-
mimoed method. 4 fans he's noticed working for the War Dept (as ciwys not
Sojarrs) are Speer, Adj Gen's Off, Wm/DC; Paul Klingbiel, Signal Corps, Chi; DB
Thompson, Engrs (he thinks) in Ia; & now Milty in the Ordnance Dept, Philly.
"Not to mention Zombie Singleton, who has been located by scout Speer in the Navy
Yard, Washington, D.C. (But we don't talk about him anymore, do we?) We-uns is
all out for war production aren't we. Thumbs up, keep 'em flying, Remember
Pearl Harbor. Buy Defense Bonds, Gospody Polmilu, and other such stuff. love"

DB Thompson

"the Android of Alexandria", rites from Ia, 1903

Folk: "VoM seems to be a very good barometer of
fandom; not directly, but in a curious, roundabout fashion. For a while, one gen-
eral type of fan will dominate its pages until their natural enemies can stand it
no longer; then, with a roar, these latter rush into the fray. Ultra-silly pitter-
patter dominated the mag for a while, almost to the exclusion of all else. A few
fans wrote bitter letters of condemnation. They thought that VoM would be better
dead, or so they said; but they followed those letters with others, some bitter,
some otherwise, but all expressing their authors' views on more-or-less serious
matters, or matters of interest. Silly pitter-patter is rare in the January issue.
Widner, top humorist of them all (or, at any rate, close to the top) writes a seri-
ous letter that is interesting. Like Tucker, another serious funnyman, he is sure
that Fandom and the Pros have little or nothing in common. My own opinion is that
Fandom would die of old age, relatively soon, without the Pros as a source from
which to draw new recruits. The Pros don't need the actifans half as badly as the
fans need the Pros. Granting that present Fandom could well be self-sustaining for
a while, the group is still far too small in numbers, and spread over too large a
space, to ever accomplish anything, even for itself; anything at all lasting, I
mean. Nearly half the actifans are even opposed to any efforts along that line;
and, as individualists, in which class most fans belong, they have much on their
side. I don't agree with these Anarchists; but then, I don't like alcohol, either,
and their seems to be some connection, I'm not at all sure of that, either, since
the whoopers-up seem to be about equally divided, themselves, on the matter of or-
ganization. Which reminds me, that I wish to say that Yerke's account of the
extra-curricular activities at the Denvention, in which, for numerous reasons, I
had no part, is the most hilarious thing I've read in a long time. It is positive-
ly a work of art. Also, it is entertaining. I mean to say, I enjoyed reading it.
The battle of the nudes is amusing, but getting a little old. Harry Warner
expresses my opinion, pretty well. I recall that damon knight, some 8 or 10

months ago, before he became a PRO, said he was considering putting out a fanzine to be called FANTASY NUDES. He seemed to have some doubt as to whether or not he could send it through the mails. And I used the same argument that Harry uses now; namely, that great quantities of pictures of lovely damsels in their birthday suits could be purchased at any book store or newsstand. As a form of art, I can find nothing wrong with nudos; but I must say that most of those appearing in VOM, partly because of the difficulties inherent in the processes of reproduction, are far from artistic. Tom Wright's lovely ghost, or whatever, was a different matter; that wasn't a nude, but that isn't the point: Tom turned out what to me seemed to be a really beautiful, fantastic piece of work. I think that Wiedenbeck has done a pretty fair job on the conventionalized figure for Daughter Time on the current cover; but there are some rather obvious anatomical faults in the figure of the mother which detract from the picture. And, to top it all off, I can't help wondering just how a psychiatrist would interpret this excessive interest in the depiction of the 'female form divine' which has suddenly become such an engrossing subject to the VOMEDS. Is Portier really right, or are some of the antis? Well, maybe I just worked too long on the Municipal tennis courts in Lincoln; it is astonishing how many of the patrons among the so-called weaker sex would have looked much better in the tennis attire of the gay 'Nineties. Of course, there were exceptions!."

Ye Gods & lil fishys. Acky speaking on stencil. Turns up here a note from Morajo which was sposed to've been attacht to Milty's letter & inserted at the point where we were termd moralists. Clarifyd the coed: "Our objections to smoking & drinking are not moral, they are functional. Anything that interferes with the efficiency of the human organism is bad, in our estimation. Anything wasteful meets with our hearty disapproval. I smoked bfor I became connected with fan publishing. When I quit (smoking, that is, not fan publishing!) one direct, noticeable result, of interest to fans, was that my stenciling ability improved, so that Forry actually complimented me & woud entrust me with Vom stencils. I was able to type faster, copy more nearly correctly, & needed to use obliterate less frequently. Not to mention the improvement in my health, & satisfaction in not seeing dimes & dollars disappearing in smoke."

of Wayside Inn, Fountain, Colo. slings the *LeRoy Tackett* newcomer slant. This is jus 2 10-q 4 the ish of Vom. I like the green ink, cartoons, and pix. G, in Vom we hav fonetik spelling, Esperanto, and the slangwidge which I am painfully trying to acquire. We also hav werewolves, zombies, and the Profosser. What other fms. offers this collection of freaks? However, Vom is really good. At least I think so. And there r some people who think I'm nuts. And they r probably right. B4 I 4get it, there is a money order 4 90; enclosed with this note. Send me Vom 4 the next yr. Stfanically yours, later letter: "Since wartimeconomy necessitates the usage of all possible space in Vom, why don't you drop the cartooner. They're not funny anyway. End quote. (Prohistoricartoonseries has been replaced by one witch we hope U'll like better. Most readers indicate they require occasional pix to relieve monotony of masses of letterage.) --- Special to Widner. In the Jan Vom you stated that you think that the main reason fans are fans is because they are dissatisfied with world conditions and wish to improve said conditions. Right? You also wondered what and how improvement is to be brought about. Improvement is already being brought about. Scientists are constantly working to improve world conditions. Food, housing material, etc. are all being or have been developed at the present time. These synthetics cost very little to produce and are made from many of the raw materials we have no use for now. The government itself is improving living conditions by tearing down slums and building modern apartment houses. Human relations could be improved if the races of the world had a common language. We have that in Esperanto. When Esperanto was devised by Dr. Zamenhof he did not intend it to replace any existing language but as an auxiliary tongue for international use. QX Art. You asked for discussion and I put one together. Now you or anyone else can take it apart and send me the rangled remains via Vom. More stencil sabotage Forrojo. Did you make a mistake in copying Tigrina's letter or did she really call the Brooklyn boy Holdman? (T. evidently misread Feldman's sig.) So the Devil Doll is a lycanthropos; Tucker mentions in LeZ that he has a pic of a vampire, Werewolf and vampire. Couldn't they have a swell time at a funeral? Interesting fact: Two faced friend on shield (Jan cover) is Roman god Janus, for whom January was named. Said god on said cover of said ish. Coincidence?" (Yeah; like New Yr's Day falling on Jan 1.)

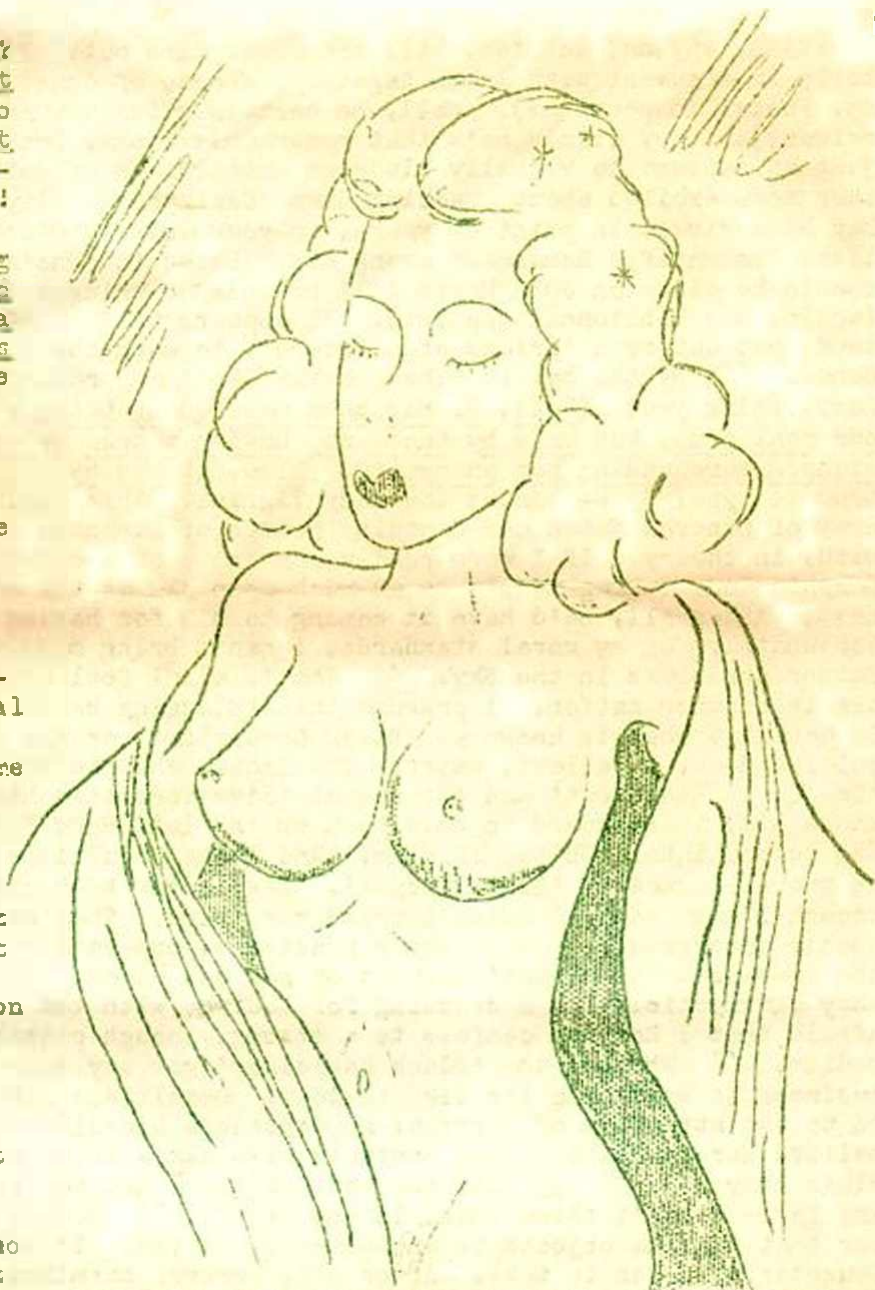
FOETTER (nuffsad?) 1936 - 39 Ave. Oakland, Cal: "It's odd how people change. but stranger yet how fans do change; and change--o, so--so very much! I remember how Fred Ernoyer told me it would happen, how Korshak, the Erle, told me it was inevitable, and how others calmly seconded the motion. I argued in vehement manner, and when Goldstone joined the parley for a brief say in recognition of my 'correct attitude', but now it's happened. And I cannot say that I'm sad. . . . What has happened? Well, the predictable inevitable; the gnastly happening to a great fan (so self styled): the ungodly fini-- Only maybe a little different. Once I thought that my fanmags were delayed for certain reasons, that something was going wrong, and that I would honestly try to get them out again. Now I know differently; o, perhaps I was sincere at the time, but no longer is that so. After all, does it really matter whenever I decided to publish something? No, not at all. Did I join fandom to be tied to it by duty? No, I joined fandom as a form of relaxing creation. I refuse to work my nuckles to the quick over a fanmag when I can do the same for payment at a good job. Moreover, I refuse to ruin my conception of fandom by doing anything that even faintly smells

like work; and I can smell work from Chi to Frisco! Maybe this is a rare case of laziness, but--dammit!--try it and see if it isn't far more enjoyable than meeting schedules, etc. Why does one publish a fanmag? To please himself is a safe answer, so why try to please anyone else? It's a cinch that you'll receive no compensation and very little comment, none of it being constructive or enheartening. Why work to create a terrific fan club? Joe sez it won't get nobody nuttin. Local groups will go on like the Golden Gaters, just a bunch of Joe's rabble-rousing. "Lots to write plans, great futures, rousing conferences, state-wide organizations; we loll in decadent ease and love it." He does his bit, bringing in new mems for the RFFF, but really can't see a concrete purpose behind the thing. Organized fans will be like a bunch of cattle with no place to go & only fan fouds to serve as a good slaughter house. He highly compliments Moskowitz' "Escape to Nowhere" in Dec Sun Spots, salutes Yerke's pub for "The DEMvention". "Y'know, anyday that someone slaves and fools around with fandom; --that day that one is a fool. No doubt about it. After all, failure to realize that this grand world all about us offers great things to grasp and struggle for is catastrophic. And that failure can happen just as anything can happen. I know, for I neglected the real world far too long for this world of untrue, unsympathetic fantastic fanaticism. What's the thrill of a large mail when compared to meeting dozens of old friends and making new ones each and every day? What's the thrill of turning out a fanmag that gets heartless thanks when compared to the job you earn, the pay you get, the success you burn in stable, compound, and wonderful reality... that is closer to tomorrow than that fantasy field? What's the thrill of pecking away at a hard metallic typewriter, sending a hacked-up article on some fan drunk, when compared to the thrill of meeting that girl, knowing her, loving her; well? don't try to say that the former is closer to the future scheme of things than the latter. Or are you afraid to deal in reality?" Cranking out sloppy circulars to get some cranks to assemble cannot compare, sez Joe, with producing storys. But "unless one knows them on equal footing, then this is more Amie McPherson or Father Peace (Diviner) or Wendell Wilkie or so on. Never get me wrong. When quitting sf fandom, even for a strange semi-activity, one experiences a dreadful loss, a desire to bawl his heart out into the night's dead ears, and an impassionately long moment of terrifying nostalgia. But that passes, though the memory lingers on. However, fandom gives each fan--each true fan of which I count myself one at odd times--something different, a new outlook, a better visualization, and such. And, oddly, fandom can only be torn away after tearing away a new, a likeable, part of one's self. But enough of this, for it seems rather odd when coming from fandom's most notorious drunk and quite infamously impetuous-outspoken fan. Put some fans got off to a bad start. The time they began to ban promags . . . See what I mean? I'm less fan than ever, but I read the promags more than most. And understand them far more than any avid reader. I can even argue with some of my old statements." Herewith he reverses opinions on FFI & FA, characterizing the former as boring... slow... deathly quiet, awarding the palm to Palmer for perfect interest in his fantasy mag. -- But nothing is perfect, nor yet anything all-bad. -- Agent Vom himself: "The cover was good at the top, but the dames were stinkers. The little gal might pass, but the old babe looks like one of the synthetic creations from Mars. I hate to see Yerke's Jamn Thing fold for sure; I may have called it a stinker on occasion, but to see it take the real thing, the long drop-- It made Vom sick by comparison on this issue. And I liked Vom. Down with Fortier! How could we get along without a contents page? Down with 'im, but slip Leibscher below the bulky guy. No want a contents, but one with a new twist, a new slant, or something a little lighter. Y'know: change of scenery; one gets tired of the same old twist, or the same old slant, or... But Martin would call that pornographic, oh low! Next cover! Not Hoffman; no! no! gohd, no!" That Widner's ideas good but'll anything be done about 'em? Cheers for Bronson. "Would like to meet Levy, who seems like a sincerely nice chap. Shouldn't be in fandom, tho, if can't take it, 'cause fans dish ruffly & expect no comments from anyone no matter how hard the blow. Crouten another fellow Fortier'd like to meet, even tho they say he's full of conceit, in which he couldn't beat Joe in some respects, sez Joe. Didn't like Daugherty's bacover. "Rereading today--Jan. 8--makes me wonder if this will brand me as a dope, a genius, or a madman. Or do I hear someone remarking: 'He must be one of those crazy fans!'"

Another firsttimer, our New Yr artist Jack W. ~~W. W. W.~~ of 115 Marjorie St., Battle Creek, Mich. takes us behind the drawing board for an anecdote in relation to the cover. "I finisht the pic on Wenzday (so I thot) and on Friday Dec 5, took it with me to the Galactic Roamers meeting to obtain reactions. Doc Smith casually pointed out a colossal blunder that I'd made (hav you notist it?). I intended to rectify it over the wkend, but on Saturday I, absont-mindedly, flutterd over the edg of that elevator shaft, completely forgetting to switch on my Bergenholm. I did a brodie fourteen feet down onto hard cement and as a result I'm now wearing a pretty pink plaster corset that reaches from armpit to crotch. (Morajo, it's just too cunning for words --you awt to see it.) Also I'm sporting a nice plaster snailshell (spr) on my left arm that makes me wish that I wer within arms reach of that old sourpuss, Professor 'Whitpip', who so disgraced Vom's pages recently. I agreed with you, 43. No healthy minded male between the ages of 10 and 100 really cares very much for any other form of art except nudes (pictorial or otherwise). Ask Walt Liebscher about that pair of nudes in pastel that I showed him a while back. I had tho some of sending that pic to Jack Erman to add to his collection of pretties, but after the dirty trick he pulled on Dave Elder in the last ish, I don't believe I will. In my opinion, splitting an infinitive is a mere nicadillpissle, but splitting a nude (Pic) is sheer sacrilege. I know why you did it and your reasons are reasonable, but I still dont like it." (Have U heard about the fanartist who askt his Vomodel "If I told UU had a beautiful mouth, would you tell it against me?" Yes, I kiss so.)

Schizoid complex
doxy? Persecution? I'm not
"more later" the damsel (to
note tigrina) reproduced at
ryt purportedly comes from--
"THE PROFESSOR"! ?&?&?&?&?

Nils Frome ^{YOUNG}
⁰¹²
time fantasy fan, drops us a
line from Fr 3, Fraser calls
in MC. Q nada: "I was quite
bowled over when I glimpsed
the cover design on the 4
Anniversary Voice of the
Imagi-Nation--and I'm tell-
ing you no lies. Some of the
usual amateur art--pretty
putrid--but on boy! that
green gal! Terrific. This
bevy of delicious damsals
(Vomaidens Portfolios 1&2)--
pity they are two dimensional
and on paper. Moo-woo! Do I
deduce there is actually some
daft coot who doesn't like
nudes--I mean actually? Bet
he wouldn't care even to be
marooned on a desert island
with Gene Tierney. Ugh--what
a distasteful prospect. What
am I saying? As you
know, the current persecution
of fantasy fans by the gov-
ernment going on in this
country makes it practically
impossible to get American
mags, pro or fanzines, so it
was a special treat to get
these. But it tantalizes me
to read ads for mags I can no
longer read. Its been almost
as though one were dead & buried since the mags stopped coming in. I've cussed a
lot to myself about the quality of most of the mags when I could get them just by
snelling out fifteen or twenty cents at the newsstand--I didn't realize how lucky I
was then until they no longer came into the country."



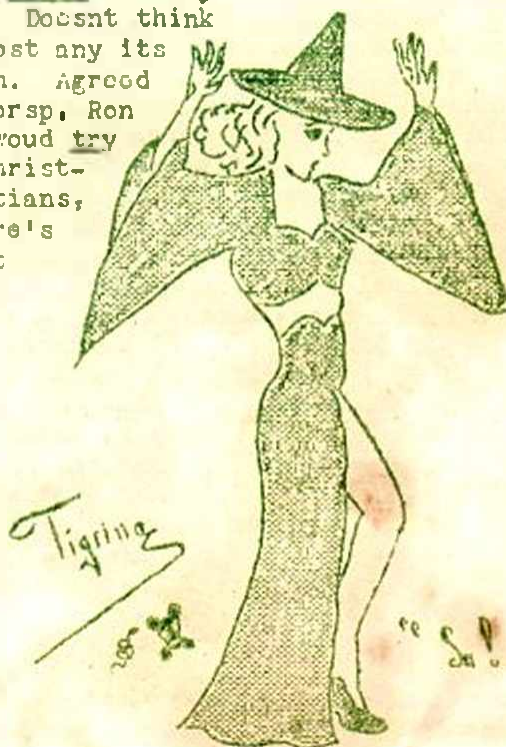
R. George Medhurst

of 126 Finborough Rd, W Brompton, London SW-10: "Dear
43, (No, Mr. Censor, that isn't the nom de guerre of an International Spy. If you
have to read through this letter you'll find little beyond ramblings concerning
'scientific fantasy' and its addicts. Very few cunningly devised codes lurk in
these innocent pages.) " May I criticise, if that isn't looking a gift horse too
squarely in the face? The cover (Oct...the Tomaiden) is one of the most im-
pressive pieces of fanart I've seen for a good long while, not even excerting the
Turner cover of 'Zenith' the 2nd. I wonder about the cross, though. The girl
looks too good to be holy...if you get me. But the Lady Tigrina doesn't like it!
(Cross in question was the Egyptian ankh, a.k.a. crux ansata, symbol of Life.)
Nice starray of dots, and not too many of them. Wish the hair weren't streaming
back so violently. Not the scene for hurricane effects. Back cover (Gifford)
I don't see. I'm damned if I see! There's some subtlety that has me beat. I al-
ways was simple minded. Alack! Hope I can persuade someone in this unhappy
Island to loan me Vomaidens No.1. But I don't suppose so." Reggie inquires re the
Official BS Attitude towards "uncladamsels". Is it really the "rule", he asks, of
our Authoritys, that nudes are "dirty"? How wonderful! Mr Medhurst, to live in a
land of mental maturity, in that respect, where the backwardness of such a sup-
posedly forward country can be regarded in no less a lile than incredible. In moral
indignation arising out of Reggie's foregoing remarks & others omitted here, Forry
aid an article on the subject of fantasy nudes to England's open-policy pub, Fan-
tast. Extra copys probly will be available, upon publication, from 4s.6d. to intrest-
ed partys in USA. "I am sorry to say that I have to agree with the pronounc-
ment of my fellow-British Ronnie Holmes (this is an almost unheard of event!) If
one were to distill all this mass of letterage there would be surprisingly little
solid residuo. However, Ronnie Holmes on Art-work is merely guffing. Whatever
one reads off mags for (and the motives are varicus!), no-one in his senses reads
it for art! I wonder just what is the 'that' which he can get elsewhere?
Even the sight of an uncovered Vomaiden arouse thoughts of 'a certain subject' in
his mind? Sssm, Ronnie: About Ronnie's spelling. Unkind of you to
correct it literally. He only does it to convince U.S. that he carries a can of
porridge between his shoulders. Oddly enough he doesn't - quite! (Translation,
the "can of porridge" was a reference to a certain subject--it conveys no meaning
at all.) About this subject of "a certain subject", which takes up so much fantasy
magazine opus in my opinion. (I'm not a fan of the water, here). Is it of
such great moment? If people want to write their love with a profusion of personal-

ities, why not let 'em, till the fever dies out? Thus, I'm just now hotly in argument with Anton Ragatsky, about, of course, 'a certain subject' (howdy, Postal Inspection?). Well, he certainly isn't a 'right guy'! (is that good American?). Very likely he's that remarkable bloke, Donald Raymond Smith. But I'm just as content to verbally bludgeon Anton, fake or not, as Don Ray. I am rather more excited about tracking down 'Christopher Blayre' (see Bibliophan No.1). May be a rival, in point of years, to your late T. O'Connor Sloane. Writes stf, lists 'Scientific Romances' among his hobbies in 'Who's Who'--and the old boy should be close on 80! Maybe I'll be able to wring a 'Cheetah Girl' out of him! (again, see Bibliophan the 1st). It appears that the 20 copy edition was unauthorised, put out by a 'friend of a friend', to whom the MS. had been lent in confidence. "By the by, is 'The Cheetah Girl' any relation to Tigrina, the Tiger Lady, think you? (Well, T. has been accused of being a cheetah for not revealing her real name, but only by those not having a true understanding of the circumstances surrounding her anonymity. Also, it has been said: "Cats of a stripe run true to type.") -- About the Lady Tigrina. This business of marching with the army of General Satan and Captains Powers of Darkness I have, I suppose, no quarrel with, in theory. If I were really convinced of a conscious, more-or-less anthropomorphic God, I imagine I'd be as much agin him as the most fervent Power of Darkness. After all, he'd have it coming to him for having the nerve to create me! Fortunately for my moral standards, I can't bring myself to think seriously of this Father Christmas in the Sky. That's all I feel about the theory. The practice is another matter. I presume this 'pledging herself to the Powers of Darkness' is actually what is known as 'Black Occultism', or the 'Left Hand Path'. Black Occultism does, I believe, exist. The Indian chappie who inspired Dennis Wheatley's 'The Devil Rides Out' and its sequel (I've forgotten his name: Harold Chibbett knows him) is supposed to have been on the Left Hand Path, before he took fright and turned into a White Magician. And White Occultists I've met hint consistently at the existence of 'Black Lodges'. I've never been able to get in touch with one, though I must admit I haven't tried very hard. They naturally keep pretty thoroughly underground. As to their practices, one gathers that they operate through the so-called 'elemental' factors of sex and blood. Which means, in fact, that they use mysticism as a dressing for sadism, with the full sexual trimmings. I am afraid that I have to confess to a strong, though probably irrational, dislike of sadism. Whether the 'Black Magicians' got any super-normal effects from this business is something I'd like to know. Occultists like Aleister Crowley (commended to the attention of Tigrina: he considers himself the Beast of 'Revelation'! I believe Harold Chibbett has contacts with him - if he is still alive, that is) claim they do. Is this the sort of Black Art the Lady Tigrina is pioneering for? I don't think there is any other. Gather from friend Millard's letter that Tigrina objects to uncladamsels in Vom. It seems a very poor line for a Daughter of Satan to take. After all, however harmless a Vomaiden may be to the wholesome minds of you and I (thank me nicely!), there is little doubt that feminine nudity does arouse thoughts, in some people, that are traditionally ascribed to Satan's domain. (Attention, Ronnie!) And in the 'Hymn to Satan', His Nothermost Majesty is entreated to 'Teach us all your evil ways' (italics mine). May we have this Tigrina heresy explained, please? I shudder to see this razor-edged critic (Alan Robts) hoisting 'Swords of Ihrs' into the heights along with one of Welle's East. And as for the 'certain outlivers of this century'! Lawks! On this side of the Atlantic we've completely demolished the legend of 'The Skylark of Space'. This unfortunate opus is universally rejected, from Sam Youd to the Bibliophan, with Donald Raymond Smith maintaining an uncomfortable silence." Note to Rajeez, Thompson & Unger: RGL sez if U didnt receive pkg from him several mos. ago it sadly points the moral "Observe the fathoadedness of sending a mass of stuff in the one frail boat!"

LEN MOFFATT, 419 Summit Ave, Ellwood City, Pa, said--to sum-
mit up briefly: Cartoon humor has been slipping steadily since the Oct ish; wants more & better ones. "Wiedenbeckover" xntly drawn from good theme but nudos getting tiresome. Doesnt think Contents Pg besthing about Vom, but good; hasnt lost any its kick. Dolder nude better'n Nyx's in preceeding ish. Agreed with Widner's letter. Greatly enjoys all foren corsp, Ron Levy's in particular last ish. Suggests if Levy would try to be a Christian, "since he knows more natural Christian principles than those who pretend to be Christians, he wouldn't take those 'downhearted spells.' There's a good many hypocrites in fandom and elsewhere, but there's also a good many real Christians too-in fandom and elsewhere!" Points to Cunningham as example, thinking, as the BSFWRS founder does, of others besides himself. Len didnt like "The ____ Thing" & glad to hear it dead.

LOUIS RUSSELL CHAUVENET, POBox 1431, Univ Stn. Charlottesville, Va: "I criticize your cover: Item, the heads of the two women are shown in profile; the bodies are 1/4 facing the observer. This means they are looking at each other over their shoulders, in an unnatural and awkward fashion. Item, the "time-matron" is not at all attractive. She is too taut, too self-conscious. She does not look natural; ie, she does not appear nude, she appears naked, and



aware of it. The "Time-matron" is more at ease. The maiden's pose is also unsatisfactory; the left arm is thrown back too far by perhaps a good 1/4 inch in the reproduction (more in original); the standing on both toes pose is awkward and not the natural attitude to take when reaching forward and upwards (try it). Item, the time glass in back ground. The essence of such sand shifting devices is that they be reversible. This, being permanently fixed, is naturally permanently useless, except possibly as a somewhat futile symbol. Futile because perpetually thwarted. It would be better as a symbol without any sand at all. "Let's look over the line up for and against the cover nudes. Pro, Joe Fortier (cites classic art, says nudity is not nakedness, and anyway the sensual element is a part of life); Phil Bronson (A woman's body is a thing of beauty); several others saying mostly just that they like nudes. Anti, Harry Warner (on the odd grounds of amateurism, he says the professional purveyors of pornography carry it further and more sensationally. He should remember that VOM is still by definition amateurish); Tigrina, reasons not given; a couple of others, especially two not represented in this issue, to wit, Paul Spencer and Gertrude Kuslan, who want to defend purity of womanhood or something like that. "As far as I am concerned, the trouble with your new decovers is that few of the females depicted thereon seem able to refrain from shedding their glamor when shucking their clothes. "Another great defect of the cover policy is that the covers have no relationship to the contents. Imagine the plight of your new readers, who eagerly turn to the inside and start reading the text. If they base their expectations on the cover, they are disappointed. (If, frankly, we don't no. In my opinion--4e speaking--fanmag covers rnt sposed to have any relation to their interiors. I mean, they never have had; I don't expect them to. The cover is just the place to put the best pic U can get, be it rocket, city, BEM or the scientist's dawter, without purporting to illustrate anything inside or be a cue to the contents, other'n that they're fantastic. But praps we can get some data. Moffatt--Lackett--Connor--Crutch, I believ U all were introduced to the Voice by a Vomaiden cover: Did U have any such reaction as Elarcy suggests? Or will anyone else in the audience speak up who considerd hiser first cover--if it was a Vomaiden--misleading?) -- Your contents page used to be amusing. Note past tense. I will second Fortier's recommendation you change to something fresher and less strained than this has now come to be. You're among the extremely few people I have ever seen saw a woman in half, and the others were all professional magicians. But perhaps you have been taking lessons in demonology from Tigrina? "Some notes on devil worship!" An agnost, Elarcy disbelieves in supernatural forces, good or evil. Willing to concede possibly exist, for sake of argument sez: assume devil exists, & few will deny that must imply god also, if only as check on devil. Devil--immortal--ipso facto wiser'n a human. In any bargain with a mortal--sale of hiser soul, frinstance--d, will enter only if he noes he'll profit. Therefore futile to deal with the devil & hope to emerge winner. Individual delivering self over to satan for simple love of evil: devil-worshipper. Logically, if the god supposedly responsible for all creation not worth worshipping, devil--or subgod in charge of dept of evil--not worth it either. True even if woud-be d.-worshipper profers evil, heesh admitting it is evil. If the d.-w. claims for himer values are difrent & evil is good, hiser case logically is presentod. But human race in general admits kindness, patience, love, loyalty, etc, are good; their oppositos, evil. Clearly, advocatos of "evil" as "good" advance doctrine actually tending to work to detriment of human race. "If, therefore, one believes in god and the devil, one should set about extirpating devil worshipers as thoroly as possible. From a strictly logical standpoint witch-burnings are quite reasonable, granted the preliminary premises. Since I am confident the premises are false, devil worshippers amuse and do not arouse me. But a religious fan like Moffat ought to feel it his duty to destroy Tigrina! No wonder she keeps her name secret! Incidentally, I never could understand how sf. could be reconciled with religion. Would Moffat like to demonstrate? It would interest me. (Bronson's) description of Cunningham at a sf. convention amused me. I would enjoy assisting at the thumb twiddling process, because I don't happen to drink myself, and see no point in the consumption of liquor." Continues: Actually, just doesnt like the stuff, doesnt care either way about others' opinions of it. Nondrinker can argue impeccably heesh's quite capable enjoying self without resort to artificial stimulus. Look, sez Chauv; he can walk from one place to another, a cripple can't, so heesh uses a crutch & gets there just the same & LRC pitys himer not, 'cause noes heesh doesnt want it. Doesnt blame himer, woud do same in hiser place. Can enjoy self without having to drink first; others can't; neither pitys nor blames 'em, for exactly similar reasons. LRC's filosofy's complete sans supernaturalitys; others' rnt; again, neither pity nor blame, Sez: "That's my angle. Does it start a war? That will be fun! Please send a filing case. You say a thought strand from a tendril-less slan is acceptable. Tendril-less slans have no thought strands, and I am enclosing no thought strands. But it won't work." Beyond dout, best letter Levy's--alone woud justify entire ish. Levy speaks admiringly & wistfully of Amerifandom, the while vilifys Australifandom harshly. Same ish, Widner roundly denounces Amerifandom, holds Anglofandom up as shining lite. Ironically, DJBoughty then weighs in with English praise for Aussys! Greener fields, etc. "We're all the same, and most fans like some and dislike others. This is a consequence of all fans being members of the human race. (Slan!-der!) The remedy is dark and doubtful. Only Tigrina would approve; hence, the remedy might better be left untried. (Note to curious people: Remedy for making fandom consist only of people you like is to remove from fandom all people you do not like.)"

That is where you have
been all this time!"



faname of ECConnor. 929 Butler St. Peoria, Ill, who sez:

"I have come to the conclusion that Fortier's letter was the best thing in the issue. Mistakes, for my part, are only regrettable if they go unnoticed. I tnot Widner's was second-best. Naturally he has the rite idea in saying that letters to fanzines should be cut where necessary. Any complaint to the contrary is an insult to an editor's intelligence. (Letters to fmz, yes; but Vom is not just any old "femme". We could improve the content of this pub considerably by correcting spelling mistakes, readers' typographical errors, errors of repetition & omission, grammatical mistakes, etc; tighten up lengthy letters, & that type of thing. And that's exactly what we don't want to do...we want to let the real character of each correspondent be made manifest.) Obviously, it should be the goal of every sfan to make the world as civilized and scientifically inclined as possible. In this respect constructive criticism and intelligent arguing are in order; petty jealousies and prejudices are insults to fans, even if they are directed against one individual by another individual or against a particular group by another group. If certain fans would try to help national fan organizations or movements, and discontinue criticism of the officers and lack of activity by the members, maybe there would be more activity. I don't think we're playing around with merely a few stories or magazines. We should concern ourselves with why we are interested in the scientific and futuristic ideas portrayed by those mediums. About the contents page of 'Vom'. I really believe it would be wise to keep it as it is. In the ever-furious search for changes and variety I think it expedient to leave certain things intact and unmarred; in this case the contents page of 'Vom' acts as a sort of solid framework--or foundation--upon which the rest of the magazine depends. I agree with Liebscher. I'd like to mention, also, that since U've spent so much time building up 'Vom'-Views it would be sheer, suicidal folly to discontinue them (By Vom-Views I mean Vom-Nudes). Lastly, I'd like to condemn an immaterial individual who has been given the psodonym of 'The Professor'. It is apparent that this is a creation of some ernstwhile fertile mind, brought into being as a so-called teaser for the VoManiacs. Expose this farce! (Or maybe U, 4c, are concealing someone else's identity under this painful psodonym?? Hah!--I have a foul suspicion of the true identity of this 'old-time fan', anyway.)" (Don't look at me, chum! 4c speaking. "The Prof" apared in Spaceways' pgs bfor he ever was heard of in Vom.)"

a brandnewcomer, of 1710 Montgomery Ave, NYC, criticizes:
 "It was a terrible experience trying to read the magazine and I confess I gave up after struggling through ten pages or so.

"Obviously you are quite ignorant (or, you probably just don't care) of the fundamentals of typography. And while I still feel irritated at the insensate waste of energy evidenced by VOI and most of the other S-F fan mags I have lately received I'll list the other shortcomings I find in VOI, many of which are results of the desire to cram as much material as possible into the available space.

"The covers(I've seen one or two previous VOI's) are pretty horrible. I don't mean to reflect on the use of nudes, but your artists are quite putrid and the use of pubic hair does not enhance the art any. The Nov. '41 issue had a fairly nice cover, though. The interior text and makeup is simply fierce. I won't criticize the content because I realize you would not print inferior material if you did not generally receive it. But the crowdedness is inexcusable. And the reproduction of the type is weak.

"I also find the circumscribed commentary annoying. I can see your readers all developing various categories of nervous spasms and I frankly felt an incipient muscular tic developing around my head region before I put down VOI". Art goes on to say he's done mimeing 1000% superior to VOI. Our type is too small. And he insists on a paragraf division so his letter won't be run on after the preceeding letter & into the following. Well, most of U noe the ansrs to these objections alre dy, so we pointed out privately to Art that the parenthoticommentary had proven a widely copyd feature; we rnt millionaires, we have to use many inferior products in the making of the mag that recently havent been giving us the results for the reputation of readability we'd like; &c. We predict the "crowded" fanmag will become increasingly the case, "artistic" productions full of blank space disappearing f.t.d. (for the duration). Continuing:

"I believe the reason fans do not gravitate by the thousands to the fan mags and clubs is the paucity of intelligent leadership, and I mean no reflection because I recognize the potentials manifest among the leaders of fandom, in that there is no sensible channelization of these potentials into a dynamic, imaginative organization of youth. Perhaps the word I should have used is not intelligent but perceptive. Oh, well, if I am not torn out of this life into a CPSCamp you'll get what I am driving at.

"But please don't take offense. I honestly feel that I am quite inferior in many respects to the average old-time fan. I have simply seen the 'light'. It is somewhat like the poor job our really brilliantly educated scientists, politicians, artists, priests have made out of our world despite their knowledge. It is not so much learning as an intelligent application of learning that will make ours a decent world and fandom an inspiring part of our indecent world.

"In fact, I love you all! After all, I am a pacifist and is not pacifism love? Gad! Incidentally, do you know any pacifists who would like to write to me?"

Ree Helena Clark Gilder Founder & Exec Head the Leeds School of Fine Arts (Music, Lit., Astrology, Redacting, Esoteric Philosophy, etc) 1112 Turk St. San Francisco Cal. reacted at great length to a sample of Vom, first flagrag she ever'd seen; in fact, reacted to the extent of 4000 words, a very few of which we've room directly to quote. Pon receiving the sprise Vom-shell, she dropt all work, reading from cover to cover bfor recontinuing. Woudve sent comment much sooner but ran into streak of hard luck. "So D. R. Smith, of England, got his hand hurt for some minor offence did he? 'Ya aint seen er heard nuttin yet!' I must have been a bad, bad girl, to get what I did." First, she nrly tore all the muscular part of the thumb off her left hand. Commencing xmas eve, & nrly evry day since, she's had the toothache. Shortly after Now Yr she spraind the thumb on her rito hand. Well, praps all these things have no relation to fantasy, but just to show U what a martyr she is in riting to Vom, badly as she feels. She's extremely intrusted in science, has had a lil elementary training in sevrul of the branches & secretly pines to become eminent in the field, but simply doesnt noo enuf to tell if the scientific parts of most storys woud hold water. Took to reading stf on the Gernsback Theory, to absorb the scientificoating. She likes her science "skillfully woven into a good strong plot, preferably one with a profound and lasting love, underlying it all, for a motive. A shilly-shally, love taken lightly, plot, loosely hung together, not only gives me disgusting creeps, but the nausea actually makes me sick to death." She quails in sheer panic at the very thot of being deliberately mislead under the guise of authentic science. QX to have really eminent scientists voicing theorys, so long as they very definitely are labeled theorys, but bitterly resents the imagination, etc, paraded as actual fact, "and allowed to let stand as represented, misleadingly unlabeled as the characters own estimate of himself, and undiscovered as a falsity by any." Suggests jr & sr fmz, & thinks letters from fans at all times should be carefully enuf coucht so no matter at what point a newie breaks into the swelling ranks, heesh'll be able to understand what it's all about. "Even those older fans, who perhaps should be able to fathom, what to me, seem, rather vague allusions to some past subject of discussion, must surely be hard put to it, sometimes, trying to get a sharp focus on the old picture, for all the fuzz of hazy, and no dout often inaccurate memory norms." Again Bee asks, must there be so much WAR in stf? All the fighting is true enuf to life, but rnt there enuf other readers who dislike so much blood & thunder to make it worthwhile putting out some nice, exciting, racy but peaceful storys? On another tack, she'd like to meet local fans, see a strictly Friscu Stf Club. Has many wonderful ideas & d'd like to find some author to colab on 'em. Woud like to correspond with any fans who think they'd enjoy a friendship with a "well not too awfully, awfully young widow, who tips the scales to an average of 220 pounds, and stands about 5 ft. 2 in. My object isn't any too strongly flavored with any matrimonial intentions, but neither am I finatically dead set against it either." Helena enjoys women's companionship almost as much as men's, provided they're intelloctual, not that she poses as being trifikly herself--just likes to commune with porsons who do noe a lot, finding one often can learn much from such associations. Thinks Widner's Idea too good to die aborning. Coudnt it be sloganized & be the rallying cry for a fed'n of fan clubs? About doing something: Long has seemd to her neither science alone, nor religion, nor yet politix, ever woud better conditions noticeably. Well, what woud be a better popular medium than a group broadminded & intelligent enuf successfully to combine both? Ia, stfans. "We need both science and Godly humanness, but neither of them will give an inch officially" so she thinks it's up to fandom to popularize a balanced budget. "Or are we going to sit idly back and wait until we are completely, helplessly, hopelessly enslaved, and/or race suicide, overtakes us? One person can do little alone. I am willing to either follow, or lead. Who will join with me, in instituting an actively functioning movement of this type? With such a strong, altruistic motive, and with the fan mags., as and organ, and science fiction magazines for propaganda, what more could any one want?" Speaking of broadmindedness, Ree strips for action: "So some people do not like nudes: Well I do! Nice Diaphonous ones." And carries on in this vein for 500 words, concerning clothes reforms for men & women, naive norms regarding nudity, stupidity of dress conventions, & finishing up "When oh when, will we ever get over the idea that it is indecent, to go without clothing? And what have the climatic needs for clothing, to do with morality?" Bravo! Ree, say We. --FandM.

ANGLICOMMENTS: Scene. A tont, in the middle of a swamp, in the farthest reaches of the wilds of Wales, remote from the smallest village. Reminiscent of the storm in the mountain passes outside Shangri-la, an 80 mph gale rages. Rain sprays in, covering the floor with water, compared to which the Atlantic is but a patch of dampness. BILL TEMPLE raises his head above the roar he shouts a parafrase of the great utterance of the Duke of Ellington: "Held that Tigrina!" -- DAVID MCILMAIN, on a fortnite's leave, returned home, found a large pile of pros & fmz. "It seemed as tho I had awoken out of a dream into the real world of scientification once more." He found the taste of stf had improved since he last encounterd it, & fandom had altered a bit--but, "q'est le guerre!" -- ERICCPKINS questions 4e's eulogization of Heinlein as "the American Stapledon", has a word about imbibers. Letter is lengthy, tho, &, rather'n summarize it, watch for it more or less in entirety nexttime. -- JACK GIBSON has a pat on the back for Wright & his Tomaiden, Cunningham & the BSFWRS. In Dorset in December they seldom heard an enemy plane, & bombs were as rare as green-eyed zwilniks. "Rarer." He hopes the verdamnt draft does not rope Forry into Europe, & remains as a proponent of "Pax Vobiscum".

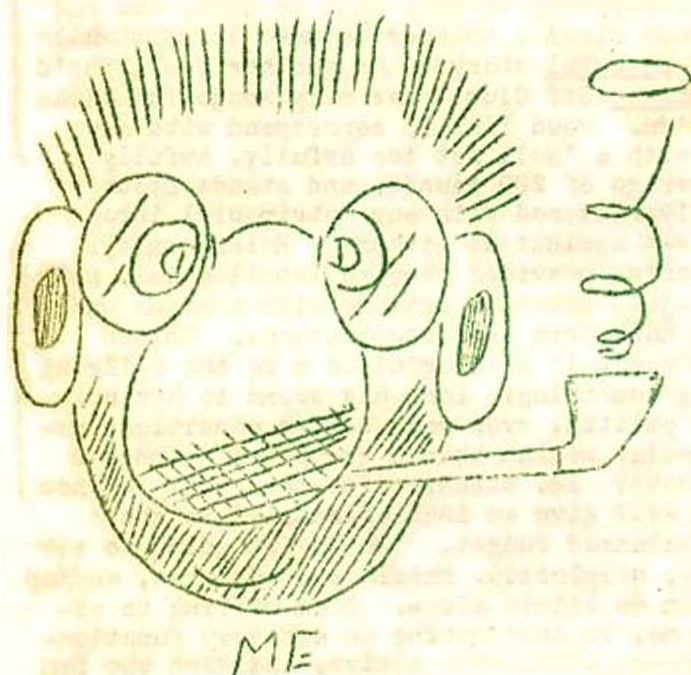
Now if U'll turn the pg U'll find the fanograpy of the fellow who formd the altruisticooperative for the for-duration scientificationutration of the Anglofans...

(MEET THE READER)

John M. Cunningham

"Officially speaking, I am new to the ranks of Stfandom, coming into recognition by my work as Director of the British Science Fiction War Relief Society. Undoubtly there are many fans

who have come into fandom on less, but I do not wish to emphasize that I rank as a fan in any interprostation, other than that I am doing all that I possibly can to further and spread its cause, in these trying and perilous times--when it faces a likely extermination due to disunity or lack of material to carry it on. About myself. I am 20 years old, Born October 7th, 1921. It was not until several years ago that I became interested in Science-Fiction, to any extent. My elder brother was an ardent reader, and I guess it was from reading his copies of Amazing that I first got interested. He was a reader way back from the first Amazing. I delved deeply into Burroughs & H.G. Wells, & Jules Verne's works, and found there contrasting forms of Science-Fiction. Only with a united effort and union of S-F fans can Stfiction be kept at any high level of reading entertainment. My plan now is to extend relief service to S-F fans in the armed forces of our country, the good old United States. So far I have only this plan. I will purchase magazines at dealers rate from local American News Company, with money-donated, by each person sending in the name and address (even if temporary one) of a soldier they want the mags sent to, and stating names of mags that soldier would like. As I can get the mags at a lower rate than newstand cost, I will be able to send more, and send a VARIETY. I am willing to pay postage on the mags, if there is not enough left over after purchasing most as possible for money sent in. All persons desiring to cooperate under such a plan, send in your names of soldiers etc. in Armed forces of USA, with your contribution for them, TODAY! Magazines will be sent to that soldier at once! Service also includes those located outside USA, as Hawaii, Iceland, etc. At present the mags I send to British fans are finding their way to men in the British armed forces, even as I hope to see them find their way among our own men of freedom. In parting I say: For Stfandom contribute to BSFWS, for Country: contribute to its security by buying United States Defense Bonds and Stamps--thereby-keeping them flying, always remembering PEARL HARBOR & VICTORY!" Adres: 2050 Gilbert St, Beaumont, Tex.



Meet another reader! (If U can stand it) LESLIE CROUTCH of Canada...Tells All... "Finding my innermost thought laid bare to the remorseless eyes of all you guys and gals, my first reaction was: 'This--ll never do. THIS'LL NEVER DO. As it stands it's all right, but as I stand I'm 5'11". Harrumph! Those that read this might get the wrong idea of what is me and what I do-- in fact one very chaw-min' and booful creaturo has already dun so!' As most fans luv, justly simply luv to talk about themselves, please be kind-hearted enuf to let me ramble on and on and on like Peter Rabbit in his bramble patch. Ah- sweet bramble patch- where the rasberries grow and grow and grow and are picked and eaten and become excreta and turn into more li'l rasberries that grow and grow and grow! Technical information: I stand 5'11" in mine socks-- the ones with the heels out and the toes in; I wear a size 7 3/8 hat-

brown, please: mine shoits must have a 18" neck because I have a lotta neck and luv to neckka lot; I have a 48" chest and am quite chesty, as you may have inferred by now; my bolly, my politicians bay window which some have been so unkind and monstrous as to suggest is actually my chest, takes 44" of tape to get around; my leg is 31", and you'll be even longer if you let me pull it, as one certain booful little maiden did and tock me seriously. Ah- my heart bleedeth. Deth you forgiveth me, fair woman? My feet can be contained in size 7 shoes, but 8s are soooooo comfortable I always wear 9s. I wear my socks until they break off at the ankles, and I never use Kleenex, Lifebuoy or Lux by undies in Lux. I shave every morning so I can look sooo sweet and handsome when I call at ladies' homes to fix their- heheheheh- radios! Fooled ya, I bet. Naughty, naughty- who d'you think I am- the fan who comes around? I wouldn't mind coming around a certain pusson's domicile.....I dislike the follow-in' things- dictators (Tucker excepted), prudes- and castor oil. I luv people, especially booful wimmin who luv men with hairs on their chests; I love eatin'- any kind fannette who kin cook? Hobbies are reading everything I can lay my paws on- even read the ads in AMAZING--- coo! Science fiction- fantasy- any of the sciences in reading matter- corresponding with people with similar screwy tastes and ideas- collecting fine recorded music- radio- writing pro and fan-stuff- and having a good time. Main avocation is radio in all its phases and even manage to make a pretty decent living at it- how many of youse mugs kin live on the take from somethin' you really like doin'? Artists of nudcs please don't apply! OH YES, PEOPLE WHO KNOW ME SAYS I AM THE POSSESSOR OF A DIRTY MIND! But what the hell- I love me. In the serious voin: WOM in the new largo size is the best yet in many ways. I suggest you keep this size. It's more distinguished, seems even easier to handle, and if it saves you money then by all means- after all, money saved one way enables one to use it to spend purpose another. Right? RIGHT! So count me as being overwhelmingly in favor of it- regardless of what the other twerps might say."--Bx 121, Parry Sound, Ont.

PRO & pacifiCON: "At the bottom of page 3 in the last ish is a very nasty news flash. If it means what I think it means (and it hadnt better) you folks in L. A. ned better think again. There is going to be a national convention in 42 come hell, high-water, or Japrats. I hav heard the opinion exprest several times already that the war would make a dandy excuse for sliding out from under too onerous fanactivities. If there is not going to be a con in L.A. then one will be held in the mid-west or midsouth, comprenez?"--Jack Wiedenbeck, Michigan. "So we have to work more hours and pay higher taxes and get no vacations, and we can't go to the Pacificon because we can't spare the money and because there won't be any automobiles or tires even if we had the money and we couldn't get time off from the office anyway!"--Rothman, DC. "Thought: LET'S ALL HOLD THE PACIFICON IN 1942 IN MINNEAPOLIS OVER THE LABOR HOLIDAYS. Still, I see no reason for Daugherty to get flustered; I think he's (and the rest) doing as well as Lethar Penguin claims."--Fortier, Oakland. "I was disappointed to say the least, when I read that the Los Angeles Convention will perhaps be postponed or called off entirely because of the war. Of course, one would meet with the problem of transportation no matter where the convention was held, for unfortunately, all the fans do not live in the same locality. The real danger is, of course, that Los Angeles and San Francisco and cities nearest the coast are apt to be bombed first. " I have a wonderful plan. Why do you not all come to Los Altos for your convention? Or Palo Alto. (Los Altos has no hotel.) Now, wait, before you start laughing at this wild idea. Out in the hills of Los Altos there is a sort of a cozy little private park which specializes in convention picnics and that sort of thing. There is one place especially, called the 'Owl's Nest' which would be appropriate for the convention. Guess what is the name of this park. Dive up? Well, it is called 'Shangri-La'! This coincidence is what gave me the idea for the plan in the first place."--Tigrina, Norcalif. "I was really rather glad to see that FLASH in VoM about the convention. With all the war expense, the ~~###~~ income tax, and everything, I could see that not only myself butmost of the fans would be in a bad way to come to the Coast this year, and wondered if the convention would be a flop. I feel it would be better to postpone it than to have it a flop."--BBB, Mich. "If the CONVENTION is for the enjoyment and pleasure (eg. drinking, pleasure seeking etc). I vote that the convention NOT be held. " If the theme of the Convention will be one of a united planning committee, to form a strong union-to encourage and keep alive the spirit of Stfandom & Stfiction, then such a convention WILL in ALL esential be a vital neccesity."--Cunningham, Tex. "I have not yet sent in a buck for membership in the Convention Society. I have been waiting to find out whether it was going to have anything to do with scientific fiction or not."--Edward Elmer Smith, Phil. "So the Pacificon is 'frozen'? As Pres. of the NFFF, I wish to say that in the interests of fandom at large, the 4thWSFCS must do one of these three things in the near future (1) Announce convention for Los Angeles as planned (2) Announced convention shifted to an inland city near Calif., eg. Phoenix Ariz., under 4thWSFCS (3) Admit inability to hold convention, & turn over all record & funds to a NFFF approved city (eg Milwaukee) able to hold convention."--Louis Russell Chauvenet.

T A L E S of Tigrina (Synopsis: Last ish we learned how the author met this Vornien--hastening to explain VOM in this case stands for Voice of Kephistopheles--for the 2d time, & how, drawing her out in conversation, he found her the possessor of a wit as ready as a volunteer to kiss heady Lammarr, & sharp as the point of the Devil's pitchfork. We pitch into the Account at the place where we fork-got bfor to describe the 2d encounter itself.) In respect to the time element, it was same as our first meeting: T. was early! " Now I had pland to be there long ahead of her, so when she came along I'd be reading & she'd be forced to speak to me first, whereat I'd reply: "We are making history, Tigrina: Whatever U say will appear in the Voice--so say something choice for posterity...& the next Vom!" Tigrina had intended to arrive on time & from another entrance, sit down behind me at the piano & play a few bars from "Hymn to Satan" as indication she was there. " As it was, she came blithely bouncing thru a door eating an ice cream cone! " I thot this a very cold reception. (My, what corn in that corn-copia.) She said she'd offer me a lick of her ice cream but she was very conscious about germs. I wonderd if she meant me. Later she tempted me with an apple. (Serpentigrina!) I bit. But if she thot I lost my soul she was mistaken, for my soul was saved--permanently--a long time ago. In The Beginning, in fact. Yeah; they saved it when they made me--I reem, they never gave me any! " The Tale of Tigrina's "debut" among fans--at a special meeting of the Golden Gate Futuria Socy--is to be told soon in Fantasy Fiction Field, so skip to: Scene. In front of 4e's Flat, last Sat in Jan, nr midnite. Elmer "Slar" Perdue is about to bid adieu to Shangri-LA after a surprise visit & short stay. He intimates to 4sJ he'd like to meet Tigrina, is driving northward that very nite. Consideration of airmailspecial to her discarded in favor of telegram discarded in favor of fono call. "I'll foot the bill for three minutes," offers Elmer, if I'd be so kind as to put thru a person-to-person (if either of us could be considered persons) & make the arrangements, if poss, for a meeting. To make a longing story short, my proto-J said OK & I dashed downstairs to inform the expectant Elmer his wait was over: he was the proud father of a bouncing baby slar--the longest pair of curly golden tendrils on record--& it would be possible to see "her" at 2 o'cl the next afternoon. Whereat the Casper Kid omitted a Wyoming warwhoop & was off like a racket to the moon... " Tigrina's reactions to last Vom: "Believe me, I hate to say this, but I thought that the cover was disgusting. It is well drawn, but it is just the picture itself which is repulsive to me. I enjoyed the many letters which appeared upon the pages. I am so glad that Harold Warner believes that I really do exist. As for my twitching Dr. Smith because he criticised my music, I would not do that, for I believe that everyone is entitled to his own opinion."



DAVE C. GARR

Starting Stories

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