

Now published as an irregular supplement to FANTAST and gratis to all subscribers of same. Address communications: 244 Desborough Road, Eastleigh, Hants., Eng. PLEASE NOTE: Contributors do not necessarily express the opinion of the Editor. As with FANTAST, this is an open forum, and those who disagree with views and opinions should write and tell us.

From our American Correspondent--Doc Lowndes:

"Enclosed is a letter for FANTAST (may ghughu grant that she keeps coming you have one of the finest fan mags in existence now and I'm not merely flattering -- though I hope to give you competition with an offering of my own comes the first of the year). By the by, may I apply for the position of American correspondent? (Unless you've already taken that stalwart scientist and erudite technician Sam Moskowitz.) Things have been happening here with a vengeance. Moskowitz has been blowing off and solidifying the opposition to New Fandom very nicely. His latest masterpiece, and I assure you that it is a classic, is an article in which he violently attacks everyone who expressed disapproval of the exclusion act banning of six michelists from WSFC, denies that anything of the kind ever happened -- New Fandom calls it now the "alleged" exclusion act -- and calls Morojo and the other L. fans who attended liars and hypocrites. So you must know by now how FANTAST rates with the trio. We're neutral--one war's enough! Sunday, October 31st, a Conference was held in Philadelphia for the purpose of discussing and taking the first steps towards acting upon the pressing need in American fandom: organization along entirely open and democratic lines. A loose central organization which would ensure a square deal for all individuals and groups and permit all to be heard in a national way through mailings and conventions. At this conference, which New Fandom "packed" with members who did nothing but vote at the appointed times, a number of fruitful-sounding propositions were brought up, but, through the apathy, and, it is suspected, the connivance of the chair, all these were shelved while the trio poured out a welter of sheer tripe about New Fandom's proposed new setup. It was a triumph of bullying, intimidation, trick parliamentarianism, and general steamroller and stormtrooper methods. For sheer ponderousness and insane ambition, the setup that New Fandom proposes cannot be beaten. It is practically a Corporate State in itself. Everything mobilised and regimented, everything lined up in such a way that only a favoured few can have any say in what is going on. In the name of harmony, all controversy will be squashed. Things are either "approved" or "unapproved" and the constitution cleverly avoids indicating what will be "unapproved". While claiming not to be competing with any other organization, New Fandom, under this new (I cannot think of any word that better describes it than fascist) setup would soon freeze out and trample over every other organization in the field unless it voluntarily bowed and became a puppet of ITF. It goes without saying that regardless of who may be elected the trio will be bosses. I forgot to mention the most priceless thing of all: the purpose of this mobilisation. It is: to popularise science-fiction so that more and more of the general public will read it, become fans, and work their heads off popularising science-fiction so that still more of the general public will read it and join New Fandom. Any other purpose for stf. activities, or anything beyond this meaningless purpose is not "approved". Two things of note occurred at this conference to give the lie to any constructive or sincere appearances the trio might have made. The first happened when Sykora blandly stated that no member of New Fandom had ever slandered anyone. That statement was challenged from the floor and Jollheim said: "That's a lie". Sykora immediately marched down the aisle and threatened violence, bursting into super-patriotic red-baiting. The chair did nothing to halt this and ignored a demand from the michelists that Sykora be requested to apolo-

gise for this stormtrooper disregard of democratic procedure. The second was when Moskowitz proposed a motion to the effect that the conference approve the proposed constitution of New Fandom. Sam never could express himself clearly, but after much fumbling it finally got over that he wanted a vote of approval of constitution with such suggestions for changes as those in attendance might wish to make. Pohl made concrete suggestions. They were not noted down nor stated in the motion when the chair called for a vote. This was protested and, despite demands by Moskowitz and Taurasi for an immediate vote, it was held up. After a little hemming and having around the issue, New Fandom, through Sykora, remade the motion, calling for a vote of approval on the constitution as read. The chair saw no point in Pohl's accusation that New Fandom had displayed its bad faith in withdrawing the original motion calling for suggestions, and substituting it with a motion for blanket approval the moment suggestions were made. The one bright spot was the unanimous approval given to the 1940 Convention and the Illini Fantasy Fictioneers. Tucker stated very definitely that they would not line up with any other organization, that they welcomed the support of all. New Fandom assured them that its new setup would not harm the IFF or the Convention, but fans have learned through bitter experience just how valueless any assurance of Sykora, Moskowitz and Taurasi is."

As most of our readers know now, F. Pohl has obtained a position as Editor with Fictioneer Inc., the testing ground of Popular Pubs. He will edit two magazines, ASTONISHING STORIES (originally INCREDIBLE) and SUPERSCIENCE STORIES, the former 112 pages (untrimmed) at 10 cents (!!!), the latter 128 pages (trimmed) at 15 cents (quite high-brow!). Bi-monthly but whichever succeeds will go monthly. Will sponsor a new world-wide fan organization, which seemeth to us like the michelist reply to Philadelphia. Fearn, needless to say, is in the first issue of ASTONISHING! Le Zombie is advised to watch for red-hot developments, to which Tucker tersely comments: "Yeh, watch closely --- they might cut the price to a nickel!" Sarcasm? Also known to most is that Doc Lowndes is taking over Pohl's author's agency from L.L.40. Says Doc: "Give my congrats to Carnoll on his splendid final issue of NEW WORLDS." Willingly! By-th'-by, ASTONISHING's address is 210 East 43rd St., and rates are $\frac{1}{2}$ cent p.w., but hope to increase.

No further news to date on the possibility of GARGOYLE. Ted Carnoll writes that, with a lack of subscribers to both, SATELLITE and SCIENCE FANTASY REVIEW may combine forces. Still no news on 2nd M.CABRE or future FUTURLANS, probably because we still owe letters to the Editors of same. Ted reports POSTAL PREVIEW a great success. And, of course, FANTAST still staggers on!

Will nobody write to us for a fortnight please, unless avoidable? (If you feel you must work off your Xmas indigestion on us f'rinstance...) §8 Pay out late February, 1940. And we do intend to answer your letters, no kidding!

FAIRLY LATE NEWS: Readers might watch the new LILLIPUT war-story-of-the-month feature closely. First author describes his ambition as to write scientific fantasies au HG Wells, a favourite of his. The same applies to the second author in the series, who will have FOR LOVE OF A COUNTRY in the February LILLIPUT. The second author is me, and I will be glad to have detailed criticisms from any FANTAST readers who also read Hulton's pocket periodical. Borrowing a leaf from Fantacynic's book we inform all who are not acquainted with this magazine that it is what may be described as a "slick", selling at 7d. and with a circulation of 300,000. To those commercially-minded, I am getting £10 (\$50) for it. Some will doubtless discover irony in the fact that I should gain my first success with a war story, but we all have to start! And now, Campbell, watch out!! CSY
FANTASY WAR BULLETIN Merry Xmas! 18th December, 1939.