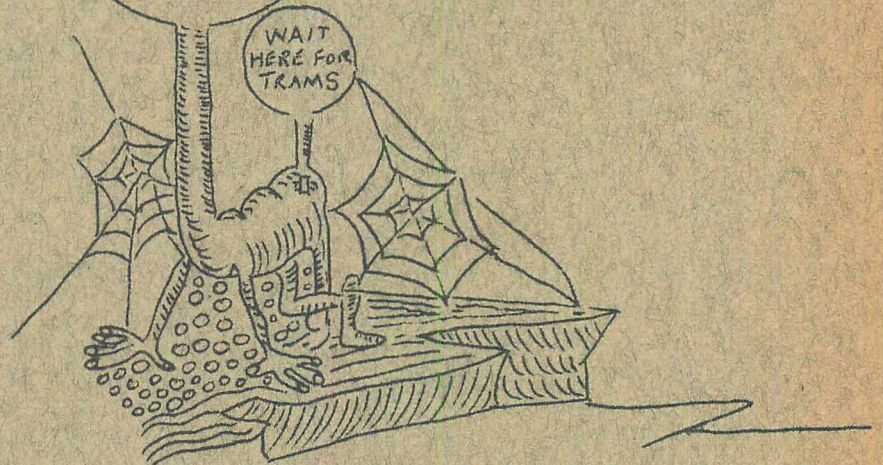


'GLOM'
10.
FAPA (Feb 148)
Publisher:
Forrest J Ackerman



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This chain letter was started in Las Vegas in the hope of bringing relief and happiness to ten enervated by critanac.

Unlike most chain letters, this one does not cost you any money.

Simply send a copy of this letter to five equally tired male fan friends. Then bundle up your wife and send her to the fellow at the top of the list. When your name comes to the top of the list you will no longer be listless, for you will receive 17,178 women.

If you haven't got a wife, don't let this hamper you: send a spare sister. This way you are bound to get some spanking new women, and everybody knows there is nothing like spanking new women.

Be the first in your neighborhood to lay the basis of a harem!

If not completely satisfied, your honey will be cheerfully refunded.

(sgnd)
Fran Laney
Chas Burbez
Bob Tucker

SPONSORED BY THE "PUT-YOUR-WIFE-ON-A-CHAIN" SOCIETY

BOOK REVIEWS by ANTHONY BOUCHER
(Courtesy the San Francisco Chronicle)

MAN INTO BEAST: Strange tales of transformation selected, edited and with a preface by ACSpectorsky (Doubleday \$3.75) Five short stories and 5 brief novels of metamorphosis carry that curious entity, the mind of man, into every form of life from ant to orchid, from fish to "some monstrous kind of vermin". The shorts are all pretty well-worn; but the brief novels form an admirably selected treasury, with special credit going to the inclusion of Pratt's pleasantly absurd "Mr Limpet" and Kafka's wonderful "Metamorphosis", which has long deserved to be rescued from the metaphysicians and cultists and restored to the fantasy fans who can honestly enjoy it." Comment by your Glommentator: I cannot understand Anthony's enthusiasm for "Metamorphosis". As a fantasy, I found it as flat as a 2-dimensional pancake. I definitely don't recommend buying it in separate, hard cover form.

VENUS EQUILATERAL: By Geo. O. Smith, illustrations by Sol Levin: Prime Press, \$3.75. A fan once said that "As-tounding" developed, around 1943, a new story-formula: "the technical problems of a technician in a technological technocracy". Prime example of this trend are these 10 interrelated stories of the complex uses of electronics in interplanetary communication, written by a professional technician with brilliantly plausible scientific gimmickry--and a pretty thoro lack of style and characterization. Interesting and sensible preface by John W. Campbell Jr.

THE KEY TO THE GREAT GATE: By Hinko Gottlieb, translated by Fred Belman & Ruth Morris, illus. by Sam Fischer; Simon & Schuster, \$2.75. When the Nazis tossed Warsaw Jew Leo Dov Tarnopolski into their Vienna prison, the life of the Master Race went slightly askew; for Tarnopolski had mastered the post-Einsteinian principles of a varying and autonomic space, and used his knowledge to produce food in the prison cell, then a radio (which became a piano), and finally-- But the "finally" is Mr Gottlieb's story, and a wonderful story it is--equally rich in its glib scientific patter, in its study of prison psychology, in its odd and human humor, and in its affirmative philosophy of man's nature and fate. A small classic of science fantasy, delightfully translated and illustrated, and worthy to rank beside the unclassifiable imaginings of such other Central European writers as Leo Perutz and Karel Capek.



IT HAD TO HAPPEN Dept: A British bibliophile recently sent me his Want List of fantasy books. Included were the titles "Frim Fram Saucer" and "Skirmisher from Hell". These two purely imaginary volumes were invented by Walt Liebsoher and Chas Burrez respectively.....



NOW WHY DIDNT HE LEAVE THAT MONEY TO THE FANTASY FOUNDATION? Dept:

(Story Begins on Next Page)

When a 61-year-old metaphysician died in San Francisco the middle of last year, he left more than \$10,000 for a statue of Aphrodite and publication of a stack of manuscript under the title of Heimrhibeat. "Heimrhibeat" is German for homework. His will provided \$3000 for the publication of his occult writings, with an additional \$500 for copies to be provided to libraries. The remainder of his estate was to pay for a statue of the Greek goddess of love and beauty, to be presented to the City of San Francisco.

Author of this unusual will was Ole J. Snelde, a retired accountant, who hit the papers nationally with his explanation of the Flying Saucers: "The discs are scout ships from Nimbro A. Theatos. These are high class people who live on the dark side of the moon and take an intellectual interest in the earth's problems."

Before his death, Snelde astrally projected himself into space to find the answer to the animated berets. He contacted the Dhyanis--the Rulers of Creation--who appeared in a blinding flash of light.....

* * * * *

SO HELP ME GOD Dept: If you were riding along on a bus and saw a sign on a motel reading Tourist Fantasy Colony, you'd pick your eye-balls up off the floor, too, wouldn't you? Carefully brush them off and put them back in their sockets? Well, I did just that; only, inadvertently I got my eyes in backwards, so that they were regarding the interior of my head, and what I saw was horrible confirmation of what has often been contended: empty!

But seriously: Here in LA there is a motel called the Tourist Fantasy Colony. Directly I discovered this I phoned the place to find out what gives. After all, that's pretty much of a puzzler--a big sign like that right out in broad daylight on locally well-known Sunset Blvd. Questions automatically leap to mind, such as if fantasy fans are congregating there, how come the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Socy isn't aware of them? etc.

I wish my phone call had been more enlightening, that there were a more interesting denouement. However, factually, all that happened was that the individual who answered the call sounded somewhat embarrassed, could not explain the previous owner's selection of a name, assured me that the motel was not the headquarters of any cult, and that the name was to be changed as soon as possible. The only other piece of information I learned was that before the TFC the motel was called The Frenzied Courts. Now I ask you-----!

* * * * *

PUZZLE Dept: Rcvd in the mail from 171 Ackerman Ave, Clifton, NJ, a typed letter from HELEN A. WOLKOVITS signed Helen A. Wolkovits and addressed to Mr. Forest J. Ackerman, etc. The sender was soliciting mss. to be typed, assured me her rates were moderate and stated: "I guarantee to please you." The problem: Find me 2 reasons I would be doubtful of her ability to live up to that guarantee. Answer: She misspelled my name and she misspelled her name! #

MAILING MUSINGS

-EEE-

Sez Th' Ol' Foo:

TANGENTS . . . Was very interested in Mike's report on "Worlds". I also read the book, and thought it extremely interesting. Since I am not an economist, I can't tell how such a plan would work, but I think there are at least the germs of thought there that we might develop into a workable method. It is not too far off from what the Co-operatives have done and are doing, and certainly one must admit (if he has studied them at all) that they are doing a tremendous job. Suggest you read "The Lord Helps Those", a factual report of what Co-Ops did for the fishing people of Nova Scotia. It was an eye-opener to me. . . . The other books Mike mentions I have not yet read, but hope soon to do so. They seem to be very interesting.

SLITHY TOVES . . . If there is any fault with the mimeoing of this splendid mag, blame it on me; I did it for Gus. It's a darn hard job to so mimeo on both sides of such paper as we can get nowadays without it showing through so badly one had trouble reading either side of the sheet. . . . I echo Gus's thoughts on both Helen Wesson's and Cheney's articles. . . . I like that poem, Gus.

FANOMENA . . . Dr. Keller's story hilarious. . . . A slight mistake, Andy, on the bottom of page 5. . . . Your reviews of the Philcon do bring back some wonderful memories of that grand event. . . . What can I do but accept the new nickname, whether I want it or not?

GRULZAK . . . One of the pleasant memories of Philadelphia was becoming personally acquainted with Kennzdy. A very likeable chap. Am glad he is retaining enough interest in Fandom to continue his FAPAZine, at least. I predict that when he gets a bit more time, he'll be back doing a lot more than just that. For fanning is a grand hobby, if one doesn't let the hobby start riding him. . . . I got a big bang out of the ending of "The Ultimate Fan". . . . Balance of the mag interesting, but nothing special on which to comment.

HORIZONS . . . "Old Faithful" itself. Harry certainly deserves to get a Special Award for continued publication, as well as the evident fact that his is always one of the best mags in the mailing each time. I nominate him as my candidate for the "Editing and Publishing Award" every time. . . . "Recent Trends" a very searching and well-thought-out discussion on the pro mags. I heartily agree with him about Wonder and SS (and not just because Merwin bought one of my things, either.) They certainly have come forward and upward a lot recently. . . . Harry's talks about music always greatly interest me, since I, too, have such a great interest in music. I got my real start in musical knowledge while in the Navy bands, and later playing in civilian bands. But now almost all of my tastes run to classical music. But I got a great big bang out of Spike Jones. How does one account for that?

PLENUM . . . Milty's account of how the Philcon was put on makes a

very welcome addition to the pleasure of having attended. Whatever amount of work and trouble it cause you, Milty, you and the boys and gals in Philadelphia can certainly remember that you gave us one of the finest conventions ever put on. I wasn't at NY for the first one, but this is the best of the remainder in my humble opinion. . . I'm willing to bet that your final conclusion is wrong, however. I don't think you'll quit active fandom, even if you do curtail your activities to some extent.

PHANTEUR . . . Yippee and yoicks! DeeBeeTee is back. We've missed you, old chap, and it's about time we were seeing another of your fine 'zines. . . Your book and magazine reviews extremely interesting to this reader. . . The matter of negroes in Science Fiction also appeals to me, since it is but another facet of one of the things I deplore -- race prejudice. I agree whole-heartedly that there is no reason why we should not have more negro characters in our stories, and in sympathetic roles, too. But, so far, it appears to be one of those editorial taboos that a writer cannot transgress and get his story accepted. Certainly wish it was otherwise. /I indorse the foregoing sentiments 100%. --Fja7

MOONSHINE . . . Brother, what a Bem both covers are! . . . Liked very much the story "Music". You got in a good atmosphere, there. . . "Ice Cream" clever. . . Poems very good, especially "Frustration" . . . If I was worried about an Atomic War, I'd rush to reserve a room in your bomb shelter. But I don't expect to have to dodge any A-bombs. My visualization of the Cosmic All does not include them in my prognostications.

GLOM . . . I'd read most of this stuff previously, except the letter on the back page. Very, very interesting /I also indorse this statement 100%--Fja7 Too bad they didn't make the pic. It would have been a dilly -- I guess, maybe.

ATOTE . . . It really was a grand trip. I'm still drooling. /There is no truth to the rumor that Evans wrote "Drool Tales" by deBalsam.7

ELMURMURS . . . Chuckle, chuckle! (I didn't read the added attraction, Elmer, but I did glance through it and it was nicely laid-out, and reproduced.)

FRAPPÉ . . . A beautifully presented and extremely readable issue. The book review makes me want to read the story. . . Comments on past mailings pleasurable reading. . . I think, Virginia, that if you knew me better you'd find that I have more serenity than I do freedom from boredom.

HALF-LENGTH ARTICLES . . . Clever, clever Burbee. (Just what part in the publication did you do, Andy?)

FAN-DANGO . . . To a follower of jazz this must have been of exceptional interest. However, I just can't seem to get really excited about this type of music. Yet do not cry out against those who do because they probably think I'm nuts for listening to classical stuff for hours on end as I do. Appreciation of music is a

strange thing, anyway. One either does, or does not, like certain types of music, certain opi, or certain musicians. There's no apparent reason, often, for these feelings -- they're just in one's mind. So why yell about the other guy's taste? Anyway we do agree that music is a fine thing and well worth listening to, Fran, and that's something.

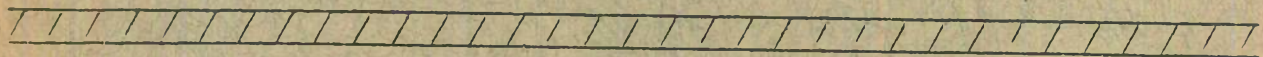
FAPA FLYPAPER . . . Quite a lot packed in a little space.

THE FANTASY AMATEUR . . . Well, we start a new year with new officers, and let us hope that good ole FAPA will grow and persevere and maybe even become bigger and better. . . Hope the new bunch can straighten out the mess of official repots and such. Don't envy them the job, however. . . Wish we could fill up the group to full strength. . . Wish we could have bigger mailings. . . I shall continue to try to give you people something in each mailing with which to find fault. At least, it helps pad out these envelopes, and I have fun, anyway! . . . May I suggest that Mr. and Mrs. David MacInnes, of Memphis, Tenn., be asked to join us? Two swell people, and they put out a fine mag in "Necromancer".

POST-MAILINGS:

SNIX . . . A nice little mag, Walter. . . Congratulations on your marriage. I wish you and Dorothy all the happiness in the world, and many, many years of the best of everything. . . The English-mag biblio very much appreciated. . . A nice little speech . . . it would be much better if you didn't append the "Snix" to all FAPA-zine names, I think. Too corny.

REQUIEM . . . A well-deserved blast at some characters who have too little respect for the common decencies of life and the rights of others. . . Too bad it was found necessary.



EVERYMAN & EVERYWHERE: A review by Shawn O'Leary of a new Australian book, TOMORROW & TOMORROW, by M. Barnard Eldershaw. This is a tall book, on good paper, and 466 pages long; and several jam (jacket and mint) copies are available from Weaver Wright, Box 6151 Metro Stn, Los Angeles 55, at \$4.50 ea. ** "T&T" is a document on social disintegration and an experiment in time. It is a parable of incisive that which covers the unrolled plan of Man. Two stories run concurrently thru the volume which are considered separately at irregular intervals thru a time-shift of 4 centuries. ** Knarf, a writer of the 10th Commune in the 24th Century and father of a radical son, chooses the antique form of the novel as contemporaneous with subject to display the state of the nation in the decades 1920-50. As his figure for Everyman, the eternal homo tragicus, he takes Harry Munster. ** In the course of the story, the City of Sydney is fired and dynamited. "And now what sort of world was it going to be? There'd be fighting, guerilla bands, the struggle to eat. That would be the least of it all." The picture presented is one of futility. /All futilitarians will kindly order at once./

Chain be nimble,
Chain be quick,
Chain jump over
The Candle Stick.

--Chain Russell.