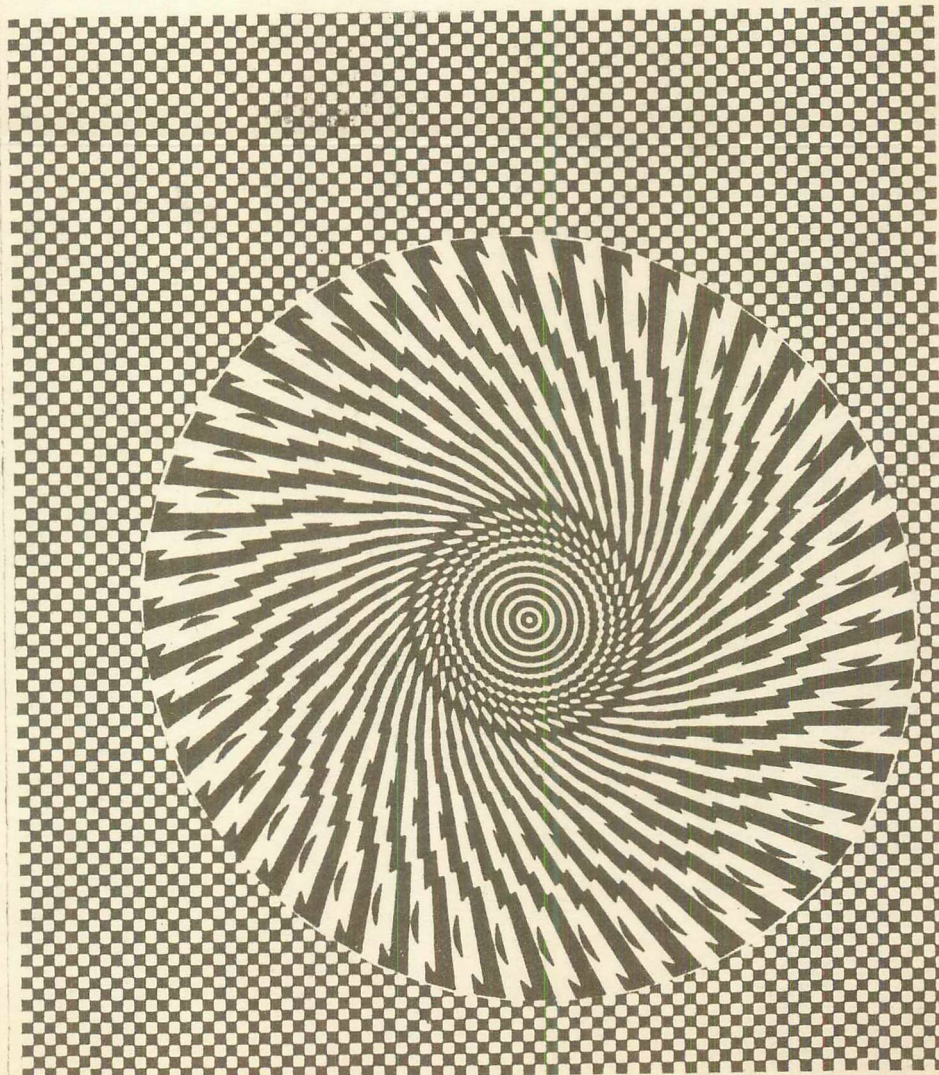


A FANZIN
FROM

MANFRED KAGE
AND
MARIO KWIAT

14^e English
edition



 **HECKMECK**

PROMISCUOUS ROW

The constraint to sit in a wretched office and watch a telephone while outside a beautiful sunday in august means fun to others brings odd thoughts to ones consciousness. After I am staring at a blank matrix, without being able to think of an ingenious series of letters to inscribe it, I will start anyhow without an idea. May be it will do after I had to reject many ideas. First I thought to talk about "Fidel Castro of the German Fandom", but I do not want to bother him because he might be working at his fanzin PIONEER by now. Next I thought of so many pranks of our "Saar-brotherhood" and wanted to pull their leg. But I do not have to do this since they foundet a new AFA. Now I had the idea to praise FAN a little bit. I had to give up because our editor is still looking for a successor and that's nothing praiseworthy. Now I thought to get hold of the one point, I reform our club. But all my predecessors came to my mind with their fruitless attempts. Besides of it everything must be allright, because there is no comment from the head of the club. My brother in law works with the fire - department and he knows exactly if there is no smoke there cannot be fire. To be absolutely exact we properly hear nothing of the head at all.

May be I could write one of these scientific artickes as many others do, came to my mind next. Even this was impossible due to lack of a corresponding magazine to copy. After this I thought of following the general trend and abus at the military forces as everybody else. This was impossible to me as

well, I would be striking as expert. May be a few critical remarks to the fannish situation in BERLIN. These would not be copied by Mario. I know, I start trouble with Hagen Zboron.

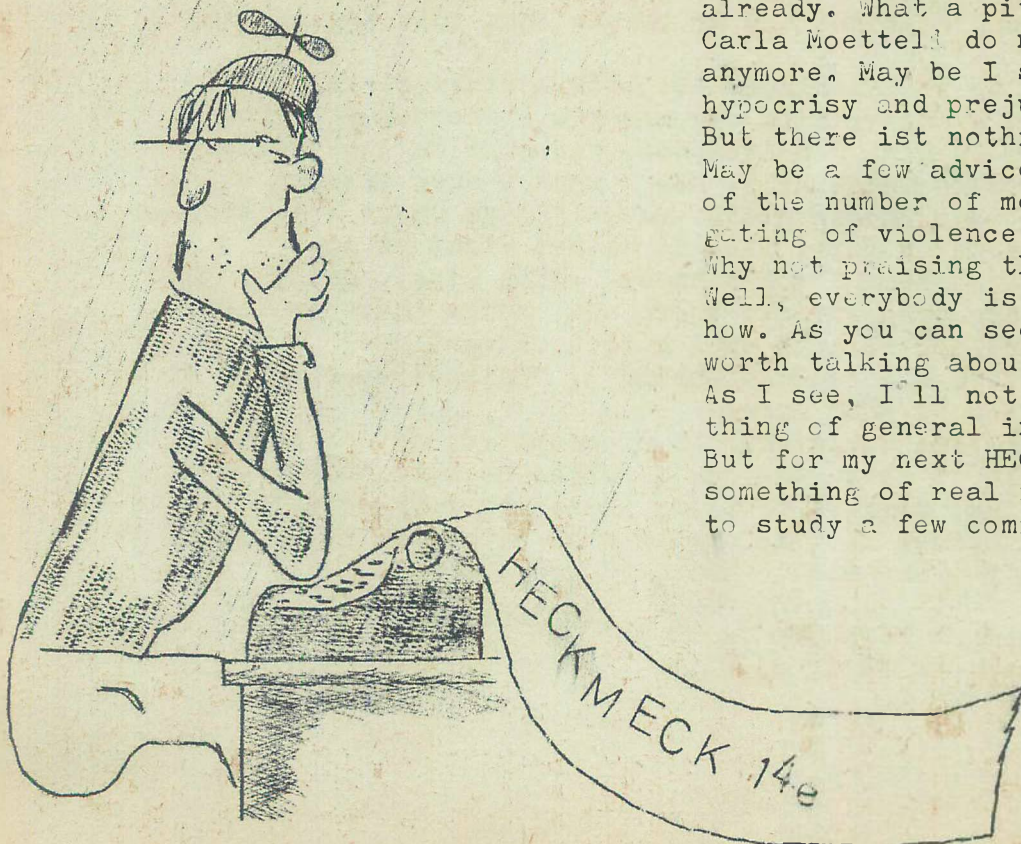
Impossible too, Schwagenscheidt did it already. What a pity that Gindorf and Carla Moetteld do not belong to fandom anymore. May be I should fight against hypocrisy and prejudices in fandom. But there ist nothing like this.

May be a few advices for the increase of the number of members. No, the propagating of violence is immoral.

Why not praising the fannish tolerance. Well, everybody is convinced of it anyhow. As you can see, there is no piont worth talking about in this idealfandom. As I see, I'll not be able to find something of general intrest.

But for my next HECKMECK I promise something of real intrest, I just have to study a few comics about BATMAN.

M.K.



INSTIGATION

In HECKMECK 13 I asked for a few lines of my readers abroad if you believe it worthwhile to continue with German fanzines in this. Well, you might be either as active in writing local as German fans are or I have no more readers! But anyhow, I received something:

Mario (Or possibly Manfred) .

11 June 1967

Last year some time, or possibly even earlier this year, Mercer-fandom received a copy of HECKMECK in English. I wrote a letter comment to the address therein given. However, since I couldn't see any mention as to whether Mario or Manfred was supposed to live there, I addressed the envelope to "Herr M.K." at the address. It was returned several weeks later with a note (in German) on the envelope to the effect that no "Herr M.K." lived there. Not knowing what else to do, I threw it away.

So here we go again, except that this time there are two separate addresses, one for each of the Herren M.K. So this time, at least it will take on the average twice as long before I throw the letter away. Anyway, many thanks for both issues of HECKMECK.

I like your "compensation of a foreword" - it's so very logical.

The main content of the issue is the reviews of German-language fanzines. At the end of them, you ask whether there's any point in your continuing this. On the whole, I'd say, no. Anybody who can read German well enough to enjoy the zines you're reviewing can just as well read about them in the German edition of HECKMECK - anybody (such as myself) who can't, can only wish that he(me) could. (Am I succeeding in my efforts to confuse you ?)

I would suggest that a better idea might be to take selected items from German fanzines and translate them into English for HECKMECK.

The article about HEIDELBERG is both mouth-watering and frustrating. It's frustrating because you (whoever you are) never say quite enough. For instance, you mention the "Königsstuhl" on top of a local hill. Now I know (even without using the Dictionary that "Königsstuhl" means "Kings Chair - or Throne" But just what sort of royal seat is placed right on top of a hilltop near Heidelberg I don't know. Which king, anyway ? And so on. All through the article there are names that similarly thrown at the reader without explanation of what they are. "Altem Marstall" (? - "old Something"). "Beisserreesche House" , " Kerzer ". Many more.

A further article would thus be appreciated, giving more intimate details of these various appurtenances to Heidelberg.

Finally, I must confess to being amused by your artist. And even Beryl agrees that is indeed more important to be nice. And 1970 to you two too.

P.S. I presume that HECKMECK means the same in Germans as it does in English ?

ARCHIE MERCER

Hello Archie,

allright with your 'no' to continuing with German-language fanzinereviews. I'll change the procedure. Anybody who may be interested in reading those furthermore has to give me or Mario a notice. He will receive the German edition of HECKMECK. If he is interested in one of the fanzines therein, all he has to do write me a few words and I'll lead it to the corresponding editor. O.K. (How do you like this on the island) to the further article, let's say explaining comments to the "Heidelberg month-matering and frustating contribution". It will be done in here. Allright to selected items from German fanzines translated into English. Thanks a lot for the suggestion. I'm sorry Archie, but almost impossible to confuse me, Why? Well, I'm in the service now for a period of 15 years and in my job I'm dealing with officers mostly. You see why? Nothing can startle me anymore. Not even a fan with sense. Fine that I amused You at least with something. Three cheers to Beryl an Lou.

M.K.

P.S.: I have no idea what HECKMECK means in English.

DISCLAVE 67 DON MILLER MAY 67 p 30:

HECKMECK 12 : Warmly editorial page. American, Spanish, Italian, French an Norwegian fanzine review. (Wish the editor would list the the address of the fanzine editors. That Norwegian zine sounds especially interesting.) A plug for Mannheim-Heidelberg as a con site in 1970, accompanied by a description of the area's attractions and a history of Mannheim (more info to come). "Splinter in Neighbour's Eye" contains editors' comment on new items; e.g. "The 80-year-old American judge Jonah J. Goldstein recently demanded in a newspaper: One who suffers from morbid appetite for narcotics shall get these free of charge in every hospital. Comment: And we still have editors who want to sell their Fan-zines!"

Well done, and the language well handled, all things considered.

Well, as I said before, if You are interested in further details or German fanzines, just let me know. The fanzine itself will be commented in our next HECKMECK because it was late for the German edition, and I always want to talk about foreign zines in German fandom first.

M.K.

AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW 4

This fanzine starts with a humorous introduction by John. In here he shows his readiness to publish every contribution if it corresponds with his introduction of quality. In the following John Foyster talks about John Campell over 18 pages in a very informative manner, and he shows either a great experience or comprehensive preparations. The following reviews introduce new appearances on the sf-market, again followed by locs. I want to emphasize the excellent print. It is a pity but such a quality will never come up to a German zine, besides of ANABIS perhaps. The cover was as well first class.

M.K.

And here is number 8 an 1, sorry, I was dreaming of "Good OLD NAVY PAST", Certainly I mean number 8 of AU SF R.

Unfortunately am I missing the numbers between. The cover is not this excellent here, but the print is unchanged in quality. This edition too is dealing mainly with newcomers of sf, and gives us a promiscuos review. Of course we have locs here too, and so there ara always new names and persons who are not yet known to the European reader.

M.K.

YANDRO 163

This fanzine appears not as commercial as others and is more like German fanzines. The tenor as well is more promiscuous and copious referring to fandom, and not exclusively balanced to literary works. Although one finds a lot of valuable informations too.

M.K.

HORIZONS 106

This zine as well as the following editions is more like our German zines. But I register a difference. He renounces completely of any cover or as well of illustrations inside and starts instead at once with reviews of books or films. The Worst of Martin, what a pity but I could only read the promising end of that story. Finishing this fanzine Harry Warner jr. produces his opinion to the schoolsystem out of the responsible sight in a very informative contribution.

M.K.

HORIZONS 107

This edition starts at once with Harry's reaction to many fanzines. Very note-worthy the review of more than twenty fanzines if one considers that this edition followed 106 only three month later. In the following Harry chats about experiences in fandom and event of his life in a cate manner.

M.K.

HORIZONS 108

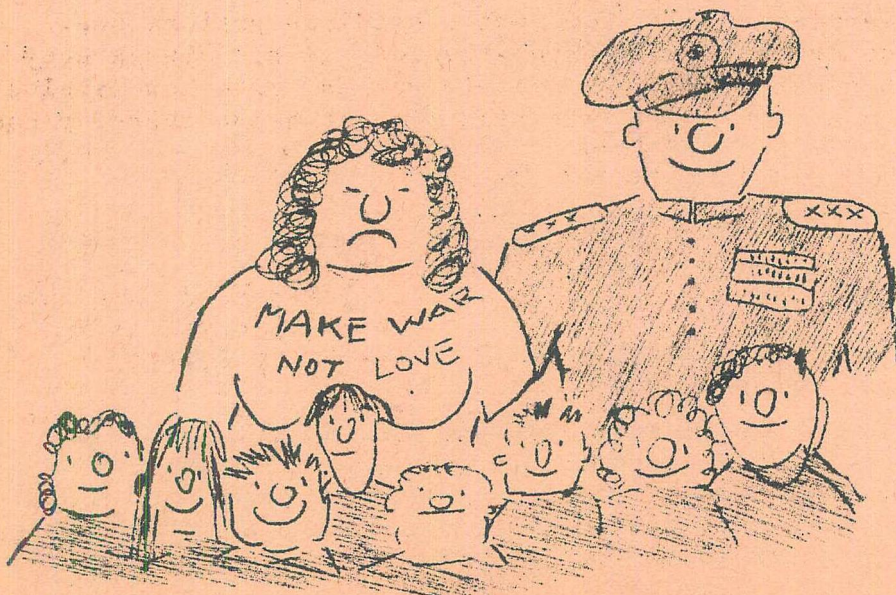
Again a review of more than twenty fanzines, here already the interested reader has an excellent impression of the anglo-fanzine-market.

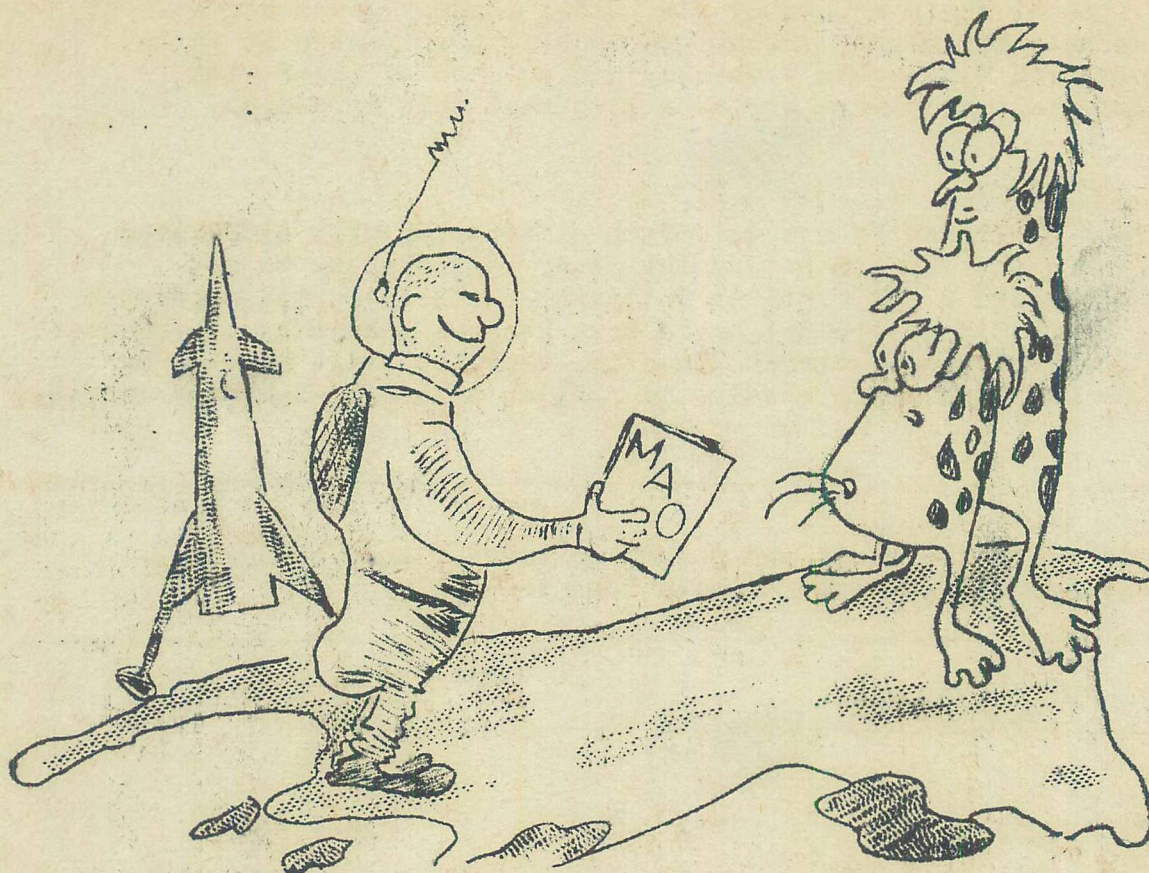
The Worst of Martin. Even though I knew the point of this story, nice written. This is one of the reasons why I get my salary only on my bankaccount. Following this Harry publishes some thoughts to the FAPA and gives us an impression of communally finances and US-lobbyists.

M.K.

HORIZONS 109

Starts with the well known review of many fanzines. The Worst of Martin brings us two stories with exquisite "black-humorous" tendency. At this point I perhaps should explain to my continetial readers, that Harry re-





prints a few or at least one story out of Ed Martin's Grotesque. Simply precious stories by the way. Than Harry turns out to be really enthusiastic about Wagner and his artworks and he dedicates almost 13 pages to him. Well, I just hope no German fan is going to ask Harry now how Wagner's fanzine is entitled and ask for term of delivery. At the end of this fine fanzine, we promise no mysterious maps of the town are lying around in Heidelberg.

M.K.

T Z 21

Excellent cover, faultless print and many well done illustrations. Besides of scientific contributions a nice report of the PHILADELPHIA SF CONFERENCE by JAY KAI KLEIN. This edition offers a lot of delicate humour (in part grim humour) in a fannish packing for most fastidious pretensions. Indeed most of the contributions are high-leveled and not always easy to get. Here is evidence that fannish not always has to be low-leveled and on the other hand not every contribution without sense therefor has to be fannish.

M.K.

PAS TELL 22

Here we have the fanzine of our "artists" in fandom. The editors deal mainly with sf-art and drawings. Besides of that they offer a few instructive tips. In addition to this fanzine starts an extensive publicity for TOFF including a brief biography of TAKUMI SHIBANO, the 1968 candidate.

M.K.

HAVERINGS 25

I almost had written HAPPENINGS by mistake, which would be not too odd because I live at their source by now. Ethel Lindsay gives her comment to many fanzines and hereby she allows in wellknown manner an informative impression for German fans, who are not too familiar with British fandom. It is always worthwhile to read this info-zine.

M.K.

LUNATIQUE 27 and 28

Both fanzines published by Mrs Osterrath distinguish with nice cover and excellent print. Unfortunately the tenor is a mystery to me. Although I did spend a few months in Fontainebleau near Paris, my French is not any better than good day, good way. Because I know by experience that Mrs Osterrath speaks German fluently, there is still hope in me one of these days she might resolve to publish a foreign-language fanzine.

M.K.

..... It is never too early and seldom too late", said the granddaughter to grandma when the postman rang the bell.

ACTIO - REACTIO

HARRY WARNER Jr.

June, 26

Dear Mario,

I have fallen so far behind in letters of comments to fanzines that there is only one way to catch up. This consists of strict obedience to the law of locs which says that the unanswered stack will invariably grow smaller, if you are careful to write about every newly arrived fanzine and turn your attention to the older ones whenever opportunity permits. I used to do it this way, and then I was overwhelmed by a pious desire to be fair and turned my attention to the oldest fanzines. You can imagine how the rule breaks down as soon as this occurs, because the newly arrived fanzines insist on arriving much more rapidly than you take care of the old ones.

So there may be another issue or two HECK MECK or other fanzines on hand from you, unacknowledged and uncommented on. I'll get to them eventually, but meanwhile I won't permit the 13th HECK MECK to cause the stack to grow.

There might be another reason for the fact that fans do not become presidents and similar great men. Every fan writes and says in his few months of neofandom too many incriminating and stupid and non-conforming things. His opponent for any office could ruin his political career by digging into old fanzines and copying off some of these things. I once wrote a little story in which the space program of the United States was sensationally successful, because the exception occurred and former fan did become president, then was forced to give all the other fans who might betray his past high-salaried and influential jobs in the space agency to bribe them into silence. Naturally, the fans did their best to get the nation to the other planets. I really don't believe that any fan could achieve the presidency, however; he would be disgraced long before he was ready for national office by the revelation that he once wrote an off-color pun or admitted to cheating a hotel out of room rent by sleeping on the floor in a friend's room.

The article telling about the past of Heidelberg makes me more anxious than ever to get to Europe one of these years. Besides that effect, the article causes me to realize how different the historical

sense must be over there, where almost everything can be traced back at least six or seven centuries and just gradually fades out in the more dim past. In this nation, of course, history is sharply cut only a century or two ago, in whatever year the white man stole the section of the nation involved from the Indians. I've been amusing myself for several days trying to trace the history of Hagerstown's central square. (Square in this sense is not same as a block, even though the two words are sometimes used as synonyms: I suppose platz would be the best German equivalent for this sort of square, a large open area where major roads or streets intersect.) It's quite easy to know where to start, because the central square wasn't created until the town was laid out in the 1760's. Moreover, its history has been consistent ever since: someone puts something in the center of this square and then there is a big fight which ends in removing this object. First the thing was a building that sat in the middle with openings for oxen and horses to walk through, housing the market and court house. Then it was trolley cars. When I was a little boy, it was a small structure in which a policeman stayed to direct traffic. More recently it was the community Christmas tree which up in early November and sometimes wasn't removed until February. Now it apparently is going to be a flower garden, if the beautification party has its way. I suppose that there is a moral for fandom in all this. People can't resist putting something into that big open space in the center of Hagerstown, just as fans can't bear to send out a fanzine which every page is not filled up with lines of typing pictures.

I suppose you and Alfred Kage purposely were born with the same initials so I couldn't be sure who is the writer of which items in this issue. However, I have no reasonable doubts about your identity as the M.K. responsible for the art work. I like it very much, particularly the one on page five which improves on the famous opening of a Charlie Chaplin movie and the interesting new approach to the ancient project of cutting a woman in half.

My apologies for the fact that I have been so generally neglectful of German fanzines during the past months. I hope to catch up on yours and other people's fanzines before the summer ends, if the fates are finally finished with their little game of finding ways to prevent me from indulging in the things I like to do.

Yrs., & c.,

Harry Warner, Jr.

----- It is always nice to hear of nice people and the foregoing letter proves this once more. I enjoy letters indeed, because letters give you at least a good idea what people think, how they feel and live. Harry's letter taught me that my fear of a fan's presidency was unnecessary. I am very thankful of it. Besides of that I learned about Hagerstown central square. I'm not so sure about the corresponding moral, because in at least one of my past fanzines I had a couple of blank pages. Well, either I can resist or I am not people. (Perhaps I'm just a poor printer)

M.K.

Unfortunately the following information reached me too late for the German edition. But it certainly will be plugged in our next HECKMECK as well as in my other German fanzine. But the way, I always would be rather obliged if one sends me this kind of info. Thanks!

M.K.

DANNIE PLACHTA

June, 18

Gentlemen, please plug the following in HECKMECK:

Roger Zelazny was awarded the first annual Nova Award at the recent Triple Fan Fair for "his achievements in science fantasy." The trophy included an engraved likeness of the popular author, taken from a sketch by noted artist Jack Gaughan.

Bests, Dannie Plachta

L A S T M I N U T E A R R I V A L

Jean G. Muggoch

Dear Manfred,

My belated thanks for sending " Heck Meck ". I enjoyed the description of Heidelberg, and look forward to comparing it with the original in October.

I would like to answer your query on page 9 headed " PLEASE " but it is rather difficult. I cannot read fanzines in German so there isn't much point in recommending them to me, and if I could read German I wouldn't need a description in English!

What I would like would be much more about what people are saying in these fanzines. At present it is rather like listening to one side of a telephone conversation, which is very frustrating!!

Thank you also for the fanzine in German. The only thing I understood were the jokes. What I need is a simplified version designed for children under five years old or dummKöpfe.

Sincerely

Thanks for your LOC. I am always glad to find out, that one is reading our fanzine. We'll stop the descriptions of fanzines indeed and start with some contributions out of certain fanzines. Since this is as well a last minute conclusion I'll start with a few words out of my old fanzines for this edition, but just until this will be continued in our following editions with contributions of other fans as well....

M.K.

-----I will never be able to understand how one can talk of a rational marriage.

Either one is married or rational. I'm the first-----

.....MIRROR, MIRROR AT THE WALL.....

TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

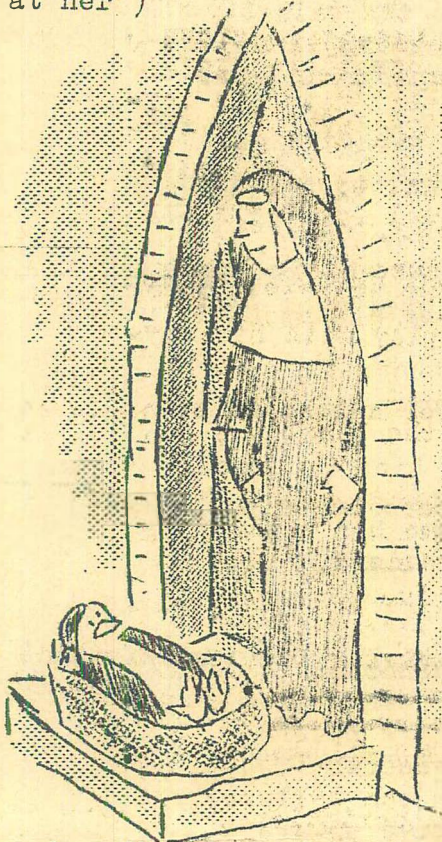
Due to New Year's Eve spented in companionship of one of my old buddies we had streams of liquor flowing down our throats, and a few drops of blood dripping in our memory. It could not be different with us stepchildren of humanity. Well, and perhaps because of the flowing liquor now I find myself sitting in front of a blank sheet of paper 0230 at the 1st of January just for the reason of writing down a few thoughts about this startling being called " fan ".

If my more or less well disposed reader will not blame me for it I thought of saying my not authoritative anotations to certain qualities which were offered to me as symptomatical for " THE FAM " in certain publications of 1965.
Here I found among others the following assertions which I decided to disfigure with my notes:

HE is avers to square-toes nationalism
(and he would like to climb barricades because of a lost game of his national team)
HE is a convinced citizen of the world
(and he decides a foreign boyfriend of his sister almost to be a family disgrace)
HE is an absolute op onent of sexual taboos
(and he looks at a nude-picture only with red ears and a shy glance)
HE decides marriage to be outlived and out-moded
(and despises a husband who dares sleeping with another girl)
HE is for a free love
(and would certainly marry a virgin only)
HE refuses clerically dogmas and the Church in general
(but he spends generus every Sunday, one never can tell...)
HE fights the leading-strings of the authoritative powers
(and he pays his ticket even without receipt, who can fight an officer's mind)
HE is for free publishing of everybody's opinion
(and " decorates " his contributions with many " only-hints " Who knows...)
HE believes in multiplicity of life in space and the valuably equality of all intelligences
(and looks at a Chinese face only with furtive horror. Does it not look so strange?)
HE embodys the real " intelligence " of the thinking part of his nation
(and perhaps does not even find the error)
HE is a well tested fighter of many battles of discussion
(what a pitty, without his dictionary he is often unable to answer a simple question)
HE is very interested in culture
(and certainly has to utilize his James Bond subscription)
HE certainly is sexual broad-minded, even concerning his girl-friend
(but he makes trouble to his wife, because she kissed a good friend's cheek to night while congratulating him)
HE does not believe in our system of education
(and reads Comics during lessons)
HE rejects our parent's system of education because it is grown obsolete in his mind
(and slaps his boy, because poor Joe wants to play with his toy-railway made a present for him at Christmas)
HE rejects every emotional impulse as unworthy
(and falls into convulsing moves listening to the Beatles)
HE pleads for a careful formed education
(and all he reads are newspapers)
HE rejects every kind of romanticism, and affirms his exclusivly rational education since his childhood to his readers
(and quotes Goethe, Storm and Hölderlin)
HE rejects every kind of gossip
(and is so eager to hear of his best friend's girl and his girlfriends brother.....)

HE is cleared up and progressive
(and knocks on wood)

HE abuses about the satiated prosperity citizen
(and almost steps on a little girl in ragged cloth pushing her
nose flat on the window of a confectioner's shop without looking
at her)



HE makes the government responsible for the increasing costs
(but he buys expensive pork, because eggs on Sunday, if the
neighbors find out...)

HE asks for peace under all circumstances, no matter what to
pay for it

(and he knocks a blue eye to his fellow tippler, because of
his beer emptied inadvertently)

HE believes that every kind of bloodshed is barbarous and brutish
(and he likes his self-slaughtered hare on Sunday)

HE fights against sex in fandom as immoral

(and he tries to touch something underneath the skirt of his
friend's wife in tipsy mood)

HE rejects every lie indignant

(and he asserts his fanzine as a good fanzine)

SHE is convinced to be frank and enlightened

(but she rejects indignated the invitation into the home of a mas-
culine specimen only in duet)

SHE asserts to be modern, independent and broad-minded

(and after it, she asks, " and what do you think of me now?")

Both are likeable anyhow

(because they are normal human beings)

Certainly this enumeration is not complete, because YOU do not fit
into any of the above mentioned categories. By the way, all fans have
one quality in common:

They never are mistaking in their self-judging!

I just found out, even I believe my fanzine to be good!!!!

Out of my fanzine " STONES OUT OF A GLASHOUSE ", published in January
1966

M.K.

OBJECTIONS

In memoriam of Archie's letter, here will be the explanation as exact as possible of all this names similarly thrown at the reader without explanation:

HEILIGE BERG translation means "HOLY MOUNTAIN" and its name does not result out of Christian Religion but points far more into the ancient religions of the Old Germanen. A rumor talks of an old cult-place.

KÖNIGSSTUHL To be exact, the top of the hill is called "Königsstuhl". I am sorry but no more chair. You might not know that I rendered my tour of duty in the US-Navy for a period of seven years. Otherwise You would know the important thing to be mentioned on top of that hill nowadays is an excellent restaurant.

KURFÜRST-FRIEDERICH-COLLEGE Is a college named after a sovereign Friederich and besides of that a beautiful building.

ALTEM MARSTALL This is a historical building of Old Heidelberg and really worth looking at it. Its ancient purpose was nothing but a horse-stable. But I would like I had been a horse in these days.

GAISBERG Is another hill around Heidelberg.

HIRSCHGASSE Is a historical and famous street of Heidelberg.

MENSUR-RESTAURANT I am not sure if there is something like "mensur" in U.K. I'll try to explain anyways. Our students, at least most of them, are members of a union, as so called "verbindung". They have two or three (perhaps even more) at each university. They have their fixed rules. Now there are two kinds of "Verbindungen". First the "not-beating" (nichtschießende Verbindungen) and second the beating (schlagende Verb.). Beating means they still fight with foils. Now there is one fight each of the opponents must try hurt the other's face at least hard enough to leave a scar for lifetime. This fight is called "Mensur". Not quite a good explanation, but I hope you know what I mean.

PROVIDENZ Just another church.

KARLTOR PIGAGES Is a monument.

PFALZ Is a district of Germany with excellent wine growing there.

STEINGASSE A famous street in Heidelberg.

GOLDEN HECHT What else good it be, a honkytonk. But nice and famous.

PFAFFENGASSE another famous street.

FISCHMARKT Is a market place.

KARLSPLATZ A very nice place one should have seen.

BEISSERREE'SCHE HAUS An ancient nice building with a historical post.
 GASTHAUS ZUM RITTER A more than 250 year old restaurant.
 HEUGASSE Street in Heidelberg.
 UNIVERSITÄTSPLATZ University-place.
 KARCER Is the jail of the university. In former times students were sentenced to a few days "Karzer" if they broke university laws.

Well, I hope my explanations do not confus you even more but clear up a few questions you had.

GERMANCON INFO

Here we want to chat again a little bit about the planned attraction of German fan-year 1970. Since we stayed in Heidelberg last time, we start our trip in Heidelberg this time as well, we leave the city via the "Neckar-Valley-Street." After we still memorialize the shinning picture of row- and sailboats, of yachts and ferries adorned with many colorful pennons; we hardly could not turn our eyes off the dignified peace of the castle, we already are in the middle of a beautiful scenery. We move towards Heilbronn along the right rivershore. A comfortable highway will not make this ried too strenuous to the driver as well, while the other passengers cannot get enough glances of the delightfulness and grace of soft hills with sappy meadows, neatly laid out vineyards, picturesque, dreamy places, and rushing woods, which turn up mutaally left hand. On our right side the eye is arrested by the liveliness of the river and the multiplicity of river-traffic. The left shore turns up as lovely as our side. We pass many camping-places with stirring activity and perceive a lively pell-mell of tourist of various countries in the passed places. During the whole trip the attentive observer will see stony witness of the past by old castles, dignified little churches and beautiful old buildings with framework.

The highly frequented street forces one to an easy speed, so even the driver can have a nice look at the scenery here and there. Many clean and hospitable inus invite us for a confemplative rest, and stomach and tongue get their right as well. If we are not afraid of leaving the main-road even our purse will endure this rest without unfair harm. To continue this contribution not unnecessary I just will give you the route now.

Certainly one could say a lot of things about the passed places and their objects of interest, but this would go to far. If one is really interested their is always the possibility of onforming oneself on private basis, even through me.

Well then, have a good trip !

NECKARGEMÜND - NECKARSTEINACH - EBERACH - NECKAROLZ - WIMPFEN -
 NECKARSULM - HEILBRONN - .

That's it !

BERLIN CONVENTION 1967

For the first time in German fandom's history the big annual convention was held in Berlin. Having been located in southern Germany for most of the time (Unterwoessen, Marquardtstein, Vienna/Austria) it was time again for a north German city to become location of the meeting - and Berlin it was.

The local group had everything organized up to the point that finally only one man seemed to be really in charge, but things went ahead. Programme and room parties suffered a little under the fact that the convention was held in an ultramodern place, a little resembling the facilities US-fans have grown used to hold their conventions in. But somehow - for a European convention there was a certain feeling of uneasiness about the place.

The Guest of Honour, as seems to have become customary with German conventions was absent this year. But the reasons involved were obvious. East-German writer CARLOS RASCH simply couldn't make it, for the strict regulations that forbid Berliners to visit the other part of their city without a special permit. Which seemed to be unobtainable for Mr. Rasch.

JOHN BRUNNER had announced his coming earlier this year, but had to resign from his travelling plans shortly before the convention.

However, the programme started early on Friday, August 4th and opened on a convention of mild entertainment. There wasn't much activity around the serious parts of the programme, some discussions, one about the sense of the German SF Club should have gained by now after eleven or so years of existence. Similar to the problems of the British BSFA there seems to be a certain uneasiness about what the club should look like, but here not in the legal sense of the word, but just in what should be offered to the members and to what degree an active campaign pro science fiction should be started in the open public. No definite results were obtained, as in similar discussions of previous years.

The costume party lacked enthusiasm, and was concluded by the first German-language performance of the Order of SAINT FANTONY, initiating Waldemar K u m m i n g into the ranks of the Noble Knights. Waldemar, who has been active around German fandom from the very beginning, just now performing his time as president of the Club, has been known in other fannish countries for years. He is one of those idealists, without whom fandom wouldn't be what it is today, and his interests in the international field are widespread. He will be attending this year's world convention in New York and I'm sure will make himself much more known to you fans than he already is by his writings etc.

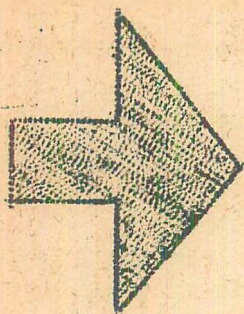
The ceremony was performed in full costume, reading out a special chapter of Saint Fantony's scroll in German - unprecedented in the Order's history. ("The Saint Goes Abroad")

A very close being-together of the convention attendance was effected by herding them onto a riverboat and touring them about the Havel-river for several hours. It was fine to have everybody just handy, and the efficiency of the waitress kept people happy besides being able to talk and have fun with people long missed. Coming back at one o'clock in the morning didn't spoil the effect at all...

The AGM of the SF-Club didn't stir up much excitement. I might mention the fact that the novel by Otto Basil "WENN DAS DER FUEHRER WUESSTE..." was thought prizable as being the best German-language novel of 1966.

This novel is an account of the possibility, if Hitler had won the war and had actually made possession of the whole of Europe I suppose this novel will sooner or later be translated and be accessible to you.

About seventy attendants had fun in Berlin. There weren't so many people around as at earlier conventions, but considering the special status of Berlin, it is a proud number. It was less of an official con, but as informal and funny as you were capable of making it for yourself. I had to leave early on Sunday night, so who tells me where next year's convention is going to take place?



KINDLY NOTE THE NEW ADDRESSES

THOMAS SCHLUECK 3000 HANNOVER GEORGSWALL 5
(per Sept, 1st)

MARIO KWIAT 4400 Münster, Stettiner Straße 38
(per Oct, 1st)

FAN-POLL

- GERMAN SF CLUB -

HUGO

OTTO BASIL

"WENN DAS DER FUHRER WUESSTE..."

FANNISH PRIZES

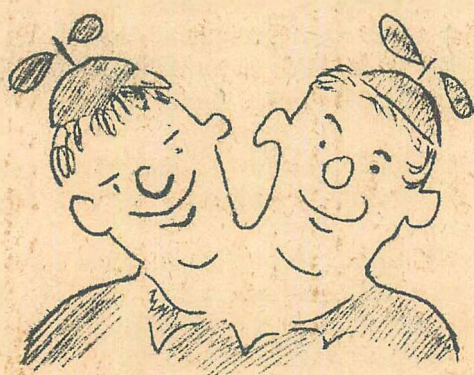
BEST AUTHOR GERD MAXIMOVIC

BEST FANZINE A N A B I S

BEST ONESHOT WALT WILLIS (MUTANT edition)

BEST COLUMNIST FRANZ ROTTENSTEINER

BEST ARTIST MARIO KWIAT



HECKMECK 14 engl. edition

Manfred Kage Achter de Winkel 41 Schaesberg/Netherland
Mario Kwiat Stettiner Str.38 4400 Münster/ Germany
(per Oct, 1st)

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