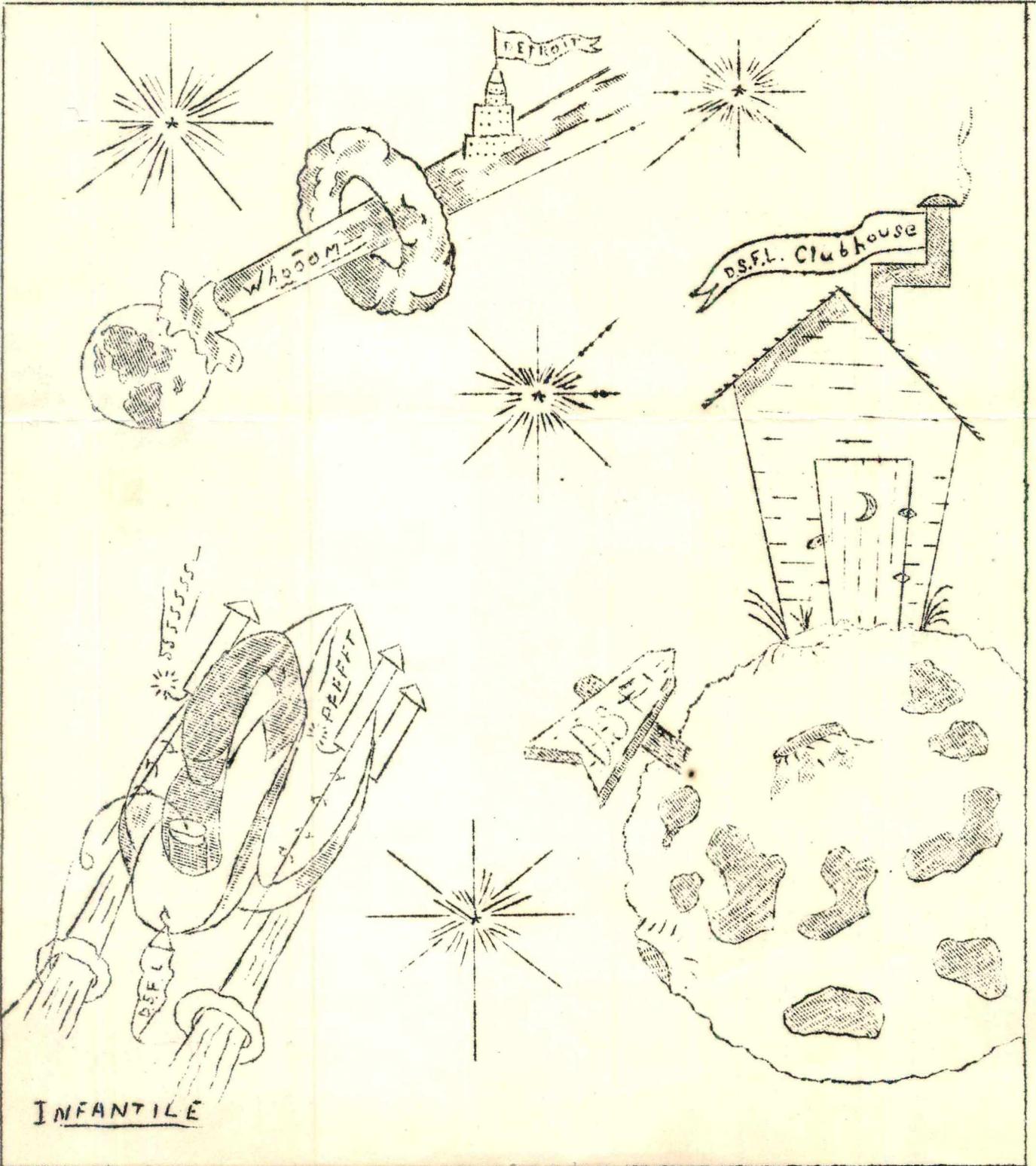


# THE MICHIGAN FANTASITE

VOL. I

FEB. 27, 1950

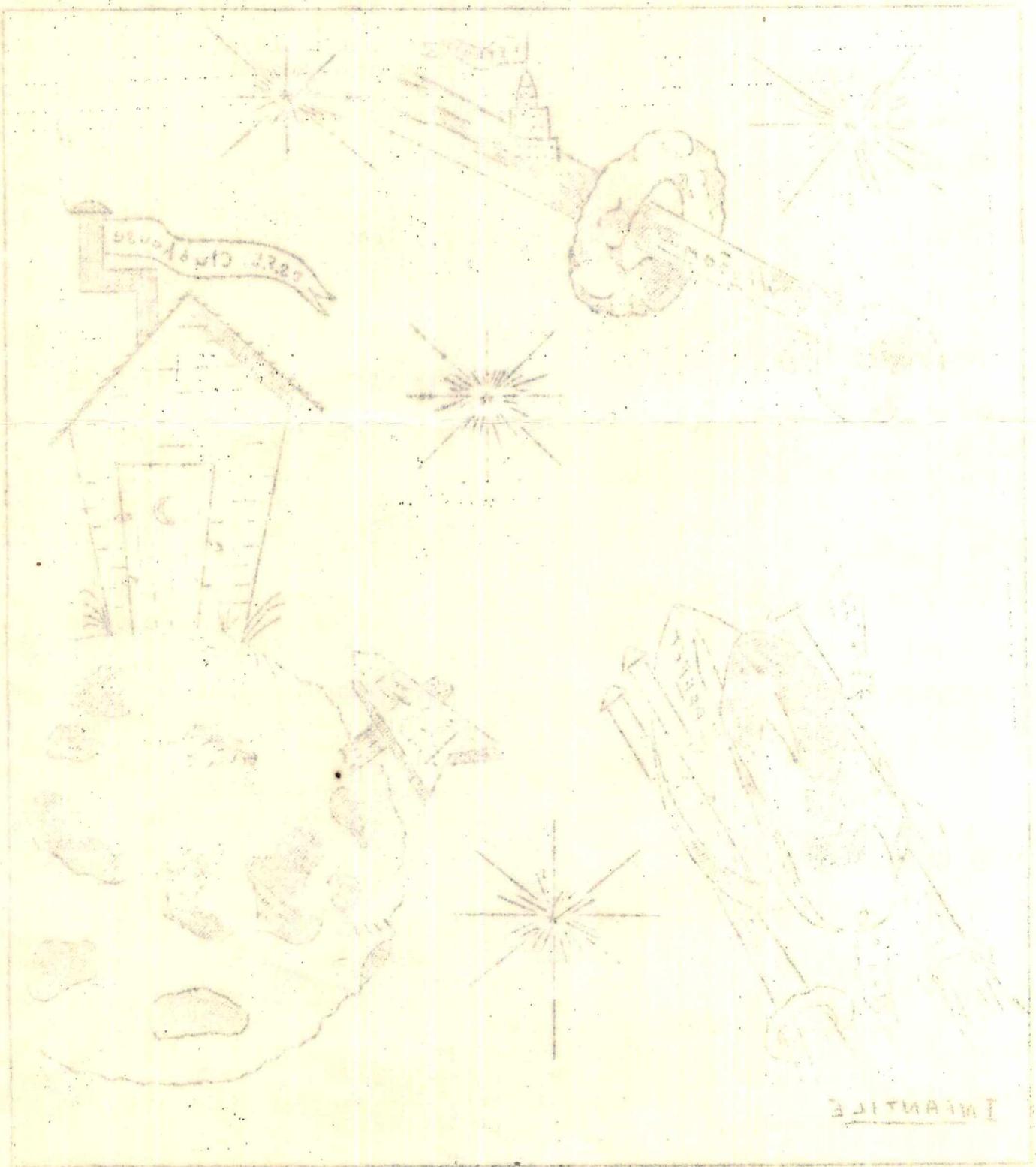
No. 2



INFANTILE

# MICHIGAN FAMTSITE

FEB. 27 1920



FAMTSITE

**LAST MEETING** As usual, we had 100% attendance at the last meeting of the Wolverine Insurgents. Unlike members of the average local fanclub, Insurgents like to attend fangatherings, because Insurgent meetings are fun.

Last Saturday and Sunday (Insurgent meetings are occasionally long-lasting affairs. There is no hampering time-schedule, no cumbersome red tape. They may last five seconds or five days, depending on the sentiments of the attendees) not only were all known Insurgents present, but their numbers were equalled by visiting members of the DSFL, fans whose minds have been gently nudged toward Insurgentism by the joyous propaganda which we publish from time to time.

To demonstrate the principles of Insurgentism to the visitors, we even held a business meeting. Someone or other called the meeting to order (no officers in Insurgentism, so anyone can act in the name of the group). We had to dispense with the minutes of the previous meeting, because we don't keep minutes. We had to waive the treasurer's report, because we have no report. In fact, we have no treasury. There was no new or old business, because we take care of that sort of thing without a lot of parliamentary red tape. The business meeting was then adjourned. Elapsed time:; 15 seconds.

After which Insurgents and visitors alike plunged into the second case of beer.

In the course of the evening, without in any way diminishing the sociability of the occasion, we not only conceived, wrote, stencilled, and ran off an entire fanzine, but made it a mag which will be cherished by its readers for years. Freed from the stodgy conventionality of bureaucratic bungling, Insurgent intellects soar on the lofty pinnacles of imagination, producing original material, not merely rehashing of ancient moldy themes. Don't take our word for it--read Bar-Rag in the next SAPS mailing and judge for yourself!

**FANNITIONS** Non-Insurgent fans use a "slanguage" all their own. Here we will try to give a few and also their meanings:

**DSFL:** Deroces' Social and Fraternal League, or: Debauchery, Sex & Free Love.

**FANCLUB CONSTITUTION:** A document written by the ruling clique to maintain their control over the gullible herd.

**BUSINESS MEETING:** A scheme whereby the membership is allowed to delude itself that it is taking part in formulating the decisions which the administration has already made. It gives the club something to pass time until the tardy members show up.

**CLUB MEMBER:** Anyone with the price of a year's dues. If he has ever read a science fiction story, he becomes an officer.

**PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE:** A useful means for accomplishing something at meetings, which is why fanclubs never use it, substituting instead, their own systems under this label.

**DUES:** A sum paid by a member, entitling him to contribute special assessments and other cash to the club.

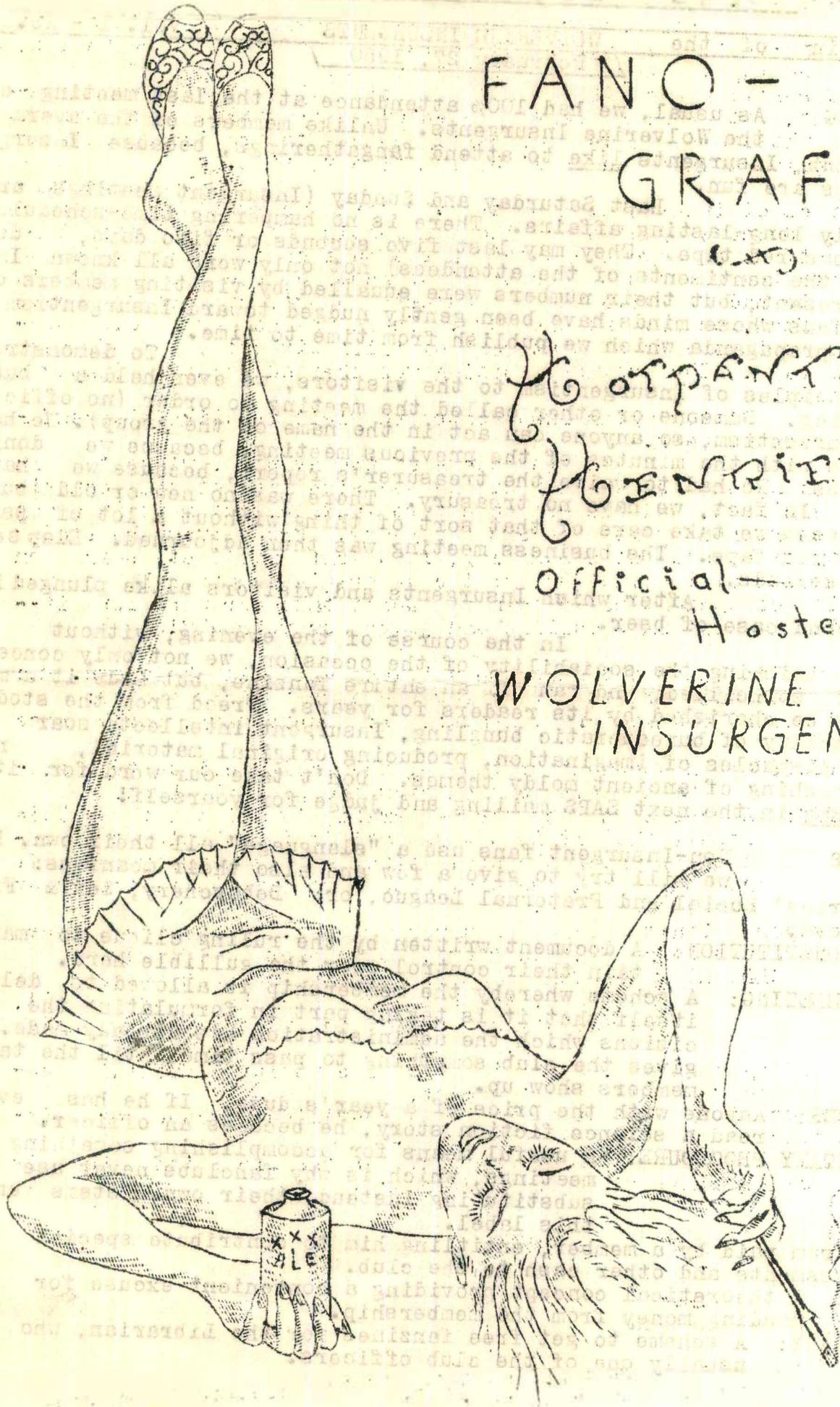
**TREASURY:** A theoretical concept providing a convenient excuse for demanding money from the membership.

**CLUB LIBRARY:** A scheme to get free fanzines for the Librarian, who is usually one of the club officers.

# FANO - GRAFY

Hostess of  
HENRIETTA  
Official -  
Hostess of

## WOLVERINE INSURGENTS



RAISED EYEBROWS DEPARTMENT "Hope I'll be seeing most of you at the meeting, for I know you will enjoy yourself when you come." --The Detroit Stfan, Feb 20, 1950.

Tsk, you will enjoy attending an Insurgent meeting, even if you don't come!

COINCIDENCE? It is our unpleasant duty to report an instance of underhanded imitation which has come to our attention... If you get that redtape-bound pamphlet, The Detroit Stfan, you must have noticed by now that they persist in copying the layout and format of this sterling publication, The Michigan Fantasite. This is understandable, if not excusable: after all, our unbound-by-bureaucracy artistic perceptions are so far superior to the poor plodding esthetic sensibilities of the Detroiters that one can hardly blame them for trying to give a modicum of interest to their pitiful little leaflets by imitating more successful publications.

But if you got Vol. 1 #2 of TDS, you can hardly fail to notice the striking similarity of its cover to that on the magazine you are now reading. That this occurs only a week after a visit by DSFL members to the workshop where this mag is prepared seems suspicious, to say the least. Indeed, the DSFL must have a guilty conscience, else why would they fiendishly try to confuse the issue by backdating their publication to 20 Feb? Expecting such a transparent subterfuge to impress readers with their priority is an insult to the intelligence of stfen.

Compare the two covers. The Michigan Fantasite bears a gem of artistic technique, a fascinating, edifying, amusing picture. Compare the shoddy imitation which disgraces the DSFL rag. Notice the sinister attempt to disguise the imitation by making subtle changes in the scene -- changes which do not hide the basic identity of the two drawings, but only spoil the point of the delicious Insurgents' humor which is so integral a part of our picture. It is hard to believe, but apparently the DSFL intends their drawing as a serious artistic study, a laughable intention when one notes the crudity of the technique. We leave it to you, gentle reader...which picture shows a realistic scene? Notice that this is a typical DSFL attempt to ignore reality, to blot out the unfavorable aspects of their environment. This unsemantic approach is always used by bureaucratic fans. Like ostriches, they bury their collective heads in the sand, or swathe themselves in blindfolds of red tape.

#### CHICANERY AND DOUBLE DEALING

For some nebulous purpose of providing propaganda, the DSFL maintains a surface attitude of friendliness toward the Wolverine Insurgents. Were it not for our unvarnished reporting of the truth in The Michigan Fantasite, no doubt readers of the Detroit zine would get a warped and distorted viewpoint of Insurgentism. But to show how cleverly the DSFL disguises their opposition to Insurgentism, we need only tell you the ingenious method by which they keep us from attending DSFL meetings. It is probably because they realize the presence of Insurgents at a red tape-bound DSFL meet might fan the sparks of revolt which are already gnawing away at the rank-and-file of the DSFL, despite the careful censorship and propaganda which their administration feeds them.

Theoretically, the Insurgents get a copy of the DSFL zine at the same time as the club's members do. But, to keep Insurgents from attending meetings the DSFL administrative commissars address the Insurgent-destined zine incorrectly. Normally this would mean the P.O. Dept would return the odious thing to its senders -- but that would foil their sinister plan. So they mail our copy first class mail. The mag eventually arrives, but only after three to five days' delay in the Post Office. We wonder how the DSFL dictators learned of this fiendishly clever procedure! obvious-

ly it is too complex and subtle to have originated in their bureaucracy-doped brains.

CORRESPONDENCE CORNER

We don't suppose the writer of this letter would want his name mentioned, so we'll suppress identifying data. However, as his letter shows, he is a prominent West Coast fan, editor of a well-known local-club OO:

"Potential Friends

"INTRODUCTION

I am a member of the NSF, Eugene-Los Angeles-Portland Science Fantasy Societies; Fortean Society; Corvallis Nudists; Norwescon Committee, etc. I am a broadminded, thinking person. Editor of (CENSORED), and an active stfan.

"HISTORY

I have been active in fandom about a year. I've read stf and fantasy for about fifteen years. Man of many trades, but specialize in (CENSORED) and allied fields.

"PURPOSE OF THIS LETTER

As a denunciation of your FANTASITE I'm afraid that perhaps I cannot make this strong enough. it would seem that Michigan is the nest of a group of juvinal dilinguents (sic). A few small things; a bombing; and this. Tho you might hear from others of this group, most of them feel it fitting (sic) to keep silence and to forget the fact that such an element exists in fandom. Because you are pro-Norwescon-or-Pro-NEFF does not immediatly (sic) bring me to arms for my comrades or make me feel any special sense of loyalty.

"It's a dirty shame that you aren't here, so I could express a little more vehemantly (sic) my opinion of a person or group of people claiming to have mature minds, calling organized fan-dom (sic) bunds. Why then, do you belong to the NSF?"

"Sincerely

"P.S. I am passing your bulliten (sic) around to various fans thruout the state. Perhaps they will write to you and say these things I am trying to. What is this music you mentioned?"

This letter fascinates us. First, it is based on a unique form of logic which seems to be characteristic of members of the Fortean Society. At times we are tempted to join Tiffany Thayer's esoteric little group, just to find out how this logic operates. Obviously, any system which can use the fact that we were bomb victims to condemn us and justify the throwers of the bomb, offers infinite possibilities in the political, theological, or advertising fields.

There is also the system which our correspondent uses to help fandom "forget the fact that such an element exists in fandom." The system, "passing your bulliten around to various fans thruout the state," is one which the Aristotelian minds of Insurgents could never in the world have conceived for this purpose.

Let us add that a reading of this letter convinces us the writer is not only a serious, constructive fan, with a fine mind and broad mental horizons, but he may even be star-begetten. We hereby nominate him for a life membership in the Cosmic Circle. And we recoment to the L.A. Insurgent Element that they prepare for him one of their certificates of recognition, suitable for framing. It couldn't happen to a worthier guy.

"Bund: ...a band or association..." --Winston's Collegiate Dictionary.



FANPHEWS: We will try to have a review column about every other issue, that is we will if we get suitable fanzines to review and they contain the usual amount of material which needs commenting upon from the Insurgent viewpoint.

SIRIUS, 1308 Hoe Ave., Bronx 59, New York. No price quoted. Contains an article by one of our Insurgent members. How many contributions to fanzines have DSFL members produced in the past six months?

THE DETROIT STAFAN, 5037 Maplewood Ave., Detroit 4, Mich. No price quoted. Bulletin of some local group in Detroit, we presume. Some good interior illios, but the artist's name isn't mentioned. Internal jealousy, perchance?

THE MICHIGAN FANTASITE

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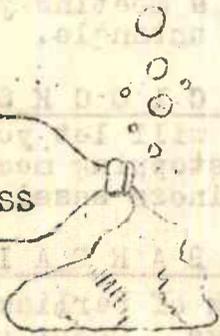


UnOfficial Organ of the  
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