

# HOW TO MAKE FANS AND INFLUENCE SLANS

Being another adventure in the life of George, the Yungfan, set in an imaginary city called Detroit and set in the year 1959-, using far-fetched reasoning we have assumed that Detroit Random hoodwinked the people into selecting them to present the next convention.

Subhead : "Well, I'm sorry about that, but I had a couple of other things to do"

Let's get right into the meat of this adventure of that fabulous personage George Yungfan. Let's assume that providence intervened somehow and he was not elected Chairman of the convention. However, let's say that to soothe his feelings they gave him a title (or rather, let him assume it) of PUBLIC (mis) RELATIONS. This was a definite mistake (that corrected itself, since it involved work rather than planning) The Committee had decided upon a Guest Of Honor, now, let us assume that this GOH choice is a major writer, let's go further and say that he is probably the most popular, and most respected writer in the Science Fiction field. Naturally it's quite an accomplishment to be on first name terms with such a man, but this is nothing that a Yungfan can't handle - However, this letter must be phrased just right! We'd better wait a couple of weeks and work on the letter; there's no real hurry anyway. In any case even a Yungfan would get around to this sooner or later (in actual fact it would be much later) So, let's say, just to complicate things that the prospective GOH can't make a decision yet, he'd have an excellent reason of course, and would tell the Committee that he'll accept if-. Then the committee would agree to his deadline, set some months in the future. The deadline comes and by this time Yungfan is such a bloody wheel that he can't take time to compose a second letter until pressured by the committee. Eventually tho' he is persuaded that a letter really is necessary and mails it. Well, if a prospective GOH had a good reason for not deciding earlier he may still be in the same position. Again to complicate the matter let's say that he absolutely cannot agree to be present. The GOH asks that the committee re-consider the matter. If he can be present he will accept, but he cannot answer definite for several more weeks. He thinks perhaps the committee should make another choice, and asks that they let him know what they decide! Considerable time elapses while nothing is accomplished, it's time for a new Progress Report wherein a GOH must be announced! They can't wait any longer. Does our Public Mis-relations man do anything? Let's not care this talk of "ridiculous" too far- Of course not, finally another member of the committee calls the second choice that has been decided upon. It's a long distance call but copy for the Progress Report is already set up (it's about a month late now) He calls and gets an acceptance. Does Yungfan bother to inform choice #1 that he has been discarded? NO, he let's him read it in the PR several weeks later! Now, this man is still important, he would still make a fine feature speaker and the committee want him badly! Some months later they learn that it is possible that he can attend the convention. NOW they learn that Yungfan has not answered his last letter. Well, a sucker is selected and he writes the great man, Yungfan is left out of this correspondence completely, but the man could logically expect to be insulted a second time, and naturally refuses. He is polite but firm!

"WELL, I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT, BUT I HAD A COUPLE OF OTHER THINGS TO DO"

# INTO EACH CON SOME SLOB MUST CRAWL

The date is Aug 1st, and as you all know the 1959 World Convention will be held in Chicago in just about a month from now, but what if Detroit had won? This is a fictitious report based on just that circumstance and since it's going to be ridiculous we'll call the main character a ridiculous name. Everybody looks down on Young Fen, so let's call him Youngfan. Yes, we'll call him George Youngfan and describe some of the stupid things he would have done if Detroit had won their convention bid.

Subhead :::"Well, that's just too damn bad"

It was time to put out another Progress Report, the last one had been a trifle late but let's not worry about that, let's just get the next out. Besides our editor has been too damn busy to get one ready on time, course you can't actually see anything that he's done, and he can't show you his plans on paper but he's got them all laid out in his head. Youngfan exclaims, "We've just got to have a map, everybody liked my last map, and they look nice, and besides you don't think that fans could get one at a gas station do you?" Despite protests from various members of the committee (who pointed out that his last map making venture held the Progress Report up to the point of stupidity) he decided that "we simply must have a map!"

Ah, and now that the committee have agreed ("Well, if I print it what can they do about it") that we've got to have a map the thing to do is to find one that we can insert in the PR. :::At this point let's pretend that this Yungfan has a sister who works for a large agency that supplies maps to travelers ::: "I know what I'll do, I'll call Sable and have her get me one", Yungfan bounced up and down at this stupendous thought. The phone call was made and innocent Sable procured the map, however these maps were copyrighted and knowing that the agency was might particular who used their maps she had sense enough to call the Dept head and ask permission to reprint the map. This Department head did not realize that Fandom had a dire need of such a map, and he flatly denied permission to use this map. Sable then journeyed forth to the home of George Yungfan and announced this. His answer was a "Who the Hell do they think they are! If I want to use their map I'll use it! If they don't like it they can sue me." Mr. Yungfan felt secure, a lawyer cannot sue for egotism - all they want is cash, and you can't get blood from a turnip.

Needless to say the map was printed, in the interests of harmony the other committee members did not point out that they were also liable for suit through his stupidity. They sat quietly, hoping that the company would not see the map and that prayers were prevail where common sense had failed.

It is quite likely that the agency will not see the map, it is even more unlikely that they will sue if they do - however, in the event that they should see the map there is no doubt whatsoever that they will fire poor Sable, just another case of more bite than bark in a Yungfan!

: WELL, THAT'S JUST TOO DAMN BAD ::::::::::: WELL, THAT'S JUST TOO DAMN BAD :::::::