



here. H.G.Wells, who is not an s-f fan, seems to be able also to find many things wrong with this world -- and that is not because he 'roams and creates his little Paradises, with the dread of reality lurking ever near.' He and his followers would most certainly do a great deal to help make this world more perfect, if they were allowed to by those in power, who prefer to keep it as it is because they themselves are in a good position. Most fans are Wellsites, Mr. Radcliffe. They would willingly help -- if they were allowed.

"But I resent the remark about 'crazy morons' making up the majority of fans, and sane human beings being in a definite minority.

"Everything seems to point to the fact that s-f fans are considerably above normal intelligence; most of them have had good educations; and most of them desire to learn. I would safely wager that the average I.Q. for fans would be at least 15% above the average I.Q. for non-fans, in the whole country - though, unfortunately this can be neither proved nor disproved.

"Mr. Radcliffe, you say that the world can get along quite well without our attempts to 'save' it. You think so? I suppose you would call the present war, the half dozen major wars which have occurred since the beginning of the century, the slums, the tyrannical Capitalism, as 'getting along quite well'? If you think so, it is you who are looking at life 'through rose-coloured glasses'; it is you who will go back to your opium, to kid yourself that everything is all right.

"No, Mr. Radcliffe, your arguments are not in the least impressive. And why should you attempt to disparage people for reading and enjoying a type of literature which you, and most other people, do not seem to have intellect enough to appreciate? Go back to your opium and your 'world which is getting along quite well'; we science-fiction fans, having found a means of escape from that fine world, do not intend to be dragged back again...."

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DENIALS DEPT: Isn't it a wonderful thing that whenever a new name pops up in fandom, some bright lads come along and, with wisdom and gravity of the highest class, state: "I think (so-and-so) is just a pseudonym for (so-and-so)." This Radcliffe business, for jjust one example. Three fans, to whit Jack Gibson, Roy Johnson and 'Renny' think I might be Radcliffe, while Edwin MacDonald thinks 'Renny' is!! I would just like to make it clear that I am NOT David Radcliffe. -- He is a vvery much alive person and, in passing, I might say that he hopes to let us have an article for the next issue. Thank you, gentlemen(?).  
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PROBABILITY First British fan to be represented in this unique  
ZERO: department of Campbell's, is Ted Carnell, who appears in the August issue of ASF with "Time Marches On", - quite a screwy little piece. Good luck, Ted, and may there be more contributions from this side.... Most of the other tales presented in this department have been mediocre, so far, but better things may come. There need be little hesitation in deciding on the best amateur effort so far, - in my opinion, "The Qwerty of Brothgar" by D. Creighton Buck, in the July issue, though this author did have one short tale published professionally in the June 1941 UNKNOWN, if I remember rightly.... Meanwhile, ASF continues along the road of deterioration, through no fault of Campbell's, while ALAZING starts presenting some good, readable stuff.