Zero



"Dat beats it, an agent up here!"



Heidelberg Aug. 70

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CONVINCED THAT ALL FRIENDS ATTENDING " HEICON '70 FEEL AT OUR CITY, AND IN REMEMBRANCE.

HEARTILY YOURS



(Zundel) Oberbürgermeister





BRITISH FANDOM HAS certainly lost its heart in Heidelberg - without, as yet, even setting eyes on the place. At the British S.F. Convention held over Easter 1969 in the city of Oxford, practically everybody seemed to be wearing the "HEICON '70" badge. Although I made no attempt to hold a census, the proportion of non-wearers was insignificant. Even people who could not be bothered to wear their name-badges were proudly sporting "HEICON '70". Oxford is, of course, the home of England's oldest and best-known university, and Heidelberg could be said to be its German equivalent. This, however, is coincidental. Those attending the Convention came from all over the British Isles, besides overseas visitors from the Continent and from North America. The Continental visitors - totalling twenty-five or so, from at least six different countries all seemed to speak and understand English as a fluent second language. Some are better at it than others, of course. An informal committee-meeting brought together several members of the HEICON '70 Committee (including Chairman Manfred Kage) and the HEICON agents for Italy, the Netherlands and Britain The meeting was conducted variously in English, German and Italian. It could all have been done in English, but was just as easy the way it was. And there is truly "more where that came from": most Continental sf fans have at least some knowledge of English. British fans are keenly looking forward to meeting these people in Heidelberg next year. Joint travelling arrangements are being planned, and there is even talk of trying to charter a small cruiseship to travel all the way by water. We want to meet the Americans and Canadians too, of course. Whether or not the HEICON '70 is accepted as the 28th World Science Fiction Convention, all sf fans who attend are assured of a warm welcome and a thoroughly enjoyable time, among people who speak the same language - in both senses. * Archie Mercer *



THE GREAT BARREL world-famous, can hold 50 000 gallons of wine, satirized by Mark Twain, with Perkeo, the wellknown court Jester, who consumed every day 15 bottles of wine. (Believe it or

believe it noth

Heidelberg is loved throughout the world, much praised in word and song as a symbol of German Romanticism, though its roots are older. Many centuries molded the character of the city bedded in such attractive scenery. The Neckar River, the hills and the city proper make Heidelberg the gateway to the south of Germany. A walk along Philosophers' Walk on the slope of Heiligenberg will evoke that impression. The onlooker has at its feet everything Heidelberg stands for: the old town undestroyed on the south bank of the Neckar, the 1700 feet Königstuhl rising above the roofs and towers; the glittering course of the river enlivened by multi-colored ships. The nine arches of Carl-Theodor Bridge (1786) lead from the right bank to the baroque twin-towered bridge gate. Prominent in the clutter of buildings are the steeples of Holy Ghost Church, of Jesuit Church, as well as City Hall (1703), Germany's oldest university founded in 1386, and former patrician residences of the Palatinate. On a bluff below the dense woods, the reddish Renaissance remains of the castle constitute Germany's most dignified ruins; the castle terrace is meeting place for people from all over the world. The mind is stimulated by the art collections of the Palatine Museum (the 12 Apostle Altar, by Tilman Riemenschneider, among them), the University Library and the ethnological items of the "von Portheim Foundation". Mind and body are refreshed by visiting the municipal theatre and the concerts, or the open-air swimming pools and sport fields. Hospitable Heidelberg offers a variety of attractions for all seasons.

BAYCONII in '72 BIDDING COMMITTEE p.o. box 261 fairmont station · el cerrito · ca · 94530

co-chairmen: Bill donaho alva rogers J. Ben stark

-- heicon'70 --

THE BAYCON II BIDDING COMMITTEE urges all trufen to vote for the HEICON bid at the business meeting. Manfred, Molly, Hans-Werner, Volker, Mario, Tom, and Dirk have worked long and hard for this convention and deserve everyone's support.

And when you attend the HEICON we earnestly solicit your vote for our bid for the 1972 WorldCon -- BAYCON II.

The BAYCON II Committee is a committee of proven ability. We have worked together in close harmony for ten years in Bay Area fanac, and have worked together as a committee on three big conventions -- Westercon XVI at Burlingame in 1963, the 22nd World Science Fiction Convention (PACIFICOW II) in Oakland in 1964, and the 26th World Science Fiction Convention (BAYCON), Berkeley, 1968.

We plan to hold the convention in the center of San Francisco in a large modern hotel of over 1000 rooms, completely air conditioned (although with the superb smog-free and balmy climate San Francisco enjoys in the summertime this is almost like gilding the lily), with perfect convention facilities, including the largest banquet/ballroom in the West with excellent acoustics and no pillars. There is TV check-in from your car and inside parking on four floors next to your room for those who drive to the con. There are bars and restaurants and shops in the hotel, and a rooftop swimming pool bordered by cabana suites.

The hotel's location makes it an ideal jumping off place for all extra-con activities — sightseeing (the famed cable cars are just a couple of blocks away); browsing in book and magazine stores, many of which are within walking distance from the hotel. The theatre district is a mere block away with broadway cast roadshows and San Francisco's highly acclaimed American Conservatory Theatre (ACT). The Top of the Mark and the Fairmont Tower becken in the near distance with their promises of quietly elegant atmospheres, masterfully concocted drinks, and breathtaking views of the entire Bay Area, the hills of San Francisco, the magnificent bridges, the surrounding countryside. And for rare eating experiences San Francisco is a gourmet's paradise with many world famous restaurants and countless eating places of every ethnic type. Bon appetit!

So, for a memorable convention/holiday in one of the great cities of the world -- warmly friendly San Francisco with its heaven blessed climate -- VOTE FOR BAYCON II IN '72!

the sf bay area for the 30th world Sconvention

THE FIRTS CONTACTS between Dutch fans are dating from ca 1951. Science Fiction itself was only popular with a very small group of people in the Fifties, and it was only in the beginning of the Sixties that interest in SF rose with a greater public. The first anthologies of the Prisma series were published then. By that time, a not too well-known fan, name of Forry Ackerman, decided to visit his Amsterdam friend Hans Frankfurther (who had visited Forry some years earlier) during a European trip of his in 1965. Hans had been collecting names of fans and possible fans for some years, just in case he might need these to spread fandom in this country. Now he needed them. He organized a meeting of fans in Amsterdam in honour of Forry, and made some publicity in order to attract the attention of a greater public. After I had contacted Hans for this matter, I helped him organize some kind of national club. "Nederlands Contactcentrum your Science Fiction". The main purpose of the club was to supply addresses of fans to fans, to organize conventions and, in general, to promote SF as a grown-up genre of literature. Contacts between fans would have to be maintained through a clubzine, but this had to wait until the First National Meeting was over, in March 1966 in Scheveningen. The next Convention was held in October 1967 in Amsterdam and the two-days meeting was considered a big success by all present. In spite of some technical problems, our clubzine "Holland-SF" is going smoothly now, bi-monthly. It can be obtained from me, free of charge, with an English summary attached to it. Also, I am planning to publish a fanzine of my own in a not too far future. On our conventions, the fans present authorized me to support the nomination of Heidelberg for the World Con 1970, on behalf of all Dutch fans. As Heidelberg is very close for the most of us, many Dutchmen will attend the HEICON '70, I'm sure. And I'm sure that it will be the most important thing to happen to European fandom, when the World Con would be held in Heidelberg in 1970: European fans would be able to demonstrate that they can not only organize a Convention, but also give it a very special European flavour. * Leo Kindt *

Heidelberg is de alom beminde, talloze malen geprezen, dikwijls bezongen stad aan de Neckar. Al is ze dan het symbool van de Duitse Romantiek, ontstaan is ze in ouder tijden: eeuwen hebben op de stad Heidelberg hun stempel gedrukt. Maar altijd al lag ze in een landschap, zoals men het zich mooier niet kan voorstellen. De bergen, de stad en de rivier vormen een volmaakte eenheid: in Heidelberg begint het zuiden van Duitsland. Bijzonder duidelijk beseft men dit, wanneer men langs de sprookjesachtig mooie Philosophenweg wandelt, halverwege de Heiligenberg. Ten voeten van de beschouwer ligt alles, wat met deze magische klank - Heidelberg - in verband kan worden gebracht: de oude behouden gebleven stad aan de zuidelijke oever van de Neckar, met hoog erboven de Königstuhl (586 m.); het gewemmel van de daken met hun spitse nokken en torens; de zilveren gordel van de rivier met zijn kleurige schepen. Met negen bogen welft zich de Carl-Theodorbrug (1786) over de Neckar, tot aan de barokke poort. In het huizenmozaiek vallen de kerken op (o. a. de Heiliggeistkirche van omstreeks 1400), het Stadhuis (1703), de universiteit (gesticht in 1386) en de paleizen van de vroegere hofstaad van het paltsische keurvoerstendom. Maar de bekroning van het stadsbeeld is het hooggebouwde slot, nu een imposante ruine, wier roodachtige renaissancemuren tegen het groen van het bos afsteken. Het uitzicht op Heidelberg vanaf het terras ervóór trekt mensen aan uit alle landen. Om aan te duiden, hoeveel Heidelberg de geest kan bieden, behoeft men slechts de universiteitsbibliotheek te noemen (het "Manessische Manuscript", 14de eeuw), het Kurpfälzische Museum (historische documenten, het altaar van Tilman Riemenschneider), de etnologische collecties van de stichting "von Portheim". Het bijwonen van een toneelstuk of een concert draagt tot een verblijf in Heidelberg evenzeer bij als een bezoek aan één van de aantrekkelijke zwembaden of sportterreinen. Zo ziet men, dat het gastvrije Heidelberg de bezoeker een scala van mogelijkheden biedt, de stad in elk seizoen werkelijk te beleven.





FRENCH FANDOM WAS probably the first to be born in Europe, somewhen around 1953, but - surprisingly - no one of the three fanzine-editors (one of them, Pierre Versins, has become a well-known and respected SF collector and bibliographer) did know anything about "fandom" or about the American sf-scene. Their example was hardly followed, and a fourth fanzine-editor was needed in order to show the French-speaking sf-readers how a fanzine looks like and to incitate them to fanac. For this, French fandom is indebted to Ray Nelson, an American fan, and to his contact-fanzine "Le Marché Aux Pouces Fantastique". At that time Nelson lived in France, later on in Sweden. Still, there are hardly trufen in France, and there are two basic reasons for this: the Frenchman is an individualist (French fans seldom travel and meet, so that there are no Conventions and sf-clubs are rare and short-lived) and he has a limited language ability, so that he is not well informed about what happens in other countries and does not know anything of far-away countries. Nevertheless, French sf is on the second place in Europe in circulation and probably on the first place in quality as far as Europe is concerned (not counting the British Isles). However, the Frenchman in general has intellectual and artistic ambitions. Therefore French fandom mainly consists of arduous fanzine-editors, readers and writers; in this respect their activity is quite remarkable. Some fans or fanzine-editors are in correspondence with American fans, even though this has hardly an influence on fandom. Recently, in the last two or three years, a new wave of young fans has been coming, who want to do fanac and who are very eager to learn. All they need is a real push, and a Worldcon in Heidelberg - i.e.in the next neighbourhood,could achieve this. Sophisticated French fans are welcoming such an opportunity to wake up their native fandom and the public, in order to demonstrate the "seriousness" and reality of fandom and sf. Interest and desire for a big meeting has been growing steadily. American fandom could remarkably help, simply by voting for HEICON '70. Fans in France are quite aware of Heidelberg's bid, and they all say: "Let's go to Heidelberg!"

* Jean-Paul Cronimus *

Heidelberg est la ville bien-aimée dans le monde entier, prodigieusement célébrée en poésie et chanson comme symbole de l'ère romantique, bien que ses racines soient plus vieilles. Les siècles ont formé la ville dont le charme s'épanouit dans un paysage sans pareil. Dans l'harmonie des collines, de la rivière et de la cité commence le midi de l'Allemagne. Une promenade le long la pente du Heiligenberg, dite "Sentier des Philosophes", révèle au pieton: La cité non-détruite sur la rive gauche du Neckar et le mont Königstuhl de 568 m.- Les toitures et les tours, le ruban scintillant de la rivière avec ses gais bâteaux et les neuf arcs du Pont Carl-Theodor couronné par la porte aux tourelles-jumelles. Vous noterez les clochers des églises Saint-Esprit et Jesuite ainsi que l'Hotel de Ville, l'Université (1386) et les anciennes demeures des patriciens du Palatinat. Le château repose sur une falaise mi-chemin vers les montagnes boisées, nous montrant sa façade renaissance de pierres rougeâtres. Sa terrasse sert comme rendez-vous aux visiteurs du monde entier. L'esprit est nourri par les collections d'art du Musée du Palatinat, parmi lesquelles on trouve le retable en bois de tilleul "Les Douze Apôtres" par Tilman Riemenschneider, la collection ethnographique de la "Fondation von Portheim", le théâtre et les concerts; en été, les piscines en plein air offrent la détente. Heidelberg, ville hospitalière, présente maintes possibilités en toute saison.



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HEICON

We don't want you to spend your Heidelberg days in the Hotel only. All events will take place in the Stadthalle (Municipal Hall). A special service has been arranged for attending members: though the restaurant connected with the Stadthalle (for members only) will be open all day round, you may have your meals and drinks served at your table during the program too. An all-day bus-service will be scheduled from your hotel to the Stadthalle, thus giving you more than one opportunity to see and enjoy the colorful sight of Heidelberg. However, if you prefer to walk, it will take you just 5 minutes to get there.

Special interest groups may arrange the leasing of separate rooms for their meetings, if so needed. There is a number of different sized rooms available for such purpose. Details upon request from Mario Bosnyak.

The art-show will feature both fan and pro artworks entered separately. If you wish to participate in any of the categories, contact Bjo Trimble, Jean Muggoch or Mario Kwiat. You'll find all addresses on page 2. A special show will display International Science Fiction Press: fanzines, prozines, pocketbooks, paperbacks and more. For informations contact Mario Bosnyak. The Banquet will be held at the Heidelberg Castle. The Menu will

Bavarian Night & Fan Dress Show

Banquet At The Heidelberg Castle

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Guests Of Honour

TITBITS

be published in Progress Report 3. Since seats are limited, please order banquet tickets soon. Membership & banquet fees on page 17. Special arrangements have been made for visitors who wish to travel in Europe before or after the Convention. For any information, contact Deutsches Reisebüro or American Express, referring to HEICON'70 They'll assist you in every travel problem you might have. Be sure to write in time! Addresses on page 18 There are no currency restrictions in Germany, so you may bring in and take out as much money as you want to. Travellers' checks and major credit cards (Diner's, American Express) are widely honored.

According to our International Line, there will be Guests of Honour from different countries. We intend to present one GoH from U.S.A., one from Great Britain, and one from the Continent. Their names will be published in Progress Report 1.but we will announce them in St. Louis. Another HEICON '70 special service will be offered to participants: the " Heicon-Extra-News ", a daily information bulletin, containing a summary of the events of the foreday and actuality informations regarding the convention. This bulletin will be printed bi-lingual in English and German, every night and distributed free every morning to all attending members. VOTE FOR HEIDELBERG IN 1970 !!

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FABER & FABER

ORGANIZED ITALIAN FANDOM has not just appeared on the fandom's map. We did not have the chance to let it be widely known abroad until recently, but hard core fans in Italy have developed into groups before the beginning of the present decade. Do not think of us as beings to whom fandom's terminology is unknown. Do not try, as some American fan has elsewhere in Europe, to explain to us the meaning of the word "fanzine". Incidentally, I do not think there is a single country in western Europe where this word is not understood. Practically nonexistent before the war - a tribute must be paid to the Italian writer Emilio Salgari and to those editors who published the works of Wells and Verne - SF became a regular feature in 1951 with the magazine "Scienza Fantastica", where apart for the then unknown American classics, Italian authors had their stories published. Lionello Torossi, its editor, deserves to be remembered. Mondadori's "Urania", born in 1952, can be considered the main off-spring of "Scienza Fantastica". Then "Futuria Fantasia", the first Italian fanzine, appeared in April 1963. Its editor, Luigi Cozzi, went down the record as the first Italian who ever tried to use this form of communication. Meanwhile, two fans from Venice. (Gianluigi Missiaja and myself). whose local activities had already been going on for some time, decided that the time was ripe to attempt the formation of a national group. So, in 1962, CCSF (Centro Cultori Science Fiction) was born. At first limited in scope and activities, it grew slowly into today's widespread organization. Italy is certainly not on the top of the list for conventions at a national level, but not beneath the bottom either. The Carrara con is still remembered by many in Italy, for the controversies risen by its attendees, and the meeting in Turin last year has indubitabily brighten the professional and amateurish scene alike. To complete the picture, let's not forget that the "International SF Film Festival" is held every year in Trieste a town whose borderline location with Yougoslavia makes ideal for contacting the fandom of eastern Europe. Finally, why do we Italians favour a Worldcon in Heidelberg? Heidelberg enjoyes a unique geographic position, coupled with the international standard of its inhabitants. There is another reason, of course: the chance for many Italians to participate to a World SF Convention taking place just at our doorstep.

* Gian Paolo Cossato *

Heidelberg, la città amata in tutto il mondo, spesso decantata in musica, prosa e poesia, é generalmente considerata un simbolo del romanticismo germanico, sebbene le sue origini siano molto più antiche. Molti secoli hanno coniato il carattere di questa affascinante città, adagiata in uno scenario estremamente attrattivo lungo la riva del Neckar. Una passeggiata lungo il sentiero dei filosofi ci conduce in una atmosfera fiabesca e ci permette di rimirare il delicato panorama della città vecchia sormontata dal Königstuhl, alto 586 metri, il bizzarro intrico dei vecchi tetti coronati da ornamenti e torricelle, il brillante nastro del fiume, sul quale si svolge un intenso traffico di variopinti vaporetti e di traghetti da carico. Il ponte di Carlo-Teodoro, eretto nel 1786, scavalca elegantemente con i suoi nove archi il fiume, dirigendo lo sguardo sulla porta barocca con le torri gemelle. Dall'intrico degli edifici emergono particolarmente la chiesa di Santo Spirito (1400), il Municipio (1703), l'universitá piú antica della Germania, fondata nel 1386, ed i palazzi del Palatinato. Su tutto ció troneggia la rovina del vecchio castello, il cui spazioso cortile é un celebre posto di ritrovo per turisti di tutto il mondo. I musei di Heidelberg custodiscono inestimabili tesori di cultura e d'arte, quali il codice Manessico (XIV secolo), il famoso altare di Tilman Riemenschneider e la collezione etnologica della donazione "von Portheim". Teatri e concerti, come pure piscine e campi sportivi, offrono differenti possibilità di svago. Heidelberg, cittá ospitale per eccellenza, puó soddisfare i suoi ospiti in qualunque stagione dell'anno.

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ALGOL is published quarterly by Andrew Porter, 55 Pineapple Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, USA. It is available for letters of comment, contributions of articles or artwork, or for 60¢ per copy, 5 issues for \$2.50. Overseas agents: Ethel Lindsay, Courage House, 6 Langley Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey, UK. Price in UK 5 shillings per copy or 1 for 5 issues. John Bangsund, POBox 19, Ferntree Gully, Victoria 3156, AUSTRALIA. Price in Australia 60¢ per copy or \$2.50 for 5 issues.

ALGOL erscheint vierteljährlich, Herausgeber A. Porter, 55 Pineapple St., Brooklyn NY 11201, USA. Kommentare in Briefform, sowie Artikel und Zeich nungen werden angenommen. Bezugspreis ist \$0.60 für ein Einzelheft, fünf Hefte für \$.2.50. Agenten im Ausland: Ethel Lindsay, Courage House, 6 Langley Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey, UK. Einzelheft in UK 5 sh oder £ 1 für fünf Hefte. John Bangsund, POBox 19, Ferntree Gully, Victoria 3156, AUSTRALIEN. Einzelheft in Australien 60 cents, fünf Hefte \$.2.50.

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ALGOL enthusiastically supports HEIDELBERG FOR 1970, and urges all convention attendees to vote for this truly International Science Fiction Convention!

Das Internationale Fanzine

SVENSKA DAGBLADET

SOME YEARS AGO, when our assiduous sf-magazine "HAPNA!" ceased, after having been in the field since 1954 - considered as the founder of Scandinavian fandom and as the link that kept it alive through the years - quite a lot of fans thought that Scandinavian fandom successively should die. But they were wrong! A lot of persons discovered fandom and our microcosmic sf-world kept on developing. Scandinavian fandom could actually have expanded faster, if there would have been more interest in this incredible good literature called "sf" at the publishing houses. Recently however, a new sf-boom seems to develop here in Scandinavia. The main reason for this is undoubtely that the Swedish TV Company, the one and only, has started a series dedicated solely to sf; we've seen episodes of several foreign sf serieses, interviews with sf-authors, reportages from conventions, etc. The producer of these programmes is Sam J. Lundwall, a very well-known fan here. The result was a suddenly displayed interest in sf in several Scandinavian magazines, papers, etc. But let's return to our fandom: the major fanzine nowadays is "SF Forum", published bi-monthly by SFSF. The next one, "Mentat", is partly in English and is published by Ulf Westblom. "SF Forum International", all in English and also published by SFSF, is due to appear very soon. Furthermore we have "SF Nytt" by Sam J. Lundwall; "Timebeam", a newsletter-zine, by Rudy der Hagopian; "Cosmos Bulletin" by Sören Cardfelt and Lennart Fryxelius, and many more. The leading "SF" organization "Scandinavian Science Fiction Association" has members in all Scandinavian countries. Stockholm has SSFS, "Swedish Science Fiction Society" and a Captain Future Club. A "Cosmos Club" and a "Tolkien Society" are in Gothenburg. In Lund you'll find L3F, "Lund's Fantasy Fan Society" and in Malmö "Club Meteor". We have only one annual convention. This year it was held in Lund and was the fourteenth arranged hitherto, a very fannish and successful event. Next year's con will be held in Stockholm. Concerning HEICON '70, it certainly has an intense support here in Scandinavia, and naturally all fans that have the possibility, will be glad to attend a Worldcon without being almost ruined. See you 1970 in Heidelberg!

- Per Insulander -

Heidelberg, denna i hela världen beundrade, mångfaldigt berömda och ofta besjungna staden vid Neckar, symbol för den tyska romantiken. Men Heidelbergs rötter räcker dock långt tillbaka i tiden, och århundraden ha präglat stadens karaktär. Den omgivande naturen kan man inte tänka sig vackrare. En fulländad harmoni omger berg, flod och stad. I Heidelberg börjar den tyska Södern. Det upplever man särskilt intrycksfullt vid en promenad över den sagolikt vackra Philosophenweg på sluttningen av Heiligenberg. Allt som innefattas i namnet Heidelberg ligger utbrett till betraktarens fötter: Den gamla staden vid Neckars södra strand med sina otaliga vinklar av gavlar, takåsar och torn samt flodens glittrande band med de färgglada båtarna. Över Neckar svingar sig Carl-Theodorbron (1786) med sina nio valv mot den barocka stadsporten. Ur stadsbilden höjer sig kyrkorna (Heiliggeist omkr. 1400), rådhuset (1703), universitetet (grundat 1386) och det kurpfalziska residensets gamla adelsbesittningar. Som bakgrund reser sig Königstuhl (586 m.ö.h.), berget på vars sluttning slottet byggts. Den ärevördiga ruinens rödaktiga renaissancefasad avtecknar sig vackert mot bergets gröna skogar. Och på slottsaltanen, med utsikt över staden, möts människor från hela världen. Bland de mångfaldiga intrycken, som Heidelberg förmedlar, nämnes här: Universitetsbiblioteket (Manessische Liederhandschrift, 1300-talet), Kurpfälzisches Museum (stadshistoriska dokument, Tilman Riemenschneiders altare) och Portheimstiftelsens etnologiska samlingar. Besök av teaterföreställningar och konserter kompletterar en vistelse i Heidelberg likaväl som uppehåll i de attraktiva friluftsbaden och sportanläggningarna. Som man ser: det gästvänliga Heidelberg bjuder besökaren en hel bukett av möjlig heter till upplevelser under alla årstider.



German beers are indeed well-known all over the world. One of Germany's finest beers is brewed in Heidelberg by Schlossquell Brauerei. You'll enjoy it at HEICON '70, where each attendee will be given a wonderful beer-glass for souvenir. However, if you prefer something stronger than beer - and not as common as scotch or bourbon - you must try "Vurguzz" | This elixir, made out from the distilled blood of the "six-legged" frogs from Tau Ceti and from several other mysterious ingredients, has been discovered by Franz Ettl, the sole importer, in the "3&1/2"



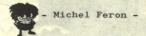


LA VANGUARDIA ESPANOLA

FANDOM IN SPAIN is such a new thing, that - at least I think so - the most of you will never have heard a bit about it until today. The first official event was the almost simultaneous birth of two fanzines, in 1966: "The Friendly BEM" published by myself in Barcelona, and "Cuenta Atras" (Count Down), published in Madrid by Carlos Buiza. Each one of us believes and says that his own fanzine was the very first appearing, but the most important is that the ball started rolling. I admit that it was not a real "snowball-effect", but the results were quite satisfying. Remember please that we live in Spain... My next fanzine was "Dronte", published in cooperation with Sebastian Martinez. Then "A Spaniard On The SF Works" and "Spainfan" followed, both in English. A good number of copies have been sent abroad, so perhaps somebody of you might know the one or the other. Then, "Torito Bravo" followed, and now I am publishing "Sol 3". In the meantime, whilst Carlos Buiza continued his "Cuenta Atras", some more fanzines appeared on fandom's stage. Recent editions are: "Fundacion" by Jaime Rosal del Castillo, and "Ad Infinitum", the organ of the only SF club in Spain, the "Circulo De Lectores De Anticipation" (CLA), in Barcelona. This club has been founded only few months ago, and on its foundation, the members proudly used the HEICON '70 badges that I had provided for them. Now the members are about 120, and many of them are planning to rent one or more buses to go to Heidelberg in 1970. This would be the first opportunity for us to attend a World SF Convention with a real international participation and not too far from our country. So, please, don't disappoint the hopes of infant Spanish fandom, and vote for HEIDELBERG in 1970! * Luis Vigil *

GAZET VAN ANTWERPEN

BELGIUM IS NOT what you may call a very, very large country, so, when visiting it. do not expect to find thousands and thousands of fans. Moreover, Belgian fandom, as a distinct entity, is not very old. Actually, there always have been fans here, but for artistic matters Belgium was just a sort of French dependence. That was true for mainstream literature and, of course, for SF and Fantasy also. We still have many links with French fandom, but, with the help of personal meetings, fandom in Belgium is well and alive. The oldest and biggest local fannish group, the "Association Européenne Des Littératures Paralleles" (AELP), directed by Michael Grayn, publishes the bi-monthly prozine "Atlanta", devoted to short stories of pro writers as well as to contributions from our fandom members. "AELP" also organizes a yearly banquet, attended not only by many fans but also by well-known pros, and the "Atlanta Story Contest" given each year to a SF or Fantasy short story from a young Belgian writer. Another association is the "Centrum Voor Het Studeren Van De Nederlandstalige Wetenschappelijke Verbeeldingsletterkunde", directed by Dany De Laet. Besides "Kosmos", a very good quarterly genzine, it publishes two fanzines devoted to fan fiction: "Toekomst Een" and "Futur", both often containing very good items. The third association is a very recent one: the "Club des Chasseurs de Mystères" (CDCDM), directed by René Lixon and Raymonde D'Houst. "CDCDM" is devoted to SF and Fantasy as well as to Fortean matters. It publishes a fanzine called: "The Mysterians". It would be too long to describe all our Belgian fanzines, but you should know that there are more than 45 titles, totalling up to 150 issues. We have no Conventions, yet, although there seems to be a need for a sort of national Con. Let's hope.... For the moment, we just have a yearly general meeting of the "CABD", (one of our comics clubs), that generally ends as a SF mini-con. Of course there will be a Belgian delegation to "HEICON '70". All Belgian fans wholly support the German Convention, and most of the active fans will attend. They all hope to meet YOU there, so: See you in Heidelberg 1970!



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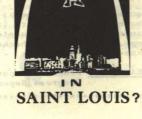
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