THIS IS MINICON 25, published by Mike Wood, written, and occasionally edited by Jim Young (1943 Ulysses St. N.E., Minn., 55418) for the Minnesota Science Fiction Society — numbers, families, relations, and any one else in the sixth sense wood — and what have you.

This is the issue for September, 1971, folks. The Lynn Torline fandom memorial, as it were....

MINICON FIVE

The fifth Minicon will be held October 15-17 (that's a weekend, folks) this year — 1971 for those of you who didn't notice! That's right, friends, furry old Blue Potal and kindly old Grod Gas Ken will be putting it on.

Registration is only two dollars, if you act now — otherwise it goes up to three bucks at the door. Take advantage of this limited-time-only offer — send your registration funds into Blue Potal at 1036 Front Street, St. Paul, Minn. 55103. This convention is guaranteed to supply you with one (1) all-purpose heavy-duty party, many (count 'em many) chances to get with several professional authors, play games, Games, GAMES — and it's all at the Andrews Hotel. How would you want to forget such a place like the Andrews Hotel, fans? Of course not — so go right ahead and register — do it now! Tomorrow may be too late!

LYNN TORLINE HIT BY FANDOMARPHOBIA

Lynn Torline was hit by fandomarphobia — the psychological desire to get away from it all — in New York City, Boston, Massachusetts, and her soler planus. Sigmund Freud sends his regrets, and so does Jim Young's wallet. The RUNE may be published from time to time despite this sick set-back. Get well Lynn!

MIKE WOOD CLAIMS TOWER, SINKS SAME

Mike Wood, who has newly moved to the Twin Cities tree, is attempting to build-up the Foschay Tower — for which he holds a deed — issued to him at Minicon 4 for the sum of $3.25. What he was doing napping on the 23rd floor of the Foschay Tower, I'll never know....

DENNIS LEIN MOVES TO POMPUS

Dennis Lein, formerly a sex perpetrated by Buck Coulson, has moved from Lake Park, Minn. to Tucson, Arizona. Unfortunately, being winters don't agree with him, and his lovely wife have moved to sunny Minneapolis, beneath tropical pines, and invigorating ice-sickles. He will be working for his Doctorate, by the way, in Under-Under Basket Weaving at the University of Minnesota, Department of Scandinavian and Runestones.

THE MINI-STF INDEX TO UNKNOWN

Jim Young here, fellow fans. Do you feel an uncontrollable urge to find out every story, poem, article, illustration or what-have-you that was ever printed in UNKNOWN/UNKNOWN WORLDS? Why then try one of Dr. Young's Unknown flavored pills, bumpy, and pass the pizza Theresa! A small clump of Mini-Stfers has been laboring over a hot inkpot for the last three or four minutes, determining just this information....

What the good doctor is trying to say, fans, is that we'll be publishing an index, bibliography, and monograph on UNKNOWN sometime this October. If luck holds out, the thing will be published by the time of the October Minicon. The price will be about $1.40 per copy, and it'll be printed in off-set.

"I've never met a fan I didn't like — a few I've hated, maybe...." — Sergeant of Alder, c. 2876 B.C.
AN ALTERNATE UNIVERSE FOR JOHN CAMPBELL

In September, 1937, John W. Campbell, Jr. was offered a job on ASTOUNDING STORIES magazine, by its editor F. Orlin Tremaine, who was being promoted to managing editor of the whole Street and Smith pulp publication line. Campbell, who was one of the top-name science fiction writers of the period, had to turn down the job because he had just landed a high-paying position with Scott, Foreman and Co. as an editor of a new series of high school and college chemistry and physics texts. Campbell said in 1949, when ASTOUNDING and all its fellow pulp magazines of the Street & Smith line were dropped, that he had always wanted to edit the magazine that published so much of his early work.

Tremaine continued to search for a new editor for ASTOUNDING, but finally had to put the magazine into the editorial hands of three of the Street and Smith pulp editors, only one of whom — Catherine Tertre — knew anything about science fiction. The magazine began to suffer in terms of both quality and sales. When Tremaine himself was forced to leave Street and Smith in 1939, his own COMET SCIENCE FICTION became a competitor of the magazine.

Campbell continued to sell to ASTOUNDING, but following editor Leo Hergulies' offer of higher pay-rates for THRILLING WONDER STORIES (TWS), he sold his novel "The Forbidden Planet" (which had been rejected by Tremaine in 1936), and his great novelette "Who Goes There?" to Hergulies. Robert Heinlein made his first appearance in TWS in August, 1939, and A.E. van Vogt appeared there in September, 1939 also. Many of the major science fiction writers first appeared in THRILLING WONDER STORIES; if they hadn't moved into higher paying markets so quickly, there might be an even better and more mature science fiction field than now exists.

What it all boils down to is that SIAM was never written; Heinlein didn't write much science fiction because he couldn't sell it; UNKNOWN never appeared on the newsstands, and so Jack Williamson remained known in that world for such great stories as "The Legion of Space". from ASTOUNDING's Golden Age, L. Ron Hubbard wrote a few stories, Lester del Rey sold here and there....

John W. Campbell died July 11, 1971. In either our world or the one above this probably would have been so; I'm rather glad he got that job from F. Orlin Tremaine.

WINNERS OF THE HUGO (SCIENCE FICTION ACHIEVEMENT) AWARDS, NOEASCON

At the 29th World Science Fiction Convention in Boston last Labor Day Weekend, the following works won the Hugo:

Fan writer: Richard Gois
Fanzine: LOCUS
Professional magazine: FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION
Short Story: "Slow Sculpture", Theodore Sturgeon
Novel: "Ringworld", Larry Niven


MINN-MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER

October 2—Saturday, 1 p.m. at the home of Chuck Holst (526 8th Ave. SE, Minneapolis—phone: 331-3039). October 15—17—combined with the Gencon, Minicon 51. October 30—Saturday, location not yet set. For general information, call Frank Stodolsz, our President, at 625-6355.