

British Fans' Letters Give War News of Anglo-Fandom

20 Nov 44 it's our turn.

My dear Will,

Part of your information is quite sound - but some is a bit out. You are quite right in thinking that I was working in partnership with JMR before the war - from '34 to '39 to be exact, and that we partly ran the LSFA and LSFL - and many other schemes. We also ran - on our own and from our own pockets - the "Green Jester Press", which published the 'Futurian'.

But there you start going wrong - I've no more idea of fandom "over there" than you have - if by "over there" you mean England.

I enlisted as a volunteer in Sept '39, and I've been overseas for almost five years. In that time I've seen France, most of the East and Africa; but I've seen very little of fandom.

However, I hope to go back to England soon, and to take up active work again. JMR and myself rather split up in '39 - he is a conscientious objector and I'm not. But on S.F. we have one thing in common - we both work for it as hard as we can in normal times.

Whether I will be able to do much work this side of Berlin is a quite different problem. I feel that there are much more important things to do until the win in the end.

But that's a personal view - but then for me it's a very personal war. You see, I've spent three of the best years of my life being thrown out of one country after another - and now

Cheerio - and let me hear from you.

Harold.

S/S H. Gottliffe, RAMC.

11 Dec 1944

Dear Will,

Owing to one of those vagaries of fate, your two letters dated July 27 and October 21 have only just reached me. The reason being that I left the central Mediterranean just one year ago - in fact, have been back in this country most of this year. Can't think where you dug up my old address, unless it was published by Mike Rosenblum at some time or other. Hence, your two letters have travelled from place to place, following in my footsteps through three continents! To eventually reach me at HQ in Britain.

Many thanks indeed for both your letters, and also for FN, which I was pleased to see back in circulation again. The news contained therein was very interesting, because I see and hear very little these days concerning American publications. Oh, ASTOUNDING arrives regularly, and I haven't missed an issue since the war began - since the mag was born, come to that. I mean publication news and fan news, in the main.

I think most of the fellow-countrymen of yours that have hit these shores have contacted Mike - you know we have all met Willmorth quite a number of times, and he is practically

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ARKHAM HOUSE Sets Postwar Plans

As this issue goes to press an 18 page booklet comes to hand from ARKHAM HOUSE. It lists all the books already published, and the ones to be published in 1945 and 1946. In addition, postwar plans are described in detail.

Slated for definite publication in 1945 are:

"Something Near" by August Derleth, "The Opener Of the Way" by Robert Bloch, "The Hound Of Tindalos" by Frank Belknap Long, "Green Tea and Other Ghost Stories" by J. Sheridan Le Fanu. These books will sell for \$3.00.

Also "Witch House" by Evangeline Walton, and "The Lurker At the Threshold" by HP Lovecraft & A. Derleth will be sold for \$2.50 a copy.

The books being planned for 1946 will include the following titles:

"The House On the Borderland and Other Novels" by William Hope Hodgson; "Skull Face and Others" by Robert E. Howard, at \$5.00 a copy; "Mimsy Were the Borogoves" by Henry Kuttner; "Shambleau and Others" by Catherine L. Moore; and "Night's Black Agents" by Fritz Leiber, Jr.

The booklet also cautions readers to buy at once, because five Arkham House books are already out of print. They are: "The Outsider and Others" by H. P. Lovecraft, "Out Of Space

(Continued On Page 4)

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SELECT STORIES FROM OLD MAGAZINES:

(In all cases mags are complete)

- The SECOND DELUGE - Garrett Serviss ASQ \$2.00
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Boost Science Fiction

BRITISH LETTERS Cont'd.

an Anglo-fan for the duration of his stay with us. Of those you mention, Racic, Van Houten, and Whiteside, I have heard nothing - but then, I am not a top-liner here these days. I'm fairly well bogged down with Army work, being a sergeant isn't any sinecure in my outfit, although lately I have had an easy time.

As a fan news reporter I'm way out in the cold, pal. As a pro news hound, I'm even colder. Since I started my global travels in 1942 I have lost touch with the trend of publishing events, although retained all my friends. They forgive me for dropping out of stf while the war is on, as it is hopeless to keep in touch when moving from country to country. Last year I did one trip of 36,000 miles; a different country every month. You can imagine the chaos of my mail. When I returned to this country 156 letters reached me within a few weeks.

I'd like to chip in with any news of interest that crops up this end - providing that the other Britishers haven't covered it, Will, and will do so at intervals (from wherever I am on (Continued Next Column)

the globe), if you will send me an occasional FN. To save postage a little, just send me the issues you think are of special interest. News of magazines and authors, fan meetings, etc.

Most of my spare time is spent in writing these days - but it isn't stf. Occasionally turn out a weird, although they are hard to place in this country. I keep my stuf light and humorous - Army articles, usually, but my main work is a 70,000 word travelog which should be completed by the end of the year. Unfortunately, as it has many items of military tactics therein, it may be sometime before it has passed through the Ministry of Information here, and the War Office. Only then can I approach a publisher with it. Luckily, I sounded out the publishing houses before starting it, and have one lined up ready for a look-see,

When in South Africa last year I wrote a rocketry article for a Cape Town paper, which went over well, and since then have included a fairly lengthy lecture on astronautics in my monthly training programmes - usually to officers. You can bet that the advent of flying bombs and the latest V.2 has changed the opinions of my listeners from scepticism to belief.

Most of the gang over here are still going strong, although Ken Chapman has now disappeared Far Eastwards. Frank Arnold, after holding down several newspaper jobs since the war began has had a slight breakdown and is resting up with a quiet office job in the City, prior to breaking into Radio and Stage writing, I believe.

Time to close down now, but still time to wish you a very Happy New Year and success to FANTASY NEWS. Give my regards to any of the old crowd when you meet or write them.

Cordially,
Ted Carnell.

ARKHAM HOUSE Cont'd.
and Time" by Clark Ashton Smith, "Someone In the Dark" by August Derleth, "Beyond the Wall Of Sleep" by H. P. Lovecraft, and "Dark Odyssey" by Donald Wandrei,

A copy of the first Lovecraft omnibus, "The Outsider", has sold for \$42.50.

At least 80% of the best Lovecraft tales from "The Outsider" are in print in "The Best Supernatural Of H. P. Lovecraft" (World Publishing Company), published for 49 cents a copy, and clothbound at that. It is available from Arkham House at an extra charge of 11 cents to cover the cost of the packaging and the postage.

Here are some of the books already picked for postwar publication:

Novels: "Invaders From the Dark" by Grege La Spina, "Conjure Wife by Fritz Leiber, Jr., "The Trail Of Cthulhu" by August Derleth, "The Horror From the Hills" by Frank Belknap Long, "The House By the Courtyard" by J. Sheridan Le Fanu, "Slan" by A. E. Van Vogt, and "The Green Round" by Arthur Machen.

There will also be short story collections by Clark Ashton Smith, Ray Bradbury, Carl Jacobi, Dr. Henry S. Whitehead, M. P. Shiel, E. F. Benson, and new collections by Algernon Blackwood, Howard Wandrei, Don A. Stuart, Seabury Quinn, Robert Heinlein, L. P. Hartley, and others.

The cover jackets for the Long, Hodgson, and Howard collections are being drawn by Hannes Bok.

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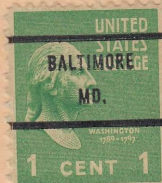
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