MEET IN
LONDON
blog in the fog
IN 1957
The Time fast approaches!

In little more than two months, the 1956 con gets underway. You’ll get the detailed program plans in the next issue. But right now we are concentrating on some important preliminaries:

Biltmore reservations: Don’t neglect to send in yours early for the best room assignment—and your only way positively to guarantee air-conditioning. The Achievement Awards: Be sure to mail in your ballot by the deadline.

Costume Party: Better start right now on your costume, simple or elaborate, if you haven’t yet.

One thing’s for sure—In The Biltmore you’ll have the best facilities ever for really great fun!

Noreen Kane Falasca, Clevention chairman, hands the gavel, symbol of office, to Dave Kyle, 1956 Chairman, at Cleveland, after New York’s successful bid last year.—Photo by Steve Schulteis
London Coming

One of the most popular fellows in science fiction--on either side of the Atlantic--is Ted Carnell. He's been an active fan since the pre-historic days of First Fandom and, like so many others, has become a professional in the field, he as a leading editor in England (New Worlds and Science Fantasy) under his more formal handle of E.J. Carnell.

And all of him—Edward, John, E.J., and Ted—is coming to New York for the big affair.

This will be Ted's second trip back to the states. He first came to the 1949 Convention at Cincinnati as the advance guard of a succession of popular Britshers. Now he returns in the dual role of a science fiction editor and chairman of the Convention Committee for London in 1957.

As part of his supporting cast, the following Londoners will be present: Mike Wilson, Audrey Lovett, Kerry Gauider and Art Clarke (who at other times will be vaguely known as Guest-of-Honor Arthur C. Clarke).

Another Country Heard From...

That "World" part of our Society and Convention is beginning to mean more than just a name.

Now comes word that the 14th Con is going to have a representative from Cuba--and a real enthusiast at that. He's Roberto Puentes Planas from Havana.

Hasta la vista!
We think you'll be interested in the proof of how important our annual gatherings have become. A big convention, such as the one in New York this year, will mean tens of thousands of dollars to the hotel involved. The money, fortunately for the peace of mind of the committee, doesn't pass through its hands. Most all that money goes directly into food, drink, rooms and such. Figure it out for yourself—and note that of all the money you'll spend only two dollars and maybe some auction money will go to the committee to put the affair on.

So, you see, we've got to bargain—and yet not be able to pay for anything ourselves for the facilities.

**exceptional convention facilities**

The proof we speak of is the contract agreement which our chairman arranged with the Biltmore. We're proud of it because we are getting one of the best hotels in the world, practically to ourselves, at a cost which is fantastically reasonable.

Let's quote the contract:

The Biltmore hotel promises "five hundred sleeping room accommodations have been blocked, all of which are air-conditioned, rates will be as follows:

- Single Room - $7.00
- Double Room - $10.50
- 3 in a Room - $13.50
- 4 in a Room - $16.00

"1. No charge will be made on your function rooms.
"2. An A la carte bar will be set up in the Café Moderne during your meeting hours, Saturday noon through Monday to about 6 PM, at no extra charge.
"3. Exhibits and displays will be set up in the Fountain Court during the period Saturday, Sunday and Monday at no charge for the room.
"4. Foreseeable additional costs: (e.g.: Security Guards, Housemen, etc...) will not be the hotel's responsibility.
"5. A hospitality room will be furnished at no charge from Noon Saturday to Noon Monday. This room to accommodate: at least 200 persons.
"6. Convention guest rooms will be located as close to one another as possible.
"7. Private parties can be held on these floors with the expectation that reasonable noise will create no problems between the hotel and the convention guests after midnight.
"8. A complimentary convention suite consisting of a parlor and bedroom will be set aside for the use of the convention committee during the period August 26th through September 4th, 1956.
"9. There will be a complimentary small suite set aside for the guest of honor.
"10. A small suite will be set aside at no charge for use as a nursery.
"11. Baby sitters will be secured as discussed.
"12. A meeting room will be provided once a month until the starting date of the convention at no charge on dates and at times considered mutually agreeable."

the MILLENIUM — this con's in it!

Now, isn't that an excellent basis for a really good convention? We think so—and believe that you'll find this 1956 New York gathering just about the most enjoyable science fiction party you've ever attended.
INCORPORATION PAPERS PROTECT all CONVENTION MEMBERS

Here are the details on the interesting bit of news we mentioned in the last issue of the Journal about our legal name now being World Science Fiction Society, Incorporated.

On February 23, 1956, incorporation papers were granted by the Supreme Court of the First Judicial District of the State of New York, Justice Henry Clay Greenberg approving. The official certificate is printed on the facing page.

The idea itself is not new. Those of you who attended the business meeting at the 11th Convention in Philadelphia will remember that Monday morning in September, 1953, when the subject was discussed. The meeting was in agreement on incorporation. Action was to be withheld until further details were developed on the national sponsoring body and the selection of the name finally made. With the Cleveland's adoption of our present name, the moment had at last come.

Why was this decision reached?

There is one simple, logical reason. Incorporation gives our Society actual legal standing with a complete, reasonable protection in our financial liabilities.

To explain further: Conventions have grown to the point where committees have become personally liable for thousands of dollars and subject to all sorts of financial lawsuits for damages, personal or business injuries, and such. The chairman himself bears the principal responsibility and risk, but every convention (or Society) member could also be held liable for any debts or accidents caused by negligence or unfulfilled promises of the convention committee. By incorporation, each and every member's liability is limited to the two dollars dues paid—so now, for the first time, everybody is adequately protected, be he committee man or member.

What is our responsibility as a corporation?

From now on, pursuant to the incorporation, financial records must be kept subject to inspection at any time by the courts. This will, of course, safeguard the funds received so that all such money is used for the purposes intended by the fans.

What will incorporation cost us?

The initial fee of forty dollars is the big expense, inasmuch as all legal work was done for no fee by George Nims Raybin, the Society Treasurer. And, to date, even the expenses incurred have not been charged to the Society. There will be a small yearly tax to be paid to the State of New York to keep the corporation in good standing.

How will the corporation limit us?

The corporation will in no way limit us from doing that which was and is rightfully ours to do. The three directors at present have no voting powers, being merely legal "caretakers," and are subject to the by-laws of the Society. Such by-laws and the Society Constitution are now in the process of being drawn up under the committee established officially at Cleveland last year.

So there we are! The World Science Fiction Society, Inc., now in fact belongs to every member. May it serve us well.
CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION
OF
WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY, INC.

Pursuant to the Membership Corporations Law

We, the Undersigned, for the purpose of forming a membership corporation pursuant to the Membership Corporations Law of the State of New York, hereby certify:

1. The purposes for which it is to be formed are: To increase co-operation among writers, editors, artists, publishers, readers, and all other persons engaged in science fiction and fantasy fiction activities, to hold conventions and exhibitions, and to promote the improvement of science fiction and fantasy fiction.

2. The territory in which its operations are principally to be conducted is throughout the United States.

3. The City and County in which its office is to be located are New York County, City of New York.

4. The number of its directors shall be three.

5. The names and residences of the directors until the first annual meeting are:

GEORGE NIMS KAYBIN
1326 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York

ART SAHA
299 Riverside Drive
New York, New York

DAVID A. KYLE
300 West 67th Street
New York, New York

6. All of the subscribers to this certificate are of full age; at least two-thirds of them are citizens of the United States; at least one of them is a resident of the State of New York. Of the persons named as directors, at least one is a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of New York.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have made, subscribed, and acknowledged this certificate, this 20th day of February, 1956.

DAVID A. KYLE
ART SAHA
RICHARD D. ELLINGTON
WILLIAM L. DONAHU
JEAN CARROL

STATE OF NEW YORK ) S.S.:
COUNTY OF NEW YORK )

I, Henry Clay Greenberg, a justice of the Supreme Court of the First Judicial District, hereby approve the foregoing certificate of incorporation of World Science Fiction Society, Inc.

HENRY CLAY GREENBERG
Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York

Date of Incorporation: February 23, 1956
December 10, 1955

Arthur C. Clarke, Esq.
41, Westminster Rd.
London, N.12
England

Dear Arthur:

It is my pleasure to inform you that you have today been chosen to be Guest of Honor at the 14th World Science Fiction Convention to be held in New York on August 31 through September 3, 1956.

As chairman of the World Science Fiction Society and of its 1956 convention, I can assure you that our choice of you, reached by me and the entire convention committee after careful deliberation, is not only an harmonious but enthusiastic one.

For the first time such a convention is making its selection from outside the United States.

You have been chosen Guest of Honor because of your contribution to science fiction, representing your activity in both science and science fiction since becoming an enthusiast in this newest field of literature as a youth.

We feel you rightly deserve this honor, not only as a professional advancing the field, but also as a fan furthering our international fellowship.

We are awaiting your official acceptance, knowing your presence at and enthusiasm for the convention of the World Science Fiction Society will greatly contribute to its anticipated outstanding success.

With kindest personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,

David A. Kyle
Chairman, World Science Fiction Society
New Worlds Ahead...with 20 years behind us!

by DR. MILTON A. ROTHMAN

It was 1936 and we were intense young men. We had never heard the phrase "teen-agers," never knew of bon, hot-rods, or comic books. Only of Wonder Stories, Amazing Stories, and Astounding Stories. On a warm Sunday morning a group from New York visited our Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, and we decided to call it the first Science Fiction Convention. There were maybe twelve or fifteen of us there, including Dave Kyle, Fred Pohl, Donald Wollheim, Oswald Train, and Robert Madle.

We were young, and we had energy. That's all we had. No money for a Biltmore Hotel. Only my own living room for a meeting hall, and the local Horn and Hardart for a cup of coffee.

Then there was a meeting in Queens from which the only memories remaining are the songs ("Alot in cosmic magnitude, there is a planet made of wood," "We will gather from the nuthouse and rally from the cell--shouting an accolade to Gernsback...") and the Science Fiction Special, a super gooey sundae, wherein the sliced bananas represented the spaceship segments of Spacehounds of the IPC.

Somewhere along the line there was a Neworken, remembered chiefly for the Battle of the Buffet. We hadn't learned about banquets yet.

The 1939 Nycon got into the big money. Convention accounts 11st Total Expenditures -- $279.94; Income--$306.00; Net Profit--$36.06.

Julius Unger's Illustrated Nycon News, with faded snapshots...
Looking for a ride to N.Y.? Would you like to share expenses with someone driving to New York for the con? Well, here’s how to find your ride:

Write to the Journal and we’ll publish the fact—and maybe even have a name to pass along to you.

Looking for a car passenger? If you’d like to drive to the con, but would like to keep your costs down, maybe you’re looking for a rider. Here’s what we can do for you—publish the fact so fans will contact you, or pass your name on to an interested fan.

(poor developing and fixing) of the characters and antics of this first World Convention, wallow us with the realization of how time has gone by. Mark Reinsberg, Erle Korshak, and Dave Kyle appear fantastically juvenile in one of these shots. One rare group photo shows us Myrtle Douglas (remember Morojo?), Julius Schwartz, Otto Binder, Mort Weisinger, Jack Darrow, Forrest Ackerman, Ross Rocklynne, Charles D. Hornig, and—Ray Bradbury. Yes, grand-chillun, we knew him then.

Strange, that the fans of my own age group are so young, so callow in these pictures, and now are so changed, while the older professionals seem hardly to have aged at all. Here is a group photograph of Otis Adelbert Kline, Frank Belknap Long, Bob Swisher, John W. Campbell, Otto Binder, L. Sprague de Camp, John D. Clark, and Manly Wade Wellman—a picture which would need the addition of only a few grey hairs to bring it up to date after 17 years.

In thinking of the first Chicon there are dim recollections of an abortive parade through Chicago’s streets, with Mark Reinsberg standing atop a packing crate making a soapbox oration. For me the most vivid memory is that of my first meeting with Edward E. Smith, at that time my favorite author, and still one of my favorite people. Upon re-reading the speech which he gave, I find it just as fresh and pertinent today as it was then. From a personal point of view I cannot help but wish that he had been closer to me than were the more neurotic influences in the science fiction field.

Denver was the last before the war. Remember the Hotel Shirley-Savoy, with rooms at 75¢ per night on the top floor, with the bathroom at the far end of the corridor? Souvenirs filed away include an unsent telegram to Sam Moskowitz: "Having swell time. Wish you were here. Love, Cyril Kornbluth." Somebody being funny? Also, from the costume party, a card pencilled by Robert Heinlein: ADAM STINK, the World’s Most Lifelike Robot. Also, the world’s cheapest costume.

Looking through old files and fanzines has aroused more memories than I have written down. It is hard to avoid mentioning little items which would be meaningless to those who were not there. Who recalls the "Yngvi is a louse" resolution at the Denvention, or the "Exclusion Act" at the Nycon? (And who realizes how seriously important that exclusion act has become at the present time?) What has happened to such people as T. Bruce Yerke and Walt Liebacher, two of the funniest and cleverest chaps to turn a mimeograph handle?

It is now twenty years since that first convention. There are moments when I can’t believe it ever happened. But, then, at the same time I can’t imagine what life would have been like without it.
A WARNING:

Do you want your room to be AIR-CONDITIONED?

Then don't fail to get your reservation in before the deadline of August 14!

...If you don't, the room you finally get may not be air-conditioned, although you will still receive the special convention rates.

ONLY ADVANCE REGISTRATION, through the Committee, will GUARANTEE AIR-CONDITIONING

To prove to you the exceptional value we are getting in rates, we are printing the Biltmore's regular tariff card -- and the air-conditioned rooms are the more expensive ones! We know you'll agree our hotel deal is terrific!

The

Biltmore

Madison Avenue at 43rd Street
New York 17, N. Y.
Murray Hill 7-7000
Charles K. Butler, General Manager

SINGLE
$8.95--$9.95--$10.95--$11.95--$12.95--$13.95--$14.95--$15.95--$17.95

TWO PERSONS
(Double Bed) $14.95--$16.95--$19.95

TWO PERSONS
(Twin beds) $13.95--$17.95--$18.95--$19.95--$21.95

SUITES
Small Parlor and Connecting double bed $18.95
Large Corner Parlor and Connecting double bed $27.95
Large Parlor and Connecting Twin $29.95
Large Corner Parlor and Connecting Twin $37.95
Large Corner Parlor and Spacious Connecting Twin $39.95
Large Corner Parlor and Extra Large Connecting Twin $41.95

MOST BILTMORE ROOMS ARE AIR-CONDITIONED

The quicker you send in your hotel reservation, the better your room will be!

Maybe in the past you've been fooled: you sent in your hotel reservation a week before the big weekend and got a room as nice as anyone with a reservation for months previous--yes, perhaps even nicer.

Well, don't be fooled this year--or you'll be disappointed.

The fact is: the quicker you send in your hotel reservation, the better your room will be!

There's a reason for this. We're trying something different this year. In the past it seemed to be a contest among convention goers to see how long they could wait before they reserved a room. And the convention committees have nearly worried themselves into an early grave. So, we wondered, how to save the convention committee heart palpitations and be of better service to you members at the same time? The following plan was the result.

We have obtained special convention rates for rooms. These rates are basic for everything--$7.00 for all singles and $10.50 for all doubles. That's a real saving, for you would normally pay an average of $14.95 for a single or $16.95 for a double. You see, the Biltmore's rate scale is from $8.95 to $17.95 for singles and $14.95 to $21.95 for doubles--with very few rooms at either end of the price scale.

But we have gotten the lowest possible rates (no lower prices are possible under New York hotel regulations for the Biltmore!) no matter how expensive your room might ordinarily be. And every room is air-conditioned.

Now, of course, everyone wants the best room at the cheapest price.

Usually, under the reservation system, the first room reservations received will get the cheapest rooms until all are filled and then the next higher
priced category will be assigned. And, in the past, sometimes the person who sent in late would get a more expensive room at a cheaper price—which makes the early bird who signed up feel ridiculous and somewhat betrayed.

That won't happen this year. As an incentive for you to get your reservation in early, we promise that the earlier you are, the better your room will be—at no extra cost! This is how it will happen: All reservations are sent directly to the Committee. They will be set up in order of postmarking. Just before the convention we will take the reservation list, reverse it and give it to the Biltmore. Those who sent in reservations last will be issued rooms first. And those who registered first will receive the better class of rooms and not pay anything more.

So, naturally, the sooner you get your reservations in to us—don't send them directly to the hotel—the better off you'll be. And by the way, if you're wondering whether or not you'll get in the hotel at all if you show up at the last minute, the answer is: You probably will have no difficulty—we've made a guarantee of 500 rooms saved for us! All air-conditioned too! The catch is, the better rooms will be assigned to those with reservations beforehand.

But before you dash out to mail the enclosed reservation card, look at the rest of the information on it. You'll notice a space on the card for indicating "party" or "quiet." If you want to indulge in fannish festivities after dark in your room, check "party." If, on the other hand, you want a quiet room on a quiet floor, away from noisy merriment, check "quiet." We'll try to place the two groups in different sections as much as possible so that those wishing to sleep (sleep?—at a convention?) can rest undisturbed—and those who want to whoop it up can do so with less fear of disturbing their neighbors. This way you'll help yourself to a better convention. The hotel management (as represented by the cigar-smoking ogre of a house detective) will thus be able to confine their necessary restraints to the sections of the hotel where they are really wanted.

Also, we've provided for those parents who will bring children. Those of you who wish to take advantage of our child-care service or baby-sitters in a special nursery arrangement please note this on the card, indicating how many children and of what ages. Details will be found on the services in Journal #2.

Remember, all communications regarding reservations are to be sent directly to the Convention Committee, Reservations. Please use the enclosed card, now! If you do not receive a card, or somehow mislay it, send a regular postal card and we will file that card until you are able to fill out and return a second card which will be mailed to you. Get that card off today.
May we help you

CUT YOUR COSTS

Some fans are short of money. And that's no understatement.

In order to attend conventions, they've hitch-hiked to the convention city—and crept quietly into a friend's room at night without the formality of notifying the desk. The friend has usually been very willing—perhaps encouraged by the fact that he can split the bill with his unregistered guest and save some money for himself.

Sounds like an ideal, if rather shady, way to save dough. But in New York this year, you won't be playing it smart if you do it this way.

Look at the facts. Under the price structure the committee has set up, this problem has been met. You are guaranteed a comfortable bed for the night—at the almost unbelievable price of $1.00! This means you don't have to play at catch-as-catch-can for a place to sleep and end up either on the floor or sharing a not-so-comfortable single to save money. For what amounts to about fifty cents more, you'll get your bed in a room big enough for you and your roommates, and be a registered guest of the hotel. Now there's a real deal for you.

If you want to take advantage of the 4-in-a-room at four bucks a place send in your registration card with the names of your three companions. If you want to share such a room, but don't know how to make contact with companions to share it,--then simply send in the card and write on the card: "Want to share three-to-a-room with two others,"--or-- "Want to share a double with someone."

We'll tabulate the requests for sharing rooms and when you check in at the hotel registration desk it will be all set up for you. Be sure to write us if you'd like us to help you.

WHO WAS BEAUTY...WHO THE BEAST?


Overseas membership in the World Conventions have always been practically non-existent. Ways to encourage more non North American fans to participate were discussed this spring with English fandom, particularly at the Kettering (England) Science Fiction Convention which was attended by five Americans. Facts show that the American-Canadian membership rate of two dollars represents almost twice that much in the sterling area. English fans in particular are faced with the unfortunate dilemma of wanting to join but finding the cost prohibitive, not to mention the actual reduced value of their overseas membership. To solve this the Executive Committee has set a special Overseas Rate of seven shillings sixpence or the equivalent. This represents about one dollar. Such memberships will be collected by Charles Duncombe of 82 Albert Square, London E. 15, England. To make things fair any overseas member (that is, not on the continent on which the World Convention is being held) will pay the additional dollar should he attend the Convention. Present members are urged to remind their overseas correspondents of the opportunity to support the World Science Fiction Society and its World Convention.
F-U-N -- That's what the emphasis will be on for the 1956 convention program.

There will also be, however, one really serious theme presented --in a manner which ought to make even the most blasé and cynical critic re-evaluate the role of science fiction in contemporary literature.

That's an ambitious and challenging goal for this year's committee and we think we can reach it. If you're one of those veteran convention-goers who think the typical program is generally uninspiring, if not down-right boring, then we believe we've got some pleasant surprises in store for you.

Right at the moment the program is in a state of flux, but the general outlines have been set. Fairly complete details will be published in the fourth Journal, as commitments are firmed up, and in this article we'll go over the day-by-day format to show you where we're headed.

There's ample reason for feeling that this year's program will be outstanding. Never before has there been such a wealth of science fiction professional talent to draw upon and the list of promised attendees even at this early date is impressive.

To begin with, the first day will have no official programming. It's been demonstrated in the past that this day is usually a busy one of people checking in and meeting with old friends. But in the evening there'll be some sort of open house party for you.

On Saturday morning there's registration, with the opening session starting at one o'clock. A real attempt will be made this year to follow a time schedule, so that you will know just what part of the program should be on at a given time. The inevitable introduction of celebrities will have a new twist this year. The customary hit-and-miss method will be streamlined into a sort of review of science fiction history with actual persons introduced as they fit into the picture. The idea holds fascinating possibilities.

On Saturday evening, the most important event, of course, will be the costume party from ten until one thirty. Before the party there is tentatively scheduled a half-hour of ballet followed by a Pro-Fan Get-together Party--with (if our financial calculations come out right) free refreshments. Cocktails will probably be prohibited by cost, but a real punch with punch (with Biltmore assistance) seems feasible.

Sunday morning will have a special boat ride around Manhattan at low cost and exclusively--if the demand is there--of convention members. The bulk of our speakers, panels and such will come in the afternoon, the Auction closing out the session.

Sunday evening will be the Banquet, with Arthur C. Clarke delivering the principal talk. Chances are good that the Banquet will be followed by a midnight preview of a new science fiction film.

Monday, naturally, is business day and the excitement of choosing the next convention site. Closing speeches and the con adjourns. The evening will have informal entertainment and some 16mm films as convention goers begin to thin out to recover for another year.

All this, naturally, concerns itself only with the formal program--there'll be plenty of parties and things going on at other times which will make for a full and fun-packed weekend. And next issue we'll bring you up to date on our exciting exhibits and display plans. There's some more 'extras' such as a visit to an atomic energy plant and the planetarium, we'll discuss later.

But don't forget the greatest attraction of all--New York City! With this Journal you'll be receiving the Summer Calendar of Events published by The New York Convention and Visitors Bureau. Take a careful look at it--and notice that the convention is listed in it.

Remember: "NEW YORK IS A SUMMER FESTIVAL."
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
NOMINEES CHosen,
BALLOTING BEGINS

Nominations are in for the 1956 Achievement Awards. Balloting now
goes underway to determine the winners who will be presented the
special trophies at the Sunday

All nominations received were
screened by a special committee
in consultation with experts in
the field to determine their
qualifications. Publication had
to fall within the period of
June 1955 to June 1956. Those
choosen represent the names with
considerable support.

Eight categories are repre-
sented: Novel, Novelette, Short
Story, Feature Writer, Artist,
Magazine, Most Promising Author,
and Fanzine. Also, a special
category was added, called:
Special Recognition Award: Best
Science Fiction Book Reviewer.

As part of this article is a
complete listing of all the cat-
egories, including author and
titles. Enclosed as part of this
Journal is your special ballot.
Simply mark off your choices and
mail before August 7th. For your
favorite magazine write in the
name on the blank line provided.

Ballots will be sent directly
to Dr. Thomas S. Gardner, who
will tabulate the results and
keep them secret until con time.
You will receive only one
ballot, so please don't lose it!
Any questions on missing ballots
should be sent to the committee,
not to Dr. Gardner.

Your ballot contains the name
of each nominee with a box in
front. Either check or blacken
in each box before the name of
your choice. If you wish to
write in the name of your choice
which is not listed, do so on the
blank lines provided for you.
Pro mag names must be written in.
Then check the box in front.

As a help to you to look up
the nominee's work, you'll find
them in the following places:

Novel: Astounding SF magazine
or Doubleday books.

Novelette: Astounding SF,
Galaxy or Fantastic Universe, or
Ballantine book No Boundaries.

Short Story: Astounding SF (the
Budrys' story under the name of
Paul Janvier), Galaxy, Infinity,

Mag of Fantasy and SF, or (for
the Shackle story) Playboy of
Sept '55 or the Ballantine book
Citizen in Space.

Feature writers are to be
found in various sf mags, with
special note of Richardson’s book
Exploring Mars.

Novel
CALL HIM DEAD - Eric Frank Russell
DOUBLE STAR - Robert A. Heinlein
END OF ETERNITY - Isaac Asimov
NOT THIS AUGUST - Cyril Kornbluth
THE LONG TOMORROW - Leigh Brackett
Novelette
A GUN FOR A DINOSAUR - L.S. de Camp
BRIGHTSIDE CROSSING - Alan Nourse
EXPLORATION TEAM - Murray Leinster
HOME THERE’S NO RETURNING - Henry Kuttner and C. L. Moore
LEGWORK - Eric Frank Russell
THE ASSISTANT SELF - P. L. Wallace
THE END OF SUMMER - Algids Budrys
WHO? - Theodore Sturgeon
Short Story
END AS A WORLD - P. L. Wallace
KING OF THE HILL - James Blish
NOBODY BOTHERS GUS - Algids Budrys
THE GAME OF RAT AND DRAGON - Cordwainer Smith
THE DRAGON - Ray Bradbury
THE STAR - Arthur C. Clarke
SPY STORY - Robert Sheckley
TWINK - Theodore Sturgeon
Feature Writer
L. Sprague de Camp - Willy Ley
Robert A. Madley - Rog Phillips
R. S. Richardson
Artist
Chesley Bonestell - Ed Emsh
Virgil Finlay - Frank Kelly Freas
Mel Hunter - Edward Valigursky
Most Promising Author
Harlan Ellison - Frank Herbert
Robert Silverberg - Henry Still
Fanzine
A BAS FANTASY TIMES - Gruen
HYPHEN INSIDE - Oblique
PEON PSYCHOTIC SF REVIEW - Skyhook
Special Recognition Award
Best Science Fiction Book Reviewer
Henry Bott - P. Schuyler Miller
Anthony Boucher - Demon Knight
Groff Conklin - Villiers Gerson
Floyd Gale - Hans Stefan Santesson
FLETCHER PRATT, HISTORIAN, DEAD

Biographer, Science-Fiction Writer and Scholar Was Expert in Military Field

Special to The New York Times

HIGHLANDS, N. J., June 10—Fletcher Pratt, historian, scholar and writer, died today of cancer in Monmouth Memorial Hospital, Long Branch. He was 69 years old.

The author of more than fifty books, Mr. Pratt ranged far in his subject-matter. He wrote with skill, familiarity and competence on matters as diverse as history and science-fiction, cryptography and the culinary arts, biography and news commentary. A scrupulous scholar, he wrote with "enormous gusto and enthusiasm," as one reviewer noted. His style generally was lively, terse and witty. Still another critic observed, Mr. Pratt "never learned that history is dead."

So it was that there was as much virulence, information and excitement in "The Third King," a story of a fourteenth-century Danish ruler, or the "Road of Empire" series, dealing with Napoleon, as there was in "War for the World," the story of World War II.

Although at home in any era, Mr. Pratt earned a reputation as a naval historian. Among his books in this field were "Preble's Boys," tracing the roots of early American sea power, "The Monitors and the Merrimacs," "The Navy's War" and "Fleet Against Japan."

"Ordeal by Fire" Praised

His "Ordeal by Fire," a history of the Civil War, won wide acclaim in the Nineteen Thirties. It since has been enlarged upon in the light of new historical facts.

Yet when Mr. Pratt turned to other fields, he won acceptance almost as readily. He had a large following in the science-fiction field, where such works as "Double Jeopardy" and "The Blue Star" had big sales. The Government killed publication of a second edition of his book "Secret and Urgent," dealing with codes, when World War II began. His reputation as an epi-sture grew when he wrote "A Man and His Meals" in 1947 with Robeson Bailey.

Mr. Pratt even essayed straight fiction in writing a novel, "The Well of the Uniform," under the name of George V. Fletcher.

Typical of his achievement as a scholar was his mastering of the Icelandic sagas in the original (the found two extant translations more satisfactory) and his translation of foreign works, such as H. J. Dutell's "The Great American Parade" from the French.

A whisper of a man who wore a thin, reddish beard, Mr. Pratt affected shirts of bright hues. He would have three or four books in the writing at one time, often on widely differing subjects, but he religiously closed shop each day at 5 P.M. and proceeded to rest.

Wrote for The Post

Because he was an acknowledged authority on military affairs, he returned to newspaper work during World War II as military expert for The New York Post. Before coming to New York in 1920, he had worked on The Buffalo Courier-Express. He turned to writing for a living in 1923.

His career was all the more remarkable in that he was a very largely self-educated Buffalonian, Mr. Pratt attended Hobart College for one year and more than a dozen years later spent another two years at the University of Paris.

As a young man, he tried his hand as a professional boxer. He weighed in at 160 pounds in those days, which made him small even in the flyweight class, where there is a 112-pound limit.

For many years, Mr. Pratt was a member of the staff of the Bread Loaf Writers Conference, conducted by Middlebury College in Vermont. He was a former president of the Authors Club and a member of the Baker Street Irregulars, the American Lock Society and the Trap Door Spiders.

A number of his books were illustrated by his wife, Ingis Stephens, who survives. Also surviving is a brother, Robert Horton Pratt.

NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, JUNE 11, 1956.
your business

A Constitutional Committee was appointed by the 1955 executive officer of the World Science Fiction Society, Noreen Kane Falasca, on September 5, 1955, at the 13th World Science Fiction Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, in the following detail from official records:

"A committee is appointed to write a tentative Constitution to be presented to the members of the World Science Fiction Society at the business meeting of the 1956 convention. This constitution proposal is to be drawn up for presentation, and it will be up to the convention assembled to accept it, reject it, or amend it at that time.

The committee is comprised of:

Representing the East:
Franklin Dietz Jr.
George Nims Haybin

Representing the South:
Robert A. Madle

Representing the West:
Howard Devore
Bob Tucker

Representing England:
Forrest J. Ackerman
H. Kenneth Bulmer

Representing Canada:
Ron Kidder

Representative-at-Large:
Robert Bloch

Unofficial Advisers, headed by:
Raymond Van Houten

"This committee will be headed by the chairman of the 1956 convention as part of the executive committee. The 1956 convention chairman will make further appointments as persons agree to serve."

At the moment, Treasurer Haybin, acting chairman, states:

"The Constitution of the World Science Fiction Society, Inc., will be a simple document to conform to the laws of the State of New York. It will contain only essential details such as name, purpose, etc., such as is to be found in the incorporation papers. This, therefore, will have more difficult amendment procedure in that two successive conventions will have to concur.

"The By-Laws, on the other hand, will contain all of the miscellaneous rules and regulations as added and amended by each convention business session."

Here's your chance to get to

LONDON

...at an incredibly low cost!

As a service to Society members, this year's committee in cooperation with the Convention Committee for London in 1957, has been investigating the possibility of chartering an airliner to London.

So far, Pan-American World Airways has tentatively offered a luxurious DC-6, carrying 75 persons, at a special charter rate which amounts to less than $115 per person one-way.

This means you can have a time-saving overseas flight—at a money-saving of from $70 by ship to $200 by plane!

Two alternatives are suggested for the return trip: If enough people agree to return together within two weeks, then it is very possible a return chartered flight can be arranged at about the same price. If, however, too many people desire to stay in Europe for varying lengths of time, then no chartered flight can be arranged, but various other forms of transportation can be arranged at tourist rates ranging from $190 to $290 for the return.

Obviously this is a very special rate which must be arranged far in advance. If ever this was an opportunity to get to Europe at low cost (without benefit of the armed forces), this is it!

Your cooperation is needed now! Write to the London Committee, in care of the Journal, and state whether you will seriously consider making such a trip starting about the first week in September, 1957. Your letter will neither commit nor obligate you at the present but it will give those working on the arrangements a chance to judge what can be done—and it will also give you a tentative reservation on such a flight when the time comes to make out a passenger list.

LONDON—for YOU—in 1957!

(Paid Advertisement)
there is nothing like NEW YORK

By LIN CARTER

So you're thinking of coming to New York for the convention. And you're thinking, "Gee, I wonder if I should. It's such a big place.

And you've heard all the stories. New York is big and noisy and crowded, hot, dirty and smoky, and so on. And you think, shucks, maybe I'd better skip it.

Well, take it from me: This is your chance to see it at its best--with your air-conditioned Biltmore room, at an incredible low rate, as your base of operations.

And what a city! So much to see, so much to do, that you should take a month off really to see it all. You'll want to see the Empire State, of course, the tallest building in history, from whose peak you can see the absolutely unforgettable spectacle of the whole great metropolis spread out before you, like a super-cinerama epic. And the Chrysler Building, too, the second tallest structure on Earth, with its silver crown. The United Nations, also, the nearest thing to a World Government we science fiction fans will ever see.

New York is the city of ten thousand sights. The George Washington and the Brooklyn Bridge, spanning our mighty rivers... Broadway and Times Square, the heart and soul of Show Biz, there's a memory to take home! You might even take in a hit show while you're here. Tickets for "Fanny" or "My Fair Lady" are not really so hard to get... and, of course, you can see a movie or two in New York, at the Palace with vaudeville or... The Fabulous Radio City Music Hall, with its daily stage show, corps de ballet, and symphony orchestra (and the Rockettes)...

... and you'll want the adventure of seeing all the famous stores, Macy's and Gimbel's on Herald Square...

Yes, there's sure a lot to do and see in New York, come Labor Day, the weather will be just right to go rowing in Central Park, or maybe rent a horse.
You'll want to stroll along Park Avenue, and Fifth Avenue, and Broadway, and maybe even see a celebrity or two. There's Jack Dempsey's on the Great White Way, where the Champ has a seat in the window; and you might run into Bob Hope along Madison Avenue (I did, once), or ride on the subway with Boris Karloff or Julie Harris or Rex Harrison or Imogene Coca (all of whom are in town doing stage shows right now).

And if you've any money left after the Auction, you may wish to visit the Astor Roof, or Tony Pastor's—or St. Patrick's Cathedral, if you've a mind; and there's always Columbia University, the Hayden Planetarium, Grant's Tomb, Edgar Allen Poe's Cottage, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Greenwich Village (don't forget to have a drink at the White Horse, where Dylan Thomas spent most of his American tour); and you can see Cleopatra's Needle, and Yankee Stadium, Chinatown, Carnegie Hall, the Polo Grounds, Grand Central Station, the Stork Club, the Waldorf, '21', Wall Street, Coney Island, the Copacabana, Ebbet's Field, El Morocco, Sardi's, Toote Shor's, the Bowery, and Madison Square Garden.

There are so many places to go, things to see and do, that I really need a book to describe— or even, list—them all. But this may give a slight taste of New York, of that most wonderful of all wonderful towns. As our subway posters say, "Sure there are no crowds in Potsdum—but who wants to live in Potsdum?"
One of our contests now over (No. 2—You Sketch It) is a suggested design for a Society lapel pin. We've received a number of ideas in assorted shapes and sizes. A few of them are reproduced here. They ran in three types, as represented: spaceships, picture designs and symbolic abstracts. They were round, oval and triangular. Now all that remains is to fix on our final choice and try to get them manufactured by con time. Wish us luck—in getting them done and in pleasing you with the chosen emblem. (The top one submitted by: Bob Mehan and Jerry Francischelli. The middle one: Glenn Harris. The bottom design represents a variety of submittals.)

SOUVENIRS
We're going to try also to have a selection of souvenirs for you. Things like sf-ish post cards and ashtrays and costume jewelry. If there's something you'd like to see us have—or something you can either make or obtain to place on sale cheap in this line—please write us now.

ISAAC ASIMOV says: "... a dissector of novels who has no parallel in science fiction. The pains he take to illustrate his points, the care with which he achieves objectivity, and the cogency of his reasoning, makes... (his work) a virtual course in writing technique."

DAMON KNIGHT

IN SEARCH OF WONDER

AT LAST—The definitive critical study of modern science fiction and the people who write it—a brilliant, witty, perceptive book by the one man best equipped to do the job. Sturdy cloth binding. Detailed index and bibliography. Introduction by ANTHONY BOUCHER.

To be published August 28 at $ 4.00
PRE-PUBLICATION PRICE $ 3.00

3508 N. Sheffield Avenue  Chicago
This is in the nature of a reminder that if you're planning on coming in costume to the Saturday night party, then you'd better be working on your plans right now.

As to what to expect at the party, read over the article in the last Journal -- the statement that "certainly the most sparkling event at any sf convention is the costume party" is not an idle one. And if you happen to have Progress Report #2 from last year, read over the excellent two page article entitled "Masquerade"; you'll get a lot of exciting ideas from the text and many pictures. We're publishing another one right here to give you some inspiration. (We're able to identify lovely Virginia Saari, Ollie's wife, on the left, and Rusty Reich, at right, but who's the fellow between?)

There will be prizes awarded to the best costumes in different categories--but don't worry, you won't have to undergo any ordeal. The Grand March will be simple.

It isn't necessary that you wear one, but you'll have more fun if you do. Honestly.

Those who by choice or circumstance will be just spectators will have fun too, though. There'll be dancing until the early hours for Earthman and Alien alike.

Oh, yes! We've got to say again -- much as we hate to talk about plans which are still tentative -- there's a very very good chance that we'll have a portion of the evening's festivities televised, possibly even over a network. And that "national picture magazine" still expects to attend for a feature story. That's why we're so anxious to urge participation and save you disappointment. Incidentally, you'll want to bring your camera -- these occasions are fantastically photogenic. Especially in color!

WSFS RECORDS

Thirteen world science fiction conventions have now irrevocably passed into history -- but unfortunately the records from year to year have not been passed along at the same time.

In an effort to build up our records, Franklin M. Dietz, Jr. has been designated official collector--and a prodigious task he has too. He's the fellow who for years has been tense recording con proceedings. He's been busy writing to past con-goers attempting to get all sorts of pertinent things, including photographs.

Biggest news to date is that Milton Rothman, being twice a con chairmain, has offered to turn over his entire collection to the Society. A wonderfully generous and needed offering! If you have material from the past, please write Frank Dietz and tell him what you have to donate. We've almost twenty years to catch up on!
234. Harvey J. Satty
235. Paul A. Pradel
236. Donn N. Fileti
237. Martin S. Klein
238. Paul Smith
239. David Kanter
240. James V. Taurasi Sr.
241. Gahan Wilson
242. Alma Hill
243. Grace Darling
244. S. Dunn
245. Klaine Phillips
246. Max Phillips
247. J. Martin Graetz
248. Jerome Wenker
249. C. Wray
250. Dan L. Adams
251. Peter T. Prince
252. Martha Cohen
253. Marilyn Pasquale
254. Evelyn Knobloch
255. Rodger H. Skidmore
256. Barton Meltzer
257. John Borchert
258. George L. Cole
259. Randy Warman
260. Michael Wirth
261. Joe Schaumberger
262. Walt Cole
263. William S. Taylor
264. Benett Gordon
265. George W. Earley
266. James E. Gunn
267. Lynn A. Hickey
268. Bob Abbott
269. Robert P. Mills
270. Diores S. Archer
271. Maggie Wulf
272. Dorothy Wulf
273. Michael Waito
274. Adam Gaus
275. Roger Buck
276. John Maroney
277. Fred Shinnick
278. George Morton
279. Jim Galbraith
280. Rob Duncan
281. Mary R. Coleman
282. Gertrude Whittum
283. Joseph P. Martho
284. Oscar J. Ruhi
285. Bret Hooper
286. Eric M. Schmidt
287. Adolf O. Schmidt
288. Barbara G. Schmidt
289. Keran O'Brien
290. Marty Fleischman
291. Abe Lyman
292. Theodor H. Untermaier
293. Charles Prohaska
294. Herbert S. Schofield
295. Michael Breslau
296. Joseph W. Ferman
297. Walter W. Burdin
298. J. Woodrow Magdah
299. Roger Smyth
300. Barbara Lewis
301. Mark McWhiney
302. Jerry Francischelli
303. Bob Mehan
304. Steve Israel
305. Charles Brown
306. Frank Maher
307. Jack Dietler
308. Henry Slesar
309. Mrs. Ursula C. Gerhart
310. Dr. Kurt Goldstein
311. Esther Schreiber
312. Dan McPhail
313. Paul I. Lewis
314. Terri Smit
315. Christine K. Hayscock
316. Hans Stefan Santesson
317. M. L. Lerner
318. Peter A. Flynn
319. Thomas N. Soortia
320. Alberta Leek
321. Morris Rosenbaum
322. Charles De Vet
323. Warren A. Brown
324. Vera C. Brown
325. Harry B. Moore
326. Minfred McCall
327. Flea De Angelis
328. Dean McLaughlin
329. Larry Stark
330. Gil Steiner
331. Ralph W. Holland
332. Reva Smilay
333. Donald M. Grant
334. H. Beam Piper
335. David Rosenfeld
336. Frank M. Robinson
337. Jon Stopa
338. Marvin W. Mindees
339. John Magnus
340. Donald L. Corbett
341. C. Harry Constandy
342. Jim O'Meara Jr.
343. Robert Lee Prickett
344. Dorothy Mae Rose
345. Jerry de Muth
346. Mona Lee Rhodes
347. Chester Smith
348. Donald E. Denton
349. Richard Prairie
350. Ben F. Keifer
351. Phyllis B. Keifer
352. Jacob Schubinger
353. Niel De Jack
354. Christopher G. McKenna
355. Miss Helen R. Arnold
356. Alfred Ramone
357. Mrs. Vera de Bra
358. Miss Montrell Chandler
359. Jeffrey Macauley
360. Lee D. Quinn
361. Paul C. Tulley
362. Daniel Desantis
363. Perry Morris
364. James Blish
365. Barbara Shupe
366. Edmund Hamilton
367. Leigh Brackett
368. Mrs. Catherine Hampe
369. J. M. Gentleman Esq.
370. Nat Levin
371. John H. Clark III
372. Thomas A. Denny
373. Kenneth L. Marder Jr.
374. Herbert Brandshofer
375. Richard Brandshofer
376. William G. McCann
377. William Weidisch
378. Paul Rosenkrans
379. Donald E. Pletka
381. Joyce Clarke
382. Vincent Clarke
383. Jim Rattigan
384. Dorothy Rattigan
385. John Brunner
386. Ted Carnell
387. Robert Wilde
388. Phillip Duerr
389. Ken Slater
390. Pamela Bulmer
391. Ken Bulmer
392. Lyle Kessler
393. Joan Rock
394. Dot Cole
395. Isidor Wrubel
396. Mabel W. Betts
397. Mrs. Rose E. Arnold
398. Francis H. Daniel
WESTWARD Ho!

Los Angeles

in

1957

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☑ EXPERIENCE
☑ LOCATION
☑ ENTHUSIASM

it's LOS ANGELES!