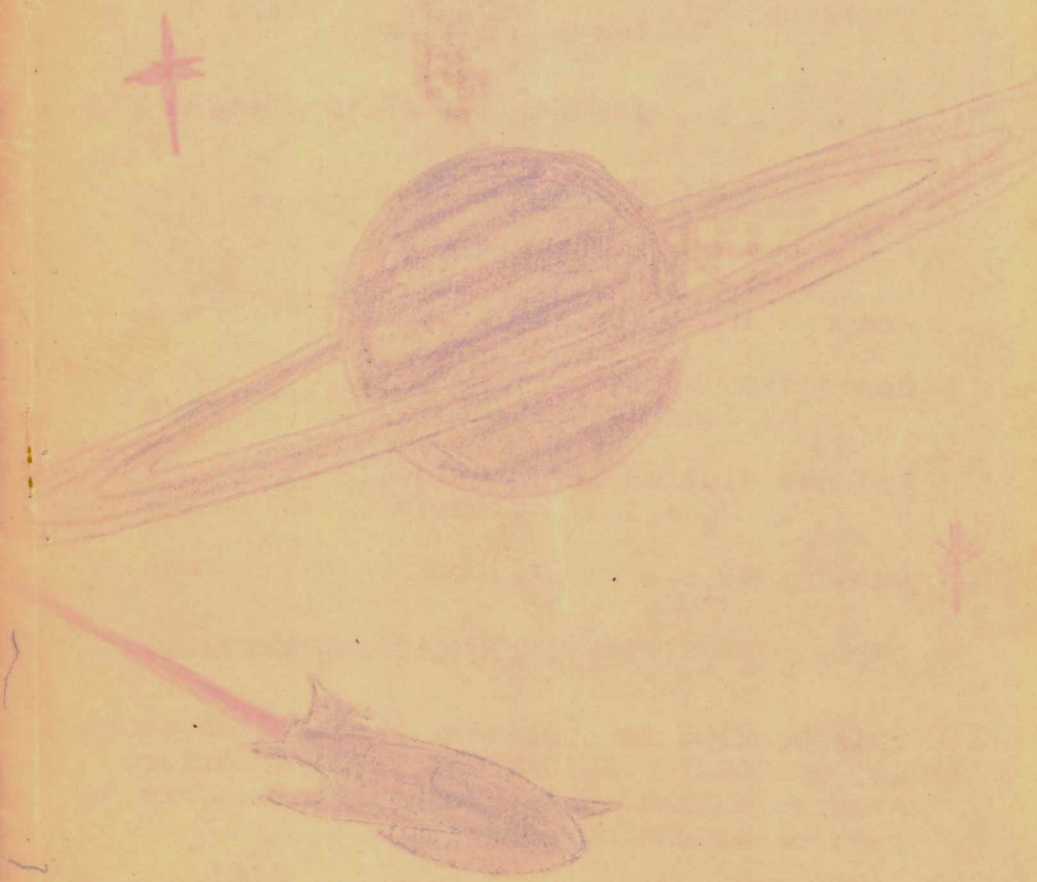


THIRD  
SCIENCE FICTION  
CONVENTION  
BOOKLET



THIRD  
SCIENCE FICTION  
CONVENTION  
BOOKLET

EDITORS:

John V. Baltadonis                      Oswald Train  
Milton A. Rothman

.....

C O N T E N T S

.....

Program of Convention .....	Page 3
Convention Notes By John V. Baltadonis .....	Page 4
Science Fiction Internationale by Donald A. Wellheim .....	Page 6
Autographs .....	Page 9

.....

This booklet is published through the courtesy of COMET PUBLICATIONS, 1700 Frankford Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Free to persons attending convention.

.....

SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION BOOKLET

\*\*\*\*\*

---P R O G R A M---

\*\*\*\*\*

Welcome Address by Chairman

Reading of minutes by Secretary

Speech by John B. Michel

A Message From ASTOUNDING STORIES

Introduction of visitors

Discussion Period

Adjournment

\*\*\*\*\*

# CONVENTION

## NOTE

by

John V. Ball

The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society was glad to again be host to a convention when Donald Wollheim, in conference with Oswald Train, decided that the time was ripe for another. This conference took place two months ago, when Train was visiting New York, and immediately plans were laid down by fans in both cities to prepare a gala gathering.

Due to practical reasons, the chairman and secretary of the convention were chosen by the P.S.F.S., and they are Milton Rothman and John Baltadonis. For the convention committee, which has secured a place of meeting, arranged for the banquet, and attended to other such details, Oswald Train, Robert A. Radtke, and John Baltadonis were chosen as members -- the latter acting as chairman of the committee. Donald A. Wollheim acted as New York agent in securing the attendance of a large number of fans.

Through the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Baltadonis, we have an excellent meeting place. Please don't abuse this privilege by injuring property in any way.

----CONVENTION BOOKLET----

The first convention was an impromptu affair. The Philadelphia members were unable to prepare any decent kind of a welcome. Then, too, there were hardly any fans attending -- merely a few from New York, and the Philadelphia members. The only thing accomplished by this convention was a feeling of friendship by those who attended, and, the setting of the next convention date.

The Second Science Fiction Convention was a big improvement over the first meeting. At this convention, about fifty science fiction fans attended. Much was accomplished at this convention. The bitterness that existed between certain factions of the New Yorkers was patched up, a lot of fans got together and met fellows they'd been wanting to meet, and the ill-fated ISA was brought into prominence, and the date of a WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION was set -- in conjunction with the World's Fair to be held in New York in 1939. All in all, this second convention was a grand success.

The Third SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION, this one that you are attending -- well, at the time we are writing this, we cannot give exact results of the meeting. Rather, we'll give a few of our expectancies. From reports from various fans, there is expected at least thirty fans who will come. Probably there will be many more. The foundations for the World Convention will be laid even stronger. And, there are many other results that we cannot forecast at the present time as definite -- we can merely be hopeful that they come through.

SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION BOOKLET

Science Fiction  
Internationale

by  
Donald A. Wollheim

One is ever amazed at the tremendous scope of thought among science fiction fans. After meeting a number of them, the diversity of the thought continues to cause one to marvel. Young men for the most part, yet strangely capable of serious conversation on the most alarming array of topics ever imagined. And this state of mind turns out to be universal among fans. Rarely does any dullard turn up!

Youth aware of mighty forces going on about them. Young men with the feelings of progress,

The fifteenth issue of  
the SCIENCE FICTION  
COLLECTOR

is now on sale.

Purchase your copy while  
you can.

----CONVENTION BOOKLET----

spot progress even before it happens, who see in their mind's eye the towering marks of an ever vaster future; to whom the ends of the earth are no ends at all but only something to be crossed and left far behind. Each accepting with no hesitation thoughts and ideas that would stagger the average man.

What does this mean? One has but to know that a person is a science fiction fan and one realizes at once that here is one for whom the drab present has no glamour. Here is one who seeks beyond the grey horizons of today for the gleaming ramparts of tomorrow. Two people meet. They know nothing of each other; they have never corresponded; they have dissimilar appearances, different environments and different up-bringing; but let them be "fans" and behold --- in five minutes they will be fast conversing on innumerable topics held dear to both. In an hour they will be firm friends, blumbing the depth of each others' minds, seeing each other as no outsider could ever hope to do.

Meeting in various spots at every occasion, these young dreamers speak together of what is to come. Through the medium of their magazines, these purveyors of hope and ideas, they find each other. They find a common bond of interest and a common place to leap off into speculation on worlds to come. Here the youth of today finds its soul. In science fiction these young intelligences first realize their purpose. Science Fiction points the way, it awakens their mind to the vast possibilities of their own generations. And they absorb into their minds these lessons.

Lessons given in the form of bright adventure. Thought - provoking or merely fantastic flights of fancy, call it what you will its effect is the same. It stirs the mind to discontent. Discontent with the dullness of the present. Discontent with the drabness, the pettyness of every day life, discontent with the numerous

## Science Fiction Convention Booklet

fallacies, hypocrisies, and absurdities of the present world. And so stirring opens their minds and eyes to the possibilities of improvement. Gives them their first urge to do something about these present-day unpleasantnesses. Makes them feel that things can be done better, that science and knowledge applied to the world can make it a far finer place. That the world of their dreams is no mere Fairyland, but the very vividly possible world of their own future. And they learn that it is up to them to help make it. Science Fiction has given them an aiming vision, through fan contact they acquire their initial experience in working together and consolidating their ideals, then at last they learn the complete lesson of unselfish work for a finer future.

It is these dreams and bonds that make every fan the brother of every other. What need for further organization? The mental lessons taught by science fiction are enough to immutably weld every fan together. A state of mind shared in common over all fans of all the world. A state of mind, a set of ideals, that makes up the binding matter for the invisible but all-embracing fraternity of idealists -- Science Fiction International!



Autographs

Autographs ~



