



Melbourne S-F Club

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT
THIS
CONCERNS YOU

The MELBOURNE SCIENCE FICTION CLUB now situated at 506 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, must vacate **its'** present premises by the end of MAY. The last meeting at the present address will be held on the 28th of May . All members with books out of the library are requested to return them all before this date. I **also** make a last plea to the many members with books overdue to also send them back to me now!

On THURSDAY the 21st of MAY a special meeting is being held to discuss the position , at which we earnestly request your attendance . We do have new premises in view but although they are far superior to any previous rooms, they will involve extra expense . Before we **commit** ourselves we must have your views and we hope support .

NO ATTENDANCE FEE WILL BE CHARGED ON THIS NIGHT! MAY 21ST.

So please attend , you have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

Yours faithfully

Henry Robinson
Secret/Library

The AUSTRALIAN SF NEWSLETTER

SECOND EDITION of DON TUCK'S SF HANDBOOK

The first publication on this month is the second edition of Tasmanian Don Tuck's Science Fiction Handbook. If you did not see the first edition you may ask what it actually contains. Well - it answers many of your sf and fantasy queries such as ; When and where a magazine was published and the number of issues. How many books has your favourite author had published? Changes of title of stories. Contents of Anthologies and many other items. In other words a wealth of information for the serious fan and collector. It contains 2,300 entries on books and pocket books amongst its 396 pages. Because of the size it has been split into two volumes of clearly duplicated (elite type) pages.

The cost -and well worth it for the amount of time and energy that Don has put into it is £3 Aust., £2/10/- Ster., and \$6/75 US.

Only a small number will be available at first, so if you require a copy get your order in early. Though a second print will be done in a few months time.

Order your copies from :

Mr Donald H. Tuck
139 East Risdon Road,
LINDISFARNE, Tasmania, Aust.

Mr D. Cohen
Box 4940, G.P.O.
Sydney, N.S.W.

G.K. Chapman Ltd.,
2 Ross Road,
London S.E.25

Fantast (Medway) Ltd.,
75 Norfolk St.,
England. Wisbech, Cambs., Eng.

Mr H. De Vore
4705 Weddel St.,
Dearborn, Mich., U.S.A.

' LUCIAN BOOKS '

AN AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION PUBLISHING VENTURE

Due for publication shortly is the first of a series of sf books to be published in Australia by Mr Graham Stone of Sydney, under the imprint of LUCIAN BOOKS. The first title is to be an 1869 classic called THE BRICK MOON by Edward Everett Hale. The reason Mr Stone has picked on this title to begin his series, is that it is probably the first story to have a theme of the construction of an artificial satellite. Despite its age this is quite a readable book says Mr Stone. But don't get the idea that all the books he intends to publish will be of this nature. This is only to be a starter. A not to expensive item to test the market so to speak. With your support he will publish the books you want. Just write and give him your views on the matter, as to what titles you would like to see and what general type of SF or Fantasy story you would like him to publish.

I believe this venture merits all the support we fans everywhere can give it. For further information write to :

LUCIAN BOOKS, Box 4440, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., Aust.

Or if you think you have heard enough and that Lucian Books deserve your support, send 11/6 to the above address and a copy of THE BRICK MOON will be forwarded as soon as it is published.

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On Saturday afternoon of the 11 of April a meeting was held in the MELBOURNE SF CLUB rooms to introduce LUCIAN BOOKS to the Melbourne fans. I am sure that Mr Stone would like to thank all the fans that did turn up for their interest, hoping that those that could not make it will also give him their support.

WANTED TO BUY

All types of SCIENCE FICTION and Fantasy magazines, books and pocket books. Please send me a list of what you have for sale. I will pay 6/- to 9/- per dozen for quantities of British mags and reprints. Correspondingly more of course for US items and all books.

- SF FILM NEWS -

There has been quite a number of SF films shown in Melbourne in the last few months, but few have been worth mentioning. Two that stand out however were the Japanese epic RODAN and THE TWENTY SEVENTH DAY. The former though a long way from a first class sf film was definitely worth watching, if only for the special effects. More than I could say for The Day the World Exploded, which also featured earthquakes. When is Hollywood going to wake up and produce some decent sf films. 27th Day is a step in the right direction, which I think except for one point in the plot is the best produced sf film since The Day the Earth Stood Still and Them. The one weak spot was the killing off by high pitched sound waves of the Earth's tyrants and dictators and only them, which I think was a little bit too much to take. Also on here recently was the NIGHT of the DEMON, which was a step in the right direction away from such epics as I WAS A TEENAGE WEREWOLF etcetera.

The film which has beaten On the Beach to the punch with the end of the world theme is the Harry Belafonte picture The WORLD, the DEVIL and the FLESH also starring Inger Stevens -from M.G.M.. Should be seen here very soon. Goon Show man Peter Sellers is making with Jean (Joan of Arc)-Seberg the MOUSE THAT ROARED or Wrath of Grapes as we knew the book by Leonard Wibberly. Another fantasy due here shortly no doubt prompted by the Incredible Shrinking Man is TOMB THUMB which stars Russ Tamblyn in the featured role. Produced by George Pal.

So far there does not seem to be anything on the way in the same class as Forbidden Planet or Island Earth. Unfortunately!

SF BOOK NEWS

Amongst the British books for release over the next few months are the following: THE SEED by Edmund Cooper - Hutchinson, NEXT OF KIN -Eric Frank Russell-Dobson, The WORLD in PERIL -Chiltern -Herbert Jenkins (the last of the Journey into space trilogy), and a couple of borderline titles THE BODY'S GUEST - McLeod-Hale and CHANGE of MIND by G.M.Glaskin. Already received is The OUTWARD URGE by Wyndham 17/- The DAY IT RAINED FOREVER -Bradbury 20/- & AFTER THE RAIN -John Bowen. 18/9. Also due for publication is WHAT HAS FOUR WHEELS AND FLIES ? by Walloff.

Recent & future Paper backs include; The WORLD of CHANCE by P.K.Dick -Panther, The POWER by Frank Robinson - Corgi, EXPEDITION TO EARTH -Clarke -Corgi, TO THE END OF ETERNITY -Asimov -Panther, REVOLT in 2100 by Heinlein -Digit and THE STARS LIKE DUST -Asimov - PANPHER. Also received recently was the CATAclysm by R.C.Sheriff in PAN. All at 3/9 each. Yet another, VOR by Blish from Corgi.

The paper covered book is booming both in US and Britain where 60 Million are expected to be sold this year. No doubt we will continue to receive at least a few sf titles.

Recent pb titles published in the US include: ALIENS 4 - Sturgeon - Avon, The DOOR INTO SUMMER - Heinlein - Signet, The MIDWICH CUCKOOS - Wyndham - Ballantine, OFF THE BEATEN ORBIT - Judith Merrill - Pyramid, PEOPLE-MAKERS - Damon Knight - Zenith, The REST MUST DIE - Richard Foster - Gold Medal, The THIRD LEVEL -Jack Finney - Dell, 3 FROM OUT THERE - Leo Margulies, - Crest, STARHAVEN -Ivar Jorgenson / The SUNSMASHER -Edmund Hamilton- Ace D, AWAY and BEYOND -Van Vogt -Berkely, DOOMSDAY MORNING - C.L.Moore, -Avon, The SEEDLING STARS - Blish - Signet, The TIDE WENT OUT - C.E.Maine- Ballantine, PLAGUE SHIP -/ VODOO PLANET - North- ACE D, and a reprint of the MARTIAN CHRONICLES - by Bradbury from Bantam.

New and forthcoming US hard covers include; TRIAD (Space Beagle, Slan and World of A in the one volume) - A.E.van Vogt-Doubleday Book Club, NINE TOMORROWS -IsaacAsimov - D.Bk Club, STARSHIP 9(Non-Stop) -Brian Aldiss -Criterion, A CANTICLE FOR LEIBOWITZ -W.M.Miller-Lippincott, ENEMY STARS- Poul Anderson- Doubleday, DAY of the GIANTS - Lester del Rey- Avalon and The Fourth GALAXY OMNIBUS by H.L.Gold.

Two new British books to come from Michael Joseph later this year are THE TROUBLE WITH LICHEN -John Wyndham, TALES of the NEAR FUTURE by Isaac Asimov. The latter probably being another titling of Nine Tomm- orrows. British books now available in Melbourne include; A CASE OF CONSCIENCE by Blish -Faber 18/9, COUNT DOWN -C.F.Maine-Hodder 15/6, and available again a reduced edition of MORE THAN HUMAN by Sturgeon and a paper covered edition of Best SF One by Crispin, both at 7/6.

SOME COMMENTS ON BOOKS RECEIVED

The Day it Rained For Ever by Bradbury is a collection of his stories, which have not been published before in England in an all Bradbury anthology. Includes such stories as the Rock Cried Out and Here There Be Tygers.

After the Rain by John Bowen is in direct contrast to Maine's The Tide Went Out but neither of them are worth writing home about. One with too much water and the other with not enough. However After the Rain gives a reasonably good account of a group of people marooned for months on a raft, apparently some of, if not the last people alive after a man made flood.

The last of the Okie stories by James Blish The Triumph of Time does bring to an end the Okies and how! It is a direct sequel to Earth man Come Home and features most of the main characters including Mayor Amalfi. They lose their fight against the universe but come to a most fitting end. Avon US PB 35c

VOR by James Blish published by Avon in US and forthcoming from Corgi in the BRE, reads more like a Hal Clement story. VOR is a robot visitor from outer space who communicates with colored lights, hence his name -Violet Orange Red. If Earth is unable to destroy VOR who proves almost indestructible it will be the target of an alien invasion, but with a clever subterfuge it wins the day. Corgi 3/9

LATE NEWS

An important announcement from the US publishers Doubleday and Co. is the TREASURY of GREAT SCIENCE FICTION to be edited by Anthony Boueher. Publication date is July 1959. It is to be published in two volumes and will cost \$ 7.50. complete.

Many authors are turning to the atomic war theme and the end of the world story and it has pretty well been done to death, but still it is topical. The latest since Nevil Shute's ON THE BEACH and Pat Frank's SEVEN DAYS TO NEVER is the German author's famous for his Gunner Asche series, Hans Helmut Kirst. His new book THE SEVENTH DAY in the US edition from Doubleday and NO ONE WILL ESCAPE in the British edition from Wiedenfeld and Nicolson. Just how it measures up to the other titles mentioned I will attempt to convey to you in the next issue of the Newsletter.

When Lester Del Rey wrote NERVES it was science fiction but today a story about an atomic subject is just another story. Two recent novels Madelaine Duke's NO MARGIN FOR ERROR and Christopher Hodder -William's CHAIN REACTION -the former from Cape and the latter from Hodder and Staughton- fall into this category. Both dealing with 'Atomic accidents' and their consequences.

The general reception on the increased price of GALAXY has been mixed. Now selling at 5/- many feel it is just too much to pay for a magazine, even though it has increased ever so slightly in size and is only being issued bimonthly. It will be interesting to see if it lasts, but I think it will, particularly if the quality of the stories improves. Many local readers claim that New Worlds has a better average of good stories than Galaxy.

ADVERTISEMENTS

You can obtain all the British edition BOOKS, MAGAZINES and POCKET BOOKS mentioned in these pages from;

McGILLS AUTHORISED NEWSAGENCY

183 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Write to FANTAST (Medway) Ltd, 75 Norfolk Street, Wisbech, Cambs., England for their latest catalogue of Science Fiction and fantasy magazines and books available.

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For all your SF requirements contact the Blue Centaur Book Coy., of Box 4940, G.P.O. Sydney, N.S.W

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DON LATIMER of 646 Bell St., Pascoe Vale South, Victoria IS BOUND TO PLEASE YOU with the binding of your sf collection.

TRADING POST

Jack Bristowe of Main Road, Upwey, Victoria wants copies of New Worlds, Science Fantasy, & Nebula in good to fair condition and will pay 1/- each for them.

Ian Crozier of 17 Inlet Street, Aspendale, Victoria has the following books for sale:

Sword of Rhiannon Bracket, Starmen - Bracket, 7 Days to Never - Frank, Double in Space - Pratt, Alien Dust - Tubb, Seetee Shock-Stewart, Pattern for Conquest - Geo Smith, Hellflower - Smith, Dragon's Island and The Humanoids - Williamson, Caves of Steel - Asimov, Project Jupiter and What Mad Universe - Brown, Pattern of Shadows - Burke, World of Chance - Dick, Hero's Walk - Crane, Timeliner, High Vacuum, Spaceways, Isotope Man by C.E. Maine. All in as new condition. For prices write to Ian Crozier at the above address.

WANTED by Roger Dard, Box S 1387, G.P.O. Perth, W.Aust

F&SF April 57, Captain Future Fall 1943, SFQ Spr 1943, Worlds of IF number 2, Captain Zero Mar 49, Marvel Stories May 40, The Mysterious Traveller Nos 1-4, Fantastic SF Apr 56, Imaginative Tales 1957 Feb Apr 58 Mar, Venture Nov 57, Sep 58. All these required to complete sets so top prices will be offered. Also wants Weird Tales, Oriental Stories, Jungle Stories, and Uncanny. Pulp US detectives in good condition only. Send lists.

WANTED Back issues of British ARGOSY to '49. Will send want list on request. Merv Binns.

AUSTRALIAN Fan Activities and other NEWS

Fandom is not dead in Sydney after all. After many 'months' a copy of SCANSION turned up from Doug Nicholson. In case you have not heard of SCANSION, it is a one sheet fanzine of a sort about sf in general and the goings on mainly in Sydney. Things don't seem to have changed very much. A few old names crop up - Mike McGuinness, Nick Solntseff - who some of the Melbourne fans have met on occasions like Sydney conventions and get together at places like Canberra and Albury. We ought to do it again some time. Really though you Sydney blokes should be ashamed of yourselves, seeing that you failed dismally to give us your support on our two conventions. If you would like a copy of SCANSION write to Doug Nicholson of 24 Warren Rd., Doublebay New South Wales, Australia.

Talking about conventions and such, the Melbourne Group were invited by the Ballarat SF Group and Astronomical Society to attend an exhibition which was held in conjunction with their Begonia Festival. Unfortunately only Bob McCubbin and Keith McLelland made it. Bob gave a talk on SF and Education. I personally made a belated trip and I would like to thank Mr Czynski for showing my family and I around Ballarat. The Ballarat Group really has a unique set up. Working in conjunction with Astronomical Society they have to use of the only Municipal Observatory in Australia's buildings, where youth groups, astronomers, radio hams and the sf fans all work in together. Many amateur telescopes have been made and the hams and the astronomers are working together on radio telescopes. A large unused telescope is one of the largest of its kind in Australia and may shortly be taken over by Mt Stromlo authorities. We have been invited to spend a long weekend at Ballarat some time in the future and we intend to take the Ballarat Group up on their kind invitation. No date however is in view at the moment.

The Melbourne SF Club may cease to exist as such if we are unable to obtain new city premises by the end of this month. Now with a library of close on 1500 books and magazines it is a shame to see them go to waste. However we do have one room in view but to take it over may entail a little extra expense. Before we can commit ourselves we must have the views and we hope the support of all Melbourne fans. Please attend the special meeting on Thursday the 21st of May at the present clubrooms 506 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. No charge will be made for attendance on this night.

Just to finish off I would like to congratulate the ABC for the broadcasting of their fine original SF serial MAN MARK TWO which finished last week. Currently running once a week on Saturdays in Melbourne is John Wyndham's THE DAY OF THE TRIFFIDS, a transcription from the B.B.C.

FOR SALE

US PBs	Citizen in Space	Sheckley	4/-
	Destination Universe	van Vogt	4/6
	Riders to the Stars	Siodmak	3/-
	Esper (Jack of Eagles)	Blish	3/-
	Time to Come	Derleth	4/6
	The Blue Atom		
	The Void Beyond	R.M. Williams Ace D	4/6
	Worlds of Tomorrow	Derleth	4/6
	A Mirror for Observers	Pangborn	4/6
	Second Foundation	Asimov	3/-
	The Metal Monster	Merrit	4/-
	The Time Dissolver	Sohl	4/-
	Ape and Essence	Huxley	3/-
	6 From Worlds Beyond	Dikty	4/6
	Honeymoon in Hell	Brown	4/6
	Starburst	Bester	4/6
	Ahead of Time	Kutner	4/-
	Master of Life & Death	Silverberg	
	The Secret Visitors	White)Ace D	4/6
	Across Time	Grinnell)Ace D	4/6
	Invaders from Earth	Silverberg)Ace D	4/6
	Year 2018 (They Shall Have Stars)	Blish	4/-
	Planet of No Return	Anderson, Split ACE D	bound in paper
	Star Guard	Norton	1/6 each)
	The Explorers	C.M. Kornbluth	4/6

US HCs

Five SF Novels : The Chronieler-Van Vogt , Destiny Times
 Three - Leiber , The Crucible of Power- Williamson , But Without
 Horns - Page and / Crisis in Utopia - Knight. Fair 13/6

US MAGAZINES

Fantastic Story Jan 53 Yank at Valhalla - Hamilton
 Spring 50 The Hidden World - Hamilton . Fall 54 Forgotten World -
 - Hamilton , Nov 52 The Gods Hate Kansas - Millard ,
 Sep 53 Island in the Sky - Wellman , Sep 52 A Million Years
 to Conquer - Kutner . 3/- each

Startling Stories

Jan 54 , Spring 55 , Oct 53, Spring 54, Feb 53 3/- each

Thrilling Wonder Stories

Spring and Winter 54 3/- each

Two SF Adventure Books

No 2 Star Kings / Seekers of the Sphinx

3 Sword of Xota / Citadel in Space

6 The Cructars are Coming / Minions of the Moon 2/6 each

Amazing April 1936 2/6 Weird Tales May 49 2/6

I may also have for sale the following items;

Plague Ship by Andrew North US HC Book 20/-

Starhaven by Ivar Jorgenson US HC Bk 20/-

Starways Poul Anderson US HC Bk 20/-

US PBs The Hidden World Out Line 4/6 Doomsday Morning - Moore 4/6

US Vintage Astounding's : 1943 Jan , Feb , Mar , Apr , June , July , Aug , Sep ,

& Oct . Cost me 12/6 each . What offers?

Mervyn R. Binns , 4 Myrtle Grove Preston M18, Vic., Australia

THE AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION NEWSLETTER

Produced and Edited by Mervyn R. Binns

4 Myrtle Grove, ,Preston N18, Vic., Australia

Copies FREE/ but donations of SF material or a silver coin will be gratefully accepted on behalf of the MELBOURNE SF CLUB for whom this is produced. I would also pleased to recieve any items of news on SF topics for inclusion in these pages.

Printed Matter

To

From MRBinns
4 Myrtle Grv.,
Preston N18 ,
Victoria , Australia