night - AUG 17?

Australian SF Newsletter, July 1962, is published, despite the anguished cries of the members, for the Melbourne SF Club, by Mervyn R. Binns, hereinafter referred to as the Senior Partner, and John M. Foyster, hereinafter referred to as the Junior Partner, at 19 Somerset Place, Melbourne C.1. Victoria. The purpose is uncertain, but enduring.

FILM-

BELL,

B 0 0 K,

AND

CANDLE

plus NASA colour film (see below)

BAXTER

NOW.

WALKING

STREETS

(see inside.)

CLUB NEWS: Interesting perhaps to some members is the reduction in dues, 5/- down to 4/- a night. This did not exactly result in an immediate influx of members, but now, a couple of months later, it is obvious that the number of members attending each night has gone up, although the boom figures of late last year have not yet been reached. A great source of attraction has been the table-tennis table, with eight or mare people wanting to play each night. A small levy is imposed (voluntarily, as it turned out) for the upkeep of equipment. The Library is also wellpatronised, the new additions and new members (not really new of course) have combined to make the Library a lucrative section of the Club (is someone muttering, the only lucrative section). Chess has generally been on the decline and darts and hookey have not been patronised lately. Someone care to revive these lost arts? Further club notes inside.

FILLUM GNUS: As indicated above, the next film is BELL, BOOK AND CANDLE, made from the John Van Druten play. Further details on the next page. Recent US releases are NIGHT CREATURES, a horror job from Hammer Films. The setting is 18th century. It's all about a dead pirate and a wicked vicar and a mutilated mulatto, mate. Probably you won't even have to avoid this item. Then there's a remake of THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI by 20th Century-Fox. Screenplay is by Bob Bloch, and the film stars Glynis Johns and Dan O'Herlihy with a plot somewhat reminiscent (only somewhat) of Fred Brown's Come AND GO MAD. Also MOTHRA, another Japanese film and therefore probably very good from a technical point of view, is a recent release. MOTHRA is a giant moth. Need I go on? In the planning stage is an omnibus work from Francois Truffaut (JULES ET JIM, prizewinner at Mar del Plata Film Festival) made from some of Bradbury's shorts. Fradbury, who will be in France this winter to work on a play, will do the scripts himself. Original plans were for an attempt at FAHRENHEIT 453 out this was abandoned during preliminary talks in New York. IT'S ALL EINSTEIN'S FAULT is an interesting-looking Polish comedy which we may get out here. THE DOLL, a weirdie from Sweden, seems less likely to make it, though it's probably better than most of the American horror films we are blessed with. Some films now in production are listed on page three.

SCIENCE FICTION NEWS: I thought I might get around to this eventually it's too bad I didn't have anything else to fill this space with. Round Sydney Spy "X" reports: James White's Sector General story, FIELD HOSPITAL has been bought, after a struggle with other pb publishers, by Balla time Books, and should arrive here in a month or so under the title HOSPITAL STATION. Ballantine supposedly paid a near-record sum for this novel - for English writers, of course. Gollancz will soon (next year)
begin reprinting of Heinlein's Scribner's juveniles (THE ROLLING STONES,
HAVE SPACESUIT, WILL TRAVEL etc.). Spy "X" will get a decent warning next time and thus will produce much more news.

The Junior Fartner also has some stf type news, but you'll find that on page

/and you CLUB NEWS (continued): It will surprise some people to learn that don't belei re occasionally something happens at these club meetings. On April 10, a in discussion on Heinlein's STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND was held. 8 of the 16 members had read the book, but since then a few have taken the book travel. out. Graham Leach confesses that he finds it hard to enjoy Heinlein's other books now. There are two copies in the library. The discussion centred r around the 'religion' in the book, despite the attempts of the Junior Partner to make it a long series of double-entendre remarks. Merv Binns announced the decrease in rent, and a decision to lower dues to 4/- was railroaded by a small pressure group. Do not cross us, tendrilless fans! Next night a fair attendance saw THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING MAN, supported by the John Glenn Newsreel and an interesting collation of ... something. Attendance was actually poor; let's have the frank, honest, naked truth -Bob Smith was evidently recovering from the previous night, or perhaps the afternoon, but there were enough other VIPs to create only a small loss. It seems a pity to lay out a supper for such a small number, Robin, Rowley and Foyster had to stuff themselves to get rid of the extra. Afterwards, Merv Barrett, Ced Rowley and John Fcyster played a form of table-tennis whose only virtue is However, my copies of Amazing with the ORIGINAL SKYLARK III were not sold, so the whole evening was aflop.

The following week, Bert Chandler and the two partners in this enterprise (used loosely) visited VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA - a review will be found under FILLUM GNUS. Bert signed a few ortigrafs, but I didn't sell my AMAZINGS. The next three meetings were pretty dull, sinc I wasn't there, but I hear that Madge and 'Tales went well from the library, and that Dick Jenssen brought in an Asian friend who wiped the floor with the table-tennis playing members of the club. The Secretary has asked me to express his disappointment at the attendance at club meetings - he suggests that all club members try to attend at least once a month. If more people show up, then the dues can be lowered even further (the other reduction was planned as the first of a series), mebbe we'll even pay you to come in one day. ...er, my AMAZINGs are still for sale.

New Young The Sea of the club and the series of the club an

FILLUM GNUS (continued): More film reviews, like. VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA was seen by Messrs. Chandler Binns and Foyster. Mr. Chandler found the show very amusing from start to finish. Mr. Binns describes this as undoubtedly the most hilarious attempt at a science-fiction film to date. The inebriated gentleman at the end of our row was quite sick. Mr. Foyster enjoyed the passionate love scenes. The Senior Partner enters here with comments on MYSTERIOUS ISLAND. "Here again, for light entertainment, don't miss MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (a bit late now, SP ole boy. JP.). Not in the same class as Disney's 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA; despite the addition of

8 E X

and giant animals and tha fact that over half the book is omitted, it does have its moments." The editors of this rag suggest that you see THE DAY THE EARTH CAUGHT FIRE. The SP says," Here is one of the best examples of British SF filmaking- to date I think, one of the best SF films ever made. Do not miss it. Photography and script are good, with fine attention to detail. Holes may be picked in the scientific bit, like, but this does not detract from the film to any marked degree." The JP says, "I liked the bit where the guy got shoved down the liftwell."" That kind tears the film news, except to mention, in passing, that the support to the next film show will be a 55-min colour film from NASA -

either

PROJECT APOLLO

or

THE FLIGHT OF THE FRIENDSHIP SEVEN

sharp, at 5/- a head, supper included. We'll be starting at 8.00pm

John Foyster ... a junior partner in a bankrupt business.

SF Magazines , Books and PBs FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE

Revolt on Alpha C - Silverberg 2/-, Decade of F&SF - Mills 8/6, Long Afternoon of Earth - Aldiss 5/9, Adress Centauri (HC) - Wallace 10/-, 21st Century Sub - Herbert 5/6, Startling Stories Mines (HC) 5/-, The Unsleep - Gillon 5/9, Caviar Sturgeon 5/9, Worlds of Clifford Simak 5/9, All Mad PBs at 2/- each, Nightmares and Geezenstacks Brown 4/9, Far Out Knight 5/9, October Country - Bradbury 5/9, Automated Goliath/Three Suns of Amara - Temple 5/3, The Primal Urge - Aldiss 5/9, Turn Left At Thursday Pohl 4/3, also many previously listed pbs and hardcovers.

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if you've got a kinda dewy and mystified look on your face at this point, I can straighten you out a little. The JP (Foyster) is writing from here on, such as it is. The main thing is to explain that other headline, the one you've been puzzling over, and John Baxter's been fuming over. This same John Baxter has recently sold an editorial to New Worlds. No, he's not the new editor - it's a guest editorial. It's very pleasant to see another Australian fan cracking the pro ranks, and if it wasn't for the "sour-grapes effect" (not a Campbell invention - exclusively) I'd been even more effusive about the whole thing Congratulations again, John - even Binns is in on this. Once again a plug for Australian fanzines - as before. Ron Graham and Lee Harding are thanked for their interest (Real Son Now, Lee). Fanzines from - Baxter - Box 39, King St. GPO, Sydney, NSW. Smith, 1 Amenities Unit, Victoria Barracks, Sydney, NSW. Barrett, 1 Egan St., Richmond, Victoria. Foyster, 4 Edward St., Chadstone SE10, Vic. If you write for these, please enclose a stamp, like. That won't cover costs, like, but it's a step in the right direction.

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(by Foyster - Binns will make me take notice

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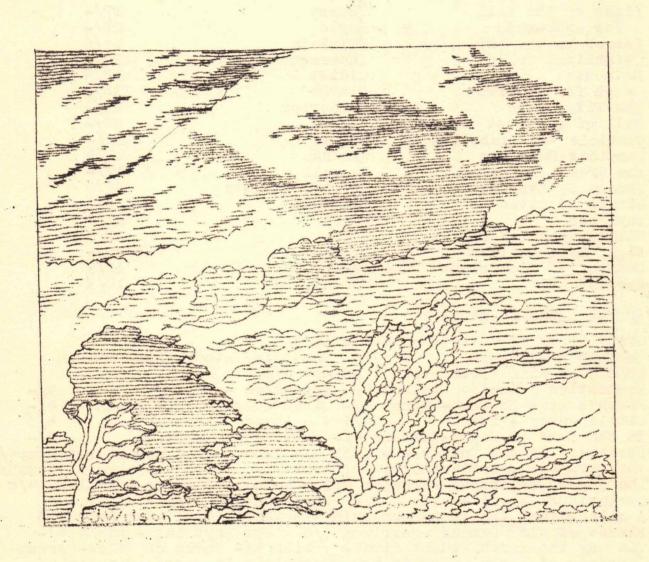
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