

FANTASY-NEWS

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RUSSELL-BINDER-WILLIAMSON HORNIG AT QUEENS SFL

o IT SEEMS that there is no limit to the greatness that some of the Queens SFL Meetings can attain. Included among more than twenty-five attendants at the May meeting were such sterling names as that of ERIC FRANK RUSSELL, british author of such stories as "Sinister Barriers" etc; JACK WILLIAMSON, who recently crashed Argosy and whose ability in the science-fiction line is too well known to enumerate upon; EANDO BINDER (the OTTO half), probably the busiest fantasy author writing at the present time; CHARLES D HORNIG, former editor of WONDER STORIES and now editor of SCIENCE FICTION, in addition to such regular attendants at the Queens SFL as THOS S GARDNER, SAM MOSKOWITZ, JAMES V TAURASI, WILLIAM S SYKORA, JOHN GIUNTA, MARIO RACIC jr, JULIUS SCHWARTZ, CONRAD SCHWARTZ, CONRAD RUPPERT and fifteen or more others.

o MEETING BEFORE THE MEETING -

Especially notable at this meeting were the large number of persons present who had traveled a great distance to attend. Prize honors of course go to Eric Frank Russell, who came all the way from England, accompanied by his wife. Of course we do not insist that his prime reason for coming to the U S was to attend a meeting of the Queens SFL, but we like to think so. Second prize, I believe goes to Jack

Williamson who had recently pulled in from the desert lands of the state of New Mexico. With these two out of the way, the distances begin to narrow down. Charles D Hornig, of course, arrived from his home in Elizabeth, N J. Sam Moskowitz, inevitably came in from Newark, but strangely enough, accompanied by a fan (female) that he had picked up in and around Newark, her name was Flossie Hardart, and she was, strangely enough, a real fan. Almost the entire group was present fully a half an hour before the rapping gravel proclaimed that things were to become formal. During that time conversation waxed hotter than it had ever done previously, centering of course, around the visitors.

o COMMITTEE REPORTS -

As always dues were collected, and the committee members in the persons of Will Sykora and Sam Moskowitz were called upon for reports. Sykora surprised the group by stating that all the groundwork for the convention had been completed, and in record time. All that remained now was a definite shaping of the program and various attempts to raise money which would help NEW FANDOM pay for the convention. This, by far, was the most important project to be assumed at present. Sykora stated that from now on it was a

matter of smoothing out the rough edges, and perfecting the program and various projects of the convention. Sam Moskowitz was called upon to fill in with a few items. Moskowitz demonstrated that the fans could help immeasurably in paying for the convention by purchasing "boosters", which consisted of the printing of the name of everyone who contributes twenty-five cents for a "booster" under the name "SCIENTIFICTIONIST" in the printed program. Moskowitz also outlined all items that had been contributed to the auction so far, including prize items contributed by JOHN W CAMPBELL, CHARLES D HORNIG, MORT WEISINGER, OTTO BINDER, JULIUS SCHWARTZ, CONRAD H RUPPERT, JOHN GIUNTA, JAMES V TAURASI and others.

o TALKS GIVEN BY CELEBRITIES PRESENT

Gradually sly Jimmy Taurasi hemmed and hawed his way around to the matter of a few words from each notable present. Eric Frank Russell, English author and fan, received 1st call. Russell proved extremely interesting as he outlined an analogy between U S and British stf and U S and British fandom. Starting with the advent of stf in the pages of a "Mickey Mouse" magazine, Russell finally led up to the publication of FANTASY, which he considers the most significant turn in British affairs. Russell stated that such gatherings of 25 or so fans under a single roof were practically unheard of in England (with the exception of the 2nd British convention which netted 45). He expressed his disappointment at the outcome of the first British convention which grossed the tremendous amount of 13 attendees. This poor showing discouraged him so much that he didn't have the heart to attend the second affair, which, ironically enough produced 45 full blooded English fans. Similarly Russell expressed his disappointment, when the first printed British fan magazine,

SCIENTIFICTION, after more than a year of issuance could not gain more than 120 readers. Upon being informed that many American fan magazines did not even attain that phenomenal figure, Russell again showed that the 120 subscribers to SCIENTIFICTION represented every British fan who could be induced into purchasing a fan magazine, whereas, the American total of every person in America who is at present purchasing fan magazines could probably be spoken of in the term of 2,000 or so (The AMATEUR CORRESPONDENT, now no longer being published had 1,000 paid subscribers).

Jack Williamson was called upon next. He was quite brief, but he made known his intentions to stay East until the World Science Fiction Convention was a thing of the past, and he also spoke of his ever rising interest in the fan world which was becoming an intriguing topic with him.

Otto Binder was the third called upon. He hadn't come prepared for a speech, but he spoke along the vein of Jack Williamson, expressing his interest in the convention and fandom (he is doing a special article for NEW FANDOM, another for FANTASY-NEWS' anniversary issue). Charles D Hornig was then called upon to give us a little news of his magazine SCIENCE FICTION. He stated that the magazine would become a monthly with the August issue which would be on the stands June 10th.

o GREAT SOFT BALL GAME

Taurasi then asked Moskowitz if what he had heard was true, that Philly had declared that they would not participate in a soft-ball game at the convention. Moskowitz replied that he had heard that the Philly bunch was a little short of men, but outside of that had not officially had his challenge turned down as yet. He stated, however, that

o PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE FICTION RATINGS

by HARRY WARNER Jr

o ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION MAY 1939

	T 5%	C 20%	P 35%	N 40%	TOTAL 100%
COILS OF TIME	4	16	29	35	84
SPECIAL FLIGHT	2	18	30	39	89
THE DAY IS DONE	5	19	26	37	87
EMPLOYMENT	1	15	28	36	80
MELCODY AND MOONS	2	14	20	30	66
total for the entire magazine					84%

o WEIRD TALES JUNE - JULY 1939

FAR BELOW	4	17	30	40	91
GIANTS OF ANARCHY	3	19	26	34	82
LENS-SHY	3	15	30	33	81
THE SITTING IN THE MOUND	2	16	25	36	79
THE MAN WHO CAME BACK	1	15	32	35	83
THE STROKE OF 12	4	19	30	38	91
MANSIONS IN THE SKY	4	18	23	38	83
THE WILLIOW LANDSCAPE	4	16	29	39	88
HEADACHE	1	15	25	30	71
THE DEATH WATCH	2	16	28	35	81
CELEPHAIS	3	19	32	39	93
IMPRISONED WITH THE PHAROHS	2	18	30	40	90
total for the entire magazine					84%

CAS

HPL

/ TITLE T - NARRATION N - CHARACTERIZATION C - PLOT P /

o QUEENS SFL (continued)

the game would definitely be played. If Philly is unable to play, or refuse, he will see to it that two teams are chosen from prominent fans authors and editors attending the convention. The proposition of a fan team playing a professional team was considered, but no definite decision was reached.

o NEW MEMBERS

Flossie Hardart requested membership in the QUEENS SFL. She was voted in by unanimous vote of the members, while Racic coyly collected

the dues. The QUEENS SFL has the largest female roster of any SFL CHAPTER, past or present.

o FANTASTIC ADVENTURES REVIEWED

Director Turusi then called the meeting open to review FANTASTIC ADVENTURES. Reviews of the stories were given by the entire female sector of the chapter, aided by Otto Binder, Hymn Tiger, who is rapidly becoming the chapter's chief reviewer, and Thos S Gardner. Binder must have felt somewhat elated when his yarn THE INVISIBLE ROBIN HOOD was the only story to receive a rating of GOOD. Every

story received a rating of fair or poor. The departments, all of them received a rating of good or better while the cartoon was definitely rated as poor. The front cover was rated only fair, but PAULS effort was numbered as GOOD. At this point Taurasi & Moskowitz gave vent to instances where newstands had turned the magazine around, because they said the back cover sold it better. The magazine finally emerged with a rating of FAIR. Altogether the discussions were a bit dryer than it had been at previous meetings. WEIRD TALES is scheduled for review at the next meeting.

o MOTION PICTURES TAKEN DURING

RECESS. A short recess was declared while apparatus for motion pictures were set up. Eric Frank Russell requested the fans to pose for him while he snapped them with his motion picture camera for the edification of British fans. (Let FANTASY-NEWS know how they came out when you see them, BRITISH fans) It is nice to note that Julius Schwartz poked his head into every shot. Jack Williamson also took pictures of the fans, with his candid camera.

o FILMS SHOWN

Sykora had completed the set - up of the motion picture camera and two films he had procured were shown in quick succession. The first one on Astronomy was more than a little aged. It smacked of "when you and I were young Maggie" but it did have a few good shots in it. The second film on Anthracite mining impressed your reviewer as being sort of vague on the fantasy angle, but nevertheless proved by far the most interesting of the two. The meeting finally broke up around 6 P M Hornig accompanied Schwartz and Ruppert as they escorted Russell back to his hotel, while Moskowitz Taurasi & sister, Hardart & Giunta spent a pleasant (Continued P five)

o ASTOUNDING - UNKNOWN FACTS FINLAY TO DO COVER FOR ASTOUNDING

The greatest news of the day is the fact that VIRGIL FINLAY is to do the cover for the August Astounding. FINLAY is one of the top-notch artists of the fantasyfield today & this coming cover will be his 1st for a STF magazine. We all know of the fine cover work he is doing for Weird, so we wait anxiously this cover for Astounding, and as Astounding's covers are printed in four colors, wonders can, and probably will, happen. FINLAY will also do interior illustrations for both Astounding & Unknown. Now if Dold would only come back, Astounding would have swell illustrations. VIRGIL FINLAY's cover will be for Lester Del Rey's yarn, LUCK OF IGNATZ. Graves Gladney is doing the August cover of UNKNOWN illustrating L Ron Hubbard's yarn, THE GOUL. Coming up for Astounding is LIFE-LINE by Robert Heinlein. When Astounding Science-Fiction started on its mutant policy a year ago last February, John W Campbell points out, the cover may have been one mutant, but the main purpose of that "mutant" announcement was to point out that the magazine was going to change. Most, I think, will agree with that! It has not been in the stories and covers marked "mutants" alone, but in every detail of the magazine, from cover to backstrap. Other STF mags have introduced new authors from time to time, but Astounding's record for new FIRST RANK authors during the past 18 months is, we think, unique. Lester del Rey, L Ron Hubbard, M Schere, John Berryman and several others rank as first-line new-comers to the stf field. L Sprague de Camp, Horace Gold and Clifford D Simak were brought back to stf, or developed in Astounding during that time. In line with this new, top-rank author line-up, (continued P six)

o FOR SALE: THE BLACK CAT MAGAZINE-
A rare opportunity! 60 issues (6
of which are duplicates), ranging
back to 1896, to best cash offer, or
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Don't let this go by! I will also
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by George Allan England . . \$8.00 -
"THE MESSIAH OF THE CYLINDER" by
Victor Rousseau . . \$3.50 - - "THE
BLIND SPOT", Austin Hall & Homer Mon
Flint, 3 sets at \$3.00 ea - - "THE
SQUADRON OF THE AIR", Walter Hackett
\$3.00 - - Items @ \$2.50 each: THE
METAL MONSTER, A Merritt; THE COSMIC
COURTSHIP, Julian Hawthorne - - -
@ \$2.00 ea: PEOPLE OF THE GOLDEN
ATOM, Roy Cummings; DRAFT OF ETERNITY
Victor Rousseau - - - @ \$1.50 ea:
THE PLANET JUGGLER, J Geo Frederick;
THE RADIO MAN, Ralph Milne Farley; THE
CONQUEST OF THE MOON POOL (minus 1st
Chapter); PEOPLE OF THE GOLDEN ATOM
(minus 3rd chapt); THE LORD OF DEATH
by Flint, with sequel THE QUEEN OF
LIFE; and the following as a group,
(from 1920 & '21 Munsey's & Science
& Invention): JENKIN'S GYROSCOPE, THE
ATHEIST, THE LAST OF HIS KIND, and
THE TRANSFORMATION OF PROF. SCHMITZ.
@ \$1.20 ea: THE DEVOLUTIONIST, with
its sequel, THE EMANCIPATRIX; SAFE &
SANE (Tod Robbins) - - @ \$1.00 ea:
AMERICA FALLEN! (1915 bk); THE
PLANETEER (coverless); THE PLUNGE OF
THE KNUPFEN; THE HOUSE OF THE GREEN
FLAME (England) - - @ 80¢ ea: THE
GIRL IN THE GOLDEN ATOM (original
novelette); BEYOND THE STARS; WORLDS
WITHIN WORLDS; WHEN THE SUN STOPPED;
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ALMAROSE; THE LIVING PORTRAIT; TERROR
ISLAND - - @ 75¢ ea: THE VOICE OF
DASHIN (Merrittstyle bk by Ganpt);
MAN IN THE MOON by Flint (together
with Fisher's Volcanologist) - - -
@ 60¢ ea: THE MAN WHO SAVED THE EAR-
TH (original novelette) THRU THE

DRAGON GLASS (same); THE GREATER
MIRACLE; THE MIND MACHINE - - -
@ 50¢ ea; FRIEND ISLAND; WHO WANTS A
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LINES OF OLD FRENCH (original); THE
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with other current fanmags.

o QUEENS SFL (-continued-)

evening of discussion and collect-
ion examination at the home of
Taurasi and his sister. An inter-
esting angle was that Moskowitz and
Hardart met Taurasi & sister on
the way to the meeting, and on
their way home, they met Hornig
who accompanied them all the way
to Newark. The day was decidedly en-
tertaining and profitable from many
viewpoints. The JUNE meeting of the
Queens SFL will be the last until
next September. At this meeting, the
annual election of officers will
take place. It should be an excit-
ing one.

o THE VISASCREEN

Altho it was announced months ago
that Ziff-Davis would publish
Stanley G Weinbaum's superman novel,
"NEW ADAM", in book-form, the deal
wasn't actually completed till May
5th - - Palmer has accepted a 30,
000 worder, "The Hidden Universe",
by Ralph Milne Farley, and announces
it will be printed complete in one

issue, possibly in FANTASTIC ADVENTURES - - Manly Wade Wellman returns to ASTOUNDING with an interplanetary novelette, "Forces Must Balance" - - Thornton Ayre has clicked again at AMAZING with "The Face in the Sky" Correction to last week's VISASCREEN, TWO SOUGHT ADVENTURES is the correct title of Leiber's yarn for UNKNOWN. (it was our typing error - ed).

o ASTOUNDING FACTS (continued)

Campbell says the voting on the best-story-of-1938 runs, to date, about as follows:

- 1. Who Goes There? by Don A Stuart
- 2 A Matter of Form by H L Gold
- 3 The Master Shall Not Die by R de Witt Miller
- 4 The Dangerous Dimension by L Ron Hubbard
- 5 Anachronistic Optics by M Scherer

o GENERAL NEWS by Harry Warner jr

The projected FRENCH pro stf mag has been delayed because of European events. It will probably appear when the crisis lets up. Amelia Reynolds Long has hit UNKNOWN with an interplanetary story. She has also sold a non-stf novel which will soon appear in book form, THE SHAKESPEARE MURDERS to be published by Phoenix Press. THE FUTURIAN British fan-mag, will shortly feature material by John Russell Fearn & Ralph Milne Farley. hw

o DYNAMIC FACTS by John Giunta

The most info I could secure from Dynamic was that it would feature a novel by JOHN RUSSELL FEARN. Rest of contents uncertain as yet. Same for the cover & interior illustrations. Inquiring why they did not use PAUL, the editor answered, "PAUL has not enough kick in his drawings

and besides at the most, only 500 fans like him. Anyway he is too old fashioned. I am trying to secure a suitable artist for the mags, so we will see how Scott's drawing will come out." jf

o CONSENSUS by DALE TARR

As I write this Amazing is out with the latest issue which, I haven't had time to more than glance at yet but I see at least one thing that looks good about it -- Binder's story. Its well worth reading.

Olon F Wiggins has a ---- shall we say eccentric letter? --- in this issue. I see no reason why he should cast a shadow over himself by writing such things - - -

I thought I had something in this column until I found that Lawrence Humling also was starting one. Welcome, Lawrence, perhaps Taurasi pits us against each other in order to get our best. I think we'll all enjoy having a contact man on Palmer's end.

Since there are no magazines which I can review at this time and since there is no news which I am at liberty at this time to liberate I'll close by inviting all of you who have some idea on how this column should be run or what should go in it to write me at 817 Vine St Cincinnati, Ohio. If you're able -

SUPPORT THE WORLD STF CONVENTION. it

o CONVENTION FACTS

Eando Binder contributed three of his original manuscripts for auction at the convention. Included among these were THE LIFE BATTERY DELAYED VISON etc. Charles D hornig contributed a set of fine stills from JUST IMAGINE (I'm going after them myself -Racic) and a card from him this week tells us to go to his office and pick up the PAUL

cover and all interior drawings for the 3rd issue of SCIENCE FICTION. John Giunta contributed the novel, INTRIGUE ON THE UPPER LEVEL, in excellent condition along with a very large drawing, water colored, done by himself and a real good job it is. FANTASY-NEWS will contribute all it's back issues made up into sets. Hyman Tiger also made known his intention to contribute for auction the first issue of SCIENCE WONDER STORIES and a number of 1926 AMAZINGS. JULIUS UNGER old time fan and stf back issue dealer will contribute a bound set of 1915 ELECTRICAL EXPERIMENTER containing the series of BARON MUNCHHAUSEN'S SCIENTIFIC ADVENTURES written by Hugo Gernsback, a much sort after item. UNGER has also bought an 1/8th page (\$1.25) Ad in the convention program Booklet. Fan mag editors we need your help buy an 1/8th page Ad in this convention booklet right away. Mail your Ad to Taurasi % FANTASY-NEWS. The BOOSTER (25¢) ads have been coming in very fast the last week, added to the list are: TIGER - THOS S GARDNER - JULIUS UNGER - WM S SYKORA - JAMES V TAURASI - FRANCES SYKORA - MARIO RACIC jr - And MARY MARGARETTE CURRY. Lets have your name printed in this convention program booklet under the title SCIENTIFUNCTIONIST. it's only 25¢. Sent it in to TAURASI % FANTASY-NEWS sm

o JULIUS SCHWARTZ - AUTHOR!

Yes, it's true. Julius Schwartz who is a literary agent for writers of Science-fiction is now an author in his own right. The department FANTASTIC HOAXES in the first issue of FANTASTIC ADVENTURES was authored by Schwartz. Julius stated that the series would be continued and that he would probably do the writing. He is the 2nd QUEENS SFL member to have material published.

o LAST MINUTE CONVENTION NEWS

Instead of Ackerman's PREPOSTEROUS convention pub previously announced, FJA will issue a truly timely mag named nothing other than METROPOLIS. Its contributors will include the scientifilmakers Fritz Lang & Karl Freund, Henry Kuttner, Paul Freehofer, Morojo, Ray Bradbury & other well known Angelenos; feature little known if not here-to-fore unknown facts about the scientificinesterpiece & its unshown 4 reels! 4e

o LOUIS KUSLAN will take his mag out of the FAPA with it's 2nd (18th) anniversary number. COSMIC TALKS, the mag's name, was a subscription magazine till it's 10th issue, when it became an FA PA magazine, now after much pressure Louis Kuslan will take it out of the FAPA and issue it again as a subscription magazine. The first new subscription issue will be it's 12th issue. jvt

o F A N - A - M A G - R E V I E W

THE SATELLITE Vol 2 No 5 May 1939 - 12 large size, well mimeo pages. The cover (Cont. Page 8)

o FAN MAG EDITORS ATTENTION
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o FAN-A-MAG REVIEW (continued)

by Dave McMillwin is excellent. The contents include LIVERPOOL SCIENCE FICTION COSMOS by LVHerald. The ever wonderful FANTACYNICISMS. R Holmes is represented by a humorous THE COMPLETE SF FAN. Mohinson's WEIRD AND SCIENTIFIC FICTION is an interesting attempt to delineate weird from scientific fiction. The readers' department MOONSHINE. Mack interior drawings are very good. This magazine is now an SFA pub and will be issued monthly in place of NEW WORLDS which will be quarterly. 10¢ per copy from JEB-urke 57 Berghair Drive, Liverpool 15, ENGLAND -kusi-

SCENES OF FANTASY. This is an interesting 12 page hectographed magazine containing drawings and poems etc. Good hecto and excellent material. Our only suggestion is that the editor typewrite future issues. 5¢ from: Francis J Litz 703 Brown St, Rochester NY Vol. 1 - No. 1 May 1939

o RADIO NOTES by WALTER SULLIVAN

Herbert Marshall played the leading part on a presentation of POE's story WILLIAM WILSON on the Rudy Vallee program Thursday May 4 Arch Oboler's play for May 6 was THE ENGULFED CATHEDRAL a fantasy based on Debussy's musical composition of the same name, which was used as a background for the presentation. The play in the LIGHTS OUT series for May 3 was

o S C I E N T I F I L M S by Mario Racic Jr

Clude Rains will play the lead in THE INVISIBLE MAN RETURNS. This is a sequel to THE INVISIBLE MAN, of some years ago. F L A S H : Well's FOOD OF THE GODS to be filmed. Edward Small will produce it for United Artists release.

Henry Hall, Lee Bowman and Virginia Grey will have leads in MIRACLES FOR SALE, a story about a magician Tod (Devil Doll) Browning will direct for MGM.

In the 1939-40 releases from Hail Rouch we'll get "1,000,000 B C" a imaginative story of the beginning of time. Also, another film based on a novel by Thorne (Topper)Smith. More Good News - - Another studio is producing "THE RETURN OF DR X" starring Margaret Lindsay and James Stephenson. Karloff was to have played the Stephenson role. This film is taken from the stage play "THE DARK TOWER" by G S Kaufman & Alexander Woolcott. This may be a sequel to "DR X" the synthetic flesh stfilm made by Warners about 1932. mr

o RADIO NOTES (Continued)

THE DEVIL'S DUE and was the winning play in the nation wide LIGHTS OUT contest. I have not been able to get this program for the last 2 weeks, and it is not listed in the papers. It may have gone off the air. ws

o STILLS FROM METROPOLIS

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