

SCIENCE &  
FANTASY

# FAN REPORTER

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## NO MORE HOAXES!

### F.S.S. BID TO PREVENT TROUBLE.

At their last meeting on Friday night, the Futurian Society of Sydney decided to try and eliminate the trouble that was being caused by the pranks of the Hoaxer.

Since the day before the Sydney Conference, fandom has been troubled by numerous hoaxes, some supposed to be funny, some serious, but all causing undue and unpleasant worry and suspicion. Fandom has been upset by these hoaxes, and though one fan claims to know the identity of the Hoaxer, his tricks have so far been unavenged. Nothing short of a confession will actually prove his identity.

Rather than trying to track him down, thus wasting time that will allow him to prepare some more tricks, the Society is going to try out a plan that will help to eliminate most of the hoaxes.

This is the plan. If anyone who wishes to send out a message or announcement first sends copies to the F.S.S., they will be stamped and endorsed by the club as a guarantee of authenticity. Thus anyone receiving a note that is stamped will know it to be genuine, whereas an unstamped message will cause doubt, and warn him to check up on the note before he makes any moves. (cont. page 2.)

STOP PRESS

No More Hoaxes. (cont)

Looking over past hoaxes, it is seen that neither Sydon report or the "Observer for sale" notice would have caused any trouble if the new scheme had been in operation.

The plan may cause inconvenience to interstate and far-off fans, where it would take some time for copies to be sent and returned. We advise these people to sign any messages they send out.

The scheme will be started probably in a fortnight so the Hoaxer, if he desires to cause any more trouble had better act fast. Meanwhile, look out for doubtful and suspicious notices in the next two weeks. The Hoaxer might hoax again.

FILMS.

Siffilmyery this week is brought into the limelight with several important happenings.

First, Fantasia has been released in both Sydney and Melbourne. Hockley says that the Melbourne Savoy is adorned with "two huge decoration-affairs, smothered with Mickey as the Sorcerer's Apprentice, centaurs, fawns, elephants, ostriches, and dozens of the other characters in the film". Sydney's Embassy also has an elaborate display, with lighted stills all around the walls of the foyer, also on a special stand at the front of the theatre. Prices are 2/1 to 4/6 at the afternoon session, and rise in the evening to 3/2 to 6/-, and 6/6 on Saturdays.

Another gladdening announcement is the return of "Thief of Bagdad" After being shown at Sydneys Regent it disappeared, without doing the rounds of the suburban theatres. Melbourne never even got a smell of it. Now comes the news that it will shortly be released in Melbourne, and at Hoyt's Bondi Road Theatre is the announcement: "Coming soon - "THIEF OF BAGDAD."

Just what happened to this film is still a mystery. It is six months overdue. Where it was during those six months is not know. It was shown in Brisbane and Hobart, but that was some time ago. After that it just disappeared.

MELBOURNE NEWS... BY WOG HOCKLEY.

Melbourne has been swamped with stfilms of late. A week or so ago "The Ape" was showing. Now Fantasia is on. Soon, "Thief of Bagdad" will start, also "The Invisible Woman".

Hockley has not yet heard from new fan Harrison but he will investigate again.

GOSH!!!

Sydney fans think they are being robbed when they have to pay over one shilling for old back numbers of magazines, but price of a 1933 Wonder in Melbourne was THREE AND SIX!!!

As you can judge by the scarcity of news, Melbourne fandom is very dead at the moment.

Fandom at RandomLATEST BOOKS.

December 1940 Astounding Reprint is out. As Unknown went bimonthly from the December issue, there is, of course, no January issue appearing with the Astounding

Tales of Wonder No.14 is out in Melbourne. Sydney has not yet got it.

NEW SYDNEY FAN.

Arthur Duncan, discovered by Graham Stone, is the latest prospective fan in Sydney. He will be invited to the next F.S.S. meeting.

He has already subscribed to Ultra and Reporter, and if any other fan editors want to do some business his address is 17 Durdans Av., Rosebery, N.S.W.

Fannags out this week are Ultra and Spaceward, the latter with a printed cover.

Next meeting of the F.S.S. will be held at the home of Colin Roden on Friday, August 29.

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EDITORIAL..

This week will see the publication of Australia's first printed fanmag. It is not all printed - in fact most is just mimeod. But it represents another step forward in Australian fan history.

Looking back through fanmags of a year or so ago, and then at those put out today, it can easily be seen that there has been a decided improvement. Present fan editors do not have as much trouble in obtaining material as they did in the past. They have better artists, who are constantly improving. Thus they need worry less about the actual contents, and concentrate more on the technical side of the magazine. And that is why they have improved. The quality of the material depends solely on the contributors, and nothing the editor can say or do will have any effect, other than letting the contributor know what kind of stuff is wanted. But the quality of the magazine itself depends upon the effort that the editor puts into it. It is easy to tell the keenness of the editor by the appearance of his magazine. And as most editors are hampered by a lack of money, the job they are doing is worthy of praise, and deserves a lot more support than it is getting at present. So when you get an issue that is not up to standard, don't write to the editor and say "your magazine stinks" but instead think "Could I have done better?"

THE EDITORS.

REVIEW SECTION?

We have been asked by a correspondent to include a fanmag review section in Reporter. The opinion of the editors is divided, so before we decide we would like comments on the idea. If we receive enough support we will give you a review page that will be somewhat different from the usual column. Let us know what you think.

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