

SCIENCE & FANTASY

FAN REPORTER

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17

ISSUED WEEKLY

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2

BILL VENEY SAYS:

THIRD CONFERENCE IN JANUARY.

Bill Veney, fairly inactive of late as regards fandom, is now back in the spotlight with the announcement of his plans for a third Sydney Conference to be held early next January.

His idea is to get fans together to discuss various subjects, and to find if there are any matters on which all fans agree. This, he says, is the main purpose of the Conference.

He has been planning the Conference for some time, now, but has kept it secret because he believes that it would tend to become "stale" if announced too soon and he wanted to be sure it would be held before he said anything.

He has managed to secure a room, and has been promised the support of other fans, so thought that the present would be a fit time to announce the plans he has made.

Up to the present he has been arranging things by himself, but now seeks the help, or at least the backing, of the F.F.A. During the week he intends to get other fans' opinions.

He believes that the first Sunday in 1942 would be a good time for the Conference, as most fans would be in Sydney at that time, hence the attendance would be reasonably large, and discussions would be more interesting. Any results, too, would be more accurate than if only a small group were present. The room he has been promised will be sufficiently large enough to hold all the fans that turn up.

(contd. page 3)

TASMANEWS.

Reaching us just in time to make the stop press in the last issue, was an air mail letter from Tuck saying that he had been called up, and all his previous arrangements would have to be cancelled.

Tuck had planned to go to Melbourne, and wait for an answer to his application for a job before deciding whether to stay in Melbourne or to go on to relatives in South Australia. However, he received his call-up, and will go into camp on December 2. (He will already be in camp when you read this.)

Our questions, asked in last week's issue, will not be answered. Others, however, arise. At present, we do not know whether Don will be in for three months, six, or the duration. His hurried letter did not say much. Also, he himself does not know at the moment what will become of Profan. So the position of Hobart fandom at the moment is very indefinite.

Address all letters to his old address.

POLLSNo.4.. PRO EDITORS.

Total number of votes in poll No.1	13
Total number of votes in poll No.2	13
Total number of votes in poll No.3	14
Total number of votes in this poll	711

Figures, they say, cannot lie. The figures in this poll indicate either that Australian fans are losing interest, or that five favourite pro editors are very hard to pick. We know the former is not true, therefore the latter statement is responsible for the condition of this poll. There was no increase on last week's results.

With a total of only seven votes, after one month's voting, we are forced to close the poll. It cannot be regarded as complete, because it represents the opinions of less than half the number of fans who could have voted, and positions were so close that two or three votes would have changed positions considerably. We will not repeat the results. They are in the last issue, if you want to see them. Repeating them would merely emphasise them, and waste space.

Details of our next poll, which, we think and hope, you will find easier than this one, will be found elsewhere in this issue.

POLL No. 5. COVERS

Our fifth poll, and probably our second last before we start on fan subjects, is to find the best-liked cover. Send in your five favourite covers, and they will each receive one vote. And in case you have any trouble in thinking up your five, we suggest a scheme you might try.

If you keep your collection in a condition that enables you to take books out without a major excavation, go through the lot, systematically, leaving out the books whose covers you like particularly. At the end, you might have ten or twelve. It merely remains then to pick your five out of these, put them all back and say "It's did." Of course, you can use any scheme you like, or pick them from memory, but this seems to us to be the most thorough way.

As it would be unfair to include post-ban covers, this contest is for pre-ban ones (and the reprints) only. But because of requests we will run special post-ban polls later. Looks as if we will be pretty busy for some time to come.

CONFERENCE..(from page 1)

Veney himself will be in charge of the actual Conference. He believes that he is best fitted for the position, as he is now fairly inactive regarding fan affairs, and hence would be a "neutral" in most matters.

That is a brief outline of the Conference. At present it seems that it may clash with the Court of Inquiry, but a shuffling in arrangements can fix that. Although he wants other opinions on the Conference, and would like the F.F.A.'s support, Veney says he is capable of staging it without this. So it seems that the Conference will definitely be held. We will give you more details as they come to hand.

Graham Stone informs us that his large sizes, including Wonders, Amazings, and quarterlies, are now up to the 50 mark.

RANDOM AT RANDOMBRITISH WAR RELIEF.

John Cunningham's British War Relief Society has altered its plan a little.

Originally, its idea was to send post ban American mags in exchange for the British mags, in particular Tales of Wonder. Fans out here were expected to stick to their side of the bargain, and send the T.O.Ws.

Now, however, probably realising that fans are hard put to keep on sending the magazines, Cunningham has made it easier for us. All that fans in Australia have to do now is write to him, stating what magazines they would prefer, and he will try and send these out without asking anything in return.

This idea does not mean, however, that we should not send him any mags. When possible, it would be only fair to post him something in return. He is keen on getting Australian fanmags, so here is a chance of repaying him, if only in a small way, for what he has done. We would like to point out that any fan who doesn't send him anything does not deserve any mags at all.

So once again we have to thank generous John for his gesture. All fans, we think, agree.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Once again Reporter's editors suffer a change. This time it will be permanent. Vol Molesworth has withdrawn, leaving me in sole charge of the magazine. For a while bringing it out will be a struggle, so please do not let your subs lapse. Fuller explanation next issue, if space permits.

Colin Roden EDITOR

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