

SCIENCE & FANTASY

# FAN REPORTER

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ISSUED WEEKLY

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23

## MELBOURNE ACTIVITIES CEASE. "CHANGE OF OUTLOOK" CLAIMED.

from Wog Hockley

Gloomy news comes from Melbourne this week, when Hockley clearly defines Melbourne fandom's attitude as regards fan activities at present.

Wog says "Please consider the FSM as extinct. We have not the time, energy, and to a certain extent, inclination, to worry about a club at the moment."

He then goes on to describe the difficulties that would confront them if they were to endeavour to reform the F.S.M. "The mere fact that there's a war on should be sufficient explanation. Don is working like blazes on shift work at Maribyrnong; I'm in sole charge of an analytical practice, some research work, and a pile of other stuff; Marsh MacLennan is working day and night; Keithy is also working. As for Don and Marsh, weekends are not holidays any more. Don and I had a serious talk re the F.S.M. and other activities when we met, and we agreed that in the spare time we do have, we prefer just to remain collectors. I will admit there has been a change of outlook as far as I am concerned. But I feel the better for it."

That is the position of Melbourne fandom at present. Not a happy one, but one that may or may not alter when the war situation also alters. No doubt, as time goes on, Melbourne fans will adjust themselves to their new routine, and we should get a better idea of the activities, or rather, lack of activity. At present, though, the Sydney group is the only active bunch of fans left in Australia.

POLLS

No. 5 COVERS.

SATURN LEADS WITH WEEK TO GO.

There is only one more week to go in this poll. Next week the story poll will commence.

Schneeman's astronomical cover of Saturn is now in the lead, being one point ahead of Rogers' "Crucible of Power."

Positions are:

Number of votes received.....	6
ASTOUNDING, APR. 39, SCHNEEMAN (ASTRON.).....	4
ASTOUNDING, FEB. 39, ROGERS, CRUCIBLE OF POWER.	3
UNKNOWN, JUN. 40, CARTIER, BUT WITHOUT HORNS...	2
UNKNOWN, APR. 40, CARTIER, INDIGESTIBLE TRITON.	2
ASTOUNDING, OCT. 39, ROGERS, GRAY LENSMAN.....	2
AMAZING, OCT. 35, MOREY, ANOTHER DIMENSION....	2

Last week, with four votes, four covers had more than one point each. This week, with six votes, there are six covers on the list. Total number of covers in the poll has increased from 14 to 21.

Rogers now shares the lead with Morcy, each having four covers in the poll. Paul now has three, Cartier and Brown two each, and Krupa, Schneeman, Nick, Dold, H.T. Scott, and Finlay one.

Seven covers are from Astounding, six from Amazing, three from Unknown, two from Wonder, and one each from Tales of Wonder, Miracle and Weird.

Only cover to receive full points this week was the Gray Lensman one, with two out of two.

Next week will be the close of the poll. We would like to double the number of votes we have at present and this would be possible if the readers would cooperate. INTERSTATE FANS PLEASE NOTE. The poll is interesting, and it does not take much time to decide your favourites, if your collection is all in one piece.

And don't forget to get your ten favourite pre-ban stories ready. We will ask for votes next week, and it would be very gratifying to see them all come in during the first couple of weeks. A fan should not have to be asked more than once to vote, but should do it because of his enthusiasm for and interest in stf.

MELBOURNE NEWS: by Wog Hockley.

This week's "communique" contained other news as well as what is on the front page. Other items were:  
MEETING OF HOCKLEY AND TUCK.

Hockley met Tuck on the Friday night he arrived. After tea, they went the rounds of the second-hand bookshops, and (hold tight) Don bought one pound's worth of books on the spot, and had twice that amount put away for him. During the days that followed, Tuck and Wog saw the sights and got "helluva pally."

Don's viewpoint of the meeting has been written into an article for Zeus.

SUSPENSION OF A-F AND M-B.

This has already been announced. Hockley might try and publish one issue of Melbourne Bulletin before New Year, but this is doubtful. Some material will be kept, and the rest will be distributed around.

TRIPS OFF.

The Pacific War has caused almost certain cancellation of all holiday trips. Wog says "My trip to Sydney is off, I think. So is Bob Geappen's to Melbourne, Don thinks, and KID's (Dwyer) to Melbourne, he thinks"

SYDNEY.FSS DOINGS.

Last meeting of the club was held on Friday, Dec. 19, and was the most disappointing meeting for a long time. Temperature and humidity were high, and members were not at their best. Meeting broke up early when Vol Molesworth spilt some soft drink over his trousers and had to leave.

Next meeting was set down for home of Colin Roden, on Friday, Jan. 2, 1942, commencing at 7.30.

The first sitting of the Court will take place on December 29, at the home of Graham Stone, at 8 p.m.

Circulars have now been sent out to all fans who are likely to attend.

We will try and have details in our next issue.

CONFERENCE:

Bill Vanev says the Conference will most likely be held, unless he is in the next call-up.

FANDOM  
FROM THE PAPERS.

This week's news contains two interesting items. First is the announcement of the invention of three-dimensional colour television. At present only one person can view it at one time, but according to report it only needs peace-time development to enable the image to be thrown on to a large screen. Another sf dream comes true!

Other item was a column about rockets, mainly in connection with self-propelled projectiles and radio-controlled explosives. It made brief comment about a new fuel that had been invented.

TAP-TAP.

Colin Roden has bought an old Hammond typewriter, that carries two sets of changeable type.

MORE FSS NEWS.

This should have been with the FSS doings. At the last meeting, Ted Russell, after three months of inactivity, rejoined the society, his application being unanimously accepted. This brings active FSS membership to six.

I had intended to write an editorial giving my opinion of the news on the front page, but find that there is no room for it. So it will have to be left until later. There are certain things I want to say that are not obvious.

Colin Roden, EDITOR.

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