

SCIENCE & FANTASY

FAN REPORTER

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ISSUED WEEKLY

FEB
10

SECOND STF BOOK OUT ANOTHER BY HEMING.

It was an extremely bug-eyed monster that drew our attention to Australia's second stf book.

Two weeks ago news of "The Living Dead" was splashed all over the front page. Fans were delightfully surprised to find this book on sale. Opinion generally was higher than expected, too.

At the bottom of the page was the sentence, "It is science-fiction, and thus raises hopes, though not very great, of other and better publications to follow."

Well, another publication has followed. Whether it is better or not is for you to decide. The new book is "Subterranean City", and is written by Jack Heming, the author of "Living Dead." It is in the same series as the other, and is illustrated, as before, by Andrews with a cover depicting the bug-eyed monster being wiped out by the hero.

Story is of the type that does not need very much science. Explorers journey into the Earth in a vessel called the Hole, and crash in the midst of some ancient Romans, twelve miles beneath the surface. After fighting and beating some more ancient Romans, who live in a neighbouring cave, whole race is wiped out by floods. Hero and side-kick escape with respective girl friends, whom they found down there.

That summary is not meant to ridicule the book, but is shortened to save space. It seems that in Heming we have a good hope for the future. His style is still crude, but his ideas are good, and he may rise high in Australian science-fiction.

F.S.S. NOTES.STF FOR THE A.I.F.

Details of the scheme for supplying stf magazines to soldiers have now been completed.

Books will be bought from bookshops, and will be donated or sold by members out of their collections. Colin Roden is in charge of the books, and if you have any to send in, his address is on page 1 of this issue.

Two rules have been made, to stop FSS members taking books out of the parcels indiscriminately.

First, books taken out must be paid for, and the money will be used to augment the supply. Rates for buying and selling are threepence for each five cents with a minimum of sixpence per magazine.

Members cannot pick just what they want out of the books. Any disputes will be settled by the club, and if more than one member wants the same book then it will be drawn for.

It is not estimated that many of the books will be wanted, as they will mostly be those that are easy to obtain, and hence already in most fans' collections.

The books will be sent to wounded men in hospitals as they would appreciate them most. A list of names will be obtained, and the books sent to these people.

Apart from the club funds, donations have already amounted to 10/-. More should follow.

MOLDSWORTH VICE-DIRECTOR.

Val Moldsworth has become the first vice-director of the FSS. His job is that of the secretary, combined with duties that empower him to assume control if the director is absent. He is also to help the director when necessary.

When first presented a month ago, there was much opposition to this move, and the motion was rejected. When brought up again at a full meeting, however, the result was the election of the vice-director.

Officials of the club now are director, vice-director, and treasurer. Coordinator of the FFA is also elected by the FSS.

NOT A HOAX.

In case you doubt the authenticity of last week's front page news, soldier's full name is Bill Synonds.

POLLS.No.6 - STORIES.TIE FOR FIRST PLACE.

The tenth vote, coming in last week, enabled this poll to close, and caused a tie for first place between the Professor Jameson Series and Who Goes There? Other positions did not change very much. Results are:

Number of Votes - 10.

4 points - Professor Jameson Series; Who Goes There?

3 points - By Jovel; Lest Darkness Fall.

2 points - Adam Link Series; Black Flame; Child of Power; Conatoers; Council of Drones; Final Blackout; Gray Lensman; Green Man of Graypac; Greta, Queen of Queens; He Who Shrank; Into the Darkness; Life Everlasting; Liners of Time; Second Deluge; Shadow Out of Time; Sinister Barrier; Skylark of Space; Trends; Uncertainty; Via Series; Zagribud.

1 point - Alas All Thinking; Anton York Series; At the Mountains of Madness; Before Atlantis Was; Black World; Blind Spot; Blue Barbarians; But Without Horns; Chapter from the Beginning; Divide and Rule; Elimination; Exile of the Skies; Ghoul; Half-Breed; Hands Across the Void; He From Procyon; Rok Series; Impossible World; Indigestible Triton; Inner World; Invaders; I Robot; Jules Verne Express; Land of Mighty Insects; Locked City; Maiden Voyage; Moon Pool; Moon Pool and Conquest; Norons; None But Lucifer; Nymph of Darkness; Paradise and Iron; Peril Among the Drivers; Portrait; Skylark 3; Snile of the Sphinx; Son of the Stars; Spacehounds of IPC; Terror Out of Space; Three Planetoids; Triplanetary; Wanted - Seven Fearless Engineers; Witch Makers; World Reborn.

That is the complete list. To the people who voted I say thank you on behalf of all those interested.

There is not much room for comment. I received a letter stating that all the stories seemed to be out of New Amazing. Well, I cannot alter people's votes, so there you are. But you just check up and see how many stories are out of new AMS. There aren't many.

Details of next poll will be in next issue, room permitting. So you will have a rest for a week. Then the poll does start, you will be ready to vote right away.

TED RUSSELL'S BIG JOB

Ted Russel has undertaken to copy out the complete minutes and records of the FSS. The official minutes are badly compiled, and Ted volunteered to retype them, correcting spelling errors, and making them a lot neater. When they are finished they will be in book form, ready for binding when the volume is complete.

Ted's action is appreciated by all members, who realise the task he has set himself.

CONDENSED MINUTES BOUND.

Vol Holesworth's condensed version of the minutes, acknowledged by the club, are being bound in book form and will be ready soon. They contain every important action of the club, are indexed for easy reference, and when bound should be an exceptionally neat volume.

GARDNER SAYS NO.

While Currawong Publications continue to bring out their books, editor Gardner, of Gayle Publications, says that he will probably be unable to publish any stf magazine at present, owing to paper restrictions.

A few months back Gardner was Sydney's number one hope, when DREvans almost persuaded him to put out a magazine. What he needed, he said, were stories. Then interviewed by Reporter, he said he was waiting on some paper, and hoped to have it before the end of 1941. Now he says that with further restrictions coming, it would be impossible to publish the magazine at present. So Currawong may be the only stf publishers for the time being.

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