



Number 22, Spring 1986

*Elizabeth Anne Hull, Editor
855 S. Harvard Drive
Palatine, IL 60067 U.S.A.***THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I write this in shock and sorrow after the assassination of Sweden's Prime Minister, Olof Palme, as he walked home with his wife from a cinema in Stockholm without security guards or protection of any kind. The fact that he walked without protection, and that this was taken for granted in Sweden, suddenly made us realize that Sweden indeed has been a peaceful island in a violent ocean. We feel hurt and injured and, I guess, scared. As I write this, tens of thousands of Swedes are still standing around the place where Olof Palme was murdered, a spot now covered with a mountain of red roses.

While a highly controversial person in Sweden as Prime Minister, he was respected everywhere as a man of peace, a true internationalist, who spent most of his time on peace missions of various kinds all around the world. His greatest achievement, the thing he will be remembered most for, will probably be his work for international peace and goodwill. He made us all proud.

I am bringing this up, not only because of my own deep sorrow and loss, but also because Olof Palme represents the striving towards international understanding that I think we, as an international organization, also work for in our way. I feel that we--as authors, editors, artists, translators, publishers, agents, and so on, working with a literature that mainly deals with the prospect of change--have unique possibilities in this respect.

When World SF was founded almost ten years ago in Dublin by Brian Aldiss, Harry Harrison, and Frederik Pohl, the aim of the organization was to create contacts between science fiction professionals all over the world and to arrange meetings, truly international meetings, for personal contacts and discussions. Whatever World SF has done or failed to do during these years, I feel that we have managed to create a truly international forum, a point of contact where East and West, North and South, do meet in friendship and understanding.

It has been a privilege for me to serve as President for this organization for the past two years. While I haven't much to show for my efforts, I do hope that the future will bring to fruition some of the seeds planted during my time. World SF will continue as the only truly international organization in our particular field, and I know its aims will be strengthened by the next President.

My own suggestions for next President and Secretary (which are supported by all the former Presidents) are Gianfranco Viviani and Patrizia Thiella, respectively, both of Milano, Italy. Both are well known among us, especially by those who attended the splendid World SF Meeting in Panano last year, and I know they will do a great job if they are elected at the next General Meeting, in Vancouver, Canada, later this year.

Returning to my own and my country's loss, I would like

to close this message, and my term as President, with the hope that our endeavors towards international understanding and friendship will go on. We all know what the future might bring--we have all written stories about the final disasters--and I believe that it is our duty as intellectuals, as authors and artists, as fellow human beings, to work for the sort of international contacts that alone can offer a chance for survival. I am not talking about party politics here, or even about national politics; I am talking about our obvious duty as human beings in a threatened world. This was what Olof Palme strove for, and perhaps was killed for. Others will continue his work; I feel we should be among them.

--Sam J. Lundwall

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 1986 DUES?

ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE GENERAL MEETING

1. Opening ceremonies
2. Approval of minutes of last meeting (as printed in 1985 Newsletter, #18-21)
3. Elections
4. Financial reports, individual countries
5. Publishing reports, individual countries
6. Dues structure--discussion
7. World SF Anthology--report of S. Lundwall & B. Aldiss
8. Tales from Planet Earth--report of E. Hull & F. Pohl
9. Report on status of journal--K. Singh & W. Bukato
10. Discussion of Policy, Goals and Projects
11. Proposed sites of future meetings (Budapest, 1987; other proposals for 1988, 89, etc.)

12. Other old business
13. New business

Please send any other items for the agenda to the Newsletter editor to arrive no later than 15 May 1986.

If you will not be in attendance, please return your mail ballot to E. Hull to be received no later than 15 May 1986. You may also wish to designate a proxy for voting on any other matters that come up at the General Meeting. Please be sure that the person you name is planning to attend the meeting.

LAST CHANCE FOR VANCOUVER

If you have not already booked transportation to the May 26-29 World General Meeting in Vancouver, Canada, it would be advisable to do so as soon as possible. Because of Expo 86 the city will be full, and many airline flights are already fully booked.

ACADEMIC SEMINAR

At least one session of the General Meeting at Vancouver will be devoted to academic discussion/analysis of SF and will schedule more if there are enough interested participants.

So far, Valerie Broege (Vanier College, Snowden Campus, Montreal, Canada) has agreed to discuss "Views of Human Reproduction in Science Fiction"; Elizabeth Anne Hull (William Rainey Harper College, Palatine, IL) will analyze the artistic integration of Arthur C. Clarke's Childhood's End; and Takayuki Tatsumi (Keio University, Tokyo, Japan, and Cornell University, Ithaca, NY) will explain the critical concepts of Deconstructionism and Post-Modernity.

TRANSLATION SEMINAR

Translation problems remain one of the primary concerns of World SF. Anyone interested in chairing a session devoted to sharing discussion of difficulties and strategies for coping should notify the Newsletter editor, if feasible prior to the meeting, or as quickly as possible after arrival in Vancouver.

NEW MARKET

Writers, artists, publishers and others interested in advertising will be happy to know that a new magazine, entitled Aboriginal SF, is scheduled to be launched at the "Worldcon" in Atlanta in September 1986.

Projecting circulation beginning between 24,000 and 44,000, ASF will feature fiction; a "people" section; book, movie, and TV reviews; color illustration and color advertising. Publishers can begin sending review copies of their books now.

Eventual plans call for several short story anthologies. For more information, contact Charles C. Ryan, Editor; Aboriginal SF; P. O. Box 2449, Woburn, MA 01888-0849 USA.

NEWS FROM DOWNUNDER

Not much news of professional sf publishing in Australia. The main events were the books launched at or around Aussiecon: two anthologies of new sf: Urban Fantasies, edited by Russell Blackford and David King (Ebony), and Strange Attractors, edited by Damien Broderick (Hale and Iremonger); a novel, The Trancing Syndrome, by Kurt Von Trojan (Rigby); and a collection of some of the papers given during the Academic Stream of Aussiecon itself: Contrary Modes, edited by Jenny Blackford, Russell Blackford, Lucy Sussex, and Norman Talbot (Ebony/University of Newcastle). I've heard little about new projects for 1986.

Norstrilia has a new sf novel, by Greg Egan, that might appear this year; and Russell Blackford and Van Ikin are preparing a full-length history of Australian sf, and that might possibly appear before 1987.

The only permanent market for short sf remains the Omnistyle magazine, Omega, which publishes two sf short stories an issue. Perth still plans to bid for the Worldcon in 1994, and Sydney is thinking about a bid for some year before then.

--Bruce Gillespie

IN MEMORIAM

It is our sad duty to record the deaths of several World SF members and other well known persons in the world of science fiction.

- Judy-Lynn del Rey
- A. Bertram Chandler
- Frank Herbert
- Robert P. Mills
- Janusz A. Zajdel

Our world is poorer for their passing.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

We have received several inquiries regarding advertising in the World SF Newsletter. At the present time, it is not our policy to accept paid advertising and we do not have a rate schedule. We do encourage news releases about activities of concern to the membership and will gladly print these without cost.

--Elizabeth Anne Hull

TALES FROM PLANET EARTH

Nearly three years ago Betty Hull and Frederik Pohl began to create a World SF volume to be called Tales from the Planet Earth, and now at last it is completed. It has been delivered to the American publisher, St. Martins Press, and editor Thomas L. Dunne has pronounced it "excellent".

The plan of Tales from the Planet Earth was to provide leading science fiction authors from many countries with an opportunity to write stories on the same basic theme---aliens from other star systems taking over the bodies of human beings here on Earth. Because all the stories conform to that theme, Tales from the Planet Earth is not a usual anthology. In fact, perhaps it is best described as "A novel with 19 authors."

The stories are "Sitting around the Pool, Soaking up the Rays" (which begins the book) and "We Servants of the Stars" (which ends it), both by Frederik Pohl, of the United States; "The Thursday Events" by Ye Yonglie (People's Republic of China); "Plus ca Change---" by Spider Robinson (Canada); "Life as an Ant" by Andre Carneiro (Brazil); "Fiddling for Waterbuffaloes" by Somtow Sucharitkul (Thailand); "S Is for Snake" by Lino Aldoni (Italy); "The Divided Carla" by Joseph Nesvadba (Czechoslovakia); "The View from the Top of the Tower" by Harry Harrison (Ireland); "Don't Knock the Rock" by A. Bertram Chandler (Australia); "The Owl of Bear Island" by Jon Bing (Norway); "Contacts of a Fourth Kind" by Ljuben Dilov (Bulgaria); "Infestation" by Brian W. Aldiss (England); "In the Blink of an Eye" by Carlos M. Federici (Uruguay); "Particularly Difficult Territory" by Janusz A. Zajdel (Poland); "Time Everlasting" by Sam J. Lundwall

(Sweden); "The Middle Kingdom" by Tong Enzheng (second story from the People's Republic of China); "On the Inside Track" by Karl Michael Armer (West Germany); and "The Legend of the Paper Spaceship" by Tetsu Yano (Japan).

The publication date of the volume in the United States has not yet been set, but will probably be in the early part of 1987.

The primary purpose of the book is to illustrate the differing varieties of science fiction to be found around the world, but it serves a significant second purpose as well. Twenty per cent of the proceeds from the book go to World SF, to be used to help cover the general expenses of the organization. (Of the remainder, one quarter goes to the volume's creators and three quarters is divided among the authors and translators.)

World SF expects other editions to appear in various other countries around the world. Publishers in Japan, Yugoslavia and Hungary have already announced the intention of bringing out editions in translation. Publishers or editors in other countries who are interested are invited to write Frederik Pohl or Betty Hull for copies of the manuscript, which is available both in English and in the original languages of the contributors.

Sadly, two of the authors represented with fine stories in the volume did not survive to see the book in print, A. Bertram Chandler and Janusz A. Zajdel. (See "In Memoriam", elsewhere in this issue.)

NEWS FROM CHINA

China's first sf story competition has ended in success. The prize-giving ceremony will be held in Chengdu in May.
--Wu Dingbo

WORLD SF NATIONAL OFFICERS

Following are the names and addresses of the national chairpersons (unless otherwise indicated) for each country. If your country does not have a representative and you are willing to serve, write to the president with details about your background. World SF runs on the labors of willing volunteers.

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Harry Harrison
Kestrel Ridge
Vale of Avoca
Co. Wicklow
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Takumi Shibano
(National Secretary, Japan)
700 Ninomiya, Ninomiya-machi
Naka-gun, Kanagawa-ken
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Patrizia Thiella
(National Secretary, Italy)
Corso Italia 32
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Italy

OIL GLUT ENDANGERS SF MUSEUM

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Ye Yong-lie
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 People's Republic of China

New Members

International Association for
 the Fantastic in the Arts
 c/o Donald Palumbo, Treas.
 Lorain County Community College
 1005 North Abbe Road
 Elyria, OH 44035 USA

Charles C. Ryan
 c/o Aboriginal SF
 P.O. Box 2449
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Eileen Kernaghan
 5512 Neville Street
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 Canada

Eva Seidner
 113 Joicey Boulevard
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 Canada

Changes of Address

Duncan Lunan; c/o Campbell; 16
 Oakfield Avenue; Hillhead;
 Glasgow G14 9BP; Scotland

Tor Age Bringsvaerd
 Sven Bruns gate 2
 0166 Oslo 1
 Norway

Goran Bengston
 Birger Jarlsg. 106 B
 S-114 20 Stockholm
 Sweden

Temporary Change of Address
 (through July 1986):
 James L. Thorson, Fulbright
 Exchange Professor; Westfal-
 ische Wilhelms-Universitat
 Munster; Johannisstrasse 12-
 20; D-4400 Munster, West
 Germany

The annual Conference on the
 Fantastic in the Arts held in
 Houston, Texas, in March had
 many bright spots, but it also
 had a few clouds on the hori-
 zon.

Among the brightest was the
 presence of World SF Past
 President Brian W. Aldiss as
 Guest of Honor at the event.
 Brian gave his usual warm and
 humorous view of the field in
 his principal address. Other
 guests included Past President
 Frederik Pohl and Newsletter
 editor Elizabeth Anne Hull.

Attendees were taken on a tour
 of the NASA Johnson Space Cen-
 ter, and then of the proposed
 site for the Museum of Science
 Fiction, Fantasy and Horror,
 which is to be located in a
 never-completed structure de-
 signed as a shopping mall near
 the Space Center. Plans are
 nearly complete, but because
 the Texas institutions which
 have been counted on for
 financing are all feeling the
 pinch of lower prices for oil
 worldwide there is some con-
 cern about meeting the heavy
 costs involved. (Many major
 Texas non-profit organizations
 derive much of their income
 from royalties on oil produc-
 tion, or from subsidies from
 oil-related industries. With
 oil prices dropping drastical-
 ly, their revenues are slump-
 ing and their commitments are
 all being reviewed.)

Coincidentally, the plan for
 the city of Los Angeles to
 take over Forrest J Ackerman's
 incredible collection of sci-
 ence fiction seems to have
 fallen through. It may be a
 while yet before our field has
 a large-scale museum of its
 own.

NEWS FROM POLAND

Polcon/Silcon '86 will take
 place in Katowice, Poland, 29
 May-1 June 1986. For informa-
 tion, contact Piotr W. Cholewa,
 Slaski Klub Fantastyki, 71.
 Mariacka 17a, 40-956 Katowice,
 Poland.

MAIL BALLOT/PROXY FORM

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS

For President: Gianfranco Viviani (Italy), nom S. Lundwall, 2nd
E. Hull

(write in)

For Secretary: Patrizia Thiella (Italy), nom. G. Viviani, 2nd
G. Bishop

(write in)

For Treasurer: Harry Harrison (Ireland), nom. B. Aldiss, 2nd
F. Pohl

(write in)

For Trustees: Brian Aldiss (England)
 Gerald Izaguirre (Brazil)
 Sakyō Komatsu (Japan)
 Peter Kuczka (Hungary)
 Piergiorgia Nicolazzini (Italy)
 Eremy Parnov (U.S.S.R.)
 Frederik Pohl (U.S.A.)
 Annemarie van Ewyck (The Netherlands)
 Ye Yonglie (People's Republic of China)

(write in)

(write in)

Above slate nominated by B. Aldiss, 2nd E. Hull

PROXY DESIGNATION

(Date)

I, _____, designate
(World SF Member's name: please print legibly)
_____ to vote for me at the
(World SF Member's name: please print legibly)
meeting in Vancouver, 26-29 May 1986.

(signature)

To: Elizabeth Anne Hull
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