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270 AT SUCCESSFUL "SEACON"

CHICAGO GETS 1962 BID!
ED EMSH, POUL ANDERSON, "WHO KILLED SF",
TWILIGHT ZONE, "A CANTICLE FOR LEBOWITZ"
AND "ANALOG" WIN HUGOS
CONVENTION IN THE BLACK!

by FRANK DIETZ

The 19th World Science Fiction Convention was held September 2, 3, & 4, 1961, at Seattle, Washington. Approximately 270 persons registered at the Convention as against 568 who signed in at Pittsburgh last year.

The convention was called to order at 12:10 Saturday, September 2, 1961, by Wally Weber, the chairman. He turned the Convention over to Sam Moskowitz who introduced the science-fiction personalities from the audience. Those introduced were: The Guest of Honor: Robert A. Heinlein, Mr. & Mrs. "Doc" E. E. Smith, Algis Budrys, Poul & Karen Anderson, Alan E. Nourse, M. D., Harlan Ellison, Forrest J Ackerman, Bob & Barbara Silverberg, Dave & Ruth Kyle, Ella Parker, Steve and Virginia Schultheis, Ted & Silvia White, Bill Evans, Mike Deckinger, Ben Jason, Elmer Purdue, Art & Nancy Rapp, Mary Jane Johnson, Earl & Nancy Kemp, Ed Wood, Ron Ellick, Boyd Rasmussen, Walter Breen, Jack Harness, G. M. Carr,

Don Day, Ed & Jessie Clinton, Chris Moskowitz, Ben Stark, Sidney Coleman, George Price, George Scithers, Wrai Ballard, Lee Ann Tremper, Bruce Pelz, Jim Broderick, Fred Prophet, and Phyllis Economu.

Wally Weber read a telegram received from John W. Campbell, Jr., of Analog Science Fact & Fiction expressing his regrets at being unable to attend. The Convention Committee was then introduced Wally Weber, Chairman, Elinor Busby, F. M. Busby, Jim Webbert, Wally Gonser, and Doreen Webbert. Elmer Purdue then took the floor to present the Busbys with a doormat which had in bold white letters on a black background the words: "DROP DEAD".

Poul Anderson was then introduced to present his address titled: "The Rituals of Science Fiction". Complained of the rut into which science-fiction has fallen, the lack of anything new and unusual in science-fiction writing these days. Looking for more respect for rituals in dramatization, but more original and spectacular ideas and writing. Looking for fans to develop greater selection of taste in what stories they show appreciation for.

Charles Andrew, assistant manager of Hyatt House, the Hotel the Convention was being held in, announced the restric-

CHICAGO IN 1962

tion of the Liquor Laws. No drinking standing up, no moving of drinks from table to table, and that Sunday drinking allowed exclusively in the rooms only.

Then came the TAFF Panel with Ron Ellik, Richard Eney, the TAFF candidates and Wally Weber MCing. Discussion was on the purposes of TAFF candidate; pro and con of present nomination and voting procedures.

After which was the panel: "Writing To Sell in Science-Fiction and Other Fields". The panel consisted of A. L. Budrys, Harlan Ellison, "Doc" Smith, Alan E. Nourse, Poul Anderson, and Robert Silverberg. "Doc" Smith was the MC. "Doc" Smith opened with an analysis of the subject title of the panel, pointing out that he is fully unqualified as Moderator of the Panel. Poul Anderson expressed the feeling that while an author is writing to sell, his real interest is in communicating ideas to his readers. This he considers writing for fun. Algis Budrys admitted that he may either write good stories to sell, or stories with ideas he wishes to write, which he is much more interested in selling to see them published. Harlan Ellison feels he is not a science-fiction writer, that most of his science-fiction work was written to sell; only 6 or 7 of his approximately 100 science-fiction stories does he consider good. He does not believe authors should write to sell, rather writing should be done to produce good stories readers will like. Alan Nourse objected to Poul Anderson's idea that writing can be fun, particularly when he is being pressured to complete a novel. In developing into a writer he found it took time and effort, only when he felt he was an accomplished author could he develop a love for writing. He considers writing as work, and has evolved techniques to produce as much as possible in as little time as necessary. Bob Silverberg refused to be apologetic for his writing, admitting that writing is his business, as it is only when a story is sold that the writer can communicate with his readers. He feels that many of his science-fiction stories were good, ones he would like to read himself, but this was not his primary purpose in writing science-fiction. He does not consider himself a hack writer, as he

writes what he wishes to. Hack writers he defines as those who have a burning desire to work in a particular field, but who find it necessary to write in different fields for which he has no interest. "Doc" Smith expressed his admiration for an author such as Bob who was able to produce stories on short notice, he then expressed his feeling that Bob's work is not writing, but rather authorship.

The Panel then was opened to questions from the audience. A question about agents evoked comments from the whole panel, who agreed that an author needs a good agent, which usually can be obtained once the author has sold a few stories. In answer to another question, most of the panel agreed that each author has to work out his own schedule for writing, but that most authors do establish a schedule for writing.

Next on the program was the "Auction Bloch" where the exclusive rights to one hour of the time and company of your favorite professional can be bought by the highest bidder. The proceeds of which go to TAFF. Al Lewis was the auctioneer. It went this way: SAM MOSKOWITZ bought by Forry Ackerman for \$4.00; "DOC" SMITH - \$7.50 - Marion Frazier, Walla Walla, Washington; FRED POHL - \$15.00 - by Joseph L. Green, Seattle; ALGIS BUDRYS - \$15.00 - by Ember Huchata, Seattle; KAREN ANDERSON - \$5.00 by Ben F. Keifer, Columbus, Ohio; ALAN E. NOURSE - \$6.00 - by Mary Gearhart, Spokane & Sue Sanderson, Cartisle, Pa.; HARLAN ELLISON - \$16.00 - by V. A. Masengil, Cartisle, Pa. and—get this now—WALLY WEBER - \$17.00 by 17 persons 8 females and 9 males (one male unknown) the males being only spectators: the females were: Ella Parker, Ruth Berman, Virginia Schultheis, Ellie Turner, Joni Connell, Ruth Kyle, Juanita Green, and Chris Moskowitz. The males and mere spectators were: Hal Lynch, J. F. Bowe, Dave Kyle, Steve Schultheis, Don Ford, Joe Green, Steve Tollier, Al Lewis, and one unknown. The total of \$85.50 went to TAFF.

The evening of Saturday September 2nd, at 8:00, in the Astellite Room was the gala COSTUME BALL with Lee McElfesh's Band. Winners of the Costume Ball were: Stu Hoffman - MOST MONSTEROUS, Joni Cor-

nell - THE MOST; Ernie Wheatley - BEST S-F; Bjo - MOST BEAUTIFUL; Ellie Turner - MOST ORIGINAL, and Karen Anderson. The winners won original Bjo sketches done on the spot, of the winning costumes.

The banquet was held on Sunday, September 3, 1961 at 12:00 noon. Harlan Ellison was the Toastmaster who kept things rather lively at the opening of the gathering. Forry Ackerman, the first speaker, reviewed the events and his experiences of the past conventions, running through the history of the conventions from New York in 1939 to the present. The Guest of Honor, Robert A. Heinlein then gave his speech: "The Future Revisited" reviewing the predictions he made in his Guest of Honor speech 20 years ago at the 1941 Denvention. The first, that changes in civilization will come so fast in the forthcoming years, that people will be unable to keep up with them, although fans will do better than other people. This prediction, he pointed out, has held true over the intervening years. His second prediction, that the war existing in 1941 would continue for 5, 10, 20 or even 50 years, has also come true, he pointed out; "Look where we are today!" Possibility of the Future (1) World War III, (2) Surrender to Communism, (3) A general quieting of tensions between Communism and Democracy. The Communists, however, he explained, are not likely to change to make the last possibility come about. He doesn't believe that it will. The net results he explained, is a long and bitter time in the future. The second possibility, he explains, leaves only two alternatives for Americans, one underground or cooperation. Both have dangers, and anyone feeling that this will be the possibility to come to pass should start to make preparations now. His feelings is that the first possibility, of risking the bombs and fallout, is by far the best course of the two he considers possible. His talk then switched to his experiences on: Is there a dead Russian up there? This we don't know, but a dead Russian may have passed over us while we were eating our banquet. This brings another occasion when ~~Pratt's~~ was wrong. about his trip last year to Russia. He described one extensive indoctrination

of the youngsters and younger people to the knowledge that the Communists wish the population to believe, and the discrepancies he finds in his travels thru the country. Heinlein received a standing ovation when he was introduced and when he finished his speech.

The last item on this afternoon program was the announcements and presentation of the "Hugo" awards:

BEST FAN MAG: "Who Killed Science Fiction" - Earl Kemp.

BEST SCIENCE FICTION ARTIST: Ed Emshwiller (2nd in a row) accepted by Robert Silverberg.

BEST SHORT STORY: Poul Anderson, for "The Longest Voyage".

BEST DRAMATIC WORK: "The Twilight Zone", accepted by Bjo Trimble.

BEST SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE: "Analog Science Fact & Fiction," accepted by "Doc" Smith.

BEST NOVEL: "A Canticle for Leiboritz" by Walter Miller, Jr., accepted by Robert Mills.

The Sunday Evening program opened with the panel "Editing in the Science-Fiction Field Today". Fred Pohl of Galaxy & If and Robert Mills of Fantasy & Science Fiction, with A. J. Budrys ~~McIn~~. The Panel brought out the facts that the circulation of Galaxy and F&SF has increased as a result of the diminution of competition in the field, that the big culprit of even better markets is the problems of circulation. The problems connected with the diminishing market, it was agreed, is the diminishing number of authors, and the difficulty in getting enough good stories. Frederik Pohl, in speaking about Galaxy and If, informed the audience that Galaxy has liberalized its policy, and will publish all types of good science-fiction, including "Space Opera", edding the policy of publishing only sophisticated stories. If will print a completely different type of story, midway between the Planet and Thrilling Wonder Story type. He also noted that Galaxy has raised its base rates to 3¢ a word.

The Business Session, and usually one of the most interesting of Convention affairs, was held on Sunday evening.

The report of the "Hugo" Committee was presented as printed and distributed (see page 5 for the complete text of the Hugo Report.) A motion was made to ac-

cept the Committee's report. One amendment was made to change paragraph 10, which was adopted. After some discussion, the Committee's report, as amended was accepted.

Lee Ann Tremper then placed a "token" bid for Indianapolis, and quickly withdrew it in favor of Chicago. Earl Kemp placed the bid for Chicago, which was seconded by Bob Pavlat. Chicago was selected by unanimous vote.

The last Convention program item, outside of the auction, was held on Monday afternoon. It was the panel "Why is a Fan?" moderated by Earl Kemp, and with Wrai Ballard, Bill Evans, Bob Pavlat, Ted White, Boyd Raeburn, Walter Breen, and Jack Speer on the panel. Mr. Kemp, in opening the panel, mentioned the research project the Chicago group is conducting, which was responsible for the "Why Is a Fan?" publication which was recently published. He revealed that one part of the program planned for the Chicago Convention in 1962 is a mass I. Q. Test for the audience.

The panel opened with the panelists giving a brief outline of the reasons and methods in which they became fans. Discussion of types of people who become fans, review of audience seemed to indicate most fans were introverted people at the time they became a fan. The idea that a handicap may be an important factor in getting someone to become a fan. However the general consensus of opinion was that most people have handicaps of one sort or another. The discussion grew heated on the topic of the lack of science-fiction as a topic in the fan mags, and was ended all too soon to permit the auction to take place.

The auction was limited to paintings and illustrations, manuscripts and fan mags. High price was \$92.00 for the cover painting from the May 1961 Fantasy and Science Fiction. \$45.00 was the second highest price paid.

Following a lengthy auction, the presentation of the Gravel was made by Wally Weber, chairman to Chicago's chairman Earl Kemp, in a practically empty Hall. At the presentation, Richard Eney also presented to Earl Kemp a letter from Dirce Archer, the 18th World S-F Convention Chairman, which contained a

check for \$200.00. This, the letter indicated, was the "Pittcon Fund", cash for the initial expenses of the Chicago and future Cons, which was requested to be passed along from Convention to Convention in addition to any other money that Convention may be able to pass along. Earl Kemp was also given \$100.00 of Seacon Convention fund, pending a final accounting of profits made.

The auction took in a total of approximately \$707.00, of which \$20.50 goes to the Willis Fund, and minus other items, nets a total net profit of approximately \$400.00.

The Seacon was pronounced a success, both financially and otherwise. The Financial report of the Convention will be available within one week upon written request.

CHICAGO PULLS A "FIRST"

The Chicago group pulled a real first with a show of preparedness unequal in presentation of World S-F Convention. They came to the Seacon with printed membership cards, a Hotel, "The Pick-Congress", Guest of Honor, and the First Progress Report all printed and ready. When the bid had been made and obtained, they were ready and began taking in members. A lot of planning went into this, and shows that a good convention is in the works for 1962.

The 1962 convention, The 20th World Science Fiction Convention, will be held over the Labor Day Holidays of August 31, September 1, 2, & 3, 1962 at the Pick-Congress Hotel, Michigan Ave. at Congress Street, Chicago. The rates are: Single Rooms \$7.00 up; Double Rooms \$13.00 up. Twin Rooms \$14.00 up, Twin Rooms (DeLuxe) \$20.00 up, Suites - Parlor & 1 bedroom \$25.00 up, and Suites - Parlor & 2 Bedrooms \$35.00 up. The Guest of Honor is Theodore Sturgeon, a very good choice.

Earl Kemp is Chairman, James O'Meara Vice-Chairman, Rosemary Hickey Secretary, and George W. Price is Treasurer.

We advise all to join the '62 World Science-Fiction Convention -- Now, as money is always a big need at the begin-

ning of putting a World Con together. Send your \$2.00 to: 20th World Science Fiction Convention, P. O. Box 4864, Chicago 80, Illinois. Make all checks, money-orders etc payable to George W. Price. _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FUTURE "HUGO" AWARDS AT WORLD S-F CONVENTIONS

The 18th World Science-Fiction Convention (PITTCON) directed the Chairman of that Convention to appoint a special committee to consider recommendations for the standardization of the "Hugo" award categories. The following members were appointed to the committee: Howard Devore, Hal Lynch, Stephen Schultheis, Lynn Hickman, Bob Pavlat and Noreen Shaw. Dirce Archer, chairman of the PITTCON was the Chairman and non-voting member.

The committee gave careful consideration to the subject and, in the course of discussion, considered points so directly connected with the award categories that it felt desirable and proper to include them in their report. The report was accepted by the Seacon Convention with only one change. Item 10 was amended at the Seacon. The listing here includes that change.

1. BEST NOVEL: A science-fiction or fantasy novel appearing for the first time as a hard cover book, OR appearing for the first time as a soft cover book, magazine serial, or complete novel, during the previous calendar year. Previous winners are not eligible, nor shall a novel be eligible more than twice. Publication date, or cover date in the case of dated magazines, shall take precedence over copyright date. At least one installment of a serial shall have been published in the eligible year. (Since hard cover novels generally have fewer readers, this gives them a chance against soft cover books and magazine appearance.)

2. BEST SHORT FICTION: A science-fiction or fantasy story of less than novel length published for the first time in a magazine, OR appearing for the first time in a collection or anthology, during the previous calendar year. Previous winners are not eligible, nor shall

a story be eligible more than twice. Publication date, or cover date in the case of dated magazines, shall take precedence over copyright date.

3. BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: Any production, single or series, directed related to science-fiction or fantasy, in the fields of radio, television, stage or screen, which has been publicly presented for the first time in its present form during the previous calendar year.

4. BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST: A professional artist whose work was presented in some form in the science-fiction or fantasy field during the previous calendar year.

5. BEST PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE: Any magazine devoted primarily to science-fiction or fantasy, which has published four or more issues, at least one issue dated the previous calendar year.

6. BEST AMATEUR MAGAZINE: Any general available non-professional magazine devoted to science-fiction, fantasy, and related subjects, which has published four or more issues, at least one issue appearing in the previous calendar year.

7. SPECIAL AWARD: A Special award shall be given only when, in the opinion of the convention committee, recognition should be given to either a professional or fan for a special contribution to the field not covered by the annual awards. They shall be identical to the regular Hugos except that the plate shall also include the words "Special Award". It must be understood that no convention committee is obligated to give this award and not only can but should resist pressure for an award thought unmerited. Since the achievements contemplated under this provision are non-competitive, Special awards shall not be voted on by the convention membership. (This award can take care of bibliographers, fans, non-fiction, one-shots, reviewers, etc.)

8. ADDITIONAL AWARDS: Any additional awards are outside the province of this committee. We recommend that the name and design of the Hugos be restricted to the categories listed above.

9. NO AWARDS: At the discretion of the individual convention committee, if a lack of votes in a specific category shows a marked lack of interest in that category on the part of the voters, the award in that category shall be cancelled.

ed for that year.

10. NOMINATIONS AND VOTING: Final ballots go to members of the current convention only. Balloting shall include signature, name, address, and convention name and membership number. Final ballots shall standardize the alternatives given in each category to not more than five. Each person shall vote once in each category on the final ballot.

11. TALLYING: This shall be done by the convention committee, which is re-

sponsible for all matters concerning awards. (It is not possible to separate authority and responsibility. Any other system is too prone to complication, confusion, breakdown, and delay.)

12. AWARD ELIGIBILITY: No member of the current convention committee, nor any publication closely connected with them, shall be eligible for an award.

Mrs. Archer and her committee should be commended for a job well done.

THE WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTIONS

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>GUEST OF HONOR</u>	<u>HOTEL</u>	<u>EST.</u>	<u>ATT.</u>	<u>CHAIRMAN</u>
1939	New York	Nycon	Frank R. Paul	Caravan Hall	200		Moskowitz
1940	Chicago	Chicon	E. E. Smith	Chicagoan	115		Korshak
1941	Denver	Denvention	Robert A. Heinlein	Shirley-Savoy	100		Wiggins
1946	Los Angeles	Pacificon	A. E. van Vogt*	Part View Manor	125		Daugherty
1947	Philadelphia	Philcon	John W. Campbell, Jr.	Penn Sheraton	180		Rothman
1948	Toronto	Torcon	Robert Bloch	Rai Purdy Studios	200		McKeown
1949	Cincinnati	Cinvention	Lloyd A. Eshbach	Metropole	200		Ford
1950	Portland	Norwescon	Anthony Boucher	Mulnomah	250		Day
1951	New Orleans	Nolacon	Fritz Leiber	St. Charles	325		Moore
1952	Chicago	Chicon II	Hugo Gernsback	Morrison	1000		May
1953	Philadelphia	Philcon II	Willy Ley	Bellvue-Stratford	800		Rothman
1954	San Francisco	STcon	John W. Campbell, Jr.	Sir Francis Drake	600		Cole
1955	Cleveland	Cleveland	Isaac Asimov	Manger	500		Falasca
1956	New York	Nycon II	Arthur C. Clarke	Biltmore	850		Kyle
1957	London	Loncon	John W. Campbell, Jr.	Kings Court	425		Carnell
1958	Los Angeles	Solacon	Richard Matheson	Alexandria	475		Moffatt
1959	Detroit	Detention	Poul Anderson	Pick-Fort Shelby	371		Sims **
1960	Pittsburgh	Pittcon	James Blish	Penn-Sheraton	568		Archer
1961	Seattle	Seacon	Robert A. Heinlein	Hyatt House	270		Weber
1962	Chicago	Chicon III	Theodore Sturgeon	Pick-Congress	?		Kemp
		. & E. Wayne Hull	.. & Fred Prophet				

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2¢ per word including name, address and zone number. 25 words minimum, remittance with copy. Fan-mags and fan-clubs 1¢ per word. Send copy & monies to James V. Taurasi, Sr., SFTAD, 18-36 129th St., College Point 56, New York.

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MONSTER-TIMES: Issues #s 1, 2, 3, & 4 are still available. 2 to 4 pages of news-of Monster magazines. Published by Science-Fiction Times, Inc., P. O. Box 115, Solvay Branch, Syracuse 9, New York. 10¢ per copy. Subscriptions: 6-issues for 50¢, published quarterly.

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