

NUMBER 45

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AUSTRALIAN NEWS

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Subscription Rates:

The current subscription cost is \$6.00 for 4 issues. This is an increase from the last issue. I have decided to reduce the number of copies for the same amount. When I can publish on some sort of a regular basis, I will most likely increase the sub rate and the number of copies covered. I do not have any overseas agents at this time, but I will arrange payments to friends in the USA and Britain, so please write to me first before sending payment. An airmail rate will be quoted on request. The subscription rate to my associate publication BOOKS is \$3.00 for two issues, but if you are subscribing to ASFN already or wish to subscribe to both publications now the rate for BOOKS is only \$2.00 for 2 issues. Combined rate to both publications is \$8.00.

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M.R.

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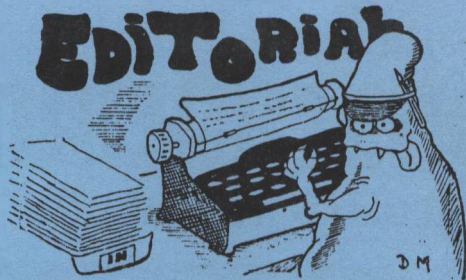
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EDITORIAL



DEAR READERS,

I wish to thank all the people who have subscribed recently, both new and renewals. My old and faithful readers know what to expect, but my new subscribers are no doubt wondering where ASFN has been over the last six months. Briefly, trying to eke out a living by listing and selling largely second hand books and more recently putting together the 2nd issue of BOOKS, which all subscribers to ASFN have been sent incidentally, has taken all of my time. And apart from time, paying for the printing of lists of books I am selling has had to take precedence.

Many people have subscribed to BOOKS after my second issue, listing all the British publications. I am working on a list of US books for the next issue which I hope to finish in July. That will cover all US books in the F&SF field published up to probably June. The fourth issue will cover both British and US books up to August and catch up on titles missed and will be made up with other special lists of published titles. From then on I hope to include the BOOKS listing with the NEWS and try very hard to get it out on a more regular basis.

Honestly, I do not quite know how I am going to squeeze all I should into this issue, so I will not waste any more space rambling on.

Merv Binns

AUSTRALIAN PROFESSIONAL NEWS



Another redskin bites the dust and APHELION goes the way of all Australian sf magazines. OMEGA, Australia's answer to OMNI, has also ceased publication. Australian fans, at conventions and other places, have been discussing the pros and cons of publishing an sf magazine in Australia for years and still, nobody has come up with the answer. Perhaps in another twenty years when the population grows and if magazines as such are still being published, an sf magazine may be published in this country and it will survive and thrive. Maybe!

Peter McNamara, editor and publisher of APHELION, is planning to publish an annual collection of sf stories. This seems to be the only answer and I hope other publishers will consider this idea also. I wrote about the Australian SF scene in an issue of APHELION and another chapter can now be added. I neglected to mention also in that article the efforts of small publishers and editors and such publications as FAR OUT, which did receive Australia wide distribution through Gordon and Gotch and FUTURISTIC TALES as well. Both of these were pretty modest efforts. The fan press has produced CRUX edited by Michael Hallstone and CYGNUS CHRONICLER from Neville Angove. All of these magazines and the anthologies that appear in book form infrequently, have all helped to foster the sf field in Australia, but what the future now holds remains to be seen.

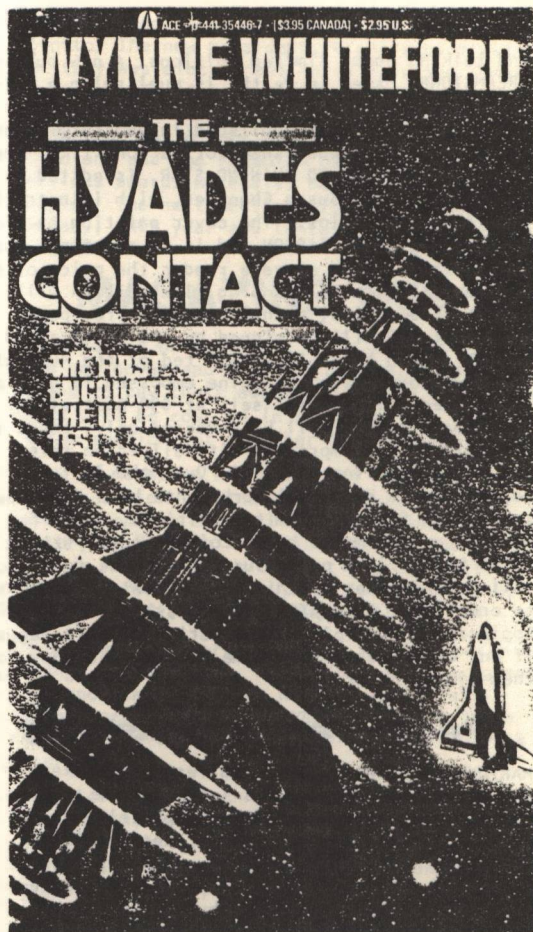
Award winner VICTOR KELLEHER, whose THE BEAST OF HEAVEN won the Ditmar Award in 1985, has produced another two books for young readers. Both published by Penguin/Puffin, the first, PAPIO is an adventure story involving the release of two baboons from an experimental research station and the second, THE GREEN PIPER is a science fiction fantasy based on the story of the Pled Piper.

Due to the vagaries of publishers distribution in this country I never handled a copy of an sf book published in 1985 by Rigby publishers, until I came across a second hand copy recently. THE TRANSING SYNDROME by Kurt Von Trojan. A story about teleportation by an Austrian born author, who settled in Australia in the late 1940s. I seem to remember some critics saying at the time that this was one of the best efforts from an Australian resident author. To my knowledge Mr Trojan has not had any other sf books published yet.

WYNNE WHITEFORD sold most of his books to ACE/Berkley last year for publication in the USA, plus a new novel, DARK FRONTIER. That was to be published in hc in the fall 1987, preceded by other titles in pb. Another novel, LAKE OF THE SUN, is also to be done in hc. Other sequels to Wynne's earlier books were also discussed and one was a follow up to THOR'S HAMMER, tentatively titled THOR'S SHADOW. Wynne gave me a cover pull for THE HYADES CONTRACT, which was also to be published I would have thought by now in pb. I will have an update from Wynne in the next issue.

GEORGE TURNER's new sf novel THE SEA AND SUMMER was due to be published by Faber in Britain this month, but I have no date from Penguin yet on local release. George had a number of stories published in *Aphelion* and I believe a collection of his stories may also be in view. He is also working on sf and non-sf to be reported on later.

KEITH TAYLOR, who I have not seen at cons and things for a long time, has a story in the new *Weird Tales* magazine, so he must be about somewhere. Keith was awarded the "Ditmar" this year for Best F&SF Novel by an Australian author.



DAMIEN BRODERICK is working on a new anthology for Angus and Robertson. Damien's BLACK GRAIL, which he describes as a revision of his SORCERER'S WORLD, was published last April by Avon, who have also bought STRIPED HOLES, "a parodic farce which no doubt will be seen as belonging to the Hitchhiker's Guide tradition but actually reflects my adolescent delight in the whimsical over-the-top sf of Robert Sheckley", he said. Part of this was presented on ABC radio and other parts were published in both OMEGA and APHELION. A short story, "Thy Sting", is due to be published in OMEGA in December. Damien also reports that he will be involved in thesis-writing for the next few years, doing post-graduate literary theory (with special attention to sf) at Deakin University.

Other writers are slow in coming forward, but SEAN McMULLEN tells me he has sold another story to the MAGAZINE OF F&SF. TERRY DOWLING, who had 3 nominations in the Ditmar Awards this year, has been writing an Introduction to a Harlan Ellison collection, THE ESSENTIAL HARLAN ELLISON, a limited edition publication from US publisher Nemo Press.

A. BERTRAM CHANDLER LIMITED EDITION

And talking about limited editions, a new publisher DREAMSTONE, based in Perth, is publishing a collection of stories by A. BERTRAM CHANDLER, which have either not been published in bookform before or have not been published for a long time. The volume, FROM SEA TO SHINING STAR, is edited by Keith Curtis and Susan Chandler, with illustrations by Nick Stathopoulos. The cover painting by Nick was on display at CAPCON and it is stunning. But I am afraid to the average reader the price of the volume will also be stunning. The edition will only be 500 copies, printed on acid free paper. The first 100 will be signed by the editors and artist, cloth bound in ensign red of the Australian Merchant Navy, with the spine embossed in gold and slip cased. These will sell at \$90 Australian. The remaining 400 will be numbered only, bound in navy cloth, and impressed with silver on spine and cover, selling at \$65 A. Over the last ten years or more a special market has been developed in the USA for such limited editions, which has made it a rich man's hobby collection first editions of sf books. I am quite sure that these collectors will quickly snap up this collection. If you wish to order one, DREAMSTONE's address is P.O. Box 160, Applecross, W.A. 6153. Publication date is August. If any of my readers want me to obtain a copy for them please order now!

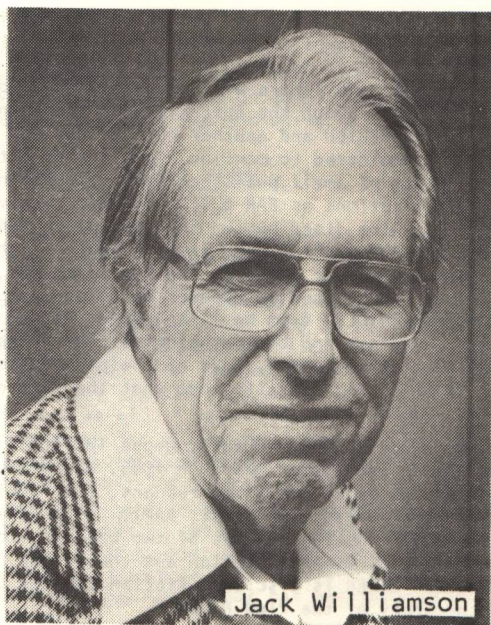
People and Publishing

MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY has suffered a stroke, In May, and although it has left her some speech problems, she is expected to completely recover, as she has from two earlier strokes in 1980 and 1986. She was proofing her new big novel, FIREBRAND, when had the attack. It is expected to be published by Simon & Schuster in the US in November '87. Scott Meredith, Bradley's agent, has sold seven of her 'Darkover' books to the Japanese publisher Tokyo Sogensha. They also hope to sell the other 11 titles in the series for Japanese publication.

BEN BOVA is selecting books for "Ben Bova's Discoveries" for TOR. One of the first titles to be included will be NAPOLEAN DISENTIMED by Hayford Pierce. Others include ETHER ORE by H.C. Turk and BECOMING ALIEN by Rebecca Brown. Bova has also probably completed by now a sequel to his novel ORION. Bova will edit THE BEST OF NERULA for TOR. Stories will be selected by the members of the SFWA, from a list of all the winning stories from 1965 to the present. Half the proceeds will go to the authors, a quarter to Bova and a quarter to the SFWA.

GENE WOLFE has been working hard. He has sold three books to TOR for \$100,000. The first is another "New Sun" title, THE URTH OF THE NEW SUN and TOR already have that. The second is THERE ARE DOORS, about a department store clerk who falls in love with a goddess from an alternative universe. The last title is SOLDIER OF ARETE, which is only a working title for a sequel to SOLDIER OF THE MIST, recently published by TOR and Gollancz in hc.

Photo Jay K. Klein



JACK WILLIAMSON wrote last year and filled me in on his recent activities. FIRECHILD made it from Bluejay which he told me they had just published, but LAND'S END, a collaboration with Fred Pohl I have not seen mentioned and has probably been a Bluejay casualty. It will no doubt turn up from another publisher. Jack also told me that he was due to finish a sequel to LIFEBURST for Del Rey in April '87, called DEADFALL. Thanks Jack and I hope your trip to China was a great success.

Two books by STEPHEN KING that he said would never be reprinted after being published by the small press Donald M. Grant a few years back, have been bought by NAL. They paid the enormous sum of \$8 million for THE DARKTOWER: GUNSLINGER and THE DRAWING OF THE THREE.

By now we hope the HALDEMANs have been able to settle down at home. They were at the British SF convention in Glasgow last year, Joe went to Yugoslavia for a two week speaking tour, he was involved in the Writing Program at MIT, and they both were guests of the New Zealand National Convention over Easter. Well perhaps after CONSPIRACY which they expect to attend in August. Joe has managed to a bit of writing done and has had two books published recently, DEALING IN FUTURES, a collection and a novel TOOL OF THE TRADE. THE LONG HABIT OF LIVING is upcoming from Avon in pb and Morrow in hc. Joe also co-wrote the script for a film called ROBOJOX, or THE MECHANICS as he would have preferred, which is being made or due to be made soon.

ANNE McCAFFREY has sold LADY IN THE TOWER to Ace/Berkley, for both hc and pb publication. ANDRE NORTON has completed a new 'Witchworld' novel for them. WILLIAM GIBSON's new novel, MONA LISA OVERDRIVE, will be published by Bantam

ROBERT HOLDSTOCK and CHRIS EVANS have been editing an anthology to be published by Allen & Unwin in their 'Orion' pb series, in time for the World SF convention in Brighton this year.

JOHN NORMAN's 'Gor' series have come in for a deal of criticism since the series commenced a few years ago, but the strongest opposition yet seems to have come from author Michael Moorcock, who it was reported last year was requesting the British publisher W.H. Smith to cease publishing the 'Gor' books in the 'Star' paperback series. It was said that the books 'promote the author's beliefs that women enjoy being brutalized, enslaved, humiliated, and so on.'

HARLAN ELLISON was the star of a roast last year in Los Angeles, where people paid \$25 each to witness a ruthless verbal attack on his personal and public image by Robert Silverg, Bob Bloch, David Gerrold, Ellison's lawyer Henry Holmes, his ex-producer on 'Twilight Zone', and Ray Bradbury. Robin Williams also put in his bit to the audiences delight. The money raised was to pay for a libel suit Harlan was to defend in December. He made some very critical remarks about the work of comics writer Michael Fleischer in the magazine *The Comics Journal*, and Mr Fleischer took it personally. Ellison claimed that he was actually praising Fleischer's work. His attorney compared him to a literary radical with a constitutional right to voice opinions about the work of other writers. The attorney for Fleischer said Ellison was just out to promote himself by picking fights with people. The jury found for Ellison.

ROBERT HEINLEIN spent a short time in hospital last year after a hemorrhage through the nose, which was not considered serious. Heinlein sold the novel to SAIL BEYOND THE SUNSET: THE LIFE AND LOVES OF MAUREEN JOHNSON (Being the Memoirs Of A Somewhat Irregular Lady) to G.P. Putnam's for hc and pb. Publication is expected mid 1987. The novel of course features Lazarus Long's mother and characters from other books as well. Baen Books are to reprint some classic Heinlein titles including METHUSALAH'S CHILDREN, THE MAN WHO SOLD THE MOON, THE GREEN HILLS OF EARTH, ASSIGNMENT IN ETERNITY, THE MENACE FROM EARTH and THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW.

CAROLE NELSON DOUGLAS has switched publishers in the USA and the next three titles in her series she started at Del Rey, will be published by TOR. KEEPERS OF EDANVANT will be published in hard cover first and pb later. The following two books were to be completed in 1987.

JEFF MORROW, who played Exeter in the film THIS ISLAND EARTH, recently celebrated his 80th birthday. CLIFFORD SIMAK was recovering from double bypass heart surgery back in February./ ISAAC ASIMOV's last(?) 'Foundation' novel, PRELUDE TO FOUNDATION, is scheduled for a Spring 1988 U.S. release. Later this year FANTASTIC VOYAGE II is due for release, but nothing definite on filming yet.

JIM BAEN brought down the wrath of US specialist sf booksellers on himself, when he started a cut price book club selling Baen books directly to members at around half price. The idea he said was to attempt to gauge the market from the response by members of the club, expected to be only a few hundred people. Booksellers I believe have every right to object to this sort of set up. They are working on a limited mark up and this sort of thing is just not on.

GEORGE ALEC EFFINGER was the unfortunate victim of fire late last year. He lost a lot of personal effects, his pets, and reference material, but his office with current work and typewriter were not too bad. He has not been well and was injured in the fire himself, it put a big strain on his resources. Benefits and cons and such were on the way. David Hartwells pants got auctioned off at one con.

JAMES GUNN is putting together a NEW ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SCIENCE FICTION. No publisher and no date. Gunn's ALTERNATE WORLDS, which was a comprehensive illustrated history of sf writing, publishing and fandom, was published in 1975.

HANK STINE has edited a biography of Dirk Benedict of 'Battlestar Galactica' fame, for Newcastle publishers. / Corgi will publish the 'Cheysuli' books by JENNIFER ROBERSON.

CLIVE BARKER, the very busy, writer, film producer and you-name-it Britisher, author of the 'Books of Blood' etcetera, has sold a new epic adventure fantasy novel to Collins/Fontana for P500,000. At the time of this announcement in January, the book with the title WEAVEWORLD was unwritten.

PAMELA SARGENT has sold her book THE SHORE OF WOMEN to Pan in Britain for pb publication. French and Brazilian editions are also to follow. Academy Chicago are to publish THE BEST OF PAMELA SARGENT, edited by Martin Greenberg, with a forward by Michael Bishop. Sargent is working on ISHTAR TERRA for Bantam. / CARL SAGAN has sold a new novel to Simon & Schuster, rumoured to be for an advance of \$3 million.

JERRY POURNELLE has sold the MERCENARY PRINCE to Baen books and in collaboration with BOB GLEASON, THE WRATH OF GOD to Avon for pb and Morrow for hc. / Science Fiction artist VINCENT DI FATE has been commissioned by NASA to paint a 'portrait' of the proposed Space Station. After other uses the painting will be hung in the visitor reception area at Kennedy Space Centre at Cape Canaveral. / ROBERT WEINBERG has completed his BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF SF AND FANTASY ARTISTS for Greenwood Press.

EILEEN KERNAGHAN's novel SARSEN WITCH was bought by Berkley. The novel is a sequel to JOURNEY TO APRIL 10TH. / DIANA L. PAXSON has sold a fantasy based on the Tristan legend to Avon and she has novels coming from TOR and Berkley. / Already out in hc, DAUGHTER OF THE EMPIRE by Raymond E. Felst and Janny Wurts was bought by Bantam for pb. Felst also sold Bantam FAIRIE TALE and PRINCE OF THE BLOOD.

JACK CHALKER's new series, "God Inc", starts with THE LABYRINTH OF DREAMS from TOR. A March PB, / BYRON PREISS VISUAL PUBLICATIONS intend to produce a series of 6 sf adventures novels with introductions by Arthur C. Clarke, for AVON. / A biography of L. RON HUBBARD will be published by Bridge Publications this year. / RAY BRADBURY spent a week at the National Opera/Music Theatre Conference last year, planning a musical version of FAHRENHEIT 451, for possible production on the New York Stage.

ARTHUR CLARKE pulled a swifty on his publishers and presented them with a new unannounced "Space Odyssey" title, 2061: ODYSSEY THREE. No date on publication yet. 20,001: THE FINAL ODYSSEY is not yet completed and Clarke will not complete it until the next Galileo flyby, which will give him needed information. That is some time off. Clarke, who is now around 70, had not been well, was in England late last year for medical tests, but he managed to attend a book signing at Forbidden Planet Bookshop, which was well attended and he stayed much longer than planned.

CREATURES AT LARGE Publishers have put together ROBERT BLOCH's "Lefty Feep" stories originally published in *Fantastic*. LOST IN TIME WITH LEFTY FEEP comes in a signed slipped case edition at \$40 US and a trade pb at \$12.95 US. Bob told us last year that he was busier than he had ever been in his life. NESFA published OUT OF MY HEAD, a collection of stories and articles. Six short stories were published in various anthologies. An introduction and essay for a Jack the Ripper anthology edited by Gardner Dozois. An intro for a book on Lon Chaney's lost film A BLIND BARGAIN. An intro for a non-fiction anthology from Writers Digest and one for a Clarke Ashton Smith collection. Two short pieces for a limited edition anthology and a long one for a "Lord Ten John" anniversary hard cover.

Scream Press published UNHOLY TRINITY this year, a collection of three stories, "The Scarf", "The Couch" and "The Dead Beat". TOR will publish NIGHT WORLD, FIREBUG, AMERICAN GOTHIC, THE KIDNAPPER, over '86 and '87 and PSYCHO and PSYCHO II in '88. The above mentioned "Lefty Feep" collection is the first of a planned three. Future plans called for a collaboration with Andre Norton this year and a PSYCHO III in '88 and possibly two more horror anthologies. MIDNIGHT PLEASURES was scheduled for April '87 release by Doubleday. A new collection will be published by TOR in '88. And if that is not enough, a full bibliography of Bob's works has been done by Randall Larson; Starmont will do THE READERS GUIDE TO ROBERT BLOCH and possibly later THE ROBERT BLOCH COMPANION; while H.L. Prosser has done a sociological survey for Gregg Press (?) called ROBERT BLOCH: THE MAN WHO WALKED THROUGH MIRRORS. They couldn't do it to a better man.

CHARLES PLATT has written a sequel to Piers Anthony's 'Chton' and 'Pthor', titled PLASH, which will be published by Signet. They are also to publish VICTIM PRIME by ROBERT SHECKLEY,

a sequel to 'The Tenth Victim'. / C.J. CHERRYH has signed to write two books for Warner publishers, who have not published her writing previously.

ALAN DEAN FOSTER is serving a 6 year term as Planning and Zoning Commissioner for the city of Prescott, Arizona.

ROBERT SILVERBERG married KAREN HABER on February 14th '87. Best wishes Bob and Karen from your Australian friends.

GREG BEAR's wife ASTRID ANDERSON, gave birth to a boy in September last, making her parents Paul and Karen Anderson grandparents. / LOU ARONICA Bantam Editor, wed BARBARA COHEN, Production and Designer for Bantam Trade books, in September. BETSY WOLLHEIM, who we believe took over a lot of her father Donald Wollheim's work at DAW Books when he was ill a while back, gave birth to a baby boy last December.



PIERS ANTHONY UPDATE

Anthony has been one of the most prolific sf&f writers over the last few years. He wrote some novels such as ORN, OMNIVORE and the SOS THE ROPE series in the late 60s and early 70s, but he has had many more books published in the 80's. A reader (I think it was my reviewer, MSFC member Alan Stewart. Thanks any way) has sent me a listing of books Anthony had in progress or due for publication, towards the end of 1986, as follows:

- XANTH Series: #10 VALE OF THE VOLE
(Completed. To be published by Avon)
- #11 HEAVEN CENT
- #12 MAN FROM MUNDANIA
(Both in progress late '86)
- BIO OF A SPACE TYRANT Series
- #6 IRON MAIDEN
(In progress late '86)
- INCARNATIONS OF IMMORTALITY Series:
- #5 BEING A GREEN MOTHER
(Completed and to be published by Del Rey)
- ADEPT Series: #4 OUT OF PHAZE
- #5 ROBOT ADEPT
- #6 UNICORN POINT

(All completed and to be published by Berkley)

BIO of A Space Tyrant #5: Statesman has already been published by Avon, but no date on the British edition from Grafton yet. Other books completed include DRAGON'S GOLD with Robert E. Magaroff (TOR); BUT WHAT OF EARTH?, a corrected edition (TOR); BIO OF AN OGRE, an autobiography to age 50, possibly in hc and pb from Berkley; and finally 3.97 a small press hc under the pseudonym Anton Pierz.

PUBLISHING NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BERKLEY PUBLISHING GROUP will cease to publish any f&sf under that imprint and will pass all the f&sf over to ACE, which the Berkley/Putnam company bought about two years back. ACE will not do any non-f&sf books. A new hc f&sf series will be known as ACE/Putnam. There will be an overall cut down in the number of titles being published and not so many re-issues. It really was only a matter of time wasn't it!

ACE/PUTNAM started their new hc series in May with Clive Barker's DAMNATION GAME. It was followed in June by DAYWORLD REBEL by P.J. Farmer and OUT OF PHASE by Piers Anthony. The new Heinlein novel, TO SAIL BEYOND THE SUNSET is scheduled for July.

Some new titles acquired by AVON this year include THE LEGACY OF LEHR by Katherine Kurtz, TRILLION YEAR SPREE by Brian Aldiss, THE WATER KING'S LAUGHTER by Esther M. Friesner, FEATHERSTROKE by Sydney J. Van Scyoc, BELTANE QUEEN by Diana Paxson and Rudy Rucker's SOFTWARE and WETWARE from Bluejay. Avon have moved their office to the same address as Arbor House, being part of the William Morrow company. 105 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016, USA.

CENTURY HUTCHINSON publishers in Britain have commenced an F&SF line, which they launched with THE PROTEUS OPERATION by James P. Hogan last November. Titles to follow include BRIDGE OF BIRDS by Barry Hughart, GOD GAME by Andrew Greeley, THE WAR FOR ETERNITY by Christopher Rowley and TALES OF DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS edited by Peter Haining. Also released early in the year was Ramsey Campbell's THE HUNGRY MOON and they may do new editions of THE DOLL WHO ATE HIS MOTHER and other titles by Campbell. Century Hutchinson intend to do the occasional hc release, with a simultaneous trade pb release, followed by the mass market pb edition Arrow about six months later.

Later releases announced in the Century Hutchinson series include THE BLACK SHIP by Christopher Rowley, the 2nd in the trilogy. THE DRAGON LORD by Peter Morwood and BONES OF THE MOON by Jonathan Carroll. Other titles announced to be possibly included in this arrangement are Greg Bear's INFINITY CONCERTO, A WOLF IN THE SHADOW by David Gemmell, ISLANDS IN THE NET by Bruce Sterling, SPEAKER FOR THE DEAD by Orson Scott Card and a horror collection edited by George R.R. Martin DARK HARVEST.

Charles N. Brown



JOAN D. VINGE and JIM FRENKEL

BLUEJAY PUBLISHERS ceased operations last October. A great pity as they did a very good job in the SF field while they lasted. All their in print books are still being sold by their distributors Saint Martin's Press and many projected titles have been taken over by St Martins and other publishers. It hurts when your 'life's work' so to speak, goes down the drain, don't I know, so I sincerely hope that Jim Frenkel and his wife Joan Vinge, who personally invested in Bluejay with much of her money from film novelizations and other popular books she has done, manage to get on top of things again.

Bluejay owed money to their major backer Richard Gallen and other people for books, printing and advertising, in the six figures, but as rights were sold off and more stock was sold by St Martins, the amount in debt was expected to drop considerably.

TOR Books have made their place a little firmer in the market by selling out to their distributor St Martin's Press. Publisher Tom Dougherty still has independent control, but with St Martin's backing he is better able to compete for book rights that he would have otherwise not had the finance to purchase.

St Martin's Press commenced publishing mass market pbs early this year themselves. They started off with Fred Pohl's SPACE MERCHANTS and THE MERCHANTS WAR, which they published in hard covers. Other books they will do/ have done, include CHILDREN OF LIGHT by Susan Weston, 3 books by Ron Goulart, and DEATH HUNTER by Ian Watson. They are also starting a new horror line in pb. In most cases they will buy hc and pb rights on books they buy for these sf and horror series.

MECKLER PUBLISHING who took over publication of the review and news magazine FANTASY REVIEW, which I consider in some ways, more useful than LOCUS or SF CHRONICLE, have bought the rights to numerous bibliographies from Underwood/Miller and are publishing DUNE MASTER: A FRANK HERBERT BIBLIOGRAPHY. They are in the market for other original bibliographies and their address is Meckler Publishing Corporation, 11 Ferry Lane West, Westport, CT 06880 USA.

Publisher ARBOR HOUSE is cutting down on the overall number of books they are publishing, but not on their Science Fiction. The SF list is under the direction David Hartwell, assisted by Shelley Frier. Hartwell is still also working as a freelance acquiring editor for TOR.

A new British publisher, HEADLINE, are into horror and fantasy. They have purchased DEAN KOONTZ's new novel WATCHERS. It is scheduled for hc publication in September. Other books on their list include SONG OF KALI a contemporary horror novel by Ian Watson and THE WELLS OF YTHAN, an original fantasy quartet by Marc Alexander.

Readers may remember the fuss over US publisher POCKET BOOKS dropping sf a couple of years ago, under the direction of boss Ron Busch. A new boss, Irwyn Applebaum, has shown some indications that sf may be revived at Pocket. A new horror line has already been started, with books by Clive Barker and Robert McCammon bought. A door closes a door opens!

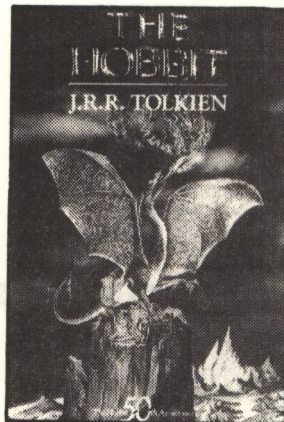
Major changes in publishing that will influence the F&SF field include the purchase of New American Library by Penguin Books. This will mean a better market for NAL books throughout the world, but we are uncertain how this will effect DAW. Methuen Australia were offering some DAW titles, but they ceased handling them early this year.

The new name for New American Library is NAL-Penguin, Inc. We have not been able to get a line from Penguin Australia yet as to the situation in respect to distribution of NAL and DAW books in Australia.

RUPERT MURDOCH, who all Australians know already owns various newspapers here and overseas, and last year bought 20th Century Fox film studios, recently outbid other buyers including other US publishing houses, to buy the US publisher Harper and Row. Murdoch already owns Angus and Robertson the Australian publisher and has a 41.7 % interest in William Collins & Sons, the major British publisher. Harper does not publish much if any sf now, but they did in the past. One of their last big titles being Silverberg's LORD VALENTINE'S CASTLE. SF is published regularly by Harper's Junior Books Group.

Another move in US publishing that may influence the SF field and publishing in general, in the US UK and here, is the amalgamation of Doubleday, Dell, Bantam and other subsidiaries. Doubleday Australia, who did handle TSR and Del Rey/Ballantine in Australia are closing their office and merging with Transworld or Corgi & Bantam, July 1st.

PENGUIN BOOKS launched their Classic SF series in January. Olaf Stapledon's LAST AND FIRST MEN is a July Australian release, while LAND UNDER ENGLAND by Joseph O'Neil, THE FIRST MEN IN THE MOON by H.G.Wells and FLATLAND by Edwin A.Abbott have already been released in the series. Also a local release for July is Isaac Asimov's NEW GUIDE TO SCIENCE in its 4th edition. The third in the Dragonlance Legends fantasy trilogy, TEST OF THE TWINS is a July release here.



J. R. R. Tolkien

It is 50 years since the first publication of J.R.R. Tolkien's THE HOBBIT and Allen and Unwin or Unwin Hyman as they are now known, are releasing new editions of THE HOBBIT to mark the occasion. The illustrated HOBBIT will be published in pb for the first time and the 1988 Calendar will feature illustrations from the Hobbit.

UNWIN HYMAN have announced that they are dropping their Unicorn and Orion Imprints. It is too restrictive they say and all future f&sf will be published in Unwin pbs. They have "become constrictive", says editor Jane Johnson. "The scope will be much broader which will be great," she added. HC titles announced by Unwin include THE HOUR OF THE THIN OX by Colin Greenland, DREAM WALL by Graham Dunstan Martin, and SWORDPOINT by Ellen Kushner. Paperbacks out in UK or due soon include THE SILENT TOWER by Barbara Hambly, THE MASTER by Susan Cooper, THE WANDERING FIRE by Guy Gavriel Kay, THE RED MAGICIAN by Lisa Goldstein. THE DEEP by John Crowley, SABELLA by Tanith Lee, THE HIGH KINGS by Joy Chant, DRAGON by Nigel Frith, and DREAM WALL by Graham Dunstan Martin.

I gave a full list of the new GOLLANCZ paperback series in BOOKS #2. A mm pb series with new first British release titles and some classic reprints by Andre Norton, C.J.Cherryh, Greg Bear, Robert Silverberg, Arthur Clarke, Bob Shaw and others. In the slightly larger pb series, Gollancz SF Classics, new releases include ROGUE MOON by Algis Budrys, MAN PLUS by Fred Pohl, INVERTED WORLD by Christopher Priest and FLOWERS FOR ALGERNON by Daniel F.Keyes. New Gollancz hard covers include EVIL WATER by Ian Watson, FALL OF THE FAMILIES by Philip Mann, ROBOT DREAMS by Isaac Asimov, THE LEGACY OF HEOROT by Larry Niven, Jerry Pournelle and Steve Barnes, STAR GYPSIES by Robert Silverberg, ANCIENT LIGHT by Mary Gentle and MONA LISA OVERDRIVE by William Gibson. THE SECOND GREAT DUNE TRILOGY contains Frank Herbert's GOD EMPEROR OF DUNE, HERETICS OF DUNE and CHAPTERHOUSE DUNE in one volume.

METHUEN paperbacks have among others, C.J.Cherryh's FADED SUN TRILOGY in one volume and John Brunner's THE COMPLEAT TRAVELER IN BLACK.

British publisher FIRECREST are publishing bound editions of Star Trek titles. Titles announced include ISHMAEL by Barbara Hambly, SHADOW LORD by Laurence Yep, KILLING TIME by Della Van Hise, PAWNS AND SYMBOLS by Majliss Larson, DWELLERS IN THE CRUCIBLE by Margaret Wander Bananno and MINDSHADOW by J.M.Dillard. All hard covers at P7.95 each, about \$24.00 in Australia.

GRAFTON hard covers in the field include Isaac Asimov's THE BEST SCIENCE FICTION OF ISAAC ASIMOV, and SPIDER WORLD: THE TOWER by Colin Wilson, which is the first in a series. Paperbacks from Grafton include CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS by Michael Moorcock, ISLANDS OUT OF TIME by William Irwin Thompson, DR ADDER by K.W.Jedder, DEMOGORGON by Brian Lumley, THE ALTERNATE ASIMOV by Isaac Asimov, and GREEN EYES by Lucius Shepard to name a few.

Recent releases by PAPER TIGER Publishers in their fantasy art books include Hugo Nominee Jim Burn's LIGHT SHIP. He has done some great work and this book proves it. PATRICK WOODRUFFE has A CLOSER LOOK, which gives an insight into his techniques with lots of examples in full colour. Rodney Mathews IN SEARCH OF FOREVER was published in '86. A worthy addition to "Views". Chris Achilleos is represented with SIRENS, which gives a complete coverage of his styles of work from "Star Trek" and "Dr Who" to sexy ladies.

SPHERE Paperback highlights are THE AMTRAK WAR 3: THE IRON MASTER by Patrick Tilley, MAGICIAN'S LAW: TALES OF THE BARD by Michael Scott and LIFEBURST by Jack Williamson. Sphere seem to be going a bit cold on SF.

THE WOMENS PRESS continue their sf series with THE INCOMER by Margaret Elphinstone, A DOOR INTO OCEAN by Joan Slonczewski, STAR RIDER by Doris Piserchia, WOMAN ON THE EDGE OF TIME by Marge Piercy.

Further announcements from British publishers include BANTAM PRESS's hard cover GUARDIANS OF THE WEST by David Eddings, the first in The Mallorean series. A follow up to The Belgariad. This is accompanied by Judith Tarr's THE HOUNDS OF GOD. In paperback from BANTAM & CORGI in the UK we have HEART OF THE COMET by Gregory Benford and David Brin, THE ISLE OF GLASS by Judith Tarr and SONG OF SORCERY by Elizabeth Scarborough.

Some highlights from the US publishing scene, recently and forthcoming titles, include:

David Brin's UPLIFT WAR, a new novel in the universe of "Startide Rising", has been published by Bantam in pb and Phantasia Press in hc. GREY HORSE by R.A. Macavoy, is said to be her best yet, also from Bantam. Another important Bantam hc is EGYPT by John Crowley, author of "Little Big".

FRANKLIN WATTS publishers have entered the sf field impressively with a new edition of Alfred Bester's THE STARS MY DESTINATION, a new Brian Aldiss novel THE YEAR BEFORE YESTERDAY, THE JEHOVAH CONTRACT by Victor Koman and BLOWOUT! by Tom Scortia and Frank Robinson. All in hard cover.

ACE Hardcover has THE WAY OF THE PILGRIM by Gordon R.Dickson. It is good to see him back on track after getting the "Dorsai" books out of the way. Also in ACE/Putnam hc is Philip Jose Farmer's new "Dayworld" novel DAYWORLD REBEL.

The sequel to "The Integral Trees" by Larry Niven, THE SMOKE RING, was published in hc by Del Rey in May.

A complete listing of all US books over the last six months, British titles not already covered and where possible local release dates, will be given in the next issue of BOOKS, which I hope to have out late July or early August.

M.B.

F&SF FILM NEWS & REVIEWS



GEORGE R.R.MARTIN took on the job of Staff Writer for the TV series TWILIGHT ZONE last year. This series is not currently being screened here and it seems unlikely we will see the TV series AMAZING STORIES either. / DAVID SKAL's novel SCAVENGERS has been optioned for filming.

Discovery Films in the US have optioned three books for possible films, emphasise possible, production. ODD JOHN by Olaf Stapledon, KING OF PARIS by Guy Endore (Vampire story) and one which we believe that has been crying out for filming for many years, Philip Wylie's THE DISAPPEARANCE.

The new 'Superman' film will again star Christopher Reeve as Superman, and Margor Kidder is back as Lois Lane, while Gene Hackman does Lex Luthor and introduces his "totally awesome" nephew Lenny.

Frederic Brown's hilarious sf novel MARTIANS GO HOME is due to be filmed this year. Directed by David Odell from a script by Charlie Haas. / The son of well known actor Walter Matthau, Charlie, will direct an sf film titled DOING TIME ON PLANET EARTH. / The \$40 million turkey HOWARD THE DUCK has caused heads to roll at Universal Studios and scheduled projects that may interest us have been shelved. THE SHADOW and a Dan Aykroyd spoof on TVs DRAGNET to mention a couple.

Harold Pinter will write the screenplay and Karel Reisz("French Lieutenant's Woman") will direct, a film of Margaret Atwood's acclaimed novel, THE HANDMAID'S TALE. This story figured well in the early Nebula Award voting. It is set in a near future USA, when religious fanatics have taken over and women are subservient and intelligent women considered a real threat in a male-dominated society.

Some films in production or announced include: A live action version of THE FLINTSTONES; RUNNING MAN from the book by Stephen (Bachman) King, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger; a HORROR COMEDY called MONSTER SQUAD; ROBO COP about a cyborg policeman of the future; THE VAMPIRE LESTAT starring Richard Gere, from the book by Ann Rice; RETURN TO SALEMS LOT with veteran actress Evelyn Keyes as a 300 year old rich vampire; a possible remake of WAR OF THE WORLDS by George Romero; a new Steven Spielberg film BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED; Nicholas Guest and Barry Morse will star in THE RETURN OF SHERLOCK HOLMES. (I do not think I could watch any Sherlock Holmes movie and enjoy it now, after watching the current TV series with Jeremy Brett as Holmes. He is and will always be the epitome of Holmes, even better than Basil Rathbone. To me at any rate! M.B.)

A great stream of "little" fantasy and sf films are in production or completed, for release over the next year or so. Stories of spacemen, monsters, kids with super powers, animals running amok, you name it and most medium to low budget films. I will mention most of them as released, but two that sound interesting are TIME GUARDIANS with Carrie Fisher and Dean Stockwell, featuring a domed city that takes off on a trek through time and PHANTOM EMPIRE with Sybil Danning against prehistoric meanies. (Remember the old Gene Autrey serial of the same name. It was beautiful when I was about ten years old.)

Klaus Kinski and Paul Smith (who played Bluto in POPEYE) will co star in a film based on John Norman's "Tarnsman of Gor". The plot deals with a college professor being transported to a primitive world, and the only way he can get home is to overthrow the despotic ruler, played by Kinski. In a shocking accident two men were burnt to death on the set of the "Gor" film being shot in Johannesburg, South Africa. Martin Wenzel 50 and his son Conrad, 19, were standing on a castle set during a battle scene and it caught fire. Wenzel was the company's transport manager.

Klaus Kinski will again appear as Nosferatu in the film NOSFERATU IN VENICE. Christopher Plummer will co-star. Steven Spielberg will team with Disney on WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT? based on the novel 'Who Censored Roger Rabbit?' by Gary Wolf, published in 1982. British actor Bob Hoskins stars with Christopher Lloyd, Joanna Cassidy and Stubby Kaye.

The fantasy title by Mark Halprin, A WINTER'S TALE is to be filmed, produced by Gene Kirkwood. The story is set in a fantasy version of New York. Joe Dante has given up on GREMLINS II and will not direct it seems, even when they do find a suitable script. The Spielberg people were keen to get the production off the ground however, while the boss was off filming J.G. Ballard's novel EMPIRE OF THE SUN, the mythical version of war in China during World War II.

Rumour have been flying around fan circles of a new "Star Wars" film in view and even well on the

way according to Cinefantastique, but Lucasfilms official word is NO! There is nothing more being done on new films yet, nor for quite a while they say. Lucas has admitted however that he is eager to do the earlier part of the story, with the young Obi-Wan and Vader, but he will not be tied down. He seems to be waiting to see if the "Star Trek" film phenomenon keeps up. The new "Star Trek" TV series was reported to be well under way with preproduction at Paramount in March.

KEN RUSSELL is once again the centre of controversy over his latest film GOTHIC. The US distributor had refused to handle it after viewing a rough cut print. Legal suits were flying early in the year and it will be interesting to see what happens. The story deals with a gathering of Mary Shelley, Byron, Shelley and others, where they get stuck into the opium and come up with the idea of writing books such as FRANKENSTEIN. You would wonder how that would run to a whole film. Only took a few minutes at the beginning of BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN, when Elsa Lanchester played Mary and later on The Bride. Rod Steiger and Yvonne De Carlo are in AMERICAN GOTHIC.

The major films studios seem to be backing off from big budget sf films at the moment, possibly because of the bombing of HOWARD THE DUCK and INVADERS FROM MARS. The small and independent companies are turning sf and horror films right left and centre, but the majority are likely to be of 'B' standard at best. SUPERMAN IV will be one of the better ones along with MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE with Dolph Lundgren, Frank Langella, and Meg Foster, ROBO COP, THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK, THE TIME GUARDIANS with Dean Stockwell, Belinda Bauer and Australian actor Tom ("Man from Snowy River") Burlinson and planned for the future is another 'Indiana Jones' film, POLTERGEIST III and STAR TREK V, which will be directed by William Shatner. Louise Fletcher ('Brainstorm') and Victoria Tennant star in FLOWERS IN THE ATTIC.

A pilot was planned early in the year for a new TV SF series, INFILTRATOR. A young scientist is transformed into a cyborg, with a vast array of weapons at his call. A made-for-TV film may be made revamping "The Six Million Dollar Man" and the "Bionic Woman". Big deal!

RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD - Part II began shooting in March. Not a sequel but another, more humorous version. Who really cares!

A full restored version of Frank Capra's film LOST HORIZON, starring Ronald Coleman and Jane Wyatt (Spock's mother, Amanda), was screened in 1986. It had 11 minutes cut on release and was further cut over the years, finishing up at 110 only out of its original 132, on TV. Some scenes are still missing, but a complete as possible version has been put together from bits found in England and in Canada.

Cinema quote of the year in Ed Naha's column in Science Fiction Chronicle: "Finally coming from

Australia is BURKE AND WILLS, the story of two notorious grave robbers. Jack Thompson and Nigel Havers star in this 1986, flick...." For the benefit of my overseas readers, Burke and Wills were two highly regarded explorers of our continent in the last century, who perished on their journey traversing the land from South to North and back. Mr Naha was obviously confusing them with the infamous Burke and Wills, Victorian era grave robbers.

I always seem to be way behind with what is going on behind the scenes at the BBC's DR WHO. Colin Baker has gone and what little I saw of him I say good riddens, but certain womens organisations have been calling for a female Doctor. I'm no chauvanist. Why Not! However, the producer John Nathan-Turner has said flatly that there will not be a female Dr Who. And Colin Baker flatly refused to come back, after being sacked, for one episode, in which he said that they would only be killing him off at any rate.



The new TV series titled STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION, will have Gene Roddenberry as the executive producer and will start production at Paramount in 1987. It will debut with a two hour episode followed by 24 hour-long episodes to be aired in 1987-88 in the US. It will take place 100 years after the old series and none of the old chacters will appear. This has come about largely because Paramount was afraid that a new TV series would have a detrimental effect of the ST movies they are making. So Roddenberry came up with this idea, and he is just as happy, because it gives him the opportunity to create a whole new set of characters, new space vehicles and all, with out having to refer to the old series. He has been guaranteed complete creative freedom on the new series. If a plot wrinkle allows it, he is not ruling out some of the old cast making guest appearances on the new series. Stories will deal largely with timely subjects, but transposed into future situations. More details as they become available.

When his contract ran out, DAVID GERROLD did not ask for a renewal with the producers of the new "Star Trek" TV series. He has been negotiating to write and produce an sf TV series himself, but he may return to ST at a later date. The new "Enterprise" by the way

is twice the size of the old one and has room for officer's families and more amenities etc.

A phone promotion for STAR TREK IV was held in the US early this year. Callers ringing (900) 720-TREK heard one of 28 scripts by Walter Koenig, with the voices of the film's actors. Revenue from the calls was expected to be quite high.

The latest Star Trek title from POCKET is THE DREAMS OF THE RAVEN by Carmen Carter. #34 in the series.

F&SF FILMS SEEN

My movie going has been very curtailed this last year or more. I did get to see STAR TREK 4 and loved it. It was the closest in atmosphere to the old TV series yet and the actors seemed more relaxed and able to be their old characters more convincingly. I hope we do see at least a few more films with them all in. The new TV series being talked about, with an all new cast, will be struggling without some participation of the old crew, in my opinion.

ALIENS was the only other theatre show I have got to. More spectacular than the first movie it was, but offered little new in ideas. If I had never seen the first movie I think I would have been more impressed, but as sequels go I guess it was OK. Sigourney Weaver again did an excellent and very convincing job in the lead role.

Every Wednesday night I have a friend over for dinner and he brings along a video. And that is where I have been catching up on a few things. Last night I watched a film, not f&sf, but I can highly recommend THE GODS MUST BE CRAZY. It deals with a Kalahar bushman's first encounter with civilization and his efforts to get rid of a coke bottle dropped from a plane, which he believed was dropped on his village by the gods. He equates all white men as "the gods" and the things they do as completely unintelligible.

ENEMY MINE from the book by Barry Longyear was quite interesting and not having read the book, I was not put off by the changes and omissions that other people have pointed out. The ending however was quite obviously a little trite. THE BOY WHO COULD FLY was typical American homespun fantasy ala Disney, but like a few other films starring young people against the world, quite enjoyable. MY SCIENCE PROJECT and BACK TO THE FUTURE were great fun and the effects good. There is a strong possibility of a sequel to RETURN TO THE FUTURE, with Michael J. Fox again.

My latest video encounter was John Carpenter's BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE CHINA, starring Kurt Russell. I have not liked Carpenters films before. I absolutely hated THE THING although I did like ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK. "Big Trouble" did little to improve my opinion of Carpenter's work. As an attempt to cash in on the "Indiana Jones" sub genre, it almost works. The sfx and sets are great, but the story is weak, the relationships of the characters is pathetic and the ending flat. It cannot fail to

entertain however and is worth having a look at, but oh so disappointing when you realise what could have been done with it.

I have not seen them yet, but two of the worst films of the year, going by reviews, are INVADERS FROM MARS and THE FLY. They must be sticklers. I usually do avoid remakes and it seems I am on the right track with these. I saw LEGEND on video and it was visually great, if a bit short on story line. LABRYNTH I have not seen yet and I know that it is a bit short on plot line also, but after seeing the short on the making-of it, that is high on my list. It must be worth watching just for the Goblins. Two films worth seeing I hear, but I have no details on yet, are BLUE VELVET and FLIGHT OF THE NAVIGATOR. And we are apparently not missing much with TV's 'Amazing Stories'.

SHOW BIZ

Andrew Lloyd Webber's new musical, THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, has been going strong in London since its opening last October. It is due to open soon in New York. Webber's earlier highly successful, but expensive-to-stage show CATS is opening in Melbourne in August. Wouldn't Melbourne's Princess Theatre be a great venue for 'Phantom'? However a more recent report says that the New York production necessitated an almost million dollar structural change on the Majestic Theatre. So much for that idea! Then again they said CATS would never get to Melbourne when it was in Sydney, but its coming.

BITS & PIECES

Seen in a weekly British book trade journal: "The Rituals of Infidelity" by Michael Moorcock from Grafton, in large format pb." This listing quite often makes some really glaring errors, particularly on the f&sf ones, so if you already have "The Rituals of Infinity" I would say your collection is complete.

My corresponding over the last year is to hell and gone. There are many people I should have written to, replied to letters, but because of the time it is taking me to make a few dollars, I just have not had the time. My apologies to Jan Finder and Bob Bloch, overseas and many local people. And I never respond to all the fanzines people send me. My apologies to you all.

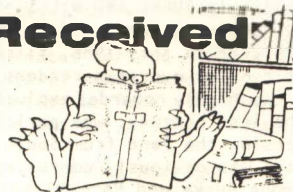
Bestselling f&sf book published in Britain last year according to one of the leading specialist booksellers, was Robert Holdstock's MYTHAGO WOOD. Terry Pratchett's LIGHT FANTASTIC and THE COLOUR OF MAGIC were high on the list, with Katherine Kurtz's KING'S JUSTICE in the Deryni series and Roger Zelazny's TRUMPS OF DOOM.

My thanks to all the people who do send me information and in particular LOCUS, SF CHRONICLE and ANSIBLE for allowing me to reprint information from their pages.

MERV BINNS

Books Received

November '86
to
June '87



A complete listing of all books in the f&sf field recently has been done in ASFN's companion publication BOOKS. In this section I just wish to acknowledge those books sent to me by various publishers. Some will be reviewed in this issue and more in the next issue. Titles not already covered in BOOKS will appear in the next issue.

ALLEN & UNWIN Australia sent me THE SUMMER'S KING by Cherry Wilder, book 3 in her "The Rulers of Hylor Trilogy". A Unicorn paperback, romantic fantasy, which follows "A Princess of Chamelin" and "Yorath the Wolf". Also in Unicorn came THE OUTCAST by Louise Cooper, which is the second of the "Time Master Trilogy", and THE PRINCESS OF THE FLAME by Ru Emerson, in which a high born woman, handy with a sword, is out for revenge. Also about some women bent on revenge is THE LADIES OF MANDRIGYN by Barbara Hamly, whose "Darwaith Trilogy" was extremely popular. In the ORION sf series came M. John Harrison's THE CENTAURI DEVICE, about a spaceship loser who finds he has the fate of the galaxy in his hands. Allen & Unwin also sent me FORTRESS OF THE FIRELORD by Paul Yeoman, in the "Fatemaster" fantasy role playing game book series. Also received and reviewed in this issue was UNCONQUERED COUNTRY by Geoff Ryman.

ARBOR HOUSE the USA publisher, sent me some books for the first time. MONSTERS INC. by Laurence Yep is a early Heinlein type adventure about genetically altered animals on a far distant world, and alien invasion. DEVINE WAR by Dennis R. Caro is a humorous novel featuring a supposedly retired secret operative out for revenge. CHAINS OF GOLD by Nancy Springer is a fantasy novel, reviewed in this issue.

BERKLEY Books are another US publisher who I thank for sending me some books for review for the first time. In the ACE imprint, first up is COUNT ZERO by the Hugo Winning author William Gibson, which is again set in his unique "techno-punk" universe. SUPERTANKS is a collection of future war, tank stories by various authors edited by Joe Haldeman, with C.G. Waugh and Martin Greenberg helping. IN THE BONE is a collection of some of Gordon R. Dickson's best short sf, which I do not believe has been reprinted so many times before. ANGEL AT APOGEE by S.N. Lewitt, is a story featuring a woman space fighter pilot, who overcomes various obstacles to reach her goals. (She is lucky she is not in the Australian Air Force.) A Berkley imprint and also in Berkley is WILD CARD RUN by Sara Stamey, featuring a woman in rebellion against Cyber computer rule of her world. Good old "Battlestar Galactica" battles on and #13 in the series is APOLLO'S WAR

by Glen Larson and Robert Thurston, which is an original story based on the TV series. **HELLICONIA WINTER** by Brian Aldiss is published by Berkley, but obtainable only in the US. (The British edition is published by Grafton and on sale now.) The climax of a great trilogy by the British sf Master. **THE GREAT WHEEL** by Joyce Ballou Gregorian, is a fantasy in ACE Imprint. The third in the alternate world fantasy series "The Tredana Trilogy". **KNIGHT LIFE** by Peter David, is a crazy-fun-fantasy novel in which King Arthur adventures in modern New York and New Jersey. **THE PHOENIX BELLS** by Kathryn Grant, is a romantic fantasy set in a time and place where all the dragons live in peace. **CAUGHT IN CRYSTAL** is another story by Patricia Wrede set in her world of Lyra. Published by ACE. **DOROTHEA DREAMS** is by Suzy McKee Charnas. A Berkley title and a very unusual ghost story. Finally in this bundle there is **THE GREEN PEARL** by Jack Vance, which is the second in the Lyonesse series and available here in Grafton. (Some of these titles will be reviewed in my next issue.)

The US publisher **DAW** sent along one of their new hard covers, **ANGEL WITH THE SWORD** by C.J. Cherryh, which is the first in a new series and reviewed in this issue, and her sf novel **CUCKOO'S EGG** in pb, reviewed in this issue and due to be published and distributed here in Methuen paperback. Also from DAW I received **LYTHANDE**, the adventures of the Adept, The Blue Star, with five stories by Marlon Zimmer Bradley and one by Vonda McIntyre. **ZELEROD'S DOOM** by Jacqueline Lichtenberg and Jean Lorrain, is a new story in the Sime/Gen cycle. A series which readers either love or passionately hate. Another series which has its devotees and critics is Sharon Green's "Terrillian". The 4th in the series from DAW is **THE WARRIOR CHALLENGED**.

Bantam have let me down, not that I can blame them since they have not seen a **NEWS** for such a long time, but their Australian counterpart **CORG** sent me **EXILES OF RYNTH** by Carole Nelson Douglas, who is one of the outstanding female fantasy exponents. The cover illustration alone would hook any fantasy fans.

GRAFTON, the British publisher represented and distributed by William Collins in Australia, have sent me a great pile of books, some of which I have read and will review. First up is Isaac Asimov's **FOUNDATION AND EARTH**, which almost completes the epic "Robots" and "Foundation" series. A hard cover. Also in HC is Harry Harrison's second book in the trilogy begun with "West of Eden", **WINTER IN EDEN**, which will be discussed in detail when the third book is published probably next year. Grafton have been re-publishing the popular work of Michael Moorcock in hard cover omnibus editions. **THE CHRONICLES OF CORUM** is the one they have sent me, but they have also done **SWORDS OF CORUM** recently. Maybe I can talk some M.M. fan into doing a critique on his fantasy in particular. Richard Ford's fantasy novel **QUEST FOR FARADAWN** was published first in the U.K. by Methuen, but Granada (Grafton) picked up the pb

and the following novel **MELVAIG'S VISION** in hc and just recently in pb. Now they have published the 444 page completion of the trilogy, **THE CHILDREN OF ASHGAROTH**, in hard cover. The last hard cover received is a new science fantasy, **SPIDERWORLD - THE TOWER**, by the writer of many talents, Colin Wilson.

In **PALADIN** Books, the slightly larger paperback imprint from Grafton, we have another non-sf novel by Philip K. Dick, **IN MILTON LUMKY TERRITORY**, and in **GRAFTON mass market** pb edition **GALACTIC POT HEALER** in a new edition. An sf novel first published in 1969. Another author with a somewhat cult following is Samuel R. Delany, whose novel **STARS IN MY POCKET LIKE GRAINS OF SAND**, was released by William Collins last November, which rapidly disappeared from bookshop shelves. This was its first British publication. Incidentally there is no sign yet of the sequel mentioned a long time back, **THE SPLENDOR AND MISERY OF BODIES OF CITIES**.

Kurt Vonnegut, whose many novels include those of a science fantasy nature, has **GALAPAGOS**, set in a far distant future. New in Grafton pb. One of the most innovative writers in the field is Philip Jose Farmer and **DAYWORLD** is typical of his writing. Isaac Asimov's contribution to this list is a non-fiction collection of science articles originally published in "The Magazine of Fantasy & SF", **THE SUBATOMIC MONSTER**. One of the most popular sword and sorcery series over the years has been Fritz Leiber's "Lankmar" series. Grafton are reprinting them again and we have **SWORDS AND DEVILTRY** and **SWORDS AGAINST WIZARDRY** to hand. Bob Shaw is one of Britain's most popular SF writers and sf fandom's in general, speakers. We have two books from Grafton by Shaw; **ONE MILLION TOMORROWS**, a new edition of a novel about a society where immortality is available and **THE PEACE MACHINE**, a revised edition of "Ground Zero Man" new in pb. **THE LIVES AND TIMES OF JERRY CORNELIUS** by Michael Moorcock is a collection of stories, new in pb, and a new edition of an old one by M.M. **BEHOLD THE MAN** accompanies it. One of the best exponents of SF humour is without a doubt Robert Sheckley and we have two new editions from Grafton of **DIMENSION OF MIRACLES** and **OPTIONS**. **THE COPPER CROWN** by Patricia Kennealy is the first in a series which combines outer space war and Celtic legend. **THE LURE OF THE BASILISK** by Lawrence Watt-Evans is the first in a fantasy series, with this one due for local release in June and the rest of the series to follow. **THE BLUE WORLD** by Jack Vance is another reprint of Vance's which joins some top sf writing by him now available from Grafton. Richard Lupoff is a great sf yarn-spinner and **SUN'S END** is a typical high-SF adventure. Another great sf yarn-spinner is Robert Heinlein and **ORPHANS OF THE SKY** was written when he was at his top. And finally from Grafton the previously mentioned pb by Richard Ford in the "Faradawn" series, **MELVAIG'S VISION**.

Another two Grafton titles, reviewed in this issue, are **ORACLE** by Kevin O'Donnell Jr and **WITH A TANGLED SKEIN** by Piers Anthony, the third in the "Incarnations of Immortality" series. Also to hand by Anthony is **ANTHONOLOGY**, a collection **13**

of stories chosen and introduced by the author. And HELLICONIA WINTER by Brian Aldiss, the final book in his three part novel.

The Grafton Children's Imprint, DRAGON, includes four collections edited by Isaac Asimov and associates: MONSTERS, GHOSTS, MUTANTS and EXTRATERRESTRIALS, which include stories by many well known authors in the field of sf. In Fontana/Armada, also from William Collins, I have two boxed sets of game books, "Duel Master" 1, CHALLENGE OF THE MAGI and 2, BLOOD VALLEY, designed for two players.

Fontana, who have given us the Stephen Donaldson books, have commenced a fantasy adventure series by Mike Jeffries. THE ROAD TO UNDERFALL is the first in the "Loremasters of Elundum" series. HOWARD THE DUCK by Ellis Weiner, based on the screenplay by Willard Huyck and Gloria Katz, is also a Fontana release.

Also from W. Collins we have three SPHERE titles. Sphere seem to have slowed down considerably in their sf output, but the high rank titles in hand are PAST TIMES by Poul Anderson, an sf collection, THE STARS IN SHROUD by Gregory Benford, an intriguing far world adventure and Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle's FOOTFALL, the alien invasion of Earth as a disaster novel. BRIGHTNESS FALLS FROM THE AIR by James Tiptree Jr is another new Sphere title and ANCIENT MY ENEMY by Gordon R. Dickson is a new reprint.

HODDER & STOUGHTON distribute FUTURA/ORBIT titles and they have sent me THE CELESTIAL STEAM LOCOMOTIVE by Michael Coney, the first in a science-fantasy series on the grand scale, "The Song of Earth". A series that has stood the test of time is James White's "Sector General". The hospital novel set in outer space, with some very strange patients and situations. I have AMBULANCE SHIP, but HOSPITAL STATION has been published in Orbit, as well as MAJOR OPERATION and STAR SURGEON, with more to come. Another series Orbit have picked up is "Far Stars and Future Times" and we have the second in the series, FLIGHT OF HONOUR, by Richard S. McEnroe. Space opera at its best. THE SEED BEARERS by Peter Valentine Timlett is the first in a series based on Atlantean mythology, in a new edition. If you are a cat lover and like animal fantasies, you will love Tad Williams's TAILCHASER'S SONG, the story of a ginger cat and his friends. GOLEM IN THE GEARS by Piers Anthony is the 9th in the "Xanth" series. LIMITS by Larry Niven, is the latest collection of tales by Niven and friends.

Also from Hodder I have some NEW ENGLISH LIBRARY titles starting with the "Phoenix Legacy" series, a family saga set in a far future outer space. SWORD OF THE LAMB is the first in the series, followed by SHADOW OF THE SWAN and HOUSE OF THE WOLF, all of which are now on local booksellers shelves. THE KEYS TO PARADISE by Robert E. Vardeman is a large format pb. An original publication, fantasy, and not reprinted from any US edition. VOYAGE TO THE CITY OF THE DEAD by Alan Dean Foster

is set in the same universe as the "Flinx" novels, the world of Thrax and Humanx. A typical Alan Dean Foster other world adventure story. Vonda N. McIntyre's SUPERLUMINAL, is a story of surgically altered people who control space ships, or live in conditions that normal humans cannot. CORPSE by Mick Farren, is the story of a hit man in a tough, near future world.

NEW ERA Publishers are the British and Australian publishers of L. Ron Hubbard's books. They have sent me the first three novels in the "Mission Earth" series: THE INVADERS PLAN, BLACK GENESIS and THE ENEMY WITHIN. Hard covers at \$24.95, which I believe are distributed by Gordon & Gotch. The series has been on local bestseller lists quite consistently since the first title was released here last year. Volume 4 is a June release. The 6th of the ten volume set is out in the USA and we will see the whole series all available during 1988. The theme of the books is a satirical look at our society through the eyes of an alien race who regard Earth as their property. A property that they would rather did not exist. I am looking for someone to review these for me. Any takers?

BAEN Publishers in the USA have kindly sent me a copy of THE RAGGED ASTRONAUTS by Bob Shaw. Gollancz published this in 1986, but as I have not received any Gollancz books for review in a long time, this Hugo nominated novel will be reviewed next issue.

STARBLAZE/Donning Publishers in the US, used to publish a series of large format sf paperbacks. They have of late switched their efforts more to graphics, publishing fully illustrated versions of Robert Asprin books, Elquest etcetera. But they are still publishing fantasy novels, namely the "Myth" series by Robert Asprin, in large format pb form. Last year they sent me a copy of ROBOTECH ART 1, The Official Guide to The Robotech Universe, by Kay Reynolds and Ardith Carlton. ROBOTECH is an animated TV series that I understand originated in Japan, but has been a sensation in its co-U.S.A and Japan version. Since receiving this volume I notice that a volume two is out, along with graphic novels as well. This large format pb, ROBOTECH ART, is profusely illustrated in full colour with scenes and characters from the series, along with its origins, episode guide, details on creatures, machines and the technology in the series. If this series is not screened here and I am not sure if it is or isn't, it is a pity, because it seems to be a far superior animated sf TV series than any I have seen, and quickly turned off. Whatever, fans of sf films and sf art in general will be wrapped in this book. Large format pb. 254 pages \$15.95 US. (MBBs price \$31.95)

Finally I received from VANTAGE PRESS Inc in the USA, THE STORM BRINGS TERROR, a horror novel by Robert Eatt. I will continue to list horror books, but I must admit that only a very small percentage of my readers are interested in the horror genre.

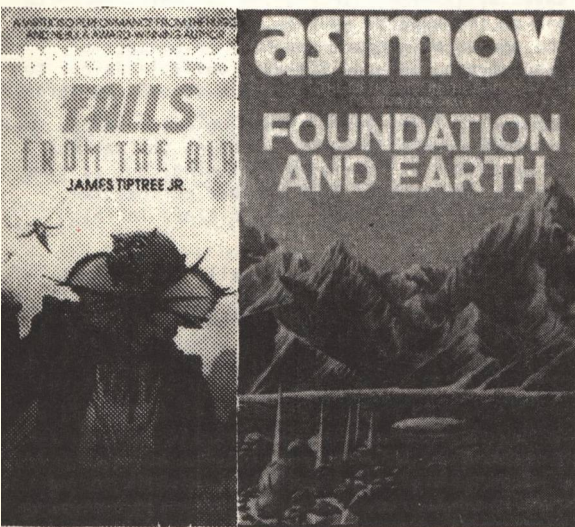
Thank you all the publishers who have sent books to me and I remind you that even if the books do not receive a full review, it does help me to give correct details in my listings on all books.

Australian writer JOHN IGGULDEN, whose sf novel BREAKTHROUGH was published in 1960, has been a little quiet in the sf field recently, but he has sent me a signed copy of the book to remind me that he is still around and a copy of a new book, THE PROMISED LAND PAPERS, Volume One of The Revolution of the Good. John Iggulden is a successful businessman and environmentalist. This book is his view of our country as he has seen it and how he would like it to be, with possible answers to many of the world's and our country's problems. I will give more details next issue, but meanwhile you can obtain copies from Cobham Publishers, 137 Pyrmont Road, Pyrmont 2009, NSW

MB

BOOKS I HAVE READ

By MERVYN R. BINNS



I wonder if I started reading the original "Foundation" series by Isaac Asimov today, whether I would find it as exciting as I did when I read it many years ago. After reading FOUNDATION AND EARTH I can only say I found it interesting, but hardly exciting. The same goes for other recent "Robot" novels ROBOTS OF DAWN and ROBOTS AND EMPIRE by Asimov, which have tied the two separate series together. One more "Robot" novel is yet to be published to complete the combined series. There are glimpses of grandeur in the stories, FOUNDATION AND EARTH in particular, but it takes a long time to get to the ultimate meeting of the representatives from the "Foundation" and a rather patient entity who we have all known for years

I found the book as I have most of this new series, rather slow, but that will not stop every sf fan who is worth his salt reading them. The books are published by Grafton, with the title in question now available from William Collins Australia at \$24.95.

Also from Collins in Grafton hard cover, I read Arthur Clarke's SONGS OF DISTANT EARTH. This is a typical Clarke story, in low key and with a feeling of reality about it, but with a profound sense of wonder that he is a master at producing. So many writers paint a pretty comic strip picture in their sf writing, but Clarke seems to have the knack of adding authenticity to his stories, and painting a picture of a future that makes me think "this really could happen". I hope he is not too close to the mark in SONGS OF DISTANT EARTH, as this story of interstellar travel has as its central premise, the destruction of our planet in the not too distant future. I think this is one of Clarke's best and I hope you enjoy it as much as I did. Grafton, hard cover, \$24.95 ARP from William Collins.

It saddens me that I only have a couple of novels and short story collections by James Tiptree Jr to read. For some reason or other I had not read anything by Tiptree or Alice Sheldon, which is her real name, until I received BRIGHTNESS FALLS FROM THE AIR in Sphere pb. The highest compliment I can pay this novel is that the writing reminds me very much of Jack Vance and as he has been one of my favourite authors for years, that means a lot. The colourful characters the author has created are complimented by the highly imaginative scene on a world with a view of an exploded sun, with its last death throws creating spectacular astronomical displays. Also the situation involving the native inhabitants of the world, who are horribly exploited by the humans, is quite unusual. For all that, it is a small story set on a large stage and it makes me wonder what great sf epic we might have seen from this author had she not decided to leave us. Sphere paperback, 327pp, \$9.95 arp.

I have read all of Larry Niven's novels except a couple written in collaboration with Jerry Pournelle, including "Lucifer's Hammer". When I came to their latest effort, FOOTFALL, I decided to read it with some trepidation, but with some reservations I did enjoy it. It is very difficult for a writer to create aliens without endowing them with some human traits. As colourful and interesting as they may be, the Flithp, the aliens who have come to live on Earth, are too human to be convincing. However I did enjoy the story. I like the idea of moving the action from place to place, from the human viewpoint to the alien viewpoint and then bringing them all together at the climax. The whole point of the story is that the aliens have nowhere to go, but they are not really nasty "people" and they do not want to destroy the human civilization if there is some other way. How the Flithp and humanity deal with the problem is the crux of the story and it makes enjoyable reading. Sphere 700 pp (W.Collins) \$9.95 arp

Other books I have read recently include HEART OF THE COMET by Greg Benford and David Brin. Life on Halley's Comet becomes a bit of a bore by the middle of the story, but the authors do present some very interesting ideas and things do become a little exciting as the story draws to a close. However I am not sure if they picked the right alternative from those that they presented to their characters at the end of the story. I did enjoy and I think fans of hard science sf will also. Out in hc only in the US, a pb was just published by Bantam in the UK and I expect will be released here soon. It is yet to be confirmed, but I believe that Corgi Bantam Australia will also be handling Del Rey books in the future, since the amalgamation of Doubleday, Dell and Bantam in the USA. EON by Greg Bear is yet another story set on or in a large object situated in space, as are the last two stories mentioned. A quite unique idea involving time and alternate universes and a way of travelling from one to the other. SF authors today seem to be trying very hard to spread their pictures on much broader canvases. Gollancz hard cover, 512pp, (Century Hutchinson) \$29.95 arp.

I have been a Star Trek fan from way back and every now and again I sneak one of the books into my reading stack. Most of them of late have not impressed me very much, but like all 'serials' it is nice to meet the characters again that you have become familiar with, so much so that they are almost part of the family. It is very easy to understand why ST fandom exists and why it is so wide spread and active. To get to the point. I am currently reading the US SF Book Club edition of ENTERPRISE - THE FIRST VOYAGE by Vonda McIntyre. It is one of the best I have read. I am quite sure that Vonda knows a good thing when she is on it, but never the less it comes over, to me at any rate, that she is as big a fan as any of us. This title by the way is also available in pb from Pocket. Titan Distributors in England are publishing British editions of some of the Star Trek novels. At first I thought they were original stories, but I have since realised that they are reprints of recent Pocket Book titles.

MB

PUBLISHING NEWS EXTRA

BAEN Books are commencing a regular fantasy line in September called Dragon Books. They intend to publish seven f&sf books per month; two fantasy and five sf. The first in the new line are Poul and Karen Anderson's GALLICENAE, the sequel to ROMA MATER and CHANCE by Nancy Springer. Titles by Mary Brown, David Drake, C.J. Cherryh, and Michael Reaves will follow.

PINNACLE BOOKS which has been in financial trouble for some time, has been purchased by ZEBRA BOOKS. The latter has not been doing any sf but has been publishing horror of late and Pinnacle have most recently published the V series. Both imprints will most likely be retained.

Book Reviews



WITH A TANGLED SKEIN
Incarnations of Immortality, Book Three

By Piers Anthony

Grafton PB 413 pp \$8.95 ARP

(William Collins Pty Ltd)

WITH A TANGLED SKEIN, the third volume in Piers Anthony's Incarnations of Immortality series, centres on the Incarnation Fate, in her three aspects of nubile Clotho, mature Lachesis and aged Atropos.

Niobe, although married unwillingly, comes to love her husband Cedric and their home in the wetlands. When Cedric is slain by agents of Satan, aiming for Niobe, she attempts suicide, but is saved by Thantos, Incarnation of Death. Becoming one of the aspects of Fate, she joins forces with the agents of good. A prophecy involving her descendants Luna and Orb eventually leads her to Hell, and flight through a maze devised by Satan.

Commencing fifty years chronologically before the previous novels, just who occupies the various Incarnations is initially confusing, but as time passes, events told from another perspective earlier arise as 'aha!' recognitions in this volume.

WITH A TANGLED SKEIN reads well, but doesn't really stand apart from the series. Essentially a bridging novel, it supplies background for the good/Satan ongoing battle and promises of the future confrontation featuring Luna.

The Author's note (23 pages) you can take or leave, depending on your interest in Anthony and it is rather self-indulgent. WITH A TANGLED SKEIN is excellent reading if you enjoyed the earlier volumes, but it is dependent on them for much of its impact.

Alan Stewart

ORA:CLE

by Kevin O'Donnell Jr

Grafton, PB 343 pp \$8.95 ARP
(William Collins Pty Ltd)

An alien Dac space fleet at L5; a compulsory accommodated refugee from Florida who turns out to be a computer genius; upstairs neighbours urging you to join their political party - life in 2188 is pretty complicated for Ale Elatey (ALL80 AFAHSC NFF6). Then a Dac takes a pot-shot at him, his pholo tries to kill him and this Computer Linked Expert (CLE - Seely) begins to find out just how complicated.

ORA:CLE (Opinions, Research and Advice from Computer Linked Experts) takes place in a future probably not as remote as the date indicated. Apart from the aliens, interconnected computer networks and Implant linked people/computers are almost here.

O'Donnell keeps the action fast-paced and continuous, one crisis/attack after another. 'Top Ten News Stories of the Hour' preface each chapter and add detail to this world time.

ORA:CLE is not a particularly serious book; perhaps shallow with one computer hack solving major network problems, but as an action novel it is a good read.

Alan Stewart

TERRILIAN IV: THE WARRIOR CHALLENGED

By Sharon Green

DAW, PB 382 pp (\$3.50 US)

Terrilian, empathic agent from an advanced interstellar society, has been sent on a mission to a barbaric planet. Banded by Tammad, a Illenda - male warrior - she must obey. Coming to love him, her growing empathic skills clash with her role in this male dominated society.

On a rescue mission to distant VEDIaster, purported female ruled realm, they are trapped into slavery. Only Terrilian's growing mind powers enabling escape and final victory.

THE WARRIOR CHALLENGED doesn't offer anything new or exciting. A traditional rescue/quest novel; sword fighting and psi powers thrown in. The plot doesn't carry for its nearly four hundred pages. It should have been shorter and snappier. Terril and Tammad's final parting doesn't ring true with earlier scenes and the novel is ended abruptly.

Sharon Green has written an action novel, but the pacing is much too slow. Although fourth in a series, the WARRIOR CHALLENGED reads well as a single novel, only a few unimportant references to past adventures. The cover looks exciting, but shows a 'star gate' which has nothing to do with this novel, and Terril holding a sword which she can't and doesn't wield.

If in bed by page four/ slash and hack/esper powers are for you, buy THE WARRIOR CHALLENGED. and enjoy.

Alan Stewart

CUCKOO'S EGG

by C.J.Cherryh

DAW PB 319 pp
(Due for local release in Methuen, H&S)

CUCKOO'S EGG shows C.J.Cherryh's strengths at their best. A well-crafted alien society, with a sympathetic human character centre stage.

From infancy Thorn is brought up and trained by Dunn, a wounded veteran, to be hatani caste - judge-warriors, elite. Separate, but necessary, practicing 'pebble custom' where an undiscovered

pebble symbolises death overlooked. Different by appearance and education from the Shonunin, target of caste conspiracy, Thorn must fight to gain his true role, a bridge between two worlds.

The revelation of Thorn's origin and purpose agree with the novel's framework, but much of the society's background history remains secret. After developing the Shonunin world and politics, in the end it becomes a thriller, with hero outracing villains.

Alan Stewart

ANGEL WITH THE SWORD

by C.J.Cherryh

DAW, HC 301 pp (\$15.95 US)

C.J.Cherryh is a prolific writer in both the hard science fiction as well as fantasy formats, and we should see quite a number of different books coming from her in the next couple of years. She is very good at developing believable characters, both human and alien; and she is up there with the best of them when it comes to fine detailed world building.

ANGEL WITH THE SWORD falls somewhere between her hard sf and fantasy modes. Though it is science fiction it will appeal to a much wider audience than those who only read hard sf, because it deals with people and their problems and not with gadgetry and galaxies.

Altair Jones, a wild seventeen year old girl, is a survivor, a tough little creature earning an honest, hard working living in the polluted canals of a huge medieval, yet modern city on the human abandoned world of Merovin. This is a water world, where most commerce and activity is carried out on the water - in canals, rivers and seas. Altair is a canaler, with her own language and customs, who one night rescues a man from drowning. A group of ruffians had tried to kill him, after which he was dumped in the canal.

Mondragon won't tell Altair who it was who tried to kill him, nor why, nor what he must do to avenge the attempt on his life. He is a high-towner, wealthy, important and mysterious, and Altair falls in love with him. She inevitably becomes involved in the skullduggery and danger of power games being played throughout all levels of the city.

The story is brilliantly realised and all the many different characters encountered are finely drawn and quite believable. The background details of the city, its canals, bridges, wharfs, buildings; the way people work, the money, the commerce, and the language of the boatmen and the canalers, are all interwoven, flowing into a beautiful whole. This is easily the best of C.J.Cherryh's recent novels.

The amount of work done in preparation to write this book can be seen from the appendix which consists of 33 pages of finely detailed information under the headings: A concise history of Merovin/ Chronology/ religions (of which there are six)/ 17

names/ money/ manufacturing and trade/ clothing and fashion/ and son on. There is a glossary of canaler slang, some details about the boats used at sea and in the canals, descriptions of life found in the seas, after which there are 8 pages of maps detailing the canals, buildings, and general layout of the city. All of this is as equally fascinating as the story itself.

ANGEL WITH THE SWORD is open ended and we know now that it will continue with MEROVINGEN NIGHTS published in April this year.

John Litchen

Editor's Note: MEROVINGEN NIGHTS is a collection of stories set in the world of Merovin, by various authors and edited by Cherryh. The "Thieves World" series popularity seems to have sparked off this style of book recently, with the series dreamed up by Janet Morris, "Hell", being another example.

M.B.

THE HELIX AND THE SWORD

by John C. McLoughlin

Orbit, PB 1986 230 pp \$9.95 ARP

(Hodder & Stoughton Aust.)

I have to disagree with *Publishers Weekly* when they say that this book "should fascinate readers in the same way Herbert's original DUNE did. Interesting it is: DUNE is not. (Which will cause some readers to celebrate and others to mourn.)* Humanity now lives scattered throughout the solar system on asteroids. Moons and planets are places of fear, cursed as they are by gravity. The novel, presented as fictional history, details the events that lead to a portion of humanity returning to Earth. I said it was interesting - it only just held my interest through chasing similarities between it and DUNE. Yet the idea has potential. The narrator describes it as a "meditation on Ecology", but it strikes me as being more of a meditation on what David Brin calls the Dogma of Otherness. Still, it fills in a few hours.

Cathie Kerrigan

**(Cathie you have touched a nerve! I thought DUNE was great and I still do. I can appreciate criticism on it, I agree it has its faults, but to say it is not interesting is sacrilege. However I really have not got the space to begin a diatribe with you over a book that has been one of the biggest sellers in the field. Merv B.)*

LYTHANDE

by Marlon Zimmer Bradley

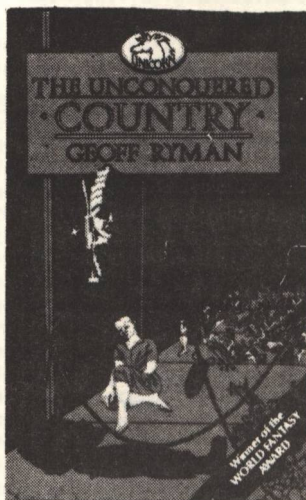
DAW 1986, 237 pp, PB

This is another book that is suitable for filling in a few hours. Bradley's books rarely demand much of the reader and this one is no exception. And the cover! It gives the whole game away. Mind you, Bradley does it also in her introduction.

LYTHANDE is an anthology, collecting together all the the stories involving the title character, who was originally created for the Thieves World series. Favourite story? Vonda McIntyre's, which for once, gives a fantasy world strong female characters who aren't whores, witches or damsels in distress.

Cathie Kerrigan

(Editors note: LYTHANDE includes five stories by Ms Bradley and only one other, the one by Ms McIntyre. But I suppose it is an anthology rather than a collection. M.B.)



THE UNCONQUERED COUNTRY

by Geoff Ryman

Unicorn (Allen & Unwin)
133pp 1986

\$9.95 ARP

THE UNCONQUERED COUNTRY is a pleasure to read. Sub-titled "A Life History", it is the story of Third Child, native of the Unconquered Country, a country which exists in Cambodia/Kampuchea but in another time. The language and the story are sparse and the accompanying illustrations, although detailed, strike me as being quite stark. It has already won (deservedly, in my opinion) two awards (the World Fantasy Award and the British Science Fiction Association Award). I do suggest you try it.

Cathie Kerrigan

CHAINS OF GOLD

by Nancy Springer

Arbor House, 1986 HC 230pp \$15.95 US

The world of CHAINS OF GOLD is never named. Nor does it have, like many fantasy worlds, a map (To show you what it looks like.) The Goddess is simply the Goddess and magic is simply magic. But there is a cruel (in our terms) religion which demands blood sacrifice twice yearly - of the winterking and the summerking. CHAINS OF GOLD relates what happens when a winterking evades his chosen destiny in order to live with his bride and it is narrated by the bride, Cerilla.

Springer draws heavily on mythological elements for her story, but combines them in an unusual

way. The three characters, Arlen, Cerilla and Lonn, are believable, as are (most of) the events (all of the events if you accept the premise that magic exists). No vengeance is visited upon Winterking and bride, except by Lonn, the companion who takes Arlen's place in the sacrifice. The dead Lonn, suffering great humiliation, returns to torment the pair and, eventually, Cerilla must confront his ghost and force Lonn and Arlen to make their peace. I won't tell you the final resolution - all I'll say is that it is satisfactory. My only quibble with the story is that no reason is ever given for the Goddess favouring Cerilla and Arlen and enabling them to escape Arlen's original fate.

It is a gentle story, mostly, and there are hints at other stories. The incidental characters who help Cerilla and Arlen are delightful though I would be interested to know why Springer chose a mandrake and a morphodite. Probably just coincidence and I'm reading something into it that isn't there. But there is the sacrifice to ensure the fertility of the land, and the stories the Oracle tells. Maybe you can read it and explain it to me.

Cathie Kerrigan

AWARDS



NEBULA AWARDS 1986

The Nominations and Winners (underlined) of the Nebula Awards for this year, which were presented at the annual banquet in New York on May 2nd are as follows:

BEST NOVEL

COUNT ZERO by William Gibson (Arbor House/Gollancz)

FREE LIVE FREE by Gene Wolfe (Ziesing/Gollancz)

THE HANDMAID'S TALE by Margaret Atwood (H.Mifflin/Cape)

THE JOURNAL OF NICHOLAS THE AMERICAN by Leigh Kennedy (Atlantic Monthly)

SPEAKER FOR THE DEAD by Orson Scott Card (TOR/Century Hutchinson)

THIS IS THE WAY THE WORLD ENDS by James Morrow (Holt)

BEST NOVELLA

"Dydetown Girl", by F. Paul Wilson (Far Frontiers IV)

"Escape from Kathmandu", by Kim Stanley Robinson (IASFM 9/86)

"Gilgamesh in the Outback", by Robert Silverberg (IASFM 7/86 & REBELS IN HELL)

"Newton Sleep", by Gregory Benford (F&SF 1/86 and HEROES IN HELL)

"R&R", by Lucius Shepard (IASFM 4/86)

BEST NOVELETTE

"Aymara", by Lucius Shepard (IASFM 8/86)

"The Girl Who Fell Into The Sky"

by Kate Wilhelm (IASFM 10/86)

"Hatrack River", by Orson Scott Card (IASFM 8/86)

"Listening to Brahms", by Suzy McKee Charnas (Omni 4/86)

"Permafrost", by Roger Zelazny (Omni 4/86)

"Surviving", by Judith Moffett (F&SF 6/86)

"The Winter Market", by William Gibson (Stardate 3/86 & BURNING CHROME)

(Note: The winning story by Kate Wilhelm was accidentally left off the original ballot.)

BEST SHORT STORY

"The Boy Who Plaited Manes", by Nancy Springer (F&SF 10/86)

"The Lions Are Asleep This Night", by Howard Waldrop (Omni 8/86)

"Robot Dreams", by Isaac Asimov (ROBOT DREAMS & IASFM 12/15/86)

"Tangents", by Greg Bear (Omni 1/86)

GRAND MASTER AWARD

ISAAC ASIMOV

Well I suppose it is fitting that Asimov won the GM Award. His name sake magazine just about scooped the pool. Pity we cannot buy it in Australia, but you can always subscribe. And remember what I said about SPEAKER FOR THE DEAD in the last issue of ASFN. Well it has won the NEBULA and is nominated for the HUGO.

Please note that the NEBULAS are dated for the year the stories were written, not for the year given, as the HUGOS are.

HUGO NOMINATIONS 1987

The nominations for the Hugo Awards to be presented at CONSPIRACY in Brighton, England, August 27th to September 2nd, 1987, are as follows:

BEST NOVEL

SPEAKER FOR THE DEAD by Orson Scott Card (Tor/Century Hutchinson)

COUNT ZERO by William Gibson (Arbor House/Gollancz)

BLACK GENESIS by L. Ron Hubbard (Bridge/New Era)

THE RAGGED ASTRONAUTS by Bob Shaw (Gollancz/Baen)

MAROOINED IN REAL TIME by Vernor Vinge (Bluejay)

BEST NOVELLA

"Elfelheim" by Michael Flynn (Analog 11/86)

"Escape From Kathmandu" by Kim Stanley Robinson (IASFM 9/86)

"Gilgamesh in the Outback" by Robert Silverberg (IASFM 7/86/REBELS IN HELL)

"R&R" by Lucius Shepard (IASFM 4/86)

"Spice Pogrom" by Connie Willis (IASFM 10/86)

BEST NOVELETTE

"Thor Meets Captain America" by David Brin (F&SF 7/86)

"Hatrack River" by Orson Scott Card (IASFM 8/86)

"The Winter Market" by William Gibson
(Interzone Spr '86/Stardate 3/86
and BURNING CHROME)

"The Barbarian Princess" by Vernor Vinge
(Analog 9/86)

"Permafrost" by Roger Zelazny (Omni 4/86)

BEST SHORT STORY

"Robot Dreams" by Isaac Asimov
(ROBOT DREAMS/ IASFM 12/15/86)

"Tangents" by Greg Bear (Omni 1/86)

"Still Life" by David S. Garnett (F&SF 6/86)

"Rat" by James Patrick Kelly (F&SF 6/86)

"The Boy Who Plaited Manes" by Nancy Springer
(F&SF 10/86)

BEST NON-FICTION

TRILLION YEAR SPREE by Brian Aldiss and David
Wingrove (Gollancz/Atheneum)

SCIENCE FICTION IN PRINT: 1985 by Charles N.
Brown & William G. Contento (Locus Press)

THE DARK KNIGHT RETURNS by Frank Miller with
Klaus Jenson & Lynn Varley (Warner/Titan)

INDUSTRIAL LIGHT & MAGIC: THE ART OF SPECIAL
EFFECTS by Thomas G. Smith (Del Rey/Columbus)

ONLY APPARENTLY REAL: THE WORLD OF PHILIP K. DICK
by Paul Williams (Arbor House)

BEST SEMI-PROZINE

"Fantasy Review" Robert Collins

"Interzone" Simon Ounley & David Pringle

"Locus" Charles N. Brown

"SF Chronicle" Andrew Porter

"SF Review" Richard E. Gels

BEST EDITOR

Terry Carr
Gardner Dozois
Edward L. Ferman
David Hartwell
Stanley Schmidt

BEST PRO ARTIST

Jim Burns
Frank Kelly Freas
Tom Kidd
Don Maitz
J.K. Potter
Barclay Shaw

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION

ALIENS
THE FLY
LABYRINTH
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
STAR TREK 4: THE VOYAGE
HOME

BEST FAN WRITER

Mike Glycer
Patrick Nielsen Hayden
Arthur Hlavaty
Dave Langford
Simon Ounsky
D. West
Owen Whiteoak

BEST FANZINE

"Ansible" Dave Langford
"File 770" Mike Glycer
"Lan's Lantern"
George Laskowski
"Texas SF Enquirer"
Pat Mueller
"Trapdoor" Robert Lichtman

BEST FAN ARTIST

Brad Foster
Steve Fox
Stu Schiffman
Taral
Arthur "Atom" Thomson

JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD

Lois McMaster Bujold
Karen Joy Fowler
Leo Frankowski
Katherine Eliska Kimbriel
Rebecca (Brown) Ore
Robert (Touzalin) Reed

DAVID BRIN won the THE JOHN W. CAMPBELL MEMORIAL AWARD for Best SF Novel of 1985, with THE POSTMAN. The presentation was made at a dinner at the University of Kansas in July 1986. Runner up was 'Galapagos' by Kurt Vonnegut, with 'Blood Music' by Greg Bear third. This is a committee award and should not be confused with the John W. Campbell Award which is presented with the Hugos.

An Award is to be given each year to honor the memory of THEODORE STURGEON. It is being organized by James Gunn at the request of Sturgeon's widow, Jayne Sturgeon. The first presentation will be made in July at the University of Kansas, which received all of Sturgeon's private papers, books and manuscripts following his death last year. The award is for The Years Best SF Short Story. Donations to the fund to endow the award may be sent to James Gunn, Department of English, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045, USA

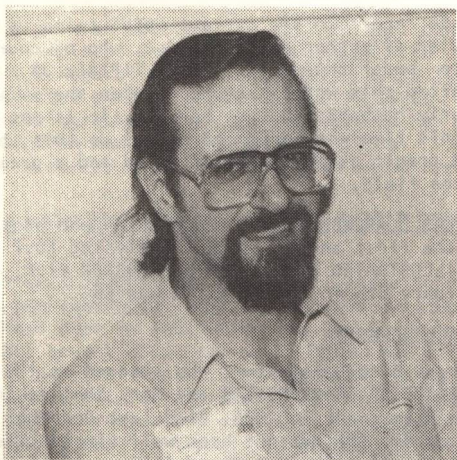
URSULA K. LE GUIN gained the JANET HEIDINGER KAFKA AWARD, with a \$1000 bonus, for her novel ALWAYS COMING HOME. The award is for the best novel by a woman author and in this case published in the year 1985. Le Guin's novel VERY FAR AWAY FROM ANYWHERE ELSE, was translated into French by Martine Laroche and was named as one of the best three books for adolescents published in France in the last fifteen years.

A new award announced in Britain in February, THE ARTHUR CLARKE AWARD, went to Margaret Atwood's THE HANDMAIDEN'S TALE. Other nominees included Eon by Greg Bear, Stars in My Pocket Like Grains of Sand by Samuel R. Delany, Escape Plans by Gwyneth Jones, The Memory of Whiteness by Kim Stanley Robinson, Queen of the States by Josephine Saxton, The Ragged Astronauts by Bob Shaw and Green Eyes by Lucius Shepard. The award was presented at the British National Convention held in Birmingham last Easter. Clarke dented the prize of P1000.

THE PHILIP K. DICK AWARD this year went to JAMES P. BLAYLOCK for his novel HOMUNCULUS. Other nominations were "Artificial Things" by Karen Joy Fowler "The Hercules Text" by Jack McDevitt and a "Hidden Place" by Robert Charles Wilson. The award with a prize of \$1000 for the winner and \$500 for the runner up, in this case Jack McDevitt, is for the best original SF paperback. It was presented this year at Norwescon/Altercon in Seattle in March. The judges were Tim Powers, Raymond Feist, Gary K. Wolfe and Lewis Shiner.

The 1986 World Fantasy Convention, the 12th, was held again in Providence Rhode Island. The attendance was around 1000 people, who had to put up with a few problems at the hotel, the Biltmore Plaza, which was redecorating. Pro attendees included Patricia McKillip, Paul Hazel, James P. Blaylock, Ramsey Campbell, Jo Clayton, Peter Straub, Ru Emerson, Judith Tarr and others. The awards were less biased towards the horror genre this time, with more fantasy books getting in on the act. James Blaylock was one of the winners, but I do not have the details on all the award winners.

obituaries



TERRY CARR

A guy who had a tremendous influence on the sf field over the last twenty years or so, as a writer, editor, anthologist and fan, TERRY CARR died April 6th. He had been in bad health for many months. He suffered from diabetes and congestive heart failure. He became ill and checked himself into hospital, where he lapsed into a coma. Treatment returned him to consciousness but he finally died about midnight.

A final UNIVERSE anthology is in the hands of Doubleday and several ACE Specials are still to be published. His other papers are being looked after by Robert Silverberg.

I have been sending Terry Australian publications containing sf stories over the last five years or so, following his visit to our shores for a workshop. He had many friends in Australia. I wrote to him a couple of times without any reply and finally his wife Carol wrote and advised me that he was ill, but it still came as a shock when I heard he had died.

Terry did not make a great impression as a writer. He was a very astute judge however of other writers work and besides editing many short story collections such as his BEST SF, UNIVERSE and various individual anthologies, he chose the books for the original ACE Special series, which featured such writers as Ursula K. Le Guin, D.G. Compton, R.A. Lafferty and in the new series, Kim Stanley Robinson, William Gibson and Michael Swanick. All of these writers and their books which Terry backed, have been widely acclaimed. He won awards for his fan writing and publishing and was nominated for the Hugo as Best Editor eight times, from 1973 to 1981, finally winning his richly deserved Hugo for Best Editor in 1985.

Terry Carr will greatly missed in the sf field and simply as a nice guy.

M.B.

THEODORE COGSWELL

SF writer Theodore Cogswell died February 3rd, due to an aneurism while on dialysis. He had suffered from heart and kidney trouble for a while. Born in 1918, he was involved in the Spanish civil war, served with the US army in Asia in World War Two, and was encouraged to write sf by Poul Anderson during an academic career followed after the war. One of his best remembered stories is "Specter General" which appeared in *Astounding*. Two collections of his stories were published; *THE WALL AROUND THE WORLD* in 1962, by Pyramid and *THE THIRD EYE*, in 1968, by Belmont. He also wrote *SPOCK*, *MESSIAH* with Charles A. Spano, for Bantam in 1976. I had the pleasure of sitting with him at the banquet at TORCON World SF Convention in Toronto Canada, in 1973.

MB

RICHARD WILSON

Author Richard Wilson died of cancer in Fort Pierce, Florida on March 29th. He was 66. He wrote numerous sf short stories beginning in the '40s and through the '50s, but little after it seems. His stories were collected in *THOSE IDIOTS FROM EARTH* (57), *TIME OUT FOR TOMORROW* ('62), followed by three novels, *THE GIRLS FROM PLANET 5* ('55), *AND THEN THE TOWN TOOK OFF* and *30 DAY WONDER* ('60). All typical humorous sf of the 1950s. He did win a Nebula Award in 1968 for "Mother to the World", but until he retired as News Director at Syracuse University and moved to Florida, he was not very active in the field. Andrew Porter in *SF Chronicle* says of Wilson; "I remember Dick Wilson especially for having the audacity to get married in August, 1967, and take his new bride to NYCon 3, the 1967 World SF Convention, for her honeymoon. Wilson was married three times; he is survived by a son". He sounds as though he was quite a character.

JOHN D. MACDONALD

Mystery writer and sometimes sf writer, John D. MacDonald, died December 28th 1986, following complications after heart surgery. He was 70. He is survived by his wife, son and five grandchildren. His mysteries were best sellers in the million category. He wrote some sf stories for the pulps in the '40s and his three sf&f novels were *PLANET OF THE DREAMERS* (1951), *BALLROOM OF THE SKIES* (1952) and *THE GIRL THE GOLDWATCH AND EVERYTHING* (1962). The latter was one of the funniest books I ever read, but it was entirely butchered when translated to TV film a few years ago.

RUSSELL M. GRIFFIN

Author Russell M. Griffin died suddenly of a stroke at his home in Milford, CT, USA in August 1986. He was 42, married and had two children. He was the author of four sf novels: *MAKESHIFT GOD*, *THE BLIND MEN AND THE ELEPHANT*, *CENTURY'S END* and *THE TIME SERVERS*, which brought him into consideration for the P.K. Dick Award.

ROBERT F. YOUNG

Author Robert F. Young died on June 22nd 1986, following a heart attack he suffered earlier in the year. He was 71. He wrote many short stories and his first appearance was with "The Black Deep Thou Wingest" in *Startling Stories* in 1953. He wrote many short stories, with some of his best appearing in *F&SF*. "Goddess in Granite" being one of the most memorable. His books included *THE WORLDS OF ROBERT F. YOUNG*, *A GLASS OF STARS*, (both collections) *STARFINDER*, *THE LAST YGGDRASIL*, *ERIDAHN*, and *THE VIZIER'S SECOND DAUGHTER*. The many short stories he wrote remain uncollected. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Miriam, a daughter and grandchildren.

WILLIAM E. BARRETT

Screenwriter and sometimes *f&sf* writer William E. Barrett died in September, 1986. An *sf* novel, *THE FOOLS OF TIME* was published in 1963. His screen credits included "Lilies of the Field" and "The Left Hand of God".

GARDNER FOX, author, died December 24th '86. He was 75. He started as a comics writer in '37 and worked for DC in the '50s. During his writing career he wrote over 100 novels in various genres and short stories for the pulps. His *sf* novels included *THE ARSENAL OF MIRACLES* (64), *WARRIOR OF LARN* series, *HUNTER OUT OF TIME* ('65), *THIEF OF LLARN*, and the *KOTHAR* and *KYRIK* series.

V.C. ANDREWS, whose horror suspense series which began with *FLOWERS IN THE ATTIC*, and sold more than 30 million copies, died of cancer on December 30th 1986. Andrews, who was around 50, unfortunately did not live to see the release of a film of *FLOWERS IN THE ATTIC* recently.

BERNARD HURWOOD, author of books on non-fiction subjects such as occult, biographies, and writing with computers, died at the age of 60 on January 23rd 1987.

LAWRENCE L. HEINLEIN, the brother of Robert Heinlein, and a retired Brigadier General, died at the age of 86 on January 17th.

POLLY FREAS, wife of artist Kelly Freas, died January 24th '87, at Norfolk, Virginia hospital of cancer. She was 68. She was Kelly's business manager and took an active part in *sf* fandom.

VERNELL CORIELL, 68, who had diabetes and had suffered a couple of strokes, died peacefully in January. He was for many years one of the greatest fans of Edgar Rice Burroughs.

Well known US fan DR CHARLES LEE "DOC" BARRETT, died on February 11th. He was 77 and had practiced in Bellefontaine for many years and had one of the largest collections of *sf* anywhere.

K. MARTIN CARLSON was another long time fan, who died December 12th in Moorhead, MN. He was 82. If I remember rightly he was an old subscriber to the Melbourne *SF* Club newszine *ETHERLINE* in the '50s or at least had some correspondence with me or other *MSFC* members. He was of course a member of the famous fan organisation *N3F* and

produced an "adzine" called the *Kaymar Trader*, which I am quite sure I received and may have even advertised in myself. I must be getting old!

A late report in the current *LOCUS* tells us that the popular *sf* author Alice Sheldon, who of course wrote under the name of JAMES TIPTREE JR, violently departed this world last month when she shot her elderly husband and then herself. It is not known at this time what prompted her to do this, but it is a tragic event in the *sf* world and a great loss to the field.

CARLOS CLARENS, the film historian who wrote one of the first and best books analysing *f&sf* films, *AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE HORROR FILM*, died on February 8th in New York. He was 56.

ELSA LANCHESTER

Actress Elsa Lanchester, who starred as the bride in *BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN* and Mary Shelley in the same film, made in 1935, died last December at the age of 84. She had not been well since suffering a stroke in 1984. Her first film was with her husband Charles Laughton, as one of Henry VIII's wives in *PRIVATE LIFE OF HENRY VIII* in 1933.

FOREST TUCKER

Veteran actor Forest Tucker died last October, after a bout with cancer and complications. He appeared in over 50 films, mostly westerns and many with his friend John Wayne. He did appear in a few genre films including Hammer Film's *THE CRAWLING EYE*, *THE CURSE OF FRANKENSTEIN* with Peter Cushing and *THE COSMIC MONSTERS* (aka *The Strange World of Planet X*). This amiable actor is probably best known now for his performance in TV's western comedy series *F TROOP*.

PAUL FREES, actor, died in November last 1986. He appeared in such films as *THE THING FROM ANOTHER WORLD*, *THE WAR OF THE WORLDS* and provided narration and voice overs for many other films including *EARTH V THE FLYING SAUCERS*, *ATLANTIS*, *THE LOST CONTINENT* and *THE FORBIN PROJECT*. His last involvement with the genre, was the narration for a cable TV documentary on the films of George Pal.

DANNY KAYE, comedian and actor, died on March 3rd. He was 74. His very popular films such as *THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY*, *THE COURT JESTER*, and *HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSON* and others, were mostly of a fantasy nature. He received awards for his film work as well as for having entertained troops during the war, and he spent much of his time over the last twenty years working for UNICEF, being given the title of official permanent ambassador at large.

ARCH OBLER, film producer and writer, died March 19th at 79. He was long associated with 3-D films and wrote and produced such films as *BWANA DEVIL*, and *THE BUBBLE*. He also made a film based on Henry Kutner's story *TWONKY*, released in 1953 and the *sf* film *FIVE* released in 1951.

RAY BOLGER, comedian actor/ dancer, star of many movies including THE WIZARD OF OZ with Judy Garland, died January 15, 1987. He was the last of the films main performers to pass away. The Wizard, Frank Morgan died in 1949, the Lion, Bert Lahr in 1967, Judy Garland in 1969, Jack Haley who played the Tin Man in 1979 and the Wicked Witch, Margaret Hamilton in 1985. They all gave many hours of entertainment in THE WIZARD OF OZ and in many other performances. This film was one of the best fantasies ever made. Other films have tried to capture the magic of Frank Baum's creation such as the musical THE WIZ starring Diana Ross and RETURN TO OZ in 1985, but they just didn't quite make it.

BENJAMIN SHERMAN "SCATMAN" CROTHERS, the black actor who appeared in THE SHINING and TWILIGHT ZONE: THE MOVIE, died November 22nd last. He was 76.

A sad event for all DR WHO fans was the death of PATRICK TROUGHTON in the USA in March. He was Guest of Honour at a media convention in Columbus, GA, held March 27th and suffered a heart attack during the con. Our feelings go out to his family and friends of course, but to the organisers and attendees of the con. It must have been devastating. Troughton played Dr Who in the 1960's, appeared in various films including THE OMEN with Gregory Peck, SINBAD AND THE EYE OF THE TIGER and with Sir Lawrence Olivier in Hamlet. He was recently appearing in a TV series in Britain THE TWO OF US.

We have certainly lost a few people who were practically institutions in the movie business over the last year and now CARY GRANT in May, FRED ASTAIRE in June and JACKIE GLEASON in June. Writers leave us their words, movie actors leave us their images and in today's world we have ample opportunity to read, view and enjoy them over and over again.

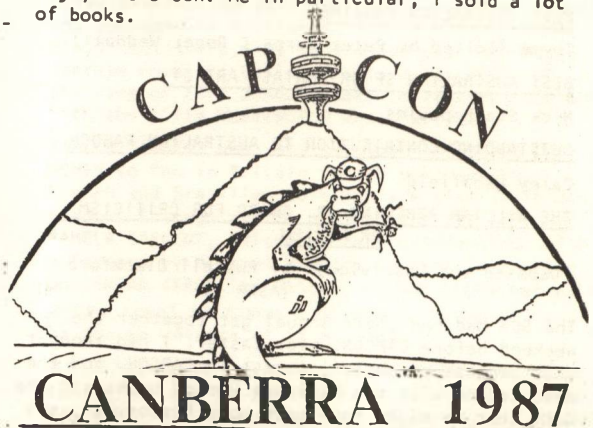
M.B.

PHILIP K. DICK SOCIETY. This society which operates world wide, was formed to study and appreciate the work of P.K.D. They publish a newsletter which gives details on the society's activities, plus details on the publication of P.K.D.'s works, translations and dramatical versions of his stories. A theatrical production of FLOW MY TEARS THE POLICEMAN SAID was due to be performed in New York in the US spring. Tim Powers and Paul Williams have put together a collection of P.K.D.'s correspondence, SELECTED LETTERS OF PHILIP K. DICK and were looking for a publisher early in the year. New editions of Dick's books are also due for publication in Japan, Spain and France. If you would like to join the society or would like more information, write to the Australian representative, Gabriel McCann, 39 Cox Ave., Bondi Beach, NSW 2026.

Ultramarine Publishing Co. Inc., P.O. Box 303, Hastings-On-Hudson, NY 10706, USA, are publishing MARY AND THE GIANT by Philip K. Dick in a very limited, very expensive edition. The price is \$150.00 US with \$5.00 shipping



Well I managed to get to two conventions so far this year. The EASTERCON in Melbourne was a nice quiet little affair held at the Diplomat Motor Inn, StKilda. The programming was light but interesting. The sf quiz tournament went well, much better than one held at CAPCON the weekend after. The auction was well attended with some good prices and many bargains presented by Justin Ackroyd and helpers. A panel dedicated to the memory of Terry Carr was held. John Foyster reminisced about Terry's visit to Melbourne and said what a viscious table tennis player he was; Lucy Sussex spoke about her involvement in the Writers Workshop which Terry ran; and DUFF winner, visiting American fan Lucy Huntzinger also spoke about her friend Terry Carr. But despite our sadness at hearing about Terry's passing, most people enjoyed the con. Me in particular, I sold a lot of books.



The weekend after, my father and I drove up to Canberra for CAPCON, the 1987 National Australian SF Convention. It was held at the PARKROYAL HOTEL from April 24th to the 27th and was the first major convention ever held in Canberra. Small get togethers have been held there over the years, going back as far as the early '50s, but this was the first Natcon and Mark Denbow and his helpers did a good job. Ok a few little things might have got fouled up, but they always do. The GoHs were ROBERT ASPRIN and LYNN ABBEY. They were good guests and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves and intend to come back to Australia as soon as they can. The Fan GoH was Melbourne fan John Newman.

I am not going to make this a long report. (I did not make any notes at any rate and it was over six weeks ago.) My highlight of the con was the

Banquet and Masquerade. Not that I saw much, as usual, because I spent most of my time selling lots of books. I always swear that I will never go to banquets again, but this one was different. It was a part served and the rest help-yourself arrangement and the food was very good. The masquerade was not the best I have seen, but there were a few nice costumes and presentations. Some elaborate costumes and some, shall we say revealing. But everybody enjoyed themselves, participants and viewers.

The 1987 AUSTRALIAN SF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (Some people are trying to drop the "Ditmar" name, but it will always be the DITHARS to me.) were presented before the banquet. Some changes have been made (again!) in the categories and I cannot say I entirely agree with them, but I have gotten beyond worrying about it any more. The winners were:

DITMAR Awards

BEST AUSTRALIAN SF OR FANTASY NOVEL

BARD III by Keith Taylor (ACE)

BEST AUSTRALIAN SF OR FANTASY SHORTER FICTION

"The Man Who Lost Red" by Terry Dowling
(Aphellion 2)

BEST AUSTRALIAN FANZINE

Thyme (Edited by Peter Burns & Roger Weddall)

BEST AUSTRALIAN SF OR FANTASY ARTIST

Nick Stathopoulos

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO AUSTRALIAN FANDOM

Carey Handfield

THE WILLIAM ATHELING JR. AWARD FOR CRITICISM OR REVIEW

"Debased and Lascivious" by Russell Blackford
(ASFR 4)

The SCA had had their annual get together the weekend before CAPCON, over Easter. I had thought that because of their interest in CAPCON, and the association with the "Thieves World" books and the GoH, that we might have seen more historical, s&s type costumes in the masquerade. There was a few, but a display of costumes and weapons was organised by the SCA at CAPCON. Well I enjoyed the con. It was not the greatest, but seemed to go reasonably well and in subtle ways different to other cons held in other cities. I would have liked to have seen more of Canberra, but I wanted to go and catch some trout at Eucumbene on the way home. However I went go into that.

Melbourne with KINKON 3 and Perth with SWANCON 14; were bidding for the 1989 National Australian Convention at the Business Session at Capcon. SWANCON 14 won and it will be held over Easter weekend late March 1989. I think there will be another KINKON in Melbourne, but I do not have any details at this time. Other conventions coming up include:

CONQUEST 87

September 25th - 27th
Bellevue Hotel, Brisbane

A media orientated convention. Fan GoH will be Cathy Kerrigan on her return from CONSPIRACY in Brighton, England. For more details write to Conquest 87, GPO Box 1376, Brisbane, Qld 4001

SWANCON 13

Australia Day Weekend January 1988
Hotel Westos

GoH Bob Ogden. Media GoH Tim Richards
Ok, so you have never heard of these people, neither have I. Paul Stevens is Secretary and Treasurer. (God help this con!) For more info on Swancon 13 (With one thing and another it has just got to be a disaster.) write to P.O. Box 318, Nedlands, W.A. 6009.

CONVICTION

Syncon '88
National Australian SF Convention

June 10th to 13th 1988
The Shore Motel,
Pacific Highway, Artarmon

Guests of Honour Spider and Jeanne Robinson

Theme: Song and Dance in Science Fiction
Current membership until 1/1/88 \$35.00
This con is being held in the same hotel as the one when Harlan Ellison was GoH. I think '83. A good spot, with lots of room. For more details write to Conviction, Box 272 Wentworth Building, University of Sydney, NSW 2006.

Too late to tell you about Syncon '87. This two years ahead business has me a bit confused and I missed mentioning it in the last NEWS. Perhaps somebody can let me know how it went. I have no other details on local cons at this time, but I am sure there are others coming up in the next 12 months.

This year's Worldcon is CONSPIRACY being held in Brighton England from August 27th to September 2nd. A group of Australian fans will be attending. A number of them from Melbourne, including Cathy Kerrigan, and a meeting of the NOVA MOB will be held at Conspiracy. For more details on Conspiracy write to Justin Ackroyd, G.P.O. Box 2708X, Melbourne 3001. The GoHs are DORIS LESSING and ALFRED BESTER and ARKADY and BORIS STRUGATSKY. Toastmaster BRIAN ALDISS, Artist Guest JIM BURNS, Fan Guests JOYCE and KEN SLATER. Special Fan Guest DAVE LANGFORD. Ken and Joyce have been involved in fandom and selling sf through Fantast (Medway) for over 30 years. Langford is the young whipper snapper author and editor of ANSIBLE.

The first SF Convention was held in Philadelphia on October 18th, 1936. It was celebrated at Philcon '86. There has been a Philadelphia SF conference every year apart from the war years since 1936 and some of the original attendees were there in 1986. Frederik Pohl, Bob Madle, David Kyle and others. Philcon GoH last year was Isaac Asimov.

With the World Con being held in Brighton England this year, the major sf convention being held in the USA is CACTUSCON, 1987 NORTHAMERICAN SF CON. In Phoenix, Arizona. The hotel is the Hyatt Regency. GoH Hal Clement. Concom address is: Cactuscon, Box 27201, Tempe, AZ 85282, USA.

Next year's World Con is being held in New Orleans, at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Marriot Hotel and Rivergate Convention Centre. 1988 NOLA CON II. The 46th World Con. GoH Donald A. Wollheim, Fan GoH Roger Sims, TM Mike Resnick. The concom address is 921 Canal St., #831, New Orleans, LA 70112, USA.

I am not sure who is bidding for the 1989 World Con, but Holland is one of the bidders for 1990. Chicago is bidding for the 1991 World con, to be held in three hotels, including the Hyatt Regency and two others under construction. A 1992 bid is called MAGICON, apparently from Orlando, in Florida.

A new Australian bid is being organised for 1994 by PERTH, Western Australia. Perth fandom has been running conventions every year for quite some time, with SWANCON 13 coming up next year. Swancon because Perth is situated on the Swan river. Swancons are always entertaining and well organised, but any Australian World Convention will be largely an all Australian affair.

The enthusiastic Perth fans can call on the experience of many other fans in Australia who have now helped organise two successful World cons and attended many more. So why not support PERTH IN '94. Pre-supporting memberships are \$5.00. Send it now to PERTH IN '94 WORLD CON BID, P.O.Box 287, Nedlands, Western Australia, 6009, AUSTRALIA.

A subscriber in Japan, Jun Makino, who has been chasing up some subscriptions for me and like many of my other readers will be wondering where the hell ASFN is, sent me some details on DAICON, the 25th Annual Japan SF Convention. It was held last August and 2500 people attended, including 50 from the US. 32 were on the "Japanimation Tour", being people largely interested in animated films such as the ROBOTECH series. Some well known authors attended including Harry Harrison and James P. Hogan.

Despite parts of the main program being carried bilingual, Jun reported that some overseas visitors thought that for an sf convention it was a bit "quiet", and a little boring. The animation fans expected more on ROBOTECH etcetera, but the emphasis was more on what we might call hard core sf. However the con proved that we do have a lot in common and that there should be more opportunities for the many fandoms from different parts of the world to meet. Jun pointed out that more contact with other fans would only improve the style and standard of sf cons in Japan.

THE WORLD SF annual get together was held in Vancouver, Canada last year. Papers were read to the small attendance of less than 50 people, by Valerie Broege of Vanier College, Montreal

and Lorna Toolis of the Spaced Out Library in Toronto. The new president, Gianfranco Viviani of Italy was elected and Harry Harrison remained Treasurer. The Awards, called the Karels, went to Francesco Porrua of Spain, Roland Adlerberth of Sweden, Lev Djanof of the USSR, Marek Marsol of Poland and Joe Randolph USA. Dedicated Services awards were also handed out to various people. The next meeting will be in Budapest Hungary, this year and tentatively in Glasgow in 1988.

MAGAZINE NEWS

The Magazine of Fantasy & SF is being revamped, with new cover and interior design. They also intend to pay their authors a little more. More books will be covered in a special new short review section put together by Orson Scott Card.

A new sf magazine was published in the US in January called *SF International: Science Fiction From Around the World*. The first issue includes a story by Paul Collins. The cover price is \$2.50. The sub rate is not clear but you can write to Andromeda Press in the US for information, at 99 Teardrop Ct, Nebury Park, CA 91320, USA.

A new magazine started in 1986 in the US with the strange title of *Aboriginal SF*. The format was announced as large, what we would call tabloid newspaper style. *VERTEX* in it's death throws tried that style. We will report on its progress.

Worlds of IF has been resurrected by the STF Corporation, Box 93, Hicksville NY 11802. It will look a bit like the old mag and the first issue was to have stories by Van Vogt, Zelazny, Thurston, Salmonson and others, plus non-fiction by Card and Niven. Sub rate \$6.00 for 4 issues. As Andrew Porter states in *SF Chronicle*, both magazines are under-capitalized and unlikely to thrive. We will keep you posted.

Dick Gels announced the demise of his review magazine *SF Review* late '85 and then had changed his mind. However he was finally forced to give it up for health reasons. Dick is still doing his personal (fan) zine *Controversy In Review*, which is available at \$10 for ten issues from Richard Gels, Box 11408, Portland, OR 97211, USA.

Weird Tales magazine is again being resurrected. This time by an editorial trio including George Scithers, Darrell Schweitzer and John Betancourt. The first issue is expected to be out by this year's World Fantasy Con. It will have a George Barr cover and stories by Gene Wolfe, Tanith Lee, Keith Taylor, Ramsey Campbell and others.

Blakes Seven fans will be interested in a publication titled *Bizarro*. It includes original stories featuring the TV series characters. For details write to Ann Wortham, 1402 Allison Ave., Altamonte Springs, FL 32701, USA.



AND NOTICES

Melbourne fan IRWIN HIRSCH won the GUFF fan fund this year. He will be attending the World con in Brighton, England, CONSPIRACY. About 60 fans voted, using the Australian Ballot system, with 123 votes going to Hirsch, 63 to Valma Brown, and Jean Weber and Tim Jones being eliminated in the first count. The Australian administrator for the next fund is of course Irwin Hirsch and his address is 2/416 Dandenong Road, Caulfield North, Victoria 3161, Australia.

I never got to tell people in Melbourne about NOVA MOB meetings this year, but they have been held over the last six months at the home of Cathy Kerrigan. The July 1st meeting will hear Russell Blackford speak on author John Calvin Batchelor. August 3rd meeting will feature Jenny Blackford on "to be announced". September 2nd most of the members will apparently be at the World Con in Brighton, but a party will be held here. If nobody has volunteered it can be at my place. October 7th, a discussion on the worst Hugo-winning novel, started off by Mark Linehan. November 4th, Wynne Whiteford will be the speaker. and the 1988 program will be worked out. That famous well known Melbourne fan John Foyster has deserted us for Adelaide. His address is now P.O.Box 483, Norwood, South Australia 5067.

Jack Herman was complaining at Capcon that The Australian Science Fiction Foundation had not been heard of for a long time. What are they doing, what is there function and what funds do they hold and so forth. A circular letter received this month has explained what the aims and activities have been, but it did nothing to explain what it will be doing in the future. Can we please have something a bit more concrete on what future activities and plans may be?

I was elated last March during the MOOMBA festival parade in Melbourne, to see some of the members of STAR TREK and/or STAR WARS fan clubs, taking part in the parade. Dressed up in their costumes and riding in a spaceship up Swanston St. I had visions of organising something similar myself a few years ago, to help publicise the Aussiecon in '75, Space Age and sf in general in Melbourne, but the interest in such a project was not there at that time. I hope it becomes a regular event.

Victorian country fan, farmer and sometimes sf writer and reviewer, JOHN ALDERSON, was heard on radio station 3AW talk back a few weeks ago on the subject of mining rights. John was complaining and rightly so, about the law which allows mining companies or individuals it seems, to go onto anybody's

land and dig up anything, anywhere they like. Bulldozing and digging was going on near his property at Maryborough. It is a bad and stupid law that allows such things to go on and I am sure all my readers will sympathise and agree with John.

EDITORIAL RAMBLINGS

I notice that recent tax changes in the USA do not allow authors and pros to deduct costs of meals when attending conventions. They can still make allowances for travel and accommodation and, strangely for banquet costs at cons. And by 1989 things will change to allow 80% deductibility for all meals. They are a hell of a lot better of than us even now, with our rip off government not allowing any meal costs at all. I mean they have to pay for the Bi-centenary, for grants to unions and any other topnot organisation that puts in a request for funds to finance their literary or artistic ventures. I know where my preferences lay, but the average Australian voter in next months Election is on the horns of a dilemma. What choice is there between Labor and the Liberals, and surely the Libs cannot be any worse than Labor has been since they took control.

One thing we can be thankful for as booksellers and readers in this country, is that the government has seen fit to treat books as sacrosanct when it comes to imposing taxes and duty. It was threatened once, but the whole country was up in arms. Our sympathies go out to the Kiwis however, as their government has slapped a 10% tax on books in New Zealand.

Victoria it seems is not the only place in the world to suffer from out of date trading laws. In Ontario, Canada, Bakka Bookshop was forced to close on Sundays after being threatened with a \$2000 fine. We at least can open our bookshops on Sundays, along with restaurants and hotels. You can also buy things at service station shops, 711 stores and similar places, that are normally sold at hardware stores or other specialist shops, which are not allowed to open. It is rather silly. When you look at some other parts of the world however, you appreciate the system we have of governing ourselves in the "western" world. If we do not like what our governments do and enough people agree with us, we can change them.

Great minds think alike! A new British publication aimed at publicising books, for the reader rather than seller, is called BOOKS. Looks as though I will have to change the title if I keep my BOOKS going separately. There is or was, another "Australian" SCIENCE FICTION NEWS and I have been trying to think of a new name. Any suggestions?

The Science Fiction Shop in New York, which was hailed as the first all sf bookshop in the world, (Space Age started earlier, but ok we did have other things as well.) which was founded by Baird Series, has been bought by Joseph Libach, owner of the Comic Art Gallery in New York.

H.B.

SMALL MAGAZINES RECEIVED....

AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW is a small offset publication with articles and reviews by various people including John Bangsund, Jenny and Russell Blackford, Michael Tolly, George Turner, Cherry Wilder and others. It prints letters from authors and fans such as Jack Williamson, Martin Bridgestock, Samuel R. Delany and Robert A.W.Lowndes. It is published by Ebony Books for the Science Fiction Collective. If you are interested in the analysis and criticism of SF, you should be reading ASFR. The subscription is \$10 for 6 issues. Send it to Ebony Books, GPO Box 1294L, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001

TERROR AUSTRALIS is published by Leigh Blackmore. It is another small offset printed magazine, and it is devoted to the history, criticism and review of mainly horror and fantasy. If you write to Leigh Blackmore, 85 Duffy Ave., Thornleigh, NSW 2120, I am sure he will send you a sample copy and tell you what the current subscription is.

MARKETS

Ok, the Australian market for selling sf, fantasy and horror in Australia is more limited than ever now, but there is still a wide range of publications overseas. I do not have room to list them all, but Andrew Porter's *SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE* regularly lists them all in detail.

WRITERS CONTEST

Publishers of the L.Ron Hubbard novels and the WRITERS OF THE FUTURE Collections, are looking for sf writers in Australia to enter their short story writing competitions. For more details write to Julie Jones, P.O.Box 23, Railway Sq. Sydney, 2000 NSW.

FAN CLUBS

AUSTREK, the Victorian Star Trek Club can be contacted at G.P.O. Box 5206AA, Melbourne 3001, Victoria. This active group meets regularly, publishes the magazine *The Captain's Log* and periodically organises special get togethers.

THE DANDENONG VALLEY SF & F SOCIETY meets at the Dandenong Valley Regional Library and can be contacted c/o The Dandenong Regional Library Service, 411 Springvale Rd, Springvale Victoria, 3171.

THE MELBOURNE SF CLUB Meets Friday nights at the Saint David's Church Hall, 72 Melville Road West Brunswick, 3044. The club library is available to members and new members are welcome. For information write to P.O.Box 212, World Trade Centre, Melbourne 3005.AUSTREK

THE STAR WARS APPRECIATION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA can be contacted by writing to P.O.Box 64, Upper Ferntree Gully, 3156, Victoria.

The MARKET PLACE

This is a new section of ASFN that I hope to have each issue, for readers to advertise at a very minimal rate. The charge is \$4.00 for a 1/2 page or 25c per line. Minimum charge of \$1.00 equalling four lines. If you take 20 lines which is the equivalent of a 1/2 column the price drops to \$4.00

PEREGRINE IMPORTS - SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY ART PRINTS AND NOTE CARDS. Featuring the work of Michael Whelan and other artists. Lists sent on request to Barbara de la Hunty, P.O.Box 160, Applecross, Western Australia 6153

OFF-CUTS by George Turner. Melbourne author George Turner was the guest of Swancon '86 sf convention. To mark the occasion they published a 36 page book by George. This collectors item of only 350 copies is still available in limited quantities. \$6.60 including postage from: Swancon Publications, PO Box 318, Nedlands Western Australia 6009

SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE The Monthly SF&F News Magazine. Annual subscription \$30.00 US. Send direct to Science Fiction Chronicle, PO 4175, New York, NY 10163, USA

LOCUS - The Newspaper of the Science Fiction Field. Annual subscription \$50.00 US. Send direct to Locus Publications, PO Box 13305, Oakland, CA 94661, USA.

MIKE MCGANN- SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY T-SHIRTS Mike attends many Australian sf conventions, but you can write to Mike at 194 Corunna Rd., Petersham, NSW 2049



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for details on issues available and current subscription rates.

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A range of new SF&F hard cover, trade paperback and mass market paperbacks are available, both new and second hand. Orders will also be accepted for any books in print and we will want list any out of print.

The companion publication to ASFN, BOOKS, lists all sf&f books published and any titles listed can be ordered from that list, but most are not in stock. The range of new books in stock is growing and will dramatically increase from August on. Our TRADING POST list covers all books in stock as received. A new shipment has just been received and second hand books are also coming in all the time. A new TRADING POST is in preparation and a complete relist of all titles in stock will be done soon. Here is a sample list of books currently in stock:



NEW HARD COVERS

- DICK Philip K. PUTTERING ABOUT IN A SMALL LAND
(Academy Chicago '85) Non sf novel \$33.95
- FOSTER Alan Dean INTO THE OUT OF A horror
adventure novel. SF Book Club 16.60
- HODGELL P.C. GODSTALK F/N SFBC 12.95
- ..DARK OF THE MOON F/N SFBC 12.95
- MOORCOCK Michael THE CHRONICLES OF CORUM
F/Ns (Omnibus) Grafton '86 24.95
- .. THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS F/N
Grafton '86 24.95
- LEWIS C.S. BOXEN The Imaginary World of the
Young Author. An extraordinary accomplish-
ment by the author of "Narnia" 16.95
- SABERHAGEN Fred & Others BERSERKER BASE SF/A
SFBC 13.80
- WILHELM Kate HUYSMAN'S PETS SF/N Gollancz
27.95
- WOLFE Gene SOLDIER OF THE MIST F/N 26.95

SECOND HAND HARD COVERS

- ALDISS Brian A SOLDIER ERECT Non-sf/N
Coward McCann '71 Good 7.50
- FARMER Philip Jose GODS OF THE RIVERWORLD
SF/N Putnam '83 Very good 9.00
- FORD Richard THE CHILDREN OF ASHGAROTH F/N
Grafton '87 As new 16.50
- HERBERT Frank & Brian MAN OF TWO WORLDS
Gollancz '86 As new 16.00
- KNIGHT Damon THE MAN IN THE TREE SF/N
Gollancz '85 As new 10.00
- McCAFFREY Anne DRAGON DRUMS SF/N
Sidgwick '79 Very good 10.00
- MOORCOCK Michael THE SWORDS OF CORUM F/Ns
Omnibus Grafton '86 As new 16.50
- POHL Frederik THE MERCHANTS WAR SF/N
Gollancz '85 As new 12.00
- SILVERBERG Robert THE CONGLOMEROID COCKTAIL
PARTY SF/C Gollancz '84 As new 15.00
- WATSON Ian THE BOOK OF THE STARS SF/N
Gollancz '84 As new 15.00

TRADE PAPERBACKS NEW

- ASPRIN Robert MYTH-ING PERSONS F/N
Starblaze '86 14.95
- DICKSON Gordon R. THE DORSAL COMPANION
SF/C ACE '86 13.95
- JONES Gwyneth ESCAPE PLANS SF/N Orion/
Allen & Unwin '86 9.95
- LE GUIN Ursula K. EARTHSEA TRILOGY F/Ns
Omnibus Penguin '84 9.95
- .. & KIDD Virginia INTERFACES SF/A Ace '80
New reduced 4.00
- MacDONALD George LILITH F/N Allison & Busby
'87 13.95
- POWERS Tim DINNER AT DEVIANT'S PLACE SF/N
Chatto & Windus '86 10.95
- SHIEL M.P. THE PURPLE CLOUD SF/N Allison
and Busby '87 13.95

PAPERBACKS NEW

- CHALKER Jack THE RIVER OF DANCING GODS
F/N Orbit '86 9.95
- .. DEMONS OF THE DANCING GODS F/N
Orbit '86 9.95
- .. VENGEANCE OF THE DANCING GODS F/N
Orbit '86 8.95
- CONY Michael CAT KARINA SF/N Orbit 8.95
- .. THE CELESTIAL STEAM LOCOMOTIVE
SF/N Orbit 9.95
- .. GODS OF THE GREATAWAY SF/N Orbit 8.95

SECOND HAND PAPERBACKS

- ROBINSON Kim Stanley THE WILD SHORE
SF/N ACE Special '84 2.50
- VARLEY John MILLENIUM SF/N Sphere
VG 3.00

That is a sampling of the books in stock. The second hand titles are in most cases single copies and new titles also are in most cases limited supply, but I can obtain them for you if I have sold the copies now in stock.

Do not send payment when ordering. I will advise cost of titles still available and you can send payment or I can charge to BANKCARD, VISA or MASTERCARD.

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