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AUSTRALIAN



NEWS

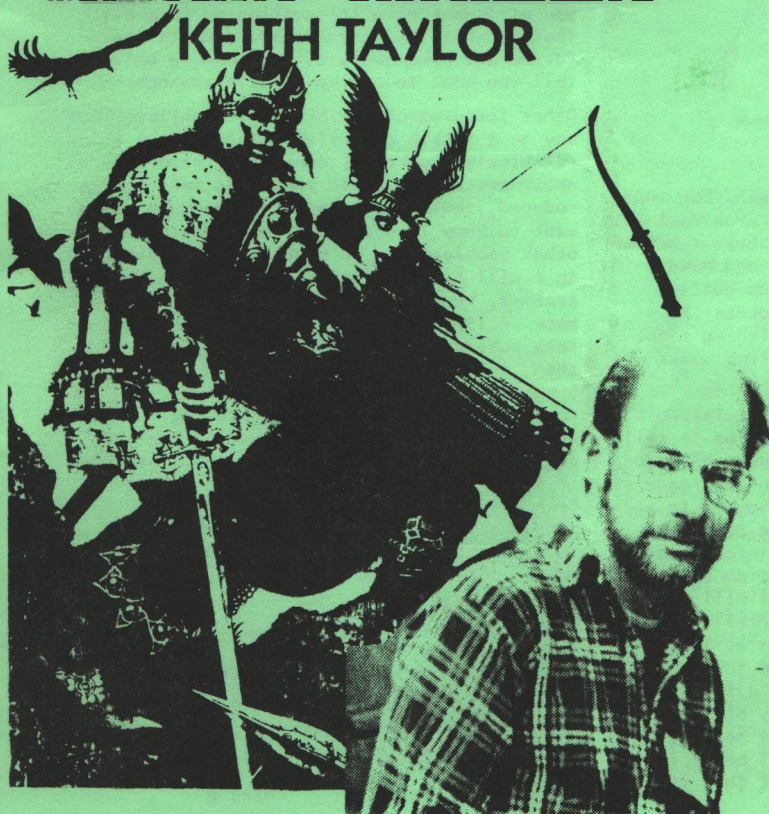
NUMBER 46

DECEMBER 1987

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A POET AND A PIRATE, THEY WERE THE DEADLIEST TEAM ON THE NORTHERN SEAS

BARD IV RAVENS' GATHERING KEITH TAYLOR



KEITH TAYLOR

Photo Steve Roylance

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A SEQUEL TO
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COMPREHENSIVE LIST
OF PUBLISHER'S
ANNOUNCEMENTS



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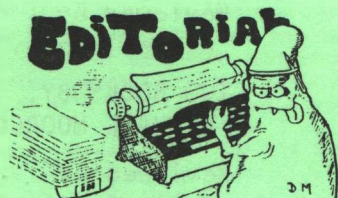
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ADVERTISING Rates will be quoted on request. It is a waste of space listing them. To be quite honest I was a bit disappointed that I did not receive any response, even thanks for last Issues adverts in the MARKET PLACE, but being taken for granted by sf "fans" is not really new for me.



Dear Readers,

Well here I am at last. Late again, but that is nothing new, is it? The usual problem I am afraid, money. All my time has been taken up with trying to sell a few books and make a few dollars to pay the rent. I am getting there, but it is a long slow process. So as much as I want to continue publishing ASFN, it must take a back seat to selling books and will publish as often as I can manage it.

Looking at it purely from a commercial point of view, the most important function is telling you all about new books being published and I believe that is why most of my readers subscribe to ASFN. I have endeavoured to separate that function by publishing BOOKS, but I did intend to incorporate that information back into the NEWS itself. Now I am a very long way behind with that, but I will definitely do another BOOKS and cover all the F&SF books published in 1987, as soon as I can. Meanwhile I have covered them to some degree in this issue and I did produce a list for my book customers, which was a copy of the full list of titles available from my major US supplier and that covered all US books in print and available as of August this year.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

The current rate is still \$6.00 for 4 issues, and if I decide to change the size or frequency in future, current subscriptions will be adjusted. All payments should be made to me direct or to MERV BINNS BOOKS. I have no overseas agents at this time. Overseas subscribers can send books in trade, or notes if in USA or Britain, although I do not really advise that, or I can organise payment to friends over there, which will save us the high costs on such a small amount for bank cheques and so forth. VISA or MASTERCARD credit cards can be used by overseas subscribers, plus BANKCARD for Australian and New Zealand customers.

If you did not receive one I will send a copy for \$2.00 to cover cost and postage. But you will want to know all the British books and you will want more information on them all. That is what I will concentrate on in the future and make every effort to keep up and tell you what is coming well in advance.

Other features of the NEWS will continue, but may be a little curtailed. Awards are I think relatively important, convention reports are not, news about people and books sold can be reduced, reviews are important because you do want to know if books are worth buying or see other peoples views on books you may have read, so I will take it from there. One other small problem. When I started publishing the NEWS back in 1978, I was given permission by overseas publications to take information from them, information which I have no way of getting myself. In exchange information from ASFN could then be used by the overseas zines. This arrangement has been terminated by one such publication and I cannot blame them, because it seems everybody left right and centre has been doing the same, without permission. I cannot afford to pay for such information, so some aspects of the news about the sf world may be curtailed for that reason, in future issues.

Thanks again to all my customers, subscribers, book reviewers, correspondents, publishers, suppliers and all readers for their support and encouragement. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for our bi-centenary year, 1988.

MERV B

AUSTRALIAN PROFESSIONAL NEWS



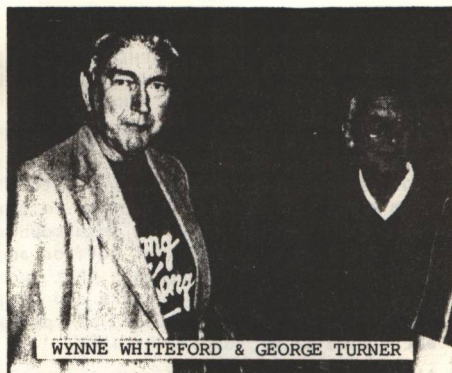
Science Fiction and Fantasy publishing in Australia is at a low ebb at present, but our authors are busy. DAMIEN BRODERICK completed the editing of an anthology for Angus and Robertson a few months ago, *MATILDA AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT*. This collection of previously published stories by Australian authors will most likely see the light of day by mid 1988. Damien's last published work was *BLACK GRAIL* for Avon, who are also sitting on *STRIPED HOLES*, which may show up in 1988. Somewhere along the line a title, *THE SOLIPSISM SAMBA*, was mentioned as being published, but Damien reports it never has been and may never appear under that title.

SEAN McMULLEN attended CONSPIRACY World SF Convention, saw little of the con itself, but had a great time talking to authors and editors and getting lots of tips on writing and getting published. Sean has sold a number of stories, including *THE COLOURS OF THE MASTERS* for publication in *Magazine of F&SF* in December or January and *WITH THE GATE WIDE OPEN*, some time late '88.

We finally caught up with KEITH TAYLOR who is working on various projects including volume 5 of his "Bard" series. *BARD IV: RAVENS GATHERING*, was published by Ace in November in the USA. Keith won the top Australian SF Award, The Ditmar, for Best F&SF Novel this year, given at the National Australian SF Convention, CAPCON, in Canberra in April, with *BARD III: THE WILD SEA*.

GEORGE TURNER is working on another sf novel, and he said it is giving him some problems at the moment, so it will be a while before we see that in print. Meanwhile, *SEA AND SUMMER*, which was published by Faber in the UK earlier this year, was finally released by Penguin Books, who distribute Faber in Australia this month.

WYNNE WHITEFORD also attended this year's World SF Con and CACTUSCON in the USA, which was almost as well attended as CONSPIRACY. Both Wynne and Sean attended and enjoyed it as much or more than the World Con. Wynne's novel *THE HYADES CONTRACT* came out from ACE in September.



Wynne's earlier novels published by Paul Collins, have also been published by Ace and a new novel, *LAKE OF THE SUN*, will be published by them sometime in 1988. He is working on a novel, *THE SPECIALISTS*, which is an expansion of a successful short story, having been translated in to a number of other languages already. After showing how the story can be expanded and outlining it for Ace, they are very interested.

I could not help but feel sad for my old friend A. BERTRAM CHANDLER recently, when I saw the Bond Airship passing over my home. I am quite sure he would have been thrilled to see it and I am quite sure ride in it, if he had still been around. Having been, as many people reading this will know, a very keen supporter of the building and expanded use of airships, which made a number of appearances in his stories. The collection of his stories, *FROM SEA TO SHINING STAR*, published by Perth based publishers, Dreamstone, was due for publication late this year. It contains 30 stories and is illustrated by Nick Stathopoulos. It comes in two editions, limited to a total of 500 copies, with 100 signed by the editor and artist and selling at \$90 and the balance at \$65. For more details write to Dreamstone, PO Box 160, Applecross, W.A. 6153.

Damien Broderick would like to hear from the authors whose stories he has included in the A&R anthology and have not signed their contracts. Leane Frahm for one.

Friends of Queensland author, FRANK BRYNING, will be pleased to hear he is going strong and that he recovered well from an appendix operation in March this year.

I heard rumours of a new Australian SF magazine earlier this year, but I believe it was dropped for the usual financial reasons.

APHELION PUBLICATIONS

Editor and Publisher of APHELION magazine, the Australian SF magazine that saw 5 issues during '86 and '87, Peter McNamara, had intended to produce an annual sf collection, but his letter as follows says it all:

Regrettably, problems involved with the move from a quarterly magazine format to that of anthology are proving to be insurmountable. Rather than drag the matter out for another 12 months, with no guarantees that even then we will not disappoint readers and contributors, we have decided to cease all publishing activities as of August 1st 1987.

All manuscripts accepted or being considered for APHELION 88 will be returned, immediately, and notice of winding up of business will be circulated as widely as possible in order not to inconvenience those considering new or re-directed submissions.

It is our hope that others will quickly move to fill the void created by the winding up of APHELION and OMEGA. Australian Science Fiction is in need of a viable testing ground, and, while APHELION was not able to provide a long-term solution to the problem, we are optimistic that our experience will be of benefit to those who will surely follow.

We thank contributors, subscribers, advisers, and all who assisted us along the way.

Peter McNamara
for Aphelion Publications

.....

I would just like to compliment Peter on his professionalism and add my hopes that somebody will take up the banner and get sf publishing in Australia on the move.

Ed

People and Publishing

FREDERICK POHL has received some high praise for his novel CHERNOBYL. Stepping right out of the sf field, he has written a fictionalised report of the nuclear accident in the USSR. It has been well reviewed and has been sold to TV for a mini-series. The highly regarded reviewer, Virginia Kirkus, summed it up: "Along with a splendid cast in a gripping and vivid narrative, Pohl presents as balanced and insightful a picture of the USSR as may be found. A pro's pro in top form, tackling an inherently fascinating subject: the subject is irresistible". One could not but be reminded of the famous Heinlein story "Blow

Ups Happen", when the disaster took place. That was fiction - Pohl has gone one better and demonstrated that truth is always more exciting than fiction, to paraphrase the old axiom. And who better to do it than one of our top 'science fiction' writers.

British author DAVID EDDINGS, while still completing the fantasy series "The Mallorean", has sold another trilogy, "The Elenium". The British rights alone brought him \$1.25 million US. Grafton publishers won the bidding and will publish hard cover and paperback editions. How things have changed for fantasy and sf writers for that matter, now. It was usual for an author to stick with a publisher and accept whatever they handed him for his work, but now days, with the almost megabucks in relation to what authors used to get involved, it is becoming a standard practice for best selling authors agents to auction their work. And it seems to be paying off.

Local publishers/distributors have been making the most of the high interest in fantasy books in Australia, and publicising their releases by bringing some best-selling authors such as STEPHEN DONALDSON and more recently DAVID EDDINGS and RAYMOND E. FEIST to Australia on meet-the-author and book-signing tours.

BRIAN ALDISS has become involved with the theatre. He has written "Science Fiction Blues", which includes readings from his stories and poems plus "Speculations and conversation pieces". Aldiss will take part in the production, with actor Ken Campbell and others, which they hoped to get into a West End theatre before the end of the year.

MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY did a tour of the "Magical Sites of Britain" a few months ago. A novel she has been working on, HEIRS OF HAMMERFELL, for DAW, has been shelved pending a rewrite.

The June issue of *Locus* features an excellent interview with Hugo winning author ORSON SCOTT CARD. Those people wanting an insight into this extraordinary writer should get hold of that issue of *Locus*. Recent books by Card include WYRMS, which is an sf novel not in a series and SEVENTH SON, which is the 1st in a series, The Tales of Alvin Maker, which I believe will run to five books.

JACK CHALKER continues to turn them out, with a new series, "The Quntara Marathon", recently sold to Ace. He has also sold a fourth book in the "Dancing Gods" series to Del Rey and a short story collection. "The Rings of the Masters" series will also be published in the UK by Hodder and Stoughton.

ARTHUR C. CLARKE has collaborated with NASA scientist GENTRY LEE, on three books, which have been bought by Bantam. The first is a sequel to *RENDEZVOUS WITH RAMA*, which we all thought was wide open for a sequel. That is everybody except Mr Clarke. He was quite adamant that there would be no sequel, despite publishers requests for him to write it. However in a letter from his agents to LOCUS, it is reported that during the discussions between Clarke and Gentry Lee, the idea of a sequel to "Rendezvous" came up and obviously much more. Clarke has also sold *ASTOUNDING DAYS: A Science Fictional Autobiography* to Bantam. It is an appreciation of *Astounding* sf magazine from 1930 to 1945, interwoven with Clarkes personal reminiscence.

JAMES WHITE has written another "Sector General" novel, *FEDERATION WORLD*, which will be published by Del Rey. / C.J. CHERRYH has sold three collaborative novels to Baen and each will be written with a different co-author.

JENNIFER ROBERSON sold *FLIGHT OF THE RAVEN* to DAW (#7 in the "Cheysuli" series) followed by *SWORD-SINGER*. Also due soon is *DAUGHTER OF THE LION* (#6 in the "Cheysuli" series).

MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY, who has been editing collections such as "Swords and Sorceress" for DAW for a while, is to edit a magazine. It will be called *Fantasy Forum*. She will be assisted by Kathryn Krushcild. The magazine will have fiction artwork and poetry. A guideline on the type of material wanted can be obtained from MZB Enterprises, Box 72, Berkeley CA 94701, USA.

ROGER ZELAZNY's new "Amber" series will run to five books. Arbor House is publishing all five in hc and Avon in pb. Avon have also bought *A DARK TUNNEL TRAVELLING*, which was published by Walker in hc. / GREGORY BENFORD fractured his shoulder playing softball a few months ago and after an operation was expected to be in plaster for some months. We hope it did not curtail his writing. Benford has in fact been very busy according to a report in *Locus*. His academic work has limited his writing time, but he has sold two anthologies to Bantam. One on historical figures and the other on historical events. / JOEL ROSENBERG has sold two sf novels to Ace.

Yet another posthumous PHILIP K. DICK book is to be published. *THE BROKEN BUBBLE OF THISBEE HOLT*, by Arbor House. Warner Brothers film studios have optioned *TIME OUT OF JOINT*.

KATE WILHELM is suing Orion Pictures, claiming that the film *DESPERATELY SEEKING SUSAN*, which

starred rock star MADONNA, bears striking similarities to her novel *OH SUSANNAH!*

In July this year TOR launched a series of books called "Crossroads Adventures". They are role-playing books set in the worlds created by well known sf authors such as Anne McCaffrey, Robert Silverberg and David Drake.

DOUBLEDAY and BANTAM books have completed an arrangement whereby a new Doubleday imprint, Foundation Books, in honour of Isaac Asimov. (Doubleday have published him for many years), will publish hard cover sf, most of which will be published by Bantam in pb. Better deals for authors, with previously unplanned hard covers coming up, will ensue. May 1988 is the date for Foundation's launch.

A new mass market pb publisher will commence publishing in 1988. PAGEANT BOOKS, formed by Crown publishers and the Waldenbooks, bookstore chain. They will publish a wide range of fiction including sf and fantasy.

My thanks to Locus mainly and to a lesser degree SF Chronicle, for some of the information so far presented.

Ed.

GENE WOLFE wrote early in the year and told me about TOR Books being sold to St Martin's Press and that they would continue to operate as a semi-independent entity. He also told me that his new book *URTH OF THE NEW SUN* had been bought by Tor, along with *THERE ARE DOORS* and the sequel to *SOLDIER OF THE MIST*. "Soldier's been very kindly reviewed here, but writing accurate historical fiction takes a great deal of research, I find; so often the books I want are unavailable, and the books I have are contradictory. (I have a persistent notion of writing a traveler's guide to ancient Greece. It would contain such useful phrases as: "Are you really building it to confuse the archaeologists?" and "Why is Achilles so cross?") Cross your fingers for me," said Gene Wolfe.

In view of the fact that some SF news mags are complaining about other publications pinching their news, I would be very pleased to receive brief reports from other authors not only from the USA and Britain, but Australia, who even here I have to chase and belt over the head to get information. Not all sources of my overseas news have complained, but it would be nice if I could carry more original material in the future. Thanks to Gene Wolfe, the Haldemans, Harry Harrison, John Brunner and others who have written in the past and particularly Brian Aldiss, whose most recent letter I reproduce next page.

A LETTER FROM BRIAN ALDISS

Dear Merv,

Thanks a lot for sending me the two issues of OZ SF NEWS - always welcome. I thought it was brave - or at least blunt - of you to say what you did about Heinlein, seeing that he is still the idol of many sections of fandom, however awful his books nowadays. You'll notice maybe that I had to make the same kind of decision when David Wingrove and I were writing TRILLION YEAR SPREE. We took the view that if we really couldn't like something we should say so, even if it was written by one of the gods of Olympus...

I'm sorry to hear that you still have this problem with the side-issue of earning money. I have the same trouble. Life settled into a very comfortable pattern at this new address, where we are just outside Oxford. I can potter around, weeding the garden and writing correspondence ... then another bill comes in, and I go back to my typewriter. These days, I've become fonder of my chain-saw.

Yes, it was sad about Terry Carr. I was personally sorry to hear of the death of Ted Cogswell, a really good jokester who fought in the Spanish Civil War and, in happier days, ran PITFCS, the Proceedings of the Institute of Twenty-First Century Studies - the best fanzine there ever was.

I don't have a lot of news for you. Everyone is readying for the World Con. I have an illustrated book called RUINS out from Century Hutchinson in September, CRACKEN AT CRITICAL, for the Con. Methuen and Gollancz will be bringing out some of my older titles in paperback next year. The PENGUIN OMNIBUS OF WORLD SF, which I edited with Sam Lundwell of Sweden, will be reprinted at the end of the year. And so on. The production line grinds on. I'm working on a new novel over the summer.

All the best,

Brian Aldiss

Thanks for that Brian and congratulations on your Hugo for Non-Fiction that you and David Wingrove received at CONSPIRACY, even if it did take the 'b.....s' years to give you another one.

Merv B

AN APOLOGY is due to DAW editor BETSY WOLLHEIM. I reported recently that she gave birth to a son last December. In fact her now twelve month old daughter is definitely a girl. Betsy told me that she checked "very carefully" after reading my report.

AWARDS



THE BRITISH SF ASSOCIATION AWARDS were presented at Becon '87 in April this year. The BEST NOVEL AWARD went to Bob Shaw's THE RAGGED ASTRONAUTS, BEST SHORT FICTION to Keitg Roberts for "Kaeti and the Hangman", BEST MEDIA PRESENTATION was awarded to the movie ALIENS and BEST ART to Keith Roberts for "The Clocktower Girl", Kaeti & Company.

This years JOHN W. CAMPBELL MEMORIAL AWARD went to Joan Slonczewski for her novel A DOOR INTO OCEAN, published by Arbour House and Avon in the US and Women's Press in Britain. A new short story award was initiated in honour of THEODORE STURGEON, which went to Judith Moffett for "Surviving" (F&SF 6/86) The awards were presented at a banquet at the University of Kansas on July 18-19.

The AUSTRALIAN SF MEDIA AWARDS this year went to :

Best SF Media Fanwriter: Susan Clarke
Best SF Media Fanartist: Robert Jan
Best SF Media Fanzine: CHRONICLES
Best Amateur Audivisual: "Perfect Botch"
(Filmed at Time Warped Convention II)

Thanks to Susan Clarke for those details.

Jack Herman sent me a complete run down on the voting for the DITMAR AWARDS this year, which I did not have room to give you in detail. Any body particularly interested can ask me for a photocopy. The winners were given last issue. Incidentally Jack, Keith Taylor tells me that he has still not received his "Ditmar" trophy! I realise this is not your fault, but can you tell Keith who has it please. Keith is at 29 Ross Street, Port Melbourne Victoria 3207. Phone (03) 645 2094

The HUGO WINNERS for 1987 will be found with the CONSPIRACY 87 World Con reports on page 7.

In a very interesting survey held by LOCUS recently, the Best All Time Sf Novel came out as DUNE by Frank Herbert; Best All Time Fantasy Novel, THE LORD OF THE RINGS by J.R.R. Tolkien; Best All Time SF Author Robert Heinlein; Best All Time Fantasy Author J.R. Tolkien and Tolkien also came out on top in the SF and F authors combined. And if you want to know all the other runners up, you will have to get hold of the August issue of LOCUS. Incidentally, I think "most popular" would be more appropriate.

MB

SCIENCE FICTION

CONVENTION



The 45th World SF Convention, CONSPIRACY was held in Brighton, England from the 27th to 31st of August 1987. A few Australian fans were in attendance including Wynne Whiteford, Sean McMullen, Russell & Jenny Blackford, Alan Stewart and Cathy Kerrigan from Melbourne, John McDouall from Perth, Sue Clarke and Sarah Murray-White from Sydney and others from Melbourne and all over. Alan and Cathy have both written reports for me and I thank them both for their efforts. Lets start with the Hugo winners.

THE HUGO WINNERS 1987

- BEST NOVEL:** *SPEAKER FOR THE DEAD*
by Orson Scott Card
(TOR USA/ Arrow UK)
- BEST NOVELLA:** "Gilgamesh in the Outback"
by Robert Silverberg
(IASFM 7/86/ REBELS IN HELL)
- BEST NOVELETTE:** "Permafrost"
by Roger Zelazny
(OMNI 4/86)
- BEST NON FICTION:** *TRILLION YEAR SPREE*
by Brian Aldiss with
David Wingrove
(Gollancz/Atheneum)
- BEST SHORT STORY:** "Tangents"
by Greg Bear
(Omni 1/86)
- BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION:** ALIENS
- BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST:** JIM BURNS
- BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR:** TERRY CARR
- BEST SEMIPROZINE:** LOCUS Ed. Charles N. Brown
- BEST FAN WRITER:** DAVE LANGFORD

BEST FAN ARTIST: BRAD FOSTER

BEST FANZINE: ANSIBLE Ed. DAVE LANGFORD

JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD:
KAREN JOY FOWLER

SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF CONSPIRACY

by Alan Stewart

Conspiracy '87 got underway in the Brighton Centre - new concrete block perched beside the sea. Nearby were two piers - a derelict western one and the other full of video machines, slides and various sideshow stalls selling from 'your own picture' t-shirts to South Sea post-cards labelled Brighton.

Registration was well organised and there never seemed to be much trouble in this area, which was immediately across from the tricky revolving entrance doors. Indeed, the the coffee shop inside was a popular spot to sit and watch for friends. Upstairs were 'Hall A' and 'The Arena', used for programme items. The arena only really did a few things - Opening Ceremony, Masquerade, Hugo Awards, Hawkwind Concert and it seemed underused.

The opening ceremony began with a green laser zapping around over everyone's head, apparently doing nice patterns on the front of the balcony if you wanted to turn around and see it. Eventually it wrote the 'Conspiracy 87' logo on a screen and it was over to Brian Aldiss. He one by one introduced all the Guests of Honor, who said a few words each, one of the Strugatsky's in Russian. They were immediately walked off with a vague hint of 'security' and it was all over.

To view the Masquerade from the Arena floor level it was necessary to purchase Masked Ball/ Banquet tickets and many fans opted for the balcony. As the parade was only on the floor, no stage, this was perhaps a wise decision. The costumes varied, and the truly ornate and intricate were rewarded, but there was nothing quite as spectacular as the 'Dragon' of Aussiecon II. Apparently the setting up for Hawkwind had limited the Masquerade staging a bit. There were some problems hearing the lyrics (You've got to be kidding Alan. Since when do you hear the lyrics of any rock band!) intelligibly during their concert, but the special effects with smoke and lasers were very well done and worth seeing.

The authors who attended the Con seemed to be a similar collection to Aussiecon. There were the few special guests of honor such as Doris Lessing and the Strugatsky brothers. The old regulars such as Robert Silverberg, Frederik Pohl and Hal Clement. And some of the new cadre such as William Gibson, Roberta McAvoy,

Karen Joy Fowler and Melissa Scott. Interspersed with British authors such as Brian Aldiss and M. John Harrison.

One panel on 'future war' were most disappointed that Jerry Pournelle had not attended to take the other side of the debate. During the final SFWA party, Dave Langford indulged in a beer and glass throwing match.

Joan D. Vinge was not able to attend and her place on a panel was taken by her husband Jim Frenkel. Australian author Wynne Whiteford received some advance copies of his novel *THE HYADES CONTACT* during the con, and pencilled his own name into a blank spot on the 'author's signing' schedule. He then set up at the appropriate time and signed and sold all the copies of the book.

It was interesting to faces to many authors, previously just names on book jackets, and

It was interesting to put faces to many authors, previously just names on book jackets, and also fans know only from faded blue zines.

The Dealer's Room was interesting but not particularly remarkable. Only one dealer had anything reasonable in Non-Fiction/Criticism stock. Many were second hand hardcovers usually 2-5 Pounds (\$5 to \$12.50 Aust), and magazines. A few had come across from the USA with new hard covers and limited editions, such as *PORTRAITS OF HIS CHILDREN* and *THE ESSENTIAL HARLAN ELLISON*, which were pretty pricey. The English small press were featured on some stalls, with numbered editions plus chapbooks by Brian Aldiss and Keith Roberts for sale. Other tables featured models, jewellery, posters and fan club merchandise.

As usual, aircrews were still booked into con floors in the main hotel, The Metropole, but that was par for the course. Due to redecorating, which had been promised finished by the Con, one of the programme halls, Hall 4, ended on the second floor and it took about a 1/4 of an hour to get from it to Hall A in the Brighton Centre, between panels. After the fireworks display, the management caught sight of hordes heading in, and promptly limited admission to Metropole Guests only. Apparently barring Gene Wolfe for one, who had an invite to a Japanese party, and there were others.

Boston in '91 threw a good party, Lucy Huntzinger threw an interesting Hawaii party complete with Hawaiian shirts 'to brighten up the Brits', but Holland in '90 came out the big winners, cleaning up in the site selection ballot.

The fan lounge was a nice large room with a bar at one end and a fanzine sale table at the other. In between were chairs, tables, beach umbrellas and couches which worked well, allowing people to gather and mingle.

There didn't seem to be any major snafus, apart from Metropole hassles, but like any Con it was what you put into it.

On the 1990 site voting, 1141 votes were cast altogether, with 712 for Holland, 402 for Los Angeles and 27 others. Of three write-ins, one was Jack Herman (*I presume a Sydney bid ?*), one Minneapolis in '73 (*Naturally!*) and the other, Karnak in 1990. Guests of Honour for Holland are Joe Haldeman, Wolfgang Jeschke and Harry Harrison. Fan GoH Andrew Porter. Rates until December '87: Attending \$45 Australian, Supporting \$25, Conversion \$20, Children under 14 \$10. Correspondence to Worlcon 1990, PO Box 95370-2509 CJ, The Hague, HOLLAND.

Alan Stewart

(Allan incidently, was hit by a car soon after getting home from his trip, and was laid up in hospital for a week or more with concussion. He is now up and about but taking it easy.)

CONSPIRACY 1987: A RECOLLECTION & APPRAISAL

by Kathy Kerrigan

I arrived in London the Monday before Conspiracy was due to start (having been on the same flight as Lync and Clively). From there on in, I proceeded to meet fans, in spite of the fact that London's population is about half that of the whole of Australia. For instance, on the Tuesday night, I popped into Wimpy's to have a very quick meal before going to see *TIME* - the musical at the Dominion Theatre and who else did I find doing the same thing? John McDouall from Perth and Cappy Grey from Winnipeg. The next day, travelling down on the train to Brighton, I met Roger Robinson from Essex. Roger was heading the rego team for Conspiracy. On my arrival at the Brighton Centre, I met Sarah Murray-White from Sydney, and Gene Wolfe. Wandering around Brighton, I ran into Danny Murphy, Haydn Chan and Frances O'Donnell from Brisbane, and fellow Nova Mobbers Alan Stewart, Janeen Webb, Lucy Sussex and Russell and Jenny Blackford. Seeking a bit of peace and quite in a restaurant, I ended up dining with 3 L.A. fans: Michael Mason, L.R. Goldstein and Bradford de Moss. And that was the day before the con started. (Did I forget to mention Wynne Whiteford? He was there too.)

It was meeting fans from other countries, as well as catching up with fellow Australian fans that I probably enjoyed the most about Conspiracy. Much more so than Aussiecon II, there were fans from a lot of different countries. I met fans from Finland, Norway, Holland, Germany, France, and Japan, as well as the UK and the US. And I was delighted when Holland won 1990 (Now I've started trying to figure out how I can get to Holland in 1990).

Highlights: the costumes at the masquerade were stunning (sorry folks, none of my photos turned out). Having lunch with Gene and Rosemary Wolfe. Aldiss's thank you speech at the Hugos ("You bastards! It's been a long time.") The performance of "Disappearing Acts" (a series of short one-act plays written by Alfred Bester and featuring Geoff Ryman. Who's Geoff Ryman? A British fan and author of *The Unconquered Country* (Unwin) whos about 7 feet tall and is quite a good actor.) The Dealer's room (I spent so much money in the dealer's room and I can't think what on). The talk/slide show by Charles Pellegrino on Bob Ballard's expedition to find the Titanic. The Women's Periodical tea party (a delight - and didn't the men get annoyed when they were turned away because it was strictly women only). Bob Silverberg scolding the audience at the Hugos for presenting posthumous awards to Terry Carr and Judy Lynn del Rey and failing to honour them in their lifetime. The fireworks that followed the Hugos. Listening to Jack Chalker relate some Worldcon history (and explain that FRIDAY is a sequel to short story in Heinlein's *THE MOON IS A HARSH MISTRESS*). Listening to Guy Gavriel Kay talk about the year he spent with Christopher Tolkien editing *THE SILMARILLION*. What else?

It was difficult to see more than a little of the convention. At any one time there were six strands of programming to choose from, plus up to 3 film/video programmes as well. Then there was the dealer's room, the art show and exhibition of Ray Harryhausen's work, the fan lounge, and so on and so forth. I found Conspiracy to be exhausting as well as enjoyable.

Low spots: the opening ceremony would qualify for one of the worst I've seen with a laser show that fizzled out whilst the audience suffocated on the smoke from a cantankerous smoke machine and with Aldiss giving one of the shortest opening speeches on record. The feuding between the 2 Australian worldcon bids. The feud between America and the rest-of-the-world over a panel called "Why Have the Americans Hijacked the Worldcon". The media fen who disrupted Charles Pellegrino's talk on the Titanic, much to the annoyance of those fans who were there to

listen to him. The masked ball/cabaret that accompanied the masquerade (I should have saved my 10 pound - the musicians were so laid back as to be dull, and the food was served up as though we were all sitting on an airplane). The fact that British fans were so busy running the convention they had little or no time to stop to talk to anyone - at least from what I saw (I don't intend this as a criticism - they were genuinely busy). The audience hissing L.Ron Hubbard's name when he was announced as a nominee for Hugo Best Novel (highpoint: Gene Wolfe telling the audience off for that). The hotel management panicking when 4000 fans tried to get back into the hotel after the post-Hugo fireworks (they closed the doors and would only allow residents into the hotel - no room parties that night).

The panels I went to I enjoyed. There were no outstanding panels, and no real duds. Though I did get very annoyed at the panel on critics. The panellists were Norman Spinrad, John Clute, Ian Banks, and Robert Silverberg (there was someone else but I cannot remember who it was). I came in half-way, and not long after, Silverberg (in response to a comment from the audience) quoted an unnamed American author as saying that women can't think straight. Later, when I described the methods I used in criticism, the panel (mainly Spinrad and Clute, but the others didn't disagree) attacked me for being analytical. (The gist of their argument was that criticism must be creative because literature is creative.) All of those men were blissfully unaware of their double standard.

In short, in spite of the low points, I had a great time. Most of the fans I was with also had a good time. The Americans were pretty critical of the organisation though the one American I spoke to with some actual experience of running worldcons wasn't). The rest of us took it as it came. (Americans ought to relax more if any of them read this, it will not help my DUFF campaign - but I mean it. I really think they ought to relax and enjoy things a bit more.)

One last note: total membership of the con was 5667 (though this figure counted 3 day members as equivalent to 1 full membership). The total attending (both full and day) was 5300; and the largest number present at any one time was 4700. There were members from 36 countries.

Kathy Kerrigan

Thank you both, Alan and Kathy for those comments. It certainly gives the people like myself, who could not attend CONSPIRACY, a good idea of how it went. Things do not change very

much. It sound as though many of the little problems that came up were the same as I have seen at the World Cons I have attended. I must admit that I was a bit disappointed in Gene Wolfe's speech at AUSSIECON II. I thought it a little short and perhaps a little limited in interest to the audience as a whole. (Hi Gene!) Then again I cannot remember most of the speeches I have heard. Ursula K. LeGuin at AUSSIECON I of course and my first World Con, Robert Bloch at TORCON, with if I remember correctly, a bit of kibbitzing from Isaac Asimov. But maybe the smoke put Brian off a bit Kathy. Rock music is a bit of a bore at any time so I sympathise with you Kathy having to sit through the concert, but you should have known better. I remember a similar turn at SEACON, when Jerry Pournelle and others wanted to talk and could not hear themselves over the music, and Jerry in particular stalked out in disgust letting them know what he thought at the top of his voice. The run in with the authors on the 'criticism panel' must have been interesting. Would you like to elaborate on that in a future issue Kathy?

It was reported that over four hundred authors attended SEACON at Brighton in 1979, and it occurred to me then that it would be a very long time before many attended the one convention again. It was an occasion when many of the US authors met, who perhaps had never met or only occasionally in the past or ever met or would ever meet again, their British counterparts. It was for me a sobering and sometimes sad moment, meeting the heroes of my youth and knowing that for one reason or another I might never meet any of them again. Maybe I am a sentimental old fool, but isn't meeting people what fandom and conventions are all about.

Merv B



Conventions

AND OTHER EVENTS

The last major convention in Australia was SYNCON 1987, held on June 5 to 8 at the Metropole Hotel, Cremorne, Sydney. The guests were Terry Dowling and Lucy Huntzinger. Nobody sent me a report, not that I remembered to ask, so

Next year there is literally a feast of conventions for sf fans and media fans. First off the rank is:

TIME WARPED CONVENTION II

The 2nd media convention organised by movie man Bob Johnston. It will be spread over var-

ious venues in Sydney, from April 1 to 4 1988. Guest of Honour is NICHELLE NICHOLS and Fan GoH Karen Irving. Joining fee is \$80, which rises to \$95 in February. There is some concern that the GoH may not be able to attend and if so a discount on memberships will apply. At least 15 films will be screened, plus various TV episodes. Write for more details to: Time Warped Convention, 401/425 Elizabeth St., Sydney, NSW 2010

KINKON III

This is the third fun convention to be put together by Andrew and Ruth Murphy and friends, not counting others this group have been connected with. And they get better every time. The Guests will be the famous once book-shop assistant, actor, and author ** LEE HARDING **, *GREG TURKICH * W.A. fan and the very famous *** JOHN BAXTER *** author, film buff, TV presenter and ex-hackwriter for Starburst magazine. (I heard a rumour that the Save The Whales And Dolphins Society will be picketing KINKON III, unless Angus Caffrey is fed to the sharks. Personally I don't know what the sharks did to deserve that.) For more details write to: 11 Hopkins Street, Dandenong, Victoria 3175 Phone AH (03)793 1706

CONVICTION

The 27th National Australian SF Convention will be held at the Shore Motor Inn, Pacific Highway, Artarmon, N.S.W. June 10 - 13 1988. Guests of Honour are SPIDER & JEANNE ROBINSON and CAREY HANDFIELD (If anybody knows how I can find this Melbourne fan, would they please let me know!) Membership until 1/1/88 is \$35 Then \$40 up to 1/6/88. Supporting \$20 and a new innervation, voting membership is \$5.00. CONVICTION (Syncon '88) is an Endorsed Bi-Bicentennial Activity. All correspondence to: Box 272, Wentworth Building, University of Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia.

ZENCON II

The 1988 National Media SF Convention is to be held at the Clunies Ross Memorial Foundation facilities at 191 Royal Parade, Parkville, Melbourne, from the 9th to 11th of September 1987. The Guest of Honour will be PAUL DARROW, star of the TV series "Blakes 7" and other probable guests will be Janet Lee Price and Michael Keating. Accommodation is at the Royal Parade Travelodge, a few blocks from the Convention venue. Membership is \$45 till 8/9/88. \$60 at the door. Accommodation and meals can all be arranged through the con-com. For full details write to Secretary Kathy Kerrigan, P.O. Box 437, Camberwell, Vic. 3124 Phone: (03) 819 1982

A full list of Overseas Conventions is given regularly in SF CHRONICLE & LOCUS

WORLD CON NEWS

Next year's World SF Convention, the 46th, is NOLAcon II, to be held in New Orleans, USA at the Sheraton Hotel and other venues.

The GoH is DONALD A WOLLHEIM, Fan GoH ROGER SIMS and TM MIKE RESNICK. Supporting membership \$30 US, Attending \$60 up to 31/12/87. Australian agent not known. US address: Nolacon II, 921 Canal St #831, New Orleans, LA 70112, USA.

The 1989 World Convention is NOREAScon 3, to be held at the Sheraton Hotel and other venues in Boston, MA, USA, from August 31st to September 3. G'soH IAN and BETTY BALLANTINE and ANDRE NORTON, Fan GoH The Stranger Club. For memberships and other details write to Noreascon 3, Box 46, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge MA 02139, USA.

The 1990 World Convention is to be held in Holland. I will have more details in the next issue. Meanwhile there is a bid in from a group in Sydney for 1991. Quite honestly I must say that I think this bid hasn't a hope in Hades of winning, as much as I would like it to. Sydney had it's chance in '85, and threw it away. It would be interesting to see how Australian fandom would react to a bid from Sydney fans against Perth for 1994. I know nothing about the '91 Sydney bid except that media fan Susan Clarke is on the bidding committee. Who else is involved and what experience have they had? For that matter the Perth in '94 bidders are probably not very experienced in running World Cons, who is, but they have been running local cons for a few years and many people involved have been involved in the Melbourne World Cons.

I would like to see more details on these bids and some correspondence from people who are involved, or who are more aware of what is going on, would be appreciated. Meanwhile the address for the PERTH IN '91 bid is PO Box 287, Nedlands, WA 6009. Presupporting membership is \$5.00 I have no address for the SYDNEY IN '91 bid, but Sue Clarke's address is 6 Bellevue Road, Faulconbridge, NSW 2776.

Those who are really interested would know how AUSSIECON II finished up financially, but briefly income was \$139676.84 and Expenses 130790.25, leaving a surplus of \$8886.59. Contributions were made to the Constellation bail out fund and registration of the World Science Fiction Society trademark, prior to the above figures being worked out. From the surplus \$1000 would be distributed amongst the fan funds and the balance used to further sf and sf fandom, but not specified in the report received.



There is not going to be much film news in this issue, but I must mention that the film TIME GUARDIAN is currently running in Melbourne. It stars Carrie Fisher, Tom Burlinson (PHAP LAP, MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER etc) and DEAN STOCKWELL. This film has Australian origins and Sydney artist and special effects man LEWIS MORLEY worked on the film and will be giving talks on the subject at up coming conventions.

Recently seen on TV, THE FLIPSIDE OF DOMINIC HIDE. A British production featuring Peter Firth and Pippa Guard with Patrick McGee, about a time traveller from the future who comes back to research the London Transport System. What I did see of the film was quite interesting and made good use of the usual time-travel cliches, but was otherwise un-spectacular. Worth watching if you get the opportunity again.

Seen on Entertainment This Week TV series: A film has been made of William Goldman's fantasy novel, THE PRINCESS BRIDE. It stars Cary Elwes, Robin Wright, and Mandy Patinkin along with others. Patinkin was in the Barbara Streisand film, YENTL. He takes part in a sword fight which rivals all the great sword fighting scenes of Erroll Flynn and others.

The new Star Trek TV series, STAR TREK: THE NEW GENERATION, finally got off the ground after initial teething problems. It has been screened on US TV and even some Aussie fans have got to see the pilot episode. A few months ago first series star Leonard Nimoy visited Russia to attend the opening of the movie, STAR TREK IV: THE VOYAGE HOME. The first official release of a ST film in Russia, but apparently films and videos of other movies and TV episodes have been doing the rounds. David Gerrold, who was working on the new ST series, is now working on an sf TV series of his own for Columbia.

Disney have produced a four-hour-mini-series titled EARTH STAR VOYAGE, due to be shown in the US in November. The BBC has also produced a nine part sf series, THE STAR COPS, set in the year 2027.

obituaries



RON SMITH, who came to live in Australia from the USA about 20 years ago, died early in November in Melbourne. He had been suffering from lymphatic cancer for about two years. I had quite a bit to do with Ron over the years when I was running Space Age Books, but it is only now that I realise how little I knew about him. He was married and divorced from Cindy Smith, who lives in Sydney and I believe they have a daughter. When he was hit with his illness, Ron had planned to marry a very nice lady, Rosemary, who my sympathies are with now in particular.

Ron was an sf fan and he won the Hugo for a fanzine he edited or co-edited, called INSIDE. For a few years I was caretaker of his Hugo Award, which I displayed in Space Age Books window each year when the Hugo Awards were announced. When he came to Australia he became involved with publisher Horwitz Books, where I believe he was responsible for the publication of books by John Baxter, Damien Broderick, A. Bertram Chandler and others. He later went into publishing himself in Melbourne and ran foul of our Victorian, in the full sense of the word, censorship laws. Although at one stage or another he almost finished up in jail, I think he looked back on that period with some amount of humour.

Then he went into the bookselling business and following a short stint in a little shop in StKilda Junction, he moved to Carlton, where his shop, specialising in psychology, sexuality, caring for the handicapped etcetera, did very well. He sold out to the people who had helped him run the shop and set out to establish a new publishing venture. Soon after he received the bad news, but in the few times I saw him over the last two years, his optimism did not seem to wane. Ron Smith was a nice guy, who it was a privilege to know, I will miss him.

Merv Binns



ALFRED
BESTER

Photo
J.K.Klein

ALFRED BESTER, 73, science fiction writer and Hugo winner, died on September 30th 1987. His body was cremated on the same day. He had no close family. Bester was to be the US Guest of Honour at this year's World con, but he broke his hip in a fall for the second time and was back in hospital. The official cause of his death was heart failure.

What a tremendous influence his first two books DEMOLISHED MAN and TIGER! TIGER!, had on the field! Everybody could not stop talking about them and they still remain classics of sf writing. They were published in 1952 and 1956, respectively. The later was originally published and republished more often as THE STARS MY DESTINATION. DEMOLISHED MAN won the Hugo in 1953. It is sad and disappointing however, that in the following 34 years, Bester wrote nothing else that had the same impact as those first two novels, although he did produce many very good short stories in the 50s and 60s. He worked for *Holiday* magazine from the late 50s to the 70s and he did not do very much sf writing until THE COMPUTER CONNECTION (EXTRO) and GOLEM 100 were published in '75 and '80.

I think Alfred Bester could best be described as an innovative writer, whose style, although strongly criticised by some, had a tremendous influence on the writing of sf right through from the early 1950s to now. His name will shine with the other great writers who helped establish the sf field today, who have left us or are still entertaining us and making us think.

ROGER LANCELYN GREEN, British author, editor and critic, died October 8th 1987, aged 68. His best known work from our point of view

was INTO OTHER WORLDS: Space Flight in Fiction from Lucian to Lewis, published in 1957.

JAMES TIPTREE JR

ALICE SHELDON, who wrote under the name of James Tiptree Jr., died on May 19th, 1987. She shot her ailing husband who was 84 and then herself. Her own health was not the best. She had open heart surgery a few years ago. She was 71.

She was a behavioral psychologist, who took up writing in 1967 when she invented the name of James Tiptree Jr. She quickly made a mark on the sf field and won Nebulas and Hugos for her stories. Her first collection was TEN THOUSAND LIGHT YEARS FROM EARTH, followed by WARM WORLDS AND OTHERWISE, her first novel UP THE WALLS OF THE WORLD, a third collection STAR SONGS OF AN OLD PRIMATE, TALES OF QUINTANA ROO, BRIGHTNESS FALLS FROM THE AIR, a novel and THE STARRY RIFT, which was made up of three novelettes. We will see some more stories and an anthology, and I think we should be very grateful for what she has given us. Everything I have read about Alice Sheldon indicates she was a very private person, but as David Hartwell said in Locus, "The stories are for us".

LORNE GREEN, actor, died September 12th 1987. Greene originally came to the fore as Ben Cartwright in the TV western series "Bonanza", but TV sf fans will remember him as Adama in "Battlestar Galactica".

ROBERT PRESTON, another favourite film actor of mine for many years, died a few months ago. He played a variety of roles through his career, but he became a big star after appearing in the MUSIC MAN on Broadway and later in the movie. He was recently in S.O.B., VICTOR VICTORIA and as the nlib talking recruiting alien in LAST STARFIGHTER.



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SF SHOW BIZ

Science Fiction is something new on the stage, although fantasy and horror is not. It was inevitable I guess that with the enormous interest now in the literary world in f&sf the theatre would be affected. Andrew Lloyd Webber's STARLIGHT EXPRESS has been running for a couple of years, PHANTOM OF THE OPERA is doing great business and TIME is also doing very well. I must admit that I was not all that impressed with TIME's music, having been given a copy of the recording by my old mate Paul Stevens last year, but Kathy Kerrigan saw it on her trip to Conspiracy and she was very impressed. It is a spectacular rock musical, with a visual impact that is simply tremendous. The stage is transformed from a rock concert performance to fantastic scenes on other worlds, space ships and more, which are just simply stunning. It took five months to practically rebuild the theatre in London to accommodate it. Other visuals such as the hologram of Sir Laurence Olivier as the Time Lord, makes this production by Dave Clarke a must if you ever get to London. It is unlikely to be seen anywhere else. But they said that about CATS, didn't they!

M.B.

The MARKET PLACE

MERV BINNS BOOKS has been offered a complete collection of OMNI magazines. If anybody is interested in buying all or part of this collection please let me know. A collection of STARLOG that I was promised never turned up. The owner must have changed her mind.

PAUL J. STEVENS WANTS TO SELL A LOT OF HIS COMICS, but he is too lazy to do a list. So send you WANT lists to Paul and he will let you know what he can supply. Address: PO Box 365, Nedlands, W.A. 6009

LEIGH BLACKMORE has a range of books for sale on H.P. LOVECRAFT. Bibliography and other items. Leigh also has other books for sale in and about the Horror Genre. Write for lists to P.O. Box A281, Sydney South, NSW 2000.

THE FIRST FESTIVAL OF SOVIET SCIENCE FICTION FILMS was held in October at the National Theatre, StKilda, Melbourne. Sorry I could not tell readers sooner about this, but you can borrow Soviet SF Films from Quality Films who were responsible for this festival.



Two Books By MICHAEL MOORCOCK

Reviewed by COLIN STEELE

THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS

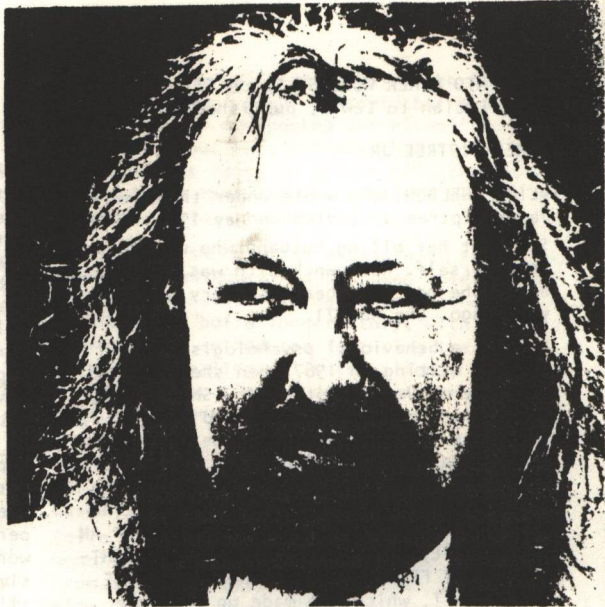
By Michael Moorcock

Grafton HC 344pp \$24.95 ARP
(Distributed by William Collins Australia)

THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS is part of yet another Moorcock series which, in itself, fits into Moorcock's "multiuniverse" and the overall quest for cosmic balance. It follows chronologically THE WAR HOUND AND THE WORLD'S PAIN (1981) in which the von Bek family was introduced and is succeeded by THE BROTHEL IN ROSENSTRASSE (1982). The next in the sequence is yet to be published MANFRED: OR THE GENTLEMAN HOURI.

In THE WAR HOUND AND THE WORLD'S PAIN the Devil, who wishes to be reconciled with God, offers a quest to a mercenary captain in the Thirty Year's War, Ulrich von Bek, and in return the Devil will renounce his claim on von Bek's soul. The quest is for the Holy Grail, "the cure for the World's Pain". As in Moorcock's fantasy novels, with the constant battle to find a balance between "law and chaos" there is no absolute black and white "good and evil" - Lucifer is essentially Milton's "archangel ruined". Von Bek acquires enemies, who resurface in THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS, because some of the lesser lords feel it is better to reign in hell than to serve in heaven.

In THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS, which is set in revolutionary Europe near the end of the eighteenth century, Manfred von Bek finds himself inheriting his ancestor's quest. Moorcock uses his now familiar device of telling the story from a discovered manuscript, which allows him to directly reproduce the sentiments of the era but also reduces the tension somewhat in terms of our knowledge of von Bek's ultimate fate. In a fascinating interview in the British little magazine *Back Brain Recluse* (7,1987) Moorcock says he prefers being the "conveyor" of the text because "you achieve distance by means of it... I know some critics have decided I'm trying to fool people into believing somehow that I came by these texts from grandfathers or old men in Patrobello Road or wherever. Of course I'm not doing that ... I think I've



probably over-used it recently". Here Moorcock is referring to the Pyat quartet of books which began with BYZANTIUM ENDURES (1981) as well as the von Bek series.

In THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS Moorcock fashions alternate universes and the reader slips from a real France in 1794 into one with fictional historical recreations to the magical "city of the autumn stars". Moorcock's alternate world is not as divorced from contemporary reality as those in his ETERNAL CHAMPION series but the same concept of the "multiuniverse" prevails. Moorcock has said that he's interested in periods of flux. In THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS not only is there revolutionary ferment on the continent of Europe but there is transition from the "age of religion" to the "age of science". Moorcock's picaresque story line takes him to the "middle-worlds" where the grail can be used to re-establish harmony.

THE WARHOUND AND THE WORLD'S PAIN saw the absence of God and similarly in this sequel, God is "dead" or decidedly non-involved. Utopia is being sought by mystical and rational means, characterised by von Bek's companions the ambitious Duchess of Crete, Libussa and the Scots engineer St Odhran. Manfred von Bek is "everyman" - a secular companion to the Eternal Champions. The Holy Grail is like the Runestaff in the Hawkmoon books which operates on several levels. Moorcock believes "at one it's a source of order, on another a source of disorder, in that human nature is inclined to make an awful lot of trouble just to get hold of it".

To seek the Grail, von Bek travels to the parallel of Mittelmarch, which is reached by

hot air balloon, a favourite mode of transport by Moorcock, for example in THE WARLORD OF THE AIR. Moorcock has said "I also think of giant airships as being one of the great follies of the twentieth century.. very much tied up with national ambition and national pride and all that kind of stuff, so they actually represent for me something more than the simple romantic image I love".

Many other Moorcock trademarks are present in THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS, for example the besotted lover, von Bek, who is enraptured by Libussa and the recurring theme of hermaphroditism, the wish to produce "the Lord that is both Man and Woman"! Moorcock nearly repeats the conclusion of his Jerry Cornelius novels in this regard but von Bek rejects Libussa and their merging in a vividly imagined, if bizarre, climax, leaving von Bek to survive into an age of scepticism.

THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS is not a simple narrative to recount. Moorcock has said of it "was a bit weird because it was really two novels and I had cut the second novel out of it". Even apart from this fact it is a bit of a philosophical "pot-pourri" as Moorcock rearranges the eighteenth century debates between reason and will and the alchemist's search for balance in the natural universe. Add on to this a muted "sword and sorcery" element, almost as if Moorcock's albino prince Elric is striving to get out, and it results in a flawed final novel.

If, however, the original novel is taken as part of the Moorcockian whole its place is clearly recognisable. The issue for the reader depends on where he and she started the saga and how well prepared they are to assess their place in Moorcock's "multiuniverse".

THE DRAGON IN THE SWORD

By Michael Moorcock

Grafton HB 283 pp \$24.95 ARP

(Distributed in Australia by Williams Collins)

If THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS (reviewed above) only contained a segment of Moorcock's "multiuniverse", then DRAGON IN THE SWORD positively wallows in it.

Moorcock began his "eternal champion" series at the age of sixteen with a draft which eventually became the novel THE ETERNAL CHAMPION in 1969. As Moorcock indicates in the preface to a revised American edition (Dell, 1978) THE ETERNAL CHAMPION is "Central to my work.. it contains.. the loss of innocence, the problems of idealism, identity,

the confusion facing those of us who attempt to resist cynicism, keeping our optimism while remaining realistic about human hypocrisy and self-deception.. We are not betrayed by others - we betray ourselves by substituting egocentricity for self-respect, by refusing to see our world as it really is, by too readily accepting easy myths in our efforts to understand the things which bewilder us.. The ETERNAL CHAMPION is a kind of romantic Everyman."

THE ETERNAL CHAMPION, Joe Daker, is the closest to reality of Moorcock's fantasy heroes. Taken from contemporary Earth he becomes Erekdse, a once great hero who fights to preserve the cosmic balance between Law and Chaos. The series was continued in PHOENIX IN OBSIDIAN (1970) and now comes the final volume which also alludes to all of the other "eternal champions" such as Corum and Elric, while featuring Count Ulrich von Bek who is the latest manifestation of the von Bek family mentioned in THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS.

Von Bek escapes from the Gestapo (with the help of Satan!) from Germany of World War II to the realm of the "Middle Marches". Daker's fight on the cosmic level thus becomes entwined with von Bek's fight against the Nazi's Hitler, Goebbels and Goering, and not least the Holy Grail, appear in one section of the book! Plot-wise Moorcock really goes over the top in THE DRAGON AND THE SWORD as he attempts to wrap up all the loose "multiuniverse" ends.

In the Back Brain Recluse (1987) interview Moorcock says that he did one draft of THE DRAGON IN THE SWORD and didn't re-read or re-edit it. Apparently when the Grafton editor asked if he could make a few minor changes Moorcock agreed "so long as they didn't show them to me because I wouldn't know what they were talking about"! When he concludes "I don't put my full talent behind something like THE DRAGON IN THE SWORD, although I hope I put enough of it" the reader feels a bit cheated. Moorcock is continually asking us to see the whole picture (I.E. corpus of his writing) which ultimately is philosophically "cracked" if the individual pieces are flawed. THE DRAGON IN THE SWORD is only flawed by its over-ambition. There is more imagination and action in it than most of the medieval fantasy trilogies that pour out of publishers in the USA. Moorcock's Characters and landscapes are marvellously inventive. In fact, Hitler, Goering and Goebbels are essentially superfluous except for the von Bek saga.

In THE DRAGON IN THE SWORD John Daker is told he is "a single aspect of an infinity of heroes" and that he has one last task in the everlasting cosmic fight. In this instance the Princess Sharadim has entered into a compact with the lords of Chaos and Daker and von Bek must

seek it out, via a journey through stranger and stranger lands, a "she-dragon" trapped in a sword blade. Their task is to release the dragon before the blade can be forced to serve Chaos.

As in *THE CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS* a browsing reader picking up this Moorcock volume perhaps wouldn't know what to make of all this (indeed a colleague of mine began *THE DRAGON IN THE SWORD* couldn't finish it). But, as with the other novel, the verve and zest of the writing is decidedly infectious. Once caught by the Moorcock bug there is no real antidote except to read *THE DRAGON IN THE SWORD* to ascertain the conclusion of the "Eternal Champion" saga. Daker returns to contemporary London, a world which Moorcock will explore closer to home in his forthcoming *MOTHER LONDON* sequence of novels. The Eternal Champion may be at rest but Moorcock will continue to be prolifically active.

Colin Steele

Thank you Colin for that very incisive view of Michael Moorcock's recent work and how it fits in to his overall framework. There are probably as many anti-Moorcock fans out there as there are pro, but nobody can fail to appreciate the tremendous energy he has put into his work. Grafton have been reprinting many of his books recently in hard cover omnibus volumes and then paperbacks. CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS is now available in pb but THE DRAGON IN THE SWORD we would not expect in pb until well into 1988.

Ed.

Book Reviews



CHILDREN OF ASHGAROTH

by Richard Ford

Grafton HC 444 pp \$24.95 ARP

(Distributed by William Collins Aust.)

Richard Ford's three published novels form a 'trilogy'. *QUEST FOR THE FARADAWN* told of a search for elven treasures in an attempt to survive coming disaster. In the aftermath world, *MELVAIG'S VISION* narrates suffering and endurance, endeavour to escape and find part of that surviving land. Finally *THE CHILDREN OF ASHGAROTH* details the corruption

of this last haven and the final battle between the evilforces of Dreag (man and goblin) and those of Ashgaroth (elvish) to decide the fate of the world.

THE CHILDREN OF ASHGAROTH contains most of the traditional 'quest' elements. A small 'good' party must travel to an evil stronghold, facing trials and villains on the way, and ultimately battling towards its heart.

Richard Ford depicts the depths of human cruelty and evilness well. Very detailed graphic sequences of evil corrupting village people. By contrast the elvish deeds and Ashgaroth's interventions appear all 'sweetness and light', vacuous sudden miracles. Heroes are very very good, villains wholly evil.

THE CHILDREN OF ASHGAROTH is not as satisfying a read as the earlier volumes. In the face of evil there is no poignancy such as Melvaig faced with killing his horses, or simple delight of the animals in the woods.

The novel seems forced, characters puppets of the Gods, but really very strong authorial direction. Towards the end it seems almost rigidified, the reader is not really left with any room to 'what if ..?', only to imagine what it looked like.

Alan Stewart

DOROTHEA DREAMS

by Suzy McKee Charnas

Berkley pb 246 pp (\$2.95)

DOROTHEA DREAMS is called a 'ghost story' on the cover, and although including a ghost of sorts, it is not a typical spooky house tale.

Living in seclusion in New Mexico, Dorothea, a 'retired' artist, is joined by an old lover, dying of cancer. He becomes intrigued by her latest project - a wall in a nearby canyon, and her 'ghost', a character from the French Revolution inhabiting her dreams.

A shady land deal in a nearby city forces three young hispanics to armed flight. Accompanying an art class field trip, they reach Dorothea's home and the main conflict/drama of the novel begins.

The initial separate story lines take half the book to connect, and seem to be marking time in places. Once all the characters are together, much more of an impact is made.

DOROTHEA DREAMS contains striking scenes, such as moonlit vandalism, which remains in the reader's mind. Most of the 'action' is conversation and face-downs, individuals and gunpower dictate events.

Virtually a mainstream novel set in the present, DOROTHEA DREAMS offers only a token 'ghost', more as a focus of comment on comparison between the times of the French revolution and today's society, than a genuine haunting.

Alan Stewart

THE RAGGED ASTRONAUTS

by Bob Shaw

Baen Books USA 1987 (\$15.95US) 310pp

Bob Shaw always tells a good yarn, and this new book promises more than all his others.

Only 4650 miles separates Land and Overland, twin planets circling a common centre of gravity so that each remains in exactly the same position in relation to each other, sharing the same atmosphere.

The people of Land, believing that the souls of their departed kin reside in Overland, are forced to consider a perilous journey to that other planet because a new deadly variant of an air-borne species long considered dangerous but manageable has inexplicably begun to wage a war on the people.

The priests are against the journey to Overland, but the King decides on the advice of some scientist/philosophers that hot air balloons will be built and the whole population will journey there. It is their only hope of survival.

So begins an unusual and wonderful saga culminating with the arrival on Overland of the remnants of Land's people. There are many questions yet to be answered, for example: Why do these people have six fingers? Where in the universe is this double planet? And if human, how did these people get there in the first place?

Bob Shaw will answer these and many more questions, in the next two volumes (for this is only part one of a trilogy) and he will no doubt do it as engagingly and entertainingly as he has postulated them in this volume one.

The RAGGED ASTRONAUTS is a joy to read.

John Litchen.

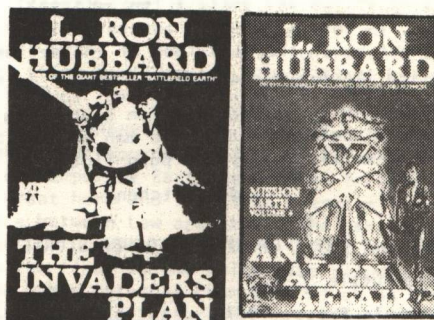
(This book was also published by Gollancz, but as they never send us any books for review these days, we thank Baen for the opportunity to do so, even if their edition is not available in Australia. Ed)

MISSION EARTH

by L.Ron Hubbard

Volume 1 THE INVADERS PLAN 559pp

| | | |
|----------|------------------|-------|
| Volume 2 | BLACK GENESIS | 432pp |
| Volume 3 | THE ENEMY WITHIN | 393pp |
| Volume 4 | AN ALIEN AFFAIR | 329pp |
| Volume 5 | FORTUNE OF FEAR | 360pp |



These five volumes are published by New Era in Britain and distributed in Australia by Grodon & Gotch. They are appearing about every two months, so we will see the complete series, already published in the USA, some time next year. Price: \$26.95 ARP, each.

For people who like their stories very long, this one is ideal, since it one story that goes over the whole 10 volumes.

The basic plot is that Earth is about to be invaded. But the people of Earth are rapidly destroying their beautiful world by pollution, politics and war. A super-hero, Jettero Heller is secretly sent to Earth in order to save it so it can be invaded by the Voltarians.

The plan is to be sabotaged by the crazy chief of the Voltarian secret service, who is using Earth for his own ends in order to topple his own government. He sends an incompetent idiot by the name of Zoltan Gris to eliminate Jettero Heller, thus destroying the mission to save Earth. Whilst believing he is doing well, Zoltan Gris constantly mucks things up. So far we have had endlessly funny situations involving our superhero with the Mafia, the United Nations, and the girls of a high class whorehouse as his inadvertant misadventures muck up the mad machinations of Zoltan Gris.

Apart from the first volume which was a little long and slightly boring, the next three rattle along at a fast rate and are thoroughly enjoyable.

Since writing the above, Merv has given me Volume 5. It features the Countess Krak, the most feared woman in the Volarian Empire and Heller's lover. She has arrived to help him succeed in his mission to save Earth. Soltan Gris secretly uses the countess in an attempt

to sabotage Heller, but as usual anything he tries to do goes horribly wrong and he is in a worse situation than before.

I feel that FORTUNE OF FEAR, though it has plenty of action and quite a few satirical moments, is not as exciting as the earlier books, but never the less fans of the series will find it un-put-downable.

MISSION EARTH is science fiction soap-opera on a grand scale, written by a man who was a master of writing enjoyable pulp fiction.

John Litchen

A SPACESHIP BUILT OF STONE & OTHER STORIES

by Lisa Tuttle

The Women's Press. 1987 ARP \$14.95
(Distributed by Australasian Pub.Co.)

The 10 short stories in this collection were originally published in various magazines and anthologies between 1976 and 1985. They have the distinctive Tuttle touch of weirdness, which leaves the reader with a feeling of almost-reality even when convinced that the situation is quite unbelievable. Some of the stories border on the horror element found in Tuttle's more recent works.

Most of the stories are based in Texas, and many more show a cynical view of love and caring relationships, though often with a positive resolution. For example, in "No Regrets" a poetry professor inadvertently returns to a house she lived in 15 years before, to find it 'haunted' by her former lover and the child she aborted - but this 'haunting' is different from the usual ones. The lover, now married, lives nearby and is both understanding and condescending when she accuses him of playing tricks on her; he in fact does figure out what's going on. Whether she accepts the explanation or not, she must still deal with the situation.

In "The Family Monkey", an alien is rescued by members of a farm family and lives with them for several generations. The prejudices and expectations of the humans, both towards the alien and towards each other, become obvious. But what happens when one of the humans feels closer to the alien than she does towards the other humans - and then the alien returns to its own kind, leaving the girl behind?

The title story, "A Spaceship Built of Stone", examines the dividing line between true knowledge and paranoia. Many writers have explored this theme; Tuttle does a good job with it. The narrator and some friends become aware that

aliens are slowly taking over the Earth, but no one else notices so they cannot prove it. How they come to realise the truth and what they try to do about it, is quite fascinating.

Space prevents describing the other stories, but they are all well written and enjoyable. It's a pity Women's Press volumes are so expensive, because they are well worth reading.

Jean Weber

(I found the early titles in the sf series from Women's Press reasonably popular, but since they have increased the size to the so called 'quality' paperback format and the price has gone up, the buyer resistance has increased. I could discuss the failings and merits of the 'quality' paperback format, but I do not have space here. But if any readers, particularly publishers would like to discuss the matter I would be pleased to print their letters.

Ed.)

WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO....

by Joanna Russ

Women's Press PB 412.95 ARP
(Distributed by Australasian Pub.Co.)

Joanna Russ has come to be known as a somewhat iconoclastic and acerbic writer of sf for who the genre is a vehicle for hard-headed feminism. WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO DIE... first published a decade ago, and now seen in a new edition from the Women's Press, is a classic adventure novel in which the solitary hero is pitted against the forces of nature. EXCEPT - the hero is a solitary heroine and her fatalism is in direct contrast (and even alien) to the male hero, who after great labours, wins through and survives.

Eight persons (5 men and 3 women) all stranded on an uncharted and uninhabited planet after a spaceship accident. Seven of them set out to settle and start a society, since their chances of a rescue are nil. The unnamed heroine does not. She calmly appraises the situation and sees that the numbers and lack of enough survival skills mean survival is not possible. She prepares for death. This angers her fellow castaways who cannot admit there is no chance and operate on the usual Western principle that you must "give it a shot". The heroine, whose vocorder (tape recorded) diary we are reading, is very strong. Despite the fact that Ms. Russ does not broaden her prose enough for us to budge all her terse sociology and character development, this novel presents a very good counterpoint

to the usual shallow hero/hardware adventure crud space opera that still occupies about half the science fiction shelf in the bookshops.

Laura Meyers

CIRCUIT BREAKER

by Melinda M. Snodgrass

Berkley pb 272 pp \$2.95 US

In this sequel to CIRCUIT, Jennifer McBride and Judge Cabot Huntington travel to a partially terraformed Mars. The flavour of CIRCUIT and this novel will be familiar to fans of the Juanita Coulson series of two and three years past (Are we ever going to see #3?). It is similar to the more recent DEATH TOLLS by John Stith which is the same formula: action/adventure/mystery set in the future when inter system travel is commonplace.

The main conflict is between the Martian colonists and Earth's government - hardly a new plot. The colonists have a plan for making the planet more habitable. The environmentalists are stereotyped but otherwise the characterisations are enjoyable. It is a well related tale which will please the mystery and action lover, even if he is not partial to science fiction. Those who liked CIRCUIT will most likely enjoy this one also.

Laura Meyers

SUPERTANKS

Edited by Joe Haldeman with Charles G. Waugh
and Martin Harry Greenberg
ACE pb 262 pp \$3.50 US

SUPERTANKS is an anthology of ten future war stories. Seven of these feature the tanks of the title, but all involve men, machines and in some cases machine-men. Tanks and war provide a unifying theme, but the authors take divergent tracks.

Notable stories include Gene Wolfe's "The Horrors of War" dealing with fighting Homolog ORganisms (HORARS) and the differences between them and man. "Encounter" by Stephen Leigh tells of the isolation and aftermath for an altered 'super-soldier' when the war is over. David Drake deals with mercenaries and civilians in "Hangman", part of his 'Hammer's Slammers' series.

"Damnation Alley" by Roger Zelazny comes across as just an adventure thriller and Walter M. Miller, Jr's "I Made You" is nothing remarkable and somewhat dated.

Most of the stories are copyrighted during the late seventies, but range from 1954 to 1983. Dealing with future hardware they are all 'hard' science fiction, but deal as much with Human behaviour as straight action.

Overall the collection provides some thoughtful exploration of future war, the human problems of automation in conflict. What lingers is not really the hardware, but rather the people involved.

Alan Stewart

A STORM OF WINGS

By M. John Harrison

Unwin pb 189 pp \$9.95 ARP

A STORM OF WINGS relates an adventure from M. John Harrison's "Evening Cultures" future, in the long twilight of Earth revealed in his earlier "Viriconium" tales.

Removed eighty years in time from earlier adventures, A STORM OF WINGS stands well alone, and does not rely on prior acquaintance with Viriconium.

Somewhere to the north a city is being built, its nature affecting the reality of Earth, changing Viriconium people. For it is not being built by men. In response to this change a quest begins - dwarf, assassin, Reborn Man, magician and madwoman set out to investigate, spurred by the message of a two-foot wide insect head, in the time of the Locust..

M. John Harrison follows a quest style plot, but it is the strength and impact of the 'ambience' or tapestry of his tale which enthral. The five main characters move through a world as interesting as themselves. The ghost of a long-lost airman, ancient viewing screen windows, Proton circuit avenue enhance a well-painted world.

A STORM OF WINGS is not a fast-paced thriller, despite action and battle content, "The Evening Culture" atmosphere influences the impact of events described. M. John Harrison has provided another view of his created future, a future worth at least one viewing.

Alan Stewart

Some of my reviewers have been a bit tardy in getting their reviews done and in to me, but I will have their contributions next issue. And there are many others I have not handed out yet. I thank publishers for sending their books to me for review and I remind them that I cannot review in full all books received, but it helps to have the books in preparing issues of my associate publication

BOOKS, in which I endeavour to give brief outlines of all new f&sf books published. The next issue of BOOKS will be published in January 1988, definitely! Meanwhile I have read a few books myself and I will give you my impressions of them as follows.... M.B.

BOOKS I HAVE READ

By MERVYN R. BINNS

TOOLMAKER KOAN by John McLoughlin (Baen Books 1987. 344 pp \$16.95 US) This is an alien contact novel with a few new ideas and a few borrowed from other sources. But there is a nice twist to the plot, even if it does become quite obvious early on in the story. There are elements of Harry Harrison's *WEST OF EDEN* and by saying that I have most likely given the whole thing away, and if I throw in Erich von Daniken's major premise I most definitely have blown it.

An alien artificial intelligence has been roaming the universe for centuries, trying to find a populated world with intelligent life that has not succumbed to the 'toolmaker's koan', which states that any race that reaches an advanced state of technology, will eventually destroy itself. But our super-computer-space-voyager, who starts off by saving the survivors from US and Russian space ships that come to investigate his space vehicles appearance out on the limits of our solar system, has been travelling for eons, trying to find a race that does not fulfil the 'toolmaker's koan'. And he hasn't been having any luck.

He introduces the human people to another race, which he re-creates from his enormous memory banks. By introducing the two races our friendly super computer thinks he may break the 'toolmaker koan' at last. But there is a bit more to it than that and if you go back to my first paragraph, you might just put two and four together.

An interesting, thought provoking novel that I enjoyed and recommend.

I wish I had read more of Gordon R. Dickson's early novels that I have on my shelf, other than the 'Dorsai' series, as I have been quite disappointed by his later ones. *THE FINAL ENCYCLOPEDIA* finished off the 'Dorsai' series quite unsatisfactorily for me and a new book just finished, *WAY OF THE PILGRIM* (ACE SF hard cover, 1987 332 pp \$16.95 US) was a bit of a boor. A good idea as a short story, this plot did not stand up to expansion.

Super-human-like aliens conquer Earth and a human Interpreter employed by the aliens finds

himself in the position of being the figure-head of a 'revolution'. Except that humanity has no hope of overcoming the aliens' super science and our hero relises that if the yoke of the aliens is to be thrown off, they must be convinced that they have made a mistake in using Earth for their purposes.

However the story drags along, with some plot lines that perhaps could have been interesting not being pursued. It may sound rather contradictory, but a longer story, with other 'adventures' introduced featuring the main characters dealings with the aliens, leading to the same or similar denouement, may have been the answer.

A novel with typical Gordy Dickson ideas, but unfortunately not carried through or simply too limited to make a good full length novel based on them.

Colin Wilson has built a reputation on his non-fiction books about the occult, writing from a more clinical and critical point of view than a devotee. His fiction work has included the very original novel *THE SPACE VAMPIRES*, which leant heavily on his knowledge of the occult. He set out to write a novel about a world where the insects of the Earth become the dominant species. The story begins where man is on the run from the super intelligent insects. Man who has just about destroyed the Earth is now being punished for his transgressions, one might imagine. I found the book very interesting, if a little slow, but Mr Wilson apparently has become so fascinated with the idea that the story he now has to tell will take more than the one book he first envisaged. So *SPIDER WORLD: THE TOWER* is the first in a series (Grafton 1987 398 pp \$24.94 ARP Distributed by William Collins) and *SPIDER WORLD: THE DELTA* will follow soon.

I can only say that the book did not particularly appeal to me and I certainly would not recommend it to any readers who suffer from a fear of insects or spiders in particular. And I always have!

My regular readers will remember the little serving I gave Robert Heinlein's recent novels a couple of issues back. I must be a bit of a masochist, but I just had to read *THE CAT WHO WALKS THROUGH WALLS*, just to see if it was as bad as I had been told it was. Well I was agreeably surprised. It is a light and somewhat frothy romp, cleverly involving characters from his earlier books and devotees will have fun trying to remember who fits in where. And there is a similar volume just published, *TO SAIL BEYOND THE SUNSET*. I still think *JOB: A COMEDY OF JUSTICE* is Heinlein's worst novel ever.

Spider Robinson, author of the "Crosstime Saloon" stories and a range of different sf novels, is to be Guest of Honor at the National Australian SF Convention, CONVICTION, to be held in Sydney next year, so when his new novel TIME PRESSURE (ACE Hard Cover 1987 216 pp. \$16.95 US) turned up I thought it was a good chance to familiarise myself with his writing.

The novel is set in a hippie community in or near to Nova Scotia and it becomes obvious that Spider Robinson is very familiar with the area and the hippie life style. The science fiction elements of the story start out almost incidental to the characters way of life. A naked young lady appears out of nowhere in the early part of the book, but it's not till nearly the end of the story that you learn the full significance of her appearance. And the full scope and broad canvas of the story is revealed. In fact the story is a "postscript" to Robinson's novel TELEMPATH.

The book is a little shallow and brief on it's own, but I enjoyed it and as part of Robinson's writing over all, his fans will love it. The warm and loving description of hippie life and Nova Scotia, told obviously from the heart, alone make this an enjoyable tale.

Merv Binns

MAGAZINE NEWS

ANALOG and ISAAC ASIMOV'S magazines have been kindly sending me contents lists of their forthcoming issues, which I have not had space to use. I hope I can squeeze in the highlights at least in the future. It would be nice if ASIMOV's Magazine was on sale in Australia, but as far as I know the only copies seen here are on subscription. The December issue I see is running the 2nd part of Harlan Ellison's I, ROBOT: THE MOVIE, which intrigues me. Contents of the December 29th issue of ANALOG that catch my eye are the serial, FALLING FREE by Lois McMaster Bujold (Part 3 of 4) and an article, "The Last Cavalier: H. Beam Piper" by John F. Carr.

FAN CLUBS

The DOCTOR WHO FANCLUB OF VICTORIA
P.O. Box 4, Degraives Street, Melbourne,
Victoria 3000

A reader asked me for this clubs address which I did not know at the time, but I have since discovered. Other clubs will be mentioned again in future issues. Meanwhile if any clubs let me know their address I will be happy to mention them and if readers want to contact clubs in their area, I will be happy to pass on the details if I can.

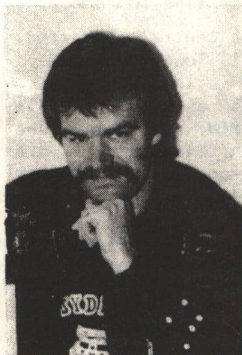
FAN NEWS AND NOTICES

I have no further details, but I believe that Melbourne fan and professional artist Stephen Campbell was hurt in a car accident a few months back. Would somebody like to fill me in on the details.

FAN FUNDS

Current Fan Funds include DUFF, with KATHY KERRIGAN of Melbourne, who has broad interests in all facets of sf&f and fandom, fanzine publishing, convention organising and so forth standing against TERRY DOWLING of Sydney, sf author and well known and popular fan. Votes are to be sent to: Australian administrators Lewis Morley, Marily Pride & Nick Stathopoulos 54 Junior St, Leichhardt, NSW 2040, or Lucy Huntzinger, US Administrator, 2215 -R Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94114, USA. Votes must be recorded on ballot forms, which I cannot include in ASFN this issue, but copies can be obtained from the administrators or from me or from the candidates on request.

I have no details on the next GUFF fund, which will be to bring an English fan to an Australian convention, but it will no doubt be under way soon. The FFANZ fund which operates between here and New Zealand currently has TERRY FROST & KAREN VAUGHAN teamed against GORDON LINGARDE. Administrators are Roger Weddall, PO Box 273, Fitzroy, Victoria 30655 Australia and Lyn McConchie, 15 Rauparaha St Waiakanae, New Zealand. Ask them for voting ballots or I can send a photo copy on request.



Terry Dowling



Cathy Kerrigan

TRIVIA

Archaeologists working in the North of Australia have unearthed bones of large kangaroos, presumably carnivorous..... watch out or the Were - Kangaroo will getcha!

THE SEA AND SUMMER by George Turner

Reviewed by MICHAEL TOLLEY

Faber UK 1987 314 pp \$29.95 ARP
(Distributed in Australia by Penguin Books)

Those who keep up with local writers will have read in *URBAN FANTASIES* (edited by David King and Russell Blackford, Ebony Books, 1985) a story by George Turner called "The Fittest", which is a sort of first glimpse of the future Depression years chronicled in his newest and best novel. The basic situation is the same; denouement is different.

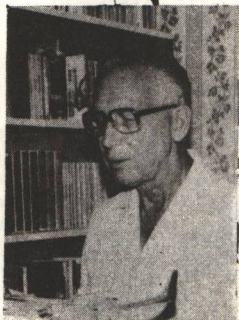
Actually, the story of the ugly brothers, Teddy and Francis, and the inverted Cinderella story of their mother and her unlikely, unlovely Prince Charming, Billy Kovacs, is now part of a novel within a novel, written by a woman of the future, Lenna Wilson, who lives in an autumnal utopia between the horrid summer of the Greenhouse Effect and the coming Long Winter of a new Ice Age. If this frame pattern sounds vaguely familiar, it may be because George Turner has borrowed it from the Australian SF novel he most admires, M. Barnard Eldershaw's *TOMORROW AND TOMORROW AND TOMORROW*. Although it is not being marked as SF, *THE SEA AND SUMMER* is likely to be considered as near to the mythical "great Australian SF novel" we are likely to see for some time to come.

It is a sombre novel. The central character, Billy Kovacs, slum (Swill) Tower Boss and father to many families, is in part just another "thug with brains" as sergeant Bailey, the hero of *YESTERDAY'S MEN*; like Bailey, he is a great deal more than that but he is presented more fully. Every one in the novel becomes compromised morally in some way and the most "innocent" in the sordid plot which brings all the principles together (it has a strong similarity to the canard that the CIA began spreading the AIDS virus) is also the least likeable character. There is nothing pretty in the spectacle of overpopulation exacerbated by a breakdown in the economy and a rise in sea level forcing ever greater congestion on Melbourne's hapless "Swill", while the privileged "Sweet" and fragile "Fringe" close their eyes and ears to the grim realities for fear of falling.

It's probably quite a while since you read Brunner's *STAND ON ZANZIBAR* or Ballard's *HIGH-RISE*, so you are about due to have your nose

GEORGE
TURNER

The Sea and
Summer



rubbed again in a future nightmare world where the only monsters are human ones doing what humans do best, surviving. Proust smelt madelaines and enjoyed nostalgia; you might smell drains and be transported to the muck of future Melbourne. *THE SEA AND SUMMER* is not pretty or pleasant but it is absorbing, thought-provoking and compassion-generating - and like the present given to Epimetheus (who looked backward when he should have looked forward like his brother Prometheus), there is hope somewhere inside.

I doubt whether the Americans will like it (too down-beat, they'll think) so it is not likely to win a Hugo, but it should earn the author considerable critical acclaim. It makes *BELOVED SON* seem like the work of a young man; there's no Gargoyles sensationalism and the extrapolistic claims are relatively subdued but George Turner's work has matured, just like that cheese with the bite.

Michael Tolley

THE NOVA MOB

The 1988 meetings will continue to be held at the home of Kathy Kerrigan on the first Wednesday of the month, starting February 3rd. Kathy's address is 17/140 Riversdale Road, Hawthorn. The programme for the year is:

February 3rd: George Turner on Fringe SF
March 2nd: Sean McMullen on the
 Golden Age of Australian SF
April 6th: Russell Blackford on Short
 Australian SF since 1980

A full list of all Nova Mob Meetings will be included next issue.

Books Received

FROM JUNE 1987
TO NOVEMBER 1987



Thank you to all the publishers who send me copies of their books for review. The review section this issue is a little bigger than last issue, but I still cannot fully review everything I receive. I do cover as many as possible and others are mentioned here and in my companion publication BOOKS. A complete list of all sf&f books published is covered in BOOKS and following issue #4, BOOKS will become part of ASFNEWS.

Some of the last SF&F books published in the BERKLEY imprint have been received along with some ACE titles, under which all future f&sf titles will be published in future. APOLLO'S WAR by Glen Larsen and Robert Thurston is #13 in the series based on the TV show, "Battlestar Galactica". This is an original title, not actually from a TV episode or movie. Sydney J. Van Scyoc is recognised as one of the leading craftman of alien worlds, and he has created another one in DROWNTIDE in Berkley. A water world where humans have learned to live with the great ocean and the creatures who live in it. ANGEL AT APOGEE by S.N. Lewitt is an sf novel featuring an ace women fighter pilot, torn between dedication to her adopted world and the love of her home planet. EMPERY by Michael Kube-McDowell is the third in the "Trigon Disunity" series. A story of a bitter war between a great human civilization in space and aliens who would destroy it. WILD CARD RUN by Sara Stamey is a story of conflict between humans and Cyber computers who would change the human race to suit their own ends.

William Gibson won the Hugo Award the year before last with NEUROMANCER, which was first published in the ACE SPECIAL series. Now Ace have published the sequel, COUNT ZERO, which is set in the so called "techno punk universe". If you liked the first book you will want to read this one and a third book to come. Bruce Sterling's THE ARTIFICIAL KID, is a reprint which is a very similar style of story to the Gibson books, again printed by ACE. In a more standard type of sf adventure we have the sequel to "Cadre One" by Robert O'Riordan, CADRE LUCIFER. A once government agent on

the vengeance trail against corruption. COLONY IN PERIL by P.M. Griffin is the second in the "Star Commandos" series, a group who protect planetary colonists against criminal elements in space. IN THE BONE is a collection of stories by the creator of the "Dorsai" series, Gordon R. Dickson. BEYOND WIZARDWALL by Janet Morris is the third and final book in her trilogy set on "Thieves World", following "Beyond Sanctuary" and "Beyond The Veil".

GORDON R. DICKSON WAY of THE PILGRIM



In their new hard cover series, ACE sent me a copy of THE SUN, THE MOON AND THE STARS by Steven Brust, which is one of a series retelling classic Fairy Tales. I hope to include a review (in this issue or the next) of the above and Jerry Pournelle's latest JANISSARIES novel, #3: STORMS OF VICTORY. Also in Ace's new hard cover series along with Gordon Dickson's WAY OF THE PILGRIM, which is a different kind of alien invasion novel.

ACE/BERKLEY have been at the forefront of the new wave of fantasy that has engulfed readers over the last few years. Now in mass market edition for the first time we have THE GREEN PEARL by Jack Vance, the second part of his pre-Arthurian series begun with "Lyonesse". Vance is a master at creating simply marvellous places and people and he does not let his fans down with this one. CAUGHT IN CRYSTAL is a new "Lyra" novel by Patricia C. Wede, in which

a swordswoman who has put aside her sword is urged to take it up again and embark on a journey to an evil place. **THE LUCK OF RELIAN KRU** is the second novel from ACE by Paul Volsky, with some very colorful people and places. **A NIGHT IN THE NETHERHELLS** by Craig Shaw Gardner is the conclusion of the "Ebenezum" trilogy. **TEOT'S WAR** by Heather Gladney is the story of a warrior and his king, who fight to free their land. **THE GREAT WHEEL** by Joyce Ballou Gregorian is the conclusion of the "Tredena" trilogy; the woman warrior Batur Subi unknowingly sets out to make war against her own family. And finally from Ace two humorous fantasy novels for young adult readers: **ARCHER'S GOON** by Diana Wynne Jones, which is about magic and a wizard who uses unorthodox means to get what he wants. **KNIGHT LIFE** by Peter David is an Arthurian fantasy, in which the great king turns up in New York and runs for mayor.

Another couple of **BERKLEY** titles to hand are **CIRCUIT BREAKER** by Melinda M. Snodgrass, a sequel to **CIRCUIT**, about a world hopping judge and the legal profession in space. **THE MAKER OF DUNE**, Insights of A Master of Science Fiction, edited by Tim O'Reilly, which is a collection of pieces by and about Frank Herbert. Essays and articles, in trade paperback format. No sf books have been read more widely than the "Dune" series, and perhaps none have been discussed, criticised and yes, praised, as this series. I was completely knocked off my feet by **DUNE** when I first read it and up to that time no other sf books than I can think of dared to invoke such a broad canvas. Herbert had some very definite ideas about human history and philosophy and he endeavoured to convey these ideas in his sf novels. In particular in the "Dune" series. This book makes clear his ideas and philosophies and I hope will answer at least some of his critics.

BAEN BOOKS have sent me a paperback and a hard cover. **THE KINDLY ONES** by Campbell Award winner Melissa Scott in pb and in hc **TOOLMAKER KOAN** by John McLoughlin, both of which I expect to review in this issue. Also from Baen came Bob Shaw's **RAGGED ASTRONAUTS** which was published by Gollancz in 1986 and previously mentioned in **ASFN**. Probably Shaw's most significant novel so far.

PENGUIN BOOKS publish the fantasy, war gamebased series originated by TSR in the USA, "Dragon Lance". A rare review copy

received from them is **TEST OF THE TWINS**, Volume 3 in the "Dragon Lance Legends" series. Sword and sorcery fantasy that owes its origins to the "Lord of the Rings" and the role playing games, with all their cliches. Of extreme contrast is John Updike's novel **THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK**, also from Penguin, released in paperback to coincide with the release of the movie starring Jack Nicholson. The director has I believe taken the essence of the novel and made a great movie, but as you might expect, the novel should be read in an entirely different light

ALLEN & UNWIN are keeping up their steady output of fantasy novels in hard cover and paperback. First off there are two re-issues by M. John Harrison. One sf, **THE CENTAURI DEVICE**, which is regarded by many as one of the top sf novels and his fantasy novel **THE PASTEL CITY**, which was first published in 1971. **THE DREAM WALL** by Graham Dunstan Martin is a story of Britain in 2009, when it becomes a communist state. A stark, Orwellian type novel. **THE HIGH KINGS** by Joy Chant, is published for the first time in Britain in pb and sadly without the illustrations of the hard cover edition. Surely this merited an illustrated large format pb edition. **THE MASTER** by Louise Cooper is the awaited 3rd part of her "Time Master" trilogy, in which the protagonist Tarod meets his destiny. **A PLACE AMONG THE FALLEN** by Adrian Cole is the 1st book in the "Omaran Saga", set in a world where belief in gods and magic is punishable by death. The Fionvar Tapestry series has been hailed as one of the best fantasy epics since "Lord of the Rings". Volumes 1 and 2 in the series, **THE SUMMER TREE** and **THE WANDERING FIRE**, previously published by Allen & Unwin in hard cover are now out in paperback and the third volume is due soon in hard cover. The plot sounds so much like many other such epics we have seen over the last few years, but this one is a cut above the average. I expect to carry a comprehensive review in this or the next issue. Just received from A&U I have two new paperbacks: **DRAGON** by Nigel Frith, is an original Chinese fantasy and **A STORM OF WINGS** is another new edition of a fantasy novel by M. John Harrison.

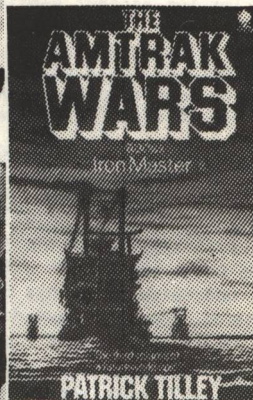
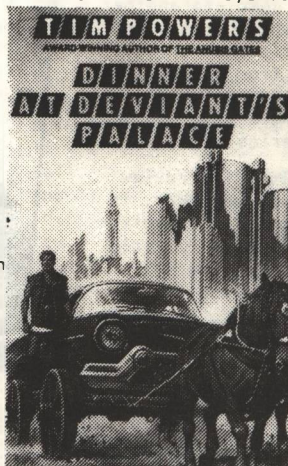
Australasian Publishing Company distribute the **WOMEN'S PRESS** in Australia. They have been publishing mostly new editions of sf books by women writers, which have been excellent sf titles or at least significant in the field of women's sf literature. Recent

titles included **STAR RIDER** by the popular U.S. author Doris Piserchia and **A DOOR INTO OCEAN** by Joan Slonczewski, which has been highly praised by US reviewers. Just to hand is a collection by Lisa Tuttle, **A SPACESHIP BUILT OF STONE** and **WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO ...** by Joanna Russ. This is the fifth book by Russ published by Women's Press and most likely her best.

Titles received from Hodder and Stoughton include a number of **FUTURA/ORBIT** titles. Futura is reprinting the very popular series by James White about the Hospital Station in space and the most recent just to hand is **STAR SURGEON**. They have also done **HOSPITAL STATION** and **AMBULANCE SHIP**, with more in the series to come. Other books received are also parts of series, starting with **SKINNER** by Richard S. McEnroe, which is the third in the "Far Stars and FutureTimes" space epic. **GROA'S OTHER EYES** is the 2nd in the "Twilight of the Gods" series by Denis Schmidt, which is a series set in the mythical land of Asgard. Also from Hodder I received two **NEW ENGLISH LIBRARY** titles: Yet another reprint of Arthur C. Clarke's **EXPEDITION TO EARTH** and a horror fantasy by Michael Scott, **THE ICE KING**, about the resurrection of more than an old Viking ship in a North Yorkshire estuary.

William Collins (Australia) Pty. Limited distribute **FONTANA**, not a prolific publisher of sf but does publish some very significant fantasy such as the Stephen Donaldson books. They have now doing a new edition of **THE PROPHET OF LAMATH** by Robert Don Hughes, which is the first in the "Pelman The Powershaper" series. Also from Collins a pile of titles from GRAFTON, who are now the most prolific publisher of sf&f in Britain. **CITY IN THE AUTUMN STARS** by Michael Moorcock, published in hard cover last year is now released in paperback. The continuation of the story of the Von Bek Family. Reviews and critiques of Moorcock books appear in this issue. Philip K. Dick's **RADIO FREE ALBEMUTH** is published for the first time in pb. This is probably the last sf novel by Dick that we will see. The ever popular "Sword Series" by Fritz Leiber is being reprinted again and books five and six are to hand, **THE SWORDS OF LANKHMAR** and **SWORDS AND ICE MAGIC**. A surprise from Grafton is **ENTERPRISE, THE FIRST ADVENTURE** by Vonda McIntyre, a Star Trek novel. Star Trek fans will love this story, which is the story of Captain Kirk's first voyage with the Enterprise and his meeting with Mr Spock and most other members of the crew we have all grown to know and love. **DR ADDER** by K.W. Jeter, is a style of sf that

does not particularly appeal to me. But if you like stories about nasty futures, with people fighting to survive, you may like this one. Somewhat in the same vein as the 1985 Hugo Winner, **NEUROMANCER** by William Gibson, which has also been published by Grafton. Another title in this style is Tim Power's **DINNER AT DEVIANT'S PALACE**. Today's drug culture projected into a post nuclear future Los Angeles. And a reprint of Power's outstanding fantasy novel, **THE DRAWING OF THE DARK**, set in Vienna in 1529 when the Turks are threatening to invade Europe and our hero finds himself at the forefront of resistance to the invaders. Drawing on his Lovecraftian style of horror, Brian Lumley has created a very nasty "ancient one" in **DEMOGORGAN**. An original Grafton paperback. **ISLANDS OUT OF TIME** by William Irwin Thompson is fantasy novel set in ancient Atlantis and will appeal to those readers interested in occult subjects. Also received from Grafton, but way out of my line, is **AFTERLIFE** by Colin Wilson. A modern view of Psychic Research.



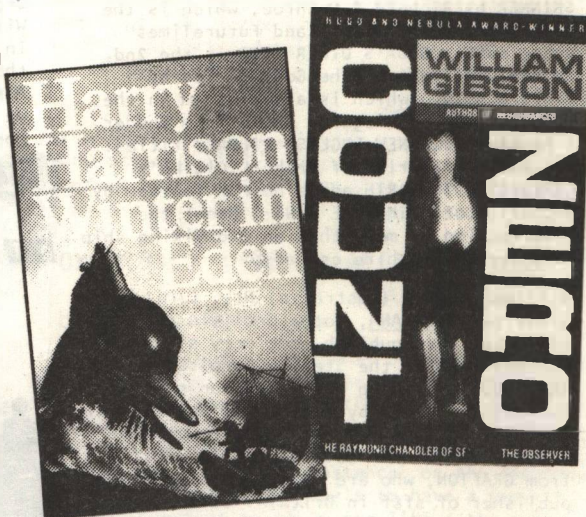
In **SPHERE** Books from William Collins is the long awaited third book in the Amtrak Wars series **IRON MASTER** by Patrick Tilley. You might find this one hard to pick up. Like many other titles, I was unable to get stock for my book service. Unfortunately, even when I ran Space Age, I often found it difficult to obtain stock of some sf or fantasy titles, because the distributors have little or no idea what the demand will be for these titles. And while I am complaining about one thing I might as well complain about another and that is the time it has taken for this novel to appear. The first in the series was published in 1985. It is a

frustrating exercise for readers and the poor booksellers, having to put up with the incessant wailing of customers, "when are you getting the next book in this series or that series". If I was a publisher I would not buy a series from an author until he had completed the whole series, and not necessarily publish all at once, but at least give everybody a definite schedule for all volumes. Maybe I am trying to live in an ideal publishing world, but that is the way I feel about it. I must admit though that most series these days are not all that slow in coming through. Let's hope that this one from Sphere, **MAGICIAN'S LAW: TALES OF THE BARD** by Michael Scott, is one of the quick ones. Published in the slightly larger format, that many readers detest and I can't say I love, this series (you will never guess) is the adventures of Paedur the Bard. Scott, whose knowledge of Celtic history and mythology is extensive, is one of the best of the new wave of writers in the fantasy field. But here is a case in point. We are still waiting for him to complete another series for another publisher. Or are we just waiting for the publisher to get around to publishing them. Finally from Sphere is another new Conan title; **CONAN THE VICTORIOUS** by Robert Jordan. Sphere have now published 26 of the Conan series.

Another Conan title received for review is **CONAN THE FEARLESS** by Steve Perry, in a large format pb from **TOR**. First publication. It will no doubt turn up for sale here in Sphere edition in due course. The Conan series has a following that would be undreamed of by his creator, Robert E. Howard, but they have degenerated into a literary comic strip.

A few late additions to the books received from publishers include **SPIDER WORLD**, **THE TOWER** by Colin Wilson, first in series in which alien influence has caused the insects of the world to challenge humans as the dominant species. That is a **Grafton** hard cover. The following are Grafton paperbacks: **SLOW BIRDS** by Ian Watson, a collection of short stories. **TRULLION: ALASTOR 2262** by Jack Vance is the first British edition of one of his most colourful novels/series. **GREEN EYES** is an sf terror novel by Hugo winning author Lucius Shepard. **THE SEVEN ALTARS OF DUSARRA** by Lawrence Watt Evans is a new edition of the 2nd in the "Lords of Dus" series. **THE ALTERNATE ASIMOVs** is an omnibus volume in their original un-edited versions of "Pebble In the Sky", "The End of Eternity" and "Belief", by Isaac Asimov. **THE SWORDS OF CORUM** by Michael Moorcock is

an omnibus volume of "Knight of the Swords", "The Queen of the Swords" and "The King of the Swords", new in pb. **WINTER IN EDEN** by Harry Harrison is the second in his trilogy set in prehistoric Earth, where primitive man is set against intelligent saurians, new in pb. **COUNT ZERO** by William Gibson is new in pb and is set in the same world as his Hugo winning novel "Neuromancer". **WIELDING A RED SWORD** by Piers Anthony is #4 in the "Incarnations of Immortality" series, in it's first British publication. For young readers in Grafton's Dragon imprint we have the first two books in the **OMNI ODYSSEY** series; **MURDER IN ORBIT** by Bruce Coville and **ASTRO PILOTS** by Laura J. Mixon, along with the first British editions of Seth McEvoy's **KILLER ROBOT** and **TERROR AT PLAY**.



From **UNWIN** in pb is **SABELLA** by Tanith Lee. **THE DEEP** by John Crowley and **THE SILENT TOWER** by Barbara Hambly.

Another two fantasy volumes from William Collins in **Fontana** are **MORDANT'S NEED**, **THE MIRROR OF DREAMS**, 1st in a new series by Stephen Donaldson, now in pb, and **THE WIZARD IN WAITING** by Robert Don Hughes, Pelman the Power Shaper 2, 1st British publication. Also from W. Collins we received Julian May's **INTERVENTION**, the introductory novel to her new series, "The Galactic Milieu", which readers of her "Pliocene Exile" series have been eagerly awaiting. Hard cover.

Harry Harrison's hilarious "Stainless Steel Rat" series continues with **THE STAINLESS RAT GETS DRAFTED** from Bantam Press in hard

cover. Also from Bantam in hard cover is the 1st in a new fantasy series, **GUARDIANS OF THE WEST** by David Eddings, Book One of the Malloreon. Andre Norton's "Witchworld" series continues with **THE GATE OF THE CAT**, in hard cover from ACE and also from them I have **WAY OF THE PILGRIM** by Gordon R. Dickson, an original hard cover. Also in hc we have an interesting novel by an author I have not read before, **TOOLMAKER KOAN** by John McLoughlin, published by Baen Books.

In paperback from **ACE** is **MAN OF TWO WORLDS** by Frank and Brian Herbert, **KILL RATIO** by Janet Morris and David Drake and **BURNING CHROME** by William Gibson. Bantam have reprinted **TEA WITH THE BLACK DRAGON** by R.A. MacAvoy, which will be released locally in December.

Some of the books mentioned in this column will be reviewed in this issue and others in the next issue. And finally a few more pbs just to hand include **HEART OF THE COMET** by Gregory Benford and David Brin and **THE WIZARD AND THE WARLORD** from Bantam/Corgi in Australia. From Baen Books USA we have a new Keith Laumer book, **RETIEF: DIPLOMAT AT ARMS**, a fantasy novel **HEROING** by Dafydd ab Hugh, **IMPERIAL STARS 2: REPUBLIC AND EMPIRE**, an anthology of stories in the concept created by Jerry Pournelle, **A LION ON THARTEE** by Grant Callin and a new one in the series, **ANGELS IN HELL**, created by Janet Morris, with stories by Robert Asprin, C.J.Cherryh, David Drake and others.

PUBLISHERS ANNOUNCEMENTS

My top priority in January will be to produce #3 of my publication **BOOKS**, which will list all SF&F books published in Britain and the USA in 1987. From then on I will try to keep up with all the new releases in the **NEWS**. Meanwhile here are a few of the major announcements of books due out late this year.

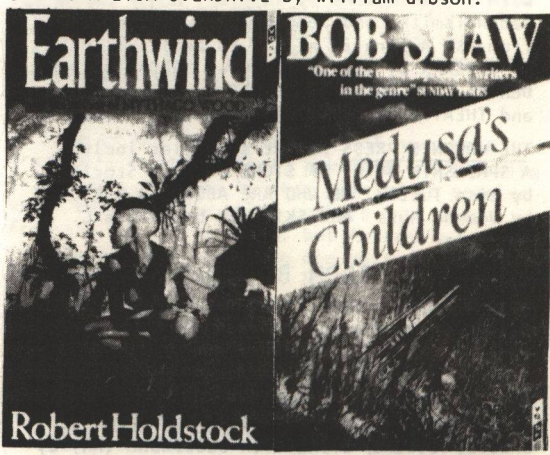
W.H.ALLEN continue with their DR Who hard cover books with **THE TIME TRAVELLER'S GUIDE TO DR WHO** by Peter Haining.

METHUEN PB highlights include **VOYAGERS II: THE ALIEN WITHIN** by Ben Bova, **OUT OF THEIR MINDS** by Ben Bova, **RITE OF PASSAGE** By Alexei Panshin, **THE KIF STRIKE BACK** by C.J.Cherryh, **CHANUR'S VENTURE** by Cherryh, **SENTINALS FROM SPACE** and **THREE TO CONQUER** by Eric Frank Russell, **THE TENTH VICTIM** by Robert Sheckley, **ESCAPE PLUS** by Ben Bova, the last being a January UK release.

FOULSHAM publishers announced a collection of macabre fiction, **THE SUPERNATURAL TALES OF SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE**, edited by Peter Haining. Hard cover.

GOLLANCZ remain the major British publisher of sf with a very strong list. In their mass market pb series: **YEAR OF THE UNICORN** by Andre Norton, **THE BRACE FREE MEN** by Jack Vance, **MEDUSA'S CHILDREN** by Bob Shaw, **EARTHWIND** by Robert Holdstock, **THREE AGAINST THE WITCHWORLD** by Andre Norton, **THE DREAMSTONE** by C.J.Cherryh, **STAR MAN'S SON** by Andre Norton, **UP THE LINE** by Robert Silverberg, **QUEST FOR THREE WORLDS** by Cordainer Smith, **THE ASUTRA** by Jack Vance, **STRENGTH OF STONES** by Greg Bear, **THE TREE OF SWORDS AND JEWELS** by C.J.Cherryh. In their CLASSIC SF series: **JOURNEY BEYOND TOMORROW** by Robert Sheckley, **DANGEROUS VISIONS** edited by Harlan Ellison, **BABEL-17** by Samuel R.Delany, **GLADIATOR AT LAW** by Frederik Pohl and C.M. Kornbluth, **BRING THE JUBILEE** by Ward Moore, and **BEASTS** by John Crowley.

In hard cover general fiction releases of interest include **THE DAY OF CREATION** by J.G. Ballard, **DAPHNE DU MAURIER'S CLASSICS OF THE MACABRE** illustrated by Michael Foreman and **AEGYPT** by John Crowley. A great range of F&SF hard covers, as usual, includes: **WIZARDRY AND WILD ROMANCE** by Michael Moorcock (Also in TPB), **THE FORGE OF GOD** by Greg Bear, **TUF VOYAGING** by George R.Martin, **ANCIENT LIGHT** by Mary Gentle, **TOOL OF THE TRADE** by Joe Haldeman, **THE URTH OF THE NEW SUN** by Gene Wolfe, **THE WAVE AND THE FLAME** by Marjorie Bradley Kellog with William Rossow, **THE WOODEN SPACESHIPS** by Bob Shaw, **BEST SF OF THE YEAR 16** edited by Terry Carr, **DAWN** by Octavia Butler, **THE SKY LORDS** by John Brosnan, **MORT** by Terry Pratchett, **THE ANNALS OF THE HEECHEE** by Fred Pohl, **THE GREAT SKY RIVER** by Gregory Benford and **MONA LISA OVERDRIVE** by William Gibson.



GRAFTON hard covers, some already released by William Collins include THE DRAGON IN THE SWORD by Michael Moorcock, CATMAGIC by Whitley Strieber, SPIDER WORLD: THE DELTA by Colin Wilson, THE BEST MYSTERIES OF ISAAC ASIMOV, FANTASTIC VOYAGE II: DESTINATION BRAIN by Isaac Asimov and DAUGHTER OF THE EMPIRE by Raymond E. Feist and Janny Wurts.

MICHAEL JOSEPH who I do not think have published any sf since John Wyndham, are doing Robert Heinlein's latest, TO SAIL BEYOND THE SUNSET, appropriately listed next to Spike Milligan's latest collection of verse.

MACDONALD Library Editions include ALL JUDGEMENT FLED and STAR SURGEON by James White, FOOL'S RUN by Patricia McKillip. THE PET by Charles Grant (HN), and DARKSIDE by Dennis Etchison (HN).

ROBINSON PUBLISHING are doing THE MAMMOTH BOOK OF BEST NEW SCIENCE FICTION edited by Gardner Dozois, I AM LEGEND by Richard Matheson, and DARK FEASTS, The World of Ramsey Campbell.

SIMON & SCHUSTER UK are releasing FILM MAGIC, The Art and Science of Special Effects by David Hutchison, A TOUCH OF STURGEON selected and introduced by David Pringle and INTERZONE: THE 2ND ANTHOLOGY edited by John Clute and others.

UNWIN have released a new boxed edition of THE LORD OF THE RINGS in 3 hc volumes, and in paperback also, along with the following F&SF pbs: MIRAGE by Louise Cooper, A PLACE AMONG THE FALLEN by Adrian Cole, THRONE OF FOOLS by Adrian Cole, THE HOUR OF THE THIN OX by Colin Greenland, SWORDPOINT by Ellen Kushner, LAYS OF BELERIAND by J.R.R. Tolkien, LORD OF THE RINGS & THE HOBBIT by Tolkien boxed set, THE ILLUSTRATED HOBBIT illustrated by Michael Hague, TOLKIEN CALENDAR with illustrations by Tolkien, Roger Garland, Ted Naismith, and John Howe (now available from A&U Australia at \$16.95 arp), WITCHES OF WENSHAR by Barbara Hambly, BAGDAD by Ian Dennis, THE PRINCE OF STARS by Ian Dennis, and THEATRE OF TIMESMITHS by Garry Kilworth.

THE WOMEN'S PRESS recent sf titles include A SPACESHIP BUILT OF STONE & Other Stories by Lisa Tuttle, WE WHO ARE ABOUT TO DIE... by Joanna Russ and SKIRMISH by Melisa C. Michaels.

PAPERBACKS FROM BRITISH PUBLISHERS

ARROW released THE PROTEUS OPERATION by James P. Hogan in July, along with STARHAMMER by Christopher Rowley and SPINNERET by Timothy Zahn and two horror novels, THE LABYRINTH by Robert Falcon and BLOODSHOW by Guy N. Smith. WARRIOR WOMEN by Marion Z. Bradley follows, along with BLOODWORM (HN) by

John Halkin, The TIMELINER TRILOGY by R.C. Meredith, LOCUSTS (HN) by Guy N. Smith, WELCOME CHAOS by Kate Wilhelm, STALKING THE UNICORN by Mike Resnick, THE HUNGRY MOON by Ramsey Campbell (H), DELIRIUM'S MISTRESS by Tanith Lee, COBRA, Venture 16 by Timothy Zahn, ASSAULT ON THE GODS by Stephen Goldin, WOLF IN THE SHADOW (FN) by David Gemmel and NIGHT VISION (H) by George R.R. Martin.

CORGI/BANTAM July UK saw SERVANTS OF THE ARK 2: THE CENTRE OF THE CIRCLE by Jonathan Wylie and THE UNICORN CREED by Elizabeth Scarborough, followed by THE MALLEOREON I: GUARDIANS OF THE WEST by David Eddings (So far only seen in HC locally), THE UPLIFT WAR and THE RIVER OF TIME by David Brin were both local releases for November along with reissues of THE SUNDIVER and STARTIDE RISING, THE GOLDEN HORN by Judith Tarr was a UK release in September, but I have only seen her ISLE OF GLASS locally. George R.R. Martin's WILD CARDS and WILD CARDS 2 have both been released locally by Transworld (Corgi & Bantam Aust.). SHAPECHANGERS by Jenifer Roberson, the 1st in the series, was an August Australian release, followed by MASTER OF THE SIDHE, SONG OF SORCERY, and UNTO THE BEAST by Kenneth Flint; a reissue of the Celtic Fantasy QUEEN OF THE LIGHTNING by Kathleen Herbert, along with a new one by her, GHOST IN THE SUNLIGHT; WORDSMITHS AND THE WARGUILD by Hugh Cook; THE GREY HORSE by R.A. MacAvoy; ON THE RIM OF THE MANDALA by Paul Cook; MEMORIES by Mike McQuay; DARK DRUID by Kenneth C. Flint and THE HOUNDS OF GOD by Judith Tarr with THE STAINLESS STEEL RAT GETS DRAFTED by Harry Harrison are November release in Australia in hard cover only. ROBOCOP by Ed Naha was a November pb release locally. Coming in the future we can look forward to NERILKA'S STORY/THE COELURA by Anne McCaffrey, THE SONG OF HOMANA by Jennifer Roberson, BRONWYN'S BANE by Elizabeth Scarborough, TWISTING THE ROPE by R.A. MacAvoy, BLOOD HERITAGE by Sheri S. Tepper, THE WOMEN AND THE WARLORDS by Hugh Cook, THE TROLL'S GRINDSTONE by Elizabeth Boyer.

CENTURY released WOLF IN SHADOW by David Gemmel in large format pb in August UK.

FONTANA fantasy releases include THE MOUNTAINS OF CHANNADRAN by Susan Dexter, THE POWER AND THE PROPHET by Robert Don Hughes, and DAUGHTER OF REGALS AND OTHER STORIES by Stephen Donaldson.

FUTURA, starting from July UK, released STEVE SPIELBERG'S AMAZING STORIES Vol 1 edited by Steven Bauer, THE PET by Charles Grant (HN), NIGHTWINGS by Robert Silverberg,

THE FORGOTTEN BEASTS OF ELD by Patricia McKillip, FIRE DANCER by Ann Maxwell, DARKSIDE by Denis Etchison (H), SOLDIER OF THE MIST by Gene Wolfe, THE RAGGED ASTRONAUTS by Bob Shaw, MAN OF TWO WORLDS by Frank and Brian Herbert, THE PLANET ON THE TABLE by Kim Stanley Robinson, KNIGHT MOVES by Walter Jon Williams (Hum FN), STAR REBEL by F.M. Busby, DROWNTIDE by Sydney Van Scyoc, SECTOR GENERAL by James White, TOWER OF GLASS by Robert Silverberg, THE TIME OF THE TRANSFERENCE - SpellSinger 6 by Alan Dean Foster, BLACK UNICORN and MAGIC KINGDOM FOR SALE/SOLD! by Terry Brooks, CUTTING EDGE by Dennis Etchison (H), and THORNS by Robert Silverberg. Hodder and Stoughton distribute Futura/Orbit in Australia, but as they do not send me any lists, I do not know which titles are on sale here yet.

GRAFTON. July releases in the UK have already been released here and mentioned, apart from Asimov's FOUNDATION and EARTH, which I have not seen mentioned here yet. August UK saw Frederic Brown's classic sf humour novel, WHAT MAD UNIVERSE, followed by LORDS OF THE LEVELS by Michael Bentine, THE GLASS HAMMER by K.W. Jeter, IN YANA, THE TOUCH OF UNDYING by Michael Shea, and SONGS OF DISTANT EARTH by Arthur C. Clarke, due for December Australian release. Later UK titles include: H. Harrison's WINTER IN EDEN, already out here, THE BOOK OF SILENCE by Lawrence Watt Evans, PEBBLE IN THE SKY by Isaac Asimov, NATURE'S END by Whitely Strieber and James Kunetka, LOVECRAFT'S BOOK by Richard Lupoff, LESS THAN HUMAN by Charles Platt, DARKNESS AT SETHANON by Raymond Feist was an October local release. BIO OF A SPACE TYRANT 5: STATESMAN by Piers Anthony must be close, along with THE PRESERVING MACHINE by Philip K. Dick, THE THRONE OF SCONE by Patricia Kenneally, NON-STOP by Brian Aldiss, FANTASMS AND MAGICS by Jack Vance, INHUMAN ERROR by John Russo (H).

HEADLINE is a new British publisher. F&SF titles so far announced include: SONG OF KALI by Dan Simmons, TALKING MAN by Terry Bisson, THE IVANHOE GAMBIT, Time Wars 1 by Simon Hawke, THE POWER by Ian Watson (H), NEW YORK BY KNIGHT by Esther Friesner, THE FOLK OF THE AIR by Peter S. Beagle, TAMING THE FOREST KING by Claudia Edwards, SHADOWS II ed by Charles L. Grant, SOULSTORM by Chet Williamson (H), DAUGHTER OF THE BEAR KING by Eleanor Arnason, BETWEEN THE STROKES OF MIDNIGHT by Charles Sheffield, and WRACK AND ROLL by Bradley Denton.

LEGEND is Arrow's new SF imprint and they released Greg Bear's novel EON in November in Britain.

METHUEN Paperbacks have already been listed. They are now distributed in Australia by Methuen LBC Limited.

NEW ENGLISH LIBRARY has two Stephen King items; THE BACHMAN BOOKS and KINGDOM OF FEAR: The World of Stephen King by Tim Underwood and Chuck Miller. THRESHOLD is an SF title by David Palmer, THE CYBERNETIC SAMURAI by Victor Milan, THE MOON IS A HARSH MISTRESS by Robert Heinlein, IT by Stephen King, THIRST II: THE PLAGUE by Guy N. Smith (H), STARBEAST by Robert Heinlein, THE NICK OF TIME by George Alec Effinger. NEL is distributed by Hodder & Stoughton, so I have no idea what is due out here and when.

PAN have published a new edition of H.G. Wells's INVISIBLE MAN, followed by MAROONED IN REAL TIME by Vernor Vinge, HEIRS TO BYZANTIUM 1: BYZANTIUM'S CROWN by Susan Schwartz.

PENGUIN continue the Dragonlance series of fantasy adventures with TEST OF THE TWINS, by Margaret Weis and Tracy Hickman. Future thriller, O-ZONE by Paul Theroux has been released here. Following LAND UNDER ENGLAND by Joseph O'Neil, LAST AND FIRST MEN by Olaf Stapledon, THE FIRST MEN IN THE MOON by H. G. Wells and THE MAN IN THE HIGH CASTLE by P.K. Dick, Penguin issued THE DAY IT RAINED FOREVER by Ray Bradbury in their Classic SF Series in October UK. All except the last released in Australia. Larger size pb format. Another Penguin release is THE STONE AND THE FLUTE by Hans Bemann, an outstanding fantasy novel.

SPHERE. A title worth mentioning is LADY OF HAY by Barbara Erskine, which is an historical novel which uses the common trick nowadays of mind transference through time. In the larger format pb Abacus, Christopher Priest's A DREAM OF WESSEX and THE GLAMOUR were both reissued. DEATH TRANCE is a new HN by Graham Masterton, followed by THE FOREVER MAN by Gordon R. Dickson, CONAN THE VALORIOUS by John Maddox Roberts, BLOOD OF AMBER by Roger Zelazny (2nd in new sequence), THE TIME RAIDERS by Bernard King, TROLLNIGHT by Peter Tremayne (H). Sphere books are now being distributed by Penguin books in Australia.

UNWIN PAPERBACKS not already mentioned including OTHER EDENS edited by Christopher Evans and Robert Holdstock F/A, and FREEDOM BEACH by James Patrick Kelly.

STAR BOOKS First up is **ROBOT** by Peter Grimwade, followed by **VAGABONDS OF GOR** by John Norman, **BRAK THE BARBARIAN** by John Jakes **DUEL & OTHER STORIES OF THE ROAD** by William Patrick (H), and in the **DR WHO** series: **AMBASSADORS OF DEATH** and **K9 AN COMPANY** (authors not known), **REIGN OF TERROR** by Ian Marter, **SENSORITES** by Nigel Robinson and in large format (Comet) **THE KEY TO TIME** by Peter Haining. Also **MACRA TERROR** by Ian Stewart Black.

AMERICAN RELEASES

Well I obviously cannot catch up on all the US releases, so I will endeavour to mention some of the most important as follows:

L.Ron Hubbard's "Mission Earth" series has now been published in its complete 10 volumes in the USA by Bridge Publications. The local release of the British edition from New Era, by Gordon and Gotch is up to Volume 5, **FORTUNE OF FEAR**. We will see the rest through 1988.

DEL REY have published in hc a new Hal Clement novel, **STILL RIVER**. In pb the 3rd in the "Ice-rigger" trilogy by Alan Dean Foster, **THE DELUGE DRIVERS**; **CODE BLUE EMERGENCY** by James White, a new Med series novel; **BEING A GREEN MOTHER** by Piers Anthony, "Incarnations of Immortality Book 5, in hard cover, The Foster and White titles are both in pb.

ACE/PUTNAM is publishing sf&f in hard covers now, while all sf&f pbs from the Berkley/Ace group are now being published under the ACE imprint. **DAYWORLD REBEL** by Philip Jose Farmer and **OUT OF PHAZE**, Apprentice Adept Book 4 by Piers Anthony are two of the first off the rank. **TO SAIL BEYOND THE SUNSET: The Life and Loves of Maureen Johnson** by Robert Heinlein is also an Ace/Putnam hc. Yet another "Future History" spin off. A new series in pb is Isaac Asimov's **Robot City**. Book One is **ODYSSEY** by Michael P.Kube McDowell. **GLORY LANE** is a new humorous sf novel by Alan Dean Foster, and also from ACE is a new Christopher Stasheff novel, **THE WARLOCK HERETICAL**. Jack Chalker starts a new series rolling with **WHEN THE CHANGE WINDS BLOW**. **COMBAT COMMAND** is an sf novel by Mark Acres set in the world of Robert A.Heinlein's "Starship Troopers". The Thieve's World series ed. by Robert Asprin is now up to number 10: **AFTERMATH**.

ARBOR HOUSE hard cover publishers did the 3rd in the Amber series, **SIGN OF CHAOS** by Roger Zelazny in October. Earlier they published a new Orson Scott Card nove, **WYRMS**. **LAND OF DREAMS** by Fantasy Award winner James P.Blalock came out in August, followed by

CHRISTMAS GHOSTS edited by Kathryn Kramer and David Hartwell, **THE BRIDGE OF LOST DESIRE** by Samuel R.Delany. and **ROD OF LIGHT** by Barrington J.Bayley.

AVON. Some of the Avon titles have been distributed by Corgi in Australia and now the new British publisher Headline. Titles not seen include reprints of Zenna Henderson's **THE PEOPLE: NO DIFFERENT FLESH** and **PILGRIMAGE: THE BOOK OF THE PEOPLE**, **VALE OF THE VOLE** by Piers Anthony, **ARTHUR C.CLARKE'S VENUS PRIME: Vol 1** **BREAKING STRAIN** by Paul Preuss, **THE CURSE OF THE OBELISK** by Ron Goulart, and **FIRESHAPER'S DOOM** and **WINDMASTER'S BANE** by Tom Deitz.

BAEN continues the series with **LEGIONS OF HELL** by C.J.Cherryh, followed by **ANGELS IN HELL** by Janet Morris and others. **TATJA GRIMM'S WORLD** by Vernor Vinge was a July release, followed by **TRIPLET** by Timothy Zahn **RETURN TO FANGLITH** by John Dalmas, **FREELANCERS** ed. by Elizabeth Mitchell, **TOOLMAKER KOAN** an excellent SF/N by John McLoughlin in HC, **HAMMER'S SLAMMER's** :COUNTING THE COST by David Drake, **THE EMPRESS OF EARTH** by Melisa Scott, **THE MOON GODDESS AND SON** by Donald Kingsbury in HC, **TO MARRY MEDUSA (Cosmic Rape)** by Theodore Sturgeon (a long o/p title), **MASTERS IN HELL** by Janet Morris and C.J.Cherryh.

DAW BOOKS reissued Jo Clayton's **SKEEN'S LEAP** and added the sequel **SKEEN'S RETURN**. **THE FAR SIDE OF FOREVER** was new Sharon Green title, followed by **SUNDRINKER** by Zack Hughes, **ARROW'S FLIGHT** by Mercedes Lackey, **MEROVINGEN NIGHTS 2: FEVER SEASON** ed by C.J.Cherryh, **RED SUN OF DARKOVER** ed by Marion Z.Bradley, and a 3rd book in the series due December from Jo Clayton, **SKEEN'S SEARCH**.

BANTAM some of the earlier titles from them have already been mentioned, but other published include: **A TRUCE WITH TIME** by Parke Godwin in HC, ***LITTLE HEROES** by Norman Spinrad, ***CHERNOBYL! A Novel** by Frederik Pohl, **ROGER ZELAZNY'S ALIEN SPEEDWAY Book 1:CLYPSIS** by Jeffrey A.Carver, **THE SHORE OF WOMEN** by Pamela Sargent (also published by Chatto and Windus in Britain in HC), **THE UNIVERSE** ed by Byron Preiss is a collection of stories and articles by Benford, Wolfe, Brin, Silverberge and others, **THE GOLD CAMP VAMPIRE** by Elizabeth Scarborough, ***THE GREAT SKY RIVER** by Gregory Benford, **AFTER LONG SILENCE** by Sheri S.Tepper, **THE REBEL DYNASTY Vol 1** by F.M.Busby. * Hard cover.

FRANKLIN WATTS, hard cover publishers, did a new edition of Alfred Bester's **THE STARS MY DESTINATION (Tiger! Tiger!)** in June along with a novel by Brian Aldiss, **THE YEAR BEFORE YESTERDAY**. Other releases included **THE JEHOVAH CONTRACT** by Victor Koman and **BLOW OUT!** by Thomas N.Scortia and Frank M.Robinson.

DONNING/STARBLAZE now publish mainly graphic material but they reprinted Harlan Ellison's AN EDGE IN MY VOICE this year, did TAKEOFF TOO! by Randall Garrett, a collection of parodies and pastiches on sf writers, illustrated by Phil Foglio. And their latest offer in Robert Asprin's "Myth" series is MYTH-NOMERS AND IMPERFECTIONS. All trade pbs.

DOUBLEDAY published Terry Carr's last UNIVERSE collection, #17. KNAVE, A collection by Laurence M. Janifer was followed by Terry Carr's novel CIRQUE, in a new edition, and DARKSPELL by Katherine Kerr. FAIRIE TALE by Raymond E. Feist was due in October, along with Isaac Asimov's FANTASTIC VOYAGE II: DESTINATION BRAIN. HORROR WEARS BLUE by Lin Carter was due for November and VALLEY SO LOW by Manly Wade Wellman, most likely his last book to be published. A later report states that Feist's FAIRIE TALE has been postponed.

Another DEL REY book worth mentioning is MICHAEL WHELAN'S WORKS OF WONDER. A Collection of sf art in hard cover. (\$25.00US)

JAMESON BOOKS published L. Ron Hubbard's first ever novel, BUCKSKIN BRIGADE. (A report seen somewhere told of one reader who missed his plane connection, because he was so engrossed in the book.)

HARMONY BOOKS announced for October, THE BEST OF SCIENCE FICTION TV: THE CRITIC'S CHOICE FROM CAPTAIN VIDEO TO STAR TREK, FROM THE JETSONS TO ASTROBOY, a trade pb by John Javna

PUCKET BOOKS Star Trek releases to the end of the year are #34, DREAMS OF THE RAVEN by Carmen Carter, STRANGERS FROM THE SKY by Margaret Wander Bonanno (Not numbered. Why?), MR SCOTT'S GUIDE TO THE ENTERPRISE by Shane Johnson (NF/TPB), #35 THE ROMULAN WAY by Diane Duane, #36 HOW MUCH FOR JUST THE PLANET? by John M. Ford, #37 BLOODTHIRST by J.M. Dillard. Other Pocket releases include a very large horror novel (956pp), SWAN SONG by Robert R. McCammon, THE INHUMAN CONDITION by Clive Barker (HN), WARLORD! by Janet Morris. Pocket may do more f&sf, as well as horror in the future. Past top man at Pocket and responsible for dropping the "Timescape" imprint a couple of years ago, Ron Bush, died recently.

QUESTAR published WIZARD WAR by Hugh Cook in June, which was followed by VENDETTA by M.S. Murdock, MASTERPLAY by William Wu, SWIMMERS BENEATH THE BRIGHT by M. Coleman Easton, THE WIZARD ON 4TH STREET by Simon Hawke, LEOPARD'S DAUGHTER by Lee Killough, BYZANTIUM BOOK II: THE WOMAN OF FLOWERS by Susan Schwartz, GALACTIC CONVOY by Bill Baldwin and THE FIRES OF WINDAMEIR by Neil Hancock.

SERCONIA PRESS, a small publisher, did THE STRAITS OF MESSINA by Samuel R. Delany in June. HC/Non-fiction \$19.95 US. Serconia have done other non-fiction books by Brian Aldiss.

ST MARTIN'S PAPERBACKS published THE EXCHAMELEON Book 1: DAREDEVILS LTD by Ron Goulart in June, followed by SUNDIPPER by Paul B. Thompson, I HOPE I SHALL ARRIVE SOON by Philip K. Dick, THE CHAMELEON Book II: STARPIRATE'S BRAIN by Ron Goulart, TALES FROM THE PLANET EARTH by Frederick Pohl & Elizabeth Ann Hull. In hard cover StMartins published a mystery by Kate Wilhelm, THE HAMLET TRAP and THE HIDDEN SIDE OF THE MOON by Joanna Russ. In Trade PB, THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E. BOOK by John Heitland.

SIGNET/NAL published ISAAC ASIMOV'S MAGICAL WORLDS OF FANTASY #8: DEVILS, edited by Isaac Asimov, M.H. Greenberg & C.G. Waugh in June, followed by BREGA PATH by Dennis L. McKiernan, ROBERT ADAMS BOOK OF ALTERNATE WORLDS ed. by Robert P. and Pamela C. Adams & M.H. Greenberg, SWEET SILVER BLUES by Glen Cook, THE BEST OF TREK 12 by Walter Irwin & G.B. Love, MADMAN'S ARMY Hotseclans #17 by Robert Adams, ASIMOV'S WONDERFUL WORLD OF SF #7: SPACE SHUTTLES ed. by Isaac Asimov, M.H. Greenberg & C.G. Waugh, PIERS ANTHONY'S WORLD OF CHTHON: PLASM by Charles Platt, WULSTON'S ODYSSEY: A TALE OF THE SAVAGE EMPIRE by Jean Lorrain & Winston A. Howlett, INFERNAL DEVICES by K.W. Jeter, MONSTER MAKERS INC. by Laurence Yep, THE DARK SIDE by Zack Hughes, and MIDNIGHT CITY by Robert Tine.

SIMON & SCHUSTER published THE LEGACY OF HEOROT by Larry Niven, Jerry Pournelle and Steve Barnes in July. The Gallancz edition is now available here. September saw Marion Zimmer Bradley's FIREBRAND.

TOR published the 1st of a new series by Orson Scott Card in July, THE TALES OF ALVIN MAKER Book 1: SEVENTH SON, HC. Other HCs included TALES OF THE WITCH by Andre Norton, BEST SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY OF THE YEAR #16 ed Terry Carr, THE FORGE OF GOD by Greg Bear, FORGE OF GOD by Greg Bear, A FLAME IN BYZANTIUM by Chelsea Quin Yarbrow, THE DARK DESCENT, The Evolution of Horror, ed by David Hartwell, THE KINSMAN SAGA by Ben Bova, FORGETTING PLACES by S.P. Somtow.

Major TOR PB releases include: BERSERKER BASE by Fred Saberhagen, DRAGON'S GOLD by Piers Anthony & Robert E. Magaroff, MAGIC IN ITHKAR IV ed Robert Adams & Andre Norton, REVOLT ON MAJIPOOR (Set in Silverberg's world) by Matt Costello, DRAGON HARPER by Jody Lynn Nye (set in Anne McCaffrey's world), THE EARTHSTONE by Diana L. Paxson, BATTLE STATION by Ben Bova, THE PRINCE OF WHALES by R.L. Fisher, THE DARK

LADY by Mike Resnick, THE SEA KING TRILOGY 11: MINDBOND by Nancy Springer, GHOST by Piers Anthony, UNIVERSE 15 ed Terry Carr, THE SILENT WARRIOR by L.E. Modessit, and the SHATTERED HORSE by S.P. Somtow.

WARNER Books published Alan Dean Foster's INTO THE OUT OF in July in pb, followed by HAUNTED HEARTLAND by Beth Scott and Michael Norman and a number of Silverberg reprints.

UNDERWOOD-MILLER announced a three volume set of THE SELECTED STORIES OF ROBERT BLOCH, in a trade edition at \$80 US and a deluxe slip-cased and numbered edition at \$125.00 US. THE SECRET SHARER by Robert Silverberg was announced as a November publication, in a limited edition and trade edition. Also listed is an original Jack Vance novel set in the "Demon Princes" universe, THE CADWELL CHRONICLES. Limited edition only.

SMALL MAGAZINES RECEIVED

SCIENCE FICTION A Review of Speculative Fiction edited by Van Ikin, has now seen 24 issues. It has been for some time Australia's best sf review magazine, thanks to the professionalism of it's editor. Current subscription rates are 3 issues for \$10. 3 issues for \$15 overseas (Airmail) or 6 for \$27 (Airmail) From Dr Van Ikin, Department of English, University of Western Australia, Nedlands Western Australia 6009

ANSIBLE is kindly sent to me by British fan and pro-writer, a Hugo Winner this year, DAVE LANGFORD. Ansible is a sometimes quite irrelevant roundup of British and world sf news and events and is available 94 London Road, Berkshire, RG1 5AU, UK. Irwin Hirsch, 2/416 Dandenong Rd, Nth Caulfield Vic. 3161 Is the Australian Agent.

WEBER WOMAN'S REVENGE is Jean Weber's zine and is available for trade or contribution from Jean at 6 Hillcrest Avenue, Faulconbridge NSW 2776.

THE NOTIONAL is a newszine produced by Leigh Edmonds and Valma Brown. A one sheet that gives information that is needed to be given quickly. Due to the fact that Leigh and Val are migrating from Canberra to other parts of our continent, the temporary address of The Notional is c/o 6 Hillcrest Avenue, Faulconbridge, NSW 2776. (Thanks for the plug for MERV BINNS BOOKS, Leigh and Val.) The notional sub rate is \$12 for 20 issues.

AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW is carrying on a tradition which was begun by John Bangsund almost 20 years ago, (You better believe it!) has been revived by the Science Fiction Collective which includes Jenny and Russell Blackford,

John Foyster, Yvonne Rousseau and Lucy Sussex. These people take their sf seriously and tell you things about sf writers and their writing which make you think and help you enjoy and get more out of the literature you are reading. Sub rate is \$10 for a year, from Ebony Books GPO Box 1294L, Melbourne, Victoria 3001

SECANT TWO is a Fanzine edited by Greg Hills. Available for trade or contributions. It contains articles, views, letters and reviews. Greg's address is GPO Box 972 G, Melbourne 3001. (Funny, I thought he was a Kiwi!)

MATALAN RAVE is edited by Michael Hailstone, who is coming to Melbourne (God help us!). I hope his later issues are better typed than #13. Lots of personal stuff and letters. The address I have is PO Box 258, Manuka, ACT 2601

THE CAPTAIN'S LOG is the official publication of AUSTREK, the Victorian Star Trek club. For details of membership, subs to the zine, write to AUSTREK, GPO Box 5206AA, Melbourne 3001. (I attended the Austrek Christmas party last week. It was a fun night.)

WAHF-FULL is edited by Jack Herman, the big noise in Sydney fandom. He likes to refer to his zine as a general interest fan publication or "genzine". Reports, reviews, letters and such. He supports Perth in 1994 by the way. Available for the usual. PO Box 272, Wentworth Building, University of Sydney, NSW 2006

TIGGER edited by Marc Ortlieb is another of Australia's best fanzines. Some crowd called The Australian National SF Association hijacked the last issue I received, June '87, but I think that was only a temporary aberration. The address is P.O. Box 215, Forest Hill, Vic. 3131 Australia.

CATHSEYE is edited and published by Cathy Kerrigan, who is active in various sections of fandom. Her zine ranges from personal views and reports, to letters and articles on literary criticism. Available for trade and contributions. Address: PO Box 437, Camberwell 3124, Victoria.

ETHEL THE AARDVARK is the Melbourne SF Club's official fanzine. I do not know how they came by that name, but it obviously owes some thing to the old official club zine ETHERLINE, but it sounds like something my old friend Paul Stevens would dream up. It has interesting items like crossword puzzles, club news, media news, reviews, and lots more and can be had for trade, by joining the club or subscribing at \$8.00 for 10 issues and \$10.00 for 10 issues overseas. Address: PO Box 212, World Trade Centre, Melbourne 3005, Victoria, Australia.