

July 1967

No. 13

Edited and produced for the British Science Fiction Association by Archie Mercer. Proofread by Beryl Mercer. Publications Officer: Phil Muldowney, 7 The Elms, Stoke, Plymouth, Devon.

IMPORTANT NOTICE As can be seen above, the Association already has another new Publications Officer. Darroll Pardoe, who originally accepted office for the first half of the current committee-year, finds that circumstances are against his carrying on for more than just the one issue of VECTOR and has therefore resigned. There had been a relief lined up to take over in mid-year, but he finds that he will be unable to do so after all. As a purely interim measure, Phil Muldowney (better-known as the International Contacts Dept.) has agreed to produce two issues only of VECTOR, after which he must needs relinquish the job in order to start at university.

Therefore, once again the Association urgently requires a volunteer to take over the post of Publications Officer (the main duty involved being to edit VECTOR and arrange for its publication), starting with VECTOR No. 47. Names to the Secretary, please: Doreen Parker, 38 Millfield Road, Deeping St. James, Peterborough.

And if anybody answers: thank you.

THIRDMANCON MOVES EAST Alan Garner fans will be sorry to hear that Alderley Edge has after all lost the "Thirdmancon". The annual British S.F. convention, organised this time from the Manchester area, is to take place over Easter week-end 1968 at Buxton, Derbyshire, at the St. Ann's Hotel. (Dave Kyle please note.) Buxton is well-known as a spa in the Peak District - both hotel and town are thus considerably bigger than anything Alderley Edge can offer, which appears to be the main reason for the change. And although Derbyshire sounds even less Mancunian than does rural Cheshire, Buxton is in fact hardly any further from Manchester than Alderley Edge is, though considerably handier for those from Yorkshire and the north-east.

Incidentally, the "Thirdmancon" is definitely being held under the auspices of the B.S.F.A. - which, one hopes, deals firmly and finally with that particular bit of obscurity. Following on the 1966 A.G.M. of the B.S.F.A., the status of the ensuing (1967) Convention in Bristol never was entirely cleared up. Technically, Bristol was a "sort-of, more-or-less" B.S.F.A. Convention: it is to be hoped that nobody in fact noticed any practical difference.

One hears rumours of an excellent and deserving Guest of Honour that the Thirldmancunians have lined up for us. With truly heroic forbearance the B.S.F.A. Bulletin refrains from scooping METEOR, the "Thirdmancon" newsletter, on the matter. For full particulars, 7/6d registration fee to the Convention treasurer Bill Burns, 13 Swanage Road, Winton, Eccles, Manchester.

MORE ON THE "COMPANY" Associate member John Hutchinson had a number of pertinent things to say about the Association's "limited company" project. One is that he doesn't see why, as a mere Associate member, he should be prevented from becoming a shareholder in the projected company if he so desires. "Those under 21", he says, "have no legal liability and so could not act as guarantors; however their money is good and it is to be hoped that..... (it will be) possible for Associates to become shareholders. In this way Associates would feel they had just as much say in the running of the Company as the guarantors and they would be encouraged to have their say because they have used the 10/- they saved on membership subs. by their Associate status to buy shares."

The Secretary's legally-advised reply to this point is to the effect that in a specifically non-commercial company of the nature envisaged, shareholders would automatically be guarantors, and that a guarantor under the age of 21 (which of course includes some full members as well as the Associates) can usually manage to wriggle out of meeting his guarantee if he's that way inclined. (E&OE in case this has been Bulletinically misinterpreted.)

John Hutchinson continues: "It is foreseeable that removal of personal legal liability from an unpaid committee could lead to a reduced concern and involvement on the committee members' part. Perhaps this tendency would be defeated by making it obligatory for a committee member after he had been elected to purchase a certain minimum value of shares and/or hold a certain amount in guarantees.

"I think the point that there will be far less reluctance to sue a company is completely true but my attitude as the suitor would be that the members now have a very real involvement in the company because of their guarantees so if they did not wish to take an interest in their officers' activities it jolly well serves them right. Perhaps the discussion of this point would be illuminated if further details of the two previous instances mentioned when suing could have occurred could be given." Your Bulletin-editor can offhand recall only one specific instance, which was when VECTOR published a somewhat unwisely-worded review for which editor and reviewer later made public apology to the author in question - who was himself a B.S.F.A. member incidentally, and still is.

Still with John Hutchinson: "I believe that the point about the Association being a 'fun thing' is a complete red herring. I do not regard as fun the trouble and resultant inefficiency caused by the retaining of the VECTOR file by the Publications Officer when concern for his career forces him to do a quick removal and cease his activities. After all, members expect efficient service and I do not believe that the Directors of the company would be so stupid as to alienate support by pontificating to the members." Your Bulletin-editor does not regard it as fun, either - the best that can be said for it is that it does add a certain piquancy to an otherwise humdrum existence. As for the members expecting an efficient service: most certainly they're entitled to it, but regrettably few of them seem to be willing to help provide that service.

John's letter concludes (to get off company affairs for a moment) with a suggestion that the Association should consider running a raffle, possibly with prizes expressed as so many cubic feet of assorted good-quality sf. "What better way," he asks, "of bringing the B.S.F.A. into a conversation with friends who you know to be science fiction fans than by trying to sell them raffle tickets?"

The Secretary also points out that the suggestion made in the previous Bulletin about the formula for the guarantee being used to bring in extra spending-capital does not form part of the official proposals. True: nevertheless, the suggestion was made to your Bulletin-editor in private conversation during the Easter convention at Bristol by one who has some knowledge of such matters, and may well be raised again later.

Finally under this heading: relatively coherent proposals are now in the course of being distributed to the Select Committee. Watch This Space for further exciting company news. (Why this space? Because space is Limited...)

VECTOR FACING
CIRCUMNAVIGATION ? While you are all (well, most of you may well be) covering abjectly in shame after the verbal caning you received at the end of the fourth paragraph above (go on - count 'em),

it seems to provide an excellent opportunity to bring to your notice the following announcement by the Committee:

"VECTOR. The committee has decided that unless a volunteer is forthcoming after Phil Muldowney is ready to hand over, VECTOR will have to be suspended until such time as an editor is available. It is with great reluctance that this

decision has been reached but the committee feels that, with all the other matters that have to be handled its present net complement cannot take on VECTOR as well. The Bulletin in any case will continue, and the committee proposes to go into this with its present editor should the contingency arise that the Bulletin becomes the Association's only extant publication."

No further editorial comment is hereby offered...

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED

TREVOR PAYNE (29), 60 Lawton Street, Primrose Hill, Huddersfield, Yorks. Anywhere. Hobbies: reading & writing.

IRENE BOOTHROYD (his sister, same address). Everywhere. Hobbies: Amateur dramatics, dancing, tape recording.

DAVID BISHOP (18), 15 Oxford Road, Peterborough. Hobbies: fencing, Young Liberals.

KEITH BRIDGES (27), 75 Handside Lane, Welwyn Garden City, Herts. Anywhere. Hobbies: go-kart racing, electronics, guitar playing.

JILL MASON (20), 67 Cumberland Drive, Bexleyheath, Kent. Commonwealth. Hobbies: horror films.

(Rumour reaches the Bulletin that the two names immediately above are now engaged to each other. Congratulatory relations. AM)

AILSA KELLY, 6 Woodland Court, New Wanstead, London E.11. Anywhere. Hobbies: chess, cats, reading, writing, amateur dramatics.

DAVID C. REVE (16), 46 Keith Road, Barking, Essex. USA. Hobbies: camping, cycling, movie photography.

G.F. PICKERSGILL (15), "The Pines", Haylett Lane, Merlins Bridge, Haverfordwest, Pembro. U.K. Hobbies: general reading, railway modelling.

ANTHONY P. JACKSON (22), 38 Hopton Road, Streatham, London SW.16. U.S.A., Europe. Hobbies: photography, people, travelling, cinema, jazz, cooking.

KEITH WALKER (28), c/o Post Room, St. James's Hospital, Balham, London SW.12. Anywhere. Hobbies: theatre, horror films & horror fiction, the occult. Has grasshopper mind.

ALAN F. COSTER (30), 3 Evans House, Watermill Way, Hanworth, Feltham, Middlesex. U.K. Hobbies: music and chess.

(If the above crowd were all to get together, they could form the cast, production crew and audience for a horror-film about chess with full musical backing - only, mind the grasshoppers. AM)

SMALL-ADS FREE TO MEMBERS

WANTED: YOUR HELP in compiling a list of sf books worth publishing or republishing in this country.

This list would include:

- 1) Books too long out of print;
- 2) Serials never published in book form;
- 3) Hardbacks which should long ago have become paperbacks;
- 4) U.S. books which have never appeared over here;
- 5) Any other category you can think of ...

Everyone must know of a book (or potential book) which has been neglected for far too long. Write it down! Then, giving original source if possible, send it to:

David Garnett, 22 Tudor Road, Hunts Cross, Liverpool 25.

You can list one, you can list fifty, but please send before the end of August (1967). If response merits it, and the then-incumbent Publications Officer (if any) permitting, the list will be published in VECTOR.

WANTED: Issues of TANGENT and VECTOR up to and including No. 37. Details, stating price required, to John Hutchinson, 18 Windsor Terrace, Whitby, Yorks.

This, believe it or not, is my NORMAL advert:

SELLING IS EASY if you accept tokens instead of cash. What can you buy with tokens? A wide range of moderately priced quality goods, catalogues, advertising space and in the U.K. - money! Send an advert and 2/- for U.K. membership or send 6/- (\$1.00) for membership and tokens.

J.S. Cairns, 15 Brinkburn Street, SUNDERLAND, England.

AND HERE is my abnormal offer, as promised to the BSFA brass: to mark twenty years of interchange (this month), the above entrance fees are reduced to 1/- and 4/- (65¢.) respectively! What if it is fantastic? Don't be afraid to give it a whirl! You can leave when you like - but no one does!

FOR SALE Hundreds of sf and fantasy paperbacks and magazines, including many scarce items at reasonable prices. Please send s.a.e. for lists.

Les Walton, 11 Fairbourne Road, Levenshulme, Manchester 19.

TOMORROW is the name of a very rare printed fanzine - the SF Association's organ in 1938. Volume 2, Nos. 1, 2, 3 - several sets. 7/6d each magazine, or £1 per full set of 3. Les Walton, address as above.

FOR SALE Mint copies of IF (U.S. edition) for 1966, £2 the set. WORLDS OF TOMORROW (mint U.S. edition) March, May and November 1966, 4/- each. (Earlier issues of these two magazines also available.) ANALOG April 1965 to May 1967, 3/- each. Postage extra. NEW WRITINGS IN S.F., and Nova NEW WORLDS. Write: D.S. Garnett, 22 Tudor Road, Hunts Cross, Liverpool 25.

FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGY S.F. SOCIETY. Open to "all students in the Manchester area". This new sf club is all ready to get into swing with the Autumn term, and already possesses a large paperback library and a grant from the Students' Union. Contact Hartley Patterson, Dalton Hall, Victoria Park, Manchester 14.

NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY S.F. GROUP. Contact Martin Pitt at Sherwood Hall, University Park, Nottingham.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT S.F. GROUP. Newly-formed, this group meets informally every other Monday evening at the "Victoria", a pub just behind Leeds Town Hall. New members welcome - the group is already a thriving concern. There's a meeting 24th of July, and alternate Mondays thereafter. (For further details contact Barbara Mace, 10 Walker's Lane, Leeds 12, Yorks.)

BRISTOL AND DISTRICT (B.A.D.) S.F. GROUP. Usually meets alternate Saturdays. Contact Beryl Mercer, 9 Cotswold Road, Bedminster, Bristol 3. (Or ring Tony & Simone Walsh at Bristol 46355.)

LEEDS HAVE ONE. Bristol have one. Why not us? Anyone interested in starting Wolverhampton and District's own S.F. group, write to K.A. Eadie, 44 Melverton Avenue, Bushbury, Wolverhampton, Staffs.

AFTER THE CON IS OVER ... The Committee which organised this year's Easter S.F. Convention in Bristol reports that the surplus is being divided between the "Thirdmancon", the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund (T.A.F.F.), and the project to have the 1970 World S.F. Convention awarded to Heidelberg, West Germany.

FAN CLUBS IN LONDON The "London Circle" (anybody welcome) still meets on the first Thursday evening of each month at "The Globe" tavern, Hatton Garden, London EC. Nearest underground, Chancery Lane. The Science Fiction Club of London, a somewhat more formally-constituted body, meets regularly here and there - contact Ethel Lindsay, Courage House, 6 Langley Av., Surbiton, Surrey

NEW MEMBERS

- M.856 Jackson, Anthony P.: 38 Hopton Road, Streatham, London SW.16.
 M.857 Chapman, David R.: "Polruan", 3 Lincoln Way, Spalding, Lincs. /Yorks.
 M.858 Boothroyd, Irene (Mrs.): 60 Lawton Street, Primrose Hill, Huddersfield,/
 M.859 Payne, J. Trevor: 60 Lawton Street, Primrose Hill, Huddersfield, Yorks.
 (That's not a mistake. They're brother and sister.)
 M.860 Walton, Les: 11 Fairbourne Road, Levenshulme, Manchester 19.
 M.861 Walker, Keith A. (RMN): c/o Post Room, St. James's Hospital, Balham,/
 /London SW.12
 M.862 Coster, Alan: 3 Evans House, Watermill Way, Hanworth, Feltham, Middlesex.

RENEWAL

- A.723 Close, Peter E.: 17 Japan Close, Crouch Hill, London N.4.
 (PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- M.798 Charnoc, Graham: now 2 Walsingham Mansions, Fulham Road, London SW.6.
(Tel: FUL 4539)
- M.732 Cruttenden, Arthur G.: now "Idiocy Couchant", 11 Heath Lodge Caravan Site,
Danesbury Park Road, Welwyn, Herts. (NOTE NUMBER NOW ADDED)
- M.484 Healy, Michael A.: now 17B Chapel Place Lane, Ramsgate, Kent.
- M.603 Millar, Stanley: now c/o Halfords Ltd., K4-60 Centre South, Cumbernauld,
/Glasgow, Scotland.
- M.320 Priest, Christopher M.: now 2 Walsingham Mansions, Fulham Road,
/London SW.6. (Tel: FUL 4539)

NOTE This sheet of new and renewed members and changed addresses represents the first batch of amendments to the B.S.F.A. 1967 Membership List.