

Edited by Archie Mercer for The British Science Fiction Association Limited.

Editorial address: 21 Trenethick Parc, Helston, Cornwall. Distribution address (for positively the last time this year): as above. E&OE

OUR CHAIRMAN -

THE TRUTH REVEALED :

E.J. Carnell writes: "Many thanks for the note of my incapacity -- much, much too late, I'm afraid, as I have been home from a second visit to the hospital for nearly two weeks. However, that is not the point. I want to thank the many scores of friends (and even a few remote acquaintances) who either sent me a card or wrote a letter. The announcement even dug up some old American friends I hadn't heard from for a decade. I am pleased to report that physio-therapy has done me a lot of good and I am feeling more like my old self. Unfortunately, arthritis cannot be cured as yet and I have it in the knees, so I am restricted considerably for getting about. If I continue to improve, the goal will be to get to a Convention in 1972." (December 17 1971.) (AM: well, we all wish you continued improvement, Ted, and hope that you will indeed make your convention, or even more than one.)

LABOUR TROUBLES, or, STRIKES IN SCUNTHORPE

It may have been observed that Bulletin 45 was dated "Early December 1971". This was because it had been intended that there should also be a "Late December 1971" Bulletin, with various riders. Alas and alack, 'twas not to be - nor was there a January Bulletin either. The genial Phil Rogers, for many years the Association's "Parliamentarian" and more recently a somewhat reluctant holder of the official duplicator and distributor of publications, suddenly decided that he had had enough and resigned at one fell swoop from the distribution job, from the Management Council, and (for good measure) from the Association as well. This mailing (including the riders referred to above) comes to you by courtesy of the Bulletin-editor - mainly in order to clear several urgent matters before Easter. The next mailing (if there is one, he says darkly), and subsequent mailings, will however come from elsewhere. There are, in fact, a couple of prospective elsewherees that are understood to be interested. There'd better be !

Doreen Parker, Secretary of the Company, is carrying on for the time being but only, she says, up to Easter - so that the A.G.M. will be expected to elect a new Company Secretary. Anyone interested? (Again, there'd better be !) Those who wish to make nominations, or to record their willingness to be nominated, should write immediately to Doreen at 16 Atlas Rd., Scunthorpe, Lincs.

VECTOR While the Association's journal VECTOR remains in a temporary limbo, it seems appropriate that the membership be asked to state its views on what it thinks VECTOR should be and do. The views of the membership are therefore solicited, and should be sent in the first instance to the Vice Chairman, Keith Freeman, at 128 Fairford Rd., Tilehurst, Reading, Berks, RG3 6QP.

TAPE SECTION NEWS

David Rowe (8 Park Drive, Wickford, Essex) writes: "The British Science Fiction Association Ltd.'s TAPE LIBRARY emerges from the blackened mists of suspended animation and is now alive and well and fast eating up all my spare time at the above address. Masochists wishing to hear anything from Professor John Taylor discussing Spacewarps & Time Travel to the soundtrack of 'I Married A Monster From Outer Space' should send a sufficient length of tape on a reel no larger than 5½" to be recorded at 3½ ips (or 1½ ips if wished); also include a postal order or stamps to cover return postage and a donation copying fee of 10p per hour. Catalogues are on loan from me, or if one wishes to keep a copy just send a large SAE to Gerald Bishop, 10 Marlborough Rd., Exeter, EX2 4TJ, who can also put you in touch with other Sf fans for tape correspondence if you so wish. Meantime back at Wickford, I'm still on the look out for more material and soundtracks; should any members have any recordings they feel would be of interest, I'm willing to exchange soundtracks."

FANZINE FOUNDATION

This somewhat grandiose title covers what is actually the fanzine section of the B.S.F.A. Library - it is not to be confused with the "S. F. Foundation" at the London Polytechnic ! The collection of fanzines has long languished at the home of its erstwhile custodian, Charlie Winstone, who has been unable on grounds of constant ill-health to do anything in

particular with them. Arrangements have now been made for Mike Meara, of Flat A, 5 Kedleston Rd., Derby, to acquire custody and reactivate. Members who produce fanzines and wish them to be enshrined in the Association's collection are requested to send them to Mike at the above address. Furthermore, members wishing to borrow fanzines (which, after all, is the basic purpose of ^{such} a library) should also get in touch with Mike, giving particulars of their interests (serious, humorous, recent, "golden age", etc).

FANZINE DISTRIBUTION SERVICE This is something else that is not to be confused with the above! This department provides samples of recent fanzines to (mainly new) members who express an interest in sampling same, and is now run by Andrew Prior, of 31 Kirkley Rd., London, SW19 3AZ. Members who wish to donate either a few of their own products from time to time, or material they have received from elsewhere which they do not wish to keep, are asked to send them to Andrew. Postage will be refunded if required; also, in certain cases, the Association may be prepared to purchase batches of a fanzine.

INFORMATION BUREAU Audrey Walton (25 Yewdale Cres., Coventry, Warks, CV2 2FF) reports that there has been a good response to the appeal for "experts" willing to answer members' queries. The following subjects, she says, are now taken care of: the tracking down of particular stories; pseudonyms; bibliography; astronomy; entomology; "Old Wave" SF; chemistry; mythology; American markets; and the Loch Ness Monster and similar matters. The Association thanks the various volunteer-experts, and is still only too willing to empanel more members whose knowledge will help to fill gaps in the above catalogue.

THE JILL ADAMS CORNER Have you renewed your membership yet for 1972? If not, please note that Easter Saturday, April 1st, is the official "final" date for renewal. Membership costs £1.50 a year, January-December.

The postal authorities at Southampton have recently been committing mayhem on various inoffensive items of mail posted there by treasurer Jill. Any member who has received a mutilated packet from her is asked to get in touch with her - sending the envelope if it's still available, as evidence.

The B.S.F.A. desk at the Chessmancon (Chester at Easter) requires volunteers to man it. Please contact Jill if you would like to help.

Jill Adams, 54 Cobden Av., Bitterne Park, Southampton, SO2 4FT.

CHESSMANCON This looks like being the last B.S.F.A. Bulletin before Easter, so it is therefore the last chance to remind you about Chessmancon. Chessmancon is the annual British S.F. convention, and is being held over the Easter week-end 1972 at the Blossoms Hotel, Chester. Guest of Honour is the well-known sf author Larry Niven, winner of last year's "Novel" Hugo, and author of the complete works of Larry Niven. His fuzzy pink wife, we learn, is also attending. Among the Convention's other miscellaneous attractions is to be a genuine chess tournament, organised by the delectable Lisa Conesa. Registration costs 50p, payable to Tony & Marge Edwards, 4 Admel Sq., Hulme, Manchester, M15 6EN.

WORLD S.F. CONVENTIONS The 1972 World S.F. Con, the LACON in Los Angeles, is as usual being held in the autumn (otherwise known as late summer, or in American fall), over the Labor Day week-end. Sterling registrations are being accepted by Peter Roberts (editor of the news-zine CHECKPOINT) of The Hawthorns, Keele, Staffs. Full supporting membership costs £2.50: a special deal giving you badge and membership card only costs 40p.

The 1973 World S.F. Con, TORCON 2 by name, is being held in Toronto, Canada, over the equivalent week-end. (September 1st-3rd it says here.) Supporting membership paid before the end of 1972 is \$3, working out to approximately £1.10, which can be sent in sterling to Peter R. Weston, 31 Pinewall Av., Kings Norton, Birmingham 30.

LESSER BRITISH EVENTS This year's "Speculation Conference" (chairman Philip Strick) is being held at Birmingham University on June 24th. Pete Weston (address above) will give further details if asked.

Still in Birmingham, the Birmingham S.F. Group has officially taken control of the annual "Novacon" (over a week-end in November) in order to ensure continuity. More about this year's once the Chessmancon is out of the way. Said Birmingham Group, incidentally, appears to be flourishing. Its annual report for 1971 lists 66 members, including at least 14 women. Pete Weston, once again, can give further

particulars on request.

EUROCON 1 This first in a series of European S.F. Conventions (held at present every other year) takes place in Trieste, Italy, from the 12th-16th July 1972. The address is EUROCON 1, c-o CCSF, casella postale 423, 30100 Venezia-Italy. Membership rates are expressed in £ - £7 for attending, £4 for supporting. For an up-to-the-minute rate of exchange consult your friendly neighbourhood bank.

The beautifully-printed and -illustrated second report (48 pages including covers) contains the news that "The British SF Association has asked its members to express their opinions on the possible winners" of the British categories of award. This comes as news to your Bulletin-editor, who doesn't recall having processed any such request hitherto. Possibly the report was simply prescient! All nominations, opinions, and such, on possible British candidates for the relevant awards (Novel, dramatic presentation, bio-bibliographical work or essay, short story, artist, professional magazine, amateur magazine, non-specialised magazine, and comic) should be communicated to the above (CCSF) address.

ITALIAN AFFAIRS IN GENERAL Gian Paolo Cossato, on behalf of the same CCSF (which stands for Centro Cultori Science Fiction) provides a screed of information on the Italian sf scene. In brief, the CCSF is very similar to the B.S.F.A., only the various towns tend to have local branches rather than officially-independent sf clubs. Membership is theoretically for life, but the active membership is currently around the 450 mark. A separate group - though organised by a CCSF member - exists in Ferrara, under the title of "Tre passi nell'ignoto", translated as "Three steps into the unknown". The address of this body is Piazza della Repubblica 10, Ferrara 44100, Italy. An independent club is also in the process of being started in Rome.

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED Kenneth Mardle: 44 Charles Bradlaugh House, Haynes Close, Tottenham, London, N17 ORD. Entomology, astronomy, model making, progressive pop, UFO, supernatural phenomena, monster magazines. Would be particularly interested in contacting others who (like himself) make models from balsa and/or cardboard - to own design, apparently.

Sezar Erkin Ergin (23): Namik Kemal mah, 1 cad No 16/5, Bakanliklor, Ankara (G-10), Turkey. Pink Floyd, electronic sound. Would like to exchange fanzines. Wishes to correspond with undeveloped countries.

Keith W. Townley (17): 18 St. Michael's Close, Shipton under Wychwood, Oxon, OX7 6BE. Drawing, collecting postcards, LPs of classical music. UK and others.

Alexander Brown (29): 18 Gordon Terrace, Blantyre, Lanarkshire, G72 9NA, Scotland. Philately, badminton, bird-watching.

R.S.F. Hensey, from his new address: PL.213, Conway Valley Estate, Glen Conway, Denbs, North Wales. Wishes to correspond on general matters.

Alan H. Fraser: 40 Canberra Rd., Bramhall, Stockport, Ches, SK7 1LG. Hi-fi, jazz & folk music, politics. UK, USA.

Charles H.D. Winstone (40): 71 George Rd., Erdington, Birmingham, B23 7QE. Soccer (Villa fan), chess. Expects to renew old U.K. contacts.

Ray Smith (Mrs.) (27): 64 New Lodge Cres., Barnsley, Yorks. "Trying to train my dog", Kipling, folk guitar, origami, gardening, crosswords, animals. Anywhere.

MEMBERS' SMALL-ADS APPEAR FREE IN THE B.S.F.A. BULLETIN

WANTED Digit Books Nos.: D349 or R663, D386, R413, D478 or R754, R487, R508, R521, R532 or R771, R533, R538 or R671, R539 or R681, R549 or R757, R550, R557, R558, R560, R572, R584, R587, R588, R590, R597, R607, R609, R610, R612, R613, R616, R617, R618, R628, R638, R649, R652, R654, R658, R661, R663, R666, R673, R674, R679, R683, R686, R688, R689, R715, R717, R721, R722, R727, R730, R735, R746, R747, R750, R754, R757, R766, R768, R770, R771, R781, R782, R792, R796, R803, R807, R811, R819, R824, R828, R834, R836, R840, R843, R846, R851, R856, R860, R862, R882, R883, R888, R968. land
- Gordon Johnson, 82 Barns St., Whitecrook, Clydenank, Dunbartonshire, Scot-

FOR SALE Galaxy Vol. 3, No. 2 (1951); Brit. eds. Nos. 21, 22, 48, 55, 57, 60-82, 84-91, 94. - Gordon Johnson, address above.

BRIAN ROBINSON of 9 Linwood Grove, Manchester M12 4QH has something like two hundred books that he wishes to get rid of, plus a great pile of Astounding Science Fiction (British editions). As yet they are not listed, but if you let him know your requirements and roughly how much you're prepared to pay, he'll see if he

has those particular items.

ABOUT 60 Science-Fiction books, all second hand and in very good condition, for sale from a hard-up student. If interested, send an addressed-envelope to the following address:
Steve Osborne, Touchwood, Leys Rd., Harvington, Evesham, Worcs, WR11 5LZ.

AMSEPH 1 is a new amateur science fiction magazine, price fifteen pence, available from: 5 Spring Gardens, Harewood, near Leeds, LS17 9LL, and edited by A.J. Davey. (=AM: it's neatly duplicated on quarto paper, with hand-cut illustrations, and contains mainly short fiction.)=

SOUTH HAMPSHIRE ARISE ! Jill Adams, Jim Goddard and Phil Grant would be pleased to hear from any member in their area (= South Hampshire, more or less) who would like to meet other members, whether on a regular basis or not. Please write to Jill - the address must be somewhere in this issue, No. 45 was full of it! (=AM: try the middle of Page 2 !)=

WANTED Has anyone a copy of BIOLOGY OF DROSOPHILA by M. DEMESE, 1950? Kenneth Mardle, of 44 Charles Bradlaugh House, Haynes Close, Tottenham, London, N17 ORD, would like to buy or borrow a copy. Any offers?

FREELANCE LITERARY RESEARCH Audrey Walton asks the Bulletin to mention that a gentleman or lady whose signature is unfortunately completely illegible (although one of the initials appears to be a P), living at 594 Rayleigh Rd., Hutton, Essex, is engaged in freelance literary research for authors while completing his own book. "My fee," he or she continues, "works out at a guinea per hour (plus expenses) and as a physicist I feel my services might be of particular help to your members."

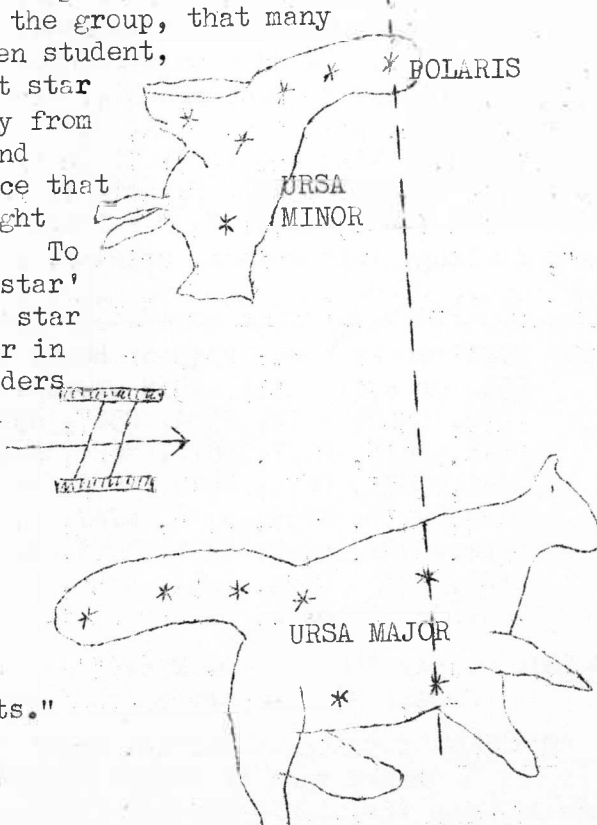
CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

BERT LEWIS, A.F.B.I.S. (Carthoris, 150 Lytham Rd., Ashton-on-Ribble, Preston, PR2 2EP) writes at considerable length on the subjects of Asia Minor, Ursa Major, and (for completeness' sake, one supposes) Ursa Minor as well. His illustration appears to the right. Ursa, he points out, is Latin for "she-bear", so these constellations are the Great and Little She-bears. "In the Great Bear Constellation," says Bert, "one can just make out what appears to be a very small 'star' almost touching the 'middle star' in the group forming the 'tail'. It is so small compared to the other stars in the group, that many people never notice it, unless one is a keen student, but it should be mentioned that the nearest star in Ursa Major is about ten light years away from the Solar System of which we are a part, and remember that a 'light year' is the distance that light travels in one year; the speed of light is approximately 186,000 miles-per-second. To show the point I was raising, the 'small star' I mentioned is further away from the large star 'adjacent' to it than we are from the star in the constellation. It is when one considers such aspects of the Universe, that one can only feel how puny we are in comparison."

Bert further points out that Ursa Major has a variety of names, including the Plough and (in America) the Big Dipper - not to mention Charles's Wain. He prefers to call it Ursa Major, though, because of the link with Ursa Minor.

"Personally," he adds, "I find astronomy the most fascinating of subjects."

CASSIOPEIA



NEW & REJOINED MEMBERS

- 1230 Baldry, Jeffrey: G "Ops", HQ 1 Div., B.F.P.O. 32
1233 Brown, Alexander: 18 Gordon Terrace, Blantyre, Lanarks, G72 9NA, Scotland
616 Brunner, John K.H.:
1232 Fraser, Alan H.: 40 Canberra Rd., Bramhall, Stockport, Ches, SK7 1LG
1231 Hacking, Ronald G.: 52 Wheatfield Rd., Luton, Beds
1229 Smith, Ray (Mrs.): 64 New Lodge Cres., Barnsley, Yorks /OX7 6BE
1235 Townley, Keith W.: 18 St. Michael's Closel, Shipton under Wychwood, Oxon,
348 Winstone, Charles H.D.: 71 George Rd., Erdington, Birmingham, B23 7QE
1234 Ergin, Sezar Erkin: Namik Kemal Mah, 1 Cad No. 16/5, Bakanliklor, Ankara
(G-10), Turkey

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- 781 Andre Bernie Ackerman: now c/o Cheshire Home, 890 Main Rd., Moseley, Natal,
South Africa
988 Gordon Burns: now 28 Alder Av., Newcastle on Tyne, NE4 9TB
912 Geoffrey Cowie: back to c/o 23 Turpin's Way, Baldock, Herts
837 Michael A. Frayne: now 57 Molyneux Drive, Bodicote, near Banbury, Oxon
485 R.I. Gilbert: now 14 Copley Close, Murton, Swansea, SA3 3JL, S. Wales
1190 Kevin W. Hall: 12 Lound St., Kendal, Westmorland (now)
1179 Michael Headon: now 15 Oakdene Av., Porthill (Dimsdale), Newcastle under Lyme,
Staffs, ST5 8HQ
389 R.S.F. Hensey: now PL.213, Conway Valley Estate, Glan Conway, Denbs, N.Wales
1202 A. Irons: now Sonnesta Beach Hotel, Southampton, Bermuda
935 Alastair B. Noyle: now 32 Pemberton Park, Gelli Rd., Llanelli, Carmar, SA14 8NN,
S. Wales
1078 David G. Penny: back to 44 High St., Welshpool, Montgomeryshire, Wales
L.4 Kenneth F. Slater: now 39 West St., Wisbech, Cambs, PE13 2LX
500 Brian M. Stableford: now 9 Turners Croft, Holmefield Estate, Heslington, Yorks

RULES FOR 1972 STORY CONTEST

Sponsored by the National Fantasy Fan Federation

1. The Contest is open to all amateur writers in this field. We define an amateur as one who has sold no more than two stories to the professional science fiction and fantasy publications.
2. Stories must be the original unpublished work of the entrant, must be less than 5,000 words in length, and must come within the field of science fiction and/or fantasy in the opinion of the final judge, who for 1972 is
3. Stories should be typed on 8½ x 11 sheets of white paper, double-spaced, with the title on every page but the name of the author omitted to ensure impartiality.
4. Contestants may enter any number of stories. Each should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed return envelope and the entry blank. A fee of 50¢ should accompany each entry, unless the contestant is a member in good standing of NFFF or BSFA, in which case no fee is required.
5. Contestants are expected to retain one or more copies of each story entered. The NFFF undertakes to use all possible care, but cannot, of course, guarantee against accidental loss in the mail.
6. First prize is \$15; second prize is \$10; third prize is \$5. Other prizes may be awarded if in the opinion of the final judge any other stories merit them.
7. Final judging begins November 1, 1972. Stories must be in before that date. (BRITISH STORIES TO AUDREY WALTON BY 31 AUG 1972, PLEASE. 25 Yewdale Cres., Coventry, Warks, CV2 2FF.)
8. Results of this Contest are to be announced to the winners as soon as possible after the judging is completed, and announced to the membership of NFFF in the first issue of TNFF to appear in 1973.

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STATISTICS Renewals are of course still coming in - but at the 31st of January the 1972 members numbered 169 - 156 inland (including B.F.P.O. addresses) and 13 over various seas. As usual, the annual membership list should appear as soon as possible after Easter.

LIBRARY After a false start, the cyclic fiction catalogue is about to start rolling. The letter "A" (authors beginning therewith) is ready to be committed to stencil as soon as this mailing's out of the way.

FORMS AND BALLOTS There are no less than three of these accompanying this mailing:

N3F Story Contest Members wishing to enter should detach the lower half of this sheet, fill it in as appropriate, and pass it with the story in question to Audrey Walton, whose address appears thereon.*

British S.F. Award and "Doc" Weir Award The ballots for these two Awards are respectively on the upper and lower halves of a separate sheet of paper. Please read the instructions carefully, detach the two halves from each other, and return each completed ballot to the address shown thereon by the date given. Thank you.

* The name of the judge has been left blank because your Bulletin-editor doesn't know it. Audrey will of course find out by the time she has to send the stuff in to him !

↑ DETACH HERE ↑

Application for entry of
(title of story)

I have read and agree to the rules overleaf
(signature of author)

(address)

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PLEASE DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Received date Identifying number acknowledged by

Judge's rating

Send entries to: Audrey Walton, 25 Yewdale Cres., Coventry, Warks, CV2 2FF