

## BLOOMINGTON

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## NEWS LETTER

EXTRA

## NEXT YEAR'S CONVENTION

is already whipping up a furious interest in two channels, with four (and possibly five) fan groups planning to bid for the 1950 confab; plus two separate moves to choose future convention sites by mail instead of picking them on the business-session floor.

Joining Portland (Ore.) and Washington DC, spokesmen for New Orleans and New York City have stated intentions of asking for the convention next year. Also, an unverified rumor claims that a second (and rival) New York club will attempt to win it if the first group bids.

Meanwhile, some months ago the National Fantasy Fan Federation circulated a proposal in its club bulletin to cease choosing convention cities at the convention; they suggested instead that NFFF members should pick the cities by mail.

Louis Garner jr, president of the Washington DC chapter, will introduce a resolution at the business session calling for a different method: his proposal is that fans who join each year's convention committee be allowed to choose next year's spot.

Four choices: Forrest J Ackerman will enter the bid for Portland, speaking for members of that club who are unable to attend. Louis Garner jr will speak for the Washington Science Fiction Assn. and cadge votes. Either Harry Moore or Paul Juneau will invite fans to make New Orleans official next year. Larry Shaw stated that a group of fans belonging to New York's Hydra Club would attempt to capture the 1950 meet for the big town, but he emphasized that the Hydra Club itself is not involved--- only individual fans. The Queens Science-fiction group was the fifth party rumored to be involved.

Forthcoming books from Doubleday (NYC): Isaac Asimov's novel, "Grow Old Along With Me" will be published in January under the title, PEBBLE IN THE SKY. Judith Merrill's novel of an atom-bombed housewife, THIS MY HOME, is tabbed for March 1950. Two Heinlein short novels, WALDO and MAGIC, INC. will be published in one book. "Magic" was named "The Devil Makes the Law" in Unknown.



(Detail from the dust jacket of "The Best Science Fiction Stories-1949" edited by Ted Dikty and Everett Bleiler. Published by Frederick Fell Inc, New York City, \$2.95.)

## NEW MAGAZINES:

In addition to Boucher & McComas' MAGAZINE OF FANTASY (announced here last issue, on sale Oct 7th), and Robt Webster's OTHER WORLDS (first issue on display at convention), two pulps of an imaginative nature are due from Popular Pubs.

CAPTAIN ZERO by G.T. Fleming-Roberts is due Sept 27th, at 25¢. Following the Capt. Future and Doc Savage story-line, ZERO will offer every-other-month the adventures of a man caught in an atomic explosion, who now possesses the power of invisibility. No details are known of the second pulp coming except it is called the "Merritt" magazine.

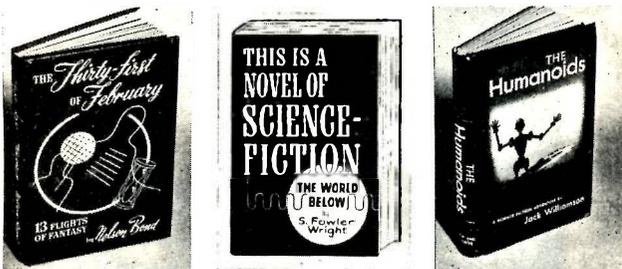
MONSTER MYSTERY: Armchair detectives in the house may ponder this one: "The Monster From Nowhere" by Donald Wandrei appears in THE BEST OF SCIENCE FICTION (Groff Conklin, Crown, 1946). The same yarn, word for word, also appears in THE 31st OF FEBRUARY (Gnome Press, 1949) but credited to Nelson Bond. Hang on, here's more: an entirely different Wandrei story, "The Monster From Nowhere", was printed in a collection of his yarns by Arkham House (THE EYE & THE FINGER, 1944). Three appearances, two authors, one title.

MARRIED, in Los Angeles, last May: Forrest J Ackerman (who needs no introduction) to Wendayne Mondelle (born Alsace-Lorraine, wartime nurse in England, fantasy fan).

## BLOOMINGTON NEWS LETTER

is published every other month, free of charge, by Bob Tucker, P.O. Box 260, Bloomington, Ill. The only requirement is that you write after each issue, requesting the next one. Every issue of NEWS LETTER offers six pages of fan and professional news, well illustrated, plus book reviews and timely articles. Circulation is 500. The next issue will be mailed October 1st, if you desire it.

NEWS LETTER is available in New York at Stephen's Book Service, 45 Fourth Ave; in Chicago at Shasta Publishers' offices and the University of Chicago Bookstore; and in Seattle at the Wolf Den Book Shop, 724 Pike Street. Drop in and ask for a copy.



Three volumes released last month were THE 31st OF FEBRUARY by Nelson Bond (\$3), from Gnome Press; THE WORLD BELOW by S. Fowler Wright (\$3.50) from Shasta Publishers; and THE HUMANOIDS by Jack Williamson (\$2) from Simon & Schuster.

Monogram Pictures is considering a Martian movie for the Bowery Boys series next year; this series consists of Grade-C hokum and action.

Another new book club due soon from Ken Krueger (857 Delaware ave, Buffalo NY), to be named "Personal Book Association". Will handle science-fiction, fantasy and other tomes at \$1 per book, on a "buy three, get one free" basis.

Prime Press (Philadelphia) is planning a Nelson Bond tetology to be pubbed under the title, THE SQUARED CIRCLE. Novels in the series are "Exiles of Time," "Sons of the Deluge," "Lords of the Jungle" and "Masters of the Void."

Houghton-Mifflin is interested in a half-written A. Bertram Chandler sea fantasy, "We Hadn't Got the Charts."

Ray Bradbury has placed 2 stories with MacLeans Magazine (Canada), 5 ditto to Britain's Argosy, and another fantasy to USA's Charm, the women's slick.

Both NBC and CBS radio chains are mulling science-fiction air programs, using adaptations of well known s-f stories. Radio companies consider each letter written them as representative of 10,000 listeners. Can you take a hint?

L. Ron Hubbard's THE KINGSLAYER (\$3) will be ready from F.P.C.I. (Los Angeles) the latter part of September.

## LETTERS

Ray Bradbury (Venice, Cal.): "A slight error in your reportage concerning my books forthcoming from Doubleday. THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES is a novel, not, as you state, an anthology. I hope you will make this correction for your readers. MARTIAN CHRONICLES is my first novel for Doubleday, published in the winter of 1949, with my second novel, FROST AND FIRE, coming in the summer or autumn of 1950."

O.G. Beardslee (Oakland, Cal.): "I am a bibliographer by profession and I contemplate conducting a column of "Fantasy Fan-Fare" in (some) monthly publication, in which I shall call attention to new titles, reprints of others, and other matter of interest to the reader and collector of fantasy and science-fiction."

Redd Boggs (Minneapolis): "Add to your fanzine check-list SKY HOOK, which with the August issue goes commercial in order to fill out subs to the defunct CHRONOSCOPE. The fanzine field is surely in a slump; except for those you've starred, none of them compare with the crop of 1940-42."

Erik Fennel (Waiialua, Hawaii): "You seem to have good British connections and could do American fandom quite a service. Here's how: find some British fan or editor who upon receipt of, say \$5, from an American reader, would make a reasonable selection of British s-f magazines to send over (such as the first issue of the reborn NEW WORLDS which I won't be able to locate in Hawaii). If you find such an obliging paragon, publish his name and address and instructions on how to get the money to Britain. Some of us really need a purchasing agent."

Alastair Cameron (Deep River, Ontario): "Thank you for the August BNL. I was very agreeably surprised by its excellence. I had thought I was keeping quite up-to-date on the field by taking (-another fanzine-) but I see I was mistaken. I find very valuable your specialization on the book news aspects of the field."

Bob Fuit (Chicago): "The addition of Redd Boggs as a regular contributor constitutes your smartest move so far. His column in SPACEWARP is the finest of its type in fandom. During the past few months I have been waiting for someone to write about the sad quality of fiction in Astounding S-F."

T.E. Watkins (Kansas City): "May I call your attention to a fine novel recently published by Harcourt-Brace; the title is NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR by George Orwell. The volume was the Book of the Month Club selection for July, and is a satire with a science-fiction flavor. It will certainly interest science-fiction and fantasy fans."

And you may have the October issue of NEWS LETTER by simply mailing a postcard now.