

FANTASY FICTION FIELD

Founded by Julius Unger

Volume 1 ... BI-WEEKLY ... Number 5

March 12, 1963

The National Fantasy Review

Whole Number 5

Magazine of FANTASY & SF features Bradbury

The May issue of THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION will devote a special section to Ray Bradbury, with two stories by Bradbury and several articles of comment about him and his works. The cover is a beautiful symbolic painting, with Bradbury in the foreground and various characters (such as The Illustrated Man) from his stories making up a montage in the background. The complete contents of the May, 1963, issue follow below:

SPECIAL RAY BRADBURY SECTION

Introduction

Bradbury: Prose Poet in the Age of Space	William F. Nolan
Bright Phoenix	Ray Bradbury
To the Chicago Abyss	Ray Bradbury
An Index to the Works of Ray Bradbury	William F. Nolan

OTHER STORIES

Mrs. Pigafetta Swims Well	R. Bretnor
Ferdinand Feghoot: LXII	Grendel Briarton
Newton Said	Jack Thomas Leahy
Underfollow	John Jakes
Now Wakes the Sea	J. G. Ballard
Watch the Bug-Eyed Monster	Don White
Treaty In Tartessos	Karen Anderson
Books	Avram Davidson
Science: Just Mooning Around	Isaac Asimov
No Trading Voyage (verse)	Doris Pitkin Buck
Nina Sol	Felix Marti-Ibanez

THE ARKHAM HOUSE schedule for this year: Due to appear in May is H. P. Lovecraft's THE DUNWICH HORROR & OTHERS for \$5.00. This is the old BEST SUPERNATURAL STORIES OF HPL, with "Shadow Over Innsmouth" and "Shadow Out Of Time," plus a new long introduction added. Lee Brown Coye is doing the jacket. Others on the list is THE HORROR FROM THE HILLS, Frank Belnap Long's Cthulhu Mythos novel from 1929 WT's. Also coming from Arkham is COLLECTED POEMS OF H. P. LOVECRAFT, illustrated by Frank Utpatel, at \$4.00, and THE DARK MAN AND OTHER STORIES by Robert E. Howard, a new Howard collection concerned with non-series Howard tales, \$5.00.

FANTASY FICTION FIELD is published bi-weekly by Harvey Inman, 1029 Elm Street, Grafton, Ohio. Associate Editor: Paul Scaramazza, Box 599, Fordham University, Bronx 58, N. Y. Subscription price: 13 issues for \$1.00 or 26 for \$2.00. All checks or money orders should be made payable to Harvey Inman.

T A F F: The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund

GUEST EDITORIAL

By Len Moffat

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING, TAFF stems from the Big Pond Fund, which brought England's Ted Carnell to the 1949 World Science Fiction Convention in Cincinnati, and from the first Willis Fund, which brought Northern Ireland's Walt Willis to the 1952 Worldcon in Chicago.

The first official TAFF Election was held in 1953-54 with six British fans on the slate. The winner was A. Vincent Clarke, but he was unable to make the trip. British winners since then were Ken Bulmer (1955), Ron Bennett (1958), Eric Bentcliffe (1960), and Ethel Lindsay (1962). All four of these attended Worldcons in the U. S. A., acting as Britian's fannish delegates or representatives.

In "alternate" years four Amerifans have been TAFF winners. The first of these, Lee Hoffman (1956), did not take the trip, but visited Britian later on her own. The TAFFunds were held over until 1957, when Bob Madle was our winner and delegate to the Worldcon in London that year. Don Ford won in 1959, to attend Britian's Eastercon in London, 1960. Ron Ellik won in 1961, to attend the Eastercon in Harrogate, 1962.

In some respects it is easier to explain what TAFF is not, rather than what it is. For instance, it is not a charity. The money donated from both sides of the Pond is not sufficient to cover all the expenses of each individual trip. If I'm not mistaken, the current amount provided for each trip is \$500. Obviously, a fan who runs (or as they say in Britian, stands) for TAFF must be willing and able to finance at least half (if not more) of the travel expenses out of his own pocket.

Financial considerations aside, a TAFF candidate should have the following qualifications and attributes: Obviously, he or she must be a well-known and well-liked fan. TAFF delegates should possess a sense of diplomacy, as well as a sense of wonder about meeting fellow-fans in person. They should be capable reporters and writers. The TAFF Rules do not require that a trip report be written and published, but, of course, it is expected, the precedent having been established. TAFF delegates should have some ability in administration and salesmanship. The Fund is administered and the elections conducted by the two most recent winners. It is their job to keep track of the money and to get candidates for the next two elections (America-to-Britian, Britian-to-America).

A TAFF candidate need not be a long-time actifan. He or she may have

been actifans for only a couple-three years, but have managed to establish his or herself as a well-liked, respected, respectable, dependable person. Of course, old timers who are still active and enjoy similar popularity are well qualified candidates too. With TAFF, as with books, you pays your money and you makes your choice--i.e., vote for the candidate of your choice.

But first we must have candidates. The deadline for the current election NOMINATIONS to send an Amerifan delegate to the 1964 Eastercon has been extended to April 30, 1963, as there is only one nominee at the moment. Wally Weber, without question, is a Good Fan, but an election cannot be held with just one name on the ballot.

Fans everywhere, and this certainly includes the readers of FTF, should urge their fellow-fans to stand for TAFF, or--if they feel they qualify, and I'm sure many of you do--should volunteer to stand themselves. Modesty, false or otherwise, is not a TAFF qualification.

Once you have determined that a fan would make a good TAFF candidate, it is fairly simple to get said fan nominated--assuming the fan in question is willing to be nominated. In this particular election all you need are five nominators (3 from the U. S. A., 2 overseas), five dollars as "bond of serious intent" (to quote Ron Ellik), a 100 word (or less) platform boosting the candidate, and his or her signed statement of willingness to make the trip if she or he wins. Send all this to one of the two current TAFF Administrators:

Ron Ellik, 1825 Greenfield Avenue, Los Angeles 25, California

Ethel Lindsay, Courage House, 6 Langley Avenue, Surbiton,
Surrey, England

Remember, the deadline for nominations is April 30, 1963, and tempus fugit, to be sure. Let's all pitch in and help keep this worthy sfamish cause in good health and working order! Once the ballot is established, copies will be distributed to all interested fans. If you don't find one folded in the pages of your favorite fanzine, write direct to Ron or Ethel. All sfans are welcome to vote in TAFF elections. Brand new neofans can vote by having a well-known fan friend vouch for them. With your vote you donate 50¢ or more to help build the Fund. I feel that the minimum donation of 50¢ should be raised to at least \$1.00, though I'm sure that most fans send in more than the current minimum. And, of course, donations to TAFF are welcome at any time, before, during, and after each election. Again, all donations, requests for information, ballots, etc., should be addressed to Ron or Ethel.

The immediate problem is obtaining more candidates. Anyone who has been a fan for any length of time knows that it is a worthwhile hobby, and we can make it more so by helping to keep TAFF alive!

SATANAS #4, edited by Dick Schultz, 19159 Helen, Detroit 34, Mich.
This issue devoted entirely to the editor's experiences during the recent unpleasantness in Chicago last Labor Day weekend. There is a lot of enthusiasm left in this boy Schultz!

SPOTLITE on the PROS

By Bill Bowers

WORLDS OF TOMORROW, April, 1963 - 50¢

As I'm sure is the case with most science fiction fans, I found the prospect of a new stf magazine extremely interesting. The first issue of Frederik Pohl's WORLDS OF TOMORROW went on sale here recently--apparently some three weeks after it did in Cleveland. It's generally known that the stf mags have their distribution problems, and this proves it to me.

In physical format, TOMORROW seems to be a hybrid between its two companion magazines, GALAXY and IF. GALAXY's price, schedule, and possibly wordage. However, it resembles IF in format almost exactly in everything but pages--for your extra 15¢ you get 162 pages to IF's 132. TOMORROW, like IF, has smaller print than GALAXY and two-color interiors--not always with perfect registration, but sometimes surprisingly effective. In other words, it isn't the best produced of the stf mags, but it is readable.

Having established that, it leads us to the fiction contents of the new magazine. After all, that is what we buy the magazine for in the first place.

I have an engrained dislike for serials in bi-monthly magazines, so Arthur C. Clarke's "People of the Sea" will have to wait until I have both installments. I also rather dislike magazines which label short stories "novelettes," but since all the stf mags follow this practice, I imagine it is a rather useless form of nit-picking.

I have heard comments as to Keith Laumer being what is mockingly referred to as a "hack-writer." Having little or no use for either writers or readers who insist on finding some "deep inner significience" in everything, I've formed a liking for Laumer because he is primarily a "story" writer. In fact, I might go so far as to state that he, with Murray Leinster and J. T. McIntosh, comprise the only consistent storytellers in science fiction today. Others occasionally produce a story among their essays, but usually it seems to be a slip on their part.

In "The Long Remembered Thunder," Laumer doesn't have a particularly unique theme, but he handles what he has with competence. You have all, I imagine, read numerous stories based upon some friendly alien protecting Earth from a hideous danger, but even the driest of themes can be molded into something entertaining by the hands of a story-teller. Keith Laumer isn't considered to be one of the "great" science fiction authors and his stories aren't the award winners, but they give me a few minutes of pleasure--or escape, if you please--and that's all I ask of a story and its writer.

If WORLDS OF TOMORROW keeps up the type of fiction that typifies this issue, it may become one of my favorite magazines. In Murray Leinster we have the grand old story-teller of science fiction. I don't have the reference available at the moment, but I believe his first story was published around 1914. I am certain though that he's been around stf ever since it became a distinct magazine form. And he's writing better than ever!

"Third Planet" is what you might call a misleading title, in that the Third Planet referenced is not necessarily Earth, but rather its analogy in another Sol-type system. This story, in the main, seems to belong to the anti-science subdivision of science fiction. An interstellar exploration force finds that this other Third Planet is completely devoid of all life as a result of atomic warfare--something that is currently in the winds back on Earth. In the course of events they, of course, discover the "ultimate weapon" with which to solve their problem. This rather dry description does not accurately describe the story--you'll have to read it. It's undoubtedly the best in the issue.

For some reason which I'll probably never know, I find little of interest to me in the stories of Robert Silverberg. However, in "To See the Invisible Man" he comes across with an easy-reading and interesting short story. There is no actual invisibility, but rather it involves a rather extreme example of excommunication. As sentence for some nameless crime, our hero (?) receives a mark on his forehead (see the parallel?). This means that, upon pain of the same sentence, no one is permitted to speak to him or acknowledge his presence in any manner for a year--including others in a similar predicament. Silverberg has here an amazingly well-written story--neither under or over-developed. It reassures my faltering faith in the short story as far as science fiction is concerned.

In summation, I believe that WORLDS OF TOMORROW is well worth the 50¢ asking price. It has unlimited potentialities for development in the absence of an already hide-bound set of rules--although it will prove interesting to watch its editorial policy develop over the next few issues. Its first issue places it around the middle of the stf magazine field, and it could go either way--up or down. #

FROM SETH JOHNSON, news of the Open ESFA meeting which was to be held March 3, and which I presume happened on that date: ESFA meeting was a rip-roaring success. Isaac Asimov, Lester Del Rey, and Randall Garrett all sang the praises of John Campbell. Asimov said, among other things, that he approached Campbell's office with his very first story, hoping to leave it there and perhaps get a note or something. Instead, the girl in the office sent him right in to see Campbell himself, who spent a heck of a long time teaching Asimov something about the word-smith's trade and constructively criticizing his story. Took Asimov another nine months to polish to perfection, after which he sold it. Asimov also announced that his original three laws of robotics came directly from Campbell, together with suggested plot...He also mentioned that the Foundation series was Campbell's idea." I hope that by next issue we will have a more complete report--such as whether Mr. Campbell rared back and passed any miracles...

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