

SAMPLE COPY FANTASY-NEWS

NEWS
WHILE
IT'S
HOT!

the science fiction weekly newspaper.

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TEN
CENTS.

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WHOLE NUMBER 126

11 CITIES REPRESENTED AT 1940 PHILLY CONFERENCE!

EASTERN SCIENCE FICTION CONFERENCE
NOT APPROVED. 35 FANS ATTEND!

After spending nearly the entire afternoon of Sunday, Nov 10, arguing the possible conflict between the proposed Eastern Science Fiction Conference to be held in Newark and the Denver Science Fiction Convention, the Philadelphia Conference adjourned without approving or disapproving the projected eastern affair. Of the 35 fans and authors who attended, the general attitude toward the proposed conference was one of indifference. Those fans strongly opposed to it were, however, unable to garner enough votes for a vote of no confidence. It appeared to be the considered opinion of the most astute students of fan activities that it would be unwise to press the Eastern Affair at this time.

Among those present at this Fifth Annual Philly Conference were Alexander M. Phillips, Chairman; Bob Madle, Acting Secretary in the absence of Jack Agnew; Jack Baltadonis, John Greer; Charles Bert; Ossie Train, all of Philadelphia; Milt Rothman; Jack Speer; Elmer Purdue, all of Washington, D.C.; Frank Strouse; Alex Osheroff; Sam Moskowitz; Pearl Moskowitz, all of Newark, N.J.; Abe Oshinsky; Bob Studley; Pauline Lincoff; Walter Lincoff; Harry Walton (author of "Bomb From Beranga" FFM); Hyman Tiger, Director Queens SFL; Stan Bachrach; Scott Feldman; Julie Unger; all of New York, N.Y.; Ray Van Houten of Paterson, N.J.; Rod Gaetz and Gerry de la Ree (P. 2)

FAMOUS FAN BECOMES PRO EDITOR!!!

Donald A. Wollheim, who in 1935 sued Hugo Gernsback for non-payment for a story published in *WONDER STORIES*, is now the editor of a pro stf mag which does not pay for stories! Mr. Wollheim has signed a contract with the publishers of *STIRRING DETECTIVE & WESTERN* to edit 12 issues of two new mags, tentatively titled *STIRRING SCIENCE STORIES* and *COSMIC STORIES*. *STIRRING SCIENCE* is scheduled to hit the N.Y. stands on December 15th, and *COSMIC* will probably appear on January 1st.

Robert W. (Doc) Lowndes, exclusive agent for the new mags, has been contacting authors and offering no payment for the present, with the possibility of $\$4$ and $\$2$ per word rates if the mags go over. The publishers are offering \$15 for cover paintings and \$2 for interiors. Three authors are known to have turned them down on these offers, as well as one cover artist and one interior illustrator.

Mr. Lowndes, besides assisting Mr. Wollheim on the new pubs, is busy working on stories of his own, as well as conducting his stf literary agency. Due to low finances at present he has been having some slight difficulties in making contacts.

A rumor, which we have been unable to confirm, has it that Mr. Wollheim has a financial interest in his mags. (jvt)

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BOOST SCIENCE FICTION

EDITORIAL by Will Sykora.

The stfans' favorite fan conclave, The Philadelphia Science Fiction Conference, has come and gone without having accomplished any worth while achievement in fandom. With two resolutions passed, one suggestion placed before fans for consideration, and a whole afternoon spent arguing about the possible conflict between the projected Eastern Science Fiction Conference and the Denver Convention nothing concrete was done.

To try to place the responsibility for this lack of action on any one individual would be cruelly unfair. It seems that the attitude of all fandom is such as to permit personal feelings and uncontrolled emotions to govern our meetings rather than to allow reason and logic to dictate our conclusions.

At the Philadelphia Conference last week there was much distrust on the part of the protagonists of the "legal" Denver Convention directed against the so-called "New Fandomites", who it was assumed would try every trick in the parliamentary book to get the proposed Newark Stf Conference approved. Needless to say, the Denver Boys were so flabbergasted when they began to realize that the Queensies and New Fandom big-wigs were not blindly supporting a Newark Conference. Had there been no distrust, all of us present would have realized that no approval of the Eastern Affair would have earned the support of the Denver Committee because of that committee's (P.4, C.1

NOTICE: Harry Warner's popular FAN MAG REVIEW will be back with us again in a week or two. Harry reports that he has not been seriously ill, but that he has been quietly resting up after a session with a severe cold.

PHILLY CONFERENCE Cont'd: of Westwood, N.J. (The Solaroid Club); Bob Thompson of Manhasset, N.Y.; William and Frances Sykora of Elmont, N.Y.; L. A. Eshbach and two author-friends of Reading, Pa.; Bill Groveman of Hempstead, N.Y.; and Art Widner and Ed Bell of Bryantville, Mass.

Prior to the call to order all delegates were requested to register. At 3:00 P.M. Chairman Phillips called the Conference to order and gave a brief address of welcome. Since the Secretary was absent, no minutes of the previous conference were to hand. Bob Madle, Acting Secretary, then called the roll from the registry, and as each delegate's name was called he or she stood up and was introduced. A brief recess was then called for the sale of chances on subscriptions to various pro and fan mags, the proceeds of the sale to be used to defray the routine costs of the Conference.

The first speaker of the afternoon was Milton A. Rothman, former Director of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, now of Washington, D.C. Mr. Rothman placed before the conference the suggestion that a committee be appointed to survey all science fiction ever published in order to classify every story by its predictions of the future. These predictions were then to be further classified and the "average" prophecy taken as a fair indication of the future of the world. Elmer Purdue remarked that he had already begun such a classification, and welcomed all fans to cooperate with him in this monumental undertaking. The suggestion met with general approval.

The drawing for the chances was then made. The first prize, a sub to winner's choice of any pro stf mag, was drawn by Pearl Moskowitz and won by Hyman Tiger (P. 3)

PHILLY CONFERENCE Cont'd: The first drawing for the second prize was made by Tiger and won by a PSFS member, who returned the prize for a second drawing. Frances Sykora drew and Bob Thompson won a 6 ish sub to Fantascience Digest. The drawing for the third prize was by Pauline Lincoff and won by Frances Sykora. This was a sub to PSFS News. Various fan mag editors present then donated subscriptions to their own mags, and the drawings were continued. Rod Gaetz won a sub to Thompson's Stf Miscellany; Walter Lincoff won a 6 ish sub to Will Sykora's FANTASY NEWS; Ed Bell won a sub to Sunspots, a Solaroid Club publication; Bob Madle won a 12 ish sub to Jules Unger's Fantasy Fiction Field, and the final prize, a 5 ish sub to Fanfare, was won by Will Sykora.

Sam Moskowitz was then introduced, and he spoke on the "Newark Situation". Mr. Moskowitz stated that he had never taken the initiative on the proposed Eastern Science Fiction Conference, nor had NEW FANDOM authorized such an affair in any way. He pointed out neither he nor his organization, NEW FANDOM, had done anything whatever to promote this conference, and that any statements to the contrary were false. He stated quite definitely that NF was fully in support of the legal Denver Convention, and would never, in any way, do anything to compete or conflict with this affair.

The third speaker scheduled was James V. Taurasi, but in his absence Will Sykora was granted permission to speak. Mr. Sykora outlined the ideas behind the proposed Eastern Science Fiction Conference along the lines already published in a previous issue of FANTASY NEWS. He said that not only would this proposed conference not conflict with the Denver Convention, but also any support of this conference would imply a direct support of the Denver conclave. He concurred with Mr. Moskowitz's statement and stated that so far as he knew, NEW FANDOM had no official connection with the proposed Newark get-(next C

PHILLY CONFERENCE Cont'd: together. During the discussion following Sykora's talk, Rod Gaetz of the Solaroid's said that his club had conducted a feeling-out campaign and had met with much opposition, due mainly to a feeling of personal animosity on the part of the Denver Committee against NEW FANDOM. The Conference reached an impasse at this point, and the Chairman called a recess, during which the discussion was continued informally over hot dogs and soda sold by members of the PSFS.

A telegram was received from Chicago urging the Conference to disapprove of the proposed Eastern Conference. Rather ambiguously worded, it seemed to turn thumbs down on all Eastern conferences including Philly. The message was signed by Bob Tucker, Earl Korshak, and Mark Reinsberg.

Art Widner, the final speaker, was presented when the conference was again called to order at 5:39 P.M. He read a speech pointing out the possibility of a conflict between an Eastern conference and the Denver Convention, but most of his points had already been covered in the previous discussion. He also urged the Philly conclave to disapprove the proposed Eastern affair. No motion having been made after a reasonable time, the entire discussion was tabled on the motion of Bob Madle by a vote of 22 to 5.

Ray Van Houten, of the Intellectual Brotherhood of Pro-Scientists, then read a long resolution condemning the tendency toward anti-scientific propaganda in modern stf Encumbered by many "whereas" and "since" clauses many of which presented moot questions of opinion, the motion, though commendable, stood little chance of passing. Amendments by Will Sykora (to delete the questionable clauses) and by Stan Bachrach (to interpret the words "science" and "civilization" in the broad sense) were passed, with the result that the amended resolution that the Conference go on record as opposing all anti-scientific tendencies in modern stf was carried. (Page 4)

PHILLY CONFERENCE Cont'd: During the last recess, and throughout the entire Conference, unofficial reports were circulated that the leaders of the Illini Fantasy Fictioneers, Bob Tucker, Mark Reinsberg, and Erle Korhsak, had publicly announced from the Chicon platform and in the Fantasy Fictioneer, that all profits from the Chicon would go into their own private pockets. Wherever mentioned, this report met with indignant condemnation. In order to prevent the recurrence of such a practice so manifestly unfair to the fans and pros who wholeheartedly and without thought of mercenary remuneration support these conventions, the Philly Conference, on the motion of Will Sykora, went on record as recommending that all profits from any authorized science fiction Convention be turned over in their entirety to the legally authorized committee of the next succeeding convention. This motion met with overwhelming approval.

Attempts were then made to renew discussion on the Eastern Conference question, but this was cut short by a motion to adjourn passed at approximately 7:25 P.M.

EDITORIAL Cont'd: and somewhat unreasonable antagonism toward Eastern fans, while conversely any disapproval of an Eastern affair would have markedly curtailed the freedom of Eastern fans with a hampering, unfair, resolution which might have even been interpreted by some as to be in opposition to the very well-supported and traditional Philly Conference. On the one hand, an approval of an Eastern Conference would have met with much opposition on the part of the Denver Committee, and on the other hand, a disapproval of an Eastern meeting would have curtailed the activities of Eastern fans. In either case, the results would have been unfortunate and would have caused dissension. Plans for the proposed Newark Conference have already been voluntarily withdrawn, and the whole deplorable situation should be forgotten.

SUBSCRIBE TO FANTASY NEWS AT ONCE!

FAMOUS FANTASTIC FACTS

by James V., Taurasi.

The Feb 1940 issue of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES will hit the stands on Dec 11th with Austin Hall's "The Spot Of Life" copping a Finlay cover. Virgil Finlay will also do the interior for this sequel to Hall and Flint's "The Blind Spot". Phil Richards writes a stirring article on an episode in the life of Hall and Flint just prior to the writing of the sequel. Philip M. Fisher's reprint classic, "The Ship Of Silent Men", will have a drawing by Hannes Bok. Doc Lowndes, whose excellent poetry is beginning to click, will have a poem dedicated to Merritt's "The People Of the Pit", under the same title.

The next (Mar 41) issue of FANTASTIC NOVELS will feature A. Merritt's "Dwellers In the Mirage", a yarn of the prehistoric Gobi desert. "The Woman Of the Wood" another famous Merritt tale will soon be reprinted from WEIRD TALES. Merritt's eight part ARGOSY serial, "The Metal Monster" will also see the light again soon. This probably greatest of Merritt's works was reprinted in revised form under the title of "The Metal Emperor" in H. Gernsback's SCIENCE & INVENTION beginning in the Oct 1927 no.

FAN MAG NEWS by Lane Stannard.

Dick Crain has given up Cosmic Tales. Under the terms of an agreement between himself and John Giunta and Jimmy Taurasi, the mag will be turned over to the latter two fans who promise early appearance.

Fantasy Fiction Field will distribute over 100 copies with the regular subscription issue of Le Zombie, the latter to be mailed on Dec. 15. The latest issue of Le Zombie was mailed on or about Nov. 11. Bob Tucker, wife, and new baby have moved again.

FANTASY NEWS has published more than 130 distinct issues including extras in over two years. **SUBSCRIBE!**

FANTASTIC ADVENTURES RESUMES PUBLICATION!

'AMAZING WILL NEVER FOLD' - PALMER.

In a special statement issued recently, Ray Palmer, Editor of ZIFF-DAVIS' AMAZING STORIES and FANTASTIC ADVENTURES said that although FA had been on the suspended list for 30 days, it will again appear. The next issue, dated Jan, is slated to hit the stands on Nov 20. Palmer also stated that AMAZING STORIES will never be discontinued.

FANTADVENT will have the same format as before, and will appear bi-monthly as previously announced. The feature yarn is David Wright O'Brien's "The Floating Robot", which cops a McCauley cover. Coming in the May issue is Eando Binder's "The Shadow Dragons".

AMAZING QUARTERLY will appear regularly as it was very popular, Palmer states. It will have the same format as the first, namely three returned issues bound together under a new cover. This plan enables ZIFF-DAVIS to get rid of unsold copies returned by newsdealers, which, prior to the war had been exported and sold in England as remainders. Palmer made it known that the Quarterly is intended to reach new readers, to whom it will not appear as three back numbers rebound in a new jacket. The price will be maintained at 25¢.

MERRITT YARN BROADCAST RECORDED

The recent broadcast of A. Merritt's "Three Lines Of Old French" in script form over Station WKY, Oklahoma City, was so successful that a recording was made of it. Mr. George Hamaker of the same city has a limited number of these records which he is selling for \$2.50.

JULES VERNE MAG MAY APPEAR

New York members of a national Jules Verne Club may soon come out with a pro stf mag dedicated solely to the stories of Jules Verne. They plan to reprint only those yarns of the French master which have so far not been translated into English. The mag, if it appears, will be handled by the members of the staff of two of our most successful comic mags.

TAURASI DRAFTED!!!

Probably the first active science fiction fan to be called to the colors is James V. Taurasi. He received his draft questionnaire on Thursday, November 14.

If conscripted, Taurasi will spend all of his spare time writing stf and drawing illustrations for the pro mags. His literary agency will probably be taken over by Sam Moskowitz, who is below draft age.

Taurasi's greatest achievements in the stfan field have been the founding of the Flushing Science League (the fore-runner of the large and influential Queens SFL) and the establishment of FANTASY NEWS as a science fiction weekly newspaper in 1938.

Mr. Taurasi's associates on the staff of this newspaper wish him the very best of luck.

MERRITT BROADCAST Cont'd: each FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES was mentioned several times during the broadcast, and Miss Mary Gnaedinger Editor of FFF received a telegram regarding it.

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SCIENTIFILMS by Mario Racic, Jr.

"The Invisible Woman" - SYNOPSIS:
The Time.....The Present
The Place..The Pacific Coast and
Mexico

After paying off \$100,000 heartbalm for his latest romantic escapade, playboy Dick Russell (John Howard) is practically penniless. His lawyer, Hudson informs him he must give up his town house and also stop furnishing funds to Professor Gibbs (John Barrymore), eccentric scientist who has been conducting experiments at the Russell country estate.

Advised of this calamity, the Professor hastily alters an ad he has placed in the newspaper offering \$3000 to anyone willing to undergo a test to become invisible. For the Professor has just made his greatest discovery--a hypodermic solution and a machine, which, together, will render human beings invisible.

Discouraged with her job as a dress model, and seeking to gain revenge on her abusive employer, Growley (Charles Lane), Kitty Carroll offers herself as a human guinea pig for the Professor's experiment.

The test is a triumphant success. Kitty is made completely invisible. Jubilant, the Professor summons Dick to "see" the result. But when Dick arrives, the invisible Kitty has disappeared, having slipped out to give Growley the scare of his life. Dick, thinking the Professor is crazy, leaves for his mountain lodge.

When Kitty returns, the angry Professor turns her away. However, when Kitty exposes three gangsters masquerading as scientists who have come to steal the invisibility machine, the Professor relents. Determined to prove his discovery to Dick, he takes Kitty, whom he has again made invisible after she has materialized, up to Dick's lodge.

At the lodge Dick is finally convinced of the Professor's remarkable achievement. However, he and Kitty are at verbal swords' points--Kitty taunting the playboy about his romantic affairs and he in turn insinuating she must have submitted to becoming invisible because of her

probable frowsy appearance.

Unaware of the experiment is Dick's whimsical butler, George (Charles Ruggles), kept on the verge of insanity by Kitty's invisible antics.

Later, Kitty, who must be unclothed in order to be completely invisible, catches cold and takes a few brandies. The alcohol prolongs the effect of the hypodermic solution and Kitty fails to materialize at the expected time.

Alarmed, Dick and the Professor rush back to the Russell country estate. There they discover the invisibility machine is gone, stolen by henchmen of Blackie Cole (Oscar Homolka), fugitive gangster hiding out in Mexico. A sentimentalist, Blackie is overcome with a terrific urge to see Chicago again and figures the invisibility idea is just the thing to insure a safe return.

Without the hypodermic solution, which the mobsters have neglected to take along, the Professor's machine is impotent. Furious Blackie sends his henchmen back to kidnap the Professor, who, meanwhile has discovered another formula to make Kitty materialize.

Blackie's henchmen break into Dick's home just as Dick actually sees Kitty for the first time. Both the Professor and Kitty are bundled into a plane and flown to Blackie's Mexican hideout, where they are held prisoners.

Kitty, however, discovers some rubbing alcohol, drinks it and becomes invisible again. In a wild, hilarious battle, she disposes of the entire mob just as Dick, with whom she is now in love, arrives with the Mexican National Guard.

BOB TUCKER DENIES PHILLY TELEGRAM!

As we go to press, we are in receipt of a letter from Bob Tucker, Top Fan of the Middle West, denying any authorization for the message sent to the Philly Conference in which it was demanded that the Philco reject the proposed Eastern Conference. Tucker writes that he did not sign this message and that the use of his name was unauthorized. The full text of his letter will appear in our next issue.