

Materialize Blonde By 'Telematteradio' At Norwescon

The Portland Science-Fantasy Society celebrated their second anniversary on Saturday, April 23 with the Norwescon, the first Northwest Science-Fantasy Conference. A total of 24 persons from Oregon, Washington, and California attended the Conference which was held at the home of Don Day and lasted from 1:00 P.M. Saturday until 6:00 A.M. Sunday morning.

Well-known fans present included Ralph Rayburn Phillips, Ultra Weird Artist; Rosco Wright, Director of the Eugene (Oregon) Science Fiction Society; G. Waible, Don Berry, Joe Salta, Forrest Davis, and Mark Walstead, plus professional writers, John and Dorothy deCourcy.

The most distant visitor to attend was Forrest J Ackerman who came from Los Angeles for the meet. Mrs. Carr and her son Eric came down from Seattle, M. Walsted came from OSC at Corvallis, and the newly formed Eugene (Oregon) S-F Society was represented by a delegation consisting of Rosco Wright, President; Norm Hartman, Treasurer, and Dennis Frazer. The balance of the 24 were from Portland and vicinity.

Ackerman arrived at 6:40 A.M. Saturday and was met a bit later by Don Day who had been up till 2.00 preparing for the meet. Gil Williams and Joe Salta arrived during the morning and continued the preparations. The Eugene contingent arrived shortly before 1:00, closely followed by a steady stream of others.

The afternoon session was called to order shortly after 2:00 P.M. by Chairman Don Day.

Highlight of the conventionette was the demonstration of the deCourcy Telematteradio, which attempted to transport a dinosaur's egg from the past,
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LEINSTER, LONG TO SPEAK AT QSFL

Frank Belknap Long and Will Fitzgerald Jenkins, better known to stfans as Murray Leinster, will speak at the membership meeting of the Queens Science Fiction League to be held on Sunday, May 15, at the clubroom in Long Island City.

Mr. Jenkins' talk will be on the topic, "Science Fiction in World War II," a resume of actual inventions and discoveries appropriated by war scientists from stories published in the science fiction magazines. Mr. Jenkins was connected with the Office of War Information in the overseas service handling foreign news releases.

Mr. Long will speak on "Trends in Science Fiction." He will outline his views as to the forms the stories can be expected to take when judged from the standpoint of the best artistic standards of writing style.

Both authors have agreed to answer questions put by the audience.

Interested persons should telephone the Secretary at Astoria 8-2377 for invitations as soon as possible to avoid disappointment, as seating capacity is limited.

Van Houten to Continue Fandom House Activities; To Present Quiz at ESFA

Raymond J. Van Houten, former Correspondent for the Fantasy Awards Committee will continue his activities as member of the Board of Editors of Fantasy-Times and as editor of FT's International Edition. Both publications are products of Fandom House.

Van Houten will present his second Science Fiction Quiz on June 5 at the next meeting of the Eastern Science Fiction Association in Newark. Similar in form to a radio quiz show, the questionnaire will test the stf knowledge of members and guests. At the last quiz, Kay Brickman won a year's subscription to Fantasy-Times.

FREDERICK FELL, INC. TO PUBLISH BOOKS BY FRIEND, HAMILTON, LONG, LEINSTER 'BEST' ANTHOLOGY, 3 OTHERS, OUT THIS FALL; F. BELKNAP LONG SIGNS 2-YEAR CONTRACT

In an interview on May 6 at the New York office of Frederick Fell, Inc., Sidney Solomon, business manager and book designer of the firm, revealed that beginning in September

collections of magazine stories by Oscar J. Friend, Edmond Hamilton, Frank Belknap Long, and Murray Leinster will appear as a uniform series. In addition he said that "The Best Science Fiction 1949" anthology compiled by Everett F. Bleiler and Thaddeus E. Diky will be out around August.

Ossie Train Reveals Prime Press Line-Up

Interviewed on May 1 in Newark, Oswald Train of Philadelphia released the following information on the early scheduling of new books by Prime Press.

The first of these books to appear will be Eando Binder's "Lords of Creation," and this should be issued in a few weeks. This will have an attractive jacket by Sol Levin, the young artist who has illustrated several Prime Press books. This novel was first published in Argosy back in 1939, and was very favorably received at that time.

Following this, Nelson S. Bond will be represented with his novel of time travel, "Exiles of Time." This tale has a different twist, as fans who have read the story in Blue Book will remember. A new artist to science fiction made his debut with the jacket design—James Gibson, of Roanoke, Virginia..

The second of the series of early American Utopian novels is due to make an early appearance, also. This one is "Three Hundred Years Hence," by Mary Griffitt, and is a reprint of a very rare novel first published in 1837. Russell Swanson does some of his finest work on the jacket.

Still further along the line—it is just being set up in type at this writing—is "Nomad" by George O. Smith. This space-adventure story is "one of the best that Smith has written" according to Ossie. The jacket design is by L. Robert Tschirky.

Later, a number of other notable books will be issued by
(Continued on page two)

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The anthology will be a good-size cloth-bound book designed by Marshall Lee with cover jacket in three colors by Frank McCarthy showing a spaceman standing near his ship. The introduction will be by Melvin Korshak. About ten different stf authors will be represented.

The book is being printed on the finest book paper and bound in quality materials by H. Wolff Book Manufacturing Co., Inc., of New York. The book will sell for \$2.95. If it receives good public support, it will be followed by a series of annual anthologies.

Oscar J. Friend's book, titled "The Kid from Mars," is expected to be released in September.

The following month Edmond Hamilton's collection, "The Star King," will appear.

Frank Belknap Long has novellized his John Carstairs detective series which appeared five to seven years ago in Thrilling Wonder Stories. Frederick Fell will bring out this novel sometime in November under the title, "John Carstairs, Space Detective."

Murray Leinster's contribution will be titled "The Last Space Ship, out in February, 1950.

All publication dates mentioned are only tentative and dependent on printer's schedules. The four books will be
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Boost Science Fiction**WILLY LEY PREDICTS
ORBITAL ROCKET**

In a lecture delivered on Tuesday, April 26 at the American Rocket Society meeting in N. Y., Willy Ley, rocketry expert, predicted the launching in the near future of an orbital rocket carrying telemeter instruments, that would become a second moon of the earth.

The meeting was called to order at about 8:00 P.M. by Morton W. Geria, President of the Society's New York Section and Chairman of the Board of Directors. Dr. Thomas S. Gardner, member of the Board of Directors of the Rocket Society and Director of the Eastern Science Fiction Association, introduced the speaker.

Mr. Ley's talk was a revised and more technical version of one he delivered in March at the ESFA convention meeting in Newark.

He stated that material, money, and know-how are today available to place a flash rocket or a man-carrying missile on the moon. He also said that once a rocket is in space, it would be almost as easy to go to Mars as to the Moon, because the problem is one of escaping a major planet's gravitational pull and not one of travelling through relatively empty space.

Twitted by a member of the audience at ESFA on the puny pay load in comparison with fuel weight of present rockets, Mr. Ley replied, "Robert Fulton didn't invent the Queen Mary."

An illustrated article by Mr. Ley, giving the complete story, appears in the current (May) issue of Popular Science.

NORWESCON

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a newspaper from the future, and a hot dish (a blonde clad in a towel) from Hollywood.

After a few words of greetings, author John deCourcy presented the principal item of the afternoon's program, a demonstration of the first practical "Matter Transmitter." Acknowledging hints given him by a number of prominent sf authors, inventor deCourcy explained the principles involved and referred to certain parts of the machine, consisting principally of control board studded with switches, dials, lights, tubes, and a view-finder vision screen plus a cabinet about 6 feet high and 30 inches wide where the materializations took place. Saying that it was not strictly a "matter transmitter" since it received without a transmitter, he proceeded with the demonstration, attempting to pick up prearranged objects from all over the world. Since it was a pilot model, results were sometimes uncertain, different objects arriving than had been sought at times.

A high spot of the afternoon was when, attempting to pick up a "rare dish" from the home of a collector of old china, the machine instead gathered in an unidentified blonde tastily clad in a bathtowel. The resulting confusion as he attempted to return her, dematerializing her piecemeal provided some interesting sidelights on the workings of the machine. It is to be hoped that she returned to her point of departure as she left her towel behind her in the confusion.

Following the demonstration, a buffet supper and gab session occupied the attendees until 7:00 P.M., when at a short business session, the formation of a Northwest S-F Society was discussed. It was decided to refer the matter to the Associate Members of the Portland SFS and other interested parties.

Next on the evening's program was a talk by Ackerman on "Twenty-three Years of Amazing Stories," in which he recalled some of the high spots of the earlier years of the magazine.

Following this was the auction, featured by ridiculously

NEWSNOTES

Neil (Masters of Fantasy) Austin has done the three-color jacket for Olaf Stapledon's book, "Worlds of Wonder" (FPCI).

A. E. Van Vogt has completed his serial for Astounding Science Fiction, "The Wizard of Linn."

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bradbury are infanticipating.

Frederick Fell, Inc., have appointed Forrest J Ackerman their West Coast talent scout for science fiction.

"The Dancer in the Crystal," by Francis Flagg, will be reprinted in a future Avon Fantasy Reader.

"Danger in the Dark," by L. Ron Hubbard and "The Golden City," by Ralph Milne Farley, will be published by the successor to Hadley.

—Fja

low prices, due largely to the large amount of material for sale. Best price was for a Bok original which brought around \$15.00.

Following the auction, the meet turned into a party with dancing, elbow bending, and much more gab. Though a few drifted out earlier, most stayed until a snack about 5:00 concluded the festivities. Sometime along about 2:00 in the morning, the machine was once more resorted to in an attempt to locate the blonde again but without success, though a tall red-head was located—possibly a friend of the blonde as she had the same towel. It was a little small for her.

Most of the out-of-town guests departed Sunday morning, but Ackerman remained until evening. He was interviewed by Virgil Smith of the Morning Oregonian and a good writeup appeared in the Tuesday paper. Ackerman was seen off by Don Day and the deCourcy's, whereupon everyone went home and collapsed.

**Fearn Novel in Newspaper
Sunday Supplement**

John Russell Fearn, British author has "Conquest of the Amazon" in the Sunday Novel supplement of the May 8 issue of The Long Island Press, a New York newspaper.

FANTASY-NEWS

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PRIME PRESS

(Continued from page one) the Prime Press. The most important news in the fantasy world of the season is the announcement that "The Blind Spot" will at last appear in book form, to be followed by its sequel, "The Spot of Life." These two books will be illustrated by Hannes Bok, who will also do the jackets.

Other books scheduled are "The Rebel Soul," which will contain the title novelet and its sequel, "Into the Infinite," by Austin Hall, and "The Planet-er and Other Stories" by Homer Eon Flint.

A new catalog is in preparation and will be out soon.

FREDERICK FELL

(Continued from page one) priced to sell for \$2.50 each.

Sign Contract with F. B. Long

Frederick Fell, Inc. are reported to be going "overboard" for science fiction. They have signed a two year contract with Frank Belknap Long for the exclusive rights to new novel length yarns now in process of being written by him. They are planning an extensive advertising campaign in the magazines and newspapers, and on radio and television.

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