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NORSTRILIAN NEWS (second series) is published twice a month by John Foyster, 6 Clowes Street, South Yarra, Victoria 3141, Australia. At last report the overseas agents were Charlie Brown and Malcolm Edwards. There may be changes.

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RENEGADE, HIDDEN TRAITOR AND SCAB BRUCE GILLESPIE DEFEATED Norstrilian News
 32 appeared back

in September. As

a fortnightly journal it had not been particularly fortnightly before then. The need for resolute action gradually became apparent. Finally, in the spirit of 'seize the day, seize the hour', Our Founder (your humble and obedient servant) seized control of the journal from capitalist-roader Gillespie and will now lead it back to the path from whence it strayed. This was not, however, without its own drama, as Our Founder's former close-comrade-in-arms Robin Johnson tried to wrest control of NN from crime-steeped lackey of the imperialists (Bruce Gillespie to his friends). Fortunately this counter-revolutionary activity was defeated and Johnson was last seen heading for the north-west in a British-made jet. 'Don't worry' Our Founder reassured a troubled John Bangsund 'the plane has insufficient fuel.'

HENRY EICHNER who was best known to Australian fans as one of the earliest supporters of the AUSTRALIA IN '75 bid, but was otherwise known in fan circles for his knowledge of the mythology surrounding Atlantis, died of a heart attack on November 24 (LOCUS, SANDERS)

AUSTRALIAN CONVENTIONS The ADVENTION in Adelaide, in progress as this issue of NN is published, is the first of three Australian conventions already announced for 1972.

SYNCON '72, the 11th Australian Science Fiction Convention, will be held from Friday August 11 to Sunday August 13 at the Squire Inn Motor Hotel, Bondi. In a second progress report, just released, the SYNCON Committee announces lower room rates (\$10.80 single, \$13.50 double, \$16.20 triple per night) and that these rates will now include a light breakfast. The DUFF winner (see below) will be Overseas Fan Guest Of Honour at Syncon '72. The Squire Inn features with a heated swimming pool and good looking sheilas at the reception desk (if PR 1 leaflet is accurate). Supporting membership \$2, Attending membership \$4 to 1 August, \$5 thereafter. Send money and inquiries to Gary Mason, G P O Box 4593, Sydney, NSW 2001. (I am Victorian agent for Syncon '72.)

Paul Stevens has just announced MELBOURNE EASTERCON '72, to be held at the SAVOY-PLAZA in Flinders St, Melbourne. Room rates are \$13 a day double. Convention membership is \$6. (The banquet cost is \$3, which reminds me that Syncon '72 suggest that their banquet charge will be \$3-\$4.) Movies will be shown in the main from 10 pm onwards, with the usual other activities during the day. Write to Bill Wright, 53 Celia Street, Burwood, Victoria for further details, or even to just pay your money.

More details of both these conventions in later issues of NN.

FURPHIES A prominent Sydney fan is planning to publish, in the very near future, a lengthy (circa 100 pages) article of great fanhistorical interest (in Australia anyway). Don't serialize it, comrade! (A dept. for John Bangsund)

DUFF The DUFF Candidates and their nominators are Robert & Juanita Coulson (Paul Anderson, Eric Lindsay, Joanna Burger, Joe L. Hensley, Don & Maggie Thompson), Lesleigh Luttrell (Leigh Edmonds, Lee Harding, Robert Coulson, John L. Miesel, Bob Tucker) and Andy Porter (John Bangsund, Paul Stevens, Dick Geis, Mike and Susan Glickeohn, Steve Stiles). Ballots will be distributed early in the new year. If you are reading this in Adelaide, talk with one of the Australian nominators about DUFF (or with Robin Johnson if you prefer an almost unbiased viewpoint).

AUSTRALIAN FANZINES The 20th ANZAPA mailing ran 115 pages. It included the results of the third ANZAPOLL, the winner being John Bangsund (894 points) with runners-up being Bruce Gillespie (557) and Bob Smith (518). 37 members or exmembers received points, and of these 36 received points in the 'Good Buy' section. (You are reading his fanzine.) The rules were complicated but 'Only one person returned an invalid vote. He gave himself 1400 points. He signed it the masked cockroach'. Whoops! Other December fanzines (FANARCHIST 6, WOMB T 3, SF COMMENTARY 24, SOMERSET GAZETTE 6 and CHAO 7 (total 239 pages) must wait until next time)

NN costs \$1 per 14 from the publisher, address above.

ASTOUNDING NEWS (1) This section will discuss issues of Astounding Science Fiction of about twenty five years ago. If NN were a monthly it would be exactly 25 years ago (and it may even be that in the long run this section becomes monthly), with a slight exception (this issue). Alva Rogers gives reasonable coverage of the first few years of this period (1947 - 1950) but after that is less informative. And I start a month early to get in one particular story.

Astounding Science Fiction: December 1946. The cover is by Alejandro and all interiors by Swenson, who was by no means the greatest illustrator of the time. The lead novelette, METAMORPHOSITE by Eric Frank Russell, has one of the best punch lines used for a science fiction story: it is rather unfortunate that this is anticipated by an illustration some ten pages before the end. It is all too easy to pile superpower upon superpower for one's protagonist and this is almost the only story I have read in which this is done with taste. The powers are necessary: occasionally they are introduced obliquely (e.g. hypnotism), and never to get the protagonist out of a hole. Like so many of E.F. Russell's stories of the middle fifties, it has the earthman outwitting the aliens - but at that time it had not become so boring. (1.32 was the Am Lab rating for METAMORPHOSITE) THE IMPOSSIBLE PIRATE by George O. Smith is a puzzling and disappointing story: puzzling because it hardly seems worth writing, and disappointing because, given that G.O. Smith had to write such a story, he should have done much better at it. Stories about space pirates need redeeming features, and I do not class the notion of passengers waltzing at 3G accelerations as sufficient excuse. (4.19) FOR THE PUBLIC by Bernard I. Kahn deals with a doctor battling against extrasolar diseases, and using as a catchphrase the irritating words of the title. Was this popular in '46 in some other context? It is a straight adventure story, and deserves less than its (2.94). Next in the issue is a John Campbell article on two early A-bomb tests. TIME ENOUGH by Lewis Padgett is a very good piece of writing on atomic war and immortality and stuff. It would stand up quite well in a magazine today (as would METAMORPHOSITE). (3.76 - ridiculous) HAND OF THE GODS by A. E. van Vogt is part of the Clano series and as such may be interesting. It cannot claim to stand by itself as a story and so will be ignored here. (Its rating of 2.75 suggests its popularity at the time, however.)

NEW SF BOOKS FOR NOVEMBER:: (from SANDERS 11) Isaac Asimov: THE END OF ETERNITY (Crest, 75) - Miguel Angel Asturias: THE BEJEWELLED BOY* (Doubleday, \$4.95) - J G Ballard: CHRONOPOLIS AND OTHER STORIES (SFBC \$1.98) - Ben Bova, ed. THE MANY WORLDS OF SCIENCE FICTION (Dutton) - Leigh Brackett: SECRET OF SINHARAT/PEOPLE OF THE TALISMAN (Ace, 95) - Frederic Brown: THE LIGHTS IN THE SKY ARE STARS (Bantam, 75) - Stanton A. Coblenz: THE ISLAND PEOPLE (Belmont, 95) - Edmond Cooper and Roger Lancelyn Green: DOUBLE PHOENIX (Ballantine, \$1.25) - Clark Dalton: QUEST THROUGH TIME AND SPACE (Ace, 60) - Avram Davidson: PEREGRINE PRIMUS (Walker, \$5.95) - L Sprague de Camp: THE CLOCKS OF IRAZ (Pyramid, 75) THE CONTINENT MAKERS (Signet, 95) - Samuel R. Delany: THE BALLAD OF BETA - 2 (Ace, 60) DRIFTGLASS (Signet, 95) - Philip Jose Farmer: THE FABULOUS RIVERBOAT (Putnam, \$5.95) - Neil Goble: ASIMOV ANALYSED (Mirage, \$5.95) - Golding, Wyndham & Peake: SOMETIME NEVER (Ballantine, 95) - Harrison/Aldiss: BEST SF: 1970 (Berkley, 75) - Robert A. Heinlein: I WILL FEAR NO EVIL (Berkley, \$1.25) - Damon Knight: IN DEEP (MacFadden, 75) - Henry Kuttner: THE MASK OF CIRCE (Ace, 60) - Kurd Lasswitz: TWO PLANETS (Southern Illinois University Press, \$10.00) - Ursula K LeGuin: THE LATHE OF HEAVEN (Scribners, \$4.95, SFBC, \$1.49) - H. P Lovecraft: THE COLOUR OUT OF SPACE (Lancer, 95) THE DUNWICH HORROR (Lancer, 95) - Willis E McNelly & Jane Hipolito, eds: MARS, WE LOVE YOU (Doubleday, \$6.95) - William Morris: WATER OF THE WONDROUS ISLES (Ballantine, \$1.25) - Andre Norton: HIGH SORCERY (Ace, 75) ICE CROWN (Ace, 75) - Tom Purdom: REDUCTION IN ARMS (Berkley, 75) - Kit Reed: ARMED CAMPS (Berkley, 75) - Charles Runyon: PIG WORLD (Doubleday, \$4.95) - Josephine Saxton: GROUP FEAST (Doubleday, \$4.95) - Rod Serling: NIGHT GALLERY (Bantam, 75) - Robert Silverberg, ed: ALPHA TWO (Ballantine, 95) - John T. Sladek: THE MULLER-FOKKER EFFECT** (Morrow, \$5.95) - Ian Wallace: THE PURLOINED PRINCE (McCall, \$4.95) - Jack Williamson: H G WELLS: CRITIC OF PROGRESS (Mirage, \$5.95):: *marginal interest:: ** best SF novel of 1970-1971 :: This feature will only be continued if extremely popular.....

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AUSTRALIA