

NOUMENON

THE NEW ZEALAND SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE



ISSUE NUMBER 1

NOUMENON EDITORIAL

THE NEW ZEALAND SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE

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Roger Jarrett and Hot Licks - for being the only magazine in New Zealand alive and contemporary enough to recognize sf.

The reason you are reading this may be for one of the following: You'd enquired about the possibility of a magazine such as this; you've picked it up in a shop; you or your organization is on our list of potentially interested people; you are a friend or a 'colleague'; you're looking at a friend's copy.

And whatever the reason, WELCOME.

Noumenon is being produced for the ever increasing numbers of people who read sf regularly, especially for those who have contributed to the 70% (aggregate) increase in sf book sales per year in NZ for the past 3 or 4 years. It is also for those who've read some sf and would like some guidance in what to try next. With this in mind, I hope Noumenon will serve as a useful supplement to school or university studies and courses, and as a handy reference for both public and educational libraries/librarians.

In other words, I hope Noumenon will serve the newcomer to sf, the buff, and/or anyone who has some degree of academic interest in the genre.

The reason for our unusual publishing date (we're hoping for the third or fourth week in each month) is to allow publishers time to advise on sf releases for each month. With the anachronistic Commonwealth book market system coupled with something a great deal less than instant information transfer, books are still sent in ocean-going ships and are subject to delays in reaching NZ. Such as; not being put on in the first place; the ship breaking down; hold-ups due to the weather; fires on board ship destroying the stock; hold-ups on the docks in NZ.

Still, they arrive eventually and Noumenon will tell you when.

- Brian Thurogood

Explanatory Notes:

sf is the standard abbreviation used for the term science fiction throughout this magazine. SF is considered unnecessary, and sci-fi undesirable.

fan(s) always means sf fan(s) unless otherwise noted.

WorldCon is the standard abbreviation for the annual World Science Fiction Convention.

1, *2* (etc) are used as the standard footnote indicators. I feel the asterisk is an under-used symbol and can be used in place of brackets in certain instances.

In the absence of typesetting, the following conventions have been used: The titles of novels or books are in capitals, underlined. The names of films or television programmes are in capitals. The titles of stories or magazines are in capital and lower case, underlined. The titles of articles are in quotation marks. Record album titles are in capitals, underlined. Song titles are in capital and lower case, underlined. The names of musical groups are in capitals.

QUIDNUNC'S PAGE

3

MAJOR SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTIONS

SF EXPO '76 - June 25-29, 1976

Although not a normal sf convention, what is being billed as the largest Science Fiction Exposition ever held is scheduled for June 25-29 at the New York Hilton's convention area. The EXPO is sponsored by Science Fiction Services, Inc., which also offer professional help in the promotion, marketing, editing and publishing of books in the sf field.

A wide range of programs and exhibits have been planned: an sf Memorabilia Room; an Arts & Crafts Show; a Dealers Room; a Fanline Editors Room; a round-the-clock film festival; and a publisher's exhibit area. Many authors, editors, artists, and "true fans" have signed up already (Forrest J. Ackerman, Isaac Asimov, Ben Bova, A. Bertram Chandler, Hal Clement, L. Sprague de Camp, Harry Falkberg, Fred Fohl, Norman Spinrad, Roger Zelazny), and Andre Norton (unable to attend because of a broken hip) will provide a special filmed interview for the program. Frank Kelly Freas (Analog's leading cover illustrator) will be conducting an SF Art Workshop, while the film program seems to cover every outstanding classic and recent sf film.

Attending membership is \$18.50 in advance and \$25 at the door. Supporting membership is \$10 and can be converted to Attending at any time. Both classes of membership will receive two pre-EXPO magazines containing original stories, articles, art and an original serialized novel; the EXPO Program Book and package; and the post-EXPO souvenir book.

- Address subscriptions or enquiries to:
Science Fiction Services, Inc.
7 Church Street, Montclair, New Jersey 07042, U.S.A.

BOFCON - August 13-15, 1976

The 15th AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION

From the ultra-grandiose to the outback-funky in one fell swoop, BOFCON will be held in Melbourne from Friday, 13th August to Sunday, 15th August. Interviews, lectures and panels on sf, science and the teaching of sf are programmed, along with an art show, a science display, a war-games room, a Masquerade, films, group discussion on various topics and re-playing selected items from last year's WorldCon video coverage.

Membership rates are \$7.50 until July 1st and \$10 from then on.
- Address subscriptions and enquiries to:
BOFCON, 259 Brunwood Street, Carlton, Victoria 3053, Australia

BRITCON - April 16-19, 1976

The 27th British SF Convention

This will be held in Manchester (hence ManCon) and the Guest of Honour will be Robert Silverberg. The Fan Goff will be Peter Roberts.

The membership rates are 75p Supporting and £2.50 Attending.

- Address subscriptions and enquiries to:
Brian Robinson, 9 Linwood Grove,
Banchester M12 4QH, England

WIDAMERICON - Sept. 2-6, 1976

The 34th World SF Convention

This year's WorldCon will be held in Kansas City, Missouri and the Goff will be Robert Heinlein; the Fan Goff, George Barr; and the Toastmaster, Bob Tucker. The usual panels, talks, masquerades and films will take place, along with the presentations of this year's Hugo Awards and other awards, including the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer.

Membership rates are \$6.00 Supporting and \$20.00 Attending (Until Pay Lst).

- Address subscriptions and enquiries to:
WIDAMERICON, P.O. Box 221, Kansas City, Missouri, 64141, U.S.A.

SUNCON - Sept. 1-5, 1977

The 35th World SF Convention

SUNCON will be held in Orlando, Florida, and the Goff will be Jack Williamson.

Membership rates are \$5.00 Supporting and \$7.50 Attending (until March 10th, 1976).

- Address subscriptions and enquiries to:
SUNCON, Box 3427, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002, U.S.A.

The long-awaited third segment of Frank Herbert's DUNE series is currently being serialised in Analog. It began in the January issue (released last week in NZ) and I must say it is everything I had hoped. The careful attention to the myriad complexities of Herbert's vision, coupled with the always fluid, at times remarkably beautiful, writing makes it one of the most intense and rewarding of reading pleasures. Titled CHILDREN OF DUNE, it will run to four installments in Analog. It will be published in hardcover in America in April and in paperback in 1977. I have seen no information on Britain and the Commonwealth dates yet.

Meanwhile, director Alexandro Jodorowsky has been filming DUNE and has had problems with the actor playing the part of the Emperor of the Galaxy, Salvador Dali (who had said he approved of the execution of Spain's five political "millitants"). Jodorowsky fired Dali and is reported to have said: "I would be ashamed to use now in my work a man who, in his masochistic exhibitionism, demands the ignoble death of human beings."

Rolling Stone ran a feature on Philip K. Dick recently (Issue No. 199), but even they used the term "Sci-Fi". It was a long and personal commentary/interview by Paul Williams and centred on the strange goings-on between Dick and some as yet unknown "enemies". It was interesting but not exactly required reading for sf buffs.

Aldiss, Brian W.
BILLION YEAR SPREE

(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1973; Doubleday, 1974; Shocken, 1974; Corqi, 1975)

This is the best critical history of sf yet published and any future attempt would need to be an extreme labour of love to best Aldiss.

Brian Aldiss has an encyclopedic knowledge of the field, as well as an extensive grounding in literature in general. Further, he has great style and wit to match his scholarship. You are led from the "Origins of the Species", through "Victorian Visions", out "To Barsoom and Beyond" and eventually to "Yesterday and Tomorrow". Every chapter provides information, humour, and food for thought.

The last two or three chapters are (necessarily) somewhat cursory, dealing with sf in the 50's and 60's, but that is a small matter in this excellent and essential book.

Aldiss, Brian W. and
Harrison, Harry (Editors)

HELL'S CARTOGRAPHERS
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1975)

An outstanding and unparalleled facet of sf is the remarkably extensive discussion and interaction between its writers, editors and readers. And I think this book goes a long way towards explaining some of the reasons for this situation.

Bob Silverberg, Alfred Bester, Damon Knight, Fred Pohl and Aldiss and Harrison each provide autobiographical pieces on their life in general and their attraction to, and gradual love of, sf.

It is a fine book and provides many glimpses of the value and importance of sf to people and our world.

Amis, Kingsley
NEW MAPS OF HELL

(Harcourt, Brace, 1960; Gollancz, 1961; Ballantine, 1962)

Despite its limitations, this book achieved much. It was the first serious study of sf and helped set a standard for later works. It was also the first objective and informed study by a relative 'outsider' to the field.

In general, it is a good survey and still relevant for the period it covers. The two sections on Utopias are especially good. The occasional awkward writing and superficiality can be overlooked as Amis' critical facility is most revealing on certain points (eg. the issues of sex in sf and sf "as an instrument of social diagnosis and warning").

Atheling, William, Jr.
THE ISSUE AT HAND

(Advent, 1964, 1973)

Atheling is the pseudonym for James Blish, one of sf's most insightful critics. The book is a collection of critical essays and speeches on sf that were first published between 1952 and 1963. Atheling/Blish had the ability to weave his acute observations on sf around reviews of

particular works and thus his books remain with the best of their type.

Atheling, William, Jr.

MORE ISSUES AT HAND
(Advent, 1970, 1972)

This collection is derived from essays/reviews and speeches between 1965 and 1970. It follows on from the previous volume and provides updated opinions on such as the "New Wave" and the "New Criticism".

Bailey, J.O.

PILGRIMS THROUGH SPACE AND TIME

(Argus, 1947; Greenwood, 1972)

"Of paramount importance as the first historical analysis of the genre as a whole. Particularly strong in its treatment of British and American writers through Wells." - Claeson.

"It covers many of the old-time plots in the book field but fails to mention many of the magazine masters. . . Those that are selected do not have their best works mentioned. Nevertheless it is a good reference source for the older book field." - Tuck.

Bretnor, Reginald (Editor)

SCIENCE FICTION, TODAY AND TOMORROW

(Harper & Row, 1974; Penguin (US), 1975)

This is one of the best symposiums on sf.

Of particular note are: "The Role of SF" (Ben Bova); "SF and the Visual Media" (George Zebrowski); "SF and a World in Crisis" (especially good - Frank Herbert); "SF in the Age of Space" (Bretnor); "SF, New Trends and Old" (the Panshins); and two excellent pieces on "creation" - Poul Anderson's "The Creation of Imaginary Worlds" and Hal Clement's "The Creation of Imaginary Beings". But those are only the cream. Every contribution can be praised.

This volume is a fine successor to MORE SF: ITS MEANING AND ITS FUTURE (Coward-McCann, 1953), which was also edited by Bretnor. The earlier work remains an outstanding symposium analyzing the birth and early growth of the sf genre.

Claeson, Thomas D. (Editor)

SF: THE OTHER SIDE OF REALISM

(Bowling Green Uni. Popular Press, 1971)

This has a rich diversity of critical essays, both academic and 'popular', from some of sf's leading critics (of varying countries and persuasions). 25 essays are presented, mostly recent, some original and some reprint, many excellent. Various approaches to the study of sf are evident but the emphasis remains on sf's relationship to literary traditions.

Claeson, Thomas D.

SCIENCE FICTION CRITICISM:

An Annotated Checklist

(Kent State Uni. Press, 1972)

Divided into nine sections, this is an extremely valuable book for the sf

"scholar". It lists some 800 items, from full-length books, to essays and introductions in books and journals, to magazine and even fanzine essays.

The book is an expansion of lists previously published in Extrapolation and includes both an index of authors and authors mentioned.

Hall, H.W.

SCIENCE FICTION BOOK REVIEW INDEX:
1923 - 1973

(Gale Research Company, 1975)

In 1968, the Science Fiction Research Association was formed to unite the efforts of teachers, scholars and bibliographers interested in sf. Through its journal, Extrapolation, the SFRA promotes the study and teaching of sf in America. The Science Fiction Foundation is the British equivalent of SFRA and publishes the journal Foundation. (see page 4)

Because of sf's increasing popularity outside of the 'sf community', it has become subject to the same kinds of analysis and criticism as other literary genres. And while review columns have been standard in sf magazines, reviews of sf books have been appearing in general interest magazines, journals and papers.

SFBRY, then, is a complete record of all sf and fantasy books reviewed in (a) the sf magazines from 1923-1973 and (b) general and library magazines from 1970-1973. Books of interest to sf readers and non-sf books on related topics are also included.

(Annual volumes, compiled by Hall, keep this volume up to date.)

Knight, Damon

IN SEARCH OF WONDER

(Advent, 1956; Revised & Enlarged 2nd Edition, Advent, 1967)

Like Aldiss, Amis or Atheling, Knight is one of sf's leading critics and concerns himself with "sf as literature". This collection of essays, including many delightful anecdotes and details, covers most of the principal trends and authors in the sf and related fields. Like Aldiss, wit and intelligence are key elements to Knight's abilities.

Lundvall, Sam J.

SCIENCE FICTION: WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT
(Ace, 1971)

This is a revised, enlarged and specially translated edition of a work first published in Sweden (1969).

Clareson is a little harsh: "A survey aimed at the popular audience by a young Swedish fan, its strengths lie in a dismission of Heroic Fantasy (said to be unique to the English-speaking countries), a chapter on mass-culture (comics and films), and a brief description of international fan activity. Relies upon popular sources in its discussion of the history of the genre; despite the promise to include European sf, mentions it only at random. . . Adds nothing new to sf history or criticism."

As it has recently been re-released in NZ, and as so few works of its type are

readily available, it is well worth a look - "...he is crammed with ideas that will make you evaluate what you look for in sf rather differently than you may have done in the past...Lundvall goes deeper into the roots of sf than some more pretentious books and I have dozens of notes on paragraphs I'd like to quote, ideas I'd like to discuss." - P. Schuyler Miller (Analog, December 1971)

Fanshin, Alexei

HEINLEIN IN DIMENSION

(Advent, 1968, 1969)

Alexei and Cory Fanshin have provided some of the most consistently stimulating comment on sf, its origins, and its potentials. They write for both the prozines and fanzines, as well as for books such as the Bretnor.

This is a successful and very readable study of Heinlein's works, strengths and weaknesses, and influence on the genre. There are sure to be other studies of sf's own Lazarus, but this is most adequate as a start.

Rottensteiner, Franz

THE SCIENCE FICTION BOOK

An Illustrated History

(Thames & Hudson, 1975)

Following a highly questionable 20-page Introduction, wherein Rottensteiner displays many examples of superficiality, poorly considered evaluations, and much double-think, the book staggers forwards and backwards from its opening (a cursory look at H.G. Wells).

Inconsistent and perfunctory are not strong enough words. Certain writers are awarded unworthy praise and space (Merritt, Lem) while others are squeezed into a paragraph (Leiber, Dick, LeGuin, Herbert). And there are much better books on the old covers and film stills he uses throughout (again, with no discernable method). Further, his statements are often opinionated, pseudo-academic, insufficiently researched and highly questionable, and the writing poor.

Beware of this one.

Tuck, Donald H. (Compiler)

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SCIENCE FICTION
AND FANTASY - Volume One; Who's Who

And Works, A-I

(Advent, 1974)

Donald Tuck is the internationally known Australian sf enthusiast and bibliophile. His previous HANDBOOK OF SF & FANTASY (1959) is a much sought-after collector's item, while this, the first of 3 volumes, is an essential work for serious fans and libraries. Volume Two (1976) will have Who's Who and Works, M-Z, and an alphabetical title index. Volume Three (1977) will survey Magazines, Paperbacks, Series and Pseudonyms. The work is extensive and remarkably complete up to 1968 and supplements are planned to keep the coverage up to date.

FANDOM

There are many people who have been avid readers of sf for years but who have not become actively involved in the 'Science Fiction Community'. That community is remarkably communicative without being officially organized and the world-wide body of fans is referred to as "fandom". Although anyone who reads of sf fairly regularly is considered a "fan", that does not necessarily mean they are in touch with fandom, however. The major ways to be in touch are: to join an sf Club; attend an sf Convention; to read "fanzines".

Rather than explain all those terms immediately, I'd like to go back to their origins. "The birth of the first general magazine in Britain came about in 1711 with Gentleman's Magazine, founded by Edward Cave (1691-1754), and it was from the popularity of this periodical that the word magazine passed generally into the English language with that particular meaning. It was followed shortly by London Magazine (1732), Scotts Magazine (1739) and Moral Magazine (1759)". But all these publications had one thing in common - they were magazines of comment and criticism. It was not until the Scottish bookseller William Blackwood (1776-1834) founded his Blackwood's Magazine in 1817 that fiction began to be featured as a regular part of a periodical. It also contained poems, and went to the extent of serializing novels... - *1*

Initially, the periodicals were somewhat specialist. But the sweeping reforms in education, beginning in 1815 with the start of infants' schools and reaching a peak with the 1870 Education Act, meant that more and more people could read. It became necessary for the magazine field to expand and cater for this new readership. Thus the general magazine was born, including easy-to-read, human interest stories and non-fiction on all manner of topics. And stories of the type we now call Science Fiction were already being published at that time. *2*

Periodicals of all types flourished and the sf of the day ("scientific romances") proved very popular. Hugo Gernsback was a Luxemburger who emigrated to the United States in 1904. He was fascinated by both electronics ("the new science") and magazines and began publishing Modern Electrics in 1908. In 1911 Gernsback began an episode in the history of "Ralph 124C 41". It appeared in twelve subsequent issues and thereafter of (the original word Gernsback used was "scientific") became a regular part of the contents of his magazine. Gernsback published (and re-named) many "Electrical" and "Scientific" magazines but in 1926 he published Amazing Stories which, it appears, was not "... the first publication in the world to be devoted, exclusively, to tales of science fiction.", as Isaac Asimov states in his Introduction to the first volume of his HUGO WINNERS series.

Ashley mentions the Russian Mirra(Mirra) ("World of Adventure") which appeared in 1911 ("...the early issues consisted mainly of translations of Jules Verne, but with a sprinkling of Russian authors, one of whom was a lady specializing in interplanetary romances") and ceased publication around 1924. And also the German Central Stern which appeared monthly between 1908 and 1914. Meanwhile, the first specialist fiction magazine in English had been Detective Story Magazine (1915-), where-

An extraordinary article on the
'Science Fiction Community'

as Weird Tales (1923-) was the first devoted to fantasy fiction, predominantly horror stories.

However, Gernsback's magazines had become regular markets for sf and his writers were becoming more prolific, so Amazing Stories and the other sf magazines that followed in its wake (Wonder Stories, Atomica Stories) became catalysts for a new phenomenon - fandom.

So, fans of science fiction had their own magazines and no longer needed to ferret through the general magazines to find sf stories. The first Amazing Stories appeared in April 1926 and in the June 1926 editorial Gernsback remarked on his surprise at "the hidden army of fans in the country who seem to be pretty well orientated in this literature". The magazine's future was assured when Gernsback decided to respond to his readership.

Besides running extremely well supported writing competitions, he introduced a letter column, called "Discussions". Although such columns were not new in magazines of that time, "Discussions" became something different and this is due in large part to the nature of the sf fan. Also, the name and full address of each correspondent was published after his letter and this meant readers could write to them personally, or even visit.

Fans discovered other fans, local groups were formed, sf Clubs and even Societies grew and soon the first "science fiction fans' amateur magazine" was produced. More and more were published and soon they became known as fanzines, to distinguish them from the professional magazines (pazines). Since the 30's, fanzines have proliferated into many species.

There are sercon fanzines (serious & constructive) which deal with sf in the form of articles, reviews, interviews, etc; Newszines, usually small and frequent, containing news about sf or of fanzine interests; Opinions, which have a wider scope of interest (often outside sf); the actual Fanzine, which now means a fanzine fanzine - dealing with sf fandom rather than of it; and Joazines, which are small fanzines distributed through Amateur Press Associations within fandom.

There are many other varieties of fanzine that are devoted to particular areas of sf (authors, topics, etc, film, TV, clubs, comic) as well as one-offs and zines on related topics. Generally, you read about a particular fanzine (both profiles and fanzine feature fanzine lists and comment) and decide whether you may be interested to subscribe, a process that can eventually bring many hours of extremely good reading. On page 8 of this issue you will find further information on fanzines and I hope Scrumm will soon be able to list most of the more interesting ones. *3*

As well as the fanzines, the clubs grew larger and more active. Inter-city leagues of clubs were founded and in 1939 the inevitable was reached, it was decided to hold a World Science Fiction Convention.

It was held in New York. Two hundred eager con-goers attended, some coming from as far away as California. Editors attended and were attracted at the arrival and enthusiasm. The Queen of Nocturn was Frank R. Paul.

the illustrator who had turned Gernsback's science fiction magazine covers into glowing dreams of fanciful machinery and horrid extra-terrestrial monsters.

"I was there too, already an 'old time fan' and now a writer, with three published stories to my credit. It made me a celebrity and I loved it. I signed autographs with a luffly dignity that was raffined at the corners by just a touch of kindly condescension.

"The success of that first gathering was enormous. We watched the old Green science fiction movie, Meteoroids. Fans shook hands with various editors and writers who, to their amazement, were not ten feet tall - but only seven or eight. We listened to talks on sf, and in fact, we could not find enough stool of and nothing but of to everyone we met. For one short, golden day we inhabited a tiny world in which science fiction was the exclusive interest.

"I imagine Heaven must be a feeble imitation of that day.

"There was nothing to do but rest. In 1940 the 2nd Convention was held in Chicago; in 1941 the 3rd Convention was held in Denver.

"Then came a pause called the Second World War. ... In 1946, with peace restored and the stop book shodding a horrid glare of rationality over our crackpottery, the Conventions were resumed and not a year has been wasted since." - from Isaac Asimov's Introduction to THE HUGO AWARDS (1962, Doubleday; 1963, Goyman and 1964 Bantam). No edition is currently available in NZ).

Until the 13th Convention, fans had occasionally voted on favourite novels, novelettes, short stories, artists, fan magazines, etc. The results would be announced and great jubilation and at the 13th Convention (Philadelphia, 1953), little spaceship models had actually been presented to the winners. "It was decided to make the award permanent and for the 13th WorldCon Mr Ben Jason of Cleveland designed a new statuette, classic in its simplicity, which at once - unofficially was dubbed the Hugo after the legendary Gernsback. By 1958 the name was official.

"Let the Philistines have their Oscars and their Emmys. We have the Hugos."

Hugos have been awarded at every WorldCon since.

And in Britain, throughout Europe, the United States, and even in Japan and Australia, local, regional and national conventions are now held regularly. You can become either of two types of a member to many conventions: either an attending member or a supporting member. Lectures, panels, films, discussions, art and venerable displays, regurgitates and parties are the stock items of a convention's program but for the WorldCon either type of membership enables you to nominate and vote for the Hugo Awards (as well as receiving booklets, official souvenir programmes, etc.).

"A list of forthcoming conventions appears on page 3 of this issue"

For the New Zealander, all this fannish activity is very handy. By getting the right type(s) of fanzine and/or prozine, a fan can be right up to the minute with news on what authors are doing, what has been published recently, what films/TV shows may eventually arrive in NZ and, by following the reviews, the 'Kiwi' fan can determine what looks he/she will want to read when (and occasionally, if) they reach our shores.

In fact, this is a good place to outline a few of the problems that hinder the NZ fan,

Number one in the "British Commonwealth Market Clause". The majority of sf, even reprint sf, is published in the United States. Thanks to many and various agreements between American and British publishers, it often occurs that an American edition is "Not available for sale in the British Commonwealth". Thus, a hardback edition comes out in America, a British publisher obtains the rights to it, and then sits on it until it can fit into a publishing programme. The American paperback edition comes out, a British publisher (not necessarily the same as the British hardback publisher) gains the rights, and then often waits for the British hardback to come out first. It is often that an American paper edition is available before the British hard bound one, but is not available to the Commonwealth.

Then, of course, we have to wait for three to six months until the British edition is shipped to our shores.

It will be a great day when those trans-Atlantic agreements are whittled away. (Steps are already under way to do just that).

Number two is the difficulty of getting the internationally (almost) worthless NZ money out of the country. You think you might like to get a few fannines, support the old conventions, and perhaps import the odd American paperback. Then you find \$10 and \$20 limits at the Post Office, similar limits at the Reserve Bank, import restrictions, total yearly overseas expenditure without special permits. For instance, just try to import a piece of sf art.

Number three is the sychronistic 'wall' delivery service on this planet. 3 weeks by surface from America, 12 from Britain. Or, if you prefer airmail, excessively high rates.

The world sneezes sadly behind the mind and visions of the average of fan.

Notes

*1- This quote is from the excellent survey of sf magazines in the 38 page Introduction by Michael Ashley to the book he edited, THE HISTORY OF THE SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE, Part 1: 1926-1974 (New English Library, 1974).

The book continues with a selection of the stories that Ashley considers best represent the sf of those years. Black and white reproductions of cover art are included, as are valuable appendices on which authors had which stories in which magazines, a summary of the magazine issues, and a glossary of the editors.

*2- Rather than look at the literary origins of sf and its magazines at this time, I would refer readers to the survey of reference works that appears on page of this issue.

*3- And I hope some reader(s), preferably with an extensive knowledge of fanzine history, will eventually provide a history and examination of fanzines for Horizon.

A NEW ZEALAND SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

If you would like to be a member of an sf club, either local and/or national, write to the address given on page 2.

We would be happy for Noumenon to carry club news, etc.

SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINES - A LISTING

Locus

Subtitled "The Newspaper of the Science Fiction Field", Locus is produced 15 times per year - monthly plus extra issues in January, April, and September. It is normally 8 pages of small type, of which 2 full pages, one $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ page, plus the back page are usually advertising (always sf related). The rest of an issue is taken up with news; notes on people, books, markets and films; forthcoming books and film information; convention listings; reviews (usually short, pithy and remarkably informative, although longer examinations of selected books do occur); information on both nominations and final results of Awards; and occasional articles.

I would consider Locus essential reading for a fanatical fan (like me), even though I hope Noumenon can eventually cover much of the same ground.

- Subscriptions outside North America are:
\$12/15 issues Airmail;
\$6/15 issues Surface.
- Address enquiries or subscriptions to:
Locus Publications, Box 3938,
San Francisco, California 94119, U.S.A.

Algoi

Subtitled "The Magazine About Science Fiction", Algoi is published twice yearly in May and November. It is 50 plus pages of lovingly laid out, typeset, and well written copy and includes some of the best art I've seen. It is commercially printed on proper art paper and is a joy to "have and hold", as well as read. Along with interviews, non-fiction, book reviews, a column by Ted White, and a marvelous letters section, editor Andy Porter often puts together special features on particular authors.

Algoi is also essential reading for the buff.

- Subscriptions (approximate):
\$5/6 issues Surface;
\$1.20/single copy.
- Address enquiries or subscriptions to:
Algoi Magazine, Box 4175, New York,
NY 10017, U.S.A.

Note: Both Locus and Algoi are magazine size.

Extrapolation: A Journal of SF and Fantasy

Although Extrapolation tends towards the academic, I would consider it a Sercon fanzine in many ways (i.e. the thrill and joy of reading sf is present, unlike many of the brittle and dry contributions from European 'academics' and their magazines). It has 96 pages/issue.

Ex is the journal of the MIA Seminar on SF and also serves the SF Research Association. It is published twice yearly in May and December. All libraries which have more than the barest SF collection should have Extrapolation.

- Subscriptions (approximate):
\$3/year; \$7.50/3 years; \$1.75 single copy.
- Address enquiries or subscriptions to:
The Editor, Extrapolation, Box 3186,
The College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio,
44691, U.S.A.

Science-Fiction Studies

SFS is more literary than Ex. Whereas Ex is typed and reduced, SFS is typeset and it seems to go into sf as literature in greater depth. It has around 100 pages normally.

SFS is published three times a year (March, July, November). Libraries should also subscribe to this one.

- Subscriptions (approximate):
\$9/year Airmail; \$6/year Surface.
- Address enquiries or subscriptions to:
Science-Fiction Studies, Department of
English, Indiana State University,
Terre Haute, Indiana 47809, U.S.A.

Foundation: The Review of Science Fiction

Foundation is the British equivalent of Ex or SFS. It also has around 100 pages an issue and attempts to have three issues a year. It is also typeset and would be excellent for libraries.

- Subscriptions (very approximate):
\$10/year Airmail; \$6/year Surface.
- Address enquiries or subscriptions to:
The Editor, Foundation, The SF Founda-
tion, North East London Polytechnic,
Longbridge Road, Essex RM8 2AS, England.

Note: Ex, SFS and Foundation are digest size.

Delap's F & SF Review

Subtitled "A Review Journal of Fantasy and Science Fiction", Delap's is published monthly and has 32 28cm x 21cm pages. Apart from the editorial and a very useful publisher's schedule of forthcoming sf (and related) titles, Delap's is packed with longish book and media arts reviews and sprinkled with cover reproductions.

Another essential choice for buffs and libraries.

- Subscriptions:
\$18/year Airmail (libraries);
\$15/year Airmail (individuals).
- Address enquiries or subscriptions to:
Delap's F & SF Review, 1014 South
Broadway, Wichita, Kansas 67211, U.S.A.
- Australian Agent: (\$11.50/year)
Carey Handfield, 259 Drummond St.,
Carlton, Victoria 3053, Australia.

* Readers and editors please also note:
If there is sufficient interest, I would be happy to become the NZ agent for any of these magazines.

If you wish further information, write to me at the address given on page 2.

* * *

FANZINES (See explanation on page 6)

There are vast numbers of fanzines and types of fanzines. An excellent booklet on fanzines is available for those really interested. It is:

Peter Robert's "LITTLE GEM GUIDE To sf fanzines". Available for 25p from Peter Roberts, 6 Westbourne Park Villas, London W2, England, (or contact Noumenon). Robert's gives explanations of the different types of fanzine, how to obtain them, how to produce them, a list of over

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100 and their addresses, and makes a few recommendations. As he rightly notes, fans started producing 'fanzines' about sf in the 30's, but since then they contain all manner of things. The hobby is thus producing fanzines' and not necessarily sf itself.

Then, of course, there are the 'commercial' magazines or 'pro-zines'. Most are readily available through newsagents in NZ, even if they tend to be 3 months old by the time they get here. Briefly, the major ones are:

Analog (American)

This was originally John W. Campbell's Astounding and has always been the home of science fiction. This does not mean that the stories are poorly written or slightly disguised scientific/technological treatises; it means that if you like good stories with elements of 'hard' science, Analog is where you're likely to find them.

Galaxy (American)

Galaxy is where you'll find the 'soft' science stories, in the main. These distinctions are by no means absolute and just as Analog will have the occasional soft science story, so Galaxy will have the occasional hard one. Nonetheless, there are differences of basic tone within theazines and it is best to note them, however approximate.

The Magazine of Fantasy And Science Fiction (American)

Commonly referred to as F&SF, this is where you'll find stories that straddle the forever shifting line between fantasy and sf.

All three above magazines serialize novels, run plenty of shorter fiction, have at least one non-fiction piece each issue, usually include a good review column and carry on sf's tradition of the letter column. They are the main sf magazines of today.

Science Fiction Monthly (British)

This is the large format magazine that features many full colour, 16"x11" illustrations each issue, and usually includes at least one double-spread poster. Although the fiction is not usually up to the standard of the American magazines, the illustrations, news and interviews all make SF Monthly a worthy complement to any other sf mag.

Amazing Science Fiction Stories

Fantastic Stories (both American)

These two are published and edited by the same people and come out in alternate months.

Amazing is the grandchild of Gernsback's original magazine but is now a poor cousin to the three main magazines noted above. Even so, Amazing still gets good fiction.

Fantastic, subtitled "Sword & Sorcery and Fantasy Stories", is just that. It is about halfway between the old Wierd Tales and the modern F&SF.

If you send in an order with your subscription, you may have a chance of obtaining one of the following 1976 Calendars at a reduced price. Noumenon hopes to be able to provide a mail order service for sf books and related items sometime soon, so this will serve as an indication of interest.

- We can offer a limited quantity of
 - (a) THE WORLDS OF FANTASY CALENDAR 1976
 - Published price \$4.95
 - Special Offer price \$4.00
 - (b) THE 1976 HOBBIT CALENDAR
 - Published price \$5.95
 - Special Offer price \$4.50

THE WORLDS OF FANTASY CALENDAR features illustrations by some of the world's leading artists (both in sf and out). A biographical note is included for each artist along with a description of the work they chose to illustrate.

- The artists and works are as follows:
 - Frank Frazetta - "Sea Witch"
 - Tim Kirk - for the "Gormenghast" Trilogy
 - Carol Binch - "The Jungle Book"
 - Carol Lawson - "The Weirdstone of Brisingamen"

- Robin Lawrie - "The Once & Future King"
- Ian Miller - "Castle Gormenghast"
- Brian Froud - "Witch World"
- Pauline Ellison - "The Wizard of Oz"
- George Underwood - "A Wizard of Earthsea"
- Gino D'Achille - "Hiero's Journey"
- Peter Goodfellow - "Prince of Ananv"
- Wayne Anderson - "The Wind in the Willows"

THE TOLKIN CALENDAR FEATURES all those wonderful original illustrations from Tolkien and Pauline Baynes.

If you would like either one of these calendars, add a note to your subscription details. DO NOT SEND MONEY FOR THE CALENDARS. Only a limited number are available and we will bill those who get their orders in quickly.

Even if you're not interested in the Special Offers, please let us know if you would be interested in an sf and related items Mail Order Service. We have the facilities to provide such a service and think it may help readers, especially those in country regions.

LETTER COLUMN

These are just a few of the hundreds and thousands

that have been sent to Noumenon in letters so far. Your letters and comments will be most appreciated. Send them to Noumenon at the address listed on page 2.

REVIEWS

THE STILL, SMALL VOICE OF TRUMPETS -

Lloyd Biggle Jr.
(Rapp & Whiting, 1969; Sphere, 1975 \$1.95)

This is a marvelous book, full of delightful writing and wit. Jef Forzon is the main character, a "Cultural Survey Officer" from the Federation of Independent Worlds. He is sent to the planet Gurnil after the "Interplanetary Relations Bureau" have failed to "prime" Gurnil for entry into the Federation. "Democracy imposed from without is the severest form of tyranny" is the IRB's basic motto, so members have to assume 'native' identities and help, often over decades, to "lead" a planet to overall democracy. The IRB have failed after many decades on Gurnil so, rather than continuing to attempt to solve the problem with the IRB's socio-political methods, Forzon is requested in the hope that a solution can be found using a CEO's cultural and artistic perspective.

However, Biggle writes so well that the book takes on far more than just Forzon's struggles against treachery within the IRB and with the necessity to remain hidden from Gurnil's native population. The book is well plotted and Biggle handles both the creation and description of Gurnil, its people and its social system perfectly, as well as giving the reader gentle nudges to consider many facets of both art and society.

Highly recommended.

IMPERIAL EARTH - Arthur C. Clarke (Gollancz, 1975 \$8.65)

This book is not published in Gollancz's usual yellow sf cover and "a novel" appears under the title on the cover. It is subtitled "A Fantasy of love and Discord" though, so perhaps Gollancz hope to bring Clarke even more into the non-sf eye.

Titan, one of the outer moons of Saturn, has been lorded over for some time by the "Makenzie Clan". Duncan Makenzie, a clone from his father (who was also cloned, if that is the correct phrase), is the potential heir to their "world". The story deals with Duncan's necessary journey to Earth, a slight amount of intrigue, and his eventual return to Titan.

There is actually very little of either fantasy, love or discord in the book. It is very smoothly written and Clarke weaves plenty of science and technology into the work, making it a light-weight but ideal introduction or stepping stone for anyone new to sf. Buffs will breeze through it easily but it is still enjoyable and you will be fascinated by some tantalizing glimpses of polytechnics.

THE BEST OF CORDWAINER SMITH - Edited by J.J. Pierce (Ballantine, 1975 \$1.95)

Cordwainer Smith (Dr. Paul Linebarger, 1913-1966) produced only a few sf stories, yet his work is considered to be one of the high points of the genre. I will be sure to go on at some length about "Smith's" work in some later issue, so let's just look at this book for now.

This collection has a most informative introduction, along with a "TimeLine" for the events (and the stories) about those

events) which comprise Smith's "Future History" - a vast historical cycle taking place over some fifteen thousand years. Pierce compiled both, along with notes to each story. He is to be thanked for providing fans with such details and gathering the wonderful stories in one volume.

Smith's saga - complex, self-consistent, colourful and astonishing - rivals Asimov's FOUNDATION, Edison's WORM and C.S. Lewis' Silent Planet triologies. His attention to details, both social and personal, make for a "huge, beautifully integrated mosaic of planets, places and people." - Theodore Sturgeon.

Smith's writing is almost unique, managing to give the stories a lyricism that often comes close to poetry. It was a great joy to meet certain stories again and an even greater one to read the others for the first time.

Very highly recommended.

ALICE'S WORLD - Sam J. Lundwall (Arrow, 1975 85c)

This is also a marvelous little work. It is a blend of sf and fantasy and is extremely well written, containing much food for thought.

Man, upon returning to Earth after fifty thousand years, is led on a merry chase by the new inhabitants of his abandoned world. And Lundwall's careful reasoning for such inhabitants is quite credible. Wit and humour prevail, making the bizarre, but rather probable, ending even more of a jolt.

Highly recommended.

OTHER WORLDS - Carl Sagan/Produced by Jerome Acol (Bantam, 1975 \$1.95)

This is one of those fascinating 'productions' like McLuhan and Acol's THE MEDIUM IS THE MESSAGE; a easy, graphically intriguing, and subtly brainwashing package that really has a lot to say. Sagan, as the cover loudly proclaims, was the author of THE COSMIC CONNECTION and he and Acol take you through a panorama of information, ideas and possibilities about our solar system, physics, the evolution of life, ufos, science as an art form, and the exploration of our solar system and those nearest to us.

Recommended.

ATTENTION SCHOOLS & LIBRARIES

If you would like particular information on some aspect of science fiction, or if you would like a person to come and advise or lecture on sf, contact Noumenon. Putting people in touch with each other is a very useful function of a specialist magazine such as this and we hope Noumenon can provide such a service shortly.

1. The Seventeen Virgins - Jack Vance
2. The Women Pen Don't See - James Tiptree
3. Tin Soldier - Joan Vinge

Short Story:

1. The Day Before the Revolution - LeGuin
 2. The Engine at Heartspring's Centre - Roger Zelazny
- An Old Fashioned Girl - Joanna Russ

LOCUS
Novel: THE DISPOSSESSED - Ursula K. LeGuin
Novella: Born With the Dead
- Robert Silverberg
Novellette: Adrift Just Off the Islets ...
- Harlan Ellison
Short Story: The Day Before the Revolution
- Ursula K. LeGuin

Magazine: Fantasy & Science Fiction
Publisher: Ballantine
Original Anthology: UNIVERSE 4
- Terry Carr (Ed)
Reprint Anthology: BEFORE THE GOLDEN AGE
- Isaac Asimov (Ed)
SF Artist: Frank Kelly Freas
All Time Best Novel: DUNE - Frank Herbert
Fanzine: Outworlds - Bill Bowers (Ed)
Fan Artist: Tim Kirk
Critic: P. Shuyler Miller

JOHN W. CAMPBELL MEMORIAL AWARD

1. FLOW MY TEARS, THE POLICEMAN SAID
- Philip K. Dick
 2. THE DISPOSSESSED - Ursula LeGuin
- (The permanent awards committee is composed of Brian Aldiss, Tom Clareson, James Gunn, Mark Rillegas, Willis McNelly, and chairman Harry Harrison)

WORLD FANTASY AWARDS

(Chosen by a panel of judges and presented at the First World Fantasy Convention. They were for work published in '73-4 and the judges, who were ineligible to receive any awards, were Gahan Wilson, Fritz Leiber, Ed Feldman, David Hartwell and Ramsey Campbell)

Novel: THE FORGOTTEN BEASTS OF ELD
- Patricia McKillip
Runners-up: MERLIN'S RING - H. W. Munn
A MIDSUMMER TEMPEST
- Paul Anderson

Short Fiction: Pages from a Young Girl's Journal - Robert Aikman

Runners-up: Events at Boroth Farm
- T. E. D. Klein
Sticks - Karl E. Wagner
A Father's Tale
- Sterling Lanier

Best Book: WORSE THINGS WAITING

Runner-up: FROM EARTH'S PILLOW
- Basil Copper

AUGUST DERLETH AWARDS

(Presented by the British Fantasy Society)

Novel: THE SWORD AND THE STALLION
- Michael Moorcock
Runners-up: A QUEST FOR STIBILIS - Shea
SHARDIK - Richard Adams

Short Story: Sticks - Karl E. Wagner
Runners-up: The Seventeen Virgins - Vance
Ghoul's Garden - John Jakes

Film: THE EXORCIST
Runner-up: FANTASTIC PLANET

- NEBULA
Novel
1. THE DISPOSSESSED - Ursula K. LeGuin
 2. FLOW MY TEARS, THE POLICEMAN SAID
- Philip K. Dick
 3. 334 - Thomas M. Disch
 4. THE GODMALE - T. J. Bass

- Novella:
1. Born With the Dead - Robert Silverberg
 2. A Song for Lya - George R. R. Martin
 3. On the Street of the Serpents
- Michael Bishop

- Novellette:
1. If the Stars Are Gods - Benford & Eklund
 2. The Best Is Silence - C. L. Grant
 3. Twills - Tom Resny

- Short Story:
1. The Day Before the Revolution - LeGuin
 2. The Engine at Heartspring's Centre
- Roger Zelazny
 3. After King Kong Bell - Philip J. Farmer
- Dramatic Presentation:

1. SLEEPER
2. FANTASTIC PLANET
3. FRANKENSTEIN: THE TRUE STORY

Grand Master Award: Robert A. Heinlein

HUGO

Novel: THE DISPOSSESSED - Ursula K. LeGuin
Novella: A Song for Lya - George Martin
Novellette: Adrift Just Off the Islets ...
- Harlan Ellison

Short Story: The Hole Man - Larry Niven

Professional Editor: Ben Bova
Artist: Frank Kelly Freas

Dramatic Presentations: YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN

Fanzine: The Alien Critic
Fan Writer: Richard E. Geis
Fan Artist: Bill Rotsler

JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD (For best new author)
- P. J. Plauger

GANDALF AWARD (Grand Master of Fantasy)
- Fritz Leiber

JUPITER

(Presented by ISFHE, a worldwide organization of teachers of sf)
Novel: THE DISPOSSESSED - Ursula LeGuin
Novel:

1. THE DISPOSSESSED - Ursula LeGuin
2. THE WIFE IN GOD'S EYE - Niven & Pournelle

- Novella:
1. Riding the Torch - Norman Spinrad
 2. Born With the Dead - Robert Silverberg
 3. A Song for Lya - George Martin

FORTHCOMING IN NOUMENON

As this has been the introductory issue of Nooumenon, it is quite full with information. Future issues will have a more even spread and will include more reviews and articles, especially from other contributors. Some of the topics that will be coming up:

- Science Fiction and Music
- Science Fiction Art Books
- Philip K. Dick - SF's Golden Boy
- Ursula K. LeGuin - literature As Art
- Science Articles
- The Sociological Values of SF
- The Basic SF Collection - A Listing

PUBLISHING INFORMATION

♦♦♦ SF (AND RELATED) BOOKS PUBLISHED IN NEW ZEALAND - JANUARY & FEBRUARY 1976 ♦♦♦
- (Listed in order under their NZ publishers and distributors)

Beckett Sterling Ltd:

- SPAR OF DANGER - Marion Zimmer Bradley (Ace, \$1.60)
THE BLOODY SUN - Marion Zimmer Bradley (Ace, \$1.25)
STAND ON ZANZIBAR - John Brunner (Ballantine, \$1.35)
WHO? - Alois Budrys (Ace, \$1.50)
CLOSE TO CRITICAL - Hal Clement (Ballantine, \$1.90)
THE BALLAD OF BETA-2 and EMPIRE STAR - Samuel Delany (Ace, \$1.60)
THE WORLD JONES MADE - Philip K. Dick (Ace, \$1.60)
THE EDEN CYCLE - Raymond Z. Gallun (Ballantine, \$1.60)
GROWING UP IN TIER 3000 - Felix C. Gotschalk (Ace, \$1.60)
WHEN THE MAKER SLEEPS - Ron Goulart (Daw, \$1.60)
AND CHAOS DIED - Joanna Russ (Ace, \$1.50)
ILLOPINATUS Part III (LEVATHAN) - Robert Shea & Robert Anton Wilson (Dell, \$1.90)
ALPHA 5 - Edited by Robert Silverberg (Ballantine, \$1.60)
THERE WILL BE TIME - Poul Anderson (Signet, \$1.60)
THE GODWHALE - T. J. Bass (Ballantine, \$1.90)
ALL THE COLOURS OF DARKNESS - Lloyd Biggle Jr. (NEL, \$1.40)
THE STARMEN OF LLYRDRS - Leigh Brackett (Ballantine, \$1.90)
SOLAR LOTTERY - Philip K. Dick (Ace, \$1.60)
JOURNEY INTO TERROR (Planet of the Apes No. 3) - G. A. Effinger (Award, \$1.30)
BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES (From Screen Play) - David Gerrold (Award, \$1.20)
THE LEGEND OF MTAREE - Zach Huges (Ballantine, \$1.60)
THE RIM WORLD LEGACY - F. A. Javor (Signet, \$1.60)
OVERLAY - Barry Malzberg (NEL, \$1.40)
CITY OF THE BEAST - Michael Moorcock (NEL, \$1.00)
DYING INSIDE - Robert Silverberg (Sidgwick & Jackson, \$2.10)
THE DARKNESS OF DIAMONDA - A. E. van Vogt (Sidgwick & Jackson, \$2.10)
THE MAN WITH A THOUSAND NAMES - A. E. van Vogt (S&J, \$1.70)

W. Collins (NZ) Ltd:

- BRAIN RACK - Kit Pedlar & Gerry Davis (Pan, \$2.05)
THE TIME MACHINE - H. G. Wells (Pan, \$1.70)

Gordon & Gatch (NZ) Ltd:

- THE STARS IN THEIR COURSES - Isaac Asimov (Panther, \$1.70)
NEW WORLDS 9 - Edited by Hilary Bailey (Corgi, \$1.70)
THE IMMORTALS - James Gunn (Panther, \$1.70)
A FOR ANDROMEDA - Fred Hoyle (Corgi SF Collector's Library, \$1.35)
ANDROMEDA BREAKTHROUGH - Fred Hoyle (Corgi SFCL, \$1.50)
THE DOORS OF HIS FACE, THE LAMPS OF HIS MOUTH - Roger Zelazny (Corgi, \$1.70)
INTANGIBLES TNC. And Other Stories - Brian Aldiss (Corgi SF Collector's Library, \$1.50)
SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES - Ray Bradbury (Corgi SFCL, \$1.50)
AND ALL THE STARS A STAGE - James Blish (Corgi, \$1.35)
STAR TREK 11 - James Blish (Corgi, \$1.35)
MOONWRECK - Henry S. F. Cooper (Panther, \$1.70)
STAR TREK LOG 3 - Alan Dean Foster (Corgi, \$1.50)
ROGUE SHIP - A. E. van Vogt (Panther, \$1.70)

Hicks Smith & Sons Ltd:

- EVIL EARTH - Edited by Brian Aldiss (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, \$11.45)
TOTAL ECLIPSE - John Brunner (W & N, \$7.70)
THE FANTASTIC PULPS - Edited by Peter Haining (Gollancz, \$11.90)
SUMMER RISING - Sheila Sullivan (W & N, \$10.00)

Hodder & Stoughton Ltd:

- EMPIRE FLANDRY - Poul Anderson (Coronet, \$2.15)
THE STILL, SMALL VOICE OF TRUMPETS - Lloyd Biggle Jr. (Sphere, \$1.95)
MIRROR IMAGE - Michael G. Coney (Sphere, \$1.90)
THE TENTH PLANET - Edmund Cooper (Coronet, \$1.95)
THE OUTPOSTER - Gordon R. Dickson (Sphere, \$1.90)
PRIME NUMBER - Harry Harrison (Sphere, \$1.90)

Hutchinson Group Ltd:

- A CASE OF CONSCIENCE - James Blish (Arrow, \$1.45)
THE SEEDLING STARS - James Blish (Arrow, \$1.35)

Penguin Books (NZ) Ltd:

- FINAL STAGE: THE ULTIMATE SF ANTHOLOGY - Edited by Edward L. Ferman & Barry N. Malzberg
(Penguin, \$2.80)
IRON CAGE - Andre Norton (Kestrel, \$8.45)