

SCIENCE
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FAN REPORTER

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DUNCAN SPRINGS SURPRISE. NEW FANMAG BY NEW FAN.

Not long ago no fan had heard of Arthur William Duncan. It was only three weeks ago that he met a fan other than Graham Stone. Now he is going to publish a fanmag. That is rather fast work.

Graham Stone, always on the lookout for new fans, thought of Duncan as a casual, and nothing more. Then his interest suddenly increased. He wanted to see more fans, and their collections. He met Eric Russell, Dave Evans, and others. He saw fanmags. He read fanmags. And then....

He announced that he would shortly publish "Venus" a school magazine, semi-stf. This was to be carbon-copied, more of interest to school-mates than to fans. Came next weekend. Once again Duncan met science fiction fans. Once again he read fanmags. And then...

He announced that "Venus" would be hextoed instead of carboned. No alteration was made in the policy. It was still to be a school magazine.

Not satisfied with this, Duncan's next step was to scrap the hexto idea, and announce that Venus would be mimeoed. And with this came the announcement that the policy had changed. Venus would now be a straight fanmag, instead of a half-and-half.

As we said before, that is fast work. It is also progress. Duncan has still to become acquainted with
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STOP PRESS

POLLS.

From time to time there have been various attempts at running polls in Australia. Some have been fairly successful, others have flopped. But with all of them there is still no record of Australian opinions in regard to authors, artists, stories, etc.

To settle this, and at the same time to increase interest, Reporter has decided to hold a series of polls, which will be solely for Australians. Each one will run for about three weeks, giving plenty of time for answers. The series will include:

Most popular author.

Most popular artist.

Most popular story.

Most popular cover.

Those are only four of the subjects. Others will be dealt with. And the polls will not deal entirely with the pros. Fan topics will be included. When it is finished it will be the most complete series of polls ever held in Australia.

Naturally, the success of the series will depend on the reader. As you read this resolve to do your bit to help. Decide now to send in your vote as soon as possible. If you delay, and your favourite author or artist misses first place by one vote, you will be to blame.

POLL No.1 -- ARTISTS.

Our first poll is to determine Australia's most popular artist. We are employing a new voting system which we consider fairer than the old methods.

You are to choose your five favourite science fiction and fantasy illustrators. (Not necessarily the 5 best artists, for while you admit X to be a very good artist, you may not like his style.)

Write them down in any order at all - alphabetical if you like, and send the list along to us. We will do the rest, giving each name sent in one point.

The reason for not employing the 1,2,3,4,5, system is this. If we were to receive five entries, all of which put A in fifth place, he would get only 5 points. Yet if one voter were to put B in first place, and the others left him out, he would also get 5 points, while
(cont. page 3.)

SYDNEWS.THE CAD!

Graham Stone, and Colin Roden, on a hunt for back numbers, found a bookseller who did NOT want to sell his books. He refused to get them down from the shelves (said it was too much trouble) and emphatically stated "that stuff (stf) would drive you ratbag."

CORRECTION

Arthur Duncan's address, given in last issue as 17 Durdans Avenue, Rosebery, should be No.9 in the same street.

GOING UP, PLEASE

Colin Roden's collection of promags has now passed the 200 mark. T.O.W. and three Unknowns were the reason for this.

Fandom at Random.NEWS ITEMS.

Last Saturday's Daily Telegraph had two items of interest.

First was that Britain was using rocket-propelled wires to bring down enemy planes. The wires, shot into the air by rockets, caught in the wings and propellers, causing the planes to crash.

Second was that two Papuan natives had died, the reason being --- black magic!

BOOKS.

Tales of Wonder No.14 is now out in Sydney.

FILMS.

Both Weg Hockley and Vol Molesworth have seen Fantasia. Both have the same opinion, i.e., super-super.

POLLS (cont. from p.2.)

actually A was much more popular. Under the new system A would get five points, and B only one.

To start the ball rolling, we three editors have already voted. Our combined efforts make the following results:

ROGERS.....3 points.

CARTIER, BOK, WESSO, SCHNEEMAN...2 points.

DOLD, KRUPA, MOREY, PAUL.....1 point.

That is a start. It is now up to you. Do not let us down.

EDITORIAL...In Defence of New Fannags.

On page one of this issue is news of another new fannag. Immediately the cry will arise (as it does every time) "What, not another?!" Which indicates that the mag is not welcome, that it would be better if it did not appear at all.

But why is this?

What is wrong in bringing out a new magazine?

We do not know.

We only know that sooner or later every fan is bitton by the fannag bug, and that after that he does not rest until his own product is on the market. There is no reason why he should not issue his own mag. Most of the objections come from those who have already put out a magazine. They say there are too many mags out, without having any additional ones. They do not realise that a new magazine might present some excellent material, may introduce new authors and artists, perhaps even some new fans. They do not think they might be stopping a magazine as good or better than those out at present. Nor do they consider the effect on the fan, who, willing and eager to give up his spare time for his magazine, learns it is not wanted. But he is wrong. It is wanted. If it is good, it is needed. There is always room for a good magazine.

THE EDITORS..

DUNCAN'S FANNAG. (Cont. from p. 1

random in general. It will be a little time before Venus appears. Perhaps, like many other fan ventures, it will not appear at all. But we think it will. We think that sooner or later Australia will have yet another fannag - a new fannag by a new fan. Sooner or later, and probably sooner Venus will be out.

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