

No. 28 - FEB 17 -

SCIENCE &  
FANTASY

# FAN REPORTER

## NEW FANMAG OUTSOON

MAGAZINE FOR  
FANS IN CAMP.

"LIVING DEAD" SOLD  
OUT IN SYDNEY.

For the first time in many months, a new fanmag will soon be published.

Its editors wish to remain secret at present, but Vol Holesworth is acting as agent, and has given an outline of the magazine and its purpose.

Tentative name is "Futurian Digest" and it will probably be one quarto or a folded foolscap sheet.

It will be free, but postage will have to be paid. At present it is not known how often it will appear.

Its main purpose will be to keep fans in camp in touch with activities. It will also let them express their opinions on fan subjects. The contents will be, apart from the letter section, reviews and perhaps short articles.

(See full story inside.)

"I went to Town Hall to get some and they had none. I went up to Wynyard and they had only 2 left. I bought these."

Eric Russell said that to me. He was referring to "The Living Dead," Australia's first sf book, out three weeks ago.

After some copies for the "SF for the AIF" plan I went on a hunt myself, and although I was able to get some copies of "Subterranean City" there was not a copy of "The Living Dead" to be had. I finally went up to the offices of the publishers but nobody was in. As this was late Friday, I did not have much time to make further enquiries. During the week, however, I intend to find out the reason for the scarcity of copies.

FUTURIAN DIGEST (Continued)

It was David R. Evans who first suggested publishing a fanmag specially for the fans in camp. The editors of the new mag heard the idea, approved, and decided to put it into operation.

According to Vol, they prefer to remain secret for the time being because they do not quite know who will be the permanent editors. It may be a group and it may not so names will be left out until things are more definite.

(I would like to deny the rumours that I have anything to do with it. Futurian Digest is NOT the magazine referred to in an editorial a few weeks back. I knew nothing about it until I was told by Vol Molesworth last week.)

The editor's idea is to give the fans in camp a means of keeping in touch with the active fan group. At present there is no fanmag that does that adequately. Futurian Digest will give them news of all the important happenings, plus a letter column where they might express their views. The reviews of stories and such will keep them up-to-date with the pro side of stf.

Late last week Vol said he was on his way to buy the stencil for the first issue. He also mentioned a printed block which may be used as a title. Otherwise illustrations will be very rare.

The first issue should be out very shortly. I may have more details next week.

FANS IN CAMP.

Four old-time fans, Bert Castellari, Bill Voney, Ralph Smith and Ken Jeffreys are all in the one camp, at Rutherford. They may be contacted through Bert, whose address is N223985, Tpr. E.F. Castellari, No.3 Troop, H.Q. Squadron, 1st. Lt. Horse Machine Gun Regiment, Military Camp, Rutherford. If you can ever get an envelope large enough to take that address, there will be plenty of room inside for letters to the others.

Vol Molesworth received two very interesting letters from Bill Symonds, new reader in camp.

Colin Rodon goes for his medical this week. (If you are interested in Reporter, it will probably fold up if I go into camp in the next month or so. CR).

RANDOM AT RANDOM.STF FOR THE AIF.

As this is written before the FSS meeting on Sunday, I cannot tell you of any further developments in the scheme.

Out buying magazines, I was unable, as I said before, to secure any copies of "The Living Dead."

VOL'S MINUTES BOUND

Carefully taking them out of his brief case, Vol Molesworth unwrapped the tissue paper and brought to light a blue covered volume. Thus I got my first look at the bound volume of the condensed minutes.

They are extremely neat and a credit to Vol and Ted Russell, who did the binding. They are cross indexed, and have a space at the end for notes, if such are necessary.

Ted is still at work on the official minutes.

DRE SAYS.

Dave Evans informs us that the editor of the Currawong stf books used to publish "Flare" a general fiction magazine of a few years back. Alan Connell had stories in it, and Mr. Evans also submitted a manuscript.

A comment on editors. When I first went to see Mr. Gardner, it took me five tries before I got him. The first four times he was out. When I went to see him again, it took me five tries once more. The first time I went to see Currawong, nobody was there.

Question: Do I have to go there four more times before I'll see anyone????

THINGS TO COME.

Fans in Sydney are making an effort to have "Things to Come" revived, and are concentrating their requests on the Variety theatre, Sydney's revival show. Nothing definite has come of it yet.

FSS DOINGS.

Last FSS meeting was on Sunday, Feb. 15, at Vol's home. David R. Evans was present as guest.

(Due to other arrangements, ie, work, this has to be written before the meeting, so no details can be included in this issue. Will be in next issue, though.)

EDITORIAL: Opportunity.

After being on the stands only three weeks, "The Living Dead" has sold out.

It looks good for science-fiction.

Other magazines will surely follow.

They too will sell out in a hurry.

But will they? Does the fact that "The Living Dead" has sold out ensure a rosy future for stf? It may, but there are a few things to be considered first.

"The Living Dead" may not have sold out because of its popularity. Very probably, only a limited number was printed, and after a bookshop had sold its quota, it could not get any more.

It is logical to assume, however, that the same quantity of "The Living Dead" was printed as any of the others in the series. And assuming this to be true then Heming's book must have been more popular than the others, because copies of them are still available.

So we have an opportunity, possibly the greatest Australian fandom has ever had. If we are the true fans we make out we are, we should grasp this opportunity and make the fullest use of it. It is our job now to make the bookseller realise that he has sold out of a book that is still in demand.

When I found "The Living Dead" was out of stock, I asked at every shop whether there was any chance of getting some more copies. If the booksellers order some more, whether they can get them or not, they will make Currawong see that "The Living Dead" is the best seller of all the sixpennies, and then will come more like it. So, fans, do your bit now for the future of Australian stf.

Colin Roden, EDITOR.

Science and Fantasy Fan Reporter is issued weekly by Sanfan Publications, edited by Colin Roden, from 115 Bondi Road, Bondi, N.S.W.

Subs: 1½d. per issue up to 3 months, which is 13 for 1/6. Postage extra on less than 3 copies.

Next issue out February 24  
Melbourne Agent—W. HOCKLEY.  
Hobart Agent—DON TUCK.  
Vol.1 No.28....17/2/42...

STOP PRESS