

THE SKYRACK NEWSLETTER 32a

SPECIAL STOP PRESS SECTION TO SKYRACK 32, 1st May 1961

TENTH ANNIVERSARY WILLIS FUND. Page four note of SKYRACK 32 mentioned that more details of the Fund would be given next issue. However, so many bits and pieces have cropped up since the main newsletter stencils were cut that I'm adding this section and can naturally mention this Fund. As many fans will know the leading fan of the time, Walt Willis, was invited to the 1952 ChiCon and a fund set up to take him to the States. The Fund was successful and was virtually the forerunner of TAFF. An Executive Committee has taken it upon itself to raise enough money to ensure that not only Walt, but his long suffering wife, Madeleine, can travel over to the 1962 WorldCon, which certainly looks as though it will be a tenth anniversary affair in Chicago. In reminding fandom that they owe the pleasure of THE ENCHANTED DUPLICATOR, WILLIS DISCOVERS AMERICA, HYPHEN and the superlative THE HARP STATESIDE to Walt, Committee Treasurer, Larry Shaw, 16 Grant Place, Staten Island 6, N.Y., notes that around \$1000 will be needed if the Fund is to be really successful. Obviously this is the time for fandom to show its appreciation of Walt, the man no fandom can be without. British contributions to the Fund should be sent to Arthur Thomson, 17 Brockham House, Brockham Drive, London S.W.2.

LIVERPOOL MINICON TIKI. Jeff Collins, sturdy octopus hunting member of the Liverpool Group, hopes to be sailing the Atlantic next spring. And I do mean sailing. Jeff has sold his car, packed up, left his job and has been taken on as engineer on a three man sailing venture. With Jeff are two friends, Andrew Herdman and Bill Nolan. Herdman is owner and captain of the 20-ton sloop Frolif which is now with the three adventurers in the Isle of Man at the beginning of a sea journey which will take them to Ibiza and Casablanca. After wintering in the Mediterranean, the three sailors hope to ride the spring Trade Winds across the Atlantic to the Caribbean. Frolic has an auxiliary 25h.p. engine in addition to 1200 square feet of canvas and Jeff, who is pictured in the 24th April edition of "The Liverpool Echo," is quoted as saying, "And now we're off to have a good time for as long as possible. It's the dream of a lifetime." I'm sure that all fans will wish Jeff and his fellow adventurers well.

CACTUS 5 (Sture Sedolin, Valingby 4, Sweden; 10 for 7/- to Alan Dodd, 77 Stanstead Rd., Hoddesdon, Herts; 19pp). Cactus is somewhat overdue because of editor Sture's service in the army, but Sture laughs this down by quoting that the zine is "yearly" and we must laugh with him, for this is Sweden's leading contribution to the zinescene. John Berry writes on two American fans he has met and shrewdly starts off what promises to be another good Berry series with a typewriter portrait of Dick Eney. Rainer Eisfeld writes from a sercon viewpoint, Ray Nelson contributes cartoons, Sture overrates SKYRACK and Alan Dodd continues his "Bennett is a louse" campaign in the letter column, thus balancing Sture's review with a soupcon of good sense.

PARTICIPATE IN HARROGATE. A further step has been made towards holding the 1962 BSFA Convention in Harrogate, Garden Spa of Britain's leading county. The Hotel St. George has been booked for the weekend 20th/23rd April -- and that's Easter 1962. All sorts of details on bookings and prices still have to be finalised, so hold off sending cash just yet. Announcements will be made so often in SKYRACK that you'll be heartily sick of the whole idea before we've finished!

SEACON ART SHOW. Bjo Trimble, 2790 W.8th St., Los Angeles 5, California, USA, is hoping to put on another convention art show which will beat even that held at last year's Pittcon. Bjo and I see no reason why British artists should not contribute, so how about it, Eddie, Arthur and Jim? Bjo will be only too pleased to let you have details of format etc and to send you the artshow's own fanzine, PAS-tell.

GEORGE LOCKE (24 Field Ambulance, BFPO 10), now in Nairobi, mentions that his copy of COLONIAL EXCURSION, sent printed rate arrived two days after posting. Says he is thinking of buying a 1947 MG sports car, "in excellent running order, save for wheels, steering and lack of speedometer, horn, brakes and hood." Is thinking of putting out a limited circulation genzine, "The Prose of Kilimanjaro" and mentions the rainy season which started on March 15th, "the high tides of March." Just like home from home.

RON ELLIK, who is being supported for TAFF amongst the elite of fandom, mentions that King Arthur had a lance called Ron and says that he is these days publicity director of N3F, his first job being to spread word of the Writer's Contest. Submissions and requests for information should be sent to Edward Ludwig, 455 N.Tuxedo Ave., Stockton 4, Calif. Closing date 30 June 1961. First prizes of \$10 will be awarded to stories in each of 3 categories, sf, fantasy and weird. Other prizes for runners up. Special prize for stories less than 1,500 words. Judges will be Marion Bradley, Clayton Hamlin, Ed Ludwig and Ralph Holland.

MARK JEFFERSON TURNER, 9½ lbs, born to Eleanor and Paul Turner who toured British fandom last year. 11.44pm, Saturday 1st April. Month overdue, reports Ron Ellik.

LXIcon photos 8d each sent on approval-rmb.

SKYRACK 32/32a
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