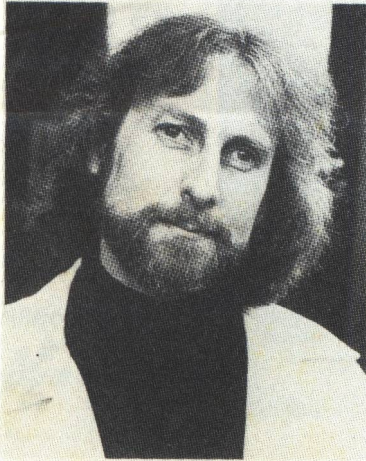


AUSTRALIAN SF NEWS

Volume 3 Number 3

March-April 1981

AWARDS 1981



D. BRODERICK

DITMAR NOMINEE - DAMIEN BRODERICK

The DITMAR Nominations

THE DITMARS - The Australian Science Fiction Achievement Awards for 1981 will be presented at ADVENTION, The 20th National Australian Science Fiction Convention June 6th to 8th 1981.

The most representative list of nominations for the DITMARS for some time as follows:

BEST LONG AUSTRALIAN FICTION OR FANTASY

- DREAMING DRAGONS by Damien Broderick (Norstrilia Press - Pocket)
 BREATHING SPACE ONLY by Wynne Whiteford (Void Publications)
 LOOKING FOR BLUCHER by Jack Wodhams (Void Publications)
 THE FOURTH HEMISPHERE by David Lake (Void Publications)

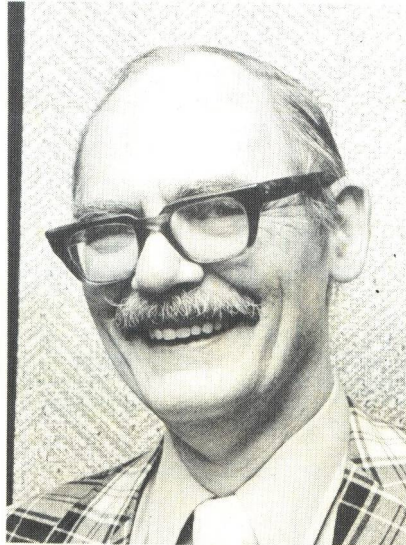
BEST SHORT AUSTRALIAN SF OR FANTASY

- DEUS EX CORPORUS by Leanne Frahm (Chrysalis - Zebra Books)
 THE PASTSEER by Phillipa Maddern (Interfaces - Ace)
 PASSAGES TO EARTH by Leanne Frahm (Gallileo 16)
 HORG by Jay Hoffman (Crux 2)

BEST INTERNATIONAL SF OR FANTASY

- MOCKINGBIRD by Walter Tevis (Doubleday - Hodder)
 SNOWQUEEN by Joan Vinge (Quantum/Dial - Sidgwick)
 THE WOUNDED LAND by Stephen Donaldson (Del Rey - Sidgwick)
 TIMESCAPE by Gregory Benford (Simon & Schuster - Gollancz)

Continued page 2



JAY K. KLEIN

HUGO NOMINEE - FREDERICK POHL

The HUGO Nominations

THE HUGOS will be presented at DENVENTION The 39th World SF Convention, to be held in Denver, Colorado from September 3rd to the 7th 1981. For details on how you can vote see the Convention listing in this issue.

BEST NOVEL

- BEYOND THE BLUE EVENT HORIZON by Frederick Pohl (Del Rey - Gollancz)
 LORD VALENTINE'S CASTLE by Robert Silverberg (Harper - Gollancz)
 THE RINGWORLD ENGINEERS by Larry Niven (Phantasia/Holt - Gollancz)
 THE SNOW QUEEN by Joan Vinge (Dial - Sidgwick & Jackson)
 WIZARD by John Varley (Berkley/Putnam - Sidgwick)

BEST NOVELLA

- "All The Lies That Are My Life" by Harlan Ellison (F&SF Nov '80)
 "The Brave Little Toaster" by Thomas M. Disch (F&SF August '80)
 "Lost Dorsai" by Gordon R. Dickson (Destinies Feb/Mar '80)
 "Nightflyers" by George R.R. Martin (Analog April '80)
 "One Wing" by George R.R. Martin and Lisa Tuttle (Analog Jan/Feb '80)

BEST NOVELETTE

- "The Autopsy" by Michael Shea (F & SF December '80)

Con. page 2

TIMESCAPE Wins Nebula



ROBERT PEDERSEN

NEBULA WINNER - GREGORY BENFORD

The NEBULA AWARDS

THE NOMINATIONS AND THE WINNERS

The winners of the 1980 Nebula Awards, were announced at the annual gathering held this year at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, by the SFWA on April 25th. The following list includes all the nominees with the winners underlined.

BEST NOVEL

- THE SNOW QUEEN by Joan Vinge (Dial-S&J)
 THE SHADOW OF THE TORTURER by Gene Wolfe (Simon & Schuster - S&J)
TIMESCAPE by Gregory Benford (Simon & Schuster - Gollancz)
 MOCKINGBIRD by Walter Tevis (Doubleday - Hodder & Stoughton)
 THE ORPHAN by Robert Stallman (Pocket)
 BEYOND THE BLUE EVENT HORIZON by Frederick Pohl (Del Rey - Gollancz)

BEST NOVELLA

- "The Brave Little Toaster" by Thomas M. Disch (F&SF, August '80)
 "The Autopsy" by Michael Shea (F&SF, December '80)
"Unicorn Tapestry" by Suzy McKee Charnas (NEW DIMENSIONS II)
 "There Beneath the Silky-Tree and Whelmed in Deeper Gulphs than Me" by Avram Davidson (OTHER WORLDS 2)
 "Lost Dorsai" by Gordon R. Dickson (DESTINIES, February '80)
 "Dangerous Games" by Marta Randall (F&SF, April '80)

BEST NOVELETTE

- "The Ugly Chicken" by Howard Waldrop (UNIVERSE 10)

Con. page 2



SPHERE

SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY

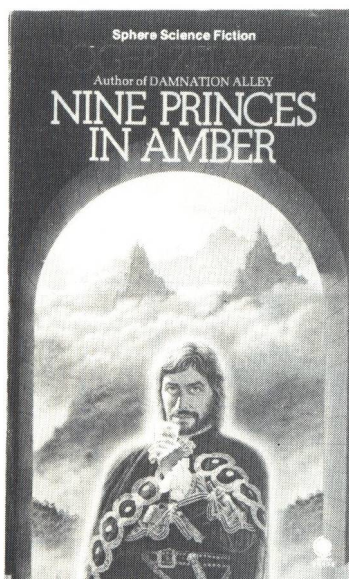
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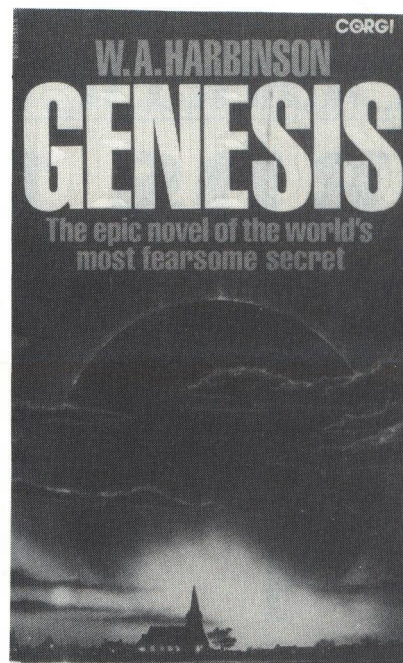
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THE DITMAR NOMINATIONS CONTINUED

BEST AUSTRALIAN FANZINE

Q36 - Marc Ortleib editor
Chunder - John Foyster editor
Science Fiction Commentary -
Bruce Gillespie editor
Australian SF News - Merv Binns
editor

BEST AUSTRALIAN FAN WRITER

MARC ORTLEIB
DAVID GRIGG
LEANNE FRAHM
LEIGH EDMONDS

BEST AUSTRALIAN SF OR FANTASY ARTIST

MARILYN PRIDE
JOHN PACKER
JANE TAUBMAN
JULIE VAUX

THE WILLIAM ATHELING AWARD

GEORGE TURNER - Frederick Pohl as a
Creator of Future Societies
(The Stellar Gauge - Norstrilia Press)
and Samuel Delany:Victim of Great
Applause (SF Commentary #58)
JOHN SLADEK - Four Reasons for Reading
Thomas M.Disch (The Stellar Gauge -
Norstrilia Press)
ALGIS BUDRYS - Charting Paradise
(Triquarterly 49)
CHRISTOPHER PRIEST - Outside the Whale
(SF Commentary #59)

Members of ADVENTION only can vote for
the DITMARS. If you are not a member and
wish to vote only, send \$7.50 with your
votes to ADVENTION '81, 5 Green Avenue,
Seaton, South Australia 5023, before Ma.
29th. For more details on ADVENTION see
the CONVENTION listing in this issue.

THE HUGO NOMINATIONS CONTINUED

"Beatnik Bayou" by John Varley
(New Voices III)
"The Cloak and the Staff" by Gordon
R.Dickson (Analog August '80)
"The Lordly Ones" by Keith Roberts
(F&SF March '80)
"Savage Planet" by Barry Longyear
(Analog February '80)
"The Ugly Chickens" by Harold Waldrop
(Universe 10)

BEST SHORT STORY

"Cold Hands" by Jeff Duntemann
(Isaac Asimov's Mag. June '80)
"Grotto of the Dancing Deer" by Clifford
D.Simak (Analog April '80)
"Guardian" by Jeff Duntemann
(Isaac Asimov's Mag. Sep '80)
"Our Lady of the Sauropods" by Robert
Silverberg (Omni September '80)
"Spidersong" by Susan C.Petry
(F&SF September '80)

BEST NON FICTION BOOK

COSMOS by Carl Sagan (Random House)
DI FATE'S CATALOG OF SCIENCE FICTION
HARDWARE by Vincent DiFate and Ian
Summers (Workman - Sidgwick)
DREAM MAKERS by Charles Platt
(Berkley. The British edition pub-
lished by Savoy is titled WHO WRITES
SCIENCE FICTION).
IN JOY STILL FELT by Isaac Asimov
(Doubleday)
WAHOON 28 edited by Richard Bergeron
(Privately printed)

BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR

James P.Baen Edward L.Ferman
Terry Carr Stanley Schmidt
George Scithers

BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

Vincent Di Fate Stephen Fabian
Paul Lehr Don Maitz
Michael Whelan

BEST FANZINE

FILE 770 (Michael Glyer)
LOCUS (Chales N.Brown)
SF CHRONICLE (Andrew Porter)
SF REVIEW (Richard E.Geis)
STARSHIP (Andrew Porter)

BEST FAN ARTIST

Alexis A.Gilliland Joan Hanke-Woods
Victoria Poyser Bill Rotsler
Stu Shiffman

BEST FAN WRITER

Richard E.Geis Mike Glyer
Arthur Hlavaty Dave Langford
Susan Wood

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION

COSMOS (KCET -TV)
THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (Lucasfilms)
FLASH GORDON (Famous Films B.V.)
THE LATHE OF HEAVEN (WNET)
THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES (Stonehenge
Productions)

JOHN W.CAMPBELL AWARD

Kevin Christensen Diane Duane
Robert L.Forward *Susan Petry
*Robert Stallman Somtow Sucharitkul

* Both of these authors died recently.
It seems rather pointless to have
them nominated for an 'encouragement'
award.

THE NEBULA AWARDS CONTINUED

"Strata" by Edward Bryant (F&SF, Aug.'80)
"The Way Station" by Stephen King
(F&SF, April '80)
"The Feast of St. Janis" by Michael
Swanwick (TRIQUATERLY, Summer '80)
"Beatnik Bayou" by John Varley
(NEW VOICES III)

BEST SHORT STORY

"Secret of the Heart" by Charles L.
Grant (F&SF, March '80)
"A Sunday Visit to Great-Grandfather"
by Craig Strete (NEW DIMENSIONS II)
This story withdrawn by author
because of ineligibility.

AUSTRALIAN SF NEWS

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"Window" by Bob Leman (F&SF, May '80)
"Grotto of the Dancing Deer" by Clifford
D.Simak (Analog, April '80)
"The War Beneath the Tree" by Gene Wolfe
(OMNI, December '80)

GRAND MASTER AWARD

FRTZ LEIBER

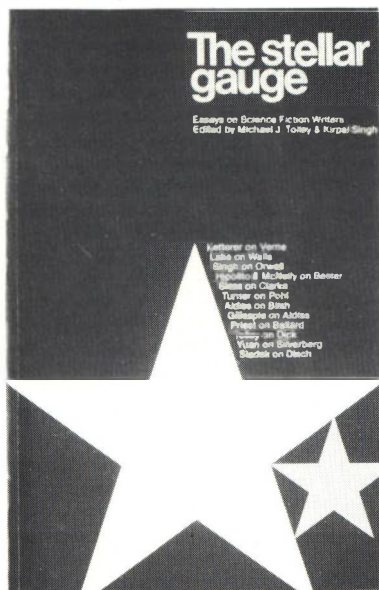
A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

*Due to the time spent on other
projects such as CINECON F&SF Film
Convention held in Melbourne at
Easter, pressure of business
and a lack of finance, particularly
after the astronomical costs and
loss on CINECON, this issue of the
NEWS is two months behind schedule.
However we have retained the original
date and the next issue, already
partly typed up, will appear right
after ADVENTION in June. I also hope
to get another issue out in July or
early August, before I take off for
DENVENTION in the U.S.A. mid-August.*

*The massive list of books that I have
been working on, covering all the
titles published or announced for the
early part of this year was just too
large to include in its entirety in
this issue. The second half, updated
to include June titles, will appear in
the next issue. I am still trying to
come up with a way of listing all the
books published, in a way that does
not duplicate other lists I am pro-
ducing and at the same time give as
much information as possible. If I
can get the NEWS out regularly on
time, I will have more space to cover
all publications in detail the way I
want to.*

*I still have a backlog of reviews and
most will be used in the next issue.
I am only attempting to do the books
that publishers are sending me, but if
readers would like to submit reviews
of recent books, no longer than 200
words, I will be happy to receive them.
Also I can use longer critiques on an
author's work, using a recent title as
a starting point and covering earlier
writing as well. These critiques may
be up to 1000 words in length, but
please discuss them with me first.*

Merv Binns/ Ed.



THE STELLAR GAUGE. ESSAYS ON SCIENCE FICTION WRITERS

Edited by Michael J. Tolley & Kirpal Singh.

Norstrilia Press 288 pp \$14.95

Reviewed by Colin Steele

Michael Tolley and Kirpal Singh's collection 'The Stellar Gauge' has been long awaited. By and large it lives up to expectations, although there are weaknesses.

The editors claim that the volume constitutes "the first original collection of critical essays on a variety of science fiction writers". While this could be debated in the context of the plethora of SF essay collections published in the USA, and the fact that the Aldiss and Priest essays have been previously published, there is no doubt that the volume takes its place in the still small collection of really good critical collections on SF. This is more thanks however to the professional writers in the volume than the academic contributors - but more of this later.

'The Stellar Gauge' is an uneven collection as the editors themselves admit. One can sympathise with them in their attempt to receive on time, and as originally commissioned, essays from contributors in four continents. They obviously did not totally succeed in their original planning. There are no women writers covered. Where art thou Le Guin, McCaffrey, Wilhelm, McIntyre, Sheldon? Nor are there any articles solely by women writers. The inclusion of essays on Verne, Wells and Orwell means the commitment of typespace to "history" and the exclusion of studies of major contemporaries such as Moorcock, Priest or Varley. The fact that Verne, Wells and Orwell have been included might be construed as an unconscious striving for respectability or historical comprehensiveness. In an Australian-produced volume should the work of A. Bertram Chandler have not been covered?

It seems a pity moreover to have begun the volume with Professor Ketterer's not terribly profound piece on 'Twenty Thousand Leagues Under The Sea'. In some ways the last essay by Sladek on Disch would have better tempted the uncommitted. Ketterer has seventy four footnotes in a relatively short piece and comments such as "The *Nautilus* itself offers a self-enclosed, womb-like, utopian existence. Named for a mollusc, it provides a protective shell for its occupants including Aronnax who views life aboard the submarine in just such terms. At the same time, like the sea, the *Nautilus* gives the paradoxical impression of both a retreat and a source of adventure, an encircling security and stability combined with the idea of freedom and unimpeded movement - movement in all directions, but usually of a vertical or horizontal nature" are symptomatic.

David Lake's survey of colour imagery in some of H. G. Wells's works, including his championing of 'The Invisible Man', and Kirpal Singh's 'Technology in George Orwell's 1984' follow. They are a distinct improvement on Ketterer but some of Lake's thoughts have been expressed before in *Science Fiction Studies* and this reviewer at least would have preferred them to have tackled living and less written about authors.

Jane Hipolito and Willis McNelly survey Alfred Bester in a clear, interesting and perhaps ultimately too fulsome essay. It is also faint praise with damnation to make such statements as that "it is a tribute to Bester that the feminine characterisations, while not profound, are at least distinctive. If not totally three-dimensional, the women are almost a quantum leap forward for characterisation of women in science fiction." Their conclusion that "'The Demolished Man' and 'Tiger Tiger' are great novels" because of their 'Jungian concepts' is debatable and contrasts vividly with George Turner's comments later in the volume that "Bester's novels are fine thrillers and that is all they are. The attempt to elevate them to significant status denies their real service".

Simultaneously with reading 'The Stellar Gauge' I have been reading Charles Platt's 'Dream Makers' (Berkley, 1980) and it is useful to contrast some of the comments by leading authors in his book with their respective analysis in 'The Stellar Gauge'. Bester thus states to Platt about the climax of 'The Stars My Destination' - "Well, I forget the message. What the hell was it?" No comment is surely needed.

David Sless is a critic not overawed by Arthur C. Clarke's international reputation. He quite rightly exposes some of Clarke's inadequate characterisation and poorly conceived futuristic societies. It is a pity Sless did not present his arguments and examples in great length to make this a more definitive article. Nor does his coverage include Clarke's alleged last novel 'The Fountains Of Paradise' (1979). This may have been caused by the timescale of a presumably long editing process.

One of the major chapters, if not the major essay, is George Turner's iconoclastic 'Frederik Pohl as a Creator of Future Societies'. Taking a sideswipe En Passant (and perhaps too briefly) at such authors as Blish, Bester and Brunner he focusses on the shallowness of the scene setting and background logic of some of Pohl's major works, notably 'Gateway'. His conclusion that "Gateway, for all its panorama of savagery and far stars, comes close to being meaningless" as with his overall debunking of Pohl will provoke much debate (and already has in Canberra SF circles). This is the stuff of a good volume and much juicier than the aridity of Ketterer. Turner's comments that "academic criticism, though occasionally revelatory, is too concerned with appreciation of 'aspects' of science fiction and literary dissection of writers of little importance in the body of world writing. It would do greater service by fastening its scholastic expertise not on literary values (separating stylistic sheep from the goats is not yet a worthwhile exercise - the real writers are self-evident) but on the shortcomings of the genre. Closer inspection of logic and content, with perhaps a little help from specialists in the scientific departments, might give science fiction the shaking up its complacency sadly needs" are well taken in general.

Brian Aldiss provides a delightfully incisive and stimulating overview of the work of James Blish while Bruce Gillespie clearly outlines the achievements of Aldiss. Gillespie recognises the dichotomies and issues contained in the labelling of Aldiss as "English novelist" or "science fiction writer" - as indeed Aldiss does himself in the Platt volume mentioned above. One major point of debate in Gillespie's survey will be his claim that 'Frankenstein Unbound' is a "new form of novel".

Christopher Priest's short analysis of the landscape element of J. G. Ballard is no more than an interesting extended review and it is a pity that the editors could not have encouraged him to an expanded contribution. The best "academic" contributor to the volume is Michael Tolley with his long analysis of themes on the work of Philip K. Dick. It is an erudite piece without being dessicated and full of insights into the major areas that concern Dick. The sense of irony in both Aldiss and Dick's writings is clearly reflected by Gillespie and Tolley.

Frederick Yuan's essay on 'Immortality and Robert Silverberg' and John Sladek's idiosyncratic 'Four Reasons for Reading Thomas Disch' conclude the volume. Sladek is excellent value and ends the volume on a far higher note than it began.

All in all, while a bit of a curate's egg overall, a volume which is well worth buying and one which will hopefully reverberate around the SF world. Let us hope it receives the attention it deserves overseas and its controversies continue unabated!

An Interview with JOE HALDEMAN

Part 2

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY
PAUL J. STEVENS
AT UNICON VI EASTER 1980



© GAY HALDEMAN

Q: WHAT ABOUT COVERS? YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES COVERS HAVE BEEN THE SOURCE OF MUCH ARGUMENT BOTH FOR THE READERS AND THE BOOKSELLERS TOO. WHAT ABOUT FROM THE WRITER'S POINT OF VIEW?

A: Well, I myself exercise no control whatsoever over my covers. I could; you can stand up on your own two feet and write into the contract that the cover painting will be on approval of the author. But if you do that, you lose bargaining power in other parts of the contract, and I would rather exercise my power in terms of the rights I retain and the amount of money I get, than have refusal of the cover. I believe most publishers have at least one person who is supposedly an expert on cover art and I have no special training in that. As to the covers of my own books, I have been both enthralled by some and disgusted by some, even from the same publisher, so I can't say anything consistent about them. I get a cover proof about a week before the book comes out and it's too late to do anything about it. For the American hardback of *STUDY WAR* NO MORE they didn't even send me a colour proof of it, because it was so revolting, but they had already paid for the printing so they went ahead and marketed the book with its awful cover. I hit the ceiling in a good natured way when I got one, and they apologised and said they wouldn't do it anymore, and my next book indeed had a very good cover.

Q: WHAT ABOUT THE VALUE OF AWARDS FOR A WRITER, YOU'VE WON BOTH THE NEBULA AND THE HUGO AS WELL AS THE DITMAR. HOW DO YOU VIEW AWARDS?

A: Well, I certainly value the Hugo very much. For one thing, the list of books that have won the Hugo is virtually a pantheon of science fiction books; it seems to be a list of books that hold up over the years. I value the Nebula less, because I know how little science fiction most science fiction writers read, and of course the Nebula is only voted on by science fiction writers. I don't vote very much in the Nebulas or the Hugos because I might read ten science fiction books a year, and that's not enough to base a decision on. I always vote when I have something up and then I vote for myself because I know that nothing anyone else wrote could satisfy me as much as something that I wrote. So I read constantly, I read fanatically, but I don't read science fiction except when

I'm on holiday, like here. When we came overseas I brought along about a dozen science fiction books. Because I'm not writing anything I can read it with pleasure, and I've enjoyed reading it. Put in a plug for Robert Shekley's *CROMPTON DIVIDED*, a marvellously witty book; and a plug for Gene Wolfe, *THE DEVIL IN A FOREST*, which is an elegantly written fantasy, a most terrifying book.

Q: YOU MENTIONED THE SFWA. YOU WERE INVOLVED IN THE SFWA QUITE ACTIVELY UP TO JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO. HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE SFWA IN PROTECTING THE READERS INVOLVEMENT, IN OTHER WORDS GETTING BETTER BOOKS AND STUFF?

A: It has little enough influence on the readers; perforce it can't make any decision about what is good science fiction and what is bad; that's not any part of its function. It serves to protect science fiction writers to a limited extent. It protects writers against bad things being done by publishers, at least those who care what writers think about them. There are a lot of publishers who don't care one way or another whether writers think they're crooks or not; they just continue to function in the face of condemnation. The most obvious successes of SFWA have been in dealing with Ace Books and Pocket Books. Both of them have been in touch with the science fiction community and they realise that an implicit boycott by SFWA would cut off all their supplies of good manuscripts, and so they are willing to make concessions to regain the goodwill of SFWA. There are other publishers who won't respond to letters, let alone boycotts or threats or broken knees; they keep going their merry way.

Q: WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE OF SCIENCE FICTION WRITING, FOR INSTANCE WHEN THE SPUTNIK WENT UP, EVERYBODY

SAID OH THAT'S THE END OF SCIENCE FICTION IT'S NOW SCIENCE FACT, AND IT WASN'T OF COURSE. WHERE DO YOU THINK THE FUTURE OF SCIENCE FICTION WRITING IS GOING?

A: Well, to expand on that a little, I think that reality is not going to intrude on science fiction too profoundly. As far as science fiction as a commercial genre of writing, I think it will continue to go up and down, up and down. The recent enthusiasm over movies like *STAR WARS* and *CLOSE ENCOUNTERS* and *ALIEN* has made a rather big bump, a boom, in science fiction; it will fade away and a new boom will come. This has happened since Hugo Gernsback's days. Science fiction is the smallest mass market, and it has a diehard group of fans, maybe a half a million, who just keep on buying it, who are enthusiastic about it and keep telling their friends about it. It will never fade away, but it will never be as big as gothics or historical romances. As I say, being able to read it for pleasure is a talent, and not that many people have the talent.

Q: WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE FOR YOURSELF WHAT HAVE YOU GOT COMING UP?

A: Of course my future is going to be one success after another, and I'll eventually wind up a millionaire and president of the world and everything. My immediate future involves a trilogy, called the "Worlds Trilogy", the first volume of which I finished before I came to Australia, called *WORLDS*. The second title will be *STARS*, and the third, *GODS*, so it just about covers everything. I don't know if I'll have anything to write about when I finish is. That's going to be my project, probably for the next 3 years. I also am working on a non-fiction book about space industrialization and the history of space exploration, which I hope to finish within a year. There's a possibility that a broadcasting system in America is going to do a mini series of *THE FOREVER WAR*, but we haven't seen anything on paper about it yet, just a lot of enthusiastic phone calls. If they do it I will be writing the original scripts and may have some input beyond that. Disney may be having me do some fact, educational scripts for them and I may write a few limericks now and then, letters, cheques. I don't know what my future is going to be. I do plan out great projects; at any given time I could write down a list of what I'm going to be doing in the next 8 or 10 years and it constantly changes. My agent is after me to write a mainstream book I've been planning, called *1968*, and I think it's going to be quite a good book if I ever get around to it. But it will take about 2 years to write, and right now I don't have 2 years' income cushion to sit down and write a book, which would be very much a gamble. See, when I write a science fiction book I know that it's going to sell a certain number of copies. I know that the publisher knows this and so will give me a living wage for it. But when I go into a mainstream book, well, I'm just another unknown author. A few science fiction readers will buy it but that's not enough to justify a large advance on a book, and for 2

years work I need a pretty large advance. He would like me to do it and a couple of editors want me to do it. He would also like me to do a horror book because that's where the big commercial money is now. (One of his other clients is Stephen King). I would probably like to do a horror book too, but not until I have finished the trilogy, and by then the horror thing will be passe. So I'll probably write the best horror book ever written but nobody will see it because the market will have evaporated.

Q: FINALLY, WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR -SELF AS AN OPTIMISTIC WRITER OR A PESSIMISTIC WRITER?

A: Yes. No, I'm an optimistic person but I tend to be a pessimistic writer. I think I enjoy tragedy more than comedy, in written form, although I'm a pretty comical person normally. There seems to be a generalisation you can make about writers: that the black-ass ones who write about the world ending and great plagues and things like that, tend to be practical jokers and public lampshade type people, and the people who write funny stuff sit in a corner, chew on a cigar, and cuss about the human race. It seems to be true, like two of the funniest people I know Gardner Dozois and Gene Wolfe and they both write these morbid, gut-wrenching things that make you lose all faith in human nature, but you get them sitting at a coffee table and they automatically start doing characterisations and jokes and keep you in stitches.

Q: WELL FINALLY, HAVE YOU GOT ANY VALUE OUT OF BEING BROUGHT TO AUSTRALIA TO MEET THE READERS OF SCIENCE FICTION FANTASY HERE? DO YOU THINK IT'S WORTHWHILE OTHER WRITERS FOLLOWING IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS?

A: Certainly the Australian market is not that large, but it's there, it's English speaking and so travelling in Australia is a pleasure; you don't have to go flipping through the phrase book. As a traveller it has been quite a worthwhile experience. As far as expanding my own market in Australia, in terms of cost effectiveness it's probably not worth coming here. We'll probably spend about 4,000 dollars traipsing around this vast continent. How many years will it take to sell \$4,000 worth of books in Australia? I'd do it again, of course. It's been marvellous!

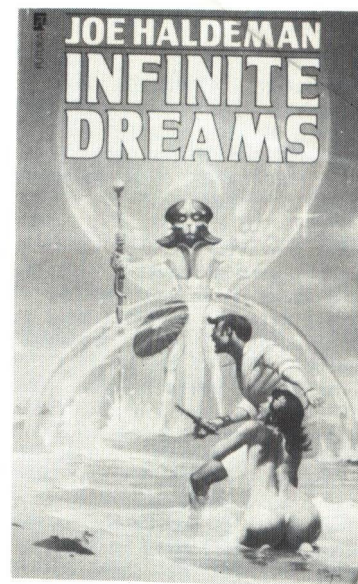
Q: CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING HISTORIC AND EARTHSHAKING TO FINISH ON?

A: I'll tell you something that's historic and earthshaking. I never realised that when you look up in the sky in Australia, the moon is upside down. That really shook me when I saw that. I have been looking at the moon all my life: I'd never seen it upside down before. I expected the stars to be different; that was a big thing, then I realised that if you looked at Jupiter through a telescope it would be upside down too; everything's upside down and I had this sudden dislocation, when I realised that my feet were where

my head should be and that everything's topsy-turvy. I recovered very quickly, but I almost fell down when I realised the moon was crooked.

I just got my first Israeli edition, in Hebrew, and if I didn't already know it was THE FOREVER WAR (appropriate, don't you think?) there would be no way I could tell. Same with Japanese and Greek. The Dutch editions are fascinating, though; knowing English, you can almost read them.

* * *



MELBOURNE

IN '82

2,000,000 TRIFFIDS CAN'T BE WRONG!

\\ / Y Y Y Y Y JLP

ANNOUNCING MELBOURNE'S BID FOR THE 1982 NATIONAL SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION CHAIRED BY JUSTIN ACKROYD

People and Publishing

PENGUIN BOOKS will publish ROOMS OF PARADISE edited by Lee Harding and THE DREAMING DRAGONS by Damien Broderick in June, in Australia. The cover art of the latter is by MARILYN PRIDE. The FUTURA editions of RINGWORLD ENGINEERS and SNOW QUEEN were due for release by TUDOR DISTRIBUTORS (Doubleday Australia) in May for LARRY NIVEN's NUCON attendance, but they were delayed due to a dock strike. HUTCHINSON (Australia) are expecting air-freighted copies of THE GOD EMPEROR OF DUNE, from Gollancz in May. Let us hope they turn up in time for FRANK HERBERT's attendance at ADVENTION. Details on other recent and forthcoming Australian releases will appear next issue.

ACE Books have signed TERRY CARR to edit a new series of Ace Specials. Most will appear in TPB editions first. Carr says he is interested in doing sf, not fantasy novels by established and new authors. The original Ace Specials series introduced some very good titles such as LEFT HAND OF DARKNESS by Le Guin and RITE OF PASSAGE by Alexei Panshin.

(Locus)

GREGG PRESS, the US specialty publisher who has been producing library-cum-collectors' editions of sf and f titles since 1975, has announced a cut back in their programme. (See BOOKS, Published and Announced). Although the publishers of GALAXY and GALILEO have not gone bankrupt, it is now most unlikely the magazines will be published again by them and they are currently up for sale.



CHARLES PLATT

CHARLES PLATT, who has sold a four part family saga type historical novel to WARNER, has decided to produce a 'hard hitting' review magazine with the proceeds. He has also sold a second volume of his author-interview book, DREAM MAKERS 2. MARTA RANDALL sold a new fantasy novel to DELL, but seeing that they have dropped their f&sf line we wonder when or if it will ever be published.

(Locus)

THE FINAL QUEST we note is not the final book in the "Parsival" series by Richard Monaco. The second title, THE GRAIL WAR has only been issued in TPB in the USA but is due for publication shortly by Sphere in the UK. CARL SAGAN, whose TV series COSMOS we hear will be shown on ABC TV here soon, has sold his first novel to Simon and Schuster for a \$2 million advance. His Pulitzer Prize winning book THE DRAGONS OF EDEN has 200,000 in hc alone. The book of the TV series, COSMOS, is due for publication in Australia soon by Doubleday

(Australia) in the MacDonal UK printing. The novel, CONTACT, is about man's first contact with extraterrestrial beings, but at this stage it is only in the form of plot synopsis and outline. The completed manuscript is not expected by the publishers till January 1982. This is the highest amount paid for a novel before it has been written. A very, very large amount has also been paid for film rights, it is reported.

(Locus)

THE WORLD SCIENCE FICTION organization has reformed with FREDRICK POHL as the president subject to his acceptance, GERALD BISHOP secretary and past president HARRY HARRISON as treasurer. KEITH LAUMER has sold a new novel in the Lafayette O'Leary series to Ace. Also due for publication by Ace this year is Gordon Dickson's THE FINAL ENCYCLOPEDIA, Roger Zelazny's MADWAND, Larry Niven's THE MAGIC MAY RETURN and DREAM PARK by Niven and Barnes. A further title to be done in the new DEL REY TPB Gold Seal Selections is UNDER PRESSURE by Frank Herbert. A new novel by ANTHONY BURGESS, entitled EARTHLY POWERS has sold in excess of 50,000 copies in the US. A non sf novel by THOMAS DISCH and CHARLES NAYLOR, set in last century London, called NEIGHBOURING LIVES was published by Scribner in February. LILITH is the first in a new series, "Four Lords of the Diamond" by Jack Chalker, to be published in the fall by Del Rey. The second in the series should also be completed by now.

Russian SF author OLES BERDNYK was arrested in Kiev in March, and it was expected he would be charged with "anti-Soviet propaganda and agitation" or "dissemination of fabrications known to be false which defame the Soviet state and social system". Among his better known works are THE WAY OF TITANS (1959), CHILDREN OF INFINITY (1964), and THE FLAMING HORSEMAN (1967). If the charges are true there seems to be very little that his readers throughout the world can do, but it may help to write a letter of protest to your local Russian embassy.

(Locus)

A report in MIKE ASHLEY'S column in "Fantasy Newsletter" in May says that a British author of horror type stories had his latest effort turned down by American publishers on the ground that it was set in England. Rewrite it and set it in New York, they said, and we will be interested. As Mike said in his column, next up they will expect "Watership Down" in Kansas. Australian writers I believe have struck a similar problem, but as Mike Ashley said about the British writers, I hope they will continue to set their stories in the environment they are familiar with. Good writing should be good writing wherever it is set. The publishers in the USA are as paranoid as the film distributors, who insist in dubbing US voices onto Australian films. You had better believe it!

THE DESTROYERS OF LAN KERN by PETER TREMAYNE, the second in this historical fantasy series is due out in Spring UK, from Bailey Brothers and Swinfin. DAVID BISCHOFF is working on a book to be done in a full colour TPB edition,

produced by Ian SUMMERS with art work by Dog BEEKMAN, and to be published by Bantam. Bischoff has also collaborated with TOM MONTELEONE on THE SELKIE, a horror/suspense novel. THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK has been banned in Sweden, the film that is, for under 15 year olds as being too violent and frightening. Ace will publish THE BORRIBLES GO FOR BROKE by Michael Larrabeiti and they will also do IF THE STARS ARE GODS by Gordon Eklund, which was originally done by Berkley. TIMESCAPE by Gregory Benford, the NEBULA Winner, has been edited slightly for British publication because of references to the Royal Family. That is, the Gollancz edition will be, but the Sphere pb edition will stick to the original US text and risk the wrath of Prince Charles, who is reported to be an sf reader.

(SFC and FN)

THE VANISHING TOWER by Michael Moorcock is the first in an illustrated "Elric" series to be illustrated by Michael Whelan and published by Archival Press. PLAYBOY PRESS has bought the next three books in what started out to be a trilogy by Robert E. Vardeman, "The War Of The Powers". A \$250,000 offer has been made for film rights to Ursula Le Guin's EARTHSEA trilogy. A new series of horror and supernatural books to be called "Full Moon Books" will be distributed by Ballantine. The editor of the series, Joan Hetxig, was formerly with NAL and she is looking for well-written material in the tradition of Stephen King, Peter Straub etcetera. F&SF BOOK Company, one of the oldest established sf specialist booksellers in the USA suffered warehouse damage last November. They did not lose a lot of stock but an employee, Frank Prietro who lived in the building lost a considerable amount of his own personal collection.

(SFC)

CORNERSTONE BOOKS in Westchester, Illinois, USA, published their first sf book, ALPHA CENTAURI by Robert Siegel in a 5000-copy edition recently. It sold out quickly, but Timescape will do a paperback. A second title by Siegel, WAHALR SONG will be published it is expected in August. DRAGONS OF DARKNESS by Orson Scott Card, a companion to his "Dragons of Light", will be published by Ace in September. We used an incorrect report in the last NEWS from SF Chronicle, regarding an ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FANTASY, which stated that the editor was Peter Roberts. In fact it is Peter Nicholls, the same man who did THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SF, who is attempting to find a US market for the book and consequently get British publication also.

(SFC)

Gordon Larkin in SFChronicle reports that the 1950s radio serial JOURNEY INTO SPACE by Charles Chilton is to be continued in a 90 minute special in March. It has been written by the originator, Charles Chilton and will carry on where the last story left off with the old crew returning from Mars. Michael Moorcock's new non-fantasy novel BYZANTIUM ENDURES was due to be published by Secker and Warburg in April, and by Random House in the USA. It is the first volume in a sequence set between 1900 and 1940 featuring a man born in the Ukraine, during the Russian Revolution and Civil War. THE STEEL

TSAR is the final volume in the Oswald Bastable sequence, following "Warlord of The Air" and "Land Leviathan" and it will be published by Granada in the UK and DAW in the US. Granada are doing a one volume hc of the entire sequence and are also planning a one volume hc of the 'Dancers at the End of Time' series. Savoy publishers despite rumours of problems have announced along with many other titles, THE BROTHEL ON ROSENSTRASSE by Moorcock set in the 1890s. Moorcock titles announced by the defunct Pierrot Press, HEROIC DREAMS, ENCHANTED WORLDS, THE ENTROPY TANGO and ELRIC AT THE END OF TIME are now postponed indefinitely. Also coming up is THE WAR HOUND AND THE WORLD'S PAIN for Pocket Books and Fontana.

(SFC)

Dramatised sf on radio is the thing in Britain at the moment. Following the great popularity of "Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy" came HORDES OF THE THINGS, which was not very good but gave a good demonstration of the way in which very good effects can be achieved on radio. EARTHSEARCH, a serial by James Follett, is the story of a starship on a long mission to find suitable planets for Earth colonization. THE FIRST MEN IN THE MOON starring Hywel Bennet and William Rushton was broadcast in January and starting in March is 26 half-hourly episode version of THE LORD OF THE RINGS. The cast of 50 includes many well known actors.

(SFC)

Advance announcements from FUTURA include CLASH OF THE TITANS by Alan Dean Foster, THE PRIESTS OF PSI by Frank Herbert, FIRESTARTER by Stephen King, SONGMASTER by Orson Scott Card, THE LEFT HAND OF DARKNESS by Ursula LeGuin, EYES OF AMBER by Joan Vinge, ROADMARKS by Roger Zelazny, BEYOND THE BLUE EVENT HORIZON by Frederick Pohl, SPELLSINGER by Allan Dean Foster, JANISSARIES by Jerry Pournelle, UNACCOMPANIED SONATA by Orson Scott Card and THE BARBIE MURDERS by John Varley.

Ace have announced a new three volume fantasy series to be edited by Terri Windling, and the first volume, ELSEWHERE will be published in October. The series will include a wide range of fantasy from classical to modern but not sword and sorcery. HOLT, RINEHART & WINSTON publishers have decided to start a hc sf line. They will publish the annual Nebula Award collections from now on. They have published a number of quite important sf titles in the past such as RINGWORLD, WORLD OUT OF TIME and RINGWORLD ENGINEERS by Larry Niven. They also did the Stephen Donaldson "Thomas Covenant" series, but they have not made a conscious effort to produce an sf or f series. Two associated titles will be published this year, AIRS OF THE KINGDOM by Kennedy and THE WINE OF VIOLENCE by James Morrow. 1982 will get off to a good start with MINDKILLER by Spider Robinson and DRAMOCLES by Robert Sheckley. Looking back again on this publishers history in SF they did publish CROMPTON DIVIDED by Sheckley, THE HUMANOID TOUCH by Jack Williamson and back in the 40s they did the classic L.Sprague De Camp titles LEST DARKNESS FALL and LAND OF UNREASON plus the INCOMPLETE ENCHANTER with Fletcher Pratt. Also we must not overlook the Winston

juvenile series which included many very well known titles. DOUBLEDAY publishers who have for many years been one of the leading sf hc publishers, have cut their line from two to one title per month plus one in Spring and in fall. They have produced books cheaply and paid small advances to authors. They have had their successes, but we cannot think of any really big sellers recently except MOCKINGBIRD and the Van Lustbader "Sunset Warrior" series. In future they will be looking for more titles like MOCKINGBIRD that can be marketed, out of category.

(Locus)

L.RON HUBBARD, former pulp writer and founder of Dianetics, has written a 438,800-word sf novel MAN: THE ENDANGERED SPECIES to celebrate his fiftieth anniversary as a professional writer. HARLAN ELLISON'S book SHATTERDAY sold out in the hc edition and will be published by Berkley in pb. THE ESSENTIAL ELLISON by Richard Delap, will be also be done by Berkley. TIMESCAPE will reduce the size of their logo soon, which is a good thing as we thought it most certainly distracted attention from the illustration. The Simon and Schuster edition of AN ISLAND CALLED MOREAU by Brian Aldiss, was sold out within a month of publication. CRUISER DREAMS, the sequel to "Dream Dancers" by Janet Morris will be published by Putnam in hc in the fall. UNDER HEAVENS BRIDGE by Michael Bishop and Ian Watson will be published in Ace, following the UK hc edition from Gollancz. CAPELLA'S GOLDEN EYES by Christopher Evens is another title of British origin bought by Ace. Two other Ace acquisitions are STRENGTH OF STONES, FLESH OF BRASS by Greg Bear and THE WATER WITCH by Cynthia Felice and Connie Willis. At least one recent title Doubleday have done well with is TIMETIPPING by Jack Dann, which has gone back for a second printing. A novel we believe in her Count St.Germain series, PATH OF THE SILENCE by Chelsea Quinn Yarbro, was due to be published in April after being delayed in its original hc St Martin's edition.

(Locus)

KIT WILLIAMS fantasy novel MASQUERADE went into a 5th printing in March in the Shoken edition and has sold over 350,000 in the Cape(UK) edition. It is to be adapted for a stage musical. THOMAS MONTELEONE and DAVID BISCHOFF have sold a novel to ANALOG, DRAGONSTAR, which will be serialised in four parts starting in August. CHARLES SHEFFIELD's non-fiction book EARTHWATCH will be published in July in simultaneous editions in five countries, including Sidgwick and Jackson in the UK and MacMillan in the US. Ace will publish a novel, HIDDEN VARIABLES by Sheffield in July also. FRANK FRAZETTA has moved to the West coast of the USA and is working with RALPH BAKSHI on a movie featuring characters created by Frazetta. THE WAR HOUND AND THE WORLDS'S PAIN by Michael Moorcock will be published by Timescape in the USA.

(Locus)

ALAN GARNER, BRIAN FROUD, and PETER BEAGLE will be Guests of Honour at this year's World Fantasy Convention to be held in Berkley, California, over Halloween. POUL ANDERSON has sold a million words to TOR/PINNACLE Books

for packaging as short story collections. ART SAHA has replaced LIN CARTER as editor of DAW's YEAR'S BEST FANTASY. STEPHEN KING's latest novel, CUJO, will be published by Viking.

(Locus)

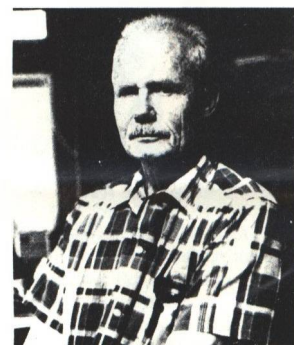
We knew that JOVE paperbacks had been bought out by BERKLEY, but we were puzzled by the fact that JOVE imprint titles are still appearing. A recent Locus report has clarified the situation a little in that the two imprints were. still operating within the Berkley house separately until April, when they combined. They also announced that the Berkley/Putnam hc sf line is to be terminated. The pb line will continue as strong as ever, but sf will not be published in hc on a regular basis. Titles by FRANK HERBERT and JOHN VARLEY, whose new novel, third in the "Titan" series, DEMON, will appear along with other big name authors in hc it seems. A new trade pb series is to be done and DEMON will be one of the first of those. Berkley will also be starting a series of horror books.

(Locus)

The review magazine mentioned before to be edited by CHARLES PLATT will be called THE PATCHIN REVIEW. His address is on Patchin Place. Algis Budrys, Harlan Ellison, Alfred Bester and Ed Bryant have promised contributions and columns. MADWAND by Roger ZELAZNY is the sequel to "Changeling" and will be published by ACE first in TPB in October. COILS by Zelazny and Sabheragen will be published by TOR/PINNACLE. Ace have bought STARSCHOOL by Joe and Jay Haldeman. A new novel by MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY will appear first as hc from Knopf and later from Del Rey in pb. It is titled MISTRESS OF MAGIC.

(Locus)

OBITUARY



STEPHEN TALL/COMPTON CROOK

COMPTON N.CROOK known to sf readers as Stephen Tall, died at his home in Phoenix, Maryland in January, after a long illness. After winning the "Boys Life" writing contest at the age of 16, he went on to become a field ecologist and was an expert ornithologist. He interrupted his early education to become a newspaper reporter for a short time. He sold short stories in the 30s and 40s to various publications and in the 1950s he began writing sf. Many of his sf stories were collected in THE STAR DUST VOYAGES. His last work was THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE WALL. He left another novel about three-quarters finished when he died. He is survived by his wife, a son, two daughters and three grandchildren. He was 72.

REVIEWS

TIN WOODMAN by Dennis Bailey & David Bischoff
Sidgwick & Jackson HC \$15.95 rrp.

An unremarkable novel about contact with an alien spacecraft which is not inhabited but is itself alive. The survey ship can only contact the alien by using a Talent, that is a person of psionic abilities. These talents are hated by ordinary people yet they are raised to be of service to man. When a talent of extreme sensitivity is sent to contact the alien he deserts the humans and joins the alien which then departs to join others of its kind elsewhere. The captain of the earthship which discovered the alien pursues, believing the talent in collaboration with the alien to be threat to humankind.

The aliens are not what they appear to be to the talent, nor are they the threat the earthship captain thinks they are. Nor is this novel as good as it promises to be. As a short story Tin Woodman was nominated for a Nebula. Now after having been expanded to a novel I doubt if it could be nominated for anything.

John Litchen

WHEELS WITHIN WHEELS
by F. Paul Wilson
Sidgwick & Jackson HC \$15.95 rrp.
Review by John Litchen

This is F. Paul Wilson's second novel and it is set in the same cultural/galactic context as was his first novel, HEALER. Some minor references are made to events which occurred in HEALER. One of the minor characters in this book also appears in the other.

Like most SF stories the plot is somewhat fantastic with one of the main characters - Josephine Finch, Director of a firm called Interstellar Business Advisers - getting involved in a plot which could bring chaos to the galaxy. In the process of preventing this threat to the La Nague Federation she solves the mystery of her father's bizarre death on an obscure planet, almost ruins a large business corporation (not her own), shakes up interstellar politics, and almost starts a war.

The novel is patchy and the characters don't quite come alive. I felt the best part of the book was the section about the religion on the planet where her father died. In spite of the above it is still a reasonable effort and worth spending some time to have a look at it.

WALK TO THE END OF THE WORLD by Suzy McKee Charnas
Gollancz \$14.20 rrp
MOTHERLINES by Suzy McKee Charnas
Gollancz \$15.95 rrp

Many years after an atomic disaster has

destroyed most of the world's population both animal and human, a small band of survivors emerges from a refuge to begin a new life.

In the society which develops men have absolute control and women are nothing but slaves to be used as toys or playthings, as well as to do most of the manual labour. They are degraded creatures whose slightest misdemeanour is punished severely.

The men concern themselves with each other their love affairs are homosexual - and with their status in society. Their only heterosexual activity is a once-a-month stint in the breeding pens.

The women or Fems naturally hate and despise men and their concerns are for their own survival, and one of the ways in which they do this is to help breed subservient fems by weeding out any that show aggressiveness, self-reliance or any qualities of independence. This gives the men the large numbers of slaves they think they need, while a small group of women who were clever enough to hide their cleverness and thus avoid being killed while young have managed to survive into adulthood. These rebels dream of overthrowing the men and controlling society themselves. They pretend to be ignorant while secretly educating themselves through songs and poetry. Information is passed through songs and history is told with myths. Their only hope of achieving their aims is to enlist the aid of the free-fems which they believe exist outside the Holdfast, beyond the known world. However, no one who has ever ventured outside of the Holdfast has ever returned to confirm the rumours of a free-fem society.

A rebel, Aldera is chosen to leave the Holdfast, cross the badlands, and find if possible the free-fems with the object of getting them to come and help overthrow the men of the Holdfast.

The only way Aldera can travel is as a slave so she connives to attach herself to a couple of men who are travelling to the end of the world upon their own quest. She chooses to leave at a time when there are grave problems in the society she knows because of food shortages. And as she and her companions arrive at the end of the world her society has already begun to collapse around her. Her two companions are killed and she escapes into the badlands.

There is much more to this intricately woven novel than the brief description above. The details of the Holdfast and its history are quite fascinating. The inner society of the women, their loves, intrigues, hates, myths and legends, are all skilfully woven together. The story is told from three separate viewpoints: Aldera, and each of the two men with whom she is travelling. This novel definitely proves that women authors have got it all together and are showing a lot of the men how to do it.

However, when we come to MOTHERLINES, which is a sequel to WALK TO THE END OF THE WORLD, we find a novel which is quite disappointing. Not because of

the quality of the writing, but because it is so long and nothing much happens. Again we follow Aldera as she discovers the free-fems and the different kinds of groups they have formed into. After living with wild women who are crazy about horses, who reproduce parthenogenetically, she finds that she doesn't fit in, so she joins the free-fems who are really escaped slaves from the Holdfast. They won't help her initially so she rejoins the wild horsewomen. Eventually other free-fems join her and they make their way back to the Holdfast to find everything destroyed. At least that is what they think they will find. We never find out since the novel finishes there. We will have to wait for another sequel to find what happened to the Holdfast.

There are too many changes of viewpoint in MOTHERLINES. It is too long and turgid, and though some details are fascinating the whole thing is a bore. It would have been far better a third the length and used as a prelude to what Aldera and her friends find when they return to the Holdfast.

Overall though, Suzy McKee Charnas has created a very believable world wherein many stories could be found. What is the rest of the world like outside of the tiny area which is the Holdfast and its immediate environs? The possibilities are endless. Many stories and ideas are suggested in the myths and legends the women tell to each other and I sincerely hope the author will explore some of these avenues in the near future:

John Litchen

INTERWORLD by Isidore Haiblum
Penguin Books, 221 pgs; \$3.95
Review by Chris Bernie

Lin Carter describes this book on the cover as, 'Electric-staccato-exciting', and goes on to state, 'Reading Haiblum is like hitch-hiking on a runaway meteor'. Gerald Jones of the New York Times says of it, 'If you have ever wondered what The Big Sleep would sound like if Raymond Chandler were reincarnated as Roger Zelazny, this is your book.'

For us lesser mortals who are not used to riding runaway meteors and have no desire to read Raymond Chandler reincarnated as Roger Zelazny but do enjoy reading a good science fiction novel, then we have problems.

The tale is about one, Tom Dunjer, who operates a security service in an independent American city state on an alternate time line in which federal power has fallen apart from lack of money. A strange and new substance, called Linzeteum, placed in a maximum security vault under Dunjer's care, has been inexplicably and against all normal expectation stolen.

It turns out that Linzeteum is an essential component in a device used to cross from one time to another. It has been stolen by a syndicated crime boss type who hopes thereby to gain control of his own and several other parallel worlds. Tom Dunjer's aim is

to recover the substance and bring the crime boss to justice. This all sounds simple and straightforward enough but from the outset confusion reigns. The story line is so interlaced with flashes-back, flashes-forward and flashes-sideways to parallel and in-between worlds that it is often difficult to tell which is the true one. One often suspects that the author does not know and what is more does not care.

The science content, apart from a few big words and phrases is non-existent. The character development is minimal.

If you are impressed by the few words quoted above then maybe this is for you. It does little for me.

It is hard to know what connection the naked man on the cover has with the story.

Chris Bennie

VOYAGE OF THE EIGHTH MIND by John Lymington, 192 pgs; Hodder & Stoughton, HC \$17.95

Another alien invasion story, not perhaps that much different from dozens of others, except that Lymington writes better than most. The story develops more slowly than many, has greater depth, and a certain, if unspectacular and unheroic ending. The aliens were not as smart as they thought they were, and for that matter, mankind not quite as dumb as they are often believed. Background is quiet and convincing, genuine England. The characters round out nicely; homely, convincing, and yet, somewhat forgettable.

By no means a great book, but solid and worth reading.

John Alderson

INTO THE SLAVE NEBULA by John Brunner 176 pgs; Millington, 5.95p

A slight book with a thin, not very convincing plot, and nothing memorable about its theme. The reader should guess fairly soon in their reading that the very human-like androids are in fact processed humans. Can only wonder why no interfering busybody, with whom the present earth at any rate is bursting, did not do a few elementary biological checks. Far from this, our hero must needs be caught himself and processed, or partly so, for he is cruelly left with the knowledge of his humanity. In this and so much else the plot requires a plenitude of chance to keep it creaking along. Construction-wise it's terrible, but then construction is one of Brunner's prime lacks. Otherwise the characterisation etc is good.

There is one thing we might query .. it's part and parcel of most sf. The colonised planets are thinly populated and immigrants move further and further out to remoter and remoter planets. On earth the bulk of immigrants pour into the nearest country often with scant regard for the fact that that country has more than enough people now. We would surmise that if and when the planets are colonised, the same

will happen, that the first planet will have to burst at the seams before anyone moves onto the next.

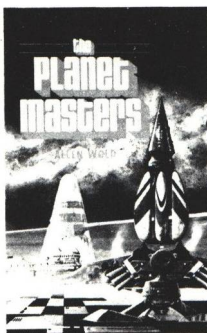
John Alderson

THE PLANET MASTERS by Allen Wold, 230 pgs. Sidgwick & Jackson, 6.50p UK.

An interesting and well-written 'first' novel, even if at times it seems to have borrowed a lot of elements from westerns. The plot is fast moving, complicated enough, and the characters well-drawn, though they seem too familiar for lasting memory. The fact that the hero's forebears came from the planet of Seltique is too obvious too soon, the author has over-played that bit.

Although advancement in the society of Seltique is mainly by murder, the real running of the society remains a mystery. It's alright for politicians to run around killing each other but who feeds and clothes the society etc etc? To make it worse, the hero is another of these boring supermen, with special emphasis on ruthlessness. When he achieves his ambitions and gains his goal the reader is not sympathetic to his plight. The book, whilst a cut above the ordinary, has many faults.

J.A.



SIGHT OF PROTEUS by Charles Sheffield 282 pgs. Sidgwick & Jackson, 6.50p UK (\$17.95 Aust) Review by John Alderson

This is a first novel, again of high standard though structurally a little weak. The theme is the well worn one of boosting up a failing economy by getting to the stars. The logic escapes us.

Basically the society has degenerated to the point where everybody uses a special bio-feedback method of altering their body structure until the question arises, are they still men? The answer that anything, man, animal, alien or machine who is capable of using this technique, is a man, is also a piece of logic which escapes our pedestrian minds.

Unfortunately the important characters change themselves to such an extent that they are virtual supermen....and I find supermen crushing bores.

THE EARTH BOOK OF STORMGATE 1 by Poul Anderson, 144 pgs. NEL 95p UK Review by J. Alderson

Six stories by Anderson dealing with alien contact, though only the first story actually is such directly. The rest are oblique about it. The Ythri

would be an interesting race though we don't think Anderson made them such. Even the clash of cultures in the story, "The Problem of Pain", does not explore anything that does not happen between differing races of men..our views of death and how to face it differ even more than that of the Ythri.

Poul Anderson is a competent writer but this book won't excite anyone.

John Alderson

AN INFINITE SUMMER by Christopher Priest, 189 pgs. Pan 1.25p UK Review by John Alderson

Dedicated to enough local fans to make its publication a success! Five short stories by an author who is ranked rather highly, not so much for what he has written but for what we hope he will write. There is a certain delicate fragility about some of these stories, none of which sees any world saved or planet set free, in fact the author seems to be a bit of a pessimist. Nevertheless, the stories stir the imagination and wake echoes of the fact that the world is a lovely place and "only man is vile".

"Palely Loitering" is a complex story of time travel paradoxes....one of the hero's other selves gets the girl. There is an underlie of sadness in the story, the sadness, even the bitterness of lost opportunities. Time travel paradoxes are commonplace, but few are so subtle, and very few so well-written, as this.

And "subtle", and "delicate" are words to use of these stories and of this writer.

John Alderson

SPACE 6 Edited by Richard Davis 168 pgs; Hutchinson 4.50p UK Reviewed by John J. Alderson

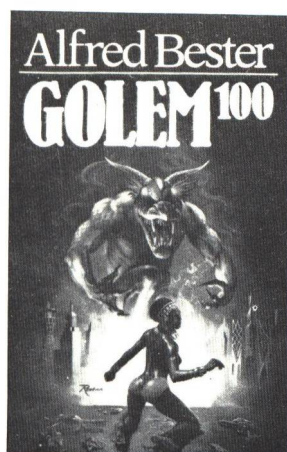
Ten stories of quite varied styles, differing ages, and all good. One suspects that the collection is destined for juveniles and hence the considerable number of 'junior' characters in the stories. On analysis the stories break into two groups, the first two by Wyndham (1956) and Bradbury (1951) and the rest, all dated 1979.

We wonder though, how many will appreciate the satire of "Krobar the Unbelievable" and the deliciousness of a not too bright youth with a pile of comics he believes to be true, saying of a book by von Manikin, "And be careful of that book, it's a first edition." (The tilt is at von Danikin of course). It also highlights the danger of time machines; they don't seem too reliable.

One of the better anthologies.

John Alderson

AUSTRALIA '83



GOLEM 100 by Alfred Bester
Sidgwick & Jackson HC \$19.50 arp
Pan PB \$ 4.95 arp
Reviewed by George Turner

Let's settle straight away that those who hanker for the sizzling story telling of *THE DEMOLISHED MAN* and *THE STARS MY DESTINATION* will have their hopes dashed here. The magic is gone by. What appears in its place may appeal to many - particularly to those who enjoy sadistic sex piled on pseudo-mysticism - but leaves this reviewer pining for the Bester of the 1950s.

In the densely populated world of the 22nd century (the usual Bester world of uninhibited violence and offbeat talents) eight wealthy ladies combat boredom by trying to raise the Devil. They fail in this but, unknown to themselves, succeed in tapping the awesome world of the collective unconscious and in liberating a creature which is a vastly magnified personification of their basic urges violence and lust.

With the 'thing' on a sex-murder rampage, Gretchen Nunn, a professional 'miracle-worker' and Ind'dni (the apostrophe in that quirky name usually represents a glottal stop, making it irritatingly impossible to pronounce), a Hindu policeman, are called in. The bulk of the novel details their realisation of what the eight bored ladies have done and their efforts to undo the damage. They succeed, after a fashion, but it wouldn't be fair to Bester to disclose what that fashion is.

There are two big problems with this book. The lesser one is the nature of the sub-world which, though responsive on a psychic plane has a physical reality. Bester remains cagey and vague about its nature; you have to accept the anomaly and ask no questions. At least he doesn't make the mistake, as in his earlier novels dealing with telepathy and teleportation, of giving so much detail as to finally destroy his conception with the piling up of inconsistencies.

The larger problem is his use of illustration as part of the text. (Nothing new here; Laurence Sterne did it in *TRISTRAM SHANDY* in 1759.) Bester is on record as claiming to seek a new fusion of text and illustration; if

so, his attempt here is lamentable. What he in fact does is replace difficult descriptive writing with visual presentation and, since the sub-world which is the scene of most of these visuals is indescribable in subjective terms, he is forced to use symbolic sketches. There are about a hundred of these, mostly concentrated in three great lumps, and all except a few loosely related to Rorschach blots are total failures. Not only are the symbols for the most part utterly trite but they help not at all in giving form to the unknowable (some good prose, which was never Bester's strong point, would have been far more effective) but the artwork itself is naively crude where only immense impact would serve.

This desperate tricksiness persists throughout the book - in the helplessly bad imitation of social comedy in the chit-chat of the eight ladies, in the misuse of unusual words (eg. he seems to think that the thieves' cant 'goniff' - more correctly 'gonoph' - meant 'swindler'), in the dreary erudition which has the words of the 'Internationale' repeated quite pointlessly in six languages, in endless pages of not very good dialogue adding up each time to a solitary plot point.

GOLEM 100 has an excellent idea for a highspeed thriller but the author's love of vaudeville effects for their own sake slows it down to a pseudo-intellectual imitation of 'mindblow-modern'. As a straight yarn, without the tawdry decoration, it could have been a crackerjack. As it is, the reader is asked to watch the antics of the author instead of the development of his plot and characters.

George Turner

BEYOND THE BLUE EVENT HORIZON
by Frederik Pohl;
Gollancz (hc); \$16.50
Del Rey (pb); \$3.50

This is a better novel than *GATEWAY*, though it suffers by having to deal with *GATEWAY*'s leftovers. The story is extremely intricate but Pohl does manage to get it all more or less together.

A Heechee food factory has been discovered on the outer edge of the solar system and Robin Broadhead (the anti-hero of *GATEWAY*) finances a manned probe to investigate it. The crew of the probe are an incredibly unlikely lot that only the nitwitted administrators of a Pohl novel could select, but at least they are lively even if they are the kind who couldn't run a picnic, let alone an exploratory expedition.

Pohl has quite a stack of surprise moves up his sleeve, including a 130-day cycle of fevered hallucinations for the people of Earth, a second Heechee satellite, another set of aliens left behind by the Heechee and some clues as to where the Heechee went. (Describing conditions where they went should give better men than Pohl a headache in the event of a third volume; it

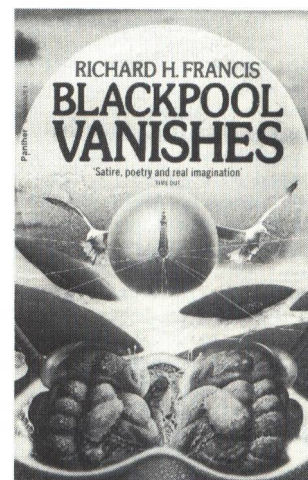
would be a challenge for any writer or scientist.)

For the rest, there is a fourteen-year-old sexpot who should be stuffed for a glass case rather than a bed, some very neat ideas about surprises the future may hold and a new girl friend for Robin Broadhead, whose guilt over desertion of Klara in the previous novel seems to be healing nicely.

She, incidentally, is still falling forever through the event horizon of Sagittarius YY. It might make an interesting finale if the Heechee were to get her out and send her screeching after the louse that left her there.

I think *GATEWAY* was meant to be impressive; this one is just fun and games.

George Turner



BLACKPOOL VANISHES
by Richard H. Francis
Granada Paperback \$3.25 arp

This must surely be the most unspectacular of all disaster novels. The city of Blackpool, famous Lancashire holiday resort, vanishes. It has, in fact, been miniaturised by some microcosmic invaders and hidden in a hole in the sand.

Why? Who knows? Indeed, who cares? And that is the real point of this entertaining, very English novel. The miniaturised Blackpudlians observe that something is unusual about the city boundaries but refuse to be upset by what they don't understand; the government or the fire brigade or 'somebody in charge' will fix it.

Puzzled investigators on the outside, unable to fix it or even to decide what the 'it' is, remain more concerned with their personal problems. Eventually Blackpool reappears and all is well. With masterly inactivity covering some helpless bumbling, Britain has muddled through again.

The satire is gentle, the observation acute, the characterisation adequate beyond the normal call of sf duty. A novel for those who enjoy some quiet fun with a subtle funster.

George Turner

BOOKS

PUBLISHED & ANNOUNCED

This column each issue of the NEWS will list all the new fantasy, science fiction and associated publications. The output and announcements of each and every publisher will be covered in minor detail. So lets get on with it.

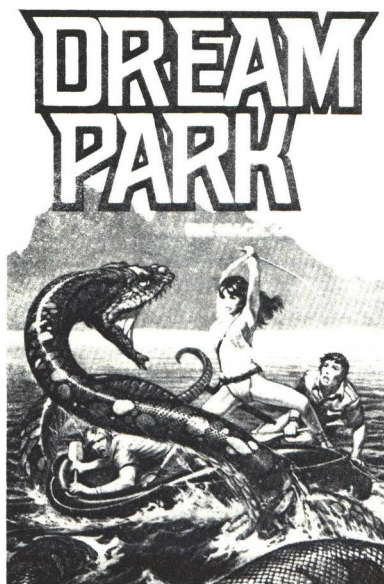
ABELARD (U.K.) Hard Covers

This publisher's sf publications are usually for young readers as is the case with both these titles. **THE PARADISE EQUATION** is a collection by David Hutchinson and **SCHOOL ON THE MOON** is a new novel by the popular Hugh Walters.

ACE (U.S.A) Paperbacks and Trade Paperbacks as marked.

In January we saw the small edition of **THE BLACK FLAME** by Lynn Abbey, which is the sequel to "Daughter of the Bright Moon", an S&S fantasy. **WARRIOR'S BLOOD** by Richard McEnroe is a Buck Rogers sequel based on an idea by Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle. **AFTER THE FALL** is a collection of stories edited by Robert Sheckley, which was first published by Sphere last year. **QUEST CROSSTIME** is a reprint of an early Andre Norton title. **EXPANDED UNIVERSE** by Robert Heinlein is a TPB book of stories and essays. Fred Pohl and his son have got together for **SCIENCE FICTION:STUDIES IN FILM** in TPB, which is one of the best ever surveys of the sf film field. January also saw reprints of **CONAN THE WARRIOR** and **CONAN THE CONQUEROR** by Robert E.Howard and **CONAN THE USURPER** by Howard and L.S. de Camp. Due to copyright tangles after his death, the works of H.Beam Piper have not been seen very much, but ACE have issued in TPB a collection of five stories in his 'Terro Human Future History Series' called **FEDERATION**, out in February and they have another collection, **EMPIRE** in the 'Paratime Police Series' out in May. The highly regarded **DESTINIES** series edited by Jim Baen is now up to Volume 3 #1 out in February and Volume 4 #2 in April. **PROTEUS**, edited by Richard McEnroe is we believe some of the stories left over from the Destinies Series,when Baen left Ace to work with Tom Dougherty on the new **TOR/PINNACLE** sf series. **LOVE NOT HUMAN** is a collection of stories by Gordon R.Dickson. First time in pb we think. A **SPADEFUL OF SPACETIME** is a collection of stories edited by Fred Saberhagen with original contributions by Bryant, Card,Sheffield, Zelazny and others. Reprints include **KEY OUT OF TIME** by Andre Norton, **GATES OF CREATION** by Philip Jose Farmer and a double with **THE PEOPLE TRAP** and **MINDSWAP** by Robert Sheckley.

TIME TRAVELLERS STRICTLY CASH is a follow up to "Callahan's Crosstime Saloon", by Spider Robinson. **SPECIMANS** is a new edition of a novel by Fred Saberhagen that was first published by Popular Library in 1975. **ANALOG II** is the second original collection by editor Stanley Schmidt, which is aimed at the short story readers who do not buy magazines. A new fantasy based on the R.E.Howard character 'Bran



Mak Morn' is **FOR THE WITCH OF THE MORNING** by David Smith and Richard Tierney. **ICE CROWN** is another Andre Norton reprint. A new TPB by Larry Niven and Steve Barnes is **DREAM PARK**, which is a sort of 'West-world' type story about a place where all your wildest dreams can become real. **CHANGELING** by Roger Zelazny is a fantasy novel now in small pb. **NECROMANCER** by Gordon Dickson is a new edition.(Last done by DAW.) **WORLD SHUFFLER** by Keith Laumer was done by Berkley in '71 and will be followed by **SHAPE CHANGER** in May. Also out in March was **TIME BENDER**. These last two are also resissues of original Berkley titles. **SWORD OF THE GAEL** by Andrew Offut is a new edition of an original '75 Zebra sfs title. To complete the ACE titles through to May we have the reprints **TACTICS OF MISTAKE** by Gordon R.Dickson, **WIND WHALES OF ISHMAEL** by P.J.Farmer and **MOON OF THREE RINGS** by Andre Norton. In the **CHARTER** imprint there is a scientific thriller by Albert and Jo-Ann Klainer, **THE JUDAS GENE**.

ADVENT PUBLISHERS (US)

It is now most unlikely that we will see volume three of the **ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SF&F** by Don Tuck, from this publisher till well into 1982. Meanwhile they have done a new edition, revised, of **SF IN DIMENSION** by Alexei Panshin in TPB.

ALLEN AND UNWIN (U.K.)

Due out in March UK were new editions of **THE LORD OF THE RINGS**, in single and three-volume paperbacks, along with **J.R.R.TOLKIEN:A Biography** by Humphrey Carpenter and **THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO MIDDLE EARTH** by Robert Foster. Also due was **JOURNEYS OF FRODO** by Barbara Strachey, which is a book of maps showing the routes taken by Frodo and his friends on their journeys in Middle Earth.

W.H.ALLEN (U.K.)

THE TERROR OF THE AUTONS by Terrance Dicks was a Dr Who reprint out in Feb. and **DR WHO AND THE ENEMY OF THE WORLD** by Ian Marter was a new title due in March. A must for all DR WHO fans is announced for May, **THE DR WHO PROGRAMME GUIDE** in two volumes at 4.50 pounds each. W.H.A have also picked up **The NEBULA AWARD WINNERS #14** edited by Frederik Pohl.

ARBOR HOUSE (US) Hard Covers

Further selections in the series of horror story collections edited by Bill Pronzini are **CREATURE! A Chrestomathy of "Monstery"** and **MUMMY! A Chrestomathy of Cryptology**. He has also edited **THE ARBOR HOUSE TREASURY OF HORROR AND THE SUPERNATURAL** and has a fantasy novel **MASQUES** due out in June. **THE BEAST WITHIN** is a horror novel by E.Levy.

ARKHAM HOUSE (US) Hard Covers

THE THIRD GRAVE by David Case is about an ancient Egyptian curse and its effects on a small English village. **DREAMS AND DAMNATIONS** by Richard L. Tierney is a collection of weird fantasy poetry in TPB, available only direct from the publisher. **TALES FROM THE NIGHT SIDE** is a major collection,illustrated, by Charles L.Grant, due mid '81. **THE SOLAR PONS OMNIBUS** by Derleth and **MASTER OF SHADOWS** by Margery Lawrence have both been postponed indefinitely.

ARGO (US) Hard Covers

All these titles are in the Atheneum Juvenile F&SF series,many of which will be major pb releases from mass market pb publishers. The first two; **THE WOLVES OF AAM** by Jane Louise Curry and **MONT CANT GOLD** by Paul Fisher look like fantasy, but the rest are sf. **SPACEBREAD** by Steve Senn, **MINDCALL** by Wilanne Schneider, **THE DOORS OF THE UNIVERSE** by Syvvia Engdahl (The 3rd in the series following "The Star Shall Abide" and "Beyond The Tomorrow Mountains"), **DEATHWING OVER VEYANNA** by Douglas Hill, (Published in 1980 by Gollancz.), **THE TERRA BEYOND** by Malcolm MacLoud and **GRYPHON IN GLORY** by Andre Norton, which is a sequel to "Crystal Gryphon" most likely.

ARROW (UK) Paperbacks

SOVEREIGN is an impressive first novel by R.M.Meluch, which Signet published in '80 and who are publishing a new title by her soon. In the "Dumarest" series Arrow published in March **INCIDENT ON ATH** by E.C.Tubb, which was the first British edition and a reprint of **DERAI**. James Blish's **BLACK EASTER** and **DAY AFTER JUDGEMENT** have been combined in one volume for April publication. These titles represent the peak of the late author's writing. May sees a reprint of the Hugo winning novel by Kate Wilhelm, **WHERE LATE THE SWEET BIRDS SANG** and the first British edition of **PANGLOR** by Jeffrey Carver.

AVON (US)

January saw a reprint of **BAREFOOT IN THE HEAD**, a novel by Brian Aldiss and the second in the new series by Francine Mezo, **UNLESS SHE BURN**. **ENEMIES OF THE SYSTEM** was another Brian Aldiss reprint in February along with **THE CALLING OF BARA** by Sheila Sullivan, which was published as "Summer Rising" by Futura in '78. March/April saw another two Brian Aldiss reprints; **NEANDERTHAL PLANET** and **STARSHIP (Non-Stop)**. **NO EARTHLY SHORE** is the third in the 'Areia Darenga' series by Francine Mezo. **CRIMSON KISSES** is an occult fantasy by Asa Drake and in the same category is **MALSUN** by Gerald John O'Hara. A non-fiction March release was Isaac Asimov's **THE ROAD TO INFINITY**. Percy Walker's main stream post-disaster novel **LOVE IN THE RUINS** was also re-issued. A major release in April was

MUTE by Piers Anthony, which obviously fits into one of his series. May release was a reprint of CRYSTAL WORLD by J.G. Ballard and the first pb edition of RETURN TO EARTH, an sf novel for young readers by H.M. Hoover, plus FIRST VOYAGES edited by Damon Knight, Martin Greenberg and Joseph Olander (This appears to be a reorganisation with additions of a title published by Lancer in '63 called FIRST FLIGHTS), THE PATH TO EXOTERRA is a juvenile sf novel by Gordon McBain, THEY THIRST by Robert McGammon is a new horror novel and in the same line is GROVE OF NIGHT by Sara Gordon Harrell.

BALLANTINE/DEL REY (US) Paperbacks

DEL REY are keeping up their image as one of the two or three leading f and sf publishers. In January we saw the first pb edition of SPLIT INFINITY by Piers Anthony, THE VENUS BELT by Neil L. Smith, a reprint of STAR SURGEON by James White, (MAJOR OPERATION by James White also in the Sector General Space Hospital series is due out again in May), STELLAR SF STORIES #6 in the original collections edited by Judy Lynn-Del Rey, CLOSE TO CRITICAL by Hal Clement was reprinted again, THE TIN WOODMAN was the latest L. Frank Baum reprint in the "OZ" series, THE DEVIL AND MAX DEVLIN by Robert Grossbach is the novel of the recent Walt Disney comedy on the Faust theme from Ballantine themselves along with NIGHT WHISPERS, a horror novel by Charles Veley.

An intriguing hard science novel out in February was DRAGON'S EGG by Robert L. Forward along with THE BREAKING OF NORTH WALL by Paul O. Williams, which is a first novel set in a devastated future some 300 years from now and will be followed by THE ENDS OF THE CIRCLE in April; THE SQUARE ROOT OF MAN, which is William Tenn's only novel, is also reprinted; HANDS OF GLORY by Jan Kangilaski is a sequel to his fantasy THE SEEKING SWORD, which is also reprinted in February. The "OZ" book for the month is THE MAGIC OF OZ by L. Frank Baum. RINGWORLD by Larry Niven is re-issued along with the first pb edition of RING WORLD ENGINEERS. This title is a strong contender for the next Hugo Award. DEADLY SILENTS by Lee Killough is a murder mystery cum police novel, set on an alien planet. THE REVOLUTION FROM ROSINANTE is a first novel about technology and political intrigue on a space colony, by popular fan artist Alexis Gilliland. Larry Niven's PROTECTOR, which incidentally is related to the 'Ringworld' books, was also reprinted in March. The "OZ" book for the month is GLINDA OF OZ by L. Frank Baum.

THE CHANGING LAND by Roger Zelazny is the first edition of a new fantasy novel out in April. SHUTTLE DOWN is a contemporary science novel by Lee Correy. Another reprint from James White is THE ALIENS AMONGST US. Other reprints are OF MEN AND MONSTERS, a collection by William Tenn and Roger Zelazny's novel MY NAME IS LEGION. THE RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK by Campbell Black is published in Ballantine and is the novel of the pulp type adventure story set in the 1930s, just released as a movie. It deals with a lost magical treasure, which an American archaeologist is seeking pursued by Nazi agents.

THE WOUNDED LAND by Stephen Donaldson appeared in May four months after the

Fontana British edition. The next two volumes in this second trilogy of very original fantasy novels, are not expected till late 1981 or well into 1982. A quite different novel is THE CALIFORNIA PROJECT by Bob Stickgold, which deals with a fight to use a cancer remedy taken from a 17th century witches recipe book. Reprints include THE FALLIBLE FIEND by L. Sprague de Camp, CYCLE OF FIRE by Hal Clement and THE SHEEP LOOK UP by John Brunner.

BALLANTINE/DEL REY Hard Covers & TPBs

PROJECT POPE is a new novel by Clifford Simak in which a computer sets itself as the new Pope, with robots as its priests. FAHRENHEIT 451 by Ray Bradbury and CHILDHOOD'S END by Arthur C. Clarke were issued in new TPB uniform editions. THE COOL WAR by Frederick Pohl is a near future war and espionage novel. JOURNEYS OF FRODO by Barbara Strachey is a book of maps showing the routes the Hobbits took on their trips in Middle Earth. Published in HC and TPB. THE BLUE ADEPT by Piers Anthony was due in May and is a sequel to "Split Infinity".



BANTAM (US) PBS

Bantam started off the year with a reprint of THE HIGH COUCH OF SILISTRA by Janet Morris and a new Doc Savage double, PHAROAH'S GHOST and THE TIME TERROR. Number 102 and 101 in the series. In February the first pb edition of THE BEGINNING PLACE by Ursula LeGuin was released along with VALIS, a new novel by Philip K. Dick, RE-ENTRY an sf novel by Paul Preuss and a new printing for the movie of ALTERED STATES by Paddy Chayevsky. The second in the new series by Harry Harrison, WHEELWORLD came out in March with a reprint of GOLDEN SWORD by Janey Morris, the excellent new novel by Walter Tevis, MOCKINGBIRD, which will be made into a movie, STORM UPON ULSTER, a historical fancy set in Ireland, DEATHS ANGEL, a new Star Trek novel by Kathleen Sky and a third Janet Morris reprint, WIND FROM THE ABYSS. In May we have a reprint of the novel that Walter Tevis is best known for, THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH, another Doc Savage double in THE WHISKER OF HERCULES

and THE MAN WHO WAS SCARED, numbers 103/104 by Kenneth Robeson and finally THE STEEL OF RATHSKAR, a sword and sorcery adventure novel by Randall Garrett and Vicki Heydron.

B.C.A. Book Club (UK)

FIRESTARTER by Stephen King in March and his THE SHINING in April.

BERKLEY (US) PBS

WIZARD is the lead title for January for Berkley, being the sequel to "Titan", by John Varley. CIRCUS WORLD by Barry Longyear and THE BERKLEY SHOWCASE #3, the original collection edited by Victoria Schochet and John Silbersack also were published in January. The main February title was BROTHER TO DEMONS, BROTHER TO GODS by Jack Williamson, which is about genetic experiments on a very grand scale. JOURNEY FROM FLESH is a rather bizarre sf novel by Nicholas Yerkanov. THE PHOENIX LEGACY is the name of a series featuring the ruling family of a future society, a sort of 'Dallas' in space. The first in this series by M.K. Wren is titled SWORD OF THE LAMB. A rather strange 'pleasure-world' is the theme of Kit Reed's MAGIC TIME. The third of the series by Eric Van Lustbader, DAI-SAN also came out in March along with KHAI OF ANCIENT KHEM by Brian Lumley, a reincarnation theme novel. In April the awaited third book in the 'Watchtower' series by Elizabeth Lynn, THE NORTHERN GIRL, was published along with the first in a new sf series by Kevin O'Donnell Jr, CAVERNS: THE JOURNEYS OF MCGILL FEIGHAN Book One and WINDSOUND by Doris Vallejo, about a badly injured man whose brain is kept alive so that he can travel telepathically. Philip Jose Farmer's 'Riverworld' sequence is finally completed with MAGIC LABRYNTH, which we saw from Panther in February. The other titles in the series, TO YOUR SCATTERED BODIES GO, THE FABULOUS RIVERBOAT and DARK DESIGN were also re-issued by Berkley in March along with the collection RIVERWORLD and other stories. A very welcome sequel to 'Peregrine Primus' by Avram Davidson is PERGRINE SECUNDUS. A humorous jaunt in the mythical middle ages. THE BOOK OF FRANK HERBERT is a new edition of a collection of stories by the author of "Dune".

BERKLEY/PUTNAM (US) Hard Covers

THE WORLD OF THORIN is Damon Knight's first new novel for many years, about a boy who is thrown down a well and enters a strange land inside the Earth. This was published in January along with NORTHERN GIRL by Elizabeth Lynn which had been delayed since November. Richard Monaco's third book in his heroic knights in armor series, THE FINAL QUEST was also published in January. DREAM DANCER by Janet Morris, the first in an epic sf series by Janet Morris, which was published by Fontana in December last, was published in March. SMILE ON THE VOID by Stuart Gordon is the memoir of the world's most powerful man, who mysteriously disappears in the 1990s. In May Putnam publish the Frank Herbert's GOD-EMPEROR OF DUNE, which is reported to be the best in the series since the first book "Dune". April also saw a new mainstream fantasy by the author of 'Merlin', Robert Nye, in FAUST.

This remainder book specialist publisher has done a number of sf collections over the last year, including SF TREASURY edited by Isaac Asimov, M.H. Greenberg and J.D.Olander, THE GOLDEN AGE OF SF edited by Groff Conklin, THE OMNIBUS OF SF edited by Groff Conklin, THE COMPLETE TREASURY OF H.G.WELLS and the TREASURY OF SF edited by Groff Conklin. The last title we have seen but the others we believe are out or due out early this year.

JOHN CALDER (UK) HCs

CITIES OF THE RED NIGHT by William Burroughs was announced for April '80 but did not appear in this British edition till January '81.

JONATHAN CAPE (UK) HCs

THE SIRIAN EXPERIMENTS is the third volume in the "Canopus in Argos Archives" series by Doris Lessing. This series is as far removed from the average popular sf writing as that is from Jules Verne, but highly rewarding we are told if you are prepared to wade through them.

CAROUSEL BOOKS (USA) PBs

Published only in 1980 but picked up as remainders recently were two s&s titles by David J.Kelly, THE TOWER OF DESPAIR and THE BAALBAN QUEST.

RUSS COCHRAN (USA) HCs

This small press publisher's major work has been THE EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS LIBRARY OF ILLUSTRATION. The first two volumes have been published for some time, but volume three has been delayed due to copyright complications over the art work of Frank Frazetta. The Frazetta content has been reduced and other more recent artists work added and we should see volume three before the end of '81. The three volumes if ordered now cost \$180.00, but will go up to \$250 for the full set when all are available.

CONTINUUM (USA) HCs

Basically the only sf this publisher does now is new titles by Stanislaw Lem. This is a collection of Lem's stories, THE COSMIC CARNIVAL OF STANISLAW LEM edited by Michael Kandel.

CORGI (UK) PBs

EPIDEMIC 9 by Max Gaster and Richard Lerner is a scientific horror story published in February. ULTIMATE ENCOUNTER by Bill Barry appears to be a strange mixture of fiction and "fact" about UFOs. LOGAN'S SEARCH is the third in the series by William F.Nolan, that saw a movie and a TV series based on the original novel "Logan's Run". THE HUNTING OF SALUT 7 is a cold war space thriller by Guy Alimo out in March. In April Corgi have beaten Panther to the punch with THE DRAGON LENS MAN by David Kyle, which is based on the "Lensman" series by E.E."Doc" Smith. Corgi will publish in May (U.K.) THE RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK by Campbell Black. (See note on this title in Ballantine list this issue.)

CORONET (UK) PBs

BEYOND THE BEYOND by Poul Anderson is again reprinted in January. Nothing in the for sf line in February but in March Coronet have a new Edmund Cooper in ph, JUPITER LAUGHS, a collection of

his stories, plus reprints of his novels, TRANSIT and ALL FOOLS DAY. SONGS OF STARS AND SHADOWS by George R.R.Martin is a collection by this new American author, out in March.

DAW (USA) PBs

January '81 is Jack Vance month at DAW with the long awaited fifth and final 'Demon Princes' novel, THE BOOK OF DREAMS, the lead. DUST OF FAR SUNS is a collection of Vance's stories and a first release, although it may be a retitle. TRULLION:ALASTOR 2262, MARUNE:ALASTOR 933 and WYST:ALASTOR 1716 are all reprints. DOWN BELOW STATION by C.J.Cherryh is the main February title, featuring a giant space station that is the key in a developing interstellar war. HUOK OF THE STONE AGE is a new prehistoric adventure by Lin Carter. TERRA SF: The Year's Best European SF is edited by Richard D.Norlane. Finally for February two reprints by John Brunner, TO CONQUER CHAOS and THE WRONG END OF TIME. March sees a new John Norman title, ROGUE OF GOR. A new novel by the author of PURSUIT OF THE SCREAMER, which is also reprinted, CIRCLE, CRESCENT, STAR. ISAAC ASIMOV PRESENTS THE GREAT SF Volume 5 (1943). DAYSTARS AND SHADOW by James B.Johnson and a reprint of THE STAR CROWNED KINGS by Robert Chilson. April features a new Brian Stableford novel THE CASTAWAYS OF TANGAAR. Plus Tanith Lee's novel on werewolves LYCANTHIA. PILGRIMAGE, a first novel by Drew Mendelson, has a unique if not completely original theme. The new "Dumarest" novel is NECTAR OF HEAVEN, the 24th in the series and two very early ones are reprinted in one volume; MAYENNE -#9 and JONDELLE -#10. The May titles are: SUNFALL by C.J.Cherryh, set on a far future Earth when it is still the home of mankind, although they have spread throughout the galaxy, but is struggling to survive. DOOMTIME is a most unusual novel by Doris Piserchia, in which two giant trees dominate the Earth. SECOND GAME is an sf novel co-authored by Charles de Vet and Katherine MacLean. Finally for May is THE 1981 WORLDS BEST SF edited by Don Wollheim himself and a reprint of Gordon Dickson's NONE BUT MAN.

DELL (US) PBs

A report to hand states that Dell have cancelled their sf series and editor James Frenkel has left. It seems most unlikely that they would drop sf completely with such a strong back list and new titles like SNOWQUEEN, by Joan Vinge, a likely Hugo winner, just out. If they do not reprint as titles go out of stock, there will be a lot of important titles very scarce. Dell have in many cases done small print runs and titles like THE STARS ARE THE STYX by Sturgeon were out of print before publication, when first published last year. We will just have to wait and see what the future brings, but meanwhile the January to May titles are: TIMESCOOP, a reprint from John Brunner. JUNCTION, a new and very unusual novel by Jack Dann. COUNT BRASS and CHAMPION OF GARATHORN are two reprints by Michael Moorcock. BINARY STAR#5 features NIGHT-FLYERS by George R.R.Martin with TRUE NAMES by Vernor Vinge. OPUS 200 is the collection of samplings from Isaac Asimov's second 100 books and OPUS 100 is reprinted. A new fantasy novel that will be one of the most talked about this year and already out of print, which is nothing new for Dell, is set in Ireland. TOO LONG A SACRIFICE blends the ancient mythology of the land with the strife-torn reality of today, in a most compelling way. In April we see a new novel at last by the author of "Godsfire", Cynthia Felice. In SUNBOUND an Earthwoman is kidnapped by space faring gypsies because of their need for her psi talents. Another Michael Moorcock reprint is THE QUEST OF TANELORN. The big one for May is SNOWQUEEN by Joan Vinge which is on the Hugo nomination list. Finally the Theodore Sturgeon collection THE STARS ARE THE STYX, has been reprinted.

DIAL (US) Hard Cover

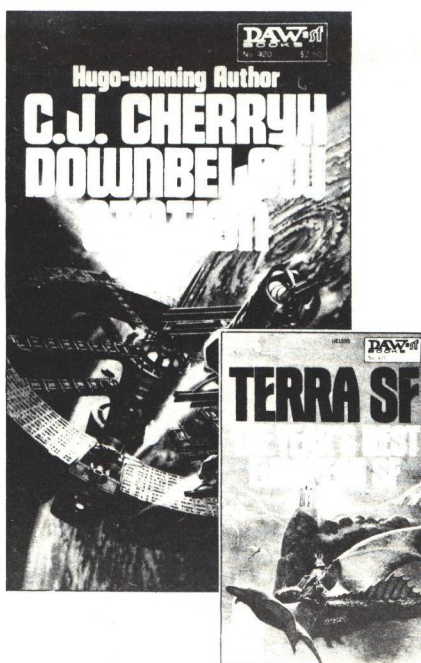
ANALOG'S GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY ANTHOLOGY edited by Stanley Schmidt is just a bound volume of "The Analog Anthology #1" published by Davis in magazine form last year.

DONNING PUBLISHERS - STARBLAZE TPBs

This publisher tends to announce books and not publish them for six months to a year later. THE DAWNING LIGHT by Robert Randall (Randall Garrett and Robert Silverberg) was supposed to be out early this year. We may see it now by July. The illustrated books, HEROES and HEROINES OF SCIENCE FICTION are not even in sight. THE MOONS FIRE EATING DAUGHTER by John Myers, is a sequel to his novel "Silverlock". This was published in April without any advance announcement. ELQUEST Book One by Richard and Wendy Pini is listed for Fall '81 publication, which means we may see it by Christmas if we are lucky. It will be done in TPB and limited hard cover editions.

DOUBLEDAY (USA) Hard covers

FAR FROM HOME by Walter Tevis is a collection of stories by the author of "Mockingbird", which was out in January. In February GENE WOLFE'S BOOK OF DAYS, a collection of his short fiction, was followed by A WORLD CALLED SOLITUDE by Stephen Goldin. Not sf, but of interest was Jack Chalker's THE DEVIL'S VOYAGE, which is a novel based on the sinking



of an American ship during the final days of World War II, under strange circumstances. THEY CAME FROM OUTER SPACE by James Wynorski was published in March. It is a collection of 12 stories that were made into well known sf movies. Also in March were KOREN by Tim Lukeman and SUNRISE WEST by William Carlson, neither of which we have any details on. Also due in March was ASIMOV ON SCIENCE FICTION. In April a new novel by Jacqueline Lichtenberg, MAHOGANY TRINROSE, the fourth in the 'Sime' series. DARK STARS AND OTHER ILLUMINATIONS we presume is a collection by Thomas Monteleone. The first novel in a series by the late Suzette Haden Elgin, who we believe was getting on a little and succumbed to the American heat wave last summer, is TWELVE FAIR KINGDOMS. She had completed the second book and the third was almost complete. THE POSSESSIONS OF IMMANUEL WOLF AND OTHER IMPROBABLE TALES is a collection by Marvin Kaye out in May along with an occult fantasy novel, MINDREADER by Terry Cline Jr.

DRAGONS DREAM (UK) Trade Paperbacks

The publishers of the phenomenal best-seller "Views" by Roger Dean and other fantasy art books have a strong list lined up for publication now and over the next year. First up an illustrated edition of H.Rider Haggard's SHE with art work by Mike Emden. This will be followed by THE DROWNED WORLD by J.G. Ballard illustrated by Dick Fench. The next is PARALLEL LINES by Peter Elson illustrated by Chris Moore. A second 'Dan Dare' comic strip collection from the old 'Eagle' magazine is also due; ROGUE PLANET by Frank Hampson and Don Harley. Also from 'Eagle' is Frank Hampson's comic strip version of the life of Christ, THE ROAD TO COURAGE.

DUBLESS PUBLICATIONS

THE SAGA OF THE SWORD THAT SANG AND OTHER REALITIES by Stephanie Stearns. A collection of epic poetry, spirex bound in limited edition, published by the author.

EEL PIE (UK) PBs

A relatively new English publisher has ventured into the fantasy field with three books that we believe were listed for hc publication a year or two back, but the publisher went out of business. The books are SKYFLEET OF ATLANTIS, THE DRAGON PATHS and TANTRICK WARRIORS by Frena Bloomfield. THE VANDAL by Ann Schlee is also a fantasy.

ENCOUNTER BOOK CLUB (UK) HC

Our source of information on British publications is not always reliable, in that these titles are for March but we have not seen anything between December and March. However, for your reference: THRESHOLD by Ursula LeGuinn, DARK IS THE SUN by P.J.Farmer, THE IMMORTALS by David Wingrove, BEST SF OF THE YEAR #9 Ed.Terry Carr and UNFINISHED TALES by J.R.R.Tolkien.

EVEREST HOUSE (USA) HC

Coming both in Trade hc and deluxe edition is Stephen King's survey of the horror-fantasy field, DANSE MACABRE.

EVANS (UK) HC

The THIRD PLANET FROM ALTAIR by Edward

Packard is a juvenile sf novel out in February.

FABER (UK) HCs

DARK TRIANGLE by Hugh Walter is a new sf novel for your readers out February. In May Robert Holdstock's WHERE TIME WINDS BLOW was due, which we presume is an sf novel. Also listed by Faber, but details not known are THE AFFIRMATION by Christopher Priest and GEMINI GOD by Gary Kilworth.

FAWCETT (USA) PBS

THE SENDAI by William Woolfolk, is a horror novel out in January along with a collection of first-person stories THE FUTURE I, edited by Isaac Asimov, Martin Greenberg and Joseph Olander. No f or sf in February but in March we saw THE LAST IMMORTAL by J.O.Jeppson, a new issue of an sf novel by we believe by Mrs Isaac Asimov. Nothing in April, but in May two titles were due, A PLANET IN ARMS by Donald Barr and SONG OF THE KINGDOM by Andy Stone. These two were actually published by the other Fawcett imprints, Crest and Popular Library respectively.

FICTIONEER BOOKS (USA) TPB

This small publisher published THE VARIABLE SYNDROME by Don McGregor in January. It has a strange sf novel by the comic writer plus an account of his problems with comic publishers.

FONTANA (UK) Pbs

Late last year Fontana published TO WAKE THE DEAD, a horror novel by Ramsey Campbell. We also overlooked the 13th FONTANA BOOK OF GREAT HORROR STORIES Edited by Mary Danby and the 16th FONTANA BOOK OF GREAT GHOST STORIES edited by R.Chetwynd-Hayes. In April Pamela Sargent's sf novel CLONED LIVES.

FUTURA (UK) PBS

This publisher has a very impressive line up for 1981, starting with the occult horror novel DAMIEN II by Joseph Howard in January, followed by the sequel to "Titan" by John Varley, WIZARD. Reprints of TITAN, OPHIUCHI HOTLINE and IN THE HALL OF THE MARTIAN KINGS were also released. The occult fantasy NECROMANCER by Robert Holdstock, the sf novel set in a matriarchy LEVIATHAN'S DEEP by Jayge Carr and a reissue of Anne McCaffrey's DINOSAUR PLANET were released in March. The DAW original THE SPINNER by Doris Piserchia was the only April sf title. In May Futura have two of this year's Hugo contenders, SNOW QUEEN by Joan Vinge and THE RINGWORLD ENGINEERS by Larry Niven. Also due soon is Frank Herbert's THE PRIESTS OF PSI.

GALE RESEARCH Co. (USA) HC

The second volume of SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW INDEX 1974-1979 by H.W.Hall was due in April at \$78.00

GARLAND PUBLISHING (USA) HC

THE PENDEX by Susannah Bates is an index of pen names of f and sf authors. In the second half of the year Garland will publish 33 volumes in their LIBRARY OF FANTASY CLASSICS.

RICHARD E.GEIS (USA) PBs

The editor-publisher of SF REVIEW has been writing porno novels for some

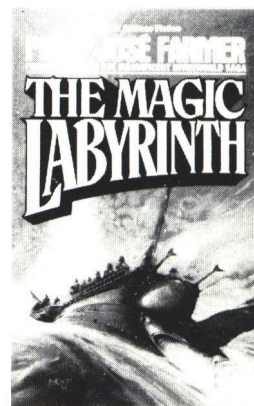
years. He has combined his talents and interest in sf with THE CORPORATION, which is the second or third in the adventures of a certain space-lady -of-pleasure

GRANADA (UK) HCS

In January Granada published DARK IS THE SUN by Philip Jose Farmer, an sf novel set on a far future dying Earth. RODERICK by John Sladek also was published in January. In February they did a large collection of STORIES by Ray Bradbury. Title of same is not confirmed. THE DANCERS AT THE END OF TIME by Michael Moorcock was published in April. The complete sequence in one volume we presume.

GRANADA (UK) PBS

We believe that Granada are dropping the different imprint names Panther and Mayflower gradually and calling all Granada books. Either way we will list them all under that heading as follows.



RIVERWORLD AND OTHER STORIES by P.J. Farmer was a February release but the final book in the main sequence, THE MAGIC LABRYNTH came out in January with reprints of TO YOUR SCATTERED BODIES GO, THE FABULOUR RIVERBOAT and DARK DESIGN. BUY JUPITER by Isaac Asimov was also reissued in February. Other January titles we almost missed were the latest in the 'Family D'Alembert' series by Stephin Goldin based on "Doc" Smith's characters, PLANET OF TREACHERY and a new printing of the classic DYING EARTH by Jack Vance. Also THE WORD FOR WORLD IS FOREST by Ursula LeGuinn was re-issued. Nothing in March, but in April we see a new edition of John Barth's erotic fantasy GILES GOAT BOY, Fritz Leiber's A SPECTRE IS HAUNTING TEXAS, and the historical novel MALAFRENA set in a mythical European country last century, by Ursula Le Guin. THE DRAWING OF THE DARK, an unclassifiable fantasy in which King Arthur is brought back from the dead to save Europe from the Eastern invaders. SHIKASTA, the first of the 'Canopus in Argos Archive' series by Doris Lessing is a May release along with a new issue of THE EMBEDDING by Ian Watson and the paperback edition of the best sf reference book yet, THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SCIENCE FICTION by Peter Nicholls. Finally a new issue of THE OAK AND THE RAM by Michael Moorcock.

DONALD M.GRANT (USA)

No new books at present from DMG but he has done two art portfolios of BLACK COLOSSUS by Ned Dameron and THE ROAD TO AZRAEL by Roy Krenkel.

FRANK HERBERT by John Litchen

A brief survey of his writing.

To read the novels of Frank Herbert can be an exasperating experience. The beginnings of some of them are slow and turgid, perhaps even incomprehensible and one reaches the point where one is about to throw the book down in disgust, when suddenly it makes sense, and the rest of it surges along at a great pace, capturing the reader like a whirlwind gathers dust and leaves. One often finishes breathless, and sometimes even a little stunned.

On the credit side, his writing is often quite brilliant, and one can always see that it is Frank Herbert since he has a style which basically hasn't changed from his first novel to his most recent. The only annoying habit he seems to have developed over the last few years is to preface each chapter or section in a story with a pseudo-philosophical or historical quotation that is mostly pointless and does nothing to help the story move along. Surely the information in these 'quotations' could be included somehow into the text. The worst example of this habit is the *Jesus Incident* written in collaboration with Bill Ransom. Perhaps the only book in which it was necessary was the *GODMAKERS* which is not a novel but a collection of shorter works about the same person. The episodes needed to be linked without extensive rewriting so these short 'quotations' served the purpose, but it was overdone towards the latter part of the book.

Dredging up some information on Frank Herbert we find that his books reflect to a great degree his own life's interests. He has studied undersea geology, marine architecture and navigation. He served with the U.S. Navy during the Second World War doing photographic work. Since then he has worked as an oyster diver, TV cameraman, a jungle survivor instructor, and a lay psychoanalyst. He has also worked as a professional newspaperman spending at least ten years with the San Francisco Examiner. His other major interests include jungle botany, oriental religions and ecology.

The influence of oriental religion has obviously had an immense effect upon Frank Herbert since most of his sf novels deal with the subject of religion in one form or another. Perhaps it would be better to say that religious thought, feeling and philosophy form the underlying themes over which or around which most of his major fiction revolves. *DUNE*, *DUNE MESSIAH*, *CHILDREN OF DUNE* (*GOD-EMPEROR OF DUNE*), the fourth in the series is expected here late May or early June when Frank Herbert will be in Australia) are the most obvious and perhaps best known, and so much has been written about them that we need not go into any details here.

Other books which could come under the heading of religious sf (as distinct from political, adventurous and other

sub-classifications) are *THE GODMAKERS*, *DESTINATION VOID*, and its sequel *THE JESUS INCIDENT*. "Mindfield and The Priests of Psi", both of which appear in a recent Gollancz collection called *THE PRIESTS OF PSI*, deal directly with priests and their control over a post catastrophe world ("Mindfield"), and the creation of a God ("The Priests of Psi"). The latter story became the basis some twelve years later of the so called novel *THE GOD MAKERS*.

The Putnam edition calls *THE GODMAKERS*. "a Frank Herbert novel par excellence." It is really only two short stories and a novelette featuring Lewis Orne an agent for the Rediscovery and Re-education service (R&R) who later becomes a top agent for the Investigation and adjustment service (I&A). The object of these two government agencies is to find planets shattered by the galactic wars and re-educate them so they can be reintegrated into the current galactic empire. If this means knocking the hell out of them because of their supposed warlike tendencies: then so be it.

The two short stories seem very little changed from their earlier magazine appearance, but the novelette, "The Priests of Psi" is another matter. On reading this simultaneously *THE GODMAKERS* and in the Gollancz edition of *THE PRIESTS OF PSI*, one discovers that the story has been totally rewritten for its appearance in *THE GODMAKERS*. In *THE GODMAKERS* it is a vastly improved story. Virtually every sentence has been rewritten, or every paragraph has been re-expressed and juxtaposed differently. The character of Lewis Orne has been improved - he is no longer such a smart alec as he was in the original "Priests of Psi", but a much more mature person. The newer version has a good flow and is much easier and more satisfying to read, especially if one ignores the quotations heading each chapter. There is some linking material added to join the two earlier stories with the later reworked portion, but in no way could this work be called a novel. It does show however that Frank Herbert improved considerably as a writer through the sixties.

Another story which has been vastly improved with rewriting and expansion was the novelette "Greenslaves" which first appeared in *AMAZING STORIES* in 1965. It was later expanded into the novel *THE GREEN BRAIN* and published by Ace in 1968. NEL books have printed several editions of this story so it must be selling fairly well. It is a strangely brooding story set in a world ravaged by over-use of insecticides and biological poisons, where the insects finally are starting to fight back. The whole point of the book is that we must live with them and they with us, if the world as a whole is to survive. The solution is rather horrifying, but inevitable. If any of the readers of this book have been in a tropical



JAY K. KLEIN

FRANK HERBERT

rainforest (most of the action takes place somewhere in the Amazon basin of Brazil) they will immediately realise that Frank Herbert has faithfully captured the feel of such a place and this is the book's major strength.

After *DUNE*, Frank Herbert's most famous novel would have to be *UNDER PRESSURE*, or *THE DRAGON IN THE SEA* as the British edition was called. This was his first novel and all the action takes place on board an atomic submarine which is used to steal oil from a secret underwater well deep within Soviet territory. The original title *UNDER PRESSURE* is most apt. The submarine and its occupants are all under pressure, both physical and mental. The U.S. is at war with the Soviets, and each is desperately searching for oil reserves which are vastly diminished, in order to keep their societies operating. Atomic submarines towing barges which are filled at this secret oil well in Soviet waters have been disappearing and sleepers are blamed. Sleepers are Soviet spies planted many years earlier in the U.S. who are only activated when the need arises. They are indistinguishable from any normal U.S. citizen and some are people in high places. The protagonist of this story is a psychologist. He is sent on a mission in an atomic submarine and his job is to find who the sleeper is, and de-activate him before he can destroy this last attempt to mine in Soviet waters. His job also is to find out why submariners are a race apart from normal navy personnel. He succeeds, and so does the book. It is tightly written, and very convincing. The battles underwater with enemy submarines are as good as any sea battles written by authors specialising in that subject. The only minor disappointment is that the sleeper gives himself away to the reader half way through, only because Herbert adopted a method of changing viewpoints so we can see how each of the four occupants of the submarine operate under pressure. Nevertheless we soon forget the sleeper has told us who he is by what he thinks, as we become completely involved in the action leading to the climax. A first class book only surpassed by *DUNE* in 1965 and *SOUL CATCHER* in 1972.

SOUL CATCHER is perhaps Herbert's best novel. It is not sf. A young Indian, a graduate student of Anthropology, goes berserk, kidnapping a young white boy with the intention of sacrificing him in retaliation for the raping of and later suicide of his sister. He takes the boy deep into the bush and in order to escape from the police and federal authorities who are chasing him they go native. They live off the land. The boy's fear gradually gives way to acceptance of the situation, which in time turns into a kind of love and respect for the Indian. Both the captor and the captured are linked by a bond which is almost religious in feeling, and both move towards the inevitable conclusion in which the boy will be sacrificed in expiation for the sins committed against the Indians by the whites. It is a tragic, and beautiful story, and the feelings it creates within the reader will last a long time.

Other books which may be of interest are: THE SANTAROGA BARRIER, an over-padded story which is a mystery with overtones of sf horror... WHIPPING STAR and THE DOSADI EXPERIMENT, which are sf detective stories of a sort featuring the Bureau of Sabotage's leading agent Jori X McKie. THE DOSADI EXPERIMENT is a much more interesting and longer story than WHIPPING STAR and deserves to be read. DESTINATION VOID which is about the creation of an artificial intelligence on board a star ship, and THE JESUS INCIDENT which is about the same starship's occupants colonizing a wild planet, while the ships (Computer) intelligence tries to get them to worship it as a God. Both of these are readable but heavy going, and of the two, DESTINATION VOID is the better.

The only other novel not mentioned above is HELLSTROM'S HIVE. A biological novel based on the implications expressed in the film the "Hellstrom Chronicles". This was a documentary about insects taking over the world. And that is what the novel is also about: Insect-humans, a new super-human swarm taking over the world. Can they be stopped? Well, you'll have to read the book to find out.

These days Frank Herbert has retired to a five acre farm near Washington where he hopes to demonstrate that one can live comfortably, in good health, without any real loss in the technology available to modern society, all of this being achieved with a minimum drain on the total energy system. He is putting into practice what most of us just talk about: An alternative, self sufficient lifestyle.

John Litchen

FRANK HERBERT is the Guest of Honour of ADVENTION, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CONVENTION, which will be held in Adelaide from June 6th to 8th 1981. SPACE AGE BOOKS will have copies of GOD-EMPEROR OF DUNE on sale at the convention. It is hoped, but not confirmed yet, that Frank Herbert will pay a brief visit to Melbourne, during which SPACE AGE BOOKS hope to have a book signing. Ed.

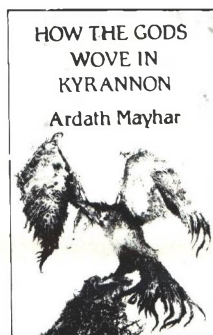
A JAUNDED VIEW... ...of recent Fantasy + SF

By PAUL J. STEVENS

This month there seems to have been an incredible amount of fantasy fiction lying around my dustbin so I suppose I should try and review some of it before it goes off and I have to use it for mulch in the garden.

First off the cab rank is HOW THE GODS WOVE IN KYRANNON by Ardath Mayhar published by Sidgewick & Jackson at \$16.50. This is a simple story told in an unusual manner by having almost all the characters involved in the plot telling part of the story from their point of view.

It seems there is this nasty charcater who has taken over the government of Lirith and lusts after the superior breed of horses that are bred by the clan Raithe. If he can get control of these horses then this nasty character can use them in a war of conquest and the bulk of this this thin plot is made up of the efforts of the nasty guy to kill off the clan Raithe and the efforts of clan Raithe to rally the few members left to fight and destroy the nasty guy. It all ends rather tamely and this reviewer was slightly bored with it all.



DEMON IN THE MIRROR & EYES OF SARSIS
by Andrew Offutt & Richard Lyon
Pocket Books.

The adventures of Tiana Highrider, adopted daughter of a pirate and the illegitimate daughter of a duke as she battles mutated spiders, wizards, vampires, sorcery, zombies and the foulest of black magic in a series that is a lot of fun reading.

Speaking of series there is THE WAR OF THE POWERS by Robert E. Vardeman & Victor Milan, published by Playboy Paperbacks. Originally conceived as one book the idea has been expanded into a nine book series by an enthusiastic publisher. So far we have seen THE SUNDERED REALM, THE CITY IN THE GLACIER and THE DESTINY STONE in a plot that has the usual barbarian hero, the beautiful blonde heroine fighting her

evil sister for control of the City in the Sky, a long dead wizard who is a sex maniac and lots of other characters to numerous to mention, all of them fighting, dying and occasionally fornicating throughout the pages of what is an entertaining and enjoyable fantasy.

Yet again another series, this time a three-parter by Peter Tremayne, THE FIRES OF LAN-KERN, published by Magnum at \$4.95 in the usual British overpricing. This one is set in a Britain of the future where some dreadful disaster has destroyed all civilization (again) and left nothing but barbarians and a sort of Celtic lifestyle. It moves well but I am getting to feel that I have read it all somewhere else. A fair read but nothing great. FIRES OF LAN-KERN is the first with two more to follow.

WORLD ENOUGH AND TIME by James Kahn is yet another fantasy, this time from Ballantine (\$3.05) and the plot is another world destroyed this time with the decadent world of the future spawning all sorts of fantasy and mythological creatures who take over from man. A small group of beings which include a man, a centaur, a cat, a vampire and a cyborg set out to rescue some friends from a menace that has had them kidnapped and taken south to what was once California. Although this could be labelled as science fiction I prefer to look on this book as a fair read and leave it at that.

CAPTAIN SINBAD is an adventure with a touch of fantasy as the famous Sinbad roams the Mediterranean on a quest for the Red Dahlia that grants all wishes. Things go from bad to worse to damn near impossible until Captain Sinbad finds out that wishes can come true and everyone ends up happily except for the baddies who end up dead. Best character is Don Giovanni, the talking frog who wishes only to be a frog again. The book is by Graham Diamond and is published by Fawcett/Gold Medal at \$3.25.

And to carry on my further tripping through the bookshelves with axes and bludgeon.....

THE ROBERT ADAMS SAGAS: THE HORSECLANS SERIES published by Signet in paperback. Blood and guts are very popular these days and whether one goes to the movies or reads books one comes across an increasingly morbid fascination with death and violence. One publisher, NEL, even has a series labelled 'nasty books' all of which deal with rats, bats snakes and spiders and other creepy crawlies

getting loose and eating up humans and otherwise spoiling someone's day.

Signet have decided to get onto the bandwagon and have published the HORSECLANS series, a post-nuclear world in which tribes of horseriding warriors battle a degenerate Christianity which is aided by a group of immortal scientists.

Battles are violent and bloody with the horseclans as the good guys in the white hats slowly but surely beating the vicious and fanatical Ehleene who practice blood sacrifice and are mostly degenerates. The horseclans leaders have developed some mutant powers like immortality, an ability to recover from fatal wounds and mental telepathy. If you like action, adventure and a good story well told, then Robert Adams is for you. So far Signet have published three in this series with the promise of reprinting earlier volumes which were published elsewhere.

Also by Robert Adams but this time published by Starblaze is CASTAWAYS IN TIME, a large format novel of an alternative world, England in the 14th Century and in the middle of an invasion by forces from Europe in a sort of holy war. Into this world come a half dozen or so Americans from 1980 and proceed to pitch in to help repel the invaders.

This is a harsh, pithy story with some vicious, bloody fighting of the style of the 14th Century which shows that it was not glamorous or heroic. Well thought out and exciting. Could be part one of a new series. Illustrated by Kelly Freas. A Starblaze book published by Donning.

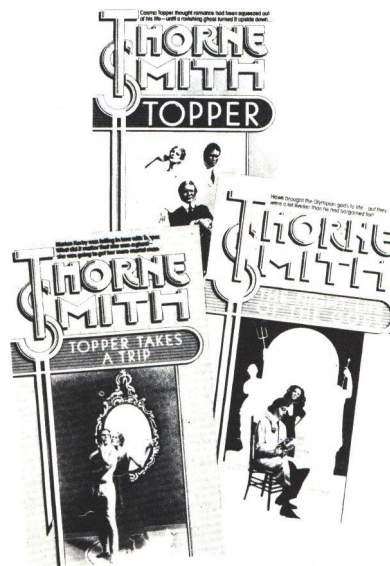
THE FORGOTTEN AMERICAN HUMORIST: THORNE SMITH.

Ballantine are embarking on a venture to publish 6 of Thorne Smith's classic works of humour and to start off they are presenting the two Topper books as well as NIGHT LIFE OF THE GODS and will follow with THE STRAY LAMB, TURNABOUT and RAIN IN THE DOORWAY. It is to be hoped that THE BISHOP'S JAEGER/SKIN AND BONES and THE GLORIOUS POOL will also be published as Thorne Smith has been out of print far too long.

For those of you who have never read any of Thorne Smith then you are indeed fortunate as you have a delightful experience awaiting you. A mixture of fantasy and ribaldry, Smith can make you believe in ghosts and statues come to life, skeletons capering in night clubs and a husband & wife swapping bodies so as to be taught a lesson in tolerance.

As all Smith's novels were written during the 1930's the hypocrisy of the period as embodied in Prohibition is shown as his characters swig down massive amounts of bootleg liquor and make sardonic comments about each other's lack of morals.

Attractive and nubile young ladies discuss their step-ins, or lack of them whilst the hero usually loses his trousers. There is always a court room scene where the dissipate



participants of the story are hauled before a vitriolic old judge who is usually reduced to nervous prostration by the garbled tale of inebriation and law breaking that has gone on prior to their apprehension by the slow thinking minions of the law.

Yes indeedy, Thorne Smith is worth reading, if not for the fantasy elements then for the sense of fun and mild anarchy that runs riot throughout the pages. Thorne Smith is fun and there is little enough of that now to warrant missing these new Ballantine issues.

SHON THE TAKEN by Tanith Lee Macmillan HC \$9.95

Tanith Lee must be one of the most prolific writers of the last few years. With this story for the younger reader she introduces us to two closed societies, one a rural structure with rigid rules about any contact with the second, technological society. Young Shon, is unfortunate enough to see and touch several people from the second society and is judged 'taken' by his people. Fleeing for his life, Shon is forced to confront both societies and find the origin of both peoples and solve the riddles of his survival. A good fantasy for the younger reader.

THE INCOMPLEAT ENCHANTER, THE CASTLE OF IRON and THE ENCHANTER COMPLETED (WALL OF SERPENTS) by De Camp & Pratt Sphere PB.

These three volumes make up one of the classic fantasy adventure series and should be on the bookshelf of every fantasy buff, and if you lot think I am going to tell you the plotline think again.

THE DRAGON LENS MEN by David A. Kyle Bantam PB 1.95(US) Corgi \$2.95

There have been several attempts to produce stories based on the writings of E. E. Doc Smith, most of them based on partly completed manuscripts and outlines. The family D'ALEMBERT series has proved to be the best of these whilst the LORD TEDRIC series reeks like an open sewer. Now we have THE DRAGON

LENSMEN by Kyle, which is a story that has been cloned from the LENS MEN series, midway between SECOND STAGE LENS MEN and CHILDREN OF THE LENS. If you are a 'Doc' Smith fan then you'll love this novel and if you are otherwise inclined then you won't touch it with a ten foot pole.

THE MAN WHO CORRUPTED EARTH by G. C. Edmondson Ace, PB \$3.05

The only corrupting that takes place herein is that of an industrialist who uses his power and influence to bribe and steal enough material from NASA's surplus to send a clandestine mission to the asteroids and find some metal suitable for mining. Not very exciting.

STAR DRIVER by Lee Corey Ballantine, PB \$2.60

Folksy sort of yarn about a group of young research scientists who discover a skyhook and then have to resort to sneaky means to have their invention accepted and recognised. Fun.

OPERATION MISFIT by E Hoffman Price Ballantine PB \$2.60

This could have been an ok story if someone other than Price had written it. Somehow he manages to make this obscure and destroys whatever interest the reader might have had. Read if nothing else is available.

THE LIGHT BEARER by Sam Nicholson Berkley PB \$2.60

This story is sold as fantasy but is in fact good, solid science fiction set on another planet that is similar to Arabia of the 1001 nights. There is adventure, a quest, danger, love, science disguised as magic and a heroine who gets what she wants, and that is the hero. A fun read from a writer who knows his stuff.

EARTHBLOOD by Keith Laumer & Rosel George Brown Coronet/Dell (Aust \$3.95)

This reprint from 1966 is a slam-bang adventure where a young man, Roan, sets out to learn if he is the last pure blood human in the galaxy. By the end of the quest he has fought space battles, conquered worlds and commands a crew of space pirates and finally he confronts his past on a ruined Earth with mutated dogs as the final enemy he has to conquer before he can enter to his long lost legacy. A real space opera that has all the ingredients but doesn't quite make it.

YELLOW PERIL by Richard Jaccoma Sphere PB \$4.95

At first glance this 349 page paperback looks like a clone of DR. FU MAN CHU by the late Sax Romer, but instead it tends to lean more towards the mystical Illuminatus with several helpings of sex thrown in for good measure. The story tells of Sir John Weymouth-Smythe, a servant of the Empire (this being the early 1930's) and his discovery of a dreaded plot against the Western World by the dreaded Dr. Chou en shu. From the opium dens of Bangkok to the jungles of Assam

with it's secret temples of sex worship to the back alleys of the Jewish quarter of New York to Berlin and the final confrontation between East and West and good and evil, as Dr. Chou en Shu battles Adolf Hitler for possession of the powerful spear of destiny. Death and sudden violence follow our hero as he makes love to several beautiful oriental girls only to have them snatched from him by his wily oriental opponent. Will evil win out? Will Sir John revenge himself for his beloved's death? Will Dr. Chou en Shu send any more severed heads through the mail? Will the spear of destiny bring Adolf Hitler to ultimate power? Will you believe in Mugwumps from now on? Read YELLOW PERIL and find out.

TAKEOFF by Randell Garret
Starblaze. \$6.20.

This book of parodies and pastiches is a must for the rabid sf reader but may fall a bit flat with the more casual browser. Certainly GENTLEMEN: PLEASE NOTE and LOOK OUT! DUCK! are classic and BACKSTAGE LENSEMEN is a near perfect parody of E. E. Doc Smith but my favourite, NO CONNECTIONS is about an Earth a long time in the future and several puzzled archaeologists who are trying to work out just what use those strange, porcelain objects were put to. Randall Garret proves that Isaac Asimov is not the only humorist in sf.

A WIZARD IN BEDLAM by Christopher Stasheff
Daw PB \$2.60

Whilst not as good as THE WIZARD IN SPIKE OF HIMSELF and KING KOBOLD, this story moves along well and has a satisfying ending with the promise of a sequel. I liked it.

Paul J. Stevens

BOOK REVIEWS CONTINUED

MASTER OF THE FIVE MAGICS by Lyndon Hardy.

Ballantine/Del Rey PB \$3.50

Reviewed by Keith Taylor (?)

This novel doesn't begin promisingly. We're introduced to Alodar, a young journeyman thaumaturge, who longs for the rights his family lost when his father was degraded from the nobility for treason. The charge was unjust; at least, Alodar thinks so. A demon-possessed baron is rebelling against the queen. Alodar dreams of saving the realm and becoming her consort.

Cliched.

Luckily, the plot takes a more interesting course after the first two chapters. Alodar's quest leads him through the study of each of the five branches of magic. The nature, limitations and dangers of each are well described. The secrecy and blackbitching among magicians which prevents fertile interaction is convincingly shown. Alodar has a lot of trouble finding new instructors who will accept him, but he perseveres, moving from thaumaturgy through alchemy, magic and sorcery to the simplest and

most appallingly dangerous of the five arts; wizardry, which depends on the control of demons.

In his progress, he finds his means becoming his goal. He also meets a more interesting woman than the queen, while she meets a man she finds more interesting than her official suitors. To show each magical art at work successively, and still avoid staleness in the story, is a good trick. Hardy not only manages it, he caps it all by the final battle and confrontation with the arch-demon causing all the trouble. This could easily have been anti-climactic, but it isn't.

Ho-hum beginning; strong end.

Keith Taylor

THE SUNSET WARRIOR by Eric Van Lustbader
Star/Wyndham PB \$6.50

Reviewed by Rowena Corey

This is packaged as sword and sorcery, but the tale is political science fiction. Set in a post holocaust world where civilization survived in the Freeholds built deep under the ground, and all but one have died out. This survived because of rigid traditionalism. But now as the great machines begin to fail and the knowledge to repair them is lost, this traditionalism cripples them. To add to the confusion the powerful Saardin (nobles-politicians) plot amongst themselves, and security represses information.

Into this steps the main character Ronin, a trained bladesman who is sworn to protect the Freehold. The society is similar to that of a medieval city, and since he has no allegiance to a Saardin, security has been torturing Borror, a magician, who it appears has some knowledge they wish to learn so that they can suppress it. It is through this knowledge that he discovers the deceptions which have been propounded. Ronin goes to below the bottom level of the Freehold where he walks the streets of the city whose dwellers designed the freehold. There he meets a little man whom we are lead to believe knows everything (an unnecessary touch of mysticism).

Unfortunately the people who put the book together placed several passages out of sequence so that events occur and then the lead up follows. But then the style was a little avant garde so perhaps it was intended, if so, it is annoying. But on the plus side it is a smooth-paced afternoon's reading.

THE FEAST OF DIONYSUS by Robert Silverberg
Coronet Books, \$3.95

The first story from which the collection took its name is the tale of a returned Spaceman. Gradually we learn that his two companions on the surface of Mars, were killed through no fault of his own. But he wallows in guilt, reinforced by his illicit love of his best friend's wife. The story progresses strongly when he finds a group of strange cultists in the American Desert. But instead of climaxing, it subsides fitfully till the readers sigh with exasperation at the Spaceman's lack of character.

The second story, 'Schwartz Between the Galaxy' is a delightful uptempo piece. Schwartz the anthropologist of the future bemoans the fact that Earth is one homogenous mass of bland pseudo American culture. He longs for the stars and their infinite diversity of intelligent life. So much does he yearn that the 'real' world increasingly slips into second place as his fantasies consolidate.

The third story uses the fact that we have dual minds, the left half which controls the right side of the body and handles language and numbers and logic. And the right side which possibly handles the intuitive leaps of genius. On this knowledge hinges the plot. Once again it begins well, but the ending is weak.

The last story 'Trips' is much stronger on character. There is a strange timeless feel about it. The flavour of this war torn world permeates it as the reader gradually learns the reasons behind the characters' trip.

THE FANTASY WORLDS OF PETER S. BEAGLE

Souvenir Press (1980) HC \$15.95

Reviewed by Rowena Cory

Every now and then you chance upon an author who you would have been the poorer to have missed. It's not that the others aren't well written, or even tell a similar story -- it is something more. There are four fantasy tales in this book. They have one thing in common, the characters are very real, and the fantasy is that strange kind that seems more real than reality. There's the story of the girl who changed into a werewolf once a month. When her new live-in lover discovers this he's afraid to leave her because she might take it as a personal insult due to her odd lunar cycle. There's a long tale of the last unicorn who is on a quest to find what happened to all the others. In this story there is a Robinhood character who makes up his own legends since it seems that no one else will. A shorter story concerns the events that occur when a bored society woman invites death to her ball, and she accepts. The last in the book is about a man who lives in a graveyard. It has a timeless quality, but once again the people are so very real, even if they are ghosts. If you love fantasy, or good writing, I can recommend this book.

THE WARP ONE:
THE STORMS HOWLING THROUGH TIFLIS
by Neil Oram
Sphere, \$5.95

The cover blurb proudly describes this as a psychedelic fantasy. The style is a disjointed series of ideas and images, from which the reader is expected to take his own visualisation of the plot. If you can read it you have more patience than I.

Rowena Cory

EDITORIAL NOTE: Thanks again to George Turner for proofreading most of this issue, another help from Rosemary Quinlan, Paul Stevens and Daryl Mannell.
M.B.

THE AUTHOR STORY LISTING BY DON TUCK

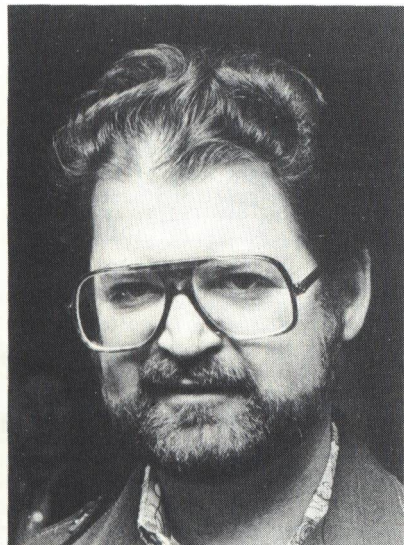


PHOTO BY
JAY KAY KLEIN

LARRY NIVEN

NIVEN, LARRY (LAURENCE VAN COTT)
(30 Apr 1938-)

U.S. author, born in California; has B. A. (Mathematics) from Washburn University, Kansas. From his first story in IF - "The Coldest Place" (Dec 1964) he has developed into one of the foremost contemporary writers in the science fiction field, presenting many intriguing concepts.

His stories are written within many series with the best known being his 'Tales of Known Space' - covering such titles as World of Ptavvs, A Gift from Earth and Ringworld and including stories in certain collections (some relating to Beowulf Shaeffer). Other series include his 'Leshy Circuit' Series and a group on the social implications of matter transmission. His novels in collaboration include The Flying Sorcerers with David Gerrold and Lucifer's Hammer, The Mote in God's Eye and Inferno with Jerry Pournelle.

He has won both the Nebula Award and Hugo for novels with his Ringworld 1970 (presented 1971) while other Hugos have been: Best novelette 1975 "Borderland of Sol"; Best Short Story 1966 "Neutron Star", 1971 "Inconstant Moon", and 1974 "The Hole Man".

A recorded interview is "The Extrapolated Larry Niven", interviewed by David Gerrold (Hourglass Productions, Calif. 1979).

Series

Leshy Circuit: "Passerby" (GSF, Sep 1969); "Rammer" (GSFxxxx Nov 1971) - has later direct sequel; "The Fourth Profession" (in Quark 4 / Delany+ / 1972); "Night on Mispék Moor" (Vertex, Aug 1974).

Shaeffer, Beowulf (internal to the 'Known Space' Series): "Neutron Star" (If, Oct 1966); "At the Core" (If, Nov 1966); "Flatlander" (If, Mar 1967); "Grendel" (new in Neutron Star); "The Borderland of Sol" (ASF, Jan 1975). First three also in Neutron Star.

Svetz, Hamilton. The animal hating time traveller: F&SF: "Get a Horse!" (Oct 1969); "Bird in the Hand" (Oct 1970); "There's a Wolf in My Time Machine" (Jun 1971); "What Good Is a Glass Dagger" (Sep 1972); "Flash Crowd" (in 3 Trips in Time & Space / Silverberg 1973). Collected as The Flight of the Horse

Matter Transmitter: "By Mind Alone" (IF, June 1966); "Flash Crowd" (see above); "The Alibi Machine" (Vertex, June 1973); "All the Bridges Rusting" (Vertex, Aug 1973); "A Kind of Murder" (ASF, Apr 1974); "The Last Days of the Permanent Floating Riot Club" (not found, mentioned in Nicholls' SF Encyclopedica).

Warlock. "Not Long before the End" (F&SF, Apr 1969); "What Good Is a Glass Dagger?" (F&SF, Sep 1972); others? The Magic Goes Away (1978).

Hamilton, Gil. Check The Long Arm of Gil Hamilton; The Patchwork Girl.

Fiction

All the Myriad Ways (C) (pa) (Ballantine, 1971 pa; 1975 pa)

Sf of 11 stories & 3 articles: "All the Myriad Ways"; "Passerby"; "For a Foggy Night"; "Wait It Out"; "The Jigsaw Man"; "Not Long before the End"; "Unfinished Story No. 1"; "Unfinished Story No. 2"; "Man Of Steel - Woman of Kleenex" (art.); "Exercise in Speculation: The Theory and Practice of Teleportation" (art.); "The Theory and Practice of Time Travel" (art.); "Inconstant Moon"; "What Can You Say about Chocolate Covered Manhole Covers"; "Becalmed in Hell".

Convergent Series (C) (pa) Ballantine/ Del Rey 1979 pa) (Orbit, 1980 pa)

Sf of 21 stories: "Bordered in Black"; "One Face"; "Like Banquo's Ghost"; "The Meddler"; "Dry Run"; "Convergent Series"; "The Deadlier Weapon"; "The Nonesuch"; "Singularities Make Me Nervous"; "The Shuman Computer"; "Assimilating Our Culture, That's What They're Doing!"; "Grammar Lesson"; "The Subject Is Closed"; "Cruel and Unusual"; "Transfer of Power"; "Cautionary Tales"; "Rotating Cylinders and the Possibility of Global Causality Vibration"; "Plaything"; "Mistake"; "Night on Mispék Moor"; "Wrong Way Street".

About half appeared in The Shape of Space (1969) and the rest not collected before.

Flight of the Horse, The (C) (pa) (Ballantine, 1973 pa; 1975 pa; 1976 pa) (Orbit, 1975 pa; 1976 pa; 1979 pa)

The Hamilton Svetz mad adventures, see Series. With title story retitled from "Get a Horse!"

Flying Sorcerers, The (with David

Gerrold) ("The Mispelled Magishun", If, sr2, May 1970) (Ballantine, 1971 pa) (Corgi, 1975 pa)

Natives think a space ship has magic.

Gift from Earth, A ("Slowboat Cargo", If, sr3, Feb 1968) (Ballantine, 1968 pa; 1971 pa (2 ed.); 1973 pa; 1975 pa) (MacDonald, London, 1969) (Walker, New York, 1970) (SF B.C. Brit, 1970) (Sphere, 1971 pa; 1973 pa; 1974 pa) (Orbit 1978 pa; 1980 pa) Descendants of a space crew are despots over the colony their ancestors brought to the world Mount Lookitthat.

Hole in Space, A (C) (pa) (Ballantine, 1974 pa; 1977 pa) (Orbit, 1975 pa; 1976 pa; 1980 pa)

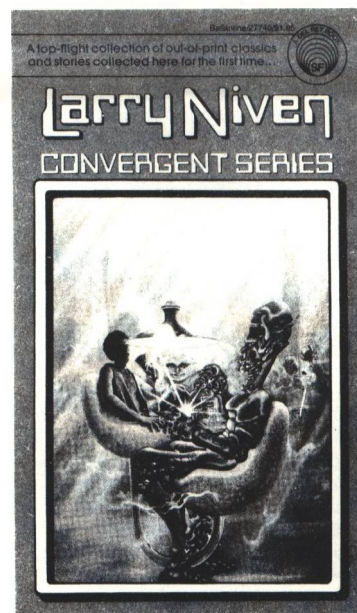
Sf of 10 stories: "Rammer"; "The Alibi Machine"; "The Last Days of the Permanent Floating Riot Club"; "A Kind of Murder"; "All the Bridges Rusting"; "There is a Tide"; "Bigger Than Worlds"; "\$16,940.00"; "The Hole Man"; "The Fourth Profession".

INCONSTANT MOON (C) (Gollancz, London, 1973) (SF B.C. Brit, 1974) (Sphere, 1974 pa; 1975 pa; 1976 pa (2 ed); 1977 pa)

Gollancz ed. 12 stories, all Sphere 7 stories omitting Nos. 2, 4, 7-9: "Inconstant Moon"; "Wait It Out"; "Bordered in Black"; "Not Long before the End"; "How Heroes Die"; "At the Bottom of a Hole"; "Passerby"; "The Deadlier Weapon"; "Convergent Series" ("The Long Night"); "One Face"; "Becalmed in Hell"; "Death by Ecstasy" ("The Organleggers").

Inferno (with Jerry Pournelle) (Pocket Books, 1976 pa) (Wingate, London, 1977) (Star, 1977 pa) (Gregg, Boston, 1979 new intro-N. Spinrad)

A pastiche on Dante's Inferno with the protagonist (a sf writer) wandering through an evident hell; generally not highly considered.



Long Arm of Gil Hamilton, The (C) (pa) (Ballantine, 1976 pa; 1979 pa) (Orbit, 1980 pa)

Detective novelettes set 150 years ahead in Southern California where there is bodysnatching, transplanting of organs, etc - 3 stories not in strict continuity: "Death by Ecstasy"; "The Defenceless Dead" (in Ten Tomorrows /Elwood/1973); "ARM" (in Epoch/Elwood & Silverberg/1975); Afterword.

Lucifer's Hammer (with J. Pournelle) (Simon & Schuster, New York, 1977) (Crest, 1978 pa) (Futura, 1978 pa; Orbit, 1979 pa)

A comet strikes Earth with devastating results.

Magic Goes Away, The (Ace, 1978 trade pb; 1979 pa)

A profusely illustrated fantasy with the search of a man for lost magic.

Mote in God's Eye, The (with J. Pournelle) (Simon & Schuster, N.Y., 1974) (D'day SF B.C. 1975) (pocket Books, 1975 pa) (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, London, 1975) (Orbit, 1976 pa; 1977 pa (2 ed); 1978 pa; 1979 pa)

Future humanity as an interstellar empire and then a spaceship encounters intelligent aliens.

Neutron Star (C) (Ballantine, 1968 pa; 1971 pa (2 ed); 1973 pa; 1975 pa) (MacDonald, London, 1969) (Dutch 1970) (Sphere, 1971 pa; 1972 pa; 1973 pa) (Orbit, 1978 pa; 1980 pa)

SF, 8 stories including the universe of the puppeteers and Beowulf Schaeffer: "Neutron Star"; "A Relic of Empire"; "At the Core"; "The Soft Weapon"; "Flatlander"; "The Ethics of Madness"; "The Handicapped"; "Grendel".

Patchwork Girl, The (Ace, 1980 trade pa; 1980 pa)

Murder mystery (novelette!) with drawings by Fernando Fernandez; a Gil Hamilton story.

Protector (Ballantine, 1973 pa; 1975 pa) (Futura, 1974 pa; Orbit, 1975 pa; 1976 pa; 1977 pa; 1979 pa) (German 1975) (Compton Russell, London, 1976) Expansion of "The Adults" (GSF, June 1967) with humans developed from aliens but the transformation cannot occur on Earth.

Ringworld (Ballantine, 1970 pa; 1971 pa; 1972 pa; 1974 pa; 1975 pa; 1977 pa) (Gollancz, 1972) (Sphere, 1973 pa; 1974 pa; 1976 pa; 1977 pa; 1978 pa) (SF B.C. Brit. 1973) (French 1973) (Holt, New York, 1977) (D'day SF B.C. 1978?)

The acclaimed sf masterpiece with a group exploring this gigantic world (six hundred trillion square miles of surface - three million times that of Earth).

Ringworld Engineers (Phantasia, Huntington Woods, limited ed 1979) (Holt, New York, 1980) (D'day SF B.C. 1980) (Gollancz, 1980) Sequel to Ringworld.

Shape of Space, The (C) (pa) (Ballantine, 1969 pa)

Sf, 12 stories: "The Warriors"; "Safe at Any Speed"; "How the Heroes Die"; "At the Bottom of a Hole"; "Bordered in Black"; "Like Banquo's Ghost"; "One Face"; "The Peddler"; "Dry Run"; "Convergent Series" ("The Long Night"); "The Deadlier Weapon"; "Death by Ecstasy"

Tales of Known Space (C) (pa) (Ballantine, 1975 pa; 1979 pa) (Orbit, 1980 pa)

13 stories and L. Niven's "My Universe and Welcome to It!": "The Coldest Space"; "Becalmed in Hell"; "Wait It Out"; "Eye of an Octopus"; "How Heroes Die"; "The Jigsaw Man"; "At the Bottom of a Hole"; "Intent to Deceive" (The Deceivers); "Cloak of Anarchy"; "The Warriors"; "The Borderland of Sol"; "There Is a Tide"; "Safe at Any Speed";

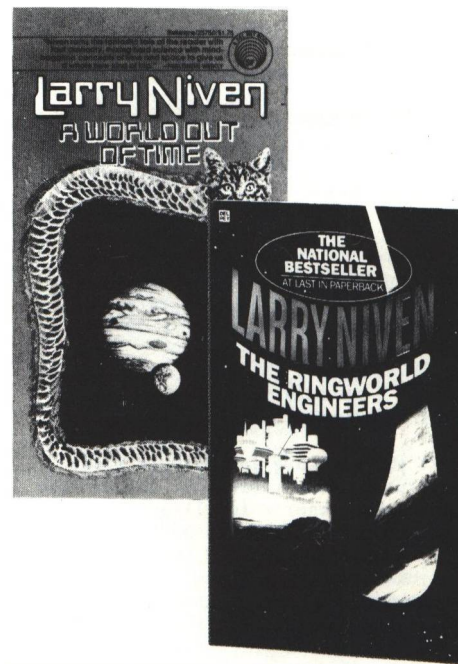
Includes: Timeline for Known Space; Afterthoughts; Bibliography.

World of Ptavvs (Worlds of Tomorrow, Mar 1965) enlarged (Ballantine 1966 pa; 1971 pa (2 ed); 1973 pa; 1975 pa) (SF B.C. Brit. 1969) (Sphere. 1971 pa; 1973 pa; 1974 pa) (French 1974) (Orbit, 1978 pa; 1980 pa)

An Earthman makes contact with a telepathic member of a master race.

World Out of Time, A (Holt, 1976) (SF B.C. U.S. 1977) (Ballantine, 1977 pa) (Macdonald & Janes, London, 1977) (Orbit, 1977 pa; 1979 pa)

Enlargement of "Rammer" (GSF, Nov 1971) with a man escaping from a claustrophobic future Earth to a shattered far future one.



THE AMERICAN INVASION

...AND OTHER CONVENTION INFORMATION

Some fans have shown a very uncompromising attitude to the principle of bringing overseas guests to our conventions. A very short sighted attitude, I am sure the majority of fans will agree. At this time I will not belabour the point, but it is quite evident that the contact with overseas authors has done more for Australian science fiction writing and publishing than any other single factor. The cost I will admit is getting very high, but with guests like we have had this year and over the last few years, it has been worth every cent.

Most things that are worth doing cost something to do. We have got to find ways of financing the visits of overseas authors. At any rate, CINECON is the only convention that I know of that has lost a lot of money. In a budget of almost \$12,000 we are down almost \$2,000. With a bit more care on incidental costs we could have shaved another \$1000 at least off the costs. Also we should have had a better attendance than around 250. We did expect a better response from people outside the known fan circles, but the majority of people attending had been to con-

ventions previously. Another CINECON must be held at a theatre with much better publicity and made to appeal to a much wider spectrum of people.

The regular conventions however also have a problem. They cannot expect the Literature Board and other authorities to keep forking out funds. There is a limit. More co-operation between the states in two aspects must be reached; no more than two conventions with overseas guests in a year and organised gatherings in as many states as possible to help finance the costs of bringing the authors to Australia.

CINECON was a great success. It proved the tremendous interest there is in f&sf films at the moment. Apart from the programme being a bit overloaded and the high cost, everything went well. The fancy dress party was innovative if not as well presented as it might have been. The important thing is that everybody enjoyed themselves. We have had numerous people tell us how much they enjoyed themselves and we have not had any complaints. The films were well received and our Guest ROBERT BLOCH was everything you could expect from a Guest of Honour. A great guy, excellent speaker and ready to do everything that was asked of him. A complete report of CINECON will be pub-

lished by The Fantasy Film Society in it's journal THE FANTASY FILM FAN, when it recovers from it all.

NUCON we have heard was very successful also. Over 250 people attended. The programme was not too tight and the highlights as expected involved the Guest of Honour LARRY NIVEN. As at CINECON, the slide show provided by TRANSFINITE AUDIOVISUAL was a knockout. Larry and his wife Marilyn later attended a minicon in Adelaide and a booksigning and party in Melbourne. The book signing at Space Age Books was very successful with over 100 people filing through over a three hour period.

Next up we can look forward to ADVENTION in Adelaide over the Queen's Birthday weekend, June 6th to 8th. See previous issues for details or write ADVENTION P.P.Box 98, Rundle Street, Adelaide, S.A.500. Ring 272 5866 or 42 7152. The Guest of honour by the way is the author of DUNE, FRANK HERBERT. Late in May there is a convention in New Zealand which by the time you read this will be all over. I hope it was a great success, but with all the local cons on and many people saving to go to the World Con in DENVER U.S.A., I doubt very

(continued page 23)



Grant L. Stone
Alternative & Contemporary Documents
Collection Librarian
MURDOCH UNIVERSITY
WA

13th May, 1980

Dear Merv,

A quick note about a couple of things that I've been meaning to say for sometime concerning ASFN. Firstly, I think ASFN is just what the local science fiction scene needs; a regular, competent magazine with a good mixture of professional and fan news and columns of a similar nature. I am disturbed that some columns, for various reasons, aren't as regular as I would like (e.g. fanzine reviews), but I appreciate your problems. The listing of new releases through the distributors and publishers announcements is a service I for one find useful. You may be aware that the W.A. distributors are often tied in the Eastern States distributing networks but are nearly always separate companies. For this reason our distribution is a little more haphazard and I think the 'Availability' column I've been producing for Roy's WASFAN serves a useful purpose.

That you can have in a single issue (February 1980) reviews of the calibre of George Turner's intelligent, witty and concise comments on James Hogan's "Two Faces of Tomorrow" and the disjointed notes by Shane Keenan on a number of titles (that possibly didn't merit much more) is encouraging to any prospective reviewer to give it a go. One can work from Shane's baseline to possibly equal George's competence (as I trust Shane is doing).

While on reviewing and having mentioned George Turner (leading into the matter that sparked this missal) I was recently searching for material in some early issues of AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW (John Bangsund's effort at the title). In one of the issues we have in the Murdoch collection (No. 18 Dec 1968) is a fine fourteen page article entitled "On Writing About Science Fiction" by George Turner. The article reads as well now as I did, I'm sure, in 1968 and the words of advice to any budding reviewer are just as pertinent. I think that a reprint of the article (George willing) is in order or possibly a copy of the article sent to every new reviewer that writes saying they are willing to join the reviewing ranks in ASFN. On that note put me down for a title or two; I'll read just about anything, once.

Now the fact that I was searching through old ASFR's is the point that got me putting pen to paper. A note in the February issue of ASFR from Dennis Stock's (Hi!) wanting an article

from an early Riverside Quarterly sent me scurrying to my shelves some weeks back but that is an issue we lack (sorry). Last week we decided to do our half hour weekly SF radio show (The Faster Than Light Radio Show - Friday at 9.00 on 6NR) as a special around the work of Cordwainer Smith. Again I hunted my shelves this time looking for the material I was sure would be in the early ASFR's but wouldn't you know it to date I've only been able to gather issues 1, and 4, of the first eleven issues although Murdoch has the rest. So! you say, another disappointed collector. No I'm more than that. Sure I'm a collector, of sorts, but I'm collecting for all of us. An issue in the fanzine collection or among the SF documents at Murdoch is a nationally available resource.

If you don't believe me try going to your local library to see if you can get an article from say issue 15 of SF COMMENTARY. This is what would/should happen. Your local librarian will reply that they don't have the periodical (obviously) but that they will check and find a location. That librarian sends an appropriate form (or telex) to the National Library (ANL) in Canberra who have a card file maintained of journal titles held by libraries contributing to the system (the formal information network). The ANL would reply to the local librarian that the title is available at Murdoch University (and in the case of this title ANL itself and maybe a few others) The local librarian then writes Murdoch and requests a copy of the article which is duly returned. This process takes about two weeks. Every title catalogued and entered into the formal information network becomes part of the National resource. Not only is availability maximised but you are assured (well virtually) that material once in the system will be available on a continuing basis for consultation.

I'm aware that there are many personal libraries of fanzines and literature far superior to that at Murdoch but ultimately these collections have little access and no permanence.

Could I plead the case for unwanted back files of fanzines (well those with now little use, knowing the average fan material is rarely unwanted) and other SF material to find a resting place at Murdoch. While I'm here (hopefully for a good while yet) it will be lovingly organized, appreciated and utilized and even when I do eventually leave Murdoch all material formally organized remains available to all, nationally and internationally.

You may think that your meagre collection of fanzines would be duplicated by what's here already. I don't think so. There are major holes (even of Australian fanzines). Even if duplication does result I assure you that any such material will be forwarded to convention committees or the DUFF organisers for auction or sale to the benefit of all fans. This I have done in the past and continue to do so.

I'm always willing to pay postage or freight on material coming to Murdoch and often, as Merv will testify, part with money for SF material.

At this point I see my quick note has turned into a lengthy rave - sorry! It is a matter that concerns me somewhat both professionally and as a fan. I would appreciate other comments.

Grant Stone

Dear Grant,

Well I am sorry this letter is over a year late being published, but I came across it accidentally when searching for something else and decided that it should be printed at any rate. All you have said is as current now as it was then. I hope lots of people will send you their old fanzines. Personally I do not get much time to read or review all the fanzines. I wish I had somebody here who would do it for me. All I can do is mention most of what I do get. As I am so far behind again they have missed out altogether this issue.

Thanks again for your comments.

Merv

Cherry Wilder,
16B Egelsbacher Str.,
6070 Langen/Hessen, West Germany

6/12/80

Dear Merv,

Very pleased to receive another issue of ASFN but I must fire off a correction with some Christmas and New Year greetings.

There was a great mess-up about the Unicon 4 Ditmar awards: I would certainly have liked to be informed that BRIN had won the award. I wouldn't have minded receiving the award itself at one stage but now I'm not so sure; Harding had certain suggestions about what to do with it...now we know what he does with his, and in all those different shapes and sizes too! But joking aside, this was definitely not the reason I suggested that no-one should nominate my work for a Ditmar again. I just feel that my 'Australian-ness' has worn a bit thin and that fair dinkum Aussies and persons living in Australia should be nominated.

I am at present an international gypsy, carrying a New Zealand passport and living in West Germany, far away...sob...from the gum trees, kangaroos and rare natural growths such as Ken Ozanne and the Emmaville Tiger. Of course I'll always be some sort of Australian writer and all the things I write are dedicated more or less to the Australian Fans, whom I hope to see again in 1983 when I come for a visit, WorldCon or no WorldCon. But Ditmars should be used to encourage Australian home-grown talent of which I am glad to see an enormous amount.

I have heard several times this week from professional and fan sources of the sad death of Susan Wood. She was not only an enthusiastic and clear-sighted critical writer she was a person of great warmth and understanding. The

(continued page 23)

A IN 83

STORY
BY
PAUL J
STEVENS

ART
BY
TINY
DARYL
MANNELL

OOPS * * *

LEE SMOIRE JETS OFF TO DOWN UNDER.



ON ARRIVAL, SHE RECEIVES A TELEGRAM.



BUT DEEP UNDER SYDNEY...



CONVENTIONS Continued from page 17.

many Australians would have been in New Zealand. They do merit our support in the future however, and it has been suggested that N.Z. be brought in as part of the National Convention bidding area. As yet I have not heard their views on that.

Later this year, the National University SF (?) Convention will be held, TOLKON, in Sydney, August 21st to 24th. I do not see how this can be called a science fiction convention, being entirely devoted to J.R.R.T. That may explain why NUCON, which was the last bid for the National University con went ahead at any rate. I do not condone their action in this, but I do most certainly sympathise with them.

In July a gathering for those interested more in the serious and the literary side of SF in Australia, will be held in Canberra, SPECULATIVE FICTION: THE AUSTRALIAN CONTEXT, 18th -19th July, at The Australian National University. For details write: The Secretary, Humanities Research Centre, A.N.U., P.O.Box 4, Canberra A.C.T (Phone 062-49 4786).

Finally, before I finish off this issue, a final reminder about AUSTRALIA IN '83. We have a lot of people who have joined this year's World SF Convention being held in the U.S.A., DENVENTION. OK they should have voted for the Hugo by now, but they should also record their vote for the site in 1983. They must do this by sending \$7.50 US to the 41st World Science Fiction Convention, c/o Denvention II, Site Selection, Box 11545, Denver, CO80211, USA, or Australia in

'83, c/o Merv Binns at Space Age Books 305/307 Swanston Street, Melbourne or Carey Handfield, P.O.Box 91, Carlton, Victoria 3053.

There are two bids in for the National Australia SF Convention in 1982. SYDNEY, with either REHEARSALCON if we win the '83 World Con bid or SYNCON '82. The first in August, 20th to 23rd and the second in June, 11th to 14th, and Melbourne for Easter 1982. The Sydney bid is being initiated mainly by the fans organising the 'A83 bid and the Melbourne bid by Justin Ackroyd and friends. The decision will be made by members of Adventure in June, in Adelaide.

Merv Binns

THE LETTER COLUMN Continued

SF community will miss her very much; please let me help with any commemoration that is being arranged.

I am working at the moment on THE TAPESTRY WARRIORS, third volume of the Torin series. The second book, THE NEAREST FIRE is doing well in the U.S. and has picked up some nice reviews. I finished a novel for Pocket recently entitled SECOND NATURE and Pocket have reissued BRIN with a fine new fantasy cover...to replace the defective edition of last year! Keep an eye open for New Terrors 1, edited by Ramsey Campbell, which contains my story "The Gingerbread House", which is set in Langenh. I understand that

there is an anthology coming out from The Readers Digest Australia in January 81 which contains at least one SF tale, namely "The Ark of James Carlyle", reprinted now for the fourth time. Another thing to watch for in 81 will be Science Fiction Writers of the Twentieth Century edited by Curtis Smith for St Martins/St James Press, with absolutely everyone included... I mean, Harding, Broderick, me, how esoteric can one get? Plus lovely criticisms of everyone's work...I wrote on Doris Lessing, Ira Levin, Rob Holdstock and Alan Siliotie (one book, 'Travels In Nihilon').

And a Happy New Year to all my readers!

Regards,
Cherry Wilder.

SCIENCE FICTION TOUR ANNOUNCED

PAUL STEVENS in association with "Australians Studying Abroad", wishes to announce that a tour is being organised to the U.S.A. next January 1982. The object of the tour is to give a basic grounding in science fiction in all its aspects. More details will be given later, but the tour will include visits to Cape Kennedy, The Aeronautics and Space Museum and meetings with science fictions professionals and fans.

For more details contact Paul J. Stevens, c/o Space Age Books, 305/307 Swanston St., Melbourne, 3000, Victoria, AUSTRALIA.

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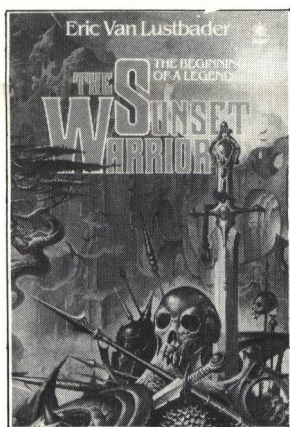
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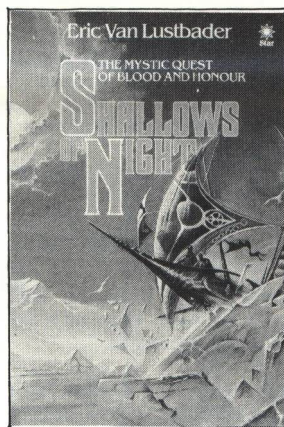
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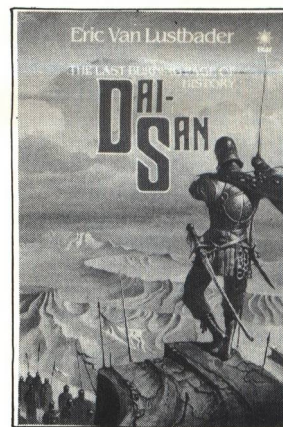
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THE
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