THE B.S.F.A. BULLETIN

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May 1972

Edited by Archie Mercer for The British Science Fiction Association Limited. Proofread, if you're lucky, by Beryl Mercer. Editorial address: 21 Trenethick Parc, Helston, Cornwall. Distribution address: 8 Park Drive, Wickford, Essex. E&OE

OBITUARY EDWARD JOHN CARNELL, known professionally as "John" but to his friends as "Ted", Chairman of the B.S.F.A., who died suddenly about a week before Easter 1972.

Ted Carnell was active as a science fiction fan in the 1930s, being involved with (amongst other things) a fanzine called NOVAE TERRAE. He never admitted to having sold his own work professionally, except for a couple of "Probability Zero" items in the wartine ASTOUNDING.

After the end of World War II, while he was managing a stationery shop and playing gigs on double-bass, he was given the chance to edit a science fiction magazine. This was NEW WORLDS, Britain's longest-running sf magazine, which he edited from the first issue. This had its ups and downs, caused mainly by lack of capital and by distribution troubles, but after the first few issues he was able to take the plunge and quit the stationer's, moving into sf full-time. At one time he was editing three magazines sin ultaneously - NEW WORLDS, SCIENCE FANTASY, and SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURES.

Finally severing his connection with NEW WORLDS after well over 100 issues, he started editing the NEW WRITINGS IN SF series, which has appeared periodically ever since from Dobson in hard covers and from Corgi in paperback.

Alongside his editing, Ted built up a practice as a literary agent specialising in sf and f antasy; in the double-capacity of agent and editor he has helped to make the reputations of many of Britain's best-known sf authors, not to mention of some of the Americans too. In addition, he was for a time the British representative for several specialist American publishing-houses. More than anybody, Ted deserved the title of "Britain's Mr. Science Fiction".

BSFA PUBLICATIONS NEWS Unless something unforeseen occurs, this is the final

is that from now on this material will appear as part of a bi-monthly VECTOR. <u>Malcolm Edwards</u> is to edit VECTOR, and <u>Archie Mercer</u> will continue to assemble news of the Association and of its members in the capacity of News Editor. VECTOR will again be printed; <u>Grahan Boak</u> now has custody of the official duplicator which he will use for anything duplicated; <u>Jill Adams</u> continues to hold the addressing-machine; and <u>David Rowe</u> will distribute the mailings. The first of the new VECTORs should be appearing within two calendar months of this Bulletin.

LIBRARY NEWS Elaine Wash, for the past several years the Association's highly

efficient book-librarian, has been obliged through ill-health to relinquish this office. She writes: "...when t he library work builds up because I don't feel able to cope, it becomes difficult to catch up, and this then is a source of worry t o me. As I also now have a more demanding job than I had when I first took over the library, I have been finding for some time that it has been too much of a strain to do all the work t hat is required..." Elaine originally took on the librarianship because she happened to live close to John Nash, the previous book-librarian: the B.S.F.A. should have that sort of good luck more often :

Accompanying this Bulletin there should be a ballot-form asking for members' opinions on the next move in the library game. Until the library's future is settled, of course, there will be no further catalogue-pages issued.

AGM NEWS This Bulletin should also be accompanied by the minutes of the AGM held at Ch ester over Easter. However, a few short notes here won't be aniss. John Brunner, newly-elected to the Council, becomes Chairman in place of the late John (or Ted) Carnell. Also newly-elected to the Council are Christopher Bursey of Birmingham and Grahame Poole of Cheltenham - the latter becoming Company Secretar y in succession to Doreen Parker. Jill Adams, Dan Morgan and E.C. Tubb were re-elected; Doreen Parker and Phil Rogers did not stand for reelection.

Amongst the other results, direct or indirect, of the AGM appears to be the death of Gerald Bishop's "Blue Pages" listing of month-by-month sf titles published in Britain. It has been suggested in some quarters that Gerald has been treated somewhat harshly after his good work for the Association. The position, however,

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is that the Association is unable to publish then as often or as quickly as Gerald wishes, and that the feeling of the meeting was that they ought to be part of VECTOR instead of an independent publication. The situation is not (so far as is known) completely resolved as yet, so it's possible that something may be saved from this particular wreck.

CHESSMANCON IN GEN ERAL According to all reports, Chessmancon was both well-attended and thoroughly enjoyable. The following Awards were presented during the proceedings:

B.S.F.Award: to Brian Aldiss for "Moment of Eclipse". A particular congratulation to Brian, who was not only the Association's first Chairman, but before that the (unincorporated) Association's first and only President: this Award has thus, in a sense, "come home".

British Fantasy Socie ty Award: to Michael Moorcock for "Warlords of the Air". (This Society was previously known as the British

Weird Fantasy Society, but wishes to attract a wider membership.) "Doc" Weir Award: to Jill Adams, Treasurer of the B.S.F.A.

Ken McIntyre Award (for fanzine artwork): to "a bloke named Pitts", alias "James (I think) Pitt" - both of which vague identities (such is fame!)

are suspected to refer to Martin "Santos" Pitt of Birmingham. <u>Delta Group Award</u> (amateur cine): tie between "And on the Eighth Day..." (Altrincham Cine Club) and "The Visitors" (Peter Phillips) (E&OE !)

(Not to mention sundry fancy dress awards, art-show awards, spot/prizes, etc.) In any case, the Bulletin wishes to add its congratulations to the rest in respect of all those named above.

FANZINE FOUNDATION Another side-effect of Chessmancon is that the B.S.F.A:'s "Fanzine Foundation" (otherwise collection of fanzines for librarious and similar purposes) is now firmly in the custody of <u>Mike Meara</u>, of Flat A, 5 Kedleston Rd., Derby, to whom enquiries should be addressed.

AND FOR OUR NEXT CONVENTION In accordance with recent tradition, the precise location of the 1973 Easter S.F. Convention is not yet cut-and-dried. Ken Cheslin, of 36 Chapel St., Wordsley, near Stourbridge, Worcs, DY8 5QP, has been deputed to investigate once again the situation in the Midlands. You may register with him (50p) in complete safety. Further news will be published when it happens.

In the mean time, those same Midlands have decided to make a habit of the Birmingham Novacon, named from its month of occurrence. "Novacon 2 will happen" (writes Pauline Dungate) "over the weekend of the 4-5th November 1972 at the Imperial Centre Hotel, Birmingham (same place as last time). The registration fee of 50p should be sent to Jeff Hacker, 92 Wisley Way, Harborne, Birmingham, B32 2JU. Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to Novacon. Any other inquiries should be addressed t o the chairman/lady Pauline E. Dungate at 8 Stirling Court, Stirling Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 16. I'll send on any news of Novacon 2 as we make it."

EUROPA S.F. AWARDS Jean G. Muggoch (99 Ealing Village, London W.5) publishes a flyer lamenting the lack of publicity given

in this country to these Awards. This reads in part: "The BSFA Bulletin published something but as I am not a member I didn't get a copy. However, judging by the complete nonsense about the awards published in the latest Bulletin, it appears that e ven the editor doesn't read this newszine ! So can we get the facts straight now; The Bulletin suggests sending to Italy. The Trieste Conmittee decided otherwise and I shouldn't think they have the time. The Editor of the Bulletin 'who doesn't recall having processed any such request hitherto'; perhaps he should read some back issues - someone in Trieste obviously read it ! Try just after last Whitsun !"

Your Bulletin-editor did as requested, and found the "lost" mention - and the reason for its having rung no bell in his memory. It had been inserted in Scunthorpe, at the "printer's". No exception can be taken to such a course, as it means such an annoucement catching the mailing. However, the Bulletin-editor claims to be the <u>only</u> member of the Association with an excuse for not having noticed it !

2

ORBITER circulates from Rob Holdstock, 15 Highbury Grange, London N5. It is a dossier of stories to which YOU may contribute. It will earn your story

the careful criticism of several other amateur writers acting as readers. All they ask in return is that you respond critically to their stories. It's all to try and help YOU find out where the inadequacies in your manuscripts might lie. Take it or leave it.

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED Hatton, Barry T. (Dr.) (30): 25 Sellerdale Av., Wyke,

Bradford, Yorks, BD12 9IJ. "Other" interests: Egyptology, Astronomy, Walking, Cooking, Music. Correspondents preferred from: England, Germany, U.S.A.

Christian, Panela (22): 49 Farrer Rd., Hornsey, London, N8 8LD. Music, Films, Theatre, Astronomy, Books. U.K., U.S.A., Canada.

Grubb, David A. (28): Canden Cottage, Canden Rd., Bexley, Kent. Photography (incl. underwater), Electronics, Taping, Han Radio, Music. Anywhere.

Webb, Julie (18): 1 Norman Grove, Reddish, Stockport, Ches. Photography, Horseriding, Underground Music. UK.

(=(AM: now if those two last-named would get together, perhaps they could try some underground photography with underwater nusic.)=)

MEMBERS' SMALL-ADS APPEAR IN THE B.S.F.A. BULLE TIN FREE OF CHARGE. FROM NOW ON THIS FACILITY WILL BE TRANSFERRED, WITH THE REMAINDER OF BULLETIN-MATERIAL, TO VECTOR.

<u>MACROCOSM 2</u> Macrocosm is an anateur anthology of SF, Fantasy and Speculative fiction. The emphasis is on variety and entertainment. The stories are NOT in any way fannish. God forbid. Artwork lurks throughout the

pages, and is by Ames, Lisa Conesa, Alastair Noyle and David Rowe.

If you're interested a copy may be obtained from Rob Holdstock, 15 Highbury Grange, London n5. Price, 15p. But hurry. I'm not circulating widely until I get a show of interest.

ETERNITY SF, the new American sem i-prozine, will be out soon and contain the following.

FICTION from Andrew Offutt, Robert Margroff, Barry Malzberg, Joseph Green and Edward Bryant.

ARTICLES from Philip K. Dick and Denny O'Neil.

ARTWORK fron Steve Fabian, Mike Gilbert, Derek Carter, Ed Romero, Jim McLeod et al. POETRY by Roger Zelazny, L. Sprague de Camp, Susan Clark, Scott Edelstein, Virgil Burnett.

Also book and film reviews, together with a recordings column and graphic art strips.... And for writers, Eternity will pay 1 cent a word for all published fiction from New Wave, through 'hard' sf to fantasy....

Single copies at 37¹/₂p and four-issue subs at £1.30 from the English Agent, who is: Roger Waddington, 4 Commercial Street, Norton, Malton, Yorkshire.

WANTED (1) A copy of 'Nomads of Gor' by John Norman

(2) Any information on 'Earth's Last Fortress' by A.E. van Vogt
(3) and on 'Vengeance by Proxy' by John Beynon in Strange Stories Feb 1940
...Philip Payne, Longmead, 15 Wilmerhatch Lane, Epson, Surrey.

I AM INTERESTED in details of sf criticism etc. appearing in magazines outside the sf field. My work gives me access to indexing publications such as the British Humanities Index, Education Index, Essay & General Literature Index etc., which sometimes list such articles. Their coverage is, however, by no means comprehensive, and I would be obliged if anyone who comes across such an article lets me know.

... George T. Geddes, 62 Kingarth St., Glasgow, G42 7RW.

GERMAN NEWSZINE TELLUS INTERNATIONAL SFCD-NEWS may well prove of interest to internationally-minded members. It #214/44 covers the field of sf and sf-fandom in German-speaking Europe, with side-glances at other countries, but is written in (excellent) English, specifically for international circulation. 10 issues 65p or DM6: available from Gerd Hallenberger, D-3550 Marburg, Alter Kirchhainer Weg 52, West Germany. (AM) Since the annual Membership List is due to be distributed with this Bulletin, there seens no point in printing a list of new members who are already included therein. In order to save any possible confusion, however, here follows the accumulation since the previous Bulletin of:

CHANGE OF ADDRESS (including postcode addition)

1050 Adlard, Peter M.: now Four Ways, 22 Han Lane, Lenham, near Maidstone, Kent 243 Bull, Terence A.: now 3 Sandwell Ct., Handsworth, Birmingham 12 690 Chopping, David V .: now 34 Burghley Av., Wittering, Pe terborough Hallett, Victor H.G.: now Androneda, 154 Stanley Rd., Cambridge, CB5 8LB 347 1070 Horrell, Michael: now 7 Cole Valley Rd., Hall Green, Birmingham 28 601 Hume, Colin A.: now 13 Seymore Close, Chandlers Ford, Hants Kirsch, S. Gerald: now Shenley Hospital, Radlett, Herts, WD7 9HB 272 McCaffrey, Anne: now Meadowbank House, Ballinter Rd., Dundrum, Dublin, 1183 Republic of Ireland Rickard, Robert J.M.: now 31 Kingswood Rd., Moseley, Birminghan, B13 9AN 737 1137 Spinks, John A.: now Flat 4, Hillside Club, 50/54 Mill Hill Rd., Norwich, NOR 16G 457 Steel, S. Duncan: now 10 Osborne Villas, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE2 1JU 1062 Stone, Michael W.: now 6 Elmers Drive, Kingston' Rd., Teddington, Middlesex 1040 Lundwall, San L.: now Egilsvagen 28, S-16153 Bronna, Sweden

CONVENTIONAL PS (CONVENTIONS PAST & FUTURE) Re CHESSMANCON, Lisa Conesa writes: "One last word about the Chess Tournament - it was a bit chaotic because I had many more contestants than I thought, people wanted to sign-on on the spot, and only three chess-boards were available, so the

only thing to do was to have everyone in the room play everyone else, then winners eliminated each other, etc. etc. People kept disappearing and I had great fun chasing them down each time a game came to an end, looking in bars first of all (there were four) and reviving myself with a drink from time to time; it was a very gay Lisa that trolled back ! Finally, or semi-finally, I couldn't chase down Fred Hemmings who was to play the winner and had to disqualify him for being invisible as the results had to be read out at the Banquet. When I did find Fred (too late) he was very nice about it, but I would like to offer my 'official' apologies, because Fred might well have won if only he'd been at any of the drinking places I visited - frequently... 'The winner was Hans Loose from Heidelberg and the prize was a bottle of whiskey and a certificate." ({AM: you should have kept them under close confinement in one bar: you could have dubbed it Barchester or something.)=

Re NOVACON 1972, the fannish guest of honour is to be our own Doreen Parker. (Presumably there is to be a professional GOH too: however, if so, his identity has not yet been revealed. Neither has that of the GOH for the 1973 Eastercon.)

FANZINE DISTRIBUTION DEPT. This Dept. is run by Andrew Prior, of 31 Kirkley Rd., London, SW19 3AZ, and exists to introduce new or

otherwise ignorant members to the world of fanzines - anateur magazines - by providing enquirers with a few recent samples. The main trouble is not that it keeps running out of enquirers - but that it keeps running out of <u>samples</u>. If you produce a fanzine, and would be good enough to donate a small batch of each issue to the Dept. not only will you be doing the Association and its members a favour, but you may well be doing yourself a favour too, by acquiring a few unexpected subscribers/contributors. (In certain cases, the Association may even be willing to purchase selected batches for this purpose.)

<u>I'M STILL HERE</u> Remember - the B.S.F.A. Bulletin ceases to exist as a separate publication - but the service it gave to the members continues under the same management. Archie Mercer, as News Editor of the reconstituted VECTOR, remains responsible for the same brand of material. So anything that would have been for the Bulletin - news of forthcoming events, brief reports of events that have taken place, news of and/or plugs for the Association's various departments, news about members, fringe-news that may be of interest, free small-ads - send them to Archie Mercer, 21 Trenethick Parc, Helston, Cornwall. Mal-coln Edwards, as VECTOR editor, will look after the sf/fantasy news: Archie Mercer will continue to look after the Association's own news. See you in VECTOR !

4