

FANTASY-NEWS

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RUSSELL-BINDER-WILLIAMSON HORNIG AT QUEENS SFL

o IT SEEMS that there is no limit to the greatness that some of the Queens SFL Meetings can attain. Included among more than twenty-five attendants at the May meeting were such sterling names as that of ERIC FRANK RUSSELL, british author of such stories as "Sinister Barriers" etc; JACK WILLIAMSON, who recently crashed Argosy and whose ability in the science-fiction line is too well known to enumerate upon; EANDO BINDER (the OTTO half), probably the busiest fantasy author writing at the present time; CHARLES D HORNIG, former editor of WONDER STORIES and now editor of SCIENCE FICTION, in addition to such regular attendants at the Queens SFL as THOS S GARDNER, SAM MOSKOWITZ, JAMES V TAURASI, WILLIAM S SYKORA, JOHN GIUNTA, MARIO RACIC jr, JULIUS SCHWARTZ, CONRAD SCHWARTZ, CONRAD RUPPERT and fifteen or more others.

o MEETING BEFORE THE MEETING -

Especially notable at this meeting were the large number of persons present who had traveled a great distance to attend. Prize honors of course go to Eric Frank Russell, who came all the way from England, accompanied by his wife. Of course we do not insist that his prime reason for coming to the U S was to attend a meeting of the Queens SFL, but we like to think so. Second prize, I believe goes to Jack

Williamson who had recently pulled in from the desert lands of the state of New Mexico. With these two out of the way, the distances begin to narrow down. Charles D Hornig, of course, arrived from his home in Elizabeth, N J. Sam Moskowitz, inevitably came in from Newark, but strangely enough, accompanied by a fan (female) that he had picked up in and around Newark, her name was Flossie Hardart, and she was, strangely enough, a real fan. Almost the entire group was present fully a half an hour before the rapping gravel proclaimed that things were to become formal. During that time conversation waxed hotter than it had ever done previously, centering of course, around the visitors.

o COMMITTEE REPORTS -

As always dues were collected, and the committee members in the persons of Will Sykora and Sam Moskowitz were called upon for reports. Sykora surprised the group by stating that all the groundwork for the convention had been completed, and in record time. All that remained now was a definite shaping of the program and various attempts to raise money which would help NEW FANDOM pay for the convention. This, by far, was the most important project to be assumed at present. Sykora stated that from now on it was a

matter of smoothing out the rough edges, and perfecting the program and various projects of the convention. Sam Moskowitz was called upon to fill in with a few items. Moskowitz demonstrated that the fans could help immeasurably in paying for the convention by purchasing "boosters", which consisted of the printing of the name of everyone who contributes twenty-five cents for a "booster" under the name "SCIENTIFICTIONIST" in the printed program. Moskowitz also outlined all items that had been contributed to the auction so far, including prize items contributed by JOHN W CAMPBELL, CHARLES D HORNIG, MORT WEISINGER, OTTO BINDER, JULIUS SCHWARTZ, CONRAD H RUPPERT, JOHN GIUNTA, JAMES V TAURASI and others.

o TALKS GIVEN BY CELEBRITIES PRESENT

Gradually sly Jimmy Taurasi hemmed and hawed his way around to the matter of a few words from each notable present. Eric Frank Russell, English author and fan, received 1st call. Russell proved extremely interesting as he outlined an analogy between U S and British stf and U S and British fandom. Starting with the advent of stf in the pages of a "Mickey Mouse" magazine, Russell finally led up to the publication of FANTASY, which he considers the most significant turn in British affairs. Russell stated that such gatherings of 25 or so fans under a single roof were practically unheard of in England (with the exception of the 2nd British convention which netted 45). He expressed his disappointment at the outcome of the first British convention which grossed the tremendous amount of 13 attendees. This poor showing discouraged him so much that he didn't have the heart to attend the second affair, which, ironically enough produced 45 full blooded English fans. Similarly Russell expressed his disappointment, when the first printed British fan magazine,

SCIENTIFICTION, after more than a year of issuance could not gain more than 120 readers. Upon being informed that many American fan magazines did not even attain that phenomenal figure, Russell again showed that the 120 subscribers to SCIENTIFICTION represented every British fan who could be induced into purchasing a fan magazine, whereas, the American total of every person in America who is at present purchasing fan magazines could probably be spoken of in the term of 2,000 or so (The AMATEUR CORRESPONDENT, now no longer being published had 1,000 paid subscribers).

Jack Williamson was called upon next. He was quite brief, but he made known his intentions to stay East until the World Science Fiction Convention was a thing of the past, and he also spoke of his ever rising interest in the fan world which was becoming an intriguing topic with him.

Otto Binder was the third called upon. He hadn't come prepared for a speech, but he spoke along the vein of Jack Williamson, expressing his interest in the convention and fandom (he is doing a special article for NEW FANDOM, another for FANTASY-NEWS' anniversary issue). Charles D Hornig was then called upon to give us a little news of his magazine SCIENCE FICTION. He stated that the magazine would become a monthly with the August issue which would be on the stands June 10th.

o GREAT SOFT BALL GAME

Taurasi then asked Moskowitz if what he had heard was true, that Philly had declared that they would not participate in a soft-ball game at the convention. Moskowitz replied that he had heard that the Philly bunch was a little short of men, but outside of that had not officially had his challenge turned down as yet. He stated, however, that

PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE FICTION RATINGS

by HARRY WARNER Jr

ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION MAY 1939

	T 5%	C 20%	P 35%	N 40%	TOTAL 100%
COILS OF TIME	4	16	29	35	84
SPECIAL FLIGHT	2	18	30	39	89
THE DAY IS DONE	5	19	26	37	87
EMPLOYMENT	1	15	28	36	80
MELODY AND MOONS	2	14	20	30	66
total for the entire magazine					84%

WEIRD TALES JUNE - JULY 1939

FAR BELOW	4	17	30	40	91
GIANTS OF ANARCHY	3	19	26	34	82
LENS-SHY	3	15	30	33	81
THE SITTING IN THE MOUND	2	16	25	36	79
THE MAN WHO CAME BACK	1	15	32	35	83
THE STROKE OF 12	4	19	30	38	91
MANSIONS IN THE SKY	4	18	23	38	83
THE WILLIOW LANDSCAPE	4	16	29	39	88
HEADACHE	1	15	25	30	71
THE DEATH WATCH	2	16	28	35	81
CELEPHAIS	3	19	32	39	93
IMPRISONED WITH THE PHAROHS	2	18	30	40	90
total for the entire magazine					84%

CAS

HPL

/ TITLE T - NARRATION N - CHARACTERIZATION C - PLOT P /

QUEENS SFL (continued)

the game would definitely be played. If Philly is unable to play, or refuse, he will see to it that two teams are chosen from prominent fans authors and editors attending the convention. The proposition of a fan team playing a professional team was considered, but no definite decision was reached.

NEW MEMBERS

Flossie Hardart requested membership in the QUEENS SFL. She was voted in by unanimous vote of the members, while Riccio coyly collected

the dues. The QUEENS SFL has the largest female roster of any SFL CHAPTER, past or present.

FANTASTIC ADVENTURES REVIEWED

Director Thursi then called the meeting open to review FANTASTIC ADVENTURES. Reviews of the stories were given by the entire female sector of the chapter, aided by Otto Binder, Hyman Tiger, who is rapidly becoming the chapter's chief reviewer, and Thos S Gardner. Binder must have felt somewhat elated when his yarn THE INVISIBLE ROBIN HOOD was the only story to receive a rating of GOOD. Every

story received a rating of fair or poor. The departments, all of them received a rating of good or better while the cartoon was definitely rated as poor. The front cover was rated only fair, but PAULS effort was numbered as GOOD. At this point Taurasi & Moskowitz gave vent to instances where newstands had turned the magazine around, because they said the back cover sold it better. The magazine finally emerged with a rating of FAIR. Altogether the discussions were a bit dryer than it had been at previous meetings. WEIRD TALES is scheduled for review at the next meeting.

o MOTION PICTURES TAKEN DURING

RECESS. A short recess was declared while apparatus for motion pictures were set up. Eric Frank Russell requested the fans to pose for him while he snapped them with his motion picture camera for the edification of British fans. (Let FANTASY-NEWS know how they came out when you see them, BRITISH fans) It is nice to note that Julius Schwartz poked his head into every shot. Jack Williamson also took pictures of the fans, with his candid camera.

o FILMS SHOWN

Sykora had completed the set - up of the motion picture camera and two films he had procured were shown in quick succession. The first one on Astronomy was more than a little aged. It smacked of "when you and I were young Maggie" but it did have a few good shots in it. The second film on Anthracite mining impressed your reviewer as being sort of vague on the fantasy angle, but nevertheless proved by far the most interesting of the two. The meeting finally broke up around 6 P M Hornig accompanied Schwartz and Ruppert as they escorted Russell back to his hotel, while Moskowitz Taurasi & sister, Hardart & Giunta spent a pleasant (Continued P five)

o ASTOUNDING - UNKNOWN FACTS FINLAY TO DO COVER FOR ASTOUNDING

The greatest news of the day is the fact that VIRGIL FINLAY is to do the cover for the August Astounding. FINLAY is one of the top-notch artists of the fantasyfield today & this coming cover will be his 1st for a STF magazine. We all know of the fine cover work he is doing for Weird, so we wait anxiously this cover for Astounding, and as Astounding's covers are printed in four colors, wonders can, and probably will, happen. FINLAY will also do interior illustrations for both Astounding & Unknown. Now if Dold would only come back, Astounding would have swell illustrations. VIRGIL FINLAY's cover will be for Lester Del Rey's yarn, LUCK OF IGNATZ. Graves Glidney is doing the August cover of UNKNOWN illustrating L Ron Hubbard's yarn, THE GOUL. Coming up for Astounding is LIFE-LINE by Robert Heinlein.

When Astounding Science-Fiction started on its mutant policy a year ago last February, John W Campbell points out, the cover may have been one mutant, but the main purpose of that "mutant" announcement was to point out that the magazine was going to change.

Most, I think, will agree with that! It has not been in the stories and covers marked "mutants" alone, but in every detail of the magazine, from cover to backstrip. Other STF mags have introduced new authors from time to time, but Astounding's record for new FIRST RANK authors during the past 18 months is, we think, unique. Lester del Rey, L Ron Hubbard, M Schere, Mohn Berryman and several others rank as first-line new-comers to the STF field. L Sprague de Camp, Horace Gold and Clifford D Simak were brought back to STF, or developed in Astounding during that time. In line with this new, top-rank author line-up, (continued P six)

o FOR SALE: THE BLACK CAT MAGAZINE - A rare opportunity! 60 issues (6 of which are duplicates), ranging back to 1896, to best cash offer, or 60¢ per copy otherwise. Will not sell singly until next issue of FANTASY-NEWS. Dates on receipt of stamp. Don't let this go by! I will also trade for mags such as MIRACLE STORIES, THRILL BOOKS, 1st yr AMAZING, & fanmags COSMOLOGY, COMET, etc, tho cash is preferable - - - Also for sale: Rare Science-Fantasy Classics "DARKNESS & DAWN", the famous trilogy by George Allan England . . \$8.00 - "THE MESSIAH OF THE CYLINDER" by Victor Rousseau . . \$3.50 - - "THE BLIND SPOT", Austin Hall & Homer Hon Flint, 3 sets at \$3.00 ea - - "THE SQUADRON OF THE AIR", Walter Hackett \$3.00 - - Items @ \$2.50 each: THE METAL MONSTER, A Merritt; THE COSMIC COURTSHIP, Julian Hawthorne - - - @ \$2.00 ea: PEOPLE OF THE GOLDEN ATOM, Roy Cummings; DRAFT OF ETERNITY Victor Rousseau - - - @ \$1.50 ea: THE PLANET JUGGLER, J Geo Frederick; THE RADIO MAN, Ralph Milne Farley; THE CONQUEST OF THE MOON POOL (minus 1st Chptr); PEOPLE OF THE GOLDEN ATOM (minus 3rd chprt); THE LORD OF DEATH by Flint, with sequel THE QUEEN OF LIFE; and the following as a group, (from 1920 & '21 Munsey's & Science & Invention): JENKIN'S GYROSCOPE, THE ATHEIST, THE LAST OF HIS KIND, and THE TRANSFORMATION OF PROF. SCHMITZ. @ \$1.20 ea: THE DEVOLUTIONIST, with its sequel, THE EMANCIPATRIX; SAFE & SANE (Tod Robbins) - - @ \$1.00 ea: AMERICA FALLEN! (1915 bk); THE PLANETEER (coverless); THE PLUNGE OF THE KNUFFEN; THE HOUSE OF THE GREEN FLAME (England) - - @ 80¢ ea: THE GIRL IN THE GOLDEN ATOM (original novelette); BEYOND THE STARS; WORLDS WITHIN WORLDS; WHEN THE SUN STOPPED; THE MASTER RAY; THE RIDDLE OF THE ALMAROSE; THE LIVING PORTRAIT; TERROR ISLAND - - @ 75¢ ea: THE VOICE OF DASHIN (Merritt style bk by Ganpnt); MAN IN THE MOON by Flint (together with Fisher's Volcanologist) - - - @ 60¢ ea: THE MAN WHO SAVED THE EARTH (original novelette) THRU THE

DRAGON GLASS (same); THE GREATER MIRACLE; THE MIND MACHINE - - - @ 50¢ ea; FRIEND ISLAND; WHO WANTS A GREEN BOTTLE? - - @ 40¢ ea; THREE LINES OF OLD FRENCH (original); THE NEMESIS OF THE VIBRATORY THEORY; THE MAN WHO FOUND OUT. - - - @ 25¢ ea: THE SKY WOMAN; THE GRAVITY PROFESSOR (Tubbyarn); FANCIFUL TALES. Everything Postpaid. Send to:
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o SCENES OF FANTASY - featuring memory-awakening illustrations by Francis Litz, the editor, and verse by Larry Farsaci. Worth your nickel. Send to Francis J Litz, 703 Brown St, Rochester, NY or care of Larry Farsaci. Will exchange with other current fanmags.

o QUEENS SFL (-continued-)

evening of discussion and collection examination at the home of Taurasi and his sister. An interesting angle was that Moskowitz and Hardart met Taurasi & sister on the way to the meeting, and on their way home, they met Hornig who accompanied them all the way to Newark. The day was decidedly entertaining and profitable from many viewpoints. The JUNE meeting of the Queens SFL will be the last until next September. At this meeting, the annual election of officers will take place. It should be an exciting one.

o THE VISASCREEN

Altho it was announced months ago that Ziff-Davis would publish Stanley G Weinbaum's superman novel, "NEW ADAM", in book-form, the deal wasn't actually completed till May 5th - - Palmer has accepted a 30,000 worder, "The Hidden Universe", by Ralph Milne Farley, and announces it will be printed complete in one

issue, possibly in FANTASTIC ADVENTURES - - Manly Wade Wellman returns to ASTOUNDING with an interplanetary novelette, "Forces Must Balance" - - Thornton Ayre has clicked again at AMAZING with "The Face in the Sky" Correction to last week's VISASCREEN, TWO SOUGHT ADVENTURES is the correct title of Leiber's yarn for UNKNOWN. (it was our typing error - ed).

o ASTOUNDING FACTS (continued)

Campbell says the voteing on the best-story-of-1938 runs, to date, about as follows:

1. Who Goes There? by Don A Stuart
- 2 A Matter of Form by H L Gold
- 3 The Master Shall Not Die by R de Witt Miller
- 4 The Dangerous Dimension by L Ron Hubbard
- 5 Anachronistic Optics by M Schere

o GENERAL NEWS by Harry Warner jr

The projected FRENCH pro sf mag has been delayed because of European events. It will probably appear when the crisis lets up. Amelia Reynolds Long has hit UNKNOWN with an interplanetary story. She has also sold a non-sf novel which will soon appear in book form, THE SHAKESPEARE MURDERS to be published by Phoenix Press. THE FUTURIAN British fan-mag, will shortly feature material by John Russell Fearn & Ralph Milne Farley. hw

o DYNAMIC FACTS by John Giunta

The most info I could secure from Dynamic was that it would feature a novel by JOHN RUSSELL FEARN. Rest of contents uncertain as yet. Same for the cover & interior illustrations. Inquiring why they did not use PAUL, the editor answered, "PAUL has not enough kick in his drawings

and besides at the most, only 500 fans like him. Anyway he is too old fashioned. I am trying to secure a suitable artist for the mags, so we will see how Scott's drawing will come out." j6

o CONSENSUS by DALE TARR

As I write this Amazing is out with the latest issue which, I haven't had time to more than glance at yet but I see at least one thing that looks good about it -- Binder's story. Its well worth reading.

Olon F Wiggins has a ---- shall we say eccentric letter? --- in this issue. I see no reason why he should cast a shadow over himself by writing such things - - -

I thought I had something in this column until I found that Lawrence Hamling also was starting one. Welcome, Lawrence, perhaps Taurasi pits us against each other in order to get our best. I think we'll all enjoy having a contact man on Palmer's end.

Since there are no magazines which I can review at this time and since there is no news which I am at liberty at this time to liberate I'll close by inviting all of you who have some idea on how this column should be run or what should go in it to write me at 817 Vine St Cincinnati, Ohio. If you're able - SUPPORT THE WORLD SF CONVENTION. dt

o CONVENTION FACTS

Elmo Binder contributed three of his original manuscripts for auction at the convention. Included among these were THE LIFE BATTERY DELAYED VISON etc. Charles D hornig contributed a set of fine stills from JUST IMAGINE (I'm going after them myself -Rucic) and a card from him this week tells us to go to his office and pick up the PAUL

cover and all interior drawings for the 3rd issue of SCIENCE FICTION. John Giunta contributed the novel, INTRIGUE ON THE UPPER LEVEL, in excellent condition along with a very large drawing, water colored, done by himself and a real good job it is. FANTASY-NEWS will contribute all it's back issues made up into sets. Hyman Tiger also made known his intention to contribute for auction the first issue of SCIENCE WONDER STORIES and a number of 1926 AMAZINGS. JULIUS UNGER old time fan and stf back issue dealer will contribute a bound set of 1915 ELECTRICAL EXPERIMENTER containing the series of BARON MUNCHHAUSEN'S SCIENTIFIC ADVENTURES written by Hugo Gernsback, a much sort after item. UNGER has also bought an 1/8th page (\$1.25) Ad in the convention program Booklet. Fan mags editors we need your help buy an 1/8th page Ad in this convention booklet right away. Mail your Ad to Taurasi % FANTASY-NEWS. The BOOSTER (25¢) ads have been coming in very fast the last week, added to the list are: TIGER - THOS S GARDNER - JULIUS UNGER - WM S SYKORA - JAMES V TAURASI - FRANCES SYKORA - MARIO RACIC jr - And MARY MARGARETTE CURRY. Lets have your name printed in this convention program booklet under the title SCIENTIFICIONIST. it's only 25¢. Sent it in to TAURASI % FANTASY-NEWS sm

o JULIUS SCHWARTZ - AUTHOR!

Yes, it's true. Julius Schwartz who is a literary agent for writers of Science-fiction is now an author in his own right. The department FANTASTIC HOAXES in the first issue of FANTASTIC ADVENTURES was authored by Schwartz. Julius stated that the series would be continued and that he would probably do the writing. He is the 2nd QUEENS SFL member to have material published.

o LAST MINUTE CONVENTION NEWS

Instead of Ackerman's PREPOSTEROUS convention pub previously announced, FJA will issue a truly timely mag named nothing other than METROPOLIS. Its contributors will include the scientifilmakers Fritz Lang & Karl Freund, Henry Kuttner, Paul Freehofer, Morajo, Ray Bradbury & other well known Angelenos; feature little known if not here-to-fore unknown facts about the scientificinematics piece & its unshown 4 reels! 4e

o LOUIS KUSLAN will take his mag out of the FAPA with it's 2nd (13th) anniversary number. COSMIC TALES, the mag's name, was a subscription magazine till it's 10th issue, when it became an FA PA magazine, now after much pressure Louis Kuslan will take it out of the FAPA and issue it again as a subscription magazine. The first new subscription issue will be it's 12th issue. jvt

o F A N - A - M A G - R E V I E W

THE SATELLITE Vol 2 No 5 May 1939 - 12 large size, well mimeo pages. The cover (Cont. Page 8)

o FAN MAG EDITORS ATTENTION
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o FAN-A-MAG REVIEW (continued)

by Dave McIlwain is excellent. The
contents include LIVERPOOL SCIENCE
FICTION COSMOS by LVHerrl. The ever
wonderful FANTACYNICISMS. R Holmes
is represented by a humorous THE
COMPLETE SF FAN. Mohanson's WEIRD
AND SCIENTIFIC FICTION is an in-
teresting attempt to delineate
weird from scientific fiction. The
readers' department MOONSHINE. Mack
interior drawings are very good.
This magazine is now an SFA pub
and will be issued monthly in pl-
ace of NEW WORLDS which will be
quarterly. 10¢ per copy from JEB-
urke 57 Berghair Drive, Liverpool
15, ENGLAND -kusim-

SCENES OF FANTASY. This is an
interesting 12 page hectographed
magazine containing drawings and
poems etc. Good hecto and excell-
ent material. Our only suggestion
is that the editor typewrite fut-
ure issues. 5¢ from: Francis J
Litz 703 Brown St, Rochester NY
Vol. 1 - No. 1 May 1939

o RADIO NOTES by WALTER SULLIVAN

Herbert Marshall played the lead-
ing part on a presentation of
POE's story WILLIAM WILSON on the
Rudy Vallee program Thursday May 4
Arch Oboler's play for May 6 was
THE ENGULFED CATHEDRAL a fantasy
based on Debussy's musical compo-
sition of the same name, which
was used as a background for the
presentation. The play in the
LIGHTS OUT series for May 3 was

o S C I E N T I F I L M S
by Mario Racic Jr

Claude Rains will play the lead in
THE INVISIBLE MAN RETURNS. This is
a sequel to THE INVISIBLE MAN, of
some years ago.

F L A S H : Well's FOOD OF THE GODS
to be filmed. Edward Small will
produce it for United Artists re-
lease.

Henry Hall, Lee Bowman and Virginia
Grey will have leads in MIRACLES
FOR SALE, a story about a magician
Tod (Devil Doll) Browning will
direct for MGM.

In the 1939-40 releases from Hail
Roch we'll get "1,000,000 B C" a
imaginative story of the beginning
of time. Also, another film based
on a novel by Thorne (Topper) Smith.
More Good News - - Another studio
is producing "THE RETURN OF DR X"
starring Margaret Lindsay and James
Stephenson. Karloff was to have
played the Stephenson role. This
film is taken from the stage play
"THE DARK TOWER" by G S Kruftman &
Alexander Woolcott. This may be
a sequel to "DR X" the synthetic
flesh stfilm made by Warners about
1932. mr

o RADIO NOTES (Continued)

THE DEVIL'S DUE and was the winn-
ing play in the nation wide LIGHTS
OUT contest. I have not been able
to get this program for the last
2 weeks, and it is not listed in
the papers. It may have gone off
the air. ws

o STILLS FROM METROPOLIS

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