

NEWS
WHILE
IT'S
HOT!

SUBSCRIPTION
HAS EXPIRED
FANTASY-NEWS

the science fiction weekly newspaper.
SPECIAL PHILLY CONFERENCE EDITION*****

PRICE:
THREE
ISSUES
TEN
CENTS.

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 20 SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1940 WHOLE NUMBER 125

PHILLY CONFERENCE ATTRACTS

MANY FAMOUS

FANS: MOST EASTERN CLUBS
SEND DELEGATES FOR
REPRESENTATION.

EDITORS SEND MESSAGES

Laying to rest all rumors to the contrary, the PHILADELPHIA SCIENCE FICTION CONFERENCE is being held today less than two weeks after the traditional date of Halloween. The gavel is in the hands of sf author Alexander M. Philips, who will probably call the gathering to order in the early afternoon. Secretary is Jack Agnew, the beloved Jackie, cousin to Bob Madle whose interesting articles have been appearing in ASTONISHING and SUPERSCIENCE STORIES, the life of any party. The responsibility of keeping order has been placed on the broad shoulders of big Jack Baltadonis at whose home at 1700 Frankford Ave the preliminary meeting will take place. Any delegate to the Conference will have his chance to address the body as long as time permits.

The usual large number of representatives from the Queens Science Fiction League will include Hyman Tiger, Director; Bob Studley, Dick Crain, Bob Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Will Sykora, Jimmy Taurasi, Rose Alberti, Bill Groveman. The Newark SFL will send Sam Moskowitz, Director; Alex Osheroff, Frank Strouse, Chris Mulrain. The Stranger Club of Mass. will probably send Director Art Widner, and Lou Kuslan will try to make it from Connecticut. The Solaroid(P. 2)

QUEENS SFL APPROVES ALL-EASTERN SCIENCE FICTION CONFERENCE

At its regular membership meeting last Sunday, the Queens Science Fiction League approved advance plans for the All-Eastern Science Fiction Conference to be held on May 4, 1941 in Newark, N.J.

Harry Walton, author of "The Bomb From Beranga" the new story published in the first issue of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES was present, and, on being introduced, revealed that his successful yarn was on file for four years, and though well-liked by his wife and sister could not seem to sell. On hearing that the new editor of FFM was a woman, he dusted the yarn off, revamped it, put on some finishing touches, submitted it to Miss Gnaedinger, who snapped it up with relish.

The meeting was opened at 4 PM with the reading of the minutes. The date of the All-Eastern Science Fiction Conference was announced, as well as news of the Cometeers, Off-Trail, a new fan mag by Giunta, and new library arrangements.

The treasury report revealed that there was some \$15 on hand.

Two visitors, Frank Moroff, and Irving Lipton were introduced, and later Miss Irma Grunbery, sister to member Leonard was also presented. Late arrivals were Jimmy Taurasi, now no longer a member, Bill Alberti, Ronald Brandt. Members present were Leonard Grunbery, Hyman Tiger, Bob Studley, Mr. and Mrs. Julius Unger and son Jay, Mr. and Mrs. Will Sykora, Stan Bachrach, A. Lincoff, Pauline Lincoff, (P. 2)

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Rates: 3 issues 10¢, 30 issues \$1, 36 issues (1 yr.) \$1.50.

Ad Rates: Full page \$2, 1/2 page \$1, 1/4 p. 50¢ minimum. (NO STAMPS PLEASE).

NOTE: Make all checks and money-orders payable to Will Sykora.

----- BOOST SCIENCE FICTION -----

EDITORIAL by Will Sykora.

Beyond doubt, the PHILADELPHIA SCIENCE FICTION CONFERENCE is the one regular event in Science Fiction Fandom that no fan can afford to miss. The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society is to be congratulated on this, the date of its fifth successful fan gathering in the four years of its existence. The first general fan meeting to take place in Philly and probably the first meeting in which delegates from another city attended was the First Eastern Science Fiction Convention held as a joint meeting of the Philadelphia and New York Branches of the new International Scientific Association in Nov 1936. The second Philadelphia gathering was the Third Eastern Science Fiction Convention in late 1937. The third meeting and the First Annual Philadelphia Science Fiction Conference was held on Halloween 1938. The Second Annual Conference took place in 1939 shortly after the World Science Fiction Convention in N.Y. And now we have the Third Annual Philadelphia Science Fiction Conference which bids fair to be even more successful than any of the past affairs.

The Philly Conferences, as they have come to be affectionately known, have become a tradition in science fiction fandom. This tradition, begun in 1936, has now grown into such vast proportions that no less than two successful World Sff Conventions have been held, a third is in preparation in Denver, Colo, and an all-Eastern is slated for
(next col.)

PHILLY CONFERENCE Cont'd: Club of Westwood, N.J. will also send a few delegates. The Newark and Westwood boys are driving down in separate cars, while the Queens boys and gals are taking the Penn Railroad.

Messages from Mary Gnaedinger, Editor of FANCUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES, and from Malcolm Reiss, Editor of PLANET STORIES, will be delivered by Will Sykora. Other editors are also expected to attend or to send representatives.

The Philadelphia Science Fiction Conference is sponsored by the PHILADELPHIA SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY, formerly the Philadelphia Science Fiction League, who have had an unbroken and successful four years of science fiction achievement to their credit.

QUEENS SFL Cont'd: A. Hendriksen, F. Claassen, Dick Grain, Bill Groveman, Bob Thompson, Dick Burns, Abe Oshinsky, Kay Brickman, and Scott Feldman.

A permanent Secretary was elected to serve out the term vacated by the resignation of Mario Racio, Jr. Scott Feldman won.

The program for the day included an interesting talk on "Art In SFF" by Leonard Grunbery. Grunbery's remarks elicited much comment pro and con when he held that covers such as PLANET'S were too fantastic and implausible and that a great many of Paul's covers had the same failing to a lesser degree in that they failed to tie up the present with the future in the picture, and thus appeared too far-fetched.

The meeting closed after general discussion on the good and welfare of the club, and arrangements made for attending the Philly Conference.

EDITORIAL Cont'd: Newark, N.J. on May 4, 1941.

The entire staff, and we believe 100% of the Readers, of FANTASY NEWS take this opportunity to congratulate the PHILADELPHIA SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY on its successful handling of FIVE great fan gatherings, and to welcome all the active fans in Philly today.

THE TIME STREAM by San Moskowitz.

UNKN OWN GOES BI-MONTHLY!!!

UNKNOWN FANTASY FICTION, John W. Campbell's brainchild, has been forced to adopt bi-monthly publication. Ostensibly, the reason is low circulation. Professionals in the "know" have stated that "no magazine changes its format when it is selling", implying thereby that when UNKNOWN changed her cover design, it was an indication of poor circulation returns. It is to be hoped that this retrenchment is only temporary, for there is a very definite place for a mag of this type in the fantasy field...Calvin Perego, famous for "Short Wave Castle" and "Short Wave Experiment" in the old Tremaine ASTOUNDING is now revealed to be none other than the old master, Thomas Calvert McClary, himself! The same source informs us that "Rebirth", the famous McClary classic, was rewritten five times, and the plot supplied by Warner Van Lorne...Alex Shomburg has done the cover on the current number of FLYING ACES...Nelson S. Bond has a prehistoric yarn in the current ACTION STORIES...Jack Williamson, E. Hoffman Price and Otis Adelbert Kline have authored the latest stf classics in ARGOSY...Another curious stf incident occurred when an unidentified science fiction author was heard over John J. Anthony's "Court Of Human Relations Program" recently. The writer asked advice on whether or not he should seek reconciliation with his wife who left him in 1938 for non-support, now that he had sold a science fiction novel!...COMET was mentioned over the radio by a newscaster along with several other new publications. F. Orlin Tremaine, who has been in "Who's Who In America" since 1926, was mentioned as the editor. A brief outline of the new editor's experiences was also aired. (FANTASY NEWS readers who heard these broadcasts please communicate with the editor of this paper.)...Harry Warner's fan fiction mag Horizons will henceforth go out via FAPA mailings.

ACE SCIENCE FICTION No. 4:

by Thos. S. Gardner.

"The Destroyers From Mars" by Eando Binder:

Binder comes across with as good a science fiction story as has appeared in a science fiction mag in a long time-he comes across in the June issue of ACTION STORIES.

Poor old Mars is the villain again with Mercury to help out. Venus and Earth are pals-with Jupiter in the position of Italy at that time-a neutral not knowing which way to go until the last-and of course joining Earth and Venus. In fact, a lot of the present-day politics are aptly depicted in this yarn.

Jay Bruce takes a passenger on an apparently hopeless hunt for the passenger's father reported lost on Jupiter. Looks tame, but the passenger happens to be beautiful Vera Kent, whose father had been framed and sent to prison. On his release he had been hired to go to Jupiter and had vanished-ship and all. Bruce and Dora stumble into a secret war base of Mars on Jupiter where Dora's father is held prisoner. The Martians, very politely-so polite like some of our friends in Asia-are torturing Dora's father hypnotically to extract the secret of a better alloy containing Beryllium for space vessels.

A very clever plot develops in which Bruce unknowingly betrays Earth to the Martians and is branded a spy. How he proves his innocence and unmasks the war base is too good to disclose. How Binder can write so much and so well is amazing. "The Destroyers From Mars" is one of the best plotted stories this reporter has read in any mag-outside of ASTOUNDING and UNKNOWN-in several months.

It is evident that all magazines will soon be printing science fiction as a regular feature-which spells doom to the poorer grade of science fiction tales.

The June ACTION STORIES is a must for the lover of good stf with plenty of action like the good old days.

No other fan magazine has published as many issues as FANTASY NEWS!!!!

SCIENTIFILMS by Mario Racio, Jr.

Roy Del Ruth has been signed by HAL ROACH as the Director of his new production, "Topper Returns". Casting is now in progress, and already signed to important roles are Joan Blondell, Roland Young, Billie Burke, Patsy Kelly, H.B. Varner, Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, and George Zucco. "Topper Returns" will be released by UNITED ARTISTS.

HIGHLIGHTS OF "THE INVISIBLE WOMAN" Released By UNIVERSAL!

Production Credits: Associate Producer-Burt Kelly; Director-A. Edward Sutherland; Original Story by-Joe May and Kurt Siodmak; Screenplay by-Robert Lees, Fred Rinaldo, Gertrude Purcell; Photography-Elwood Bredell; Special Photography-John Fulton; General Musical Director-Charles Previn; Art Director-Jack Otterson; Costumes by-Vera West; Film Editor-Frank Gross; Sound Supervisor-Bernard B. Brown; Sound Recorder-Joseph Lapis; Assistant Director-Joseph A. McDonough; Unit Publicity Writer-George Thomas Jr.

Casting Credits:

Prof. Gibbs: Eccentric scientist whose experiments result in the discovery of a method whereby he can render human beings invisible, with amazing visible and risible results...John Barrymore.

Dick Russel: Playboy whose romantic escapades are cut short by a \$100,000 heart balm pay-off. Then he falls in love with an invisible woman, which sounds like a good idea, at the time. John Howard.

Kitty Carroll: Beautiful model who becomes the model subject for invisibility experiments. Uses her invisibility to gain revenge on an abusive boss, and to subdue a gangster mob...Virginia Bruce.

George: Befuddled butler, victim of playful pranks by the Invisible Woman, who keeps him on the verge of insanity, which is where he was in the first place.

Charles Ruggles.

Blackie Cole: Fugitive gangster with an urge to return to the U.S. from his Mexican hide-out. Steals the invisibility machine for his purpose, but it (con. next col.)

SCIENTIFILMS Cont'd: boomerangs on him.....Oscar Homolka.

Growley: Accent on the first syllable. Unwise enough to crack the whip over a group of beautiful models. One of them turns invisible and gains a beautiful revenge.

Charles Lane.

A. Edward Sutherland, the Director, also directed that hilarious funny film of ancient Greek days, "The Boys From Syracuse". The Associate Producer, Burt Kelly, is rated one of the most astute showmen in production ranks; Mr. Kelly knows both the production and exhibition ends of the motion picture industry. His productions have always earned box-office favor. His 1940 films include the weird and fantastic "Black Friday" and "The House Of the Seven Gables".

FANTASY NEWS will publish a synopsis of the story of "The Invisible Woman" in the next issue.

DENVER CONVENTION COMMITTEE NAMES GUEST OF HONOR

Robert A. Heinlein, author of many well-liked ASTOUNDING yarns, was chosen as the guest of honor of the Denver Science Fiction Convention to be held on July 4, 1941 in Denver, Colorado. The newly organized Colorado Fantasy Society has made the choice. Based on a foundation similar to the Illini Fantasy Fictioneers, the Colorado group will sponsor the Denvantion, as they are calling it.

DENIES COLLAPSE OF FUTURIAN SOCIETY

At a meeting of the Queens SFL last week, Robert G. Thompson, QSFL and Futurian Society member, denied the dissolution of the Futurian Society of New York. It is known, that "The Ivory Tower", a flat in a Brooklyn tenement, is no more, the lease having been allowed to lapse, ostensibly on account of uncertainties arising out the recent U.S. Draft Act. It is known also that no other similar lodgings have been rented.

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