

Winter

1999

SCIENTIFICTION

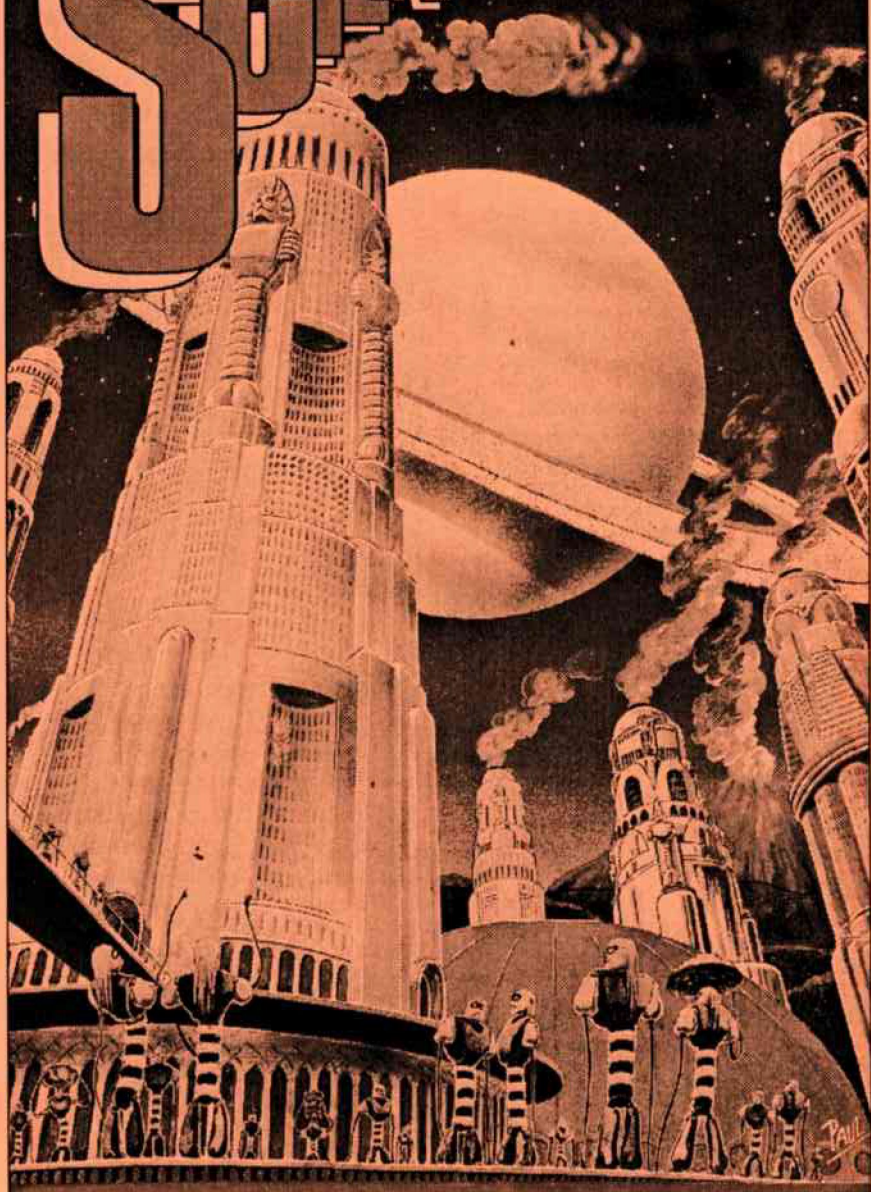


TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- Cover** "Golden City on Titan"
Amazing Stories, 11/41
 back cover by Frank R. Paul
- pg. 2** Table of Contents
 Applications/New
 Members/Indicia
- pg. 3** Dinosaur Droppings
- pg. 7** Revenge of the Sci-Fan
- pg. 12** Fan History Project

- Update #5
- pg. 14** Art in SF: Frank R. Paul
 by Terry Jeeves
- pg. 17** President's Message
- pg. 18** Editors Comments
- pg. 19** Necrology/Deadlines

APPLICATIONS:

Ed Sharpe

NEW MEMBERS:

New Sustaining Patron:
James J. Knappenberger
 1474 Summerhaven Drive,
 St. Louis, MO 63146.

NEW ADDRESS:

New address on Harry Harrison:
 7 Frederick House
 Little Crescent
 Rottingdean, Brighton
 East Sussex
 BN2 7GF
 England

NEWS:

Ray Bradbury Suffers Stroke

*Plucked off the internet on Friday
 November, 11, 1999*

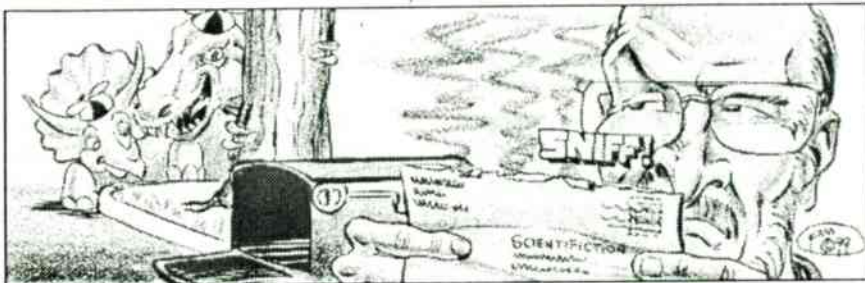
LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - Ray Bradbury, author of the science fiction classics *Fahrenheit 451* and *The Martian Chronicles*, is recovering from a stroke at his Palm Springs home, Daily Variety reports in its Friday edition.

The paper, made available to Reuters on Thursday, quoted Bradbury's longtime friend, the producer John Dayton, as saying the author lost partial use of his right side in the stroke but was expected to make a full recovery.

Columnist Army Archerd quoted Dayton as saying Bradbury, 79, was as "sharp as ever."

news continued on pg.19

The name "**First Fandom**," the title **SCIENTIFICTION**, the slogan "dinosaurs of science fiction," and the **First Fandom** logo are all Trade Marks of **First Fandom** and may not be used without express permission of the organization. **SCIENTIFICTION**™ the First Fandom Report is an official publication of **First Fandom**™ and is published four times a year by President Ray Beam, 2209 S. Webster, Kokomo, IN 46902. The Secretary/Treasurer is Mark Schulzinger, 4 Nevada Circle, Gallup, NM 87301-5469 (mschulzi@cnetco.com). **SCIENTIFICTION**™ is edited by Paul McCall, 5801 W. Henry St., Indianapolis, IN 46241-0529 (pmccall@indy.net) (www.paulmccall.com)



DINOSAUR DROPPINGS:

- Ray Beam -

Dear Paul,

I would like to make the following nominations for 2001. For the First Fandom Hall of Fame Award - Robert Silverberg.

For the Sam Moskowitz Award - Robert Weinberg

Sincerely,

Ray Beam

Duly noted and published.

- Mark Schulzinger -

Dear Paul,

I hereby nominate Ben Bova for the 2001 First Fandom Hall of Fame award.

Mark

Duly noted and yada yada yada

- Catherine Mintz -

To: pmccall@indy.net

I note Bill Beard's suggestion that DeForest Kelley be given an honorary membership. I'm sorry to say that, despite all his loyal fans, the actor loathed science fiction or at least said so. Myself I think he resented being trapped in a Star Trek role. In any case he would have refused the gesture if

he were living and it's probably better left undone.

Also, Joseph D. Siclari's letter may have a typo. I'm assured the parties of past were better than those of today, but I doubt a new edition of *All Out Yesterdays* is in the works. I don't believe there's been a first edition yet. Possibly a revision of *All Out Yesterdays* is what is intended?

Last, I read E. M. Korshak's letter carefully. I assume that Eshbach and Bradbury failed to pay their dues because they were no longer interested in the club. This is their right. That Kyle wishes to be a member and was refused, possibly because the Secretary-Treasurer, not knowing what was in the registered envelope, refused to sign for it, is a matter for concern.

However, I must point out that it does seem unfair to collect dues from other classes of members to support delinquent and even disinterested Founding Members. The more so in that there is the final question ...

Whether the club should con-

tinue beyond the life span of its last surviving full member. I think this is one for the Founding Members to settle fairly soon, if they wish the club to continue, for there are matters of organization and purpose that need to be made clear.

Great cartoon of Arthur C. Clarke on the cover.

Catherine Mintz

Thanks.

- "Dr. Mark" -

Paul:

I completely misspelled the names of two new members. Bill and Phyl Brewer should be Bill & Phyl Breuer.

Good to know I'm still in shape.
Regards,
Mark

- M. L. Lockhart -

Dear Paul:

You want opinions on Earl Korshak's letter? I can give you mine in one sentence: once a pettifogger, always a pettifogger.

By way of explanation, Ray Beam is my best friend in fandom, and yes, I'm biased. So is Mr. Korshak. we were seated at the same banquet table at Dragoncon a year ago, and he and Mr. Kyle were practically joined at the hip. Best friends and objectivity do not mix.

I loved the line about his "continued support and admiration" for Ray and Mark Schulzinger. He could have fooled me, or he just has a funny way of showing it. Or

is this a round-about version of Mr. Kyle's taped remarks in Baltimore which vilified both Ray and Mark? That tape was the reason Mr. Kyle got his mailing to Mark returned unopened. The postal version of caller ID: you don't pick up the phone when someone who trashes you is on the other end.

Then we hear about Mr. Kyle's "excellent arrangements" for First Fandom award presentations at worldcons. No mention of the time constraints and other limitations Ray has been dealt by various Worldcon committees. It's a safe bet the Posthumous Hall of Fame Award I accepted for Tom Sherred, my late husband, would not have made it on Hugo night.

Now Mr. Korshak wants some First Fandom votes and he wants them restricted to True, as opposed to mere associate members. Does that include revoting the awards? Should I send back Tom's award? And do I send it to Dave Kyle?

Oh, Just give it a rest.

M. L. Lockhart

pet-ti-fog 1. to carry on a petty or shifty law business ***2.*** to practise chicanery of any sort

I know you knew, and I knew, but I wanted to be sure so I looked it up.

- Terry Jeeves -

Dear Paul,

Once again, many thanks for the latest excellent issue of Stf. Particularly liked the bacover

and only wish it had been in colour. Front cover and interior art of course great!

Sad to say my PC went into a catatonic fit just before I had finished the latest issue of *ERG*. Don't ask as what is wrong with the thing, it worked OK in the morning then an hour later I switched on, it stopped and gave a message I'd never had before, "Press any key to continue," I duly pressed and then got "Abort, Retry Fail". No matter what I did, Escape, CTRL/Alt/Del, Delete or Reset, it always returned to that message. I tried the boot disc with the same result. So, the machine is out of order for a couple of weeks at least, until my PC expert friend can come over from Sheffield to try his luck. I doubt he can fix it, so next stop will be the repairer. Luckily, I had some reserve articles all printed out and since the Beeb is still operational, I did the *ERG* Logo page on it. It meant dropping the Fanzine page and a pair of LOCs - both buried inside the PC, but it could have been worse. Meanwhile this letter is being typed on the 17 year old BBC 'B' computer

Back to *Sif* Don Dailey takes up a complaint I've been making for a few years now. Technology is making our records inaccessible. I have loads of reel to reel tape recordings and likewise with reels of standard 8mm cine film. When my reel to reel machine went u/s I couldn't find a repairer

but managed to do the job myself. Now recorders or cine projectors are no longer available so when mine go under all my cherished tapes and films will be lost. How many official records will suffer similar fate as they are replaced by CD Roms and DVDs or quark recordings? As for all those films and tapes buried in time capsules, what will their fate, be when dug up again? Progress is ok, but not when it destroys the road behind it.

The Membership Roster was a sheer wallow in nostalgia seeing all those old names I hadn't heard from or met in a coon's age (how long is that?). Spotting Edd Cartier's addresss I was able to mail him a back issue of *ERG* with an article therein about his artwork. I hope he likes it.

Which brings me to a point, a while back I ran a series on the older SF artists (when Illos were worth looking at) there are eleven of 'em, each running to two or three pages with Illos. Would you be interested in using them as fillers when short of material? Artists covered are: Paul, Dold, Schneeman, Wesso, Brown, Orban Marchioni, Cartier, Rogers, Gould and Sewell.

If I can got round to the copy shops I'll try and enclose a copy of the first one to give you an idea of what they are like. Remember, feel free to reprint anything from *ERG* if it interests you.

Oh well, better belt up and go get some work done. My apolo-

gies for the typos which are SURE to be in this letter, despite my strenuous efforts.

Cheerio and all the very best,
Terry

I had the same problem with a reel to reel tape recorder in about 1985! Couldn't get the damn thing repaired in a major city like Atlanta, Georgia. It was a large SONY model but no one had the parts so I had to let it languish, occasionally repeating the attempt when ever I noticed a new electronics repair shop. Even the SONY dealers turned their faces away from my pitiful pleas. Eventually I discarded the thing and all the reels of music and other recorded oddities.

I also sympathize with your hard drive death sceneario. Mine died soon after production of this issue began causing me to scramble to find some way to keep working on it. You doesn't realize how complacent you gets about backing up information and updating program preferences in back up locations until the whole thing goes KA-BLOOIE! Then you are left building your email address book and bookmarks from scratch. I've had this happen in lesser degrees to make me pretty good about back ups but this time something I still don't understand happened to the Netscape information. All my addresses and bookmarks where stored in a file somewhere that went with the death crash leaving only an alias with no binary code to back it up. But then I found the file on my back up (not quite up to date, but better than nothing) but

the revived Netscape refused to recognise and pull it up into the standard access window. I can still get to that information but only in a clunky fashion. So spoiled have I become to having things work in the acceptable fashion, I'm really grateful I can get it in any fashion I just like to understand how and why these things go wrong so I can perhaps guard against it happening again.

As you can see I am making use of Terry's SF artist profile pieces. Others will follow. I would like other members to submit articles on their favorite artists and writers of Science Fiction just as have Terry and Mark, in his Sci-Fan column. It's bad enough that I have to brow-beat some of the officers (yes Don, I'm talking about you) to put in their columns after the deadlines now I have to go after the general membership for contributions. This is all to spare you from having to read anything I write!

REVENGE OF THE SCI-FAN:

by mark schulzinger



BUT I DON'T WANT TO...

Ever since I first got on the Internet I thought it was the neatest thing since sliced bread. I freely admit that I log on every day, two and three times even, and that I use the net a lot for many things. I've gone through

the obsession with e-mail, the surfing frenzy, and even participated a bit in the bidding busies. Finally, though, I learned to take the net for what it is, a convenient but not all-important way of obtaining information and sending messages.

But there is a conspiracy afoot to make me stay on the Internet all the time, do all my work there and not log off again. Ever.

If you've upgraded your OS to WINDOWS98, if you've upgraded your word processing program, then you know that I speak truth. WIN98 is so mixed up with the Microsloth browser that it's sometimes hard to know where one leaves off and the other begins. Each new version of a word processing program is now instantly Internet ready, and many of the attached bells and whistles are designed to allow one to publish his work at once via the net.

Unfortunately, no one ever asked me if I wanted to be that intimately connected to the net 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. As a matter of fact I don't. I want to be able to sit down and compose my articles in privacy, print them out if I wish, and then, if the fancy or need takes me, send them over the net. I want to have special times when I can access

the net on my own terms, and have complete control over what I do there.

I'm perfectly serious about this. When I moved to Phoenix I had to give up my Gallup ISP and took up service with Earthlink. Now Earthlink seems to be a pretty good ISP with decent response times and a lot of site space if I ever want to use it. Unfortunately it came with its own set-up software that not only started a private version of Netscape, but logged me onto the Earthlink home page without my permission. Within a few minutes it wasn't doing that any more; I had switched it to my newer version of Netscape, and I was logging onto the Netscape site as I did before.

My problem stems not from a disenchantment with the Internet, but with a demand on my part for privacy and a desire to decide what my computer will do for me. I dislike having others tell me that I must use the latest incarnation of a program only to discover that the new features force me to give up a lot of storage space for tasks I don't wish to perform with it. I even continue to use the DOS version of my word processor, although I have a WIN95 version up and running because it handles graphics better than the previous version. If you figured out that I still use DOS as my major OS, you figured correctly. The WINDOWS environments are too "mousy" for

me, I like to keep my hands on the keyboard.

On my side, too, are a number of reviewers of the new software and OSs. They're getting the idea as well that they're being coerced to go in a direction they would rather not travel. They're even starting to complain about it, although their reasons are much different from mine. It's nice to know that, just when I feel I'm in danger of becoming a rabid Luddite, there are others who feel the same way. Consensual validation is, in many ways, a Good Thing.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SAME OLD GRIPE...

I was browsing in a local bookstore the other day. You remember bookstores don't you; those are places where one physically walks down aisle after aisle filled with shelves of palpable books rather than try to wade through page after virtual page of virtual descriptions of virtual books. Anyway, I gravitated over to the science fiction section to see if there was anything new by a favorite author.

Right away I saw new novels from the big 3 of hard sf: Brin, Bear and Benford, competent writers all (and Benford has out a new tome of the hard science variety which is attracting much interest in the scientific community). What struck, nay shocked, me was that all three novels were *Second Foundation* stories, each one deliberately written to fit into

the Asimov/Campbell *Foundation* series.

I was horrified. My first thought was that these creative men had done what so many other stf writers have been doing, that they sold themselves out for the quick buck, the modern equivalent of a potboiler. On careful consideration, though, that was only the first of many thoughts. Brin, Bear and Benford command what so many others do not — a hardback edition. This is a Big Buck book at today's prices, and publishers will pay more for one than for a book which is to be published in paperback format.

What publishers won't do any more, though, is pay the prices they had to pay lke. Hey, a book by Asimov was worth a mil or so any time, and that kind of payment ate seriously into profit-and-loss statements. What the publishers want is a guaranteed sale at a low price. To hell with new ideas, new settings, any kind of real creativity, let's just do what was done before. Give em *Captain Future*.

I know there's a whole generation out there that hasn't been there nor done that, a multitude of no-lifers who will gobble up uncritically just about any Star Trek novel ever written, any Thomas Covenant tripe or Sword of Sha-Na-Na tale that trips down the literary pike. I have gone that way before, though, and am tired of it. So what do I read? I read history, and older works by older

writers. And can't nobody tell me that Poul Anderson's *A Midsummer Tempest* ain't a minor classic. You show me one writer today who will bother to craft an entire novel in iambic pentameter!

RAH REVISITED

As I wrote above, I've been re-reading some of my favorite authors. Naturally I was led to re-read *Job*, one of the most amazingly funny books I have ever had the pleasure to ingest. The first thing I noticed this time through was that it had been published by Del Rey and not by Putnam. Now Putnam had been RAH's usual publisher, and the Del Rey imprint gave me furiously to think.

Job was not a popular novel. It poked fun at too many sacred cows, gored too many oxen, and played fast n loose with orthodox Christian theology. In reading it, I was struck with the sheer sense of fun contained within its pages. The protagonist is a thoroughly unlikable man who does things for reasons that are far from clear to me - not being a Christian I do not always understand Christian motivation. Still, the book comes off as a cosmic joke with a 150 page punch line.

The writing in the book is clear and concise, without the obsession on bathing and body odors that mar Heinlein's work from his late 60s until his death. Since an obsession with odors, particularly body odors, is a diagnostic

sign of an organic brain disorder, I feel safe in deciding that the book was written prior to *The Number of The Beast*. As a matter of fact the entire tone of the book reminds me strongly of the novels published in those heady days of *Unknown* and *Unknown Worlds*.

As a result, I am led to the conclusion that Job was written around the same time as *Stranger In A Strange Land*, that Putnam refused it because of its content and that it sat around for 20 years or so until Del Rey picked it up.

And why do I have similar feelings about *Friday* despite the Putnam imprint?

THE BESTER CONNECTION

And then there was Alfie Bester. He was one of the more prolific writers, although the majority of his work was done for DC Comics, television and *Holiday* magazine. When Hollywood was planning the first Superman movie, Julie Schwartz suggested that Bester write the screenplay. Well, you see who got the job; what Superman had to do with the Mafia is anyone's guess - only Puzzo knew for sure.

Despite that small problem, Bester's novels rank as masterpieces. He understood Freud as well as did Bob Bloch, and his protagonists are well motivated by unconscious forces, although never so strongly as in *The Demolished Man*. I maintain that it was this novel that boosted *Galaxy* magazine into ascendancy

and ushered in a new age of stf writing.

I just finished re-re-re-reading *The Indian Giver*, and remain astonished as to how Bester could convey the tonal qualities inherent in a scene with such sparse verbiage. The economical use of words that convey maximum information is the hallmark of the true master.

In 1979 the first half of *The Stars My Destination* appeared as a graphic novel with artwork by Howard Chaykin. It appeared as a complete work in 1992. The novel was abridged to fit the graphic format. It works, but just barely. I would much rather see the escape from Gouffre Martel in my mind's eye than even in Chaykin's excellent artwork; the visual palette is limited, the mental one limitless.

DEPARTMENT OF RECOMMENDED READING

Shadows, by Bob Woodward, is an excellent examination of the presidents who followed Richard Nixon and their inabilities to deal with the post-Watergate presidency. While most of the book is given to the Clinton silliness, each other president has had his own moments of mind-numbing stupidity. This book may change your mind on nothing, but it's a well-written bit of investigative reportage which is as gripping as any good novel.

DEPARTMENT OF MONSOONS...

The annual Phoenix Monsoon

has finally been declared over. The monsoon is considered to have arrived when three successive days during which the lowest dewpoint is 55 degrees Fahrenheit have occurred. The monsoonal season is considered to be over when the dewpoint either drops below that figure for an undetermined number of days, 80 houses have been destroyed by microbursts or Valley residents start to grow webbing between their toes.

This most recent monsoon has lasted for 83 days, the third longest period on record. Indeed, 80 houses in Tempe were destroyed, and sales of swim flip-flops have dropped to a 50 year low. The season cost me \$600 in gutter installation and emergency roof repairs, and three tree limbs. Fortunately the main structure of the house survived intact. On the good side, the Valley reservoirs have been replenished, and we can continue to throw water away as if we lived in the well-hydrated East.

DEPARTMENT OF AGING

I recently celebrated my 61st birthday by consulting an attorney concerning a breach of contract matter with the Federal Gummint. I have no doubt that it will eventually wind up in court, but I hope this will not be the case. As I intend to start drawing my Social Security Retirement in a year (hey, get it while it's still there!) I have an unpleasant feeling that the bureaucracy is trying

to "save" SSR by defrauding those disabled citizens who have been paying premiums to fund Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Income programs all these years. That, in turn, leads me to feel that the solution the gummint will take to the aging of the American population is to kick the old folks into a corner and ignore them.

Remember *Search The Sky*, by Kornbluth and Pohl (hi, Fred)? One of their societies was a gerontocracy. It appears that the reality may be even more bizarre than the speculation: a gerontological oligarchy. Anyone for Randy Garrett's *Hunting Lodge*?

On the plus side, I got the entire run of *The Avengers* for 1965. Diana Rigg at age 27. Woof! I was amazed at how cheesy the production values were then. Still — Woof!

Another birthday present was a set of five episodes from the syndicated television show *The Adventures of Fu Manchu*. This was a half hour show produced during the late 50s by Republic Studios. The writing was laughable, and there was so much stock footage used that the 30 minute show only contained about 20 minutes of story action. Still, a television show about a villain ranks right up there with Wu Fang from the pulp era. I'm usually a *Kukla, Fran and Ollie* fan, but old Fu is a hard act to follow if one is a nostalgia freak.

MS

FAN HISTORY PROJECT UPDATE #5

by joe siclari

For more information or to volunteer, contact: Joe Siclari at jsiclari@gate.net

Fan History Project Chairman

Here is our fifth update on the FANAC Fan History Project. The BIG NEWS is that we have moved to a new commercial server. The web site has been popular enough that FANAC authorized the funds to move to a server where we will have even more capabilities. Anyone out there want to digitize some fans or pros talking at a convention? Don't forget: you can quickly check the latest WHAT'S NEW on the site at

<http://fanac.org/NewStuff.html>

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Still more photos over 2,500 now from conventions and other fan gatherings including photos from 33 Worldcons so far. Please help us put more online. New Worldcon photos (<http://fanac.org/worldcon>) from 1939 to 1998 have been added to: BucCONeer, Chicon V, Conspiracy '87, Denvention Two, LAcon I, Noreascon 3, Cinvention, LoneStarCon 2, MagiCon, NorWesCon, NYcon I, NewYorCon (NYcon II), Pittcon, Seacon '79, and SFCon. New photos for Other Convention albums (http://fanac.org/Other_Cons) from 1950 to 1999: Midwestcon

1, 2, 3, 40, & 49, Traveling Fête at Cocoa Beach 1999, Philcon 1997 & 1998, Disclave 1974 & 1975, Arisia 1998 & 1999, ConText 1998, DeepSouthCon 1998, Lunacon 1994 & 1997, SMOFcon 1997, Wiscon 1998, Balticon 1977 & 1994, Autoclave 1977 and Nebula Awards Weekend 1999.

We also added photos to these Fan Photo Albums

(http://fanac.org/Fan_Photo_Album): Baltimore Fandom, East Coast Fandom, English Fandom, Midwest Fandom, New Jersey Fandom, New York Fandom, and Washington D. C. Fandom.

THANKS FOR YOUR MEMORIES.

I want to thank the photographers who provided photos: Avedon Carol, Joni Dashoff, Howard DeVore's collection, Dick Eney, Don Ford, Mike Glicksohn, Lee Hoffman's collection, Ben Jason, Margaret Ford Kiefer's collection, Debbie King, Bob Madle's collection, Laurie Mann, Gordon McGregor, Frank Olynyk, Carol Porter, Lenny Provenzano, Dick Schultz, and Joel Zakem.

FANZINES:

Over 250 fanzines are now accessible from our site. The newest additions are: Tails of Fandom in the Modern Fanzines Index (<http://fanac.org/fanzines/Moder>

n_Fanzines.html) and TommyWorld 47 in the Electronic Fanzines Index (http://fanac.org/fanzines/Electronic_Fanzines.html). We also continue to add links to fanzines elsewhere on the web.

CONVENTIONS:

The FANAC Fan History Project will be at conventions to collect and scan your photos and accept donations to the Fan History Archives.

Representatives of the Fan History Project will be at the following science fiction conventions. 1999: Tropicon 18, Nov. 19-21, Hollywood, FL; Loscon 26, Nov. 26-28; Los Angeles; SMOFcon 17, Dec. 10-12, New Orleans. 2000: Boskone 37, Feb. 18-20, Boston; Confluence, Feb. 25-27, Mars, PA; Oasis 13, May 26-28, Orlando; Midwestcon 51, June 24-27, Cincinnati; Chicon 2000, Aug. 31-Sept. 4, Chicago Worldcon; Tropicon 19/FanHistoricon 10, Nov., Hollywood, FL.

Any fans who have photos, publications, or other memorabilia that they might be interested in donating to the Fan History Project collection are asked to contact Joe Siclari at jsiclari@gate.net or talk with our representative at one of these conventions. Thank you. Remember, your donations are tax-deductible. Check our home page to see where we will be next.

PEOPLE CROSS REFERENCE:

We have gone over ten thousand names in our people index — 10,231 to be exact. When you want to find out something about an S-F fan or professional, don't forget to check our Cross Reference list

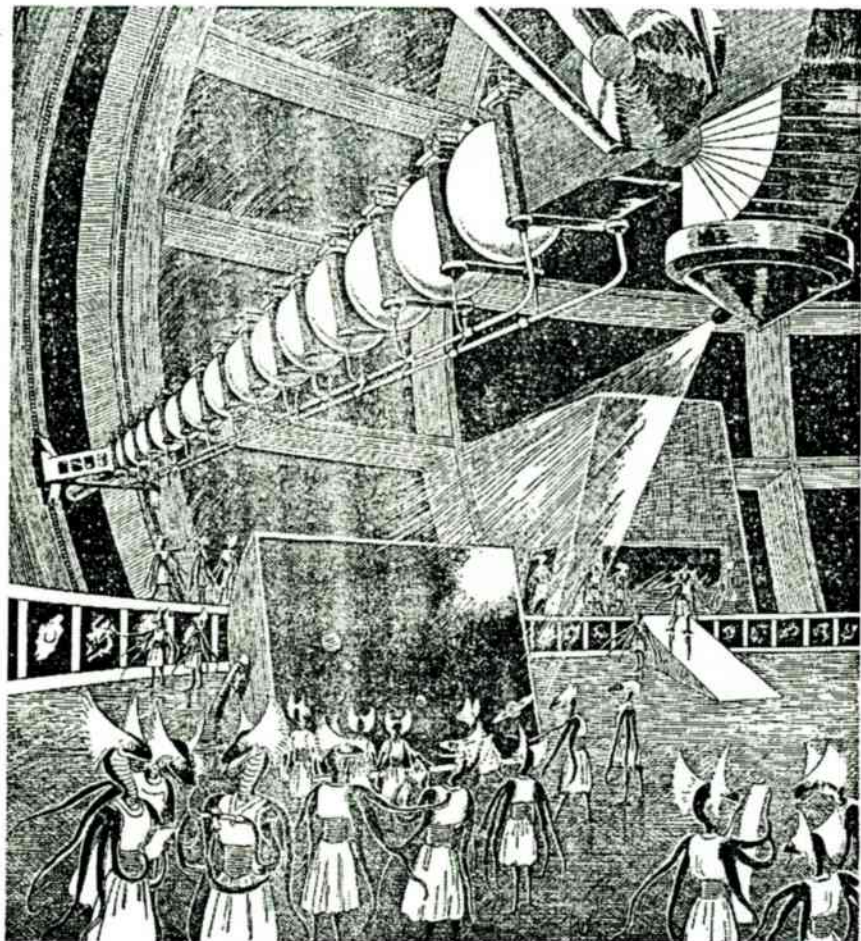
(<http://fanac.org/names.html>).

It's a virtual Who's Who of Science Fiction. "If you're not listed. Why not?" Help us document your fandom. We are adding more material all the time.

Bookmark the Fan History Project at <http://fanac.org>. Keep checking back with us.

Art in SF: frank r. paul

by terry jeeves



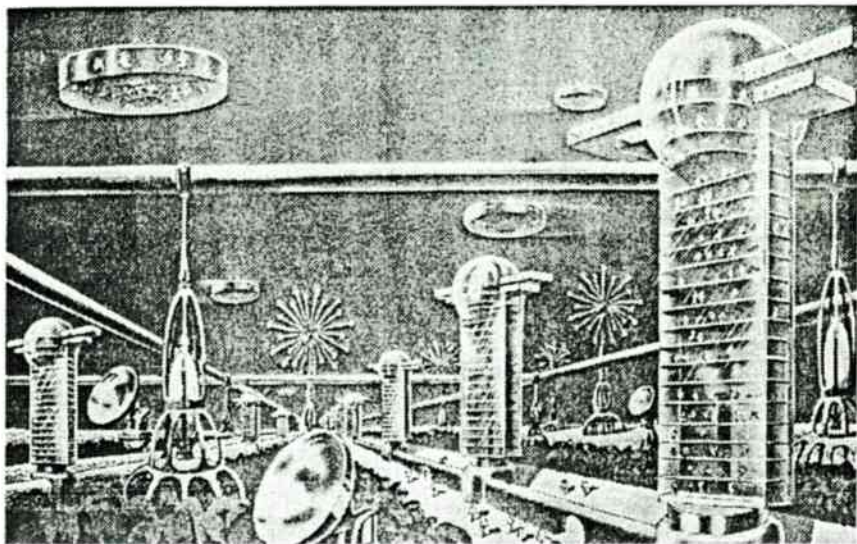
I have a stack of books on 'Science Fiction Art' ranged along my bookshelves, but surprisingly few of them say much (if anything), about individual artists or their techniques. The preference seems to be "The boom Fifties saw garish covers depicting thin-

ly clad females," or "Frank R. Paul was noted for his machines and aliens." Some writer's such as Frewin in his *100 Years Of SF Illustration* try to distance themselves from their subject by making weak jokes "Here we see the spaceman, (could it be Biggles

father?) being lifted by a 'scarlet fire.'" Such valueless smidgins of misinformation are usually squeezed in between shoals of otherwise excellent illustrations culled mainly from the pulp mag-

itation stems from the fact that I have an almost complete file of that magazine. (Anyone care to sell me the missing issues for 1930-34?)

Looking back over those years,



azines.

Sadly, very few of these books look at specific artists, their techniques, or the changing demands of the magazines and their responses to same. One good reason for this, is that very little information seems to be available along these lines. Which is another way of saying that I don't have any inside secrets to impart either. So what am I waffling about? Simple, I just felt like airing a few highly personal impressions of the work of a limited number of artists, mainly of those whose artwork has appeared in *Astounding/Analog*. The latter lim-

certain names spring immediately to mind. Frank R Paul, Elliot Dold, Marchioni, Hans Wessolowski (better known as 'Wesso'), Howard Browne, Schneeman, Finlay, Cartier, Rogers and others. I hope to write of some of these in future issues.

For openers, who better to start with than Frank R. Paul. (1884-1963), who was noted for his intricate machines, superb control of perspective and his weird, non-ferocious aliens. Indeed, some of them looked almost cuddly! On the other hand, his human figures all tend-

ed to look very much alike. Not that he couldn't draw them in any pose needed, but his men were all rather podgy faced, middle aged, wore jodhpurs and looked rather like left-over 'extras' from Metropolis. His (bosom-less) willowy, dark haired women were usually dressed in straight, shapeless frocks, or tastefully draped bedsheets similar to Greek style chitons. However thanks to a thorough grounding in mechanical engineering, when it came to machinery, fantastic cities or strange inventions, there was nobody to touch his richly detailed pen and ink work.

Just look at that heading illustration done by him... and bear in mind that this drawing was first made into a line-block and mass-reproduced onto pulp paper for the magazine. The pulp page was then re-photographed and printed in the book from which I took my own photograph. My photo was then photocopied on to paper, pasted up alongside this text and sent off to my printer. He did the necessary to bring you this copy of *ERG*, (*Editor's Note: I've scanned in the art which Terry originally used for ERG, his point is even more magnified since I had to scan and clean up what his printer and subsequent photocopying did, think of what the original must have looked like or still does look like if it still exists!*) Despite all these sequential and quality destroying steps, the illustration still remains a masterpiece of

imagination, grandeur and perspective.

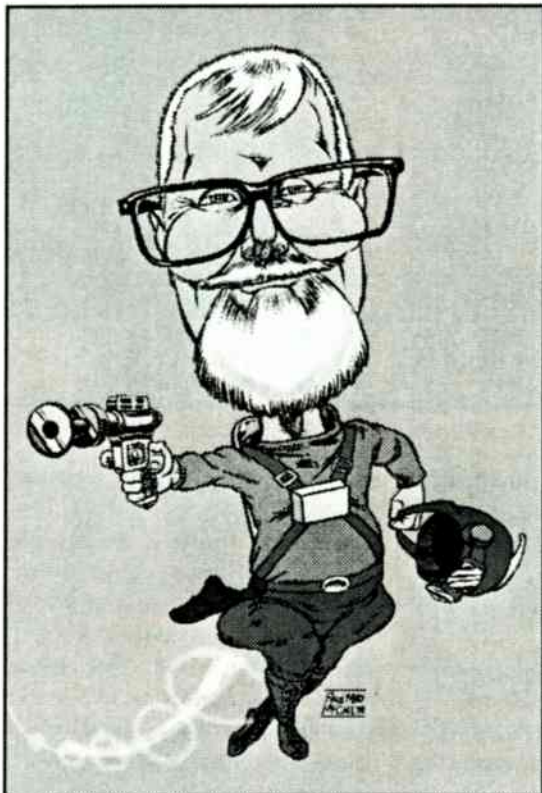
Paul appears to have worked mainly with a fine-nibbed pen, a Gillott's 659 or similar. On the occasional illustration, I fancy I can find signs that he may have used scraperboard (*scratchboard to us Yanks - Editor*)... but then I shake my head and decide that he just used some process white to add detail to his fantastically intricate pen and ink work. A master of perspective and composition, he was never afraid to tackle even the most involved assignment, and this despite a killing work load involving much of the gadgetry depicted in Gernsback's other magazines on radio, electrical news, everyday science, and even a short-lived comic! He also appeared in *Astounding* for a few issues in 1931.

It may be just personal feeling, but - somehow, I never cared for Paul's cover paintings. The intricacy was there, as was the mastery of perspective, but the colours were too garish, though of course much of that can be blamed on the printing limitations of that era. Nevertheless, they were still striking affairs and doubtless achieved their object of catching the eye of the book-stall browser.

TJ

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

by ray beam



I changed my mind several months ago about going to Australia for the Worldcon. The two main reasons were that I do not tolerate those long trips any more. Fourteen hours plus on a plane does not appeal to me. Secondly I did not feel that I could be away from my business for the planed three weeks. A minor consideration is the fact that the Melbourne Committee is

one of many Worldcon Committees that did not bother to respond to our inquiry about presentation of the First Fandom Awards at the Hugo ceremony.

I talked with Roger Sims, he said there were about 1700 in attendance. Not bad for a Worldcon outside the US and Canada.

I will be attending Octocon in Cincinnati The end of October. It will be over by the time this is published. As for a vacation to replace the aborted Australian trip, Mary Ann and I are taking a 7 day cruise of the Caribbean to the Bahamas and Virgin Islands. Mary Lu and Larry Lockhart will accompany us. That is

my kind of vacation, Just sitting on the deck. We also are taking Mary Ann's parents as a present for their 50th. wedding anniversary.

I hope a lot of you are planning to attend the First Fandom Reunion at Archcon in October 2000,

RB



FROM DOWN IN THE FOSSIL BEDS:

by don dailey

Things seem to run in cycles with this job. One month I'm busier than the proverbial one-legged man in a butt kicking contest, the next it's Rip Van Winkle time.

Slow as it was, a couple of interesting "events" occurred. I received inquiries from three different science-fiction fan clubs in the area. They were quite curious about what was in the Archives and the general purpose of such a repository of sf history. In fact, I was the guest speaker at one of the group's general meeting. I was surprised and pleased to find out how much interest there is about the "dinosaurs of science-fiction."

Terry Jeeves, thanks for the note about other fandom related books that might have a place in the Archives. I have tracked

down copies of most through the library lending system and at least read them. It seems copies are available mostly through college libraries in the system. Jack Speer's work is particularly hard to lay hands on. The libraries that have copies won't let them out of their sight until you sign over the deed to your house, the pink slip on your car, etc.

One item that Bob Peterson and I are still looking for ... "Notes From Bob Peterson" #28. A copy of that particular issue will complete both the Archives collection and Bob's personal set. I don't know why that issue has been so slippery, but tracking it down has become 'quest for the Holy Grail.' The next time any of you are cleaning up file drawers or whatever, keep an eye out for this rare and precious document.

We would be most appreciative.
Until Next Time
Don Dailey, Archivist

Editor's Note:

MORE NEWS:

news continued from pg. 2

No further details were immediately available.

A spokesman for Bradbury, who has written more than 1,000 stories and an Academy Award-winning film script in addition to his classic science fiction novels, could not be reached for comment late Thursday.

Bradbury, who was born in Waukegan, Illinois, had his first short story published at the age of 21. He lives in the desert resort community of Palm Springs, about 100 miles east of Los Angeles.

Thanks to Ray for the Paul art for Terry's article. Apologies to folks who sent in things too late for inclusion this issue ... I'll get them in next time.

pm

NEW VICE-PRESIDENT NAMED DAILEY FILLS SLOT

The demise of Hal Shapiro left First Fandom without a Midwest Vice-President. Fortunately, Don Dailey has volunteered to take over this onerous task.

Don, who has been performing valiantly as Archivist, will continue to hold that position while simultaneously handling his new duties. Expect to see him organizing First Fandom get togethers at various cons in the Midwest.

He can be contacted by mail at 8003 Maple Grove Drive, Georgetown, IN 47122.

His e-mail address is fadmdon@otherside.com.

NECROLOGY:

Charles D. Hornig 1916 - 1999

DEADLINES:

Scientificfiction:

Spring 2000 Issue

Closing date, April 18, 2000

Summer 2000 Issue

Closing Date, July 18, 2000

Fall 2000 Issue

Closing Date, October 17, 2000

First Fandom:

December 31, 1999 - Last date for balloting for the various First Fandom awards.

May 31, 2000 - Last date for nominations for Hall of Fame and Sam Moskowitz award.

SCIENTIFCTION
5801 WEST HENRY STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46241
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

BULK RATE
US
POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #1
DEARBORN, MI

Donald H. Dailey
8003 Maple Grove Drive
Georgetown IN 47122

2000

47122-3047 02

