



Futurian Observer

AUSTRALIA & SCIENCE



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NEVILLE FRIEDLANDER'S RESIGNATION:- Considerable comment has been made in local circles by the resignation of Neville Friedlander from the Futurian Society of Sydney. To clear up any mis-interpretations, the editor's of "Futurian OBSERVER", in their capacity as officials of the F.S.S., wish to release the following statement.

At the 10th meeting of the Society it was decided to edit a club organ. All members were unanimous in agreement that the idea of issuing a club magazine was excellent. However, between the 10th and 11th meeting, Director Veney discussed this matter with the majority of club members with the object of finding what support would forthcoming only to reach the conclusion that many were hazy minded as to what the entire scheme was to embrace. Some held the opinion that independent publications should be dropped in favour of the combined effort. Others thought the club magazine should be ~~real~~ released to members only. A third group favoured merely a news sheet devoted entirely to F.S.S. activities while a fourth group went so far as to say it should be based on professional lines and aiming at bookstall circulation. In view of so much controversy the only logical course to follow would be to again discuss the matter and pound out the difficulties. This was done at the 11th meeting and when a ballot was taken on the revised motion, the proposal was defeated by 3 votes to 4, with one informal, a majority of one. Friedlander, who didn't show sufficient interest to attend this meeting, upon hearing the result of this vote, gave Secretary Castellari his resignation. According to Friedlander the Society should aim at providing an outlet for amateur authors. That is not the policy of the F.S.S. and never has been. Meetings are for the purpose of discussing science, science fiction and all kindred subjects of interest to fantasy fiction followers and shall remain so until a majority of members favour some other policy.

ODDS AND ENDS:- The May, 1940, issue of BLUE BOOK features a booklength novel, "Exiles of Time", by Nelson Bond. Illustrations are two-colour.....Coutts Brisbane, the Australian author who appears quite frequently in "TALES OF WONDER", had a short non-stif yarn in Sunday Telegraph Magazine for June, 21st.....Arthur Leo Zagat has been writing a futuristic series for the American, "A GOLF". These stories tell of a small band of American youths who are the last survivors of White America after a Japanese Invasion.....The early yarn by Jules Verne, "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea", is now appearing in serial form over station 3GB from Monday to Friday at about 5.30.....The present European conflict is beginning to make its effect upon Australian Fandom. Already George W. Turner of Melbourne has gone overseas while Alan Connell and Keith Moxon are to undergo military training in the near-future. So far, no Sydney Futurians have been directly effected, but if the Government brings in Universal training, then probably the older members will be called into camp.....Leo Morey has joined the art staff of ASTONISHING STORIES and SUPER SCIENCE STORIES.

THE "POPULAR STORIES" POLL is being held over until next issue so as to enable interstate readers to cast their votes before we close the count. There has been several changes since the results printed last issue. "Grey Lensman", is now in the lead with "Sinister Barrier", second and "Black Flame", third. The final results will be printed in our next issue.

Hey Fellers
look what came
in this mail
12*14

NIAGARA

CDS

Phil Witte

(Cut b Smith.)

The main item on the programme, and it occupied the best part of the meeting, was the discussion on the revision of the club's policy. This came as a direct result of the statement by Neville Friedlander that his resignation was due to the ~~STATE~~ disagreement with the policy of the club. Members debated for nearly an hour and a half on the subject and it was agreed that too much attention had been paid to fan magazines (with resulting squabbles) and not enough to science fiction discussions. Thereupon the members came to a final agreement that the club should concern itself mainly with discussions, debates, lectures, etc., as had been done in the past, and that any discussion on fan magazine issueing would have to be done before or after the official commencement or finish of the meeting. A quiz prepared by Dwyer proved the source of much enjoyment and Noel, himself kept several members in convulsions with imitation of Popeye. Evans and Levy showed themselves to be the two best mental telepathists even to the extent of making a sort of communications after the meeting when both arrived at their respective homes! The meeting broke up at the 10 o'clock; the date of the next meeting being Sunday 30th June. At this meeting a record attendance of twelve is expected, thus breaking the previous record of eleven at meetings No. 10 & 11. Despite adversities, the Futurian Society is still on top and growing. We shall carry on and continue to grow!

NEW NATIONAL ORGANISATION ?:- There has been considerable talk in local fan gatherings about the possibility of launching a new Australia-wide sf club something after the style of England's recently suspended "Science Fiction Association" or America's "Futurian League". So far no definite arrangements have even been contemplated but as soon as the matter is reviewed in detail, announcements will be made in this and other Sydney publications.

uturian OBSERVER: (13) is the fortnightly brainstorm of Bert F. Castle-
liari & William D. Veney, editors, and Ronald B. Levy, Associate, not
to mention Ralph A. Smith who does the illustrations. "OBS" issues from
10 a Sully St., Randwick, Sydney, N.S.W., at the price of 2d per single
copy, or if you want to be a good fella, try 7 for 1/- or 20 cents
(Lowest accepted from U.S. fans.)

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