

CHICONEWS

(Reprinted from "Spaceways" with special permission of Editor HWJr.)

a complete story
of the Chicon as nearly every fan
mag existant will have done that.
Instead we chose a few choice pie
es from SPACENAYS, which we considered best to reprint!

From Tucker's "Memories of a Chic onser: "Highlight of the first day was the movie swept up off a cutting room floor and stuck together by Roberds and me. Even Ackerman adn't recognise the picture when a were finished with it, because of certain "Pongish touches." A litle that read: "The earthmen find they are not the first to conquer space" is followed by a strip showing a band of cowboys galloping across the plains, shooting from a western epic. In another space, earthmen and Martians are staring into a huge round televis or mounted on the wall, and what paps into the scene of vision but a girl doing a strip-tease."

"In my opinion, and I have found reason to think many others think likewise, that Banquet proved to be the most popular "session of the entire Convention. There were nearly sixty present, grouped around a U-shaped table, with Doc Smith, his wife, and daughter at the "head," flanked by Meyey, Korshak, Reinsberg and myself. After dinner the usual speeches and talks were in order and many were the stale jokes dragged out and re-polished. Wilson worked in a plug for his fan-mag ESCAPE. Walt Liebscher was mistakenly introduced as "Leapyear," Philip Morris Cigarettes sent up a hundred smal palcages with their compliments, someone erdered Reinsberg a glass of milk and a bottle of red pop but the latter never arrived, silent respect was paid to authors a nd fans who have now passed on, Doc Smith was introduced as the creator of "Adam Link," and one of

those phony newspapers --- the "print your own headline" type -- was introduced; screaming black type announced: SMITH SUPPER STIN KING SUCCESS!!! Everyone present autographed this paper and it was presented to Smith with our very best wishes. In conclusion, every one rose, joined hands and sang A uld Lang Syne."

From "Stardust:" "Doc Smith is cnof the most likeable persons I've ever met. I spoke with him severatimes for periods ranging from a half to two hours, and it would be difficult to imagine a more pleas ant way of passing time. On the second day, the IFF was being dis was being dissolved as a national organisation, and as non-members Earl Singleton, Bill Hamling, Don Brazier and I were ousted, so we decided to retire for refreshments. In the lobby we met Doc, who o promptly offered to treat us all so we left for -- ah sorry. Tucker Returning, we found seats in the lobby and discussed stuff. We spoke at length of Weinbaum, and Doc mentioned how Palmer angered him by writing a sequel ("Black World") to kk "The Red Peri," which he thinks is one of SCM's worst yearns. He then went on "and published his worst story 'The New Adam'".

ITEMS: F. Orlin Tremaine, one-time editor of ASTOUNDING is to edit a new science fiction pro... tentavely titled, Comet Stories..

Futurian OBSERVER: (no. 23) leaves
10a Sully Stree
t, Randwick, Sydney, NSW, once a
fortnight, after having been prin
ted and edited by Walliam D. Veney
and Bert F. Castellari. 2d per si
ngle copy, 7 for 1/-. 7 for 20 ce
nts is the lowest we accept fro m
Americans.
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A QUESTION AND ITS ANSWER

American fans are asking a question: why was not Australian fan om represented at the Chico? Why did not Australia (Sydney in patticular) attempt to make itself heard among numerous voices of the Chico. There was plenty of opportunity and Australian fandom was supposed to progressing. Here we shall give the answer to this questions an enswer which will show that most Aussies of that time were not true fans, but mere efficies of fans:

The first official suggestion for Australia's representation at the Convention, came from Bert F. Castellari at the critical ten the meeting of the Muturian Society of Sydney on May 15th. At that time Melbourne and Brisbane had only individual fans, so that the job had to be done practically all by Sydney fans. Secretary Castellari brought up the matter during settlement of club business. Present, incidentally, besides WDV, and BFC, were Vol Molesworth, David R. Evans (attending for the first time), the Russell Bros (acting very disinterested), K. Noel Dwyer, Ralph A. Smith, Keith Hooper, Ronald B. Levy and Neville Friedlander. Castellari's suggestion was to send a cable of congratulations of the time of the constitutions of the const The first official suggesti ion was to send a cable of congratulations at the time of the convention - he was supported in this by the Director. The action was commented on by Evans only, who opposed it in favour of what he thought was a better idea. He stated that while the club was going to the expense of sending a cable it could be spending that money on radio advertising to get more mem bers. He said he could get specia l rates for advertising, which am ounted to 10/- per time. This advertisement however, would be broadcast after midnight. Then the subject was dropped and any other comment on the cable was squashed.

The next mention of the Con vention came on 30th June at the 13th meeting of the Society. After discussion with others Dwyer m ade the suggestion of making and sending a record of the voices of members. (Reported OBS, 14th July) Members passed comment and Direct or appointed Dwyer to investigate the deatils of the matter fully. Dwyer said he would - only minor opposition was made to the sugges tion - again from Ivans. Came the 14th meeting on July 21st and inquiry showed larness on the part of Dwyer in that he had gone to no further trouble over it. Ralph 1. Smith (at that time still interested in stf.) having noted disapproval of others made his succession. oval of others, made his suggesti

on. This was to send an enlarged potograph of the members of Society with a message to be compiled at the next meeting. Immediately everyone favoured this motion and it was decided that the photo must be taken rext meeting as time was growing short of anything to be posted in time. This action never came about Then becan the drift way a despite cons began the drift-sway - despite cons tant efforts of the executive con tice there was no co-operation

Result: At the 16th meeting of 18th August Director Veney informed the members that the only hope for representation lay in the originally suggested cable. time was too short for enything else. Castellari was too busy and no member would volunt eer for the job, so WDV said he won ld do something about it himself. B etween that and the next meeting ho wever the committee resigned. Davi d R. Evans took over the position and d repossibilities of Director, while e the Ex-Director took a short hal iday" from stf. Suffice to say the new Director made no steps toward a ny form of representation, and with his new policy favoured other actio ns before this,

And now American and British fans can see that Australia's attem pted representation was defeated by non-co-operative, non-progressive, self-centred individuals. Never again will this be allowed to happen while Australian fandom continues to live and grow. Bansihed are the non-co-operative... we have entred a ne w era - an era which some non-co-op eratives ' will attempt be invade, but will and must be kept out! Australian fandom is being re-born; and in its re-bir th there can only be progress for soience fiction in Australia! The real fandom is uniting with this common aim! We shall build a new and better future. Americans may rest assured that a big step in this future will not be overlooked - when the 1944 Convention comes to America or rath er Denver - (to use a common expression:-) - Australia Will Be There:

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