

PROSPECTUS 26

10/28/71

PROSPECTUS is the irregularly published newsletter of the Fantasy and Science Fiction Society of Columbia University. It is available to dues-paying members of the Society (dues are \$1.00 for the Fall semester, 50¢ for the Spring semester). Edited by Eli Cohen. The Society meets every Thursday at 8:30 at 417 W.118th St., #63, New York, N.Y. 10027. For information about the Society and its activities, contact Eli Cohen at the above address or telephone 666-3345.

FSPSCU officers:

Grand Marshal: Eli Cohen

Petit Marshal: Arlene Lo

Acting Seneschal: Maggie Flinn

Better late than never, they say, though some of my faithful readers may dispute that in the case of PROSPECTUS. Be that as it may, welcome to the fourth year of the Fantasy and Science Fiction Society. For some of you this may be your first contact with FSPSCU (Warning: Don't try to pronounce it — people are apt to say Gesundheit), so let me briefly describe the incredible advantages you will gain by joining.

First of all, you will get PROSPECTUS, which will keep you up-to-date on events of interest to science fiction fans, tell you when meetings have been cancelled, and present you with an excruciating feghoot each issue (feghoot, n. from Ferdinand Feghoot, Through Time and Space With, a discontinued series in the MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION; any short story whose point is a bad pun). Secondly, you are entitled to borrow books from the club library (housed at my apartment, feel free to come over and browse), which has hundreds of paperbacks and hardcovers, plus a fairly extensive magazine collection (a few years' worth each of IF, GALAXY, WoT, F&SF, ANALOG, AMAZING, FANTASTIC, and a scattering of others). A catalog will be available Real Soon Now. Oh — we also have a collection of fanzines (amateur publications put out by science fiction fans), which my cat (who has excellent taste) assures me are delicious.

The major activity of the club is the weekly meeting. Activities, which are informal and always unplanned, range from loose, bull-session type get-togethers to songfests with bagpipe accompaniment, and an occasional recital of "God is My Co-Pilot" in its entirety, complete with sound effects. At

SF Calendar

Dec. 3-5, PHILCON

Convention in Philadelphia, at the Philadelphia Sheraton; Principal Speaker: Keith Laumer

Dec. 29, Tolkien Society

Winter Meeting, 5:30 P.M. at Bronx House, Pelham Pkwy S., Bronx, N.Y.

And, of course, FSPSCU every Thursday at 8:30

each meeting's end, the assemblage adjourns to the local Baskin-Robbins, where the management has almost gotten used to us (except, perhaps, when we sing "God Save the Queen" at midnight).

In past years there was a club magazine, AKOS, now defunct (copies are available in the club library). However, if there are people out there who want to write, draw, make up bad puns, or even help type stencils, it's possible a club magazine could be put out again. Or, as an alternative, PROSPECTUS could become more than just a two page newsletter.

THE ADVENTURES OF GRAYSON GREENSWARD

A byproduct of the 1982 Population Explosion was an unprecedented increase in automobiles, and consequently a drastic decrease in available parking space. As traffic jams began to cover more and more of the country, Grayson Greensward was called in. To everyone's surprise, the intrepid trouble-shooter took the problem straight to the genetic engineers. He held a short consultation, and the biologists excitedly rushed to their tasks.

A few months later, Grayson returned to view the fruits of their labors. Or, more precisely, the melons of their labors. For indeed, they had mutated cantaloupes, watermelons, and the like into giant ovoid structures covering many square miles. When these monstrosities were hollowed out, Greensward maintained, they would make ideal parking garages.

Amazed, the authorities gave Grayson Greensward their heartiest thanks, their sincerest congratulations, and, after only a short legal suit, the money they owed him. "How did you ever think of such a bizarre solution?" they asked.

"I didn't think of it," he replied, "Martin Luther did: A mighty Ford rest is our gourd."

--- Yarik P. Thrip
(with thanks to Jon Singer)

This issue of PROSPECTUS is being sent to the immediate world; all future issues will go only to dues-paying members or contributors. Our Grand Marshal Emeritus Fred Lerner has been made an Honorary Lifetime Member, and it is hereby proclaimed that he has the rights and privileges of membership in perpetuity, including, of course, the right and privilege of paying his dues.