

Science Fiction Weekly

the national fantasy news-review

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STF BANNED IN AUSTRALIA

DELL DENIES RUMOURS

New York, May 18: - During the past two weeks rumours have been circulating in science fiction circles that Dell Publishing Co. was going to put out a new science fiction magazine. Dell, who publish Five Novels Monthly, which recently featured a science-fiction cover, has published such fantasy magazines as Doctor Death and O'Leary's War Birds in past years. When this report reached your editor via two well-placed professional parties, investigation was made at the office of Dell.

Miss Helen Meyer, Vice-President of that company, authoritatively states that they are not publishing any new science - fantasy magazine. Similar statements made regarding still another new magazine, to be published by Ace Magazines (who published Eerie Mysteries) have also been found baseless. It is known, however, that at least one new science-fiction magazine is being seriously considered, for evidence is available to prove that, but Ace and Dell are not the parties concerned.

DYNAMIC TO STAY DEAD

Marvis Office: - Inquiry at the office of Robert O. Erisman of Red Circle Publications revealed that Dynamic Science Stories, one-time sister publication of Marvel Science Stories, will not be revived. Marvel Science Stories will appear again on a bi-monthly basis. The Red Circle horror magazines Uncanny Tales, Mystery Tales, and Real Mystery, have been discontinued, and will not appear again.

Futurian Observer, April 21, 1940:

-- A grave situation has arisen. The Federal Government has issued a list of American pulp magazines which will be banned from this country. Included in this list are all stf magazines now entering the Commonwealth: Astounding, Famous Fantastic Mysteries, Thrilling Wonder Stories, Startling Stories, etc. all fall under this ban. The magazines will continue to appear in Australia for two months owing to the fact that shipments are already en route. Not content with banning completely the magazines from the stands, the Government has decreed that new subscriptions cannot be commenced. Subscriptions that have already been placed will be allowed to carry on until their expiration.

Already newer magazines -- Astonishing Stories, Planet Stories, etc -- have been prevented from appearing on the stands. In Victoria the Federated Newsagents Association has asked the Government to reconsider its decision stating that the dollar exchange is negligible. (Australian Futurian Observer)

STRANGERS SPLIT ON S-F QUESTION

Cambridge, Mass (BNS): At the 4th meeting of the Boston Stranger Club, Sun May 12, in Craft Lounge at MIT, the question of joining the Science Fictioneers arose resulting in sentiment so equally divided that action was deferred until next meeting.

Three new members -- Ned French, Jno Bell, and Fred Weiner -- were present, so raising membership of club to 15. Two losses had occurred.

Volume Two Number One
May 19, 1940

Published at 2574 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. 5¢ per issue; 3 for 10¢; 8 for 25¢; 18 for 50¢. We will exchange with any other fan magazine.

Advertising: full-page ads, 75¢. Exchange, 1/2 page ads., will be used when we have a full page of same at hand. In all such cases, an extra page of reading matter is guaranteed.

Statements or opinions published in this magazine are not necessarily reflective of editorial views. Our pages are open to orderly rebuttals at all times. Criticisms welcomed.

EDITOR - IN - CHIEF
Robert W. Lowndes

ASSOCIATES
Chet Cohen
Dick Wilson
Leslie Perri

CITY DESK

MANY FANS HAVE WONDERED about the case of J. Michael Rosenblum, and that of other British fans of pacifist inclinations, during the present war. It seems that they are all applying to the Conscientious Objector Tribunals for exemption from military service. Rosenblum, a recent applicant, has won exemption from actual warfare, but is required to "undertake agricultural or forestry work". A member of the Peace Pledge Union, Michael is unwilling to do even that much for the war, but says: "it doesn't seem worth while to risk imprisonment or worse for a petty quibble. But that doesn't mean I'm fitting in by any means, and it is still quite possible that I'll land in duration vile for Peace Pledge Union propaganda work, or whatnot."

As a sidelight on the war, it might be remarked that the letter which gave your correspondent the above information was postmarked, like all English mail, with the slogan: "Grow More Food --- Dig for Victory". But, through a slip of the cancelling machine, part of a word was obliterated. It no reads: "Dig for Tory."

THE CAMPAIGN for Booster Ad-Lets in the Chicon Program booklet is now open. Chairman Reinsberg is now shopping about in Chicago for a printer; plans are tentatively being made to have the Program Booklet published by some other means than printing, but, understand, -- we are not positive of this.

However, due to the fact that the booklet cost is expected to be exceedingly lower than that of last year, Booster Ad-Lets will cost but ten cents per name this year. At this lower cost, we expect many more names.

For ten cents each, any and every name you wish published in the Program Booklet will be listed on the separate pages set aside for such, under the heading: "Fantasy Fictioneers."

Bob Tucker alone is authorized to accept names and dimes for listing. All funds should be sent to him at Box 260, Bloomington, Illinois.

JULIUS UNGER tells us that he has found a means of getting from NY to Chicago, in private cars, at a cost of \$6.50 each way. Any and all fans interested are urged to write to him now at Box 63, Station P, Brooklyn, New York.

TO FOLLOW UP the affair of Tucker's aspirin (see SFW #12), the following communiqué was received from week at the Medical Division of the Futurian League. Subject: Recent Shipment of Medical Supplies. Quote: This is to notify you that the shipment of medical supplies, mailed from your office on May 3, 1940, has arrived in many pieces. In fact, in powder.

The men are in a state of rebellion over this, claiming it is a run-out powder you are trying to force on them, altho we officers know it is headache powders.

Suggest you pack your next shipment more securely to prevent this damage to goods and morale. Pillcercely yours, Loot. B. Tucker. Officer of the Night. Unquote. PS. Quote: Our Byck Private Benny Smith sends a notation to the effect that in the future please send genuine Bayer aspirin; as we find this ersatz very unsatisfactory. Unquote.

THEIR OWN PETARD by H. C. KOENIG

FROM A LETTER BY JIM BLISH in Aston-
ishing Stories, April, 1940. "I
hope that before you print another
letter like "4E"s (whoever he may be),
you will take steps to make it readable.
Illiteracy is pardonable, but such an
obviously deliberate attempt at artifi-
cial illiteracy is in bad taste and ought
to be corrected rather carefully or not
printed at all."

(Eureka! I've found a recruit at
last. We must hold a convention some-
time, Jim. -- But, migawd, don't tell
me you don't know "4E". I'll bet "Lit-
tle Forrie" swooned when he read your
letter.

Confidentially, Jim, "4E" is one of
the "big shots" out on the west coast.
Unfortunately, he is obsessed with a
number of screwy ideas. Among other
things, he believes the future of the
world depends on the universal adoption
of Esperanto and, as a starter, consi-
ders himself science-fiction's Messiah
of that language. Also, aided and abet-
ted by a few misguided souls, he be-
lieves he is science fiction's No 1 fan
and migawd, how he tries to live up to
it. Letters and articles in every pro-
fessional and fan magazine in the world,
(including the Scandanavian). They
wouldn't be so awful, Jim, if written in
ordinary English. But, they're full of
pig-Latin, Esperanto, pigeonenglish,
trick words, and every conceivable form
of mis-used English. Perhaps it's just
as well that you don't know "4E", Jim.

But, to give the devil his due :
Little Forrie is well able to write a
readable article. Read his short re-
views of "The Invisible Man Returns" and
"The Return of Dr X" in the April Aston-
ishing, and his article in The Alchem-
ist. However, for the most part, even
his sixteen-year-old effort in the first
issue of Futuria Fantasia furnishes
better reading than his mature (okay,
Forrie?) raves of recent years.)

To keep records clear, it had best
be noted that, while plugged as "fan #1"
by some of his closest friends and asso-
ciates, Ackerman has never made claims
to being such, or acted as if he per-
sonally believed it. Moreover, Jim, the
editor of many a fan magazine can tell

what "4E"s prompt financial support,
plus item-contributions, has meant when
their pet projects were struggling to
make first headway.7

From "The Manuscript Bureau" in
New Fandom, Volume 2 No. 1: "As this
issue goes to press we have enough mate-
rial left to aid two fan mags and we've
four urgent requests on our desks. We
send out a frantic appeal for material.
IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE A BOUNTIFUL SUPPLY
OF MATERIAL, AT LEAST FOUR AND POSSIBLY
MORE NEW FAN MAGS WILL COLLAPSE WITHIN
THE NEXT THREE MONTHS!"

(You are breaking my heart, Sam,
simply breaking my heart. I am so fill-
ed up with emotion that I just can not
comment on that heart-rending plea
-- it's two much for me.)

ADDENDA: NANCY WARNER WRITES: "I'd
like to open fire on H. C. Koenig,
if you don't mind. His column has
its points of interest, and no doubt a
certain usefulness, but to read his
writings, one would think that he was
regularly tied to a chair and forced, at
the point of a bayonet, to read every
word of every professional and fan sf
publication.

"Did it ever occur to the Unclever
that perhaps some fans obtain enjoyment
and inspiration from Esperanto whether
it's practical or not? That other fans
see a great deal of connection between
sf & the various phases of sociology
whether he does or not? That still oth-
er fans find a means of self-expression
in their fan-publications whether Mr
Koenig is pleased by them or not? And
that every fan has something to offer
every other fan whether opinions coin-
cide or not?

"Apparently, these things haven't.
Our Petard-Master has been so busy bust-
ing idols and showing up the muddy feet
on some fans who seem to think they're
Gawd Almighty, that he has come to con-
sider himself Gawd Almighty.

"I read sf and sf fan mags because
I can find almost everything in them.
Every type of person; every type of mood
from the ridiculous to the sublime. But
if Mr Koenig has his way they'd all be
little Tweedledee Dums and Tweedledee
Dumbers."

ANGELENOTES by MOROJO

▲ AN UNPRECEDENTED PERIOD of fan activities in Shangri-LA lately. Fans visiting other fans, taking trips together, fotografing one another, going to shows in groups --- Ray Bradbury hikes up to "Castle Stoneybroke" & calls on Robt Anson & Leslyn MacDonald (Nova - cious) Heinlein; Heinleins call on Hornig; Hornig, 4e, myself & Bruce Yerke take trip to Santa Barbara to meet Tongue of Tomoro Delegate of that city, 4e finds 4 stf bks in 2d hand shop there; Bradbury spends morning at Ackerman's during latter's dayoff; Hodgkins & Johnson spend evening at Heinlein's; Walt Daugherty & Virginia Laney guests of Heinlein's; 4e & I call on the Lyle Monroes (Mr wrote "Let There be Lite" in Super Science); calls made on ill Bob Olson by Hornig, 4e, Paul Freehafer & myself; Paul Freehafer, Bruce Yerke, Ray Bradbury, Bill Crawford, & Charlie Hornig motor to Balboa for day; Walt Daugherty, Eleanor O'Brien, Russ Hodgkins, & Virginia Laney weekend at Ocean Beach; Ralph Milne Farley met in hotel room for 45-min chat, by Hornig, 4e & myself; 4e & I, Belle Wyman, Sam Brown, & Karl Forst attend preview of "Turnabout"; Hal Clark & We see "It's All in Your Mind"; We take in (or are taken in by) "Mars Attacks the World"; Wm Schillings of San Francisco in town 3 days, seen by 4e & myself; after publication of Polaris, Paul Freehafer, Grady McMurty, 4e & myself see "double-horror" bill "Fatal Hour" & "Human Monster" with Karloff & Lugosi; Beverly Browne, Ferry's now-made fan, out to Hodgkins' house to see his collection; 'Jimmy' Laney & We see "The Man with 9 Lives"; Hornig, Bradbury, & Bruce Yerke motor to San Bernadino, meet J Harvey Haggard.

VICTORY! Tongue of Tomoro to be used in 5th film, "Victory" Para pic starring Fred March. Preziden to de Esperanto Klubo speaks about Universalanguage at LASTS, "Karlo" Hornig returns talk at Esp-Klubo with topic By Telescopes to Mars. Some 50 Esperantists introduced to Science Fiction-Future Fiction by Editor Hornig, who spoke for about 45 minutes about scien-tifiction, introducing Fojhak to his fellow Universalinguists for the 1st time

in his standing as outstanding stfan. Charlie read his "Fatal Glance" (as translated into Esperanto & republisht in Heroldo) while Fojhak anglicized same.

Moneys from mss auction augment club treasury, Science Fictioneers Chapt 1 grateful to headquarters. Storys by Cummings, Gallun, Vincent, & others, publisht in Astonishing & Super Science, sell well. I buy "Half-Breed" above all other bidders -- & Asimov hates women in science fiction!

▲ DDENDA: TOM WRIGHT WRITES: "Was surprised to see my biographical sketch in SFW! Joe Fortier tells me he wrote it, and there is a little error ... The Marvel he refers to is Marvel Science Stories, not Marvel Tales. I didn't like the sex angle as Joe seemed to imply (though he didn't mean it). What I did like was some of the excellent fiction they printed re: "After World's End", "Faster Than Light" "Survival", "The Dead Spot", "The Thirty and One", etc. And another thing: I don't care much for Krupa and Seinceeman in their present styles. Also liked the old Marvel for bringing back Paul." ... The Boston Stranger Club, which met on the 12th (see page one) has recently received the generous donation of 250 old Amazing Stories, Wonder Stories, etc, to serve as the nucleus of the club library. At the recent meeting, Earl Singleton was unanimously elevated to the office of Vice-Director, in charge of said library. Chief item on the agenda for this meeting was the distribution of the club organ, Fanfare. . . . Recently approved for membership by the Executive Committee of the Futurian Society of New York, was Rosalind Dorothy Cohen & Marvin L Press. Membership will become definite as soon as a vote is taken at the forthcoming meeting. Inasmuch as these two new applicants, if accepted, will round out the rolls, according to the society's constitution, no new members can be taken until and unless vacancies occur. . . . Miss Mary Gneidingor of FFM-FT tells us that A. Merritt was quite pleased upon seeing the poems your editor had written around "The People of the Pit" & "The Woman of the Wood."