

MOSKOWITZ WRITES DEFINITION OF SCIENCE- FICTION

PHILADELPHIA, 14 November. (CNS) - At the 18th Annual Philly Conference held here today sponsored by The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, Sam Moskowitz, science-fiction historian, and leading science-fiction article writer, made public for the first time, his definition of science-fiction.

His definition of science-fiction is: SCIENCE-FICTION IS A BRANCH OF FANTASY IDENTIFIABLE BY THE FACT THAT IT EASES THE "WILLING SUSPENSION OF DISBELIEF" ON THE PART OF ITS READERS THROUGH INSISTING UPON AN ATMOSPHERE OF SCIENTIFIC CREDIBILITY FOR ITS IMAGINATIVE SPECULATIONS IN SCIENCE, SPACE, TIME, SOCIOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY.

The definition will be incorporated in a special essay on science-fiction, written by Sam Moskowitz, for a new edition of Collier's Encyclopedia now in preparation.

INDIA SCIENCE FICTION NEWS

by Satish C. Avasthi

For the first time in the history of Hindi literature, the illustrated Hindi weekly magazine Dharmyug (published by The Times of India Press) is bringing on original science-fiction serial titled "Khagras" ("Full Eclipse") written by a

(continued on page 2, column 2)

BRITISH SCIENCE-FICTION NEWS

NOVA NOVELS TO BE REVIVED

Ted Carnell announced that Nova Novels will be revived in the New Year and that they will be published quarterly, increasing the frequency if it goes well. He wants to publish the classics of science-fiction - the kind that have not been in hard covers or paperbacks. One which is planned is "The Weapon Makers".

Nova Novels are paperbacks, before they were discontinued they were regular "book" size, but with paper covers.

NEW WORLDS

A new serial by Philip Dick will run starting with the December 1959 issue, to the Jan. & Feb. 1960 ones. First issue will be on sale November 27. Three cover paintings are planned on these issues, all based on this story and done by Brian Lewis. The next thing will be a new Brian Aldiss serial: "X For Exploiter" from his book "The Interpreter".

ARGENTINA SCIENCE-FICTION NEWS

by I. L. Jacobs

Issue #14 of Pistas del Espacio dated April 1959 has arrived here. Original cover by Carlos Varau, illustrating "Space Monsters" by F. W. Seymour. Other stories are "Expensive Funeral" by Algis Budrys, "In Memory of Mike" by R. A. Gietz, "A Terrible Secret" by Van Cort, and "The Travellers" by A. J. Grassi. This magazine is published in Argentina.

EDITORIAL

We'll take time out from science-fiction happenings in general and talk about Science-Fiction Times this issue.

We're most happy to announce that Bob Madie (the boy that introduced us to science-fiction fandom in 1937) has joined the staff as s-f fandom reporter. He is well-known for his excellent fan column "Inside Science Fiction" in Lowndes' s-f magazines and his column in the British Nebula. His first column should be in soon and will fill a much neglected need in Science-Fiction Times.

Walter R. Cole, who's coming book "A Checklist Of Science Fiction Anthologies" is a must for all collectors, will take over Frank R. Prieto's excellent column "The Science-Fiction Record" starting around January 1, 1960. Walt, with the research work he had to do for his book is well suited for this column, and we're most happy to have him with us.

Our hard-working mailer, Frank R. Prieto, Jr. will start a new "record" column come January 1st. He'll begin keeping a "Science-Fiction Pocket Book Record" with all info on pocket-books, which we'll publish monthly.

Steve Takacs will drop reporting on pocket-books, and continue his excellent reporting of hard-cover books as they come out.

All this should improve the quality of Science-Fiction Times for 1960. We are trying our best to come out as close to schedule as possible.

One more, and important, item before closing: Remember that we've been appointed to collect memberships in the coming 1960 WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION to be held over the Labor Day Holidays 1960. So when you resubscribe to S-F Times just add \$2.00 for membership in the PITCON, the biggest fan event of 1960, and we'll see to it that they'll get it. This will save you time and effort. Naturally, resubscribe or not, we'll still collect your \$2.00 for the PITCON -- Just send it in.

—James V. Taurasi, Sr., editor.

P.S. REMEMBER:

IT'S NEW YORK IN 1964!



GIVE THE BEST GIFT A SCIENCE-FICTION
FAN-READER-EDITOR-ARTIST-AUTHOR, ETC.
CAN RECEIVE --- SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES!

If you are a subscriber, you can send one year (24 issues) of Science-Fiction Times to your friend for only \$2.00 a year. Just send us his name and address and we'll start the sub with the First January 1960 issue. \$2.00 per sub per year (24 issues).

If you are not a subscriber: First sub \$2.40, all additional subs \$2.00 per year (24 issues).

A gift card will go to all you give the gift-sub to.

This is good for subs to the United States, Canada and Mexico only, and from persons in these countries.

This offer expires December 24, 1959.

SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, INC.;
P.O. Box 115, Solvay Branch,
Syracuse 9, New York.

INDIA S-F (continued from page 1)

well-known mainstream writer Acharya Chatursen Shastri. It is perhaps his first venture to this field. The story is nicely decorated with full color and black & white illustrations. The serial started with the August 30th, 1959 issue and is still continuing (Oct. 6, 1959).

It tells the story of the first landing on the moon by Russians.

IT'S PITCON IN '60 & NEW YORK IN '64

Advertise in Science-Fiction Times and reach the most people for your money. See page 3 for low "Classified Ad" Rates.

BRITISH SCIENCE-FICTION FANDOMLONDON FANS HOLD ONE-DAY CON SYMPOSIUM
INFORMAL AND ENJOYABLE

On October 3, 1959, the London SF Circle held a one-day sf con, named the "Symposium". Joint guests of honor were Walter H. Gillings, the "British Hugo Gernsback", and Belle & Frank Dietz, Stateside visitors. A program of panels and discussions was announced but since the atmosphere developed into a party-like one, the sercon portion fell unnoticed by the wayside. The films of the last three Worldcons, The Detention, Solacon and London Con were shown, in addition to two fanfilms; "Born of Man & Woman", generously lent by Alan E. Nourse and Los Angeles' shortie, "The Genie", also lent for the occasion by the LSFS. The latter, with its nicely filmed scenes of a scantily clad and sturning Bjo set up loud cries of "Bjo for TAFK".

Food and drinks were laid on and little group discussions, dancing and just plain fangabbing went on until the wee hours. A birthday cake was cut to celebrate the 18th birthday of Tikki Hall, and there were a few out-of-town visitors, such as Eric Jones from Cheltenham; Norman Shorrocks from Liverpool; Ron Bennett and gal friend from Harrogate. The first public appearance of the former Bobbie Wild (1957 London Con Secretary), now Mrs. Bill Gray, was made and the newly-weds were toasted.

There was an auction, started off by Ted Tubb, the London Circle Chairman but soon turned over to-up-and-coming British sf writer Mike Moorcock, who did an excellent job; he sold everything that wasn't nailed down. Background music was supplied by Sandy Sanderson with his tapes and taper and some of those present were: Frank Arnold, Peter West, Archie Mercer, Ken and Pam Bulmer (the latter two in the process of producing progeny), Pete Taylor (who, together with Mike Moorcock, did a very amusing little act with funny songs), Ella Parker, Joy & Vin Clarke (the latter functioning as official greeter and electrician), Ron and Daphne Buckmaster, Arthur (Atom) Thompson, George Locke, Bob Richardson, Brian Burgess, Charlie Duncombe and many others. Several times

the liquor ran out and had to be replenished and Arthur Thompson organized a feed of hot dogs at 4:00 in the morning.

It was generally agreed to have been a successful party and much enjoyed by all attendees.

IT'S PITTCON IN '60 & NEW YORK IN '64

CLASSIFIED ADS

2¢ per word including name, address and zone number. 25 words minimum, remittance with copy. (NO STAMPS PLEASE!)

FAN MAGS

POLHODE fanzine (mostly bookreviews, NY Area gossip, & sercon articles), 10¢; 3/25¢ or trade, pubbd 4ly, #2 in Dec. Ed Meskys, 723A 45th St., Brooklyn 20, New York. 3/3

FOR SALE

AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION. Most issues of all the Australian magazines in stock, many paperbacks. Thrills Incorporated, large issues 30¢ each, small 20¢. Future SF and Popular SF, local editions of Orbit and F&SF, all 25¢ each. SF Monthly, up to 11 25¢, later 35¢. Selected SF and Malian Press PB's 15¢. Whitman Press PB's and Scientific Thrillers 35¢. Send want lists for earlier items and books. Many British magazines in stock, especially most since 1952. SCIENCE FICTION CENTER, Box 4440, GPO, Sydney, NSW, Australia.

RARE BOOKS AND MAGAZINES: Science Fiction Fantasy, Adventure, Misc. Fiction and Non-Fiction, old pulp magazines and many curious collector's items. Send for sale list. D. Coleman Rich, Pembroke, Ky.

THE IMMORTAL STORM, Sam Moskowitz's History of SF Fandom, Hardcover Edition --- Mint Copies --- \$5.00 --- Jerry Burge, 1707 Piper Circle SE, Atlanta 16, Georgia.

IT'S PITTCON IN '60 & NEW YORK IN '64

TIME STREAM by J. Harry Vincent

Astounding will soon change distributor. Only reason involved is that new owner, Conde Nast belongs to Curtis Distributors, and the Street & Smith mags will be distributed by Curtis in the future.

Notice the new type cover on Fate with Nov. issue? British edition of Fate used this years ago. Robert Webster (Ray Palmer) has been dropped from masthead.

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

by Our Readers

723A 45th Street,
Brooklyn 20, N.Y.
10 September, '59

Dear Mr. Taurasi:

I am writing about several things. First off, I am interested in the Faircon in '64, but doubt that it will be a worldcon with the reputation NY has. In my meager fanmag collection I have something published many years back titled "Why BYC Should Not Have A World Convention", & I suppose that many pieces of such literature will again be published.

But world-con or no, we MUST have a Faircon, & if the meetings don't conflict with night school, I'd like to be on the committee. But to even have a chance, this committee must start putting on good regional cons (the only things we have are the Lunacons, & altho good, they're not big enuf); how about a "Eastercon" (Altho it's probably too late to put one on in '60)? It could be a 2 day affair the weekend AFTER Easter (that way those who go to school are still on vacation, & a local student attendance would be encouraged).

Have you considered going monthly & 15¢, with occasional special issues when the news warrents? It seems to be a easier-to-handle rate for you. Also, would it be too much work to have special subs mailed out First Class for 60¢ a year extra? Quite often I get printed matter several weeks to a month after mailing, & with a newspaper I think fast delivery is essential. Since I don't suppose everyone feels this way, I proposed making this service optional--but is it too much work for you?

All for now ---- Regards,

Edmond R. Meskys

(In our opinion, the Faircon Committee should try and get the World Con for '64 but if unable to, it should hold a local convention in 1964. The date July 4th, 1964 was suggested because the date would not interfere with the World Con, if New York doesn't get the World Con. Actually the Faircon Committee has set up its task to either present a World

Con or a local Convention in 1964.

We have discussed a possible 15¢ and monthly Science-Fiction Times many times, but it would not help the situation any. In order to increase the price to 15¢ would mean an increase in pages and the added expense would put us in the red. We think that we have done quite well in 1959 over 1958 and we're doing our best to better this. If all goes well, in 1960 we should be "right on schedule". We'll do our best.

OK, it's a good idea, any reader in the United States only that wants Science-Fiction Times mailed First Class, rates for same will be \$3.00 a year, \$2.40 for for regular sub, plus 60¢ for added postage etc. -the editors.)

Mountain Home, Idaho,
September 11, 1959.

Dear Mr. Taurasi:

Today I received the 18th Anniversary issue of S-F Times and that special booklet on Hugo Gernsback on occasion of his 75th birthday. Congratulations to you both! And my compliments to Sam Moskowitz and the others for writing and publishing the story of Hugo Gernsback. Though I've read science fiction since 1929, I did not know all the interesting facts about Hugo as disclosed in this fine booklet.

May I express myself as in favor of a World Science Fiction Convention being held in New York in 1964 if a World's Fair is being held at the same time. Though unable to attend the 1939 Convention, I remember reading the interesting writeups for long afterwards!

Sincerely,
Emrys Evans

(Thank you for your kind letter. Sam Moskowitz spent months on research for the Hugo article, as he does for all his articles. This Hugo article will appear in Fantastic Universe soon, in a cut version. We also have a fine article by Sam Moskowitz for the 1958 Year Book that we're over a year late with and still trying to bring out.

Now that New York has been awarded the 1964 World's Fair, there will be a Faircon in NY that year. See letter above for more comments. Hope that You'll be able to make this one. -the editors.)

Springfield, Ohio,
26 September 1959.

Dear Jimmy,

Issue #319 on the 1st World Con was fascinating. Just think, next year the World Science-Fiction Convention comes of age. The Detention issue, #323 was excellent, also. Your idea of holding the 25th anniversary World Con in conjunction with a World's Fair in New York merits consideration.

For myself, I'd say that, if the Rotation Plan falls right (The con will have to go outside the country one year before then), I'll be all for the plan - provided you boys only are the Committee. By "you boys" I mean, of course, you, Ray, and the few other responsible New York fans. Be damned if I'd have anything to do with your bid, though, if any of the fannish feuding suggests that N.Y. seems to breed so prolifically are connected with it.

After the Newyorcon, I was one of the many who breathed that fervent prayer, "Never again!" (Not that the Newyorcon was not an enjoyable one, but considering the messes that developed...) Only intelligent, dependable leadership would ever convince me that another New York con would be a good thing.

In this connection, don't beat the drum for bigness, I implore you. "This thing is too big..." is not quite the attitude to take. Bigness is what was primarily wrong with the Newyorcon (along with other things). There aren't enough fans for a big convention. Lure in the non-fan readers, and you're going to disappoint fan and non-fan alike.

What was Cosmic Library #1? I seem to have forgotten. What ever happened to THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK for 1958? Was 1957 the only one?

Yours truly,
Stephen F. Schultheis

(Thank you for your interesting letter, we thought our readers would like some-almost-forgotten information on that 1st World Con. Belle Dietz did an excellent job with the Detention report. Stayed up all night after coming home from the Detention to do it too. She's also doing an excellent job with the fan mag reviews in Fantastic Universe. The Faircon Committee would be mighty pleased if

by chance the Con went overseas for a year between now and 1964, BUT will keep hands off any "deal" to have it do so. It will mind its own business and ask for the World Con at whoever has the Con in 1963 and then it'll be up to Fandom.

There are plenty of fans in New York that can put on a World Con, and a good one too, the Faircon Committee will try to get the services of all of them. Naturally a city the size of New York holds a number of fans who'll louse up anything, but then again any group of a large city has them.

"Big" does not always mean size, we still think, personally, that the '64 Con is a "big deal"; anything that lasts in science-fiction fandom for 25 years is a "big deal". The size of the Con, I would say, depends on conditions of science-fiction and fandom at that time.

The first Cosmic Library booklet was published in 1944 in a very limited edition. It contained Taurasi's "The Magician Of Space" and was 6 pages. It has long been out of print. Cosmic Library #3 is now being prepared and will contain all the photo-offset issues of S-F Times for 1958. Price and date ready will be announced soon.

Yearbook: 1957 was the one and only so far, we're still working on the much delayed 1958 issue. 1957 is all sold out and no more orders are being taken for the 1958 edition. -the editors.)

4705 Weddel Street,
Dearborn, Mich.
Sept. 27, 1959.

Dear Jimmy:

Just wanted to compliment you and Belle (Dietz) on a fine convention report - I saw very little of the program, but it certainly seems accurate in all accounts.

One thing I did want to clear up however. In the matter of the WSFS (World Science Fiction Society) banner, the convention committee shares responsibility for having displayed it, HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THEY WERE AWARE THAT IT WAS TO BE DISPLAYED. I, personally knew nothing of it until the door was opened and I saw it for the first time.

If there was any decision reached upon whether it was to be used it was

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BRITISH: 9d per copy, 7s6d per 10 issues, 15s0d per 20 issues, Permanent subscription: 3 Pounds 10s0d, from H. M. JOHNSON, 16 Rockville Road, Broad Green, LIVERPOOL 14, ENGLAND.

AUSTRALIA: One Shilling per copy, Ten Shillings per 10 issues, One Pound for 20 issues. Permanent subscription: 5 Pounds, from ROGER DARD, Box 51387, GPO PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

SWEDEN: 50 ore per copy, 10 kronor per 20 issues, 12 kronor and 50 ore per year. Permanent subscription is 75 kronor, from STURE SEDOLIN, P. O. Box 403, Vallingby 4, SWEDEN.

James V. Taurasi, Sr., Frank R. Prieto Jr., and Ray Van Houten, editors and Publishers.

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made when I was not present, and another member of the committee has said the same.

In my opinion one of our members made this decision and arranged it entirely upon his own, he rightfully assumed that we would not argue over it after it was hung.

Sincerely yours,
Howard DeVore.

IT'S PITTCOIN IN '60 & NEW YORK IN '64

SCIENCE-FICTION BOOKS

by Stephen J. Takacs

S/F POCKET-BOOKS RECENTLY OUT:

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SKY by Arthur C. Clarke - Signet Books, NY, 35¢ - October 31, 1959.

PLANET IN PERIL by John Christopher - Avon Books, NY, 35¢ - November 6, 1959.

MAN OF MANY MINDS by E. Everett Evans
Pyramid Books, NY, 35¢ - Nov. 13, 1959.

S/F BOOKS RECENTLY RECEIVED:

A TREASURY OF GREAT SCIENCE FICTION, edited by Anthony Boucher (in two volumes) - Doubleday & Co, NY, \$5.95 - November 5, 1959.

THE BIRD OF TIME by Wallace West - Gnome Press, \$3.50 - November 6, 1959.

IT'S PITTCOIN IN '60 & NEW YORK IN '64

ADVERTISE YOUR FAN MAG IN S-F Times FOR ONLY 1¢ A WORD IN CLASSIFIED COLUMN. FULL PAGE AD FOR FAN MAGS ONLY \$5.00, OR HALF PAGE FOR ONLY \$3.00.



18th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION
"PITTCON" - 1960

"HUGO" NOMINATION BALLOT

We think the Detention Committee established the fairest and most practical basis for awarding the science fiction/fantasy world's annual marks of achievement--the "Hugos," named in honor of science fiction's patron saint, Hugo Gernsback.

The 1960 "Hugos" will therefore be awarded for the best science fiction or fantasy books, stories and artwork published during 1959, or in a magazine bearing a 1959 date. This means that stories in the January 1959 issues are eligible, even though they were on the newsstands in 1958. By the same token, stories in the January 1960 issues are not eligible, even though they were on sale in 1959. The date on the issue determines a magazine's eligibility; the copyright date decides for hardbound and paperback books.

Voting will take place in two steps. Fandom as a whole is asked to nominate its choice in each of the six categories for which "Hugos" will be awarded. Use the ballot on this page or make up your own. You can list 1st and 2nd choices in each category, and the vote will be weighted accordingly. All nominations must be postmarked on or before May 1, 1960.

The stories, artists, and magazines getting the greatest number of nominations will be listed on a second Awards Ballot. Your votes on that ballot determine who gets the "Hugos." If there is no majority in any category, there will be no award for that category.

Please fill in the following NOMINATION BALLOT and mail it promptly to:

PITTCON
c/o Dirce S. Archer
1453 Barnsdale Street
Pittsburgh 17, Pa. on or before May 1, 1960.

"HUGO" NOMINATIONS

BEST NOVEL:

1. _____
2. _____

BEST PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE:

1. _____
2. _____

BEST FANZINE:

1. _____
2. _____

BEST NOVELETTE OR SHORT STORY:

1. _____
2. _____

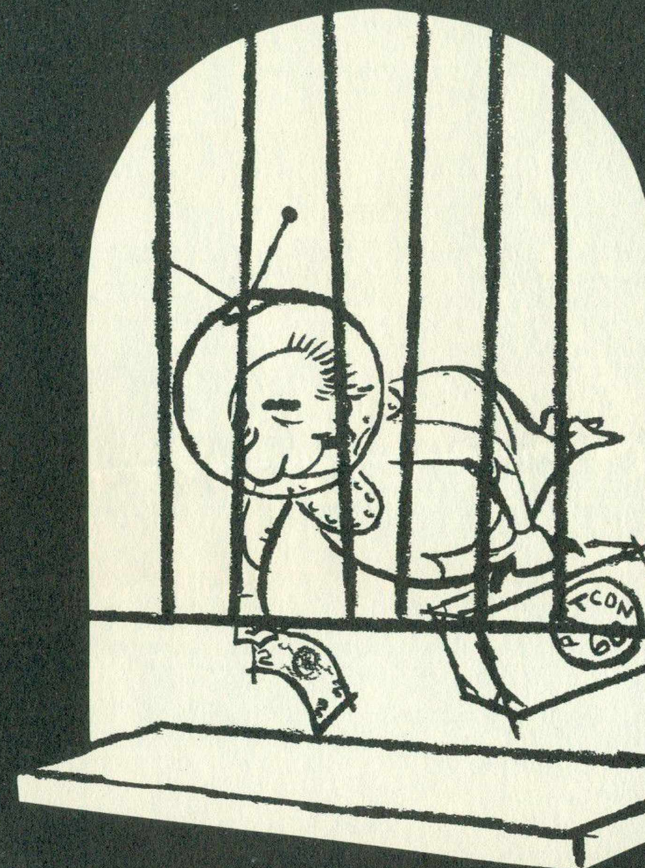
BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST:

1. _____
2. _____

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION:
(movie, radio, TV, etc.)

1. _____
2. _____

\$2.00 ON PITTCON TO WIN IN '60



18th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

PITT'S IT IN '60!

Ever been to a science fiction convention?

Yes!

Fine ... then there's no need to tell you to come. You'll be there! All we have to do is tell you the time and place: the 18th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION ("PITTCO") at the Penn-Sheraton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa. over the Labor Day weekend, September 3, 4 and 5, 1960.

But if you haven't, you've the thrill of a lifetime coming!

Come to the Pittcon. See, meet and talk to the fans, artists, authors and editors you've always wanted to know. Sit in on the panels and talks about many aspects of science fiction. And don't miss those traditional events, without which no science fiction convention would be complete! Dress up as your favorite science fiction or fantasy character for the Grand Masquerade Ball -- or just thrill at the fantastic costumes others wear. Hear and see Toastmaster Isaac Asimov, the Guest of Honor, and other notables at the Banquet, where the best magazine, best novel, best short story or novelette, best SF artist, and best fanzine of 1959 - as selected by your votes - will be honored. Help to select the 1961 Convention site. Join your fellow enthusiasts at the friendly, informal parties held all over the place after the regular program is over. And put a few dollars aside for the fabulous SF auctions, where you can get original cover paintings, drawings, manuscripts, and other fine collectors' items for ridiculously low prices. Dealers and fans will also have books and magazines for sale, from which you can fill those gaps in your collection for very moderate sums.

The Pittcon Committee has already made plans for a truly wonderful program. The Guest of Honor will be JAMES BLISH, winner of the 1959 "Hugo" award for his novel, A CASE OF CONSCIENCE. More details of the program will appear in the Progress Reports.

Generous and welcome support has already come from fans, professionals, and even casual readers. We want your suggestions. We want your support. Even more important, we want your \$2.00 registration fee, for which you get regular Progress Reports, the souvenir Program Booklet, and many other benefits. This fee is the Convention's main source of income. It pays for the printing, postage, awards and other expenses of running a good convention. If you haven't joined yet, please send in your two dollars - NOW. If you have joined, keep us informed of any changes in your address. That way, you won't miss any of the Progress Reports.

Help us make this the best of all possible conventions.

Join the Pittcon -- today!

YOUR CONVENTION COMMITTEE

(Pass this flyer on to someone else if you already have one.)

HERE IT IS IN A NUTSHELL . . .

Event: THE PITTCO

Place: PENN-SHERATON HOTEL, William Penn Place, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Time: LABOR DAY WEEKEND, September 3-4-5, 1960

Registration Fee: \$2.00 (\$1.00 for overseas members)

Checks Payable to: P. Schuyler Miller, Treasurer
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COPY DEADLINE for FIRST PROGRESS REPORT: December 10, 1959

PUBLICATION DATE for FIRST PROGRESS REPORT: Mid-January, 1960

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