

FFF'S Illustrated
NYCON

Review

50
CENTS



Produced by
JULIUS UNGER

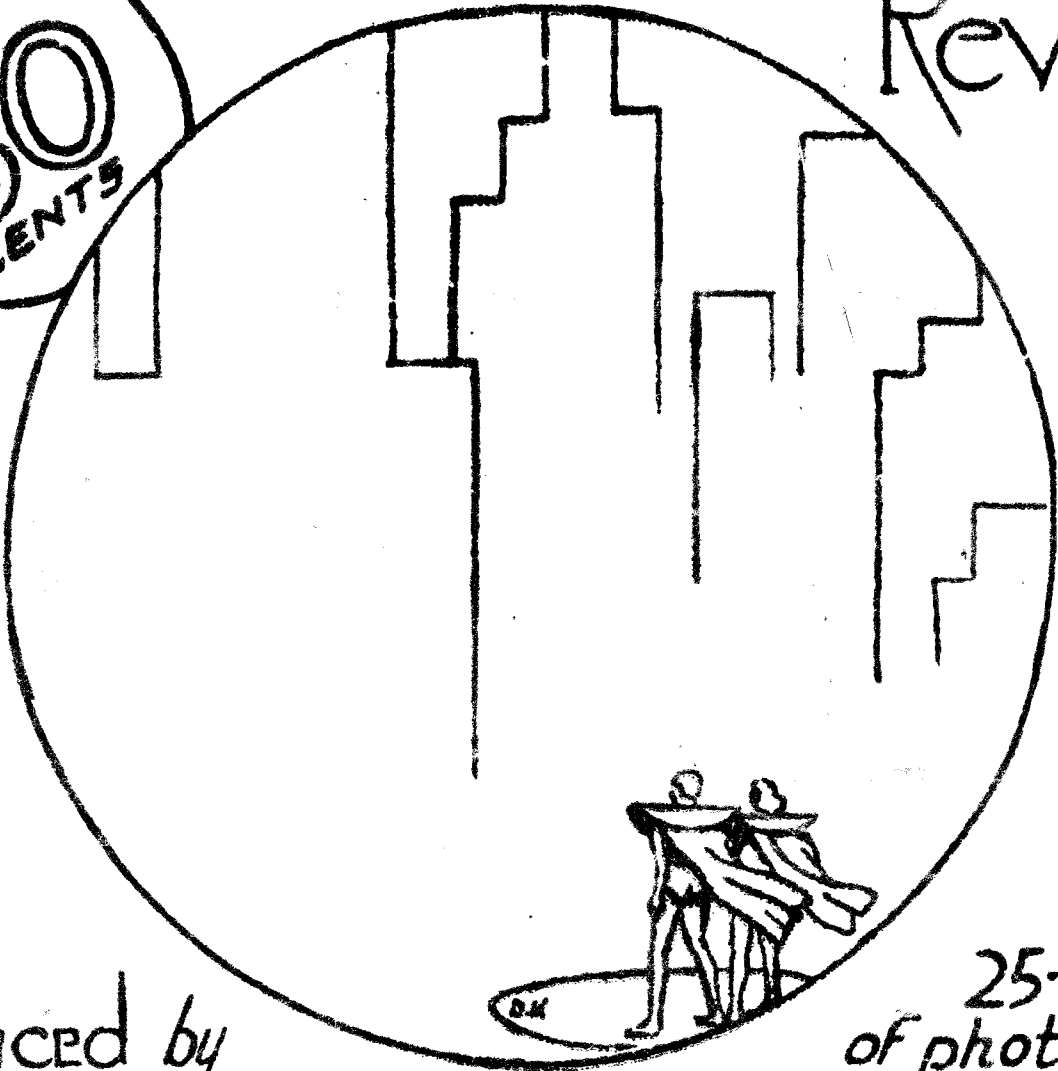
FANTASY FICTION FIELD
1702 Dahill Road
Brooklyn, New York

25-Pages
of photos from
the New York World
STF Convention,
with complete and
authentic write-ups.

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FFF'S ILLUSTRATED NYCON BOOKLET

JULIUS UNGER
producer
BILL DEUTSCH
associate Pro.
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photographer

OFFICIAL NYCON WRITEUP

Sam Moskowitz Ray Van Houten James V Taurasi
mimeographed by Fantasy Press

Conference Writeups

Loundes Michel Wollheim
typed & mimeographed by Loundes

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C o n t e n t s

The Conferences

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Booster Ads

Stirring Science Stories Future Fiction Science Fiction Q. Ads

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Super Science Stories Astonishing Stories Ad

Famous Fantastic Mysteries Ad

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Greetings

FROM

ASTONISHING

STORIES

and

SUPER
SCIENCE

STORIES



FICTIONEERS INC. 210 E 43RD ST N.Y.

W H A T W E N T B E F O R E

1. The First Eastern States Convention - - October, 1936

One Sunday a group of New York fans, members of the New York Branch of the International Scientific Association (hereinafter to be referred to as the ISA)-the NYB-ISA is the popular way of referring to the New Yorker's sector - made a visit to Philadelphia. Among the New Yorkers were Will Sykora, Donald A. Wollheim, John B. Michel, Herbert Goudket, and George E. Hahn. While en route Wollheim suggested that they call the visit the first science-fiction convention, and so it was decided by Philadelphians and New Yorkers during the course of the outing. A full report of it appeared in an issue of the ISA's official organ, the International Observer. Nothing particularly memorable occurred, but an enjoyable time was had by all, and certain it is that ideas had begun to form in the agile minds of the fans present.

2. The Second Eastern States Convention - - New York, February 22, 1937

The affair was planned well in advance by the NYB-ISA; notices were sent to numbers of fans and professionals. It was held in Bohemian Hall on the afternoon of February 22, 1937 (although pro-conventions' circles convened during the weekend before -- the 22d fell on Monday -- and there was the now-customary running around) and around 35 people were present. Among them were Charles D. Herzig, Julius Schwartz, Otis A. Kline, Milton Kaletsky, Philip J. Bartel, Charles Schneeman, John B. Michel, David A. Kyle, Robert W. Landers, J. Harry Dockweiler, Jack Robins, George R. Hahn, Dr. John D. Clark, Willis Conover, Robert A. Madle, John V. Baltadonis, Robert G. Thompson, Mort Weisinger, John J. Weir, and many others. The convention committee consisted of Herbert E. Goudket, chairman; William S. Sykora, Donald A. Wollheim, and Frederik Pohl.

A new fan was "discovered" at this convention: his name was Richard Wilson.

This convention had a prepared program; there were moving pictures shown of NYB-ISA activities, as well as some short subjects of interest, professionals were called upon to speak (Weisinger chit-chatted about the new -- at that time -- Thrilling Wonder) and well-known fans introduced to all. Issues of fan magazines, as well as old stf mags, were on sale at a special table; refreshments were served, and a general good time was had by all.

DAWollheim, R.Madle, Wilson, Moskowitz-Kyle, Burford, Schwartz, "Berg", Thompson, Landberg, Gillespie, Tauraso, & Oswald Train.

There were two outstanding events. The long-existing feud between Sykora and Schwartz (which involved most members of the NYB-ISA and the NYSFL chapters -- New York Science Fiction League -- as Schwartz and Hornig, former editor of Wonder were close cohorts) was resolved as Will and Julie shook hands. And a motion by Donald A. Wollheim to form a committee for the purpose of staging a World Science Fiction Convention in New York for 1939, to coincide with the World Fair, was approved. A committee was chosen, consisting of Donald A. Wollheim, chairman; John J. Weir, Robert A. Madle, and Willis Conover. The second convention was a bang-up affair!

3. The Third Eastern States Science Fiction Convention - Philadelphia, October, 1937

Kline (1/2), Tourasi, Moskowitz, ? Lou Kuslan, Giunta, Oshroff, Thompson, ?

By this time, conventions were planned well in advance. The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society (hereinafter to be known as the PSFS) sponsored it; Milton A. Rothman was chairman. About 35 people were present, among them both fans and professionals. Most of them had been present at the February convention, and an exciting time was expected. They were not disappointed.

Among those present, in addition to the PSFS members, were Carl Hapfel, assistant editor to Orlin Tremaine of Astounding, Milton Kaletsky, Leo "Berg", Sam Moskowitz, David A. Kyle, Donald A. Wollheim, John B. Michel, Frederik Pohl, J. Harry DeLweiler, Daniel C. Burford, L. A. Eschbach, Jack Gillespie, William S. Sykora, Richard Wilson, Robert G. Thompson, Julius Schwartz, Peter Duncan, and Raymond Van Houten. Among the PSFS members were Baltadonis, Madle, Oswald Train, and others.

Speeches were made, among them an address praising fankind by a man named Perlman. But the events of the day paled away before a speech written by John B. Michel called "Evolution or Death". It was read to the convention by Donald A. Wollheim, and it took the convention by storm. And, at the end, was a pro-scientist; anti-fascist resolution, calling the convention to place itself on record to that effect. It was the first definite pro-scientist, anti-fascist activity in which any group of American fans participated, either for or against.

The speech, and the resolution brought forth excited, heated debate -- debate which at all times remained friendly, but which lasted far into the night. All-out for the resolution were Wollheim and Michel; speaking vaguely in favor of it were Perlman and "Berg". All-out against the resolution were Sykora, Peter Duncan, and Raymond Van Houten (the latter two made an abrupt about-face several years later). The resolution was defeated, but the debate continued, in cafeterias, and on trains back to New York. It was the most terrific clash of fan-personalities and ideas which had ever occurred.

Writups of the convention differed in views upon the debate, but none could deny its power.

4. The First National Science Fiction Convention - Newark, May 31st, 1938

This convention was called by William S. Sykora and Sam Moskowitz for the purpose of re-organizing the ISA (which had dissolved shortly after the 2d Convention) and re-organizing the Nyeon Committee. For the first time, a concerted effort was made to gather in not only fans, but professional editors, authors, and general non-fan stf readers.

There were around 120 people in attendance, the majority of whom were not active fans. Speeches were required to be prepared in advance and approved by the committee. (The committee rejected anti-fascist speeches prepared by Wollheim and Michel.)

Among the celebrities present were Otis A. Kline, Julius Unger, Frank B. Long, Jr., R. D. Swisher, John W. Campbell, Jr. (who had become editor of

Kline, Belknap Long, Swisher, Campbell, Binder, de Camp, Clark, and Wellman

Astounding Science Fiction at and the period following the 3d convention), Eando Binder, L. Sprague de Camp, John D. Clark, Manly Wade Wellman, Leo Margulies, Mort Weisinger, and others.

Most of the active New York fans were present, among them Wollheim, Pohl, Michel, Kyle, Byrford, and Dockweiler, Goukett, Walter Kubilius, Chester Fein, etc.

Sam Moskowitz was chairman. He gave the speech of welcome and introduced celebrities and speakers. Milton A. Rothman spoke on fan-kind relating fan activities to music; John W. Campbell spoke about the "inner" and the "outer" circle fans, mentioned the possibilities of professionally sponsored fan-magazines. A large number of especially prepared fan mags were on sale.

A sharp contest arose over the two issues for which the convention had been called. David A. Kyle led the opposition to the re-organization of the ISA. There was no large discussion upon the subject of re-organizing the Nyeon Committee. Sykora wanted a new committee and maintained that one

Visible are: Campbell (reading) Dockweiler (standing), de Camp (piping), Binder & Kline have pipes, too; Ruppert, next to Kline, Phillips, next to hat, Milty, etc

convention could negate the decisions of a former one (he refused to recognize the existing Nyeon Committee and did not ask for a report on what progress had been made or what were its plans). Wollheim held that the existing Nyeon Committee, of which he had been appointed chairman, was the legal committee and that it was responsible to the 2d Convention, which had appointed it, and that this present convention could not dissolve it.

The debate was long; the professionals and non-fans departed when it started - it began in earnest after the recess for refreshments was terminated - but Sykora, who had usurped the chair was unable to make any headway against the powerful opposition. He maneuvered a vote on the matter of forming a committee to investigate both the matter of forming a national fan society and the advisability of appointing a new Nyeon Committee. Without realizing it, the convention gave him the power to select this new committee himself. He appointed William S. Sykora, chairman; Walter Kubiilus, Herbert E. Goudkot, Sam Moskowitz, and Chester Fein. This motion was the only concrete action taken, outside of a petition of protest and indignation at the tactics of the Newark Convention's usurping chairman, which gained wide support.

(The committee named above, as appointed at Newark was never called at any time; the next thing fankind heard was that New Fandom had been formed and it would put on the Nyeon.)

The Newark Convention was the largest science fiction convention up to its time. It was the first convention where particular fans were barred from making speeches.

THE FUTURIAN CONFERENCE - July 4, 1939

The Futurian Society of New York, excluded from the Nyeon, called a conference for July 4, 1939.

About 20 fans attended, among them Forrest J Ackerman, Morojo, Milton A. Rothman, Kenneth Sterling, Mark Reinsberg, Isaac Asimov and his sister.

Futurians present included Donald A. Wollheim, John B. Michel, Robert W. Lowndes, Frederik G. Pohl, Cyril Kornbluth, Jack Gillespie, Leslie Perri, Richard Wilson, and David A. Kyle.

No persons were barred; full discussion was welcomed. The subjects brought up included: Reaction on the part of out-of-town fans to the Exclusion Act and the Nyeon in general; the possibility of some sort of national federation for science fiction fans (Morojo suggested a Limited Corporation as most practical); the possibilities of holding a 2d World Stf Convention in Chicago for 1940 (Reinsberg brought it up first at this conference; the FSNY was the first to pledge its support to the Chicon); the future of the Fantasy Amateur Press

Association, and a general discussion around the subject of "Michelism". ("Michelism" was the name given to the general anti-Fascist attitude adopted by the New York fans shortly after the 3d Convention, named thus in honor of John B. Michel, author of "Mutation or Death". The New Yorker Futurians, and those throughout the US, and England, who agreed with their pro-science; anti-Fascist stand were known as "Michelists"). The discussion finally revealed that all present were in agreement with the tenets of "Michelism" but that they objected to the name of the attitude. By a large majority it was voted to drop the term "Michelism" at this time and a committee was selected to find a more suitable and universal term for the attitude. And finally, a Committee for the Preservation of Democracy in Fandom was formed, headed by David A. Kyle.

The Futurian Conference of 1959 was the only outlet that fans attending New York for the 1959 Convention had for free and full discussion of the many subjects they wanted to discuss. It was the only meeting which took any action in regard to fandom. It's importance lay in the fact that it laid the basis for following science fiction conventions, wherefrom no fan was excluded, no subject of discussion barred.

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 If you're an active fan
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FANTASY FICTION FIELD
 Illustrated
 News 5¢ Weekly

THE NATIONAL FANTASY REVIEW

THE EXCLUSION ACT

FOR all fans the nation over, whether or not they attended, there was one ineradicable blot upon the Mycon -- the exclusion act.

As has been indicated in the foregoing pages, there was a battle in fandom between those who supported the original Mycon Committee and those who supported the usurpers.

This feud spread itself over the entire field, it was impossible to pick up an fan magazine without finding references to it, if to items from one side or the other.

However, the majority of support was for the New Fandom control and the opposition, centering around the Futurians of New York more or less recognized it, although they continually protested the high-handed manner in which the convention committee acted and questioned the ethics of such actions as obtaining the film "Metropolis" from Nazi German sources.

When the convention day came near, however, the Futurians determined to

put an end to opposition, to attend the convention and enjoy what it had to offer, and to make an attempt to put an end to the feud. It was hoped that, as with the Sykora-Schwartz War which ended at the 2d Convention, so could the actual event put an end to the current conflict.

But the chief Futurians were excluded from attendance at the Mycon.

Although the Mycon had been widely advertised as "open to all", six fans: Donald A. Wollheim, John B. Michel, Robert W. Lowndes, Fred Pohl, Cyril Kornbluth, and Jack Gillespie were denied admittance in accord to a decision the Mycon (New Fandom) Committee had arrived at about a month before -- even while they were advertising the Mycon as "open to all"

A great deal of resentment was shown by those in attendance; an attempt was made to put the matter to an open vote, but the Convention Chair man refused to discuss or consider it; the matter was closed.

The exclusion act was a stink.

Suddsy Schwartz - 229 Washington - Dorchester, Mass.
 Leroy Tackett - Fountain, Colorado
 Ed Conner - 929 Butler Street - Peoria, Illinois

4 *

Russell Gale - Leedy, Oklahoma - Box 222
 Bill Evans - 143 North High Street - Salem, Oregon
 D. B. Thompson - 1903 Poll St., - Alexandria, Louisiana
 Charles Midley - Bronx - New York
 Earl Barr Hanson - Miami, Florida

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 vention Booklets.

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 better fandom.

E. Everett Evans
 a fan from Michigan

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S A L U T A T I O N S

from the LASFS - 1055 Wiltshire Blvd, LA

Greetings from FFF's staff of stiffs!

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 per copy. Jan '33 - Dec '33 .. 75¢ ea. Jan '34 thru Dec '36 (with exceptions
 of issues containg "Skylark of Valeron", which cost \$1 ea.) at 50¢ per copy
 Jan '37 - Dec '38 at 35¢ per (except for issues containing installments of "Galac-
 tic Patrol", which are 75¢ ea). Jan '39 to date -- 25¢ ea/ (Copies containing in-
 stallments of "Grey Lensman" and "Second Stage Lensmen" sell for 50¢ each.)
 All stf magazines issues since the appearance of Marvel (1938) (and including Marvel)
 (except for vol 1 No 1 of any title and special issues) sell for 25¢ the copy.

GREETINGS TO FFF'S NYCON BOOKLET FROM: - Aldon H. Norton (Astonishing & Super
 Leo Margulies - Osear J. Friend Science Stories)
 Lou Sampliner
 (Thrilling Wonder Stories, Captain Mary Gnaedinger (Famous Fantastic Mys-
 Future, Startling Stories) teries)

Malcolm Roiss (Planet Stories)

 FFF's back issue price list

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Volume One, Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4,
 at special prices; write for them.
 Sept '26 - Dec '28 ... 75¢ ea.
 Jan '29 --- Dec '34 50¢ ea.
 Jan '35 --- Dec '38 35¢ ea.
 Jan '39 --- current 25¢ ea.

Issues containing copies of "The Sky
 lark of Space", \$1.50 ea. Issues
 containing installments of "Skylark
 Three", \$1 ea. Except for Vol 1 # 1
 all issues of Amazing Stories Quar-
terly cost double the price of mon-
 thly issues for the same year.

Wonder Stories

Vol 1 # 1 SWS and Air WS are availa-
 ble at special prices.
 1929 --- Dec '34 ... 50¢ ea.
 1935 --- Dec '38 ... 35¢ ea.
 1939 --- current ... 25¢ ea.

Same Quarterly rates as applied
 to Amazing.

Astounding Stories

Vol One at special prices.
 April 1930 thru November 1932 at \$1

Jan '34 thru Dec '36 (with exceptions
 of issues containing "Skylark of Valeron", which cost \$1 ea.) at 50¢ per copy
 Jan '37 - Dec '38 at 35¢ per (except for issues containing installments of "Galac-
 tic Patrol", which are 75¢ ea). Jan '39 to date -- 25¢ ea/ (Copies containing in-
 stallments of "Grey Lensman" and "Second Stage Lensmen" sell for 50¢ each.)

All stf magazines issues since the appearance of Marvel (1938) (and including Marvel)
 (except for vol 1 No 1 of any title and special issues) sell for 25¢ the copy.

THE FIRST WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

PROLOGUE

On July, 2, 3rd and 4th, 1939 was held a fan - pro gathering that was more than the largest, most elaborate convention held in fandom to date; more than the banner achievement of a quartet of fans; much more than an epic of self glorification for science fiction. For those dates heralded the fact that science fiction fandom had grown up. That there were those in their ranks capable of mature, brilliant planning.

The First World Science Fiction Convention was not spontaneously suggested and planned. It was the result of years of painstaking planning, of deliberate reasoning, of real effort. From the date of The Second Eastern Science Fiction Convention held in New York City, in February, 1937, when the idea was first conceived. Through to The First National Science Fiction Convention held in Newark, May 29, 1938 to prove that such an event was feasible, to the organization of a powerful club, New Fandom to sponsor it, and finally on to the culminating success that The First World Science Fiction Convention was, every step was taken calculatingly, with caution, with the full knowledge in mind of what failure might mean to the science-fiction world.

Sam Moskowitz, James V. Taurasi, William S. Sykora, Mario Racie, Jr., Julius Schwartz, Conrad H. Ruppert, were among those who bore the brunt of the work, and the cooperation of most of the science-fiction world, despite the novelty of the plans, was far from half-hearted.

Now when yearly conventions are taken for granted. When fandom is mightily large and ever growing. When events of past years are fast being swallowed by the darkness of forgetfulness, it might prove worthy of remembrance that The First World Science Fiction Convention, was the originator of the convention series, that it opened up the gate of fandom for the vast new horde of fans to enter; that in one single, brilliant stroke it lifted fandom into maturity; that through its "Time" write-up it was influential in increasing pro mag circulation. That it cemented for all time the idea of cooperation between pro and fan, a condition which did not exist a few years ago. And that as a convention it still has to be surpassed in size, in originality, in the quantity of new innovations it introduced (its general program is still being followed by all succeeding conventions). And that it serves as a fine bible for the future.

THE BRAINS BEHIND THE FIRST WORLD STF. CON.

Standing, left to right,
James V. Taurasi, Sam
Moskowitz, William S.
Sykora.

Steeping (not-connected
with the convention),
Alex Osheroff & Robert
G. Thompson.

THE FIRST WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

PROGRAM OF THE FIRST WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

SUNDAY, JULY 2nd, 1939

Morning Session: 10.00 A. M. to 12.00 Noon

- 1.) Informal gathering at Convention Hall.
- 2.) Luncheon Recess

Afternoon Session: 2:00 to 7:00 P. M.

- 1.) Registration in foyer
- 2.) Official Opening of the Convention
- 3.) Minutes of the First National Science Fiction Convention.
- 4.) Address of Welcome, by Sam Moskowitz
- 5.) "Science Fiction and New Fandom," by William S. Sykora
- 6.) "Science Fiction, the Spirit of Youth," by Frank R. Paul
- 7.) Motion Picture -- "Metropolis," a scientific fantasy of the future
- 8.) Recess for Refreshments (30 minutes)
- 9.) "The Changing Science Fiction," by John W. Campbell, Jr.
- 10.) "Men of Science Fiction" by Mort Weisinger
- 11.) "Science Fiction Personalities" -- General Introductions, etc.
- 12.) Supper Recess.

Evening Session: 8:30 to 10:00 P. M.

- 1.) The Science Fiction Auction.
- 2.) Adjournment to Monday, July Third

MONDAY, JULY 3rd, 1939

Afternoon Session: 2:00 to 7:00 P. M.

- 1.) Call to Order.
- 2.) Reading of Minutes of previous day.
- 3.) "The Fan World of the Future", by Sam Moskowitz
- 4.) "Science, and Science Fiction" by William S. Sykora
- 5.) "Seeing the Universe," lecture and motion picture, by Ruroy Sibley.
- 6.) Recess for Refreshments.
- 7.) Science Discussions.
- 8.) Dinner Recess.

Evening Session: 8:00 P. M. to Midnight

- 1.) The Science Fiction Dinner, in honor of Frank R. Paul, the best known and best liked science fiction artists.
- 2.) Adjournment to Tuesday, July Fourth, Independence Day.

TUESDAY, July 4th, 1939

Afternoon Session: 3:00 to 7:00 P. M.

- 1.) The Science Fiction Softball Game.
- 2.) Supper Recess, and adjournment to the World's Fair Grounds.

THE FIRST WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

THE FIRST DAY, July, 1939

The first days session opened at 10 A. M. Fans had come from everywhere. From such distant points as Vancouver, Canada, California, New Mexico, Texas, Florida, South Carolina, et al.

Fans known to each other only as personalities on paper, met in flesh and blood for the first time. It was a get together such as fandom had never hoped to realize.

The Caravan Hall, scene of the convention had a banner The First World STF. Con., across its balcony; the hall was beautifully

Painted in Arabian style, and originals from Thrilling Wonder Stories, Startling Stories, Strange Stories, Amazing Stories (all covers), decked the walls. A mural by Frank R. Paul, reproduced by photo in a past number of FFF was on display. There was a refreshment counter, and a fan magazine table. A loud speaking system, an elevated platform, rostrum and very large moving picture screen were among some of the equipment in plain sight.

The convention was called to order at 2:15 by Sam Moskowitz, acting chairman. Previously fans had signed registration books in the foyer. Due to the fact that no official secretary had been appointed for The First National Science Fiction Convention held in 1938, Sam Moskowitz briefly reviewed the program, and then appointed Raymond Van Houten as official secretary of The First World Science Fiction Convention.

Sam Moskowitz then launched into his welcome address. He expressed his enthusiasm at the size of the gathering, as "a soul inspiring sight." Commented on the comprehensive representation of fans from all over the country and the number of professionals present. He compared the enthusiasm of science-fiction fans with that of those in other fields of literature, made due acknowledgements to all who helped make the First World Science Fiction Convention a reality. He ended with: "That is why we extend our invitation to you to enjoy this day to it's fullest. Live it completely. It may be one of the most eventful you will ever know."

(reverse, really left to right)

Right to/left: Jack Darrow and Forrest J. Ackerman, world famous letter writers and fans meet for the first time. in back ground, left to right, Francis J. Meroff, Milton Lesser, Mark Reinsberg & an unknown.

ROBERT AND BYRON REVIEW

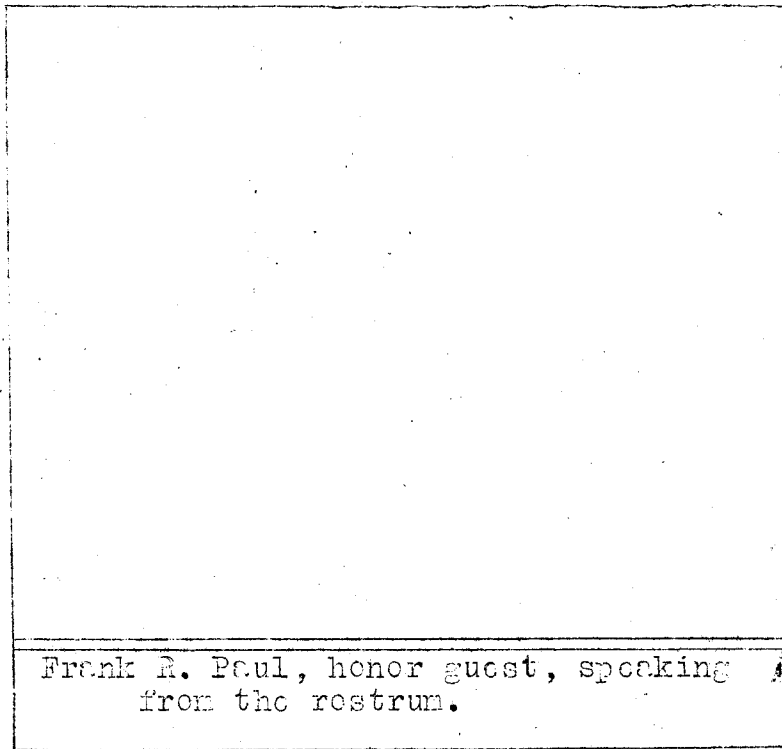
The first speaker called upon was William S. Sykora, who spoke on "Science Fiction and New Fandom", and emphasized: "Whether we believe in science fiction as existing purely for entertainment or not, let us not permit ourselves to be labelled as "save the world" crackpots, and let us rather take the messages of the authors of science fiction, and working together, hand in hand with progressive New Fandom, strive to make the fancies of science fiction become reality."

Lee Margulies, editorial director of Standard Publications 36 magazines was then called upon. Said Margulies: "I didn't believe you fellows could be so damn sincere. I've just discussed plans with Mort Weisinger for a new idea that Standard is about to put forth that concerns every fantasy lover." Margulies first sentence quote is now famous having been repeated in "Time" and elsewhere.

Kenneth Sterling, then sandwiched in an important announcement concerning the H. P. Lovecraft omnibus.

Then, after a flowery, but sincere introduction by the chairman, the main speaker of the day, Frank R. Paul, fantasy-artist superlative plus was introduced.

The ovation was so tremendous that for minutes no order could be secured. Frank R. Paul spoke on the subject of "Science Fiction and the Spirit of Youth", exemplifying the fact that science fiction and a love of science fiction in young and old denoted a youthful and vigorous mind and an attitude which augered well for the future development of the world. He pointed especially to the fact that the world has made more progress in the past 50 years than in the preceding three thousand. He firmly believes that science fiction is the medium that keeps old minds young and young minds clear, and is definitely a constructive influence towards the formation of a greater world of tomorrow.



Frank R. Paul, honor guest, speaking from the rostrum.

At the request of Mr. Margulies, Ray Cummings, who had to leave shortly was introduced to the assembly and received a thunderous hand-clapping, proving only too adequately for words, that he has carved a fond niche in the hearts of all fantasy lovers which even his repeat plots of recent date has not entirely erased.

An intermission of about 15 minutes was called while the apparatus for the fantasy film "Metropolis" was set up. The audience hissed and talked, but there was an atmosphere of intense interest to see what the oft-called "greatest fantasy film" would actually be like.

A new print of "Metropolis" had been secured, which coupled with excellent apparatus showed the film in fine fashion upon a theatre sized screen. From the start it was obvious that the film was melodramatic and overdone due to the requirements of the silent days, but its technical scenes were superb, standing well along side the best produced today. The film lasted two hours on the screen, but all too short a time for such scientific film lovers as Racie and Ackerman.

A recess was called for a half an hour to give fans a chance to indulge in refreshments.

The first person called upon after recess was John W. Campbell, Jr., editor of "Astounding Science Fiction & Unknown." He spoke authoritatively on the "Changing Science Fiction". The point he brought out insistently was that science fiction has evolved as evidenced by "Metropolis." The novelty has worn off and given an old style stuffy mundaneness.

He referred to the crude characterization of Hawk Carse, and its success at a time when science fiction was receiving

FORREST J. ACKERMAN

ing no characterization in its stories worth mentioning.

Mort Weisinger received the next call. Designated as "the man who can reject a story more jovially than any other editor", Mort, wearing his habitual good nature stepped up to the platform and began a talk upon side-lights behind "The Men Of Science Fiction." He spoke of such personalities as Stanley G. Weinbaum, Ray Palmer, Frank R. Paul, Leo Margulies, etc., etc., and little known incidents concerning them.

Immediately following Weisinger's talk, Chairman, Moskowitz, gave the floor to Will Sykora to continue as Eulogist. Sykora began an introduction of all notables present. First introduced was Charles D. Hornig, then editor of "Science Fiction", who gave an interesting talk on his development as a fan and how he eventually attained his ambition of being a science fiction editor. Among the others called were Ross Rocklynne, -5-

MOROJO

Binder, Darrow, Bond, Williamson, Rothman, Madle, Reinsberg, Baltonis, Morojo, the Kuslans and others.

After long and interesting eulogies, the convention was adjourned to an auction.

Many fans had come from such distant points as Vancouver, Canada; California; New Mexico; Texas; Oklahoma; Indiana; Illinois; Virginia; Alabama; North and South Carolina; Pennsylvania; Maryland; and Washington, D.C. These fans met and talked with famous authors, editors, and other fans many of whom they had never seen before.

SECOND DAY, July 3, 1939.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2 p.m. The secretary, Ray Van Houten, read the minutes of the previous

Left to right: Cyril Kornbluth and Richard Wilson.

day. After the minutes were read, Sam Moskowitz, chairman, gave his second talk of the convention. Titled "The Future of the Fan World" it concerned how fan activities might be carried on in the year 2500 A.D. The possibilities are easily seen.

Will Sykora then took the podium and delivered his speech, "Science in Science-fiction", which was well-received.

The feature of the second day was the film and lecture, delivered by the famous Dr. Ruoy Sibley, called "Seeing the Universe". The film, which took three years to put together, segment by segment, made

Left to right, first row, Otto Binder, Robert W. Lowndes, other two unidentified. Second row, Jack Rubinson, Fred Pohl, Jack Williamson and Donald A. Wollheim.

bringing about victory.

The only home run of the game was scored by Arthur L. Widner, and that was a home run on errors. Art hit a weak rolling ball past second, which short center Korshak missed, and Widner got to first. Pete Racie centerfielder threw wild to second base and Art got to second. Taurasi missed a ball coming right toward him and Art to third and thence home.

Other outstanding hits were William S. Sykora's two bagger, a long centerfield hit that was a surprise after a previous poor showing at the bat. Sam Moskowitz's double, which was the longest hit of the game but occurred in late innings when Sam was too tired to get past second. James V. Taurasi and Langley Scarles netted five singles apiece. Raymond Van Houten struck out five times at bat.

Julius Unger led in fielding. He caught three foul tips, made several put outs at the plate and never missed a ball thrown to him.

Left to right: V. Kidwell, unidentified fan, Robert W. Lowndes (with paper in hand), Jack Gillespie, John B. Michel, Leslie Perri, Richard Wilson, and Donald A. Wollheim.

A challenge for a second game made by the PSFS Panthers was turned down by the Queens Cometeers on the basis that they were too exhausted to continue.

So ended the only soft ball fan game every played through from start to finish, and it was even more successful than had been anticipated.

THE AUCTION

With auctioneer Sam Moskowitz doing most of the selling a tremendous quantity of material was disposed of in an auction that lasted two days and a total of more than ten hours. Prices received were low due to the tremendous quantities of stuff at hand, and any fan who didn't go home with something had only himself to blame.

From Street & Smith there were original Wesso's, Schneemans, Cartiers, Isips, Orbans, Gilmeres and Kramers. From "Amazing Stories", original Krups's, Fuqua's and McCauley's including a number of covers. Thrilling Wonder contributed some Wesso's, Pauls and Binders; Science Fiction contributed an original Paul cover which sold for \$1.95 and Weird Tales came in with some Virgil Finlays.

PARTIAL LIST OF ITEMS AUCTIONED AT THE FIRST WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION.

A.) ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS

Sister World, The Life Battery by Eando Binder, Delayed Vision by Eando Binder, Dawn of the Flame by Stanley G. Weinbaum, Flight of the Voyager by Robert Moore Williams, Death From the Skies by Ralph Milne Farley, Curse of Montezuma by Ed Earl Repp, Survival Below by Ralph Milne Farley (error by John Russel Fearn), The Weapon Too Dreadful to use by Isaac Asimov, The City of Oblivion by Brad Buckner, The Foreign Legion of Mars by Frederic Arnold Kummer, Jr., The Devil Flower by Harl Vincent, The Whistling Death by Abner J. Galula, The World Without Death by Polton Cross, Brigade of the Damned by Ed Earl Repp, The Mummy of Rot-Sch by A. Hyatt Verrill, The Murmuring Myriads by Thornton Ayre, Protoplasmic Doom by Frederic Arnold Kummer, Jr., Cosmos, a sixteen part serial that once ran in "Fantasy Magazine", each part written by a different author: A. Merritt, Edward E. Smith, Ph. D., David H. Keller, M. D., Ralph Milne Farley, Arthur J. Burks, Otis Adelbert Kline-E. Hoffman Price, P. Schuyler Miller, Rae Winters, Edmond Hamilton, John W. Campbell, Jr., Francis Flagg, Bob Olson, J. Harvey Haggard, Ray Palmer, L. A. Esbach, Abner J. Galula, Eando Binder; The Brink of Infinity by Stanley G. Weinbaum, Giants From Eternity by Manly Wade Wellman, Rider by Night by David H. Keller, M. D., Revenant by Clark Ashton Smith (two copies--one autographed), On Fantasy by Clark Ashton Smith, Voices of the Night by Robert E. Howard, Birkett's Twelfth Corpse by August W. Derleth, Phantom Lights by August W. Derleth, Prose Pastels-4: "The Lotus and the Mob" by Clark Ashton Smith, A Dream of the Abyss by Clark Ashton Smith (autographed), Gods of the North by Robert E. Howard, The Kingdom of the Worm by Clark Ashton Smith (Autographed), The Riphenty of Death by Clark Ashton Smith (autographed), The Ghoul by Clark Ashton Smith, The Primal City by Clark Ashton Smith.

Original Manuscripts were contributed by Julius Schwartz, Conrad H. Rupert, Charles E. Hornig, Mort Weisinger, Raymond A. Palmer, John W. Campbell, Jr., and the authors.

Left to right: Mark Reinsberg, Louis Kuslan, Jack Agnew, John V. Balatonis, unidentified, Walter Sullivan, Ray Bradbury and Forrest J. Ackerman

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PARTIAL LIST OF THOSE ATTENDING "THE FIRST WORLD SCIENCE
FICTION CONVENTION" IN N. Y. C., 1939

(Those who did not sign the register; those who did sign but whose handwriting is indecipherable; those who showed up at the hall the third day when the ball game was in progress (including Mr. & Mrs. Farnsworth Wright and their son Bobby, William H. Groveman, etc.), and those who were around before the convention, but were not present in the assembly are not included..ED.)

Charles D. Hornig	Francis J. Moroff	Richard Wilson
Harl Vincent	Joseph Lipton	Eward Weisinger
Nelson S. Bond	Myrtle R. Douglas	Conrad H. Ruppert
L. A. Eschbach	Forrest J. Ackerman	Pearl Moskowitz
R. D. Swisher	Paul W. Poulsen	Morris Moskowitz
Otto Binder	Eugene Sander	Harry Moskowitz
Jack Williamson	Norman Spector	Wilber J. Widmer
Ross Rocklynne	Alphonse Griminger	Herbert Schaefer
John D. Clark, Ph.D.	Charles Eastabrooks	Jeannette Reol
Manly Wade Wellman	Jerome Seigel	Harb Goudkot
Edmond Hamilton	Sidney Levine	William H. Dallenbach
Ray Cummings	A. J. Murphy	J. Lackner
Charles Schneeman	Marvin Weingold	Jack Darrow
Frank R. Paul	Irving Frankel	Julius Pohl, Jr
Leo Margulies	Sol Knegev	Joe Kueera
Mort Weisinger	Albert Roger	Robert A. McCarthy
Isaac Asimov	Vida Jameson	L. H. J. Ubucar
Milten A. Rothman	Erle Korshak	Bernice Keller
Malcolm Jameson	Mark Reinsberg	Millic Taurasi
John Victor Peterson	Israel Lrenzel	Frances Sykora
Kenneth Sterling	A. W. Lineoff	Frances Alberti
John W. Campbell, Jr.	Scott Feldman	Rose Alberti
L. Sprague De Camp	John V. Baltadenis	Margaret Skiffington
David C. Cooke	Walter Sullivan	Bill Stockton
Charles F. Ksanda	Gertrude Kuslan	Leonard Levy
Norman L. Knight	David Verne	William Smith
Robert A. Young	Louis Kuslan	Robert G. Thompson
David V. Reed	John A. Mellerner	Ann Racie
Ruroy Sibly	George Weinstein	Carmen Maris
A. S. Johnston	D. De Pass	Mr. & Mrs. M. Racie
F. E. Hardart	Frederick Morgan	Mr. & Mrs. C. Sykora
Julius Schwartz	Hyman Tiger	Mr. & Mrs. D. Alberti
John Giunta	Dale Hart	Murray Theaman
Sam Moskowitz	Julius Pohl	Langley Searles
James V. Taurasi	Richard Ogden	Leonard Myers
David A. Kyle	Abe Oshinsky	Leodore Flaunenbaum
Carl Rachlin	Robert A. Madle	Arthur Young
William S. Sykora	Jack Agnew	Arthur Ford
Jack Speer	John Rubinson	Betty Keat
Mario Racie, Jr.	Julius Unger	Ruth Cuhar
Raymond Van Houten	Beatrice Unger	Frances N. Swisher
Bill Mosher	Franklin Jansen	Mrs. J. W. Campbell?
N. Gilbert Dancy	Robert Studley	Mr. & Mrs. Insane
Henry Lemaire	Anna Krenzol	Mrs. Frank R. Paul
Oswald Train	A. L. Selikowitz	Joan Paul
Ray Bradbury	Leslie Perri	Patricia Ann Paul
Betty Cummings	Allen R. Charpentier	Loon Burg

One of the most interesting angles of "The First World Science Fiction Convention" was the large and interesting variety of special publications issued in dedication of the event. We present here a listing of all the recognized convention publications.

OFFICIAL SOUVENIR JOURNAL WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION. Issued as a program by New Fandom, contains 20 well printed pages, in two colors with special gold cover.

A HISTORY OF FANDOM, as Jack Spear sees it. 36 large size, mimeoed pages.

COSMIC TALES SPECIAL, published by Louis Kuslan, 6 pages and colored cover.

STEPHAN THE STEFAN, published by Morojo, 18 small pages and cover.

MEGROPOPOLIS, published by Forrest J. Ackerman, Vol. I No. 1, 8 large size pages, which include colored and well illustrated cover.

ESCAPE, published by Richard Wilson, 22 large size pages, mimeoed and hektographed.

THE FANTASY COLLECTOR, published by Litterio B. Farsaci, 12 large mimeographed pages, in addition to photo-offset cover. Vol. 1 No. 2, 1939 Continuation of "Fantastic."

FANTASY IN OPERA, published by Mario Racie, Jr., 5 large mimeographed pages, including colored cover by Taurasi.

VAN HOUTEN SAYS, published by Ray Van Houten, 4 printed pages.

THE MOOSE, special 1939 Convention issue. Published by Bob Tucker, 6 large mimeographed pages, including page of cartoons.

SCIENCE FICTION ABATTOIR, published by Sully Roberts, Tuckers partner in crime. 4 large, mimeographed pages, including cover.

THE GRAB BAG, published by Ted Dikty, 15 small hektographed pages.

FANTIA-VERSE, published by Bob Formanek, 12 hektographed pages.

WE HAVN A RELATZVOUS, Published by Russ Hodgkins, 6 large pages, mimeographed.

STF. AND NONSENSE, published by Daniel McPhail, 10 large size, mimeographed, Vol. 1 No. 2.

FANTASY NEWS SPECIAL, published by James V. Taurasi, with Frank R. Paul front cover, John Giunta back cover, scoop on appearance of "Famous Fantastic Mysterics."

BAD BOYS OF FANDOM

Left to right Oswald Train, Julius Pohl, Jr., Walter Sullivan and Dale Hart, all of whom planned convention booklets but never produced.

*antology
notions
is Cole
The only weekly published
Illustrated*

The TIME

Write-up of The First
World Sci Convention

(reprinted from TIME MAGAZINE, July 10th issue 1939)

AMAZING! ASTOUNDING!

Sold at U.S. newsstands are about a dozen pulp magazines with such titles as AMAZING STORIES, ASTOUNDING STORIES, STARTLING STORIES, STRANGE STORIES, FANTASTIC ADVENTURES, THRILLING WONDER STORIES, UNKNOWN, MARVEL SCIENCE STORIES, WEIRD TALES. In the pulp trade they are known as "pseudo-scientifics" or "scientifiction". This week in Manhattan this amazing group of publications produced an amazing show: a convention of their fans.

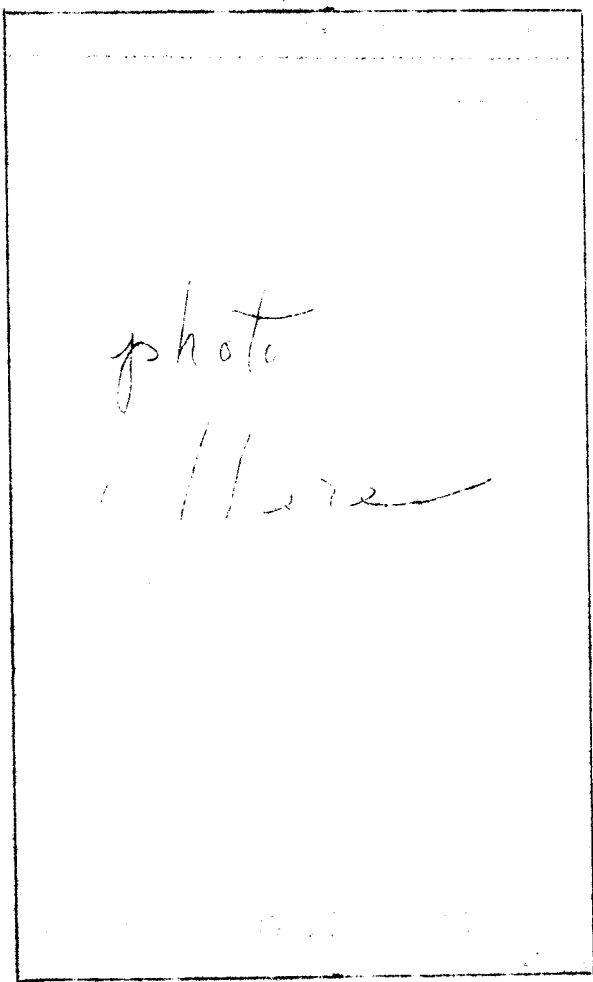
Scientifiction, which deals almost exclusively with the world of tomorrow and life on other planets, was inspired by Jules Verne's and H.G. Wells's fantasies. Father of pseudo-scientific magazines was a shrewd, fat old man named Hugo Gernsback, an old-time radio fan, who in

1926 started AMAZING STORIES. It zoomed like a moonward rocket. Today the magazines in this prosperous publishing group (chiefly controlled by the big pulp firms of Street & Smith, Standard Magazines, and Ziff-Davis), average about 150,000 readers apiece (sometimes much more), make a good living for many a shamo-scientific writer.

Among famed writers of scientifiction are Edgar Rice Burroughs, Eric Temple Bell (pennname: John Trine), Abraham Merritt, editor of the AMERICAN WEEKLY, and one time Wisconsin State Senator Roger Sherman Hoar (pennname: Ralph Milne Farley). Pay is 1¢ to 4¢ a word. Many a well known author who commands higher rates in slick-paper magazines writes these stories for fun. But writers as well as readers take their predictions seriously. Ray Cummings, a veteran pseudo-fictioneer who once was Thomas Edison's secretary, claims to have originated in his stories the word NEWS-CASTER and the phrase THE WORLD OF TOMORROW. Says he: "It is astonishing how many things come true."

Chief themes of scientifiction are rocket trips of the earth by Martians, Mercurians. Authors may

-13- be as fantastic as they like in



Left to right; Leo Margulies, Mort Weisinger, Otto Binder, Edmond Hamilton, Manly Wade Wellman.

their inventions but publishers warn them not to do violence to the
commoner scientific principles lest readers denounce their errors.

Scientifiction's fans, mostly boys of 16 to 20, are the jitterbugs
of the pulp magazines. Many keep every issue often fetches \$25 from
collectors. Publishers soon discovered another odd fact about their
readers: They are exceptionally articulate. Most of these magazines
have letters columns, in which readers appraise stories. Sample: "Gosh
WOW! Boyohboy!, and so forth and so on. Yesiree, yesiree, it's the
greatest in the land and the best that's on the stands, and I do mean
THRILLING WONDER STORIES, and especially that great, magnificent, glor-
ious, most thrilling June issue of the most and the best of science
fiction magazines...."

Having formed, through correspondence, an organization called the
NEW FANDOM, some 200 fans gathered in a small Manhattan hall this week
from California, New Mexico, the metropolitan area for three days of
speeches, pseudo-scientific movies and discussion of stories with their
authors. Cried fan Will S Sykora from Astoria, L.I. "Let us all work
to see that the things we read in science fiction become realities."
Said Leo Margulies, managing editor of Standard Magazines (Thrilling
Wonder Stories, Startling Stories and Strange Stories): "I am astound-
ed. I didn't think you boys could be so damn sincere."

THE MEETING AFTER THE MEETING
(Held at Weisingers)

Standing, left to right: Myrtle R. Douglas (Morajo), Julius Schwartz,
Otto Binder, Mort Weisinger, Jack Darrow,

Seated, left to right: Forrest J. Ackerman, Ross Rocklynne, Charles
D. Hornig and Ray Bradbury.

APPROXIMATE LIST OF CONVENTION INCOME & EXPENDITURE

CONVENTION EXPENSES

Program	
Hall Rent	\$70.86
Hall Attendant	36.00
Elevator Man	5.00
Soda and Ice	4.00
Pic Losses	16.40
Rental for "Metropolis"	7.00
Cost of Stills	15.00
Cost of Astronomy Film and Professional Lecturer	1.80
Poster Ink	25.00
Rental of Projector	.45
Incidentals	10.00
Postage	3.00
Envelopes	13.50
Post Cards	1.60
Room of Linco Paper	7.00
Frank R. Paul's Dinner	.25
Other Dinners	1.00
Tips	32.00
Softball Equipment	3.00
New Fandom Advertisement	4.00
Spiced Meats & Bread	2.68
Deadbeats' Dinners	10.00
	3.00

CONVENTION INCOME

Advertisements	\$130.00
Booster Ads	33.00
Advertisers Ads	31.00
Auction	65.00
Fan Mags	15.00
Paid Dinners	32.00

Total Expenditure \$279.94

Total Income \$306.00

NEW FANDOMS PROFIT

Total Income	\$306.00
Total Expenditure	279.94
Gross Profit	36.06

(This does not include voluntary contributions made by Moskowitz, Sykora, Taurasi, Racie, Van Houten, and many other authors, Editors & fans in pursuit of convention duties.)

PARTIAL ATTENDANCE LIST CONCLUDED

(Concluded from Page 11)

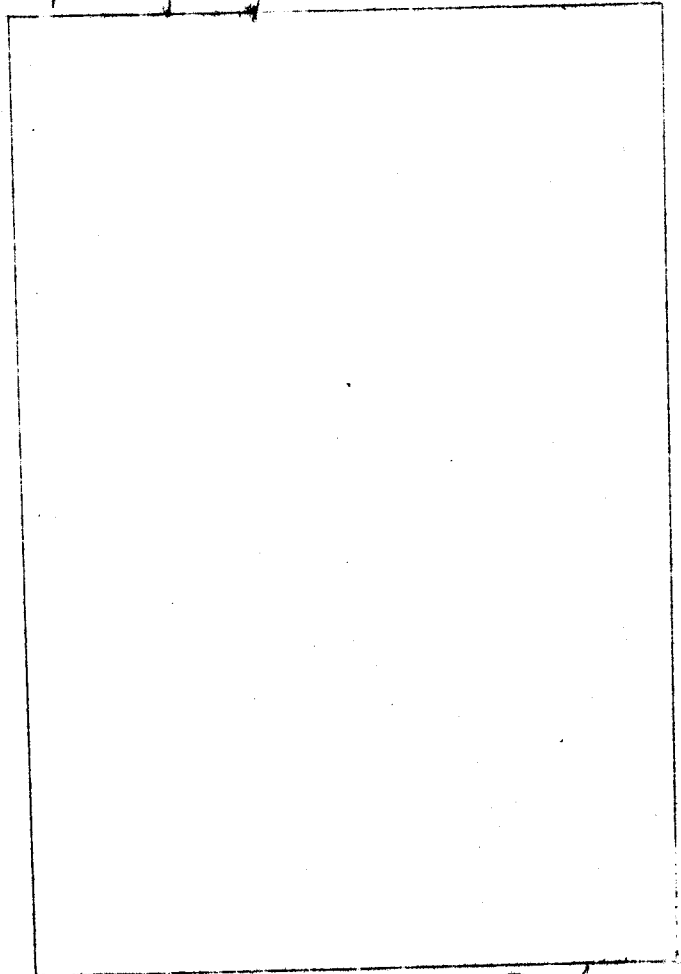
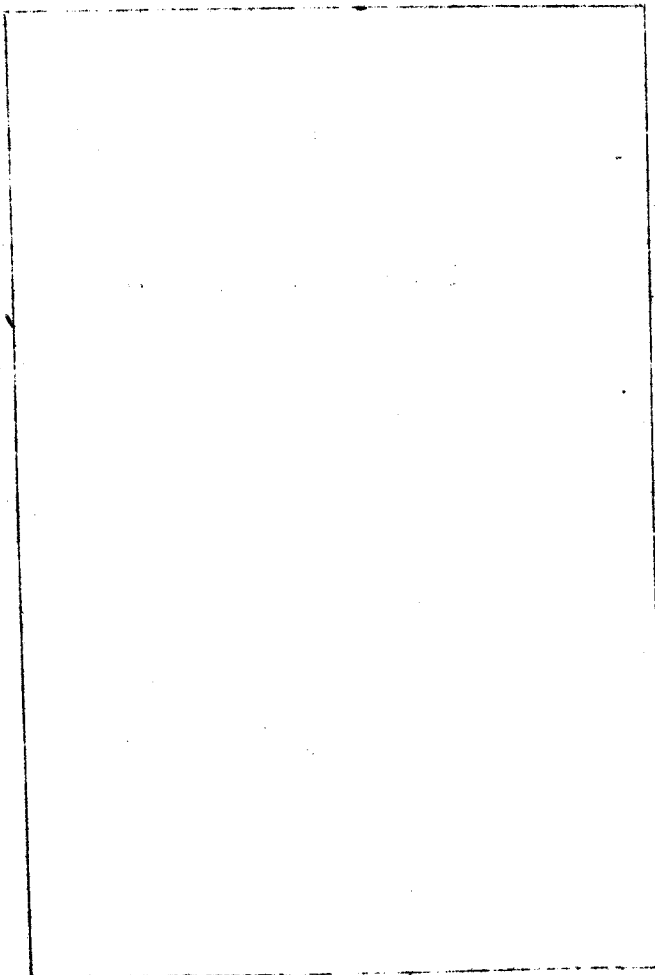
- David Charney
- Warren D. Woolsey
- Harry Deckweiler
- Thomas Stats
- George Herman
- Eldred Mandyk
- Henry Dowds
- Mary Jamson
- Arthur L. Widner
- Harry Harrison
- Kenneth Rohan, etc.

Left to Right: Bob Madic, Train & Agnew

Author's

Page

De Camp Signing -



Pans Knacklyme

Otto Binder - Souder - Rothman

Greetings from

STIRRING SCIENCE STORIES

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Donald A. Wollheim

SSS has not raised its price -- still 15¢.

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FUTURE combined with SCIENCE FICTION

Now faces, fresh viewpoints, plus the best of the old school can be found in the current issue. New writers such as Hannes Bok, Mallory Kent, Chester B. Conant got their start with this magazine; up and coming writers such as Martin Pearson, S. D. Gottesman, Wilfred Owen Morley, John Hollis Mason, Basil Wells, Bob Tucker, and Joseph Gilbert can be found in its pages. Artwork by Bok, Dolgov, Forte, Kyle, Paul, Streeter, and many others.

15 cents at all newsstands - all stories new and complete - Future

While, if you like the good old-fashioned complete book-length novel, written in the best 1942 manner, illustrated by the finest artists,

SCIENCE FICTION QUARTERLY - 25 cents on all stands, is also a title you won't enjoy being without.

Edited by one of the "Exiles" from the Nyeon

Robert W. Lowndes

Greetings to the Nyeon Booklet from

the FUTURIAN SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

We're no war baby: we're three years old!



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FANTASY MAGAZINE

is back starting with the April 1942 issue. FANTASY TIMES is changing its name to Fantasy Magazine with its March-April issue. Photo-offset 8 to 10 large size pages. Photos etc. Tops in the field.

James V. Taurasi
editor and publisher

Sam Moskowitz
managing editor

Orlon F Tremaine
associate editor

Ray Van Houten
format & typing editor

Alex Osheroff
associate typing editor

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