

SCIENCE FICTION RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

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SECONDARY UNIVERSE 6

Secondary Universe VI, the annual conference of the Science Fiction Research Association, will be held at the Pennsylvania State University campus in University Park, Pennsylvania, on 14-17 September 1973. The title and theme of the Conference will be "The Writer and Science Fiction". All SFRA members should have received conference announcements and registration forms; for further information write to Mrs Patricia Ewing, The Pennsylvania State University, J Orvis Keller Conference Center, University Park PA 16802 USA.

LIBRARY RESOURCES PROJECT

Hal Hall reports: "We've received reports from 23 of the 41 libraries listed originally, and reports for two more are on the way. I need any information members may have on the following possible collections:

Univ of Arizona, Tucson
Univ of Illinois, Urbana (H G Wells)
Univ of Kansas, Lawrence
Tulane
Harvard
Cranbrook (Michigan)
Univ of Michigan
Bowling Green State Univ, Ohio
Case Western Reserve
Brown Univ (H P Lovecraft)
Univ of Tennessee, Nashville
Brigham Young
Virginia Commonwealth (J B Cabell)
Wisconsin State, LaCrosse
Institute of Specialized Literature, Los Angeles.

I can't predict a completion date yet -- as soon as I get some more replies I'll work them in and get it ready." Send information to:
Hal Hall, 3608 Meadow Oaks Lane, Bryan TX 77801.

POLARIS PROJECT ABANDONED

We asked Robin Rowland of Polaris Press for a progress report on Polaris' plans to publish an anthology of Canadian science fiction (see SFRA NEWSLETTER, April 1972). He replied as follows:

"After eighteen months of operation (January 1972-June 1973) Polaris Press has reluctantly folded. The situation was this. We did not receive a sufficient number of manuscripts to publish the Orbit style anthology we had planned. Since we did not have the financial resources ourselves and could not obtain a grant to publish the manuscripts that we did have, Polaris was forced to cease operations.

"Perhaps of interest to the readers of your newsletter are the following observations. We feel we were correct in our assumption that Canada is a reservoir for science fiction. Of all the works submitted to us, five writers show a great deal of promise; two may become "major" writers if they stick at it and can find somewhere, preferably in Canada but probably in the U.S. for the publication of their work. Equally important, we believe that our original contention, that the idea of science fiction being international is false, has been borne out. Only two manuscripts came to us as a result of our publicity campaign in Canadian Fandom. The remainder, both good and bad, came as a result of a press campaign; most as a result of a story in Books in Canada. Although all showed a certain degree of "influence" by other science fiction authors, we can say with a good deal of certainty, from the manuscripts and from meeting with the writers, that most drew heavily on their Canadian experience and traditional Canadian regional, urban, or northern identities in writing as well as the main base of U.S. science fiction. It is also interesting that the writers came from all over Canada and only one or two had any contact with organised Fandom; instead they seemed, and we are not certain here, to have been working on their own.

"We hope that the Polaris experiment has provided the spark that can produce the new science fiction from Canada that will add to the growing interest in science fiction in nations other than the U.S., Britain, and the U.S.S.R. Science fiction of all types ... will be better, we feel, if all nations can emerge from the hegemony of these three founding nations and discover their own forms."

NOTES AND NOTICES

In its September issue Choice (a publication of the American Library Association) will include a bibliographical essay on SF. "Science Fiction Revisited" by Neil Barron of the University of South Florida is an update of his "Anatomy of Wonder; A Bibliographic Guide to Science Fiction", published in Choice in January 1970. The discussion will include books not yet published.

Please send any specific information available on illustrators and illustrations of Poe's tales in science fiction, weird, and horror magazines and books to Burton R Pollin, 800 West End Avenue, New York NY 10025, to be used in an annotated bibliography, "Poe in Pictures". If xeroxes of pictures as well as exact bibliographic data can be supplied, all expenses will be gladly reimbursed. Acknowledgements will be included in the eventual book.

Dr Gary A Klee of the Geography Dept at the University of Wisconsin - Superior (Superior WI 54880) is developing a Future Studies program, and would like any useful information. He would like to hear from Futurists available for the UWS speakers forum, and would like copies of syllabi and reading-lists.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Reviews and annotations by Hal Hall, Texas A&M Univ Library (HH); Veronica Kennedy, St John's Univ (VK); Fred Lerner, Columbia University (FL); Valerie Eads (VE).

Mark Owings, Robert Heinlein: A Bibliography. (Baltimore: Croatan House, 1973). 23p \$2.50 ISBN 0-88358-000-4

The first of a series of bibliographies by Mark Owings, to be followed this year by bibliographies of Lafferty and Vance. Owings is the outstanding bibliographer active currently. His author bibliographies should be a must reference source for students of the writers covered, and for libraries. Subscriptions to the bibliography series are available for \$8/year (4 authors) from Croatan House, 1448 Meridene Drive, Baltimore MD 21239. (HH)

Sam Moskowitz, When Women Rule. (New York: Walker, 1972). 221p \$5.95

The August 1967 issue of If carried an essay by Sam Moskowitz called "When Women Rule". One of the features of the essay was a rather complete listing of works dealing with the theme of women as the dominant sex. This provided a useful tool for anyone wishing to research the theme. Then, five years later, an anthology of some of the older, and thus more difficult to find, stories was issued under the same title. The original essay from If served as the book's introduction. Anyone doing research on the subject of women in early science fiction would no doubt find this little collection very useful.

Other than that, it is difficult to determine just what type of reader Mr Moskowitz had in mind when he selected his material. The stories are both dated and too dull to appeal to a person reading for enjoyment, unless the person enjoys period pieces. The most recent of the stories, "The Priestess Who Rebelled", dates from 1939. Since no real purpose would have been served by reprinting material readily available from other sources, one can understand why such stories were chosen

understand why such stories were chosen; but, since there has not yet been a definitive paper on the subject of women and science fiction, a continuation or expansion of the original essay would have been more useful to teachers and researchers alike. (VE)

Total Effect, Survival Printout. (New York: Vintage Books, a division of Random House, 1972?). x, 335p pb \$1.95

Survival Printout, prepared by Total Effect (the editors: Leonard Allison and Leonard Jenkin, Manhattan Community College of CUNY; and Illiac 4, "the Burroughs Corporation's giant general-purpose computer", supervised by SEMANT), is an anthology that should prove useful for some courses in science fiction. The editors include fact selections by such eminent writers as Loren Eiseley, Arthur C Clarke, Nigel Calder, I S Shklovskii, and Carl Sagan, and fictions by such important writers as Alfred Bester, Harlan Ellison, Robert A Heinlein, James Blish, and others. However, to this reviewer, the fiction selections especially seem sometimes over-familiar, tho they are admittedly of great importance (e.g., "I Have No Mouth and I Must Scream"). Perhaps the usefulness of the volume would be greatest for folk who are comparatively ignorant about current trends in science fiction. At any rate, the volume is novel in format and extremely generous in content. (VK)

Marion Zimmer Bradley, Men, Halflings, and Hero Worship. (Baltimore, T-K Graphics, 1973). 51p \$2.50

A reprint, in its original uncut form, of the essay which appeared in various fanzines and in abridged form in Tolkien and the Critics (ed Isaacs and Zimbardo). Of interest to students of Tolkien and fantasy in general. (HH)

Leslie Kay Swigart, Harlan Ellison: A Bibliographical Checklist. (Dallas: Williams Publishing Co, 1973). vi, 117p wr \$3.00 (By mail, \$3.50 from the author at P O Box 8570, Long Beach CA 90808.

This is an exhaustive bibliography of the writings of Harlan Ellison, including books, scripts, fiction, articles and essays, introductions and afterwords, reviews, published letters, interviews with Harlan Ellison, fanzines edited by Ellison, and titles announced but not yet produced. The prefatory material includes a bibliographical note and appreciations of Ellison by Isaac Asimov, Ben Bova, Edward Bryant, Joanna Russ, Robert Silverberg, and James Sutherland. There is a 14-page index. The bibliography is copiously illustrated with photographs of Ellison and of his publications in both American and foreign editions.

This is an incredibly good piece of work, and should set the standards for author bibliographies of science fiction writers. Every student of SF, and every library, should have a copy, not only for its coverage of Ellison's work, but also as an example of what a science fiction bibliography can be, but so seldom is. (FL)