FUTURIAN OBSERVER

NO 12. June 16th, 1940. 2d

BAN ON MAGAZINES: The ban on American magazines is now in operation and the last shipment has arrived. The release of these magazines has been delayed "because", say different bookstall proprietors, "the government is printing inserts for them, requesting readers to subscribe to British magazines". We wonder if this could mean that reprints are soon to be released in Australia as reports from other sources have indicated.

PROGRESS RESULTS OF POLL: The poll has been coming along fine and so far Dwyer, Levy, La Coste, Sawyer, Molesworth, Russell Bros., and the editors have cast their votes. "Grey Lensman" leapt off to an early lead, but "Sinister Barrier" slowly tracked it down until, as this goes to press, the latter gained the lead. A rather unusual point is that no other story was particularly fancied, but this may be changed before the poll closes.

"Sinister Barrier"	Eric Frank Russell	14	points.
"Grey Lensman"	E.E. Smith	13	do.
"Cosmic Engineers"	Clifford D. Simak	5	do.
"Lord of Tranerica"	Stanton Coblentz	3	do.
"Black Flame"	Stanley G. Weinbaum	3	do.
"Child of Power"	Wyndham Parkes	3	do.
"Impossible World"	Eando Binder	3	do.

Two voted for "The Smallest God" but as it was published this year we cannot include it. Sorry fellas! Your mistake!

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FUTURIAN SOCIETY JOTTINGS: (Items crowded out of our last issue.) Neville Friedlander has resigned from the FSS owing to the fact that he does not like the club policy and says that to remain in it would only make him (from his point of view) a traitor in the ranks!. . .The Futurian Society Library has been dissolved owing to the fact that members gave it very poor support. . .

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EXTRACTS FROM "STARDUST" (SPACEWAYS): "Did you see that cover on STARTLING advertising a "novel of the Future complete in this issue", – and the novel a backward in time story!. . .Speaking of movies, I'm reminded that "Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde" is to made again. This'll be the third time!

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FANTAST the British fan magazine which has been constantly reported as "ceased publication" simply won't fold up! Last year in "Science Fiction Progress" it was announced that "Fay" was to be replaced by the Fantast War Bulletin. Youd continued his magazine as well as the Bulletin! Next we heard in a recent Futurian that "Fay" had again bitten the dust, but this was not true! Le Zombie not to be out of fashion carried a letter from Harry Warner Jr. (or rather an extract from a letter) to the effect that Youd had not only dropped his magazine but would also drop out of fan activities. This week the eighth "Fay" arrived and announced it was to appear bi-monthly, alternating with John F. Burke's "Satellite". Surely this must be an encouragement to we Australians for despite the difficulties to be overcome by the britishers they still carry on their publications.

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OF INTEREST TO ALL FOLLOWERS of Australian science fiction fan magazines is the recent plan forwarded by the editors of OBSERVER. Briefly this aims at preventing unnecessary competition by issuing the various publications on a pre-arranged basis so that one large magazine appears on the first of every month and one small magazine every week. Under this scheme ULTRA, AUSTRA-FANTASY, and the proposed new publication, ZEUS!, will appear quarterly whilst COSMOS and OBS will alternate every week. This will enable editors to devote more time to the collection and printing of their magazines and at the same time not threaten their circulation. If this comes into operation advance details will be printed as soon as they come to hand.

ZEUS! is the new publication to be launched on unsuspecting fandom. (Name note definitely decided.) The Keynote of this magazine will be humour, but straight articles and friction shall also appear. Included on the staff will be Kenneth N. Dwyer, Ronald B. Levy, Ralph A. Smith, Keith C. Hooper, and ahem – us!! Number of pages not certain but it will probably be 16. Price is definitely settled at 6d. Editorial address will probably be 19 Newland Street, Bondi Junction, Sydney, NSW.

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LOCAL ITEMS: A large band of fans gathered at the home of David R. Evans on Sunday, 19th May. This was the occasion of Vol Molesworth's moving to his new address at Sylvania, and DR Evans had invited Sydney Futurians to a send off meeting for Molesworth. Impromtu discussions on many phases of stf were held plus a reading of a new story by Evans. Those present included the Junction group, Dwyer, Russell Bros, and Veney, and the Randwick group, Smith, Hooper, Levy, and Castellari. . .A somewhat smaller gathering invaded the quiet home of Charles La Coste on Saturday 1st June. Besides the host, H. Pinnock, Russell bros, and Veney were in attendance. . .Warning to Noel Dwyer: Don't imitate Popeye too much Noel, as some of the FSS may make this your nickname. . .Vol Molesworth has received a communication from Alan Connell, well-known Australian author, who is selling up a lot of his collection of stf!. . .A city bookstall recently sold out many old large size AMAZING and WONDER STORIES for the astoundingly low price of 6d per copy! Ronald B. Levy and bert F. Castellari beat the rest of the bunch (except for Bruce Sawyer?) and bought the best 30 (including a 1929 SCIENCE WONDER) leaving the "scraps" to the others. However Bill Veney picked up a bargain at 3d which RBL and BFC had missed – A.S. Containing the "Jameson Satellite". . .Sydney already has an Eric F. Russell. The lad who so kindly does our title cuts is Ralph A. Smith and is very interested in rocketry, as you may have gathered from past issues. We now find that the Secretary of the British Interplanetary Society was R.A. Smith! Also our RAS interests himself greatly with model planes. Someone reports that there is another Ralph A. Smith who is an artist for an aviation mag and is also interested in model planes. . .To anyone who could supply some more jottings for us to print we would be most grateful. . .

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From VOL MOLESWORTH: "OBS gets better every issue – all I want is more Radio news and less typing errors. . .I would like to inform your readers that due to an overflow of letters the next issue of Cosmos will not appear till June 25th and will Nos 3 and 4 stapled together. Price of this big double issue will be fivepence. The double issue is, I think, the best collection of material ever presented in Australia, and I say that without boasting. Cover by Ted Russell, an article by Eric F. and letters from Moxon, Kuslan, Friedlander, Moxon (again), Hewison, Sawyer, Hockley, and (maybe) Collins. Also "The Cosmichat" and results of the poll." (This advertisement filled that gap nicely, thank you Vol. - OBS.)

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Futurian OBSERVER:- (12) Edited by William D. Veney and Bert F. Castellari at 10a Sully Street, Randwick, Sydney, NSW. Single copies – 2d, 7 for 1/- or 20 cents. To Bob Tucker: 'Fraid we'll have to purloin your title "Largest Unpaid Circulation" Bob, for we have NO subscriptions and never expect to have any!!! – A V-C Publication.

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