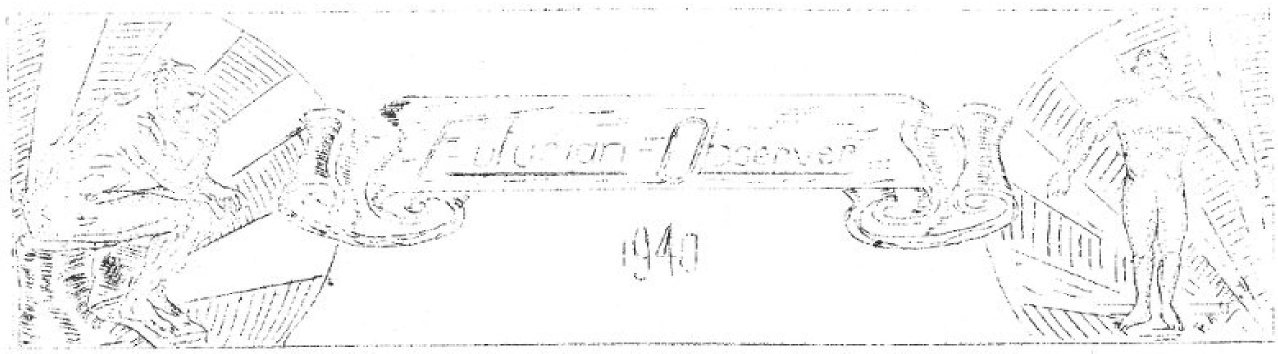

NO 15. 28th July, 1940. 2d.

NEW NATIONAL ORGANISATION FORMED: Since the collapse of the JASFCC there has not been any organisation aiming at Commonwealth-wide membership. Fan activities have been limited to Sydney and the surrounding district – the reason for this has been apathy among fans in other states of Australia who have not shown any interest in general activities. However, with the burst of enthusiasm from Warwick Hockley and the Melbourne fans, Keith Moxon and his IMAGINATIVE STORIES, and the general interest taken by Donald H. Tuck of Hobart, it is obvious that fans outside Sydney are now awakening. Therefore, the time has come for an effort to re-unite the forces of active Australian fandom.

At a recent meeting between Randwick and Bondi Junction fans it was decided to launch a new science fiction club tentatively known as the Futurian Association of Australia, which aims at banding all active fans into one vast organisation for the furthering of stf in this country. As a result of this meeting a provisional committee of two has been appointed to supervise the executive work. These two fans are William D. Veney (President) and Eric F. Russell (Secretary). In our next issue we shall give a list of fans who will be requested to take positions as honourary members. As these fans will receive copies of this OBS as well as official notification, they are asked to write as soon as possible regarding the matter to either member of the executive committee. The committee hopes to have contacted all interested fans in Australia within the next two or three weeks.

Further information on the FAA will be given in our next issue, released 11th August.

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ITEMS: “Darkness and Dawn” is the feature novel in the August issue of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES. . .Sydney fans hope to see Charles S. Mustchin of Coolangatta along at an FSS meeting in October or November. . .The recording of voices of the FSSites for the WSFConvention has had to be passed over owing to the fact that time could not be found to have the record made. Also if the record had been made it would not have reached the convention in time. A cable will probably be sent at convention time. . .Eric Russell's ULTRA will complete one year of publication in October, being the first Australian fan publication to accomplish this. . .David R. Evans and Ronald B. Levy have proved to be the best telepathists in Sydney fan circles to date. Bill veney has also conducted several remarkable experiments. . .And who didn't hear about the fan who picked up a copy of “Metropolis” in excellent condition for the sum of THREE PENCE! . .Another bargain: The June ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION in good condition for 9d at a second-hand bookstall – and it hasn't been released out here and is not likely to appear. Someone is selling their subscription copies. . .OBS may return to pica type very soon. Present Gothic type is too clumsy and cuts down on our wordage considerably – readers think they are being rooked! They are! . .Say, where the Hell have those British reprints got to??? . .We are sorry to note that TALES OF WONDER has been dropped in favour of a magazine printing foreign legion stories and great war adventures. Grrr!!!

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STOP PRESS: a monthly Australian Western Story magazine has appeared. Also a monthly magazine with Saturday Evening Post writers in it. Can we hope for a stf magazine?

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CARTOON... That's it on the left - or right. Done by: Ralph A. Smith, of Art Staff.
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ASTOUNDING reports have come to us re Eck Russell the gentleman on left (Server) was once SAM'L Ripley note:
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AROUND AUSTRALIA:-

MELBOURNE: Warwick Hockley and Keith Taylor, who, as stated last issue are attempting to form a Futurian Society of Melbourne, seem to be running up against some difficulties, as most new organisations do. We hasten to state that the great depths of silence which surround the abode of Marshall L. MacLennan come about as a result of extensive studies which friend Marshall is compelled to undertake. However, it is hoped he can find time to attend any of the FSU's meetings. When these will commence is not known but we hope to find out soon. Marshall MacLennan, incidentally, has one of the best collections of science fiction in Australia!

BRISBANE: No word lately from Keith Moxon – and why? Because Assistant Editor BFC has been too damned busy to write him. New Sydney fan Len C. Stubbs was in Brisbane quite recently, but not knowing of J. Keith Moxon naturally did not visit him. We hope if Len is in Brisbane again he will call on Keith.

HOBART: Donald H. Tuck reports meeting an avid fan in a Hobart bookstall. As yet Don doesn't know much of his "find", but we expect to see the birth of a really active Tasmanian fandom, as Don also has ambitions for a Futurian Society in Hobart. Don, himself is held down by the fact that he is at present at the University.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: Dead Silence! No one has heard from Howard F. Pollard or Ralph A. Harding. We'd like to contact Kevin Hewison.

SYDNEY: The Futurian Society with a membership now amounting to 12, held its fourteenth meeting (full attendance) on Sunday 21sta July. Everything was carried on in an orderly manner for the first time in weeks. The meeting on the whole can be considered as enjoyable.

We consulted Alan Connell, stf author, regarding his joining the FSS but he told us his fan days were over! OBS intends to interview this gentleman one day if he will submit to the torture of it! Also on our list are Charles La Coste and H. Pinnock. . .there'll be others!

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READ COSMOS, now under the banner of VC Publications, and appearing fortnightly. Prints interesting letters each issue and sells for only 2d per copy. Other rates same as OBS. Obtainable from 19 Newland Street, Bondi Junction, Sydney, NSW. And you might try ZEUS from the same address. . .6d.

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Futurian OBSERVER: (15). Should be given away but isn't – is edited by Bert F. Castellari and William D. Veney at 10a Sully Street, Randwick, Sydney, NSW. If you want a copy send us 2d, or better still pay a 1/- and get 7 issues. Lowest acceptable from Americans – 7 for 20 cents.

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