NO. 20.

FUTURIAN OBSERVER
A V-C Publication

6th September, 1940.

"Australia's most regular fan publication."

5 SYDNEY FANS AT BAA MEET

Five Sydney fans were recently the guests of a meeting of the Sydney Branch of the British Astronomical Association. They were William D. Veney, Eric F. Russell, Edward H. Russell, Ronald B. Levy, and Bert F. Castellari, who wish to express their gratitude to Mr. H. Pinnock for enabling them to attend. Mr. Pinnock is an active member of the Association being the owner of a nine inch telescope. On quite a number of occasions he has invited fans to his home where they have spent many enjoyable hours.

The Association meeting was very interesting, the two main items being lectures – one on the construction of a special camera, and the other by Mr. Pinnock, was on the new 200" telescope at the Palomar Observatory. The meeting incidentally was held at the Sydney Observatory. Discussion following these two lectures was at times more interesting than the lectures themselves.

After the meeting had been officially closed the fans passed some time in conversation with the members of the BAA. The following incident was most amusing: Mr. K. Beames who gave the first lecture (a rather jovial fellow) approached the group with whom the fans were talking. After a sort of introduction Mr. Beames remarked: "Aren't you chaps the members of the futuristic brigade or something?" 'Twas left to William D. Veney to make the correction.

When informed of the visit to the BAA meeting ex-fan Ralph A. Smith (at one time greatly interested in astronomy) stated:- "Oh, I'm not interested in those things any more!" And, quite evidently, the females have caught him!! Another visit is expected to be made to the Observatory at some time in the not-to-distant future..

- 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 -

ITEMS

many thanks to the numerous fans who wrote in and didn't comment on the FSS suspension when it was requested that they should. . .Art Widner is the man for polls at the moment. We suggest he takes a poll to find out the number of fans who prefer the "old" AMAZING STORIES to the "new", or vice versa. Should be interesting. . .We have received a report to the effect that due to the introduction of conscription in the U.S.A. The New York Futurians have left the Ivory Tower. They can be contacted at their former addresses. . .incidentally, it looks as though a few Sydney Futurians will be doing a few months military training before long. . .The editors have reason to believe that the Sydney censors have been holding up a lot of Chicon mags. Perhaps these morons think the Chicon is a fifth-columnist organisation! . .Who was the gentleman who informed us that "1,000,000 B.C." would be released in August? We'd like to have a word with him! . .And that reminds OBS. Does anyone know the release date of "DR. Cyclops".

- 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 -

WILLIAM D VENEY

has received a letter from the Postal Authorities enclosing a wrapper from magazines. It reads to the effect that the wrapper was found in the second class mail, but that the contents have gone astray. The return address on the wrapper was to Olon F. Wiggins, which means that about seven copies of the SCIENCE FICTION FAN are where they shouldn't be! Just how this came about we cannot say, but hope to find out. When Australian fan mags going to America are sunk it's bad enough, but when American fan mags coming to Australia are lost through the fault of the postal department it's time to kick up a fuss – not that much could be done!

- 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 -

SUPPORT AUSTRALIAN FAN PUBLICATIONS

We won't try to fool you – this is an advertising section!

AUSTRA-FANTASY is now a hektoed publication. This will be Australia's second hektoed pub – the first was John Devern's SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW, which has been “daid” for a long time. The hektoing is fairly readable and done in two colours.

Material in the September issue includes David R. Evans' “Where's My Watch?”, Eric Russell's “H.G. Wells and Science Fiction Today”, “Give “Em their Dues” by William D. Veney, Vol Molesworth's “Lost Relic”, and poetry by Colin Roden and Keith Taylor. The latter, we are sorry to say, reads like nursery rhymes! Departments are good, but we cannot say too much for the cartoons. Ted Russell did the cover. Name of editorial is “The Controls”. Oh yes, thankee for the adds! A-F sells for 6d per copy and has 30 pages (small size). Obtainable from Wog Hockley, 183 Domain Road, South Yarra SE L, Melbourne, Victoria.

ZEUS Why, of course! Zeus is definitely going to have a second issue, no matter what crops up. We have already said it will be irregular and are much inclined to believe it will be very much so. Fans don't seem to like writing fiction and there's only two in Sydney willing to oblige with such a contribution at the moment. Please note that the policy of this magazine has now veered right away from humour. Ronald B. Levy edits it so dispatch contributions to him at 18 Dudley Street (that number is 18), Coogee, Sydney, NSW. . .Price is sixpence per copy and no trades!

ULTRA will issue its first anniversary issue in the middle of October and it's something to be looked forward to. The number of pages will not be less than about 30 though the price for the issue has been increased to ninepence. Most of the stencils are cut and will be run off any time now. EFR is having a little trouble with the cover as yet but from what we've heard it is going to be good!

The most interesting point about the magazine will be that it will be practically all Australian with contributions from nearly every Australian fan, (Oh, EFR is still on my tail for material - BFC.) including some of the ex-fans! Price we have already stated, but send to 274 Edgecliff Road, Woollahra, Sydney, NSW for copies.

COSMOS still comes from Vol Molesworth of “del Monte”, Kangaroo Point Road, Sylvania, NSW. Of the price we are uncertain and ditto for the number of pages. You see, COSMOS has been “Luna-ised” and Vol says the pages in it will amount to 6 or 8! And the next issue promises to be good, what with the Chicon news, the letters, and a few items which we have been told about.

COSMOS will use three sizes of type commencing with the issue so making another improvement. Send for it! You'll like it!

And now owing to the fact that this issue of OBS is a bit short on material, we shall repeat (for the benefit of several who missed the last issue) the facts of the case of “Imaginative Stories”. It's editor, J. Keith Moxon, is very ill and will not be able to resume activities for some time. As a result “Issie” will be held up for some time, though plenty of material is on hand!

Carrying on we come to the fact that --- blah ---- blah --- blah --- blah --- blah ---- blah --- blah ---- blah --- Futurian OBSERVER is --- blah ---- blah --- blah ---- blah --- blah ---- blah --- blah --- the first Australian --- --- blah ---- blah --- blah ---- blah --- blah ---- blah --- mag --- blah ---- blah --- blah ---- blah to have --- blah --- a twentieth --- blah ---- blah --- blah ---- blah --- blah ---- blah --- issue --- blah ---- BLAH! BLAH!

- 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 -

and we know you won't for get that

FUTURIAN OBSERVER is edited by Bert F. Castellari and William D. Veney at 10a Sully Street, Randwick, Sydney, NSW. We charge 2d for single copies and a 1/- for 7 copies. 7 for 20 cents is the lowest we will accept from Americans!

- 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 - 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 – 0 -