

0 8. April 21°, 1940. 2u.

SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINES BANNED!

A grave situation has arisen. The Federal Government has issued a list of American pulp magazines which will be banned from this country. Included in this list are all stf magazines now entering the Commonwealth. ASTOUNDING, FFM, TWS, SS, etc., etc., all fall under this ban. The magazines will continue to appear in Australia for two months, owing to the fact that shipments are already en route. Not content with completely banning the magazines from the stands, the Government has decreed that new inscriptions cannot be commenced. Subscriptions that have already been placed will be allowed to carry on until their expiration.

The latest news on this matter, at the time of writing, comes from Victoria. There, the Federated Newsagents Association has asked the Government to reconsider its decision, stating that the dollar exchange is negligible. Probably the newsagents in other States will co-operate in this appeal and the chances of the ban being repealed may become more promising. Behind them also will be the reading public, who must sooner or later, raised objections to the curtail on this cheap form of literature. It must be borne in mind that already the newer magazines have been prevented from appearing on the stands, that is, ASTONISHING STORIES, SUPERSCIENCE STORIES, PLANET STORIES, etc. etc.

AUSTRALIAN FANDOM CARRIES ON:-

Despite these distressing circumstances it is gratifying to know that the small, but active, band of fans intend to carry on their work of popularising science fiction. Hopes are high

for the British reprint editions of eight magazines, so that at least we'll have some form of reading. Even if the British reprints fail to appear, American publishers have been considering putting the idea into operation out here.

Futurian OBSERVER will carry on, but it is doubtful whether we can fulfill the promise of four pages, for at least a while. Also Molesworth has quite unexpectedly issued Cosmos – a six pager appearing triweekly.

Best news of all comes from Keith Moxon of Brisbane, who has issued a circular giving notice of Australia's first semi-professional magazine. It will be lithographed, containing from ten to twelve quarto size <u>leaves</u>, and will be issued semi-yearly. Departments will include "Have Your Say, Sir", a department in which readers throw their stones or toss their bouquets; a lecturette on some scientific matter; free use of an exchange department in which is stated your willingness to buy or sell or exchange science fiction magazines; a column devoted to the latest news on club activities; and, to top all, will print --- with cooperation of readers --- an everlasting debate, "Are We Any More Civilised Than We Were 200 Years Ago?" Only amateur writer's material will be used and only the very <u>best</u> of these. Scientific articles will also be supplied by amateurs. Cover, will be painted by a talented artist.

The name of this publication is to be HOMO. Watch it grow!

Further information on this magazine will be printed in our next issue, dated May 5th.

Futurian OBSERVER Defeat One Daily

INTIMATE JOTTINGS:-

Ralph A. Smith announces that not one, but THREE new members may be present at the next Futurian meeting. . .Charles la Costa says he intends to attend at least one meeting during the winter series, and possibly more. . .

Co-editor Castellari was detained from work recently owing to illness and other co-editor, Veney, went out to gloat over him every night. . .Keith Moxon is such a film fan that despite despite the fact that he was in Sydney for 24 hours, he attended two different shows. . .Howard Pollard, of Perth, has at last awakened and commenced corresponding with a Sydney fan. . .Two British fans to commence corresponding with Australian fans are Rosenblum and Youd. .Don Tuck has several fan items near completion for placing in fan publications. . .Ronald Levy has been too busy with school work to start any fan writing. We've seen some of his earlier work and believe us it's good! . .Bumped into ex-active fans Ron Lane and Ron Brennan recently, only to find they have dropped stf completely. . .Noel Dwyer intends to join the F.S.S. At our next meeting. . .No reply from Tilton of Coogee. . .Received letter from Pinnock of Arncliffe in connection with the ban. He says he has a collection reaching back over 11 years. . .Marshall L. MacLennan has been silent for a long time. Perhaps we will hear from him about the ban. . .Neville Friedlander is starting to turn out fiction presumably to crash Aussie fan pubs. . .

RADIO:- We said we'd give more on "Out of the Silence". Here it is: This hackneyed play continues, having reached the stage of the revival of the woman in suspended animation. As usual, the result is the solution of many mysteries, and the play is coming to the point in which the woman of the lost civilisation intends to rule the world.

For those still listening; it is now broadcast on mondays and Thursdays.

FUTURIAN SOCIETY OF SYDNEY:-

The eighth meeting of the F.S.S. was at 11 Northumberland Street, Clovelly, on Sunday 7th April. This meeting was one of the smallest for weeks being only six present. Also it

was one of the most disorderly, despite the small attendance. Disorderliness was due to the same party as on previous meetings. It is hoped that this will be wiped out at the next meeting.

Main discussion on the programme of the ninth meeting will be that of the recently imposed ban on pulp mags from the U.S. Also new fan Noel Dwyer will be elected to membership along with three others whom Ralph A. Smith has promised to bring along. The other discussion arranged for the meeting is on the works of the late Stanley G. Weinbaum.

STOP PRESS:- Australian stfists are acting already. Letters are now appearing in the letter sections of daily papers protesting against the ban and advocating an Australian mag! Keep it up fans! We'll win through yet!

<u>Futurian OBSERVER</u>:- You'll please Willian D. Veney and Bert F. Castellari, eds of this rag, if you'll become one of those rare people who subscribe! Single – 2d. 7 for 1/-. 7 for 20 cents. (Lowest acceptable from Americans.)