

Thursday, July 1, 1954.

SCIENCE FICTION

S C A N S I O N

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

About twelve months ago, during the big upsurge of interest in science fiction then occurring, an enthusiast by the name of Kevin Dillon brought out a weekly newsletter of items interesting to science fiction readers. It circulated amongst the members of a community of these people, who had become known to one another when one of their number, Arthur Haddon, hand-printed twelve hundred circulars, and enlisted the co-operation of Gordon & Gotch, Ltd., to distribute them to readers of ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION. It is felt that a science fiction news-sheet like this can be of great service to readers, and a group of five, including the original publisher, is setting out to produce one.

The members of the group are: R.D.Nicholson, P.Burke, K.Dillon, Miss N. Williams, and J. Earls. Each will be responsible for the material carried by the one issue out of five which he will edit.

The big news in science fiction at the moment is the opening at the Capitol Theatre tomorrow - Friday July 2, of the awaited "War of the Worlds", which, we are told, resembles in places an H.G.Wells novel of the same name.

A science fiction fan theatre party, to aid the coming FOURTH AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION, has been arranged for one Monday night, the final date having yet to be settled with the theatre management. Seats will be five shillings each, and the man to see or write to is David Cohen, Box 4940, G.P.O., Sydney.

So far, science fiction films have for the most part ranged in quality from poor to bad, but maybe this one --

Weekly club meetings of science fiction fans in the Sydney Bridge Club Rooms, 333 George Street, continue, and just about every Thursday evening some science fiction reader makes his first appearance, peering about to see what other enthusiasts look like, and making acquaintance with the excellent club library. The latest comer is Sherry Bohman, of Burwood, who has a letter in the issue of AUTHENTIC SCIENCE FICTION (No.44) now on our news-stands. A newcomer is always welcome, and just has to come to the room on the third floor of Post Office Chambers about 7.30 PM, and make himself known.

The centre of interest for the fans, and for the more casual readers has changed considerably in the two and a half years since this writer joined the group; then, the main attraction was American magazines, which used to change hands in the club-rooms. Now, with British editions of nearly every magazine freely available, and the quality of the indigenous British product greatly improved, there is more science fiction on the news-stands than most of us can keep up with. However, the club room still attracts members, because readers of science fiction always seem to want to get together and talk about what they've been reading.

Next week's Editor: Mr. Pat Burke.

Published and edited by R.D.Nicholson at 24 Warren Road, Double Bay, N.S.W.