

SCANSION - SCIENCE FICTION WEEKLY NEWS SHEET.

This issue edited & published by Norma V. Williams; editor next week will be Johnny Earls. 41a Surrey St. Darlinghurst. NSW.

Re those rumours about "Thursday nights at the Bridge Club being Dave Cohen" which Arthur mentioned last issue: maybe some of us might have had the idea Dave was bearing most of the cost - as he did - but no one who attends these get-togethers could imagine that Dave tried to "rule the roost" and interfere with what went on - except that, very occasionally - and supported by most of the rest of us - he might have said a word or two about excessive noise.

Dave has done a lot for science-fiction, particularly in these last few months - and no less by the "crass commercialism" of bringing us the latest in reading matter than by taking on the responsibility of hiring the room. Thanks again Dave.

Talking of reading matter: have just been reading - for the first time - Bram Stoker's classic "Dracula". We tend to think of the "ancient" writers ("Dracula" was published in 1897) as being dry-as-dust, and laugh at the stilted language of a lot of the early "amazing" stories. If "Dracula" were written today, with a wealth of suspense-mechanism cliches and high-tension adjectives, it wouldn't be half the yarn it is; the very stiltedness of the narrative style puts the story across effectively. Perhaps that same quietness of style might benefit science-fiction films, which tend to pile on the agony to the point of making them ridiculous.

By the way, the latest issue of "Future" is out (I haven't read it yet) with stories by Australian authors Norma Hemming, F.B. Bryning and John Vile: glad to see this policy and hope it continues. It is not so hard to get American magazines or BREs that a policy of reprints is justifiable in Australia now.

Reminder - theatre party to "The Creature from the Black Lagoon", Capitol, date not yet fixed, see Arthur or Dave re bookings.

We understand that the Sunday night parties at Arthur Haddon's Redfern mansion are to be regular affairs - see Arthur re the next. Good idea to bring records if you have any - the last party was considerably enlivened by a portable and the pick of several people's collections. And also, of course, bring a bottle and glass (unless you prefer to drink from the bottle).

This issue is produced by the courtesy of Haddon and a typist friend of his - thanks for the assistance, Arthur.

A Xmas party has been arranged by the S.F. drams group, the Arcturian Players. This will be held in the Bondi School of Arts, Saturday, December 11th, from 8.0 - 12.0 p.m. Supper is included in the 5/- charge, although drinkers will have to supply their own liquor. The drama group will present a short sketch during the evening. Fancy dress by the way is optional.