

A riot at the Bridge Club? Of course it wasn't! Only a slightly livelier than usual Thursday night. (Well....., officially, at least.)

From what I hear, it would seem that several members and/or ex-members of the old hierachy are still at their childish little game of "not playing speaks". One wonders if these gentlemen - I use the word in loosest possible sense - have, like Barrie's Peter Pan, failed to mature (mentally) or is it that senility is so advanced that they are in their dotage? Whatever the reason may be, such conduct does not give rise to any overwhelming amount of optimism regarding the possibility of healing the existing breach in Sydney Fandom. Even the most easy going do not take terribly kindly to repeated doses of this sort of thing. From a thirteen year old schoolgirl it might be understandable, but hardly from a thirty year old male adult.

BOOK COMMENT: A recent re-reading of Brave New World (Huxley) after a period of over ten years, was a most agreeable experience and something of a surprise too, for this book, though written nearly a quarter of a century ago, has survived the passing years remarkably well and except that there is no mention of nuclear power, could quite easily pass for a contemporary novel - though its' literary value would be far higher than nearly anything currently in print. Quite an achievement really, for, most of the SF that I have come across from that period (early 1930's) has suffered quite harshly in the passage of time. So much so, that most of it is now quite ludicrous. A comparison with 1984 is probably unavoidable. The similarity between the two is obvious and requires no further elaboration. Of the two though, I am inclined to regard Brave New World as being the sounder and more consistent approach - psychologically at any rate.

Concurring largely with the remarks on current SF that Nicholson made in last weeks' Scansion, I would say that SF generally and, some magazines in particular, seem to be travelling in ever diminishing circles, with, of course, the strong possibility of the inevitable result mentioned in the old fable.

The irregulars continue to meet each Saturday and enjoy a pleasant afternoon. It is from these meetings generally, that such minor activities as are presently undertaken by the Sydney SF Group, seem to take their origin. Anybody wishing to join in is quite welcome to come along. Perhaps you may have some worthwhile suggestions - and I did not mean that sort of suggestion old boy!

A very welcome visitor to the Bridge Club last Thursday was Jack Leggett whom we do not see as often as we would like. Hope that we will see more of you in the future, Jack.

From now on, it is hoped to keep Scansion on a weekly basis, though that is only a hope and not a promise! However, those of our readers who look forward to each edition with wild delight, may now go ahead and cautiously celebrate this return.

Who got stuck with the check at the Carlton last Thursday evening?

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