

# SCIENCE FICTION RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

CHAIRMAN  
BOX 3186  
THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER  
WOOSTER, OHIO 44691

TREASURER  
7 AMSTERDAM AVENUE  
TEANECK, NEW JERSEY 07666

SFRA NEWSLETTER #3

1 JUNE 1971

The SFRA NEWSLETTER is published irregularly by the Science Fiction Research Association, a nonprofit scholarly organization. It is edited by the Secretary-Treasurer of SFRA (Fred Lerner, 7 Amsterdam Avenue, Teaneck, New Jersey 07666 USA) and is sent to all voting, supporting, student, and institutional members.

---

## APOLOGIES...

This issue of the SFRA NEWSLETTER is six weeks late because of the editor's recent illness. We hope to resume our regular schedule with the next issue.

## 1971 PILGRIM AWARD RECIPIENT NAMED

The SFRA Pilgrim Award Committee has unanimously selected Professor Marjorie Nicolson as the recipient of the 1971 Pilgrim Award, which will be presented at the Secondary Universe Conference in Toronto. Prof Nicolson, who has taught at Smith College and Columbia University, is the author of Voyages to the Moon and other studies of science and literature.

The Pilgrim Award Committee for 1971 consists of:

J O Bailey, University of North Carolina  
Northrop Frye, University of Toronto  
Mark R Hillegas, Southern Illinois University  
Judith Merril, The Spaced Out Library (Toronto)  
P Schuyler Miller, Analog Magazine  
R Dale Mullen, Indiana State University, Chairman.

## WELL, YES, ABOUT THE PROCEEDINGS...

Transcription of the three-day October conference, Secondary Universe III, proceeds. Glacially, true; but it proceeds. Printers, the Federal Work-Study Program, and the Albany budget willing or unwilling, an August publication date is expected. We are shooting for July.

Costs: The volume is planned at about 250-300 pages, offset, with some total transcripts, some formal papers, and some abstracts. Projected price for SFRA members: Pre-publication, \$2.00; post-publication, \$3.00. Price for non-members: Pre-publication, \$7.00; post-publication, \$10.00. (The disparity in price is a direct reflection of the advantages of SFRA membership and of SFRA's sponsorship of the project.) Order by postcard anytime (from Virginia Carew, English Dept, Queensborough Community College, Bayside NY 11364).

-- Virginia Carew, Chairman,  
Proceedings Committee.

## BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONFERENCE

The Third Annual Conference on the Bibliography of Science Fiction was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Columbus, Ohio, on 27 March 1971, in connexion with MarCon. A sparse audience of about 30 participated in a discussion of Popular Culture and Science Fiction. Prof Ray Browne of Bowling Green State University spoke on the work of the Center for the Study of Popular Culture. He was joined by Brian Bond and Larry Landrum, students at the Center, for a discussion of bibliographic problems in popular culture research.

As has been its custom, the Conference was informal in its organisation. Formal papers were not presented, nor will proceedings be published. This approach has been questioned, and it is perhaps desirable that the Conference be conducted in a more traditional manner. Comments on this would be welcomed, as would suggestions for further themes for discussion at future Conferences. Please send these to: Fred Lerner, 7 Amsterdam Avenue, Teaneck NJ 07666.

## A NEW SOURCE FOR RARE STORIES

In March, the SFRA Executive Board agreed to investigate the possibilities of fiction translation, with an eye to creating a series that would make worthy tales available in English, and with the eventual hope that commercial publishers would engage extensively in translating activities after a non-profit group developed a market for them to exploit.

Therefore, we would very much like to hear of novels, novellas, tales that really ought to be available in English and have not been translated (skip Verne). We also want to hear from people who know something about SF and about a foreign language. The possibility (for graduate students) of special course credit for work in translation is not to be disregarded -- either by students or by teachers.

Suggestions should go to: Virginia Carew, English Dept, Queensborough Community College, Bayside NY 11364.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

Material is solicited to help to compile a bibliography and research material on science fiction poetry/science poetry/poetry of any age which mentions the technology of the age, or uses it in metaphor. Suggestions and comments should be mailed to: Mrs Florence A Brand, 915 West End Avenue, Apt 6A, New York NY 10025.

Stuart Teitler is working on an annotated bibliography of the "lost race" novel, and seeks information about nine American imprints. See Extrapolation XII (May 1971), 106-108, for details. (Stuart Teitler, Kaledioscope Books, Box 699, El Cerrito CA 94530.)

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Peyton E Richter, ed. Utopias: Social Ideals and Communal Experiments. (Boston: Holbrook Press, 1971). xi, 323p.

This volume appears to be primarily for college freshmen and could be used as basic text or as supplement in English, History, Sociology, or Philosophy courses. The author, Professor of Humanities at Boston University, says the book is designed to promote discussion of the "big social issues" of our time and to serve as a source book in "utopian thinking and action which would help satisfy... interest...in intentional communities or utopian experiments and in social planning and prognostication".

The first of four sections, "Why Utopia?", has good-sized excerpts from thinkers as divergent as Thoreau, Engels, and Lewis Mumford. The second section contains carefully introduced and documented contemporary materials on 19th-century American social experiments -- New Harmony, Fruitlands, Brook Farm, Oneida, etc. Next comes "Contra Utopia", devoted to critiques of utopias -- Aristotle, Huxley, Spencer, and including Chad Walsh's "Dystopian Demurrers" (From Utopia to Nightmare, 1962). A fourth section, "Utopian Rejoinders", leaves the last words with Wells, Bellamy, B F Skinner, et al. Notes, bibliography, index are of good quality; altho Arthur Clarke is said to have written a book called Profits of the Future, one suspects the excellence of the author's handwriting rather than of his scholarship.

Richter's comments range from Ayn Rand to Timothy Leary, as well as from Plato to Orwell; so that even tho he is not completely familiar with the utopian ideas expressed in contemporary SF, the breadth of the work makes it useful either as text or for private reference.

-- Virginia Carew,  
Queensborough Comm Coll