





# THE JOURNAL

of the

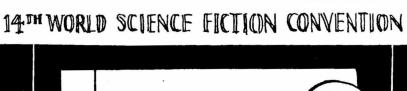
World Science Fiction Society, Inc.

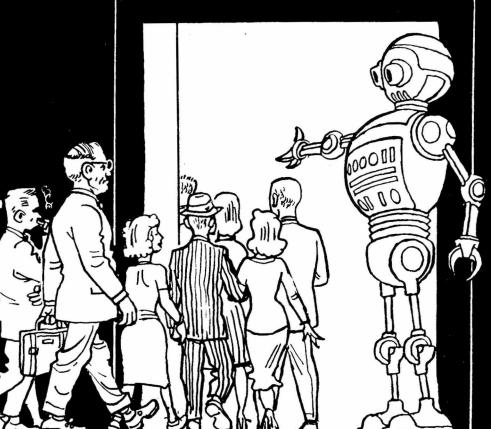
VOL 14 NO (3)

THE BILTMORE NEW YORK

AUG. 31-SEPT. 3 1956







WEEL IN

# LONDON

blog in the fog

IN 1957



# THE JOURNAL

of the World Science Fiction Society

EDITOR

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CONVENTION CELEBRITIES! 5 CONVENTION HOTEL - The Contract
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EXECUTIVE: David A. Kyle: Chairman - Jean Carrol - Art Saha Dick Ellington - George Nims Raybin - Ruth Landis GENERAL: Ken Beale - Lin Carter - Franklin Dietz - Bill Donaho Martin Greenberg - Martin Jukovsky - Perry Norris Sam Moskowitz - David Papayanopulos - Steve Schultheis Harvey Segal - Ray Van Houten - Ed Weisman - Dick Wilson

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GOL

The Time fast approaches:
In little more than two months, the 1956 con gets underway. You'll get the detailed program plans in the next issue. But right now we are concentrating on some important preliminaries:

Biltmore reservations: Don't neglect to send in yours early for the best room assignment—and your only way positively to guarantee air—conditioning.

The Achievement Awards: Be sure to mail in your ballot by the deadline.

Costume Party: Better start right now on your costume, simple or elaborate, if you haven't yet.

One thing's for sure--In The Biltmore you'll have the best facilities ever for really great fun!



Noreen Kane Falasca, Clevention chairman, hands the Gavel, symbol of office, to Dave Kyle, 1956 Chairman, at Cleveland, after New York's successful bid last year.--Photo by Steve Schultheis

# CONTENTION

# CELEBRITIES!

Fans like to meet science fiction celebrities... As a matter of fact, at our annual conventions, celebrities like to meet celebrities. And this year in New York there's going to be the greatest assembly of science fiction personalities together at one time! For fans and pros alike, this is going to be a spectacular gathering!

# LONDON

One of the most popular fellows in science fiction—on either side of the Atlantic—is Ted Carnell. He's been an active fan since the pre-historic days of First Fandom and, like so many others, has become a professional in the field, he as a leading editor in England (New Worlds and Science Fantasy) under his more formal handle of E.J. Carnell.

And all of him--Edward, John, E.J., and Ted--is coming to New York for the big affair.
This will be Ted's second

This will be Ted's second trip back to the states. He first came to the 1949 Cinvention at Cincinnati as the advance guard of a succession of popular Britishers. Now he returns in the dual role of a science fiction editor and chairman of the Convention Committee for London in 1957.

As part of his supporting cast, the following Londoners will be present: Mike Wilson, Audrey Lovett, Kerry Gaulder and Art Clarke (who at other times will be vaguely known as Guest-of-Honor Arthur C. Clarke).

Another Country Heard From....

That "World" part of our Society and Convention is beginning to mean more than just a name.

Now comes word that the 14th Con is going to have a representative from Cuba--and a real enthusiast at that. He's Roberto Fuentes Planas from Havana.

Hasta la vista!

Going through the alphabet of those who have definitely indicated they will attend reads like an honor roll.

Under A, we find: Forrest J. Ackerman, Isaac Asimov, Harry

Altshuler.

Under B; James Blish, Robert Bloch, Anthony Boucher, A. J. Budrys. Under C: John W.Campbell, Jr., E. J. Carnell, Arthur C. Clarke, J. B. Cullum.

...and so on down the list.

There are authors represented such as: L.Sprague de Camp, E.E. Evans, James E.Gunn, Joe Gibson, Randall Garrett, James Harmon, Damon Knight, William Tenn, Murray Leinster, Judith Merril. Katharine MacLean, Frank M. Robinson, E. E. Smith, Theodore Sturgeon, Evelyn E. Smith, Robbert Silverberg, Robert Sheckley, Bob Wilson Tucker, Richard Wilson

There are editors, including: Paul Fairman, William L.Hamling, Harry Harrison, Robert W.Lowndes, James Quinn, Larry T. Shaw, Hans Stefan Santesson.

Artists include: Ed Emsh,

Frank Kelly Freas.

Publishers, to name a few, will be: Lloyd A. Eshbach, Martin Greenberg, Melvin Korshak.

Critis include: Basil Davennort, Theodore Dikty, Dr. Thomas S. Gardner, P. Schuyler "iller. Feature writers list: Willy

Ley, Robert A. Madle, Tog Philips.
Yes, there's no doubt about
it--this convention will really
have just about everyone there

you could possibly expect.

...And this is only a nartial list of names! There are many, many more who will probably come but whose names we will not include in the attendance list. For example, we mean Lester del Rey, Cyril Kornbluth, Fred Pohl.

CONTENTION

CELEBRITIES!

# Onvention

We think you'll be interested in the proof of how important our annual gatherings have become. A big convention, such as the one in New York this year, will mean tens of thousands of dollars to the hotel involved. The money, fortunately for the peace mind of the committee. doesn't pass through its hands. Most all that money goes directly into food, drink, rooms and such. Figure it out for yourself -- and note that of all the money you'll spend only two dollars and maybe some auction money will go to the committee to put the affair on.

we've got to So, you see, bargain -- and yet not be able to pay for anything ourselves for

the facilities.

### exceptional convention facilities

The proof we speak of is the contract agreement which our chairman arranged with the Biltmore. We're proud of it because we are getting one of the best hotels in the world, practically to ourselves, at a cost which is fantastically reasonable.

Let's quote the contract:

The Biltmore hotel promises five hundred sleeping room accommodations have been blocked. all of which are air-conditioned, rates will be as follows:

> Single Room - \$ 7.00 Double Room - \$10.50 3 in a Room - \$13.50 4 in a Room - \$16.00

"1. No charge will be made on your function rooms.

2. An A la carte bar will be set up in the Cafe Moderne during your meeting hours, Saturday noon through Monday to about 6 PM, at no extra charge.

"3. Exhibits and displays will be set up in the Fountain

Court during the period Saturday, Sunday and Monday at no charge for the room.

Foreseeable additional costs: (e.g.: Security Guards, Housemen, etc...) will not be the

hotel's responsibility.

"5. A hospitality room will be furnished at no charge from: Noon Saturday to Noon Monday. This room to accommodate: least 200 persons.

"6. Convention guest rooms will be located as close to one

another as possible.

"7. Private parties can be held on these floors with the expectation that reasonable noise will create no problems between the hotel and the convention guests after midnight.

"8. A complimentary convention suite consisting of a par-lor and bedroom will be set a-side for the use of the convention committee during the period August 26th through September 4th, 1956.

9. There will be a compli-

mentary small suite set aside

for the guest of honor.

"TO. A small suite will be set aside at no charge for use as a nursery.

"ll. Baby sitters will be

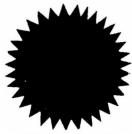
secured as discussed.

"12. A meeting room will be provided once a month until the starting date of the convention at no charge on dates and at times considered mutually agree-able."

# MILLENUM this con's in il

isn't that an excellent basis for a really good conven-We think so--and believe tion! that you'll find this 1956 New York gathering just about the most enjoyable science fiction party you've ever attended.





# INCORPORATION PAPERS PROTECT

# all convention members

Here are the details on the interesting bit of news we mentioned in the last issue of the Journal about our legal name now being World Science Fiction Society, Incorporated. 1956, incorporation papers were granted by the

On February 23, Supreme Court of the First Judicial District of the State of New York, Justice Henry Clay Greenberg approving. The official certificate is printed on the racing page.

The idea itself is not new. Those of you who attended the business meeting at the 11th Convention in Philadelphia will remember that Monday morning in September, 1953, when the subject was discussed. The meeting was in agreement on incorporation. Action was to be withheld until further details were developed on the national sponsoring body and the selection of the name finally made. With the Clevention's adoption of our present name, the moment had at last come.

Why was this decision reached?

There is one simple, logical reason. Incorporation gives our Society actual legal standing with a ... complete, reasonable protection in our finan-

cial liabilities. To explain further: Conventions have grown to the point where committees have become personally liable for thousands of dollars and subject to all sorts of financial lawsuits for damages, personal or business injuries, and such. The chairman himself bears the principal responsibility and risk, but every convention (or Society) member could also be held liable for any debts or accidents caused by negligence or unfulfilled promises of the convention committee. By incorporation, each and every member's liability is limited to the two dollars dues naid--so now, for the first time, everybody is adequately protected, be he committeeman

or member. What is our responsibility as a cornoration? From now on, pursuant to the incorporation, financial records must be kept subject to inspection at any time by the courts. This will, of course, safeguard the funds received so that all such money is used for the purposes

intended by the fans.

What will incorporation cost us? The initial fee of forty dollars is the big expense, inasmuch as all legal work was done for no fee by George Nims Raybin, the Society Treasurer. And, to date, even the expenses incurred have not been charged to the Society. There will be a small yearly tax to be paid to the State of New York to keep the corporation in good standing.

How will the corporation limit us?

The corporation will in no way limit us from doing that which was and is rightfully ours to do. The three directors at present have no voting powers, being merely legal "caretakers," and are subject to the by-laws of the Society. Such by-laws and the Society Constitution are now in the process of being drawn up under the committee established officially at Cleveland last year.

So there we are! The World Science Fiction Society, Inc., now in

fact belongs to every member. May it serve us well.

# CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION of WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY, INC.

Pursuant to the Membership Corporations Law

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***\*

We, the Undersigned, for the purpose of forming a membership corporation pursuant to the Membership Corporations Law of the State of New York, hereby certify:

1. The purposes for which it is to be formed are: To increase co-operation among writers, editors, artists, publishers, readers, and all other persons engaged in science fiction and fantasy fiction activities, to hold conventions and exhibitions, and to promote the improvement of science fiction and fantasy fiction.

The territory in which its operations are principally to be conducted is throughout the United

States.

4. The City and County in which its office is to be located are New York County, City of New York.

5. The number of its directors shall be three.
6. The names and residences of the directors until the first annual meeting are:

GEORGE NIMS RAYBIN 1326 Grand Concourse Bronx, New York ART SAHA 299 Riverside Drive New York, New York

DAVID A. KYLE 300 West 67th Street New York, New York

7. All of the subscribers to this certificate are full age: at least two-thirds of them are citizens of the United States; at least one of them is a resident of the State of New York. Of persons named as directors, at least citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of New York.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have made, subscribed, and acknowledged this certificate, this 20th day of February, 1956.

DAVID A. KYLE
ART SAHA
RICHARD D. ELLINGTON
WILLIAM L. DONAHO
JEAN CARROL

STATE OF NEW YORK ) S.S.:

I, Henry Clay Greenberg, a justice of the Supreme Court of the First Judicial District, hereby approve the foregoing certificate of incorporation of World Science Fiction Society, Inc.



HFNRY CLAY GREENBERG Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York

Date of Incorporation: February 23, 1956

# dear mr. clarke....



# 14th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

of the WORLD SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY

THE BILTMORE . NEW YORK . LINDAY AUG. 11 - MONDAY, SEPT. 3, 1986

DAVID A. KYLE, Chairman BAN CARROL, Austral Chairman ART SAHA, Concention Servery DRK 111 INCTON, Committee Societary GEORGENIAMS RAYBIN, Promise LARRY T. SHAW, Official Editor P. O. BOX 272 RADIO CITY STATION NEW YORK 19, NEW YORK

December 10, 1955

Arthur C. Clarke, Esq. 21, Estimate Esq. London, N.22 England

Dear Arthur:

It is my pleasure to inform you that you have today been chosen to be Guest of Honor at the 14th World Science Fiction Convention to be held in New York on August 31 through September 3, 1956.

As chairman of the World Science Fiction Society and of its 1956 convention, I can assure you that our choice of you, reached by me and the entire convention committee after careful deliberation, is not only an harmonious but enthusiastic one.

For the first time such a convention is making its selection from outside the United States.

You have been chosen Guest of Honor because of your contribution to science fiction, representing your activity in both science and science fiction since becoming an enthusiast in this newest field of literature as a youth.

We feel you rightly deserve this honor, not only as a professional advancing the field, but also as a fan furthering our international fellowship.

We are awaiting your official acceptance, knowing your presence at and enthusiasm for the convention of the World Science Fiction Society will greatly contribute to its anticipated outstanding success.

With kindest personal regards,

Very sincepely yours,

David AY Kyle Chairman, World Science Fiction Society

K/rl



It was 1936 and we were intense young men. We had never heard the phrase "teen-agers," never knew of bon, hot-rods, or comic books. Only of Wonder Stories, Amazing Stories, and Astounding Stories. On a warm Sunday morning a group from New York visited our Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, and we decided to call it the first Science Fiction Convention. There were maybe twelve or fifteen of

us there, including Dave Kyle. Fred Pohl, Donald Wollheim, Oswald Train, and Robert Madle.

We were young, and we had energy. That's all we had. No money for a Biltmore Hotel. Only my own living room for a meeting hall, and the local Horn and Hardart for a cup of coffee.

Then there was a meeting in Queens from which the only memories remaining are the songs ("Aloft in cosmic magnitude, there is a planet made of wood ...." "We will gather from the nuthouse and rally from the cell --shouting an accolade to Gernsback...") and the Science Fic-

tion Special, a super gooey sundae, wherein the sliced bananas represented the spaceship segments of Spacehounds of the IPC.

Somewhere along the line there was a Newarkon, remembered chiefly for the Battle of the Buffet. We hadn't learned about banquets yet.

The 1939 Nycon got into the big money. Convention accounts list Total Expenditures -- \$279.94; Income-- \$306.00; Net Profit-- \$36.06.

Julius Unger's <u>Illustrated</u>
Nycon News, with faded snapshots

9



## LOOK BOTH WAYS

Looking for a ride to N.Y.? Would you like to share expenses with someone driving to New York for the con? Well, here's how to find your ride: Write to the Journal and we'll publish the fact--and maybe even

have a name to pass along to you.

Looking for a car passenger? If you'd like to drive to the con, but would like to keep your costs down, maybe you're looking for a rider. Here's what we can do for you--publish the fact so fans will contact you, or pass your name on to an interested fan.

(poor developing and fixing) of the characters and antics of Convention, this first World wallons us with the realization of how time has gone by. Mark Reinsberg, Erle Korshak, and Dave Kyle appear fantastically juvenile in one of these shots. One rare group photo shows us (remember Moro-Myrtle Douglas jo?), Julius Schwartz, Otto Binder, Mort Weisinger, Jack Darrow, Forrest J. Ackerman, Ross Rocklynne, Charles D. Hornig, and -- Ray Bradbury. Yes, grandchillun, we knew him when.



that the fans of my Strange, own age group are so young, so callow in these pictures, and now are so changed, while the older professionals seem hardly to have aged at all. Here is a group photograph of Otis Adelbert Kline, Frank Belknap Long, Bob Swisher, John W. Campbell, Otto Binder, L. Sprague de Camp, John D. Clark, and Manly Wade Wellman -- a picture which would need the addition of only a few grey hairs to bring it up to date after 17 years.

In thinking of the first Chicon there are dim recollections of an abortive parade through Chicago's streets, with Mark Reinsberg standing atop a pack-ing crate making a soapbox oration. For me the most vivid memory is that of my first meeting with Edward E. Smith, at that time my favorite author, and

still one of my favorite people. Upon re-reading the speech which he gave, I find it just as fresh and pertinent today as it was then. From a personal point of view I cannot help but wish that he had been closer to me than were the more neurotic influences in the science fiction field.

Denver was the last before the war. Remember the Hotel Shirley-Savoy, with rooms at 75¢ per night on the top floor, with the bathroom at the far end of the corridor? Souvenirs filed away include an unsent telegram to Sam Moskowitz: "Having swell time. Wish you were here. Love, Cyril Kornbluth." Somebody being funny? Also, from the costume party, a card pencilled by Robert Heinlein: ADAM STINK, the World's Most Lifelike Robot. Althe the world's cheapest costume.

Looking through old files and fanzines has aroused more memories than I have written down. It is hard to avoid mentioning little items which would be meaningless to those who were not there. Who recalls the "Yngvi is a louse" resolution at the Denvention, or the "Exclusion Act" at the Nycon? (And who realizes how seriously important that exclusion act has become at the present time?) What has happened to such people as T. Bruce Yerke and Walt Liebscher, two of the funniest and cleverest chaps to turn a mimeograph handle?

It is now twenty years since that first convention. There are moments when I can't believe it ever happened. But, then, at the same time I can't imagine what life would have been like without 1t.

# Be fast!

### 

Do you want your room to be AIR-CONDITIONED?

Then don't fail to get your reservation in before the deadline of August 14: ....If you don't, the room you finally get may not be air-conditioned, although you will still receive the special convention rates.

ONLY ADVANCE REGISTRATION, through the Committee, will GUARANTEE AIR-CONDITIONING

To prove to you the exceptional value we are getting in rates, we are printing the Biltmore's regular tariff card -- and the air-conditioned rooms are the more expensive ones! We know you'll agree our hotel deal is terrifici



Madison Avenue at 43rd Street New York 17, N. Y. MUrray Hill 7-7000

Charles K. Buller, General Manager
SINGIL

\$8.95—\$9.95—\$10.95—\$11.95—\$12.95— \$13.95—\$14.95—\$15.95—\$17.95 TWO PERSONS

(Double Bed) \$14.95-\$16.95-\$19.95

(Twin Bods) \$15.95—\$17.95—\$18.95— \$19.95—\$21.95

CHITEE

Small Parlor and Connecting double bed
Large corner Parlor and Connecting
double bed
S12.95
Large Parlor and Connecting Twin
Large Corner Parlor and Connecting Twin
Large Corner Parlor and Speciaus
S18.95
Large Corner Parlor and Speciaus

Connecting Twin \$39.95
Large Corner Purlar and Extra Large

Connecting Iwin \$41

The <u>quicker</u> you send in your hotel reservation, the <u>better</u> your room will be!

Maybe in the past you've been fooled: you sent in your hotel reservation a week before the big weekend and got a room as nice as anyone with a reservation for months previous--yes, perhaps even nicer.

Well, don't be fooled this year--or you'll be disappointed. The fact is: the <u>quicker</u> you

send in your hotel reservation, the better your room will be!

There's a reason for this. We're trying something different this year. In the past it seemed to be a contest among convention goers to see how long they could wait before they reserved room. And the convention committees have nearly worried themselves into an early grave. So, wondered, how to the SAVO convention committee heart palpitations and be of better service to you members at the same time? The following plan was the result.

We have obtained special contion rates for rooms. These vention rates for rooms. rates are basic for everything --\$7.00 for all singles and \$10.50 for all doubles. That's a real for you would normally saving, average of \$14.95 for a or \$16.95 for a double. pay an single You see, the Biltmore's scale is from \$8.95 to \$17.95 for singles and \$14.95 to \$21.95 for doubles -- with very few rooms at either end of the price scale. But we have gotten the lowest possible rates (no lower prices are possible under New York hotel regulations for the more!) no matter how expensive your room might ordinarily be. And every room is air-conditloned.

Now, of course, everyone wants the best room at the cheapest price.

Usually, under the reservation system, the first room reservations received will get the cheapest rooms until all are filled and then the next higher priced category will be assigned. And, in the past, sometimes the person who sent in late would get a more expensive room at a cheaper price--which makes the early bird who signed up feel ridiculous and somewhat betrayed.

That won't happen this year. As an incentive for you to get your reservation in early, we promise that the earlier you are, the better your room will be--at no extra cost! This is how it will happen: All reservations are sent directly to the Committee. They will be set up in order of postmarking. Just before the convention we will take the reservation list, reverse it and give it to the Biltmore. Those who sent in reservations last will be issued rooms first. And those who registered first will receive the better class of rooms and not pay anything more.

So, naturally, the sooner you get your reservations in to us-don't send them directly to the botal-the better off you'll be

And by the way, if you're wondering whether or not you'll get in the hotel at all if you show up at the last minute, the answer is that you probably will have no difficulty-we've a guarantee of 500 rooms saved for us! All air-conditioned too! The catch is, the better rooms will be assigned to those with reservations beforehand.

But before you dash out to reservation mail the enclosed card, look at the rest of the information on it. You'll notice a space on the card for indicating "party" or "quiet." If you want to indulge in fannish festivities after dark in your room, check "party." If, on the other hand, you want a quiet room on a quiet floor, away from noisy merriment, check "quiet."
We'll try to place the two groups in different sections as much as possible so that those wishing to sleep (sleep? -- at a convention?) can rest undisturbed--and those who want to whoop it up can do so with less fear of disturbing their neigh-bors. This way you'll help yourself to a better convention. The hotel management (as represented by the cigar-smoking ogre of a house detective) will thus be

### ~ CARSIAC

CARSIAC is coming to the partyi Fans who attended the SECon2 remember the successful unveiling of Carsiac -- or, to give it its full name, Cole's Amazing Reasoning and Sensory Codifier, Including Abstruce Cerebrations.

Now word comes from the Carolina S F Society that they will again demonstrate Carsiac's remarkable powers in New York.

A creation of George L. Cole, the commercial artist, fandom's answer to Univac scored a triumph at the SECon and photos of it appeared in the Charlotte News and the May issue of Nebula SF.

Carsiac will be a bright feature in NY. Bob Madle, director of the Carolina SFS states: "The possibilities of Carsiac are unlimited--with a good script." And that's now prepared.

that's now prepared.
P.S.: No revival of the Serious Constructive Movement can be expected. It's all in f-u-n.

FAN PROJECTS
Carsiac is a good example of a
fan project. How about it? Do
you have an idea which you or
your fan club can work up for
the Big Weekend? Figure out something that can be put on display
or otherwise scheduled outside
of the reguler program. For example: Why not a special costume
as a joint project? Catch on?

able to confine their necessary restraints to the sections of the hotel where they are really wanted.

Also, we've provided for those parents who will bring children. Those of you who wish to take advantage of our childcare service or baby-sitters in a special nursery arrangement please note this on the card, indicating how many children and of what ages. Details will be found on the services in Journal

Remember, all communications regarding reservations are to be sent directly to the Convention Committee, Reservations. Please use the enclosed card, now! If you do not receive a card, or somehow mislay it, send a regular postal card and we will file that card until you are able to fill out and return a second card which will be mailed to you. Get that card off today.

# May we help you **CUT YOUR COSTS**

Some fans are short of money. And that's no understatement. In order to attend conventions, they've hitch-hiked to the convention city--and crept quietly into a friend's room at night without the formality of notifying the desk. The friend has usually been very willing -perhaps encouraged by the fact that he can split the bill with his unregistered guest and save some money for himself.

Sounds like an ideal, if rather shady, way to save dough. But in New York this year, you won't be playing it smart if you

do it this way.

Look at the facts. Under the price structure the committee has set up, this problem has been met. You are guaranteed a comfortable bed for the night -at the almost unbelievable price \$4.00! This means you don't have to play at catch-as-catchcan for a place to sleep and end up either on the floor or sharing a not-so-comfortable single to save money. For what amounts about fifty cents more. you'll get your bed in a room enough for you and your roommates, and be a registered guest of the hotel. Now there's a real deal for you.

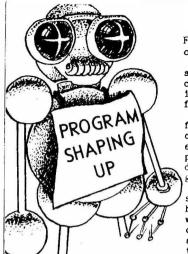
If you want to take advantage of the 4-in-a-room at four bucks apiece send in your registration with the names of your three companions. If you want to such a room, but don't know how to make contact with companions to share it, -- then simply send in the card and "Want to on the card: share three-to-a-room with two others," --or-- "Want to share a others, double with someone."

We'll tabulate the requests for sharing rooms and when you check in at the hotel registration desk it will be all set up for you. Be sure to write us if you'd like us to help you.

WHO WAS BEAUTY ... . WHO THE BEAST? The photo in last issue from a Past Costume Party starred editor Bea Mahaffey and artist Ralph Rayburn Phillips. Picture by Bob Tucker.



Overseas membership in the World Conventions have always practically non-existent. to encourage more non North American fans to participate were discussed this spring with English Fandom, particularly at the hettering (England) Science Fiction Convention which was attended by five Americans. Facts show that the American-Canadian rate of two dollars membership represents almost twice much in the sterling area. fans in particular faced with the unfortunate dilemma of wanting to join but finding the cost prohibitive, not to mention the actual reduced value of their overseas this the membership. To solve Committee has set a Executive Overseas Rate of seven special shillings sixpence or the equi-This represents about valent. one dollar. Such memberships will be collected by Charles Duncombe of 82 Albert Square, London E. 15, England. To make things fair any overseas member (that is, not on the continent on which the World Convention is being held) will pay the additional dollar should he attend the Convention. Fresent members are urged to remind their overseas correspondents of the opportunity to support the World Science Fiction Society and its World Convention.



-- That's what the emphasis will be on for the 1956 convention program.

There will also be, however, one really serious theme presented --in a manner which ought to make even the most blase and cynical critic re-evaluate the role of science

fiction in contemporary literature.

That's an ambitious and challenging goal for this year's committee and we think we can reach it. If you're one of those veteran convention-goers who think the typical program is generally uninspiring, if not down-right boring, then we believe we've got some pleasant surprises in store for you.

Right at the moment the program is in a state of flux, but the general outlines have been set. Fairly complete details will be published in the fourth Journal, as committments are firmed up, and in this article we'll go over the day-by-day format to show you where we're headed.

There's ample reason for feeling that this year's program

will be outstanding. Never before has there been such a wealth of science fiction professional talent to draw upon and the list of promised attendees even at this early date is impressive.

To begin with, the first day will have no official programming. It's been demonstrated in the past that this day is usually a busy one of people checking in and meeting with old friends. But in the evening there'll be some sort of open house party for you.

On Saturday morning there's registration, with the opening session starting at one o'clock. A real attempt will be made this year to follow a time schedule, so that you will know just what part of the program should be on at a given time. The inevitable introduction of celebrities will have a new twist this year. The customary hit-and-miss method will be streamlined into a sort of review of science fiction history with actual persons introduced as they fit into the picture. The idea holds fascineting possibilities.

On Saturday evening, the most important event, of course, will be the costume party from ten until one thirty. Before the party there is tentatively scheduled a half-hour sf ballet followed by a Pro-Fan Get-together Party-with (if our financial calculations come out right) free refreshments. Cocktails will probably be pro-hibited by cost, but a real punch with punch ( with Biltmore assis-

tance) seems feasible.

Sunday morning will have a special boat ride around Manhattan at low cost and exclusively -- if the demand is there -- of convention members. The bulk of our speakers, panels and such will come in the afternoon, the Auction closing out the session.

Sunday evening will be the Banquet, with Arthur C. Clarke delivering the principal talk. Chances are good that the Banquet will be followed by a midnight preview of a new science fiction film.

Monday, naturally, is business day and the excitement of choosing the next convention site. Closing speeches and the con adjourns. The evening will have informal entertainment and some 16mm films as convention goers begin to thin out to recover for another year.

All this, naturally, concerns itself only with the formal program -- there'll be plenty of parties and things going on at other times which will make for a full and fun-packed weekend. And next issue we'll bring you up to date on our exciting exhibits and display plans. There's some more "extras" such as a visit to an atomic energy plant and the planetarium, we'll discuss later.

But don't forget the greatest attraction of all--New York City! With this Journal you'll be receiving the Summer Calendar of Events published by The New York Convention and Visitors Bureau. Take a careful look at it -- and notice that the convention is listed in it. ------ Hemember: "NEW YORK IS A SUMMER FESTIVAL."



# ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS NOMINEES CHOSEN, BALLOTING BEGINS



Nominations are in for the 1956 Achievement Awards. Balloting now gets underway to determine the winners who will be presented the special trophies at the Sunday banquet in New York this year.

all nominations received were screened by a special committee in consultation with experts in the field to determine their qualifications. Publication had to fall within the period of June 1956. Those chosen represent the names with considerable support.

Fight categories are represented: Novel, Novelette, Short Story, Feature Writer, Artist, Magazine, Most Promising Author, and Fanzine. Also, a special

and Fanzine. Also, a special category was added, called: Special Hecognition Award: Best Science Fiction Book Keviewer.

As part of this article is a complete listing of all the categories, including author and titles. Enclosed as part of this Journal is your special ballot. Simply mark off your choices and mail before August 7th. For your favorite magazine write in the name on the blank line provided.

Ballots will be sent directly to Dr. Thomas S. Gardner, who will tabulate the results and keep them secret until con time.

You will receive only one bellot, so please don't lose it! Any questions on missing bellots should be sent to the committee, not to Dr. Gardner.

Your ballot contains the name of each nominee with a box in front. Either check or blacken in each box before the name of your choice. If you wish to write in the name of your choice which is not listed, do so on the blank lines provided for you. Pro mag names must be written in. Then check the box in front.

As a help to you to look up the nominee's work, you'll find them in the following places:

Novel: Astounding SF magazine or Doubleday books.

or Doubleday books.

Novelette: Astounding S F, Galaxy or Fantastic Universe, or Ballantine book No Boundaries.

Short Story: Astounding SF(the Budrys' story under the name of Paul Janvier), Galaxy, Infinity,

Mag of Fentasy and 3F, or (for the Sheckley story) Playboy of Sept '55 or the Ballantine book Citizen in Space.

Feature writers are to be found in various of mags, with special note of Richardson's book exploring Mars.

Novel
CALL HIM DEAD-Eric Frank Russell
DOUBLE STAR - Robert A. Heinlein
END OF ETERNITY - Isaac Asimov
NOT THIS AUGUST -Cyril Kornbluth
THE LONG TOMORROW-Leigh Brackett

Novelette
A GUN FOR A DINOSAUR-L.S.de Camp
BRIGHTSIDE CROSSING -Alen Nourse
EXPLORATION TEAM-Murray Leinster
HOME THERE'S NO RETURNING

-Henry Kuttner and C. L. Moore LFGWORK - Eric Frank Russell THE ASSISTANT SELF-F. L. Wallace THE END OF SUMMER - Algis Budrys WHO? - Theodore Sturgeon

Short Story
END AS A WORLD - F. L. Wallace
KING OF THE HILL - James Blish
NOBODY BOTHERS GUS -Algis Budrys
THE GAME OF RAT AND DRAGON

THE DRAGON
THE STAR
SPY STORY
TWINK
Cordwainer Smith
Ray Bradbury
Arthur C. Clarke
Robert Sheckley
Theodore Sturgeon

Feature Writer
L. Sprague de Camp Willy Ley
Robert A. Madle Rog Phillips
R. S. Richardson

Artist
Chesley Bonestell Ed Emsh
Virgil Finlay Frank Kelly Freas
Mel Hunter Edward Valigursky

Most Promising Author
Harlan Ellison Frank Herbert
Robert Silverberg Henry Still

A BAS FANTASY-TIMES GRUE
HYPHEN INSIDE OBLIQUE
PEON PSYCHOTIC-SFREVIEW SKYHOOK

Special Recognition Award
Best Science Fiction Book Reviewer
Henry Bott P. Schuyler Miller
Anthony Boucher Damon Knight
Groff Conklin Villiers Gerson
Floyd Gale Hans Stefan Santesson

15

# FLETCHER PRATT. HISTORIAN, DEAD

Biographer, Science-Fiction Writer and Scholar Was Expert in Military Field

Sixetal to The New York Times.

HIGHLANDS, N. J., June 10 Fletcher Pratt, historian, scholar and writer, died today of cancer in Monniouth Memorial Hospital, Long Branch. He was 59 years old.

The author of more than fifty books, Mr. Pratt ranged far in his subject-matter. He wrote with skill, familiarity and competence on matters as diverse as history and science-fiction, cryptography and the culinary arts, biography and news commentary.

A scrupulous scholar, he wrote with "enormous gusto and en- nal the found two extant transthusiasm," as one reviewer not- lations more satisfactory) and ed. His style generally was his translation of foreign works, lively, terse and witty. Still anstuch as H. J. Duteil's "The other critic observed, Mr. Pratt Great American Parade" from "never learned that history is the French,

much vividness, information and affected shirts of mach vividness, information and affected shorts of bright hies, excitement in "The Third King." He would have three or four books in the writing at one time, Danish ruler, or the "Road to Empire" series, dealing with Napoleon, as there was in "War proceeded to relax. for the World," the story of World War II

Japan.

### 'Ordeal by Fire' Praised

of the Civil War, won wide ac- largely self-educated. Buffalo-claim in the Nineteen Thirties. horn, Mr. Pratt attended Hob-lt since has been enlarged upon in the light of new historical more than a dozen year and

facets. Yet when Mr. Pratt turned to University of Paris other fields, he won acceptance Government killed publication or a second edition of his book "Secret and Urgent," dealing with codes, when World War II the Bread Loaf Writers Conferbegan. His reputation as an epience, conducted by Middlebury when he wrote "A College in Vermont, He was a

Well of the Unicorn," under the Spiders,

the Icelandic sagas in the origi- Horton Pratt,



Fletcher Pratt

A whisp of a man who wore So it was that there was as a thin, reddish beard, Mr. Pratt

### Wrote for The Post

Because he was an acknowl-Although at home in any era,
Mr. Pratt earned a reputation
as a naval historian. Among his
Among his books in this field were "Preble's work during word War II as Boys." tracing the roots of early American sea power, "The Montor and the Merrimac," "The York Post, Before coming to stor and the Merrimac," "The Wew York in 1920, he had Navy's War" and "Fleet Against Japan." for a living in 1923.

His career was all the more His "Ordeal by Fire," a history remarkable in that he was very the Civil War, won wide aclared surface and in the Nineteen Thirties, born, Mr. Pratt attended Hobspent another two years at the

As a young man, he tried his almost as readily. He had a large hand as a professional boxer. He thinost as really, the had a large hand as a processional societies following in the science-fiction weighted in at 105 pounds in field, where such works as those days, which made him "Double Jeopardy" and "The small even in the flywelght Blue Star" had big sales. The class, where there is a 112-pound

cure grew when he wrote "A College in Vermont, He was a Man and His Meals" in 1917 former president of the Authors with Robeson Bailey.

Club and a member of the Polyce Mr. Pratt even essayed straight Street Irregulars, the American fiction in writing a novel, "The Lock Society and the Trap Door

A number of his books were name of George V. Fletcher.

Typical of his achievement as scholar was his mastering of surviving is a brother, Robert

NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, JUNE 11, 1956.

# your business

A Constitutional Committee appointed by the 1955 executive officer of the World Science Fiction Society, Norsen Kane on September 5, 1955, Falasca, on September 5, 1955, at the 13th World Science Fiction Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, in the following detail from official records:

"A committee is appointed to write a tentative Constitution to be presented to the members of the World Science Fiction Society at the business meeting of the 1956 convention. This constitution proposal is to be drawn up for presentation, and it will be up to the convention assembled to accept it, reject it or amend it at that time.
"The committee is comprised of:

Representing the East: Franklin Dietz Jr.

George Nims Raybin Robert A. Madle

Representing the Mid-West: Howard DeVore

Bob Tucker

Representing the West: Forrest J. Ackerman

Representing England: H. Kenneth Bulmer

Representing Canada:

Pon Kidder

Representative-at-Large:

Robert Bloch

Unoffical Advisors, headed by:

Raymond Van Houten "This committee will headed by the chairman of the 1956 convention as part of the executive committee. The 1956 convention chairman will make further appointments as persons agree to serve.

At the moment, Treasurer Raybin, acting chairman, states:

"The Constitution of the World Science Fiction Society, Inc. will be a simple document to conform to the laws of the State of New York. It will contain only essential details such as name, purpose, etc., such as is to be found in the incorporation papers. This, therefore, will have more difficult amendment procedure in that two successive conventions will have to concur.

"The By-Laws, on the other will contain all of the miscellaneous rules and regulations as added and amended by each convention business session." Here's your chance to get to



... at an incredibly low cost! As a service to Society members, this year's con committee in cooperation with the Convention Committee for London in 1957, has been investigating the possibility of chartering airliner to London.

So far, Pan-American World Airways has tentatively offered a luxurious DC-6, carrying 75 persons, at a special charter rate which amounts to less than \$115 per person one-way!

This means you can have a time-saving overseas flight -- at a money-saving of from \$70 by ship to \$200 by plane!



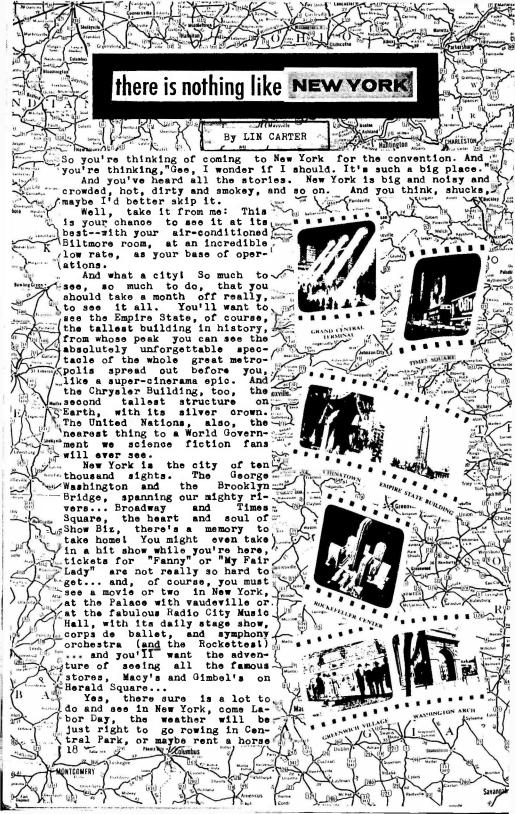
Two alternatives are suggested for the return trip: If enough people agree to return together within two weeks, then it is very possible a return chartered flight can be arranged at about the same price. If, however, too many people desire to stay in Europe for varying lengths of time, then no char-tered flight can be arranged, but various other forms transportation can be arranged at tourist rates ranging from \$190 to \$290 for the return.

Obviously this is a very special rate which must be arranged far in advance. If ever this was an opportunity to get to Europe at low cost (without benefit of the armed forces), this is it!

Your cooperation is needed now! Write to the London Committee, in care of the Journal. and state whether you will seriously consider making such a trip starting about the first week in September, 1957. Your letter will neither commit nor obligate you at the present but it will give those working on the arrangements a chance to judge what can be done -- and it will also give you a tentative reservation on such a flight when the time comes to make out a passenger list.

LONDON--FOR YOU--IN 1957!

(Paid Advertisement)



You'll want to stroll along out our famous bridle and Fifth Avenue, just Park Avenue, OF take a stroll and Broadway, and maybe even see a celebrity or two. There's Jack through the great park in the And if the center of Manhattan. Dempsey's on the Great White Auction doesn't satisfy the cra-Way, where the Champ has a seat ... vings of you collectors, there's always our wonderful Book Rown in the window; and you might runon Fourth Avenue, dozens of huge into Bob Hope along Madison Avenue (I did, once), or ride bookshops which specialize the subway with Boris Karloff or the old, the rare, the de luxe, Why, we Julie Harris or Rex Harrison or and the out-of-print. Imogene Coca (all of whom are in specialize even have shops that town doing stage shows right; in science fiction! And if you are more now). inter-And if you've any money left ested in art, you musn't miss some of the greatest museums and galleries in the country: The after the Auction, you may wish to visit the Astor Roof, or Tony galleries Museum of Modern Art, where ma-Pastor's -- or St. Patrick's Cathif you've a mind; and edral. then there's always Columbia Unand Matisse Toulouse-Lautrec, can be seen ... or the Metropoliiversity, the Hayden Planetartan Museum of Art, long-lost "Aphrodite" ium, Grant's Tomb, Edgar Allen where the Poe's Cottage, the Ca St. John the Divine, the Cathedral of is still a big attraction, as well as the Greenwich Village (don't forget to have a Carnevon Room in the Egyptian drink at the White Horse, where Wing and the unforgettable Med-Section, Dylan Thomas spent most of his ieval with their American tour); and you can see mounted knights and weapons dis-play. If the Medieval is your Cleopatra's Needle, and Yankee is your Stadium, Chinatown, Carnegie favorite period, don't skip the Grand Cloisters up in Van Cortlandt Hall, the Polo Grounds, FPark, where the world-famed Silver Chalice of Antioch is to be Island, the Copacabana, s Field, El Morocco, Sar-. seen, as well as the wondrous Coney Ebbet's Field, Flemish tapestry-sequence, "The di's, Toots Shor's, the Bowery, Unicorn Hunt." And then there's popera at the Met, the and Madison Square Garden. New York There are so many places to go, things to see and do, that I City ballet, the great Museum of Natural History, and the New York Public Library itself, with really need a book to describe -fabulous manuscript room, or even, list--them all. But and the Central Reading this may give a slight taste of New York, of that most wonderful where anybody--even without of all wonderful towns. As our library card--may order from the "Sure there subway posters say, stacks and sit and read rare are no crowds in Podunk -- but who first editions and collectors' wants to live in Podunk?" items from one of the greatest collections in the world. Oh, I haven't even touched on the novelties and surprises that New York holds in store. You out-of-towners have to take at least <u>one</u> ride on the subways; and a canter around Central Park in a horse-and-buggy; and a boat trip around the island to see the fabulous Manhattan skyline at sunset; and an excursion to the Statue of Liberty, herself; and a stroll through Rockefeller Center; and see a free television program in one of our open-to-the-public TV studios; and a jaunt through the Bronx Zoo; and --and--well, there's things to dol



BUTTON, BUTTON, WHO'S GOT A BUTTON?

You Sketch It) is a suggested design for a Society lapel pin. We've re-ceived a number of ideas in assorted shapes and sizes. A few of them are reproduced here. They ran in three types, as repspaceships, picture resented: symbolic abstracts. designs and They were round, oval and triangu-r. Now all that remains is to fix on our final choice and try to get them manufactured by con time. Wish us luck--in getting them done and in pleasing you with the chosen emblem. (The top one submitted by: Bob Meehan and Jerry Francischelli. The middle one: Glenn Harris. The bottom design

SOUVENIRS

also We're going to try have a selection of souvenirs for you. Things like sf-ish post cards and ashtrays and If there's costume jewelry. something you'd like to see us have -- or something can either make or obtain to place on sale cheap in this line -- please write us now.

ISAAC ASIMOV says: "... a dissector of novels who has no parallel in science fiction. The pains he take to illustrate his points, the care with which he achieves objectivity, and the cogency of his reasoning, makes . . . (his work) a virtual course in writing technique."

# knight

### IN SEARCH OF WONDER

AT LAST — The definitive critical study of modern science fiction and the people who write it-a brilliant, witty, perceptive book by the one man best equipped to do the job. Sturdy cloth binding. Detailed index and bibliography. Introduction by ANTHONY BOUCHER.

To be published August 28 at \$ 4.00 PRE-PUBLICATION PRICE \$ 3.00

3508 N. Sheffield Avenue Chicago

... and are YOU preparing?

This is in the nature of a reminder that if you're planning on coming in costume to the Saturday night party, then you'd better be

working on your plans right now.
As to what to expect at the party, read over

the article in the last <u>Journal</u> -- the statement that "certainly the most sparkling event at any sf convention is the costume party" is not an idle one. And if you happen to have <u>Progress Report #2</u> from last year, read over the excellent two page article entitled "Masquerade"; you'll get a lot of exciting ideas from the text and many pictures. Wa're

I the excellent two page article entitled "Masquerade"; you'll get a lot of exciting ideas from the text and many pictures. We're publishing another one right here to give you some inspiration. We're able to identify lovely Virginia Saari, Ollie's wife, on the

left, and Rusty Reich, at right, but who's the fellow between?)

There will be prizes awarded to the best costumes in different categories -- but don't worry, you won't have to undergo any ordeal. The Grand March will be simple.

It isn't necessary that you wear one, but you'll have more

fun if you do. Honestly.

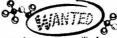
Those who by choice or circumstance will be just spectators will have fun too, though. There'll be dancing until the early hours for Earthman and Alien alike.

Oh, yes! We've got to say again -- much as we hate to talk

about plans which are still tentative -- there's a very very good chance that we'll have a portion of the evening's festivities televised, possibly even over a network. And that "national picture magazine" still expects to attend for a feature story. That's why we're so anxious to urge participation and save you disappointment.

Incidentally, you'll want to bring your camera -- these occasions are fantastically photogenic. Especially in color!

WSFS RECORDS



WSFS CLIPPINGS

Thirteen world science fiction conventions have now irrevocably bassed into history --but unfortunately the records from year to year have not been bassed along at the same time.

In an effort to build up our records, Franklin M. Dietz, Jr. has been designated official collector--and a prodigious task he has, too. He's the fellow who for years has been tane recording con proceedings. He's been busy writing to past congoers attempting to get all sorts of pertinent things, including photographs.

Biggest news to date is that Milton Rothman, being twice a con

We've heard there have been some scattered publicity items in newspapers around the country -- and we have even seen some. (Like that plug on the Costume Party in Danton Walker's column.) Any of you who have clippings, we'd sure appreciate receiving themor, at least, having you tell us where and when you saw what.

chairman, has offered to turn over his entire collection to the Society. A wonderfully generous and needed offering!

If you have material from the bast, blease write Frank Dietz and tell him what you have to donate. Ve've almost twenty years to catch up on!

# more MEMBER

234. Harvey J. Satty 235, Paul A. Pradel 236. Donn N. Fileti 237. Martin S. Klein 238. Paul Smith 239. David Kanter 240. James V. Taurasi Sr. 241. Gahan Wilson 242. Alma Hill 243. Grace Darling 244. S. Dunn 245. Elaine Phillips 246. Max Phillips 247. J. Martin Graetz 248. Jerome Wenker 249. C. Wray 250, Dan L. Adkins 251. Peter T. Prince 252. Martha Cohen 253. Marilyn Pasquale 254. Evelyn Knobloch 255. Rodger H. Skidmore 256. Barton Meltzer 257. John Borchert 258. George L. Cole 259. Randy Warman 260. Michael Wirth 261. Joe Schaumburger 262. Walt Cole 263. William S. Taylor 264. Benett Gordon 265. George W. Earley 266. James E. Gunn 267. Lynn A. Hickman 268. Bob Abbott 269. Robert P. Mills 270. Dirge S. Archer 271. Maggie Wulff 272. Dorothy Wulff 273. Michael Waite 274. Adam Gaus 275. Roger Buck 276. John Maroney 277. Fred Shinnick 278. George Morton 279. Jim Galbraith 280. Rob Duncan 281. Mary R. Coleman 282. Gertrude Whittum 283. Joseph P. Martino 284. Oscar J. Ruh 285. Bret Hooper

287. Adolf O. Schmidt 288. Barbara G. Schmidt

289. Keran O'Brien 290. Marty Fleischman 291. Abe Lyman 292. Theodor H. Unterman 293. Charles Prohaska 294. Herbert S. Schofield 295. Michael Breslau 296. Joseph W. Ferman 297. Walter W. Burdin 298. J. Woodrow Hagadish 299. Roger Smyth 300. Barbara Lewis 3CL. Mark McWhiney 302. Jerry Francischelli 303. Bob Mechan 304. Steve Israel 305. Charles Brown 306. Frank Maher 307. Jack Diether 308. Henry Slesar 309. Mrs. Ursula C. Gerhart 364. James Blish 310. Dr. Kurt Goldstein 311. Esther Schreiber 312. Dan McPhail 313. Paul I. Lewis 314. Terri Smit 315. Christine E. Haycock 316. Hans Stefan Santesson 317. M.L. Lerner 318. Peter A. Flynn 319. Thomas N. Scortia 320. Alberta Leek 321. Morits Rosenbaum 322. Charles De Vet 323. Warren A. Brown 324. Vera C. Brown 325, Harry B. Moore 326. Winifred McGill 327. Flem De Angelia 328. Dean McLaughlin 329. Larry Stark 330. Gil Stein 331. Ralph M. Holland 332. Reva Smilay 333. Donald M. Grant 334. H. Beam Piper 335. David Rosenthal 336. Frank M. Robinson 337. Jon Stopa 338. Marvin W. Mindes 339. John Magnus 340. Donald L. Corbett 341. C. Harry Constandy 342, Jim O'Meara Jr. 343. Robert Lee Prickett

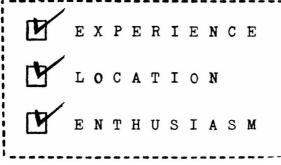
344. Dorothy Mae Rose 345. Jerry de Muth 346. Mona Lee Rhines 347. Chester Smith 348. Donald E. Denton 349. Richard Prairie 350. Ben F. Keifer 351. Phyllis B. Keifer 352. Jacob Schulzinger 353. Niel De Jack 354. Christopher G. McKenna 355. Miss Helen R. Arnold 356. Alfred Emmons 357. Mrs. Vera de Bra 358. Miss Montrell Chandler 359. Jeffrey Macauley 360, Lee D. Quinn 361. Paul C. Tulley 362, Daniel Desantis 363. Perry Norris 365. Barbara Shupe 366. Edmond Hamilton 367. Leigh Brackett 368. Mrs. Catherine Hampe 369. J.N. Gentleman Esq. 370. Nat Levin 371. John H. Clark III 372. Thomas A. Denny 373. Kenneth L. Marder Jr. 374. Herbert Brandshaft 375. Richard Brandshaft 376. William C. McCain 377. William Meisch 378. Paul Rosenkranz 379. Donald S. Pletka 380. 1957 London Con Comm. 381. Joy Clarke 382. Vincent Clarke 383. Jim Rattigan 384. Dorothy Rattigan 385. John Brunner 386. Ted Carnell 387. Roberta Wilde 388. Phillip Duerr 389. Ken Slater 390, Pamela Bulmer 391. Ken Bulmer 392. Lyle Kessler 393. Joan Rock 394. Dot Cole 395. Isidor Wrubel 396. Mabel W. Betts 397. Mrs. Rose E. Arnold 398. Francis H. Daniel

286. Eric M. Schmidt

WESTWARD HO!

# Angeles in 1957

**FOR** 



its LOS ANGELES!