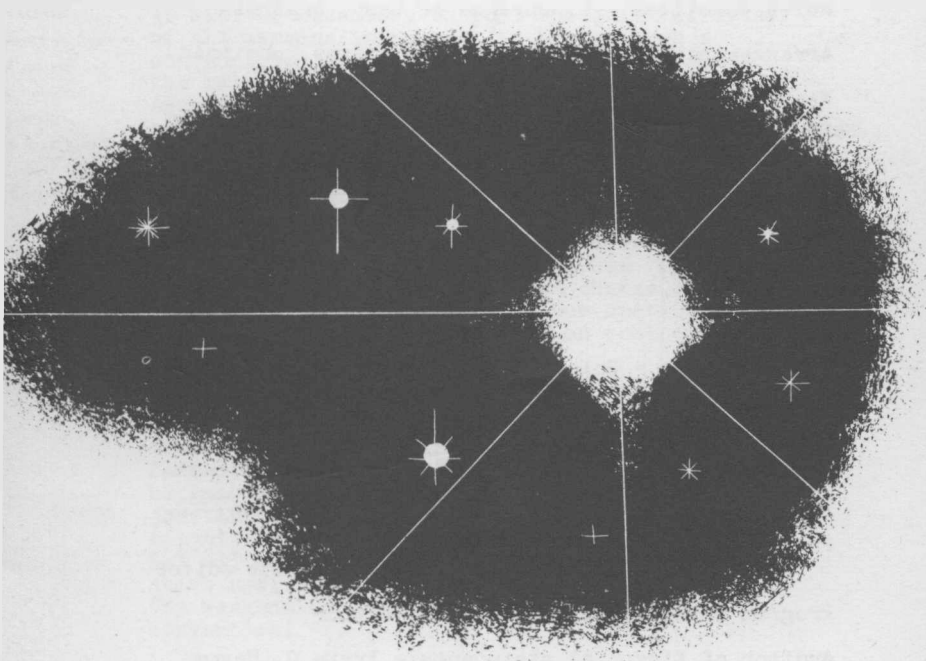


Progress **REPORT**

1



11th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

11th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

Officers:

Chairman - James A. Williams

Vice-Chairman - Tom Clareson

Secretary - Oswald Train

Treasurer - Robert A. Madle

Executive Board:

Rules Committee - L. Sprague de Camp, chairman

Arrangements Committee - Irvin C. Heyne, chairman

Membership Committee - Jack Agnew, chairman
Allison Williams, registrar

Program Committee - Lester Del Rey, chairman
Milton Rothman, Philadelphia representative

Publicity Committee - Tom Clareson, chairman
Aides: David Eynon, Joe Gibson, Peggy
Gordon, Dave Hammond, Clyde Hanback,
Will Jenkins, Harold Lynch, Allan Newton,
Alan E. Nourse, Bob Tucker, and Bud Wald

Art Committee - Sol Levin, chairman
Aides: Dave Hammond, Buddie McKnight, and
Russell Swanson

Auction Committee - Sam Moskowitz, auctioneer

Sergeant-at-arms - Will Jenkins

Progress Reports - Dave Hammond, editor
Alan E. Nourse, associate editor

Program booklet - David A. Kyle, editor

Auditor of financial statements - Irvin C. Heyne

Counsel for the committee - Benjamin R. Donolow

11th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

BOX 2019, PHILADELPHIA 3, PENNA.

16 November, 1952

OFFICERS:

JAMES A. WILLIAMS,
CHAIRMAN

THOMAS CLARESON,
VICE-CHAIRMAN

OSWALD TRAIN,
SECRETARY

ROBERT A. MADLE,
TREASURER

BENJAMIN R. DONOLOW,
COUNSEL

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

JACK AGNEW

L. SPRAGUE de CAMP

LESTER DEL REY

DAVID HAMMOND

IRWIN HEYNE

DAVID A. KYLE

SOL LEVIN

SAM MOSKOWITZ

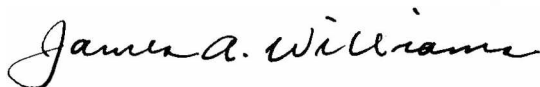
To Science Fictioneers everywhere:

When I was elected chairman of the 1953 World Science Fiction Convention, I assumed that my duty was to work to present the best science fiction convention, bar none, that has been offered at any place or at any time.

This is a large order---obviously not a one man job. In order to have such a convention, it will be necessary to pool the joint efforts of all persons interested in having such a convention. I would like to brag a bit about the talents of our officers and executive board. As chairman, I tried to pick an outstanding personality for each appointive office or committee, drawing on many organizations in addition to the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society. For example, Lester Del Rey is cooperating with our own Milt Rothman to present a three-day program you will long remember: L. Sprague de Camp is chairman of our Rules Committee, and Parliamentarian; Sam Moskowitz will be in charge of the Auction Committee, and act as our auctioneer; and Joe Gibson is working hard on publicity.

Our local committee members have brief reports on their work to date to give in this issue, and you'll learn where to send your dollar for convention membership. I realize that throughout fandom there are many talented persons who could be appointed, and who could do an equally capable job; those persons, particularly, hear this appeal: Let us have your ideas, your suggestions. Let all of us, from every club and every place start now, and work together so that next Labor Day weekend we will be attending a GREAT convention!

Sincerely,



James A. Williams

The Story Behind

Philly in '53

AS YOU KNOW, Philadelphia will play host to the next convention to be held on September 5th, 6th, and 7th of 1953. Here's how it happened:

The earliest mention of Philly as a possible convention site was in a copy of the PSFS NEWS (the bi-weekly newsletter of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society) early this year. In it the secretary attempted to start this movement, but nobody took the bait.

However, when the PSFS went out west to the Chicago Convention it went prepared to give support to an Eastern site for the 1953 convention. We discussed it over many a glass and when we took the trail to Chicago it was with the idea of supporting New York.

Circumstances alter cases. On arrival we found the New York club whom we favored definitely not interested in making a bid. So we were desperate. We wanted the convention to come East, but apparently no group that really could put on a convention comparable to Chicago's magnificent show wanted to do so and those Eastern groups that wanted to try had not yet proven their ability.

Everywhere the answer came back to us: "Why doesn't Philadelphia make a bid?"

We held out as long as we could. We tried to evade the questions, but to no avail.

Philadelphia had fifteen of its members in Chicago. All of these were instantly recognizable by their lapel buttons emblazoned with the symbol of the PSFS. Many of our members--L. Sprague de Camp, Irwin Heyne, James A. Williams, Sol Levin, and Dave Hammond--appeared on the program.



Others--Will Jenkins, Milt & Dorry Rothman, Ozzie Train, Bob Madle, Jack Agnew, Paul Work, Harold Lynch, Jean Bogert, and Tom Clarson---made themselves known before the three days were ended.

On the second day of the convention, James A. Williams, president of the PSFS, called a special meeting of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society held in Room 1546 of the Hotel Morrison. We all knew why we were there and it did not last very long. We voted unanimously to try for the site of the next convention. Instead of railroading the convention to New York, circumstances had railroaded the convention to us!

Then we began rolling. In the time between the special meeting and the actual balloting we had practically organized an Eastern coalition of fandom. The news spread rapidly. Dave Kyle's New York Science Fiction Circle rallied behind us as did the New York Chapter of the Little Mon-

sters of America. Don Susan of the Pittsburgh group favored Philly and so did Dick Clarkson of Baltimore. The Southern group voted solidly for PHILLY IN '53, with Henry Burwell of Atlanta even trying to swing the convention to us by a voice vote alone. The entire state of Mississippi (too bad there was only one fan from Mississippi!) was behind us. It was even rumored that Forrest J. Ackerman, a Californian, was among the Philly supporters. Three ballots were necessary to decide and the final ballot read:

Philadelphia: 191
 San Francisco: 169

In the last minutes the Indianapolis group urged its supporters to go Frisco, but the Midwesterners who had been for Indianapolis decided Philly was closer, and shoved us across.

That clinched it. We all stared at each other, a little dazed and surprised that so much had happened so soon. We did it!

Members

0. Oliver J. Dragon
1. Harlan Ellison
2. Peggy Gwosdof
3. Merrill Gwosdof
4. E. E. Evans
5. Thelma D. Hamm
6. Joan Evans Hanlon
7. Walter J. Daugherty
8. Lulu Daugherty
9. Gregg Calkins
10. Woody Ayres
11. Ron J. Vogt
12. Larry Madock
13. Gar Williamson
14. Robert Rhodes
15. Nelson Armstrong
16. Alan Wood
17. Dick Clarkson



18. Bea Mahaffey
19. Shelby Vick
20. Stephen Schultheis
21. Franklin Dietz
22. Don Riveness
23. Robert Riveness
24. Patricia Lake
25. Dave Van Arnam
26. David Ish
27. Oliver Saari
28. Virginia Saari
29. Mark Reinsberg
30. Diane S. Reinsberg
31. Will Sykora
32. Julian C. May
33. Ted Dikty
34. Ben P. Jason
35. John L. Millard
36. William D. Grant
37. E. N. McKeown
38. Lee Hoffman
39. Walter Willis
40. Alastair Cameron
41. Forrest J. Ackerman
42. Wendayne Ackerman
43. Ben Chorost
44. Ernest Posey
45. Sol Levin
46. James A. Williams
47. Bill Benthake
48. Sam Moskowitz
49. Sverre A. Sennes
50. Oswald Train
51. Nicholas Lordi
52. Joe Gibson
53. David A. Kyle
54. Jack Agnew
55. James Lord
56. Bob Madle
57. Milton A. Rothman
58. Clyde T. Hanback
59. Frances Forman
60. Alan E. Nourse
61. Lester Del Rey
62. Evelyn Harrison
63. Jean Bogert
64. Albert Pepper
65. Russell Swanson
66. L. Sprague de Camp
67. Lyle Kessler
68. Paul Work

(Continued on Page 11)



BENNETT E. TOUSLEY
VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER

The Bellevue-Stratford

Philadelphia 2, Pa.

CABLE ADDRESS
BELLSTRAT

THIS is the news about your hotel for 1953. It is good news, too. The hotel is the world-famous Bellvue-Stratford. Located at the fashionable crossroads of mid-city Philadelphia, the Bellvue-Stratford is known for comfort and hospitality. Service, also, is a tradition of long standing. Courteous, efficient employees keep up the gracious standard of living. Elevators and modern bathrooms and quiet rooms typify the Bellvue.

You will like the luxury; the wide, high-ceilinged corridors; the gay, charmingly decorated entertainment rooms; the dining rooms and restaurants.

And, we think you'll like the convenient location of the hotel. If you arrive by plane, airport limousines leave you right at the door. Airport limousine service is headquartered at the Bellvue. By train - you are only a short taxi trip from all of the railroad stations servicing Philadelphia. By bus - it is a matter of walking about three blocks. By car - you simply step out at the front entrance and the attendant takes care of parking or garage storage. He will have it for you whenever you need it - at a few minutes notice.

Here is a quote from a letter written by Miss Adele M. Downey, the Bellvue-Stratford's Convention Manager:

"It is our pleasure to offer a flat rate at this period of the year to all of your delegates which would be single rooms with bath - \$6.00 daily, double rooms with bath - \$10.00 daily for two persons. A cot can be provided in any double room at an additional rate of \$3.00.

"The hotel has available an excellent Coffee Shop, with moderate prices, as well as the Stratford Garden, for more formal dining, and the Hunt Room - the Bar.

"We have an excellent trained Convention Staff, and you may be sure that no effort would be spared by them to make your Convention an outstanding one."

Later, you will receive cards on which you can make your reservations for the Convention. We suggest that you make early reservations so your room can be near the center of activities. You all remember the trouble we had in Chicago with the elevator service!


The advantages of the Bellvue grow better the more you consider them. For example, there will be no other convention going on in

the hotel at that time. The hotel will be all ours. In case you want to be unusually extroverted at the Convention and you have gotten the idea that the hotel is a little fussy, you can forget that: "On your Convention floor, too, you'll be undisturbed and unhampered by outside guests or other activities. You may literally 'take over' your Convention floor or section, as the case may be." As final proof, we offer the fact that the American Legion has used this hotel!

Now, in this first Progress Report, we are not sure just exactly what you need to know about the hotel. We would only have to repeat it anyway. For example, there are various ins and outs connected with the hotel rates.

We can, for example, convert one of the larger rooms into a dormitory of sorts and pack in the fans by the hundreds, but that's only an emergency measure. The hotel tells us they have from 400 to 500 rooms to be made ready for us. In Chicago, 271 rooms were used by Conventioneers. We feel, however, that since the Bellvue rates will not change before the Convention and are comparable to nearby hotels that you will want to stay there to make sure you are right on the scene. Unlike some large hotels, we will have both AC and DC current at our disposal for recorders.

If you have any questions, you know our address. Let us hear if we forgot something.



RATES PER DAY:
 Room and Bath for One Person—
 Room and Bath for Two Persons—
 Double Bed
 Twin Beds
 Suite (Parlor, Double Bedroom, Twin Beds and Bath)

PLEASE RESERVE ROOM AND BATH FOR

ONE person(s) at \$ per day
 TWO

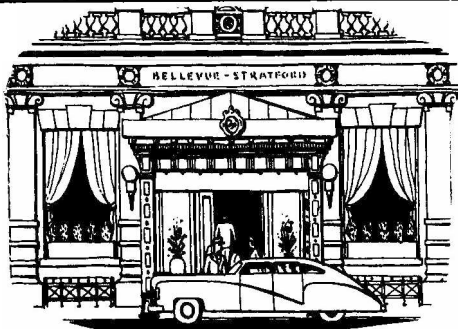
Double Bed Twin Beds

ARRIVAL DATE.....
 DEPARTURE DATE.....

NAME **SAMPLE**
 ADDRESS

.....
 "PLEASE PRINT"

RESERVATIONS HELD UNTIL 6 P. M. ON DAY OF ARRIVAL



SPACE SUITS



"I'm sure this special space helmet will solve your problem."

GOOD NEWS

A NEW ADVERTISING MEDIUM

There has recently come to our attention the fact that advertising in the pages of the five scheduled Progress Reports of the 11th World Science Fiction Convention would be of great service.



First of all, this Progress Report will go to those people interested in attending the 11th Convention. People interested in the Convention are those most interested in science fiction. If you purchase an advertisement you see that it will go only to the real live wire science fiction fan. And we can assure you that these Progress Reports will be well distributed. There are 2500 copies printed of this, the first issue. We may find it necessary to print even more of the later issues.

THEREFORE, we solicit your advertising. Your support insures not only your own success, but helps defray the costs of putting out these Progress Reports.

ADVERTISING RATES

Full page.....\$15
 Half page.....\$8
 Quarter page.....\$5

We will arrange your advertising matter in any way that you wish. We suggest you write to the editor for further information.

News and advertising of regional conferences, etc. accepted at a special rate.



THE CONVENTION REPORT

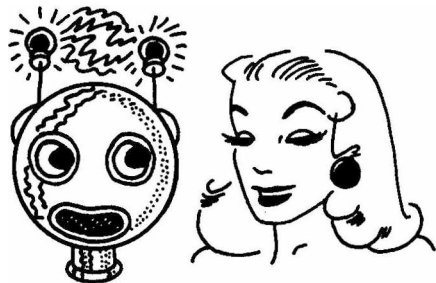
Here, in brief articles, the various members of your Convention Committee report what they are doing. We are anxious to hear your comments and all your questions. You know our address. When writing to any specific committee be sure to note on your letter which committee you are writing---this will simplify our mail distribution and guarantee you a faster reply. And now----let's see what this committee is doing.

RULES COMMITTEE

L. Sprague de Camp, chairman, submits the following report:

The Rules Committee has drawn up a body of rules for the working of the Eleventh World Science Fiction Convention, providing for meetings, for the election of officers, and for the selection of an Executive Board to handle the day-to-day business of the committee.

Before the Convention meets, the Rules Committee will compile a proposed body of rules for the conduct of the Convention itself, to be submitted to the Convention for its approval at its first session. During the Convention the Rules Committee will judge questions of parliamentary procedure and will act as a credentials committee in approving bids for the following year's convention.



ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

If at the '53 Convention you would care to imbibe a beverage of extraterrestrial vintage; if the Convention would be a success for you if you cuddle up with a fine-feathered female fan from the seventh moon of Jupiter or a four-armed male from Mars (Depending on your gender); if you want to order your liquor by the case, have a hand in the proverbial poker game, have dull speakers "silenced"; or do anything out of the ordinary----then, by a 1 1 means, contact the Arrangements Committee and maybe we will fix it up and maybe we won't.

The Arrangements Committee, as headed by Irvin Heyne, will be a very important part of the convention as that date rolls near. The Committee will act as a clearing house for men interested in sharing transportation, to tabulate garaging facilities, and to make sure that those people arriving early to see the city and to shop will know where they are going.

If you have any difficulties about the forthcoming Convention or any problems or suggestions, drop a line to the Arrangements Committee.

THE ART COMMITTEE

is busy illustrating this and future progress reports, articles in various fanzines, and in posters being displayed in various colleges and libraries boosting the convention.

We would like some assistance on this. If you're an artist, let us know if you're interested in doing some work for the convention. We are especially interested in pen and ink drawings, that average about 2"x3" in size, although larger pics up to full page may be used, providing inquiry is made first.

The task of your publicity committee falls in two levels, both intended to give the most intensive and widespread publicity that science fiction conventions have yet received. First, and of more immediate importance, is the contacting of all fan and pros so that everyone, not just a few groups, may be represented in the program and audience next year. You now have the first Progress Report; in addition, you will be hearing from committee members regularly. The idea of this level is threefold: News releases and feature articles in all pro and fanzines; letters to all fan, old, neophyte, or undecided whose letters are published in the magazines this year and letters to all old, neophyte, or undecided authors who publish occasional stories in the genre; and third, any other letters necessary to uncover fan who read only in dark corners, not letting us hear from them.

On the extensive level, we hope to place in the year ahead, articles on the history, evolution, and interests of the field of science fiction, for after all, science fiction is primarily a literary movement. Not only will we seek publication in the fanzines and prozines in this genre, but in any magazine whose editor's arm we can twist.

The sooner we gain the critical and popular approval of the public at large, the better for everyone in the field: more stories in more mags for fan and more lettuce for the pros. I have an excellent committee behind me that includes Alan E. Nourse, whose latest novelet, Nightmare Brother, will appear shortly in ASTOUNDING; Clyde Hanback, editor of Space Magazine; David Eynon, popular author in WEIRD TALES; Joe Gibson of Newark, whose new

novel is to be featured in OTHER WORLDS; Will Jenkins, well-known collector of science-fantasy and as authority on Max Brand; Peggy Gordon, a very pretty senior at the University of Pennsylvania; and Bud Waldo, editorial associate on HOLIDAY magazine; and as chairman of the committee is yours truly Tom Clareson, who doubles in teaching English at University of Pennsylvania, and in adding new items to the bibliography of his book, "Where Darling Monsters Romp: a Critical Study of American Science Fiction, Vol. I, which will be ready for publication by summer.

And that's all from the publicity committee except to ask for volunteers to help us and to offer any suggestions you may have.

MEMBERSHIP (Cont.)

69. Will Jenkins
70. Dorothy Rothman
71. Tom Clareson
72. Harry Alsdorf
73. Jos. G. Dittrick
74. Nellie Dillingham
75. Ruth Dillingham
76. Bud Waldo
77. Harold Lynch
78. Marjorie Taylor
79. Douglas Mitchell
80. Richard Ferg
81. George O. Smith
82. Dona Smith
83. J. E. Forbes
84. Hal Shapiro
85. A. Charles Catania
86. Ann Morton Nourse



THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

It is too early for anything specific to be said concerning the program. The committee has spent a great deal of time talking about the general form of the program, and one definite idea has come out of these talks: this is going to be a science fiction convention. Not a publishers' convention, nor a science convention, nor a writer's convention. It will be a science fiction convention for everyone who has any interest in science fiction.

Several ideas have been considered and dropped, because they would bring in people and organizations having nothing to do with the science fiction field. It has been a general rule in the past that whenever there has been a convention speaker chosen simply because he was a celebrity in the world of science, his talk has often been slightly on the dull side. This we hope we can avoid. We will not promise you people such as Fermi or Einstein. We are going to promise you a program created by people right in the field of science fiction--people who speak our language, and speak it expertly. We will be reporting in future issues of the Progress Report.

THE AUCTION COMMITTEE

will soon be busy getting original illustrations, original manuscripts, rare books and magazines for the convention. Any on interested in donating anything to the auction is invited to let us know immediately.

There will be some unusual features to this auction. For example, we hope to publish in the final progress report before the convention a catalogue listing

some of the more important items in the auction. This will allow those people unable to attend the convention to make mail bids on items they might otherwise have no opportunity to purchase. Also, this early description will make the auction more exciting, by expediting more speed and linguistic marvels from the auctioneer.

PROGRAM BOOKLET


David Kyle, editor of the Convention Booklet, has no real statement to make except that the book will be photo-offset. It is felt that this has greater possibilities for reproduction of fan art and photos without the necessity of making costly plates. We have assigned prices for Convention Booklet advertisements (Please note that this applies only to the Convention Booklet and not to Progress Reports). These prices, which are subject to change, are here given:

Professional rates

full page - \$35
half page - \$20
quarter page - \$12.50

Fan rates

full page - \$15
half page - \$8
quarter page - \$5
booster advt. - \$2



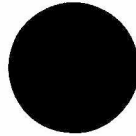
Advertisements are also being solicited from Philadelphia bookstores and eating places, so that the Convention Booklet will also serve as a guide to various places of interest.

Dave Kyle was not contacted soon enough to write his own article for this issue, but we assure you Progress Report #2 will have Dave on deck with information for you.

J O I N

NOW

11th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION



SEND ONE DOLLAR TO THE

11th World Science Fiction Convention

Box 2019

Philadelphia 3, Pa.





XTRAPOLATIONS

This is the first time this column has appeared before you. Let us give you fair warning. This is a rambling column. Many things in it are only the opinion of the editor; many things in it are just pipe dreams; and a good bit of it is irrelevant. This column will skip from subject to subject in a completely annoying manner; it will go in as many directions as a VAN VOGT story; it is a hard trail to follow and the only sign posts are that NAMES will be put into capital letters and so will SUBJECTS.

Let's go!

NEWS! WILLY LEY has accepted our offer to be guest of honor in Philadelphia in '53. We have just received the news and we are very glad to pass it on to you.

Tentative plans also tell us that the toastmaster of the banquet will be none other than ISAAC ASIMOV (Whose name we can spell correctly).

THIS copy of the PROGRESS REPORT is to be distributed at the November 16th, 1952, annual Philadelphia Conference (referred to as the PHILLYCON). Before or after this Conference there will be a meeting of the PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. Non-committee members, interested in joining or just desirous of listening to the proceedings are invited. TOM CLARESON, chairman, will announce the time and place.

BOB TUCKER, while we are on the subject of the PHILLYCON, expects to be in town and will probably talk about what went wrong with the publicity planned at the Chicago Convention. This may be

some kind of a startling expose, so pay attention.

Also, we'd like to thank BOB TUCKER for the advice and assistance he has rendered to the PROGRESS REPORT.

Latest word from Tucker villa—LEE HOFFMAN will be at the PHILLYCON on November 16th.

And, speaking of thanks, we are very thankful to BURR TILLSTROM, of the Kuklapolitan players, for the more than excellent blurbing he gave to the Chicago Convention and science fiction in general.

In recognition of BURR'S interest and especially to that shown by OLIVER J. DRAGON we are presenting membership card #0 to be inscribed to OLIVER J. DRAGON.

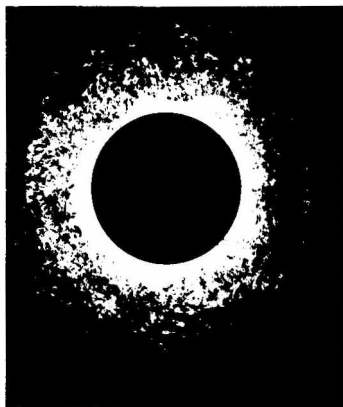
Although MEMBERSHIP CARDS are in active preparation, they are not ready at this writing. The minutes of the Convention Committee tell us what to expect: "A discussion of membership card designs. Robert A. Madle proposed a card with the PSFS insignia and SOL LEVIN amended this proposal by suggesting the PSFS design appear on the back of the card with a design by LEVIN on the front made especially for the occasion. A card printed in two colors was decided upon."

Memberships for the Convention are trickling in very slowly, because, except for brief mentions in the PSFS NEWS and other places around, our publicity has not yet begun to start hitting. With distribution of this Progress Report, things will really begin to roll along.

We still have a problem to clear up on this. We plan to send this Progress Report to everyone who bought a membership in

the Chicago Convention. Unfortunately, the CHICAGO MAILING LIST has not yet arrived and we are fairly helpless without it until some of our advertising begins to make itself felt.

As you know and have noticed in this Progress Report we have been calling the 11th World Science Fiction Convention the 11th World Science Fiction Convention. We do not intend to use any trick names for it in official pre-Convention publications. This is being done, not to attempt to be "mature" or stuffed-shirtish, but for certain other reasons designed to make science fiction conventions as well known and as legitimate as any other convention. Of course, in fanzines you can call it anything you wish. The name Pennvention has been suggested and others may favor Philcon-2. We leave it up to you. Call us anything you like, but don't forget to mention that it is PHILLY IN '53!



Many suggestions have come up for publicizing the Convention. HAROLD LYNCH has suggested that photos of interesting scenes and sights around Philadelphia be taken, made into color slides, and sent to various fan clubs around the country together with a story to fit it-----Perhaps the whole thing is a chronicle of the adventures of some extraterrestrial being, or something. Slides can be distributed free of charge and so used for the purpose of arousing interest in the fan who has never been to Philadelphia and make him want to attend. If this idea sounds good to you, let us know.

Another idea is to have a new never-before-shown SCIENCE FICTION MOVIE have its premiere in Philly during the Convention. We would try to get it in an actual theatre and perhaps guarantee the place so many seats to be taken.

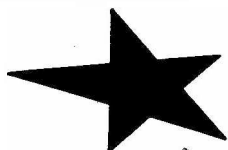
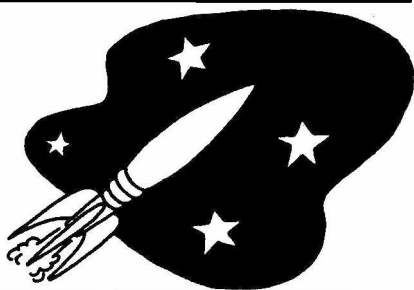
Then we are planning to have a special showing at the FELS PLANETARIUM in the FRANKLIN INSTITUTE. Few cities have planetariums and if you have never seen one in operation you have missed something. MILT ROTHMAN is attempting to work this into the program and try to get them to present their TRIP TO MARS talk. While here in Philly it would also be worth your while to visit the ART MUSEUM out on the Franklin Parkway; and while you're out that way, you can take in the ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, the FREE LIBRARY, the ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, the RODIN MUSEUM, and the AQUARIUM. PHILADELPHIA is proud of its many parks: in comparison to its size, Philadelphia has the largest number of parks of any city. We also have a lot of old traditional places of interest that we'll tell you all about-----in another issue.

PROGRESS REPORT

1

November 16th, 1952 Issue

Published by the 11th World Science Fiction Convention.
Cover & interior illustrations by Dave Hammond



Box 2019, Philadelphia 3, Penna.

Postmaster: Return postage guaranteed