

The Cincy Report

"Fraternal Behavior in the American Fan"

Whole Number One

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AS THE membership of the CINVENTION COMMITTEE reaches one hundred, it obviously becomes time for a report to the members. That that report should be enthusiastic and optimistic is almost in the nature of things, we suppose, for The Cincinnati Fantasy Group is in the very center of things this year and so views this convention from a viewpoint different than it has ever had before. We see every detail; every new idea that is brought forward is discussed and worked out; and so it keeps the convention on our mind and keeps our enthusiasm at a fever peak.

So it may be that we are only viewing the Cinvention as Philadelphia viewed the Philcon, or Toronto viewed the Torcon. Yet it seems almost incredible that any recent convention could have had such enthusiastic backing as is being given to the Cinvention. Truthfully we can say that up to the present moment (Jan. 1), not one single thing has gone wrong with our many plans. To be sure, there are many places where pitfalls may have been planted in our path, but, to shift the metaphor, we have been coppering our bets in such a way that several things could go wrong without hurting the convention in the least. For instance, the entire Cincinnati Fantasy Group has sold itself contributing memberships in the Cinvention Committee, and pays dues of twenty-five cents a week. That'll bring us a good hundred and fifty dollars by next September, and that money will be used to help defray the expenses of the convention, if by any chance it should be needed. If it shouldn't-- but that's another story, which may be told at the convention.

Our hotel has been decided on-- the Metropole, only a block from the town's center, a hotel that has catered

won't sign a contract until 1949, we have first refusal for Labor Day week-end which is as much as we need worry about now. We have about decided that the convention programme will be planographed from varityped dummies so that we can have as many illustrations and photo half-tones as we wish. There has been some discussion of this and we seem to be a bit divided on it.

How about some of you corresponding members writing in and giving your opinion on this?

John W. Campbell has intimated that, among the other illustrations we get from him for the auction, there may be one cover illo. Keep your fingers crossed, maybe we'll get it. And we feel confident of Mary Gnaedinger and the FFM group.

Publishers of books, and dealers, will have tables at the convention, as they have hitherto, and apparently they'll be out in greater force than ever. Many dealers are becoming aware of the publicity value of having a table at the convention, and I wouldn't be surprised if we'd be turning them away before next September. If you're a dealer and want a display table at the Convention, better contact us early, as the number of display tables is limited.

There will be two auctions. One will be the usual one, an auction of donated items to help defray the expenses of the convention. The other will be an auction of articles brought to be disposed of by the fans themselves. If you have an original painting or drawing, some old magazines or a rare book that you want to dispose of, bring it around and we'll auction it off for you, for a twenty per cent commission. The money we make, of course, goes into the convention fund.

And, by the way, we want to contact groups who would be willing to help provide the entertainment. If the Philly group or the Washington group or the Detroit bunch or any other can put on an act or offer a good speaker with an interesting subject, get in touch with us, will you? And, don't put it off; we're serious about this; this convention should be everybody's not just ours.

And, last but not least, let's see if we can't all unite and make arrangements to get here. If you have a car and intend to come to the convention in it, drop me an idea of your itinerary, and maybe I can tell you of a fancy you can pick up in your way, if you have room. You can do a lot of good and have a lot of fun, too, if you will share the ride.

Now, here following is a list of members of the Convention Committee, as it stands today. Only a hundred, but watch it grow. There'll be another Cincy Report out in about two months. Stir up your fellow fans and see if there isn't a hundred and fifty by that time.