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Editorial Matters



This editorial was originally going to be an incisive discussion of the current state of science fiction as gleaned from my New York trip in April and numerous discussions at the ABA in May. There was supposed to be a chronicle of who I visited and the state of each publisher. It didn't quite work out that way. After looking at the mass of raw data, it's probably sufficient to say that science fiction is in excellent shape. Commercially at least, the field seems to have finally come of age and is considered a valued part of any publishing program. There will still be ups and downs of course, but the boom and bust days should be gone forever.

THEODORE STURGEON

It's funny the tricks memory plays on us. I would have sworn the speech we reproduce in this issue was earlier than 1961, that it had a different title, and that the quote I gave last issue was accurate. Thanks to Terry Carr for furnishing a copy of it and to Dave Hartwell for editing it.

The response to the obituary on Theodore Sturgeon was overwhelming. We got a large number of unsolicited appreciations; some we used, and the rest will be passed on to the family. We also had to slightly edit nearly all of them. It gave me a strange feeling seeing all those comments about "Ted Sturgeon" and not automatically changing them to "Theodore." There won't be that gently chiding letter or phone call, "Theodore, not Ted in print." Ted fitted much better in context. Goodbye, Ted.

THIEVES IN HELL

We apparently upset Berkley Publishing with a mistake in last issue. The

two spin-off collaborative novels by C.J. Cherryh and Janet Morris for Baen Books are from "Heroes in Hell" not "Thieves' World". "Heroes in Hell" is another original series from Baen, edited by Morris. The note is complicated because Morris is also doing a "Thieves' World" collection for Baen about her character called Tempus, and has turned in another "Thieves' World" spin-off novel, BEYOND THE VEIL, to Baen. The new "Thieves' World" merchandising contract is apparently very complex.

MORE CORRECTIONS

Terry Carr's BEST OF THE YEAR is a Tor book, not a Doubleday book.

Shawna McCarthy wants it clear that the last paragraph in the story about her moving to Bantam, about the conditions at Davis, does not give her opinions and should not be attributed to her (it wasn't). She did not feel "appalled" or "neglected" at Davis.

There are several errors in the cross-indexing of **LOCUS** Award nominees and Best contents in the Poll results. They can be figured out in context.

NEBULA WINNERS

The page 1 photograph of the Nebula winners last issue provoked a lot of comments regarding size. Is Gardner Dozois, who is at least six feet tall, really the runt of the litter? The answer is yes. John Varley at 6'6" isn't even the tallest. It takes a lot of height to be a Nebula winner. Perhaps a SFWA basketball team is in order?

OVERSTAFFED MAGAZINE WANTS MORE HELP

Andy Porter of **Science Fiction Chronicle** cornered Locusperson Donna Burraston at the ABA and tried to convince her that **LOCUS** had too many workers and that if I was more efficient, I could fire her. I don't think Andy understands that my goal in life is to do nothing except take all the credit. Consequently, we're looking for still another minion.

The job is an entry-level position as editorial assistant in Oakland, California. It requires the abilities to

(Continued on page 56)