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Contents

Table listing contents including British Win Big in 1985 World Fantasy Awards, Locus Looks at More Books, Fandom in the USSR, etc.

Ad Index

Table listing ad index entries such as Ace, Arbor House, Baen, Bantam, Berkley, Bluejay, Bridge, Locus, L.W. Currey, DAW, Del Rey, etc.

ISSUE #299 • VOL. 18, NO. 12 • DECEMBER 1985 Mailing date: November 21, 1985

Editorial Matters

I'm finally through traveling for the year, and it's time to evaluate some of it. I expect to talk about the Frankfurt and London trips, as well as some of the others, in the next couple of editorials and in our year-end round-ups. The actual information I collected on books and publishing changes has been incorporated in our various columns. Frankfurt was fascinating for its overview of publishing in general and German publishing in particular. It certainly saves wear and tear to be able to walk from Britain to Germany in five minutes or take an escalator to France. There was very little sf involved in rights sales, although most German, English, French, and American publishers who do a lot of it had displays. I think sf publishing is heading for a downswing in Germany and America, while it's moving up in France and England. I'll try to talk about why, next issue. Also planned for next issue, our 300th, is a report on the World Fantasy Convention, our yearly index, an advance listing of books scheduled for 1986, and the start of our yearly roundup.

BEGINNINGS

In a recent New York Times column titled "Forewords March", William Safire tackled a problem which plagues sf publishing: "An introduction is considered part of a text, and is the piece of front matter closest to the first chapter; it usually gets skimmed, rarely perused. A preface comes before that, and is most often a personal comment by the author apologizing for writing the work, or for being alive; in fact, a couple of centuries ago, the preface was often called the apology. Even before the preface comes the most ignored part of what publishers call the prelims: the selling job on why the reader is obligated to read the rest of the book, usually by a famous name willing to shill for his buddy, the author, and it is called the foreword."

A MATTER OF SIZE

After writing the front page piece on Judy-Lynn del Rey, I noticed I never mentioned she was a dwarf. It was, of course, the first thing you noticed when you met her. But Judy never complained about size and did not expect

anyone else to make any concessions to her. After a while, it was easy to forget because she proved to be as big as or bigger than everyone else.

STURGEON FUND

We received two donations from Deep-SouthCon 23 totalling \$159.00. Thank you. Please, if you are sending donations to the fund, make checks payable to Locus/Sturgeon Fund.

CORRECTIONS

Gremlins seem to have crept into the spelling of names in the Aussiecon report, with the same name spelled two different ways in a matter of a few pages. Correct spellings are Nigel Rowe, Lewis Morley, Nick Stathopoulos, and Eve Harvey. The central figure on the nostalgia panel is Leigh Edmonds, not Lee Harding. I knew that, and don't know what deep psychological block made me get it wrong. Sorry Lee, er Leigh. Van Ikin is not a professor; he is a lecturer at the University of Western Australia and the editor of the academic fanzine Science Fiction. Race Matthews is Minister for the Arts in Victoria only, not all of Australia. Although Bob Shaw is Irish, he lives in Britain, and was flown from there. The unidentified person in the Women's APA photo is Julie Vaux. A line was dropped in my editorial on Australian publishing; it pointed out that the government subsidizes printers doing Australian-written books, paying 20% of the bill. Special thanks to Joseph Nicholas and Bruce Gillespie, who took the time to write us with numerous corrections and comments.

The Forbidden Planet autograph party photos in the November issue should have been credited to C.H. Ellis. The four NASFiC photos on page 50 were by Rick Hawes.

The new Omni assistant fiction editor is Kevin McKinney, not McKinley.

The "Books Received" and "Magazines Received" columns in the October issue were for material received in August, not September.

The Clive Barker story in Fantasy Tales ("Magazines Received", #296) appeared simultaneously with the book publication, rather than being a reprint as we indicated.

(Continued on page 51)