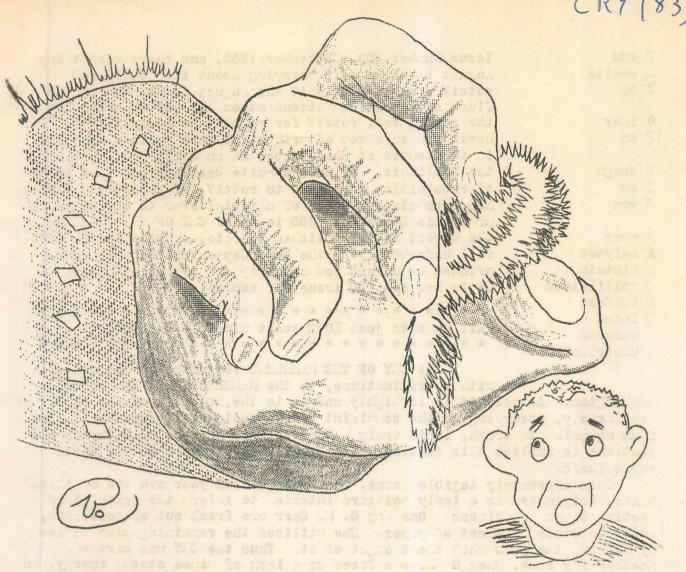
CRY (83)



from: THE NAMELESS ONES Box 92 920 Third Avenue Seattle 4, Washington

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Issue Number #83, September 1955, and there wasn't any August issue so quit worrying about it. ekciderts rotain was going to edit the August issue, but in the flush of enthusiasm attendant on his volunteering for the assignment, rotain forgot that he doesn't type, having them a now of printed silence while a neophyte in the temple at Bhad-Mastor at an early age, possibly the Neolithia. It hasn't quite been decided what sort of recognition to extend to rotain for generously turning his accumulated stacks of material over to us, so as to make this September 1955 issue of CHY OF THE HALLEDS the nevest issue published to date, and the best. This will undoubtedly be the best September 1955 CH ever printed — unless you unfairly compare it with the September 1955 BC issue, of course.

The CHY OF THE MARKELLS is generally attributed, with recriminations, to the NAMELESS CHES of Leattle, Mashington. Actually this is highly unfair to the majority of the club, who are largely, according to the complaint of ex-president Richard Frahm, too dawn normal. In truth, it is truly a hard core of hardened hard-heads who continue to inflict this continuous continuity of issues upon the cowed subscribers.

This moderately legible issue, that you hold in your own two or three hands, originated as a lowly postcard intended to inform the Caithful of meeting times and places. One day G. M. Carr was fresh out of postcards, and substituted a sheet of paper. She utilized the remaining blank stace by telling the club what she thought of it. Thus the CM was birther. Another day come, when G M. was faced by a lack of timeo stock, energy, and locked-in goodness. To the rescue come dallace d. deber, who simplehandealy perpetrated the LRY for more years than the clab likes to admit. with the other hand he held a job at Boeing Liveraft, which paid for production and distribution of the CM, while .eber's own living came from the breeding and sale of batcheons. Unfortunately, batcheens lay their eggs while hanging head-down from the rafters. Mally, standing guard to catch the eggs as they fell, become hollow-eyed from luck of sleep and hollow all over from lack of food, as Boeing's deducted from his cycleck every tile that fally, anxious for a good hatch, overst yet his watch on a promising bateleoness and was late to work. Luckily, bateleons thrive on a diet of old America, else the whole project would have collapsed even sooner. As it was, the CLY was by sheer necessity thrown to a revolving editorahip (33-1/3 rm) early in 1955. This is our second time around the scenery is getting a little blurred. Anyway, we have to jut out a reasonably fat issue, to conform with the page requirements of SNAFA (It Bites), the Seattle Hameless Ameteur Bress Association. So Con't min too med if this editorial cage is padded up so that it won't lie flat with the rest of the issue, which should.





EDITORIAL STAFF:

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F. M. Busby Elinor Busby

Special Contributor, the August issue material for instance -- eleiderto roteit

Cound Effects -- Durnett Toskey (get it right, Phillips, 100 toskey)
Cover Creation -- ekcidertS rotaiv
Coreen Flay -- Anopheles

from the dramatic production "Cry" by Johnsie May based on the original story by some Greek or other which is what however when the encyclopedic is boned up in the back room so what you can't check your references. Who wants to pull off a big boo-sees anyway?

# S-F ANTIQUES

by Wa. N. Austin

The author is virtually unknown to contemporary science-fiction reners, although it would see from this novel that he just have enjoyed considerable popularity in his day. In some respects, this tale resembles Jules Verne's popular 20,000 LM GUES UNDER THE SEA because of a leisurely, realistic travelogue manner of narration. This, movever, deals with deep space rather than deep seas.

The protagonists in A \_ONEW OCH IN \_DPACE include a young English noble, owner of the spaceship "Astrones" and the money to operate it, and the wealthy American daughter of the space craft's inventor. After a quick courtship and marriage, they help evert an impending world war before embarking upon their loney soon cruise around the Solar System.

All goes well with the untried "Astronef." They land successfully on the Moon, finding only ruins of past civilizations and a few degenerate creatures grubbing in residual crater slime.

Mars reveals a nightly developed civilization inhabited by a race both warlike and emotionless. After numerous harrowing experiences they barely escape with their lives.

On Venus they find birdlike creatures with a language like wasic and of unsulfied purity of sind. So tranquil is the atmos here here that the couple is seriously tempted to remain permanently.

Several of Jupiter's moons disclose vestiges of former civilizations but it is only on Ganymede that they find habitations: innumerable glass-domed cities in which evel vastly intelligent beings, hard pressed to hold off the natural forces of their dying world.

A side trip close to the surface of chaotic Jupiter comes nearly to rief; the "Astronef" again verges on near-mishap during the Saturnian visit; and during the journey hole, the power reserve is severely depleted combatting the tremendous gravitational pull first from a dead sun and later, from Sol. But the ways of Comantic Fiction is not to be denied;













the plucky craft and crew return safely.

Althogether, this is a most gratifying reading experience. Thile little is mentioned about the space drive, the astronomical science is fairly authoritative and is largely introduced by means of crisp and oft-amsing dialogue while advancing the story thread. — a device many modern science-fiction writers have not successfully utilized. And spicing the whole tale is that easy-joing sort of realism displayed in effective travelogues, which draws the reader into the action.

First-rate science-fiction, this space honeymoon; one which evokes the desire for finding more Briffith yerns in the book stalls, and for additional honeymoons in any event.

.ating: A.

(Note: English born George Griffith suthered twenty-six novels of Cantasy and science-fiction between 1893 and 1913, including AMGEL OF THE NEVOLUTION, THE DIA ONE BOG, GOLDEFINDER, LAKE OF GOLD, VALDAL WEE OFT-BORN, and THE JOHLD LASTERS.)

(The above is the first of a series of articles on antique sciencediction by Am. N. A.)

#### CONVENTION IN USC .T

by dallass U. (dandering) deber

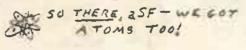
It's a great experience for a fan to attend a morid Science Fiction Convention, particularly if he is the only fan in his area to do so. He can return with wondrous stories about what happened, even if he has to make the up himself. He can get no end of free heals on the pretent of dropping in on fans to tell them his experiences. He can monopolize conversations, take over meetings, use up acres of space in fanzines, and generally get by with being the worst sort of nuisance, all because it is the duty of all fans who have not attended a convention to find out all they can from the fan who has attended.

I attended Cleveland this year. The dinners and attention have been great, but I can't resist taking advantage of this opportunity to use up space in the UNY to tell about it again, especially since F. M. and Elimor Dusby are feeding me clam chowder to keep me going. It may sound fantastic,

but I think conventions are fattening.

They called this convention the "13th world Science Fiction Convention," and it wasn't a bit unlucky. Comparing the Clevention with what I imagine an average convention to be like, I come up with the following epinions. The hotel was unusually cooperative. The speedes were more interesting. The massuerade ball was below average. (No Leopard Girl this year). The manner in which the convention was run in general was better than average. The Terrans, when they planned the convention, gave considerable thought to the shortcomings of previous conventions and were able to correct many of the flaws.

Isaac Asimov was juest of honor, and the speeches he have were too hilarious to rain by giving you a short version here. (Any food jacher will tell you that anything contensed is usually pretty ary). A great many of his remarks were pointed at Antiony Boucher, who was pretty much the scape-of and straight can for everybody who so he. Anthony's low oint of the convention was robably when, as toostmaster, he was retuined to present all three story awards to authors for stories appearing in a competitor magazine, Astounding Science Fiction. This was topped -- or lowered could be a better ford -- when John .. Cam bell Jr. was given the achievement



award for being the best professional editor.

the Nameless Ones.

John J. Campbell Jr. aid not attend the convention. No official reason was given.

willy key spoke on the subject of artificial satellites, and remarked that he was free to make such a speech only because he had nothing at all to do with the project.

Alderson Fry (of all people!) appeared at the convention. We was unable to remain for the masquerade ball, but was present for the major portion of the convention. Alderson, you know, left us to go to West Virginia to build a library, somehow having come to the conclusion that building a library there would be more rewarding than being librarian for

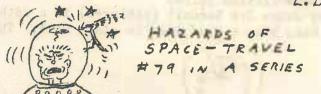
Bill Hamling, one of a penel of salters, state that he was attempting to establish a regular staff of authors to write stories for Imagination and Imaginative Tales. Hen cross examine by a member of the analence who pointed out that staff-written stories usually came out machine-made fiction, Mailing agreed and remarked that machine-made fiction was exactly what he wanted. (A rather terrifying thought has come to mind. Perhaps Hamling is setting some vite than into motion that will result in mechine-made readers to read his machine-made fiction).

Ren and ramela Bulmer were an British fan and wife brought over from England with the aid of the Transatlantic Fan Fund and maybe a boot. Ren remarked that he was very glad to be at the convention, but that he was a little surprised to see the restrained manner in which the convention was going about its business. He emplained that fans across the Atlantic read the convention reports in American fancines, which invariably write about water-listol fights, heer cans being tossed from hotel win ows, narrow excepts with the house detectives, propellor beanies, and all the rest. They read these accounts and, feeling that such is the way fan conventions are run, they re-enact these events at their own conventions. You can see the power of even the amateur press.

A great coal of concern was expressed by everyone at the convention over the end of the science-fiction boom and the poor circulation of magazines since 1953. Practically all of the speeches referred to this sad osition of current publications. But one of the speeches, made by a man those name I have forgetten and whose speech wasn't even entere in the program booklet, came right out and accused Boubleday's science fiction bookled of causing the science fiction bust. Incidentally, the speech had been reviously substited to Fantasy Times as an article, but the editors had a end two months going over the article with their lawyers trying to determine now successfully Fantasy Times could be such for running such an article.

The voting for next year's convention site was quite simple. London put in a bid. New York put in a bid. London witherew its bid. Nick Falasca packed the voting cards back in the som and handed them over to one of the New York Hydra Club members to save them the trouble of main their own voting cards next year, and that was that.

So if you want to find out about next year's convention without inviting me over for cinner, better take your vacation over Labor Lay weekend in New York.







For a long time now there has been a question in the minds of many fans. ask: How do the stories of yesteryear compare with the stories of today? How would the very first science fiction magazine ever published stack up along side of the very latest? To answer this question I have, in the interests of science fiction, looked back into history, removed the early issues of AMAZING STORIES from the dusty racks of a used magazine dealer, and have been avidly perusing same. At the same time I have been reading the recent issues of this same magazine. This little review is possibly destined to be the first in a series of reviews of early issues of AMAZING STORIES, the pioneer of the science fiction field.

Reviewing: AMAZING STORIES, Vol 1, no 1; April 1926, Hugo Gorneback, editor. A rather strange cover painting adorns this first issue, if one looks closely at ite At first, one sees several people dressed like eskimos skating on a frozen lake. Then one sees the huge ball of Saturn above them in red with white stripes, and Saturn's rings in blue, yellow, and white. Then one notices the two old-type sailing vessels perched precariously on the top of two mountains of ice. The question is, how did they get up there? But to find out, you must first read the story, which is:

"Off on a Comet" by Jules Verne. (Rating - A) The author, one of the great masters of science fiction, combines an utterly impossible plot (A comet strikes the Earth and carries off a section of humanity into space, and after a tour of the solar system deposits it back on the Earth safe and sound) with a cast of characters strictly out of this world into a story that is a delight to read.

The second story: "The New Accelerator" by H.G. Wells, is not so good, considering what Wells is capable of (Rating - D). An insignificant story.

"The Man from the Atom" by G. Peyton Wertenbaker, (Rating - C) is a fairly interesting rendition of the old story about the growth machine and of the macrocosm of which this universe is but a tiny atom.

"The Thing from - Outside" by George Allen England (Rating - B) is a tense story full of paradoxes, portraying an atmosphere of utter alienness, and written

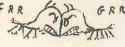
in a surprisingly modern style.

"The Man Who Saved the Earth" by Austin Hall, is not the story you might think it is. (Rating - B) Written in a style reminiscent of Lawrence O'Donnell, with short clipped sentences, the story carries the reader to a surprising, yet inevitable conclusion.

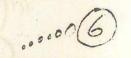
"The Facts in the Case of M. Valdemar" by Edgar Allen Poe (Rating - C) is good Poe, if you happen to like Poe. To others it might seem pretty awful.

Reviewing: AMAZING STORIES, Vol 29, no 6; November 1955, Howard Browne, editor. If the following stories do not seem to conform to the standard set by the first issue, it must be remembered that in 1926 Amazing Stories had no competitors and reprinted established classics. Today Amazing Stories holds no corner on the highest quality science fiction being published, and even has many competitors for the low quality segment of science fiction pulps.

"Beyond the Steel Wall" by James Ira Kendall (rating D) is a rather poorly written account of what might have been a good idea to start with. There has been







THE LAST AND FIRST AMAZING (continued)

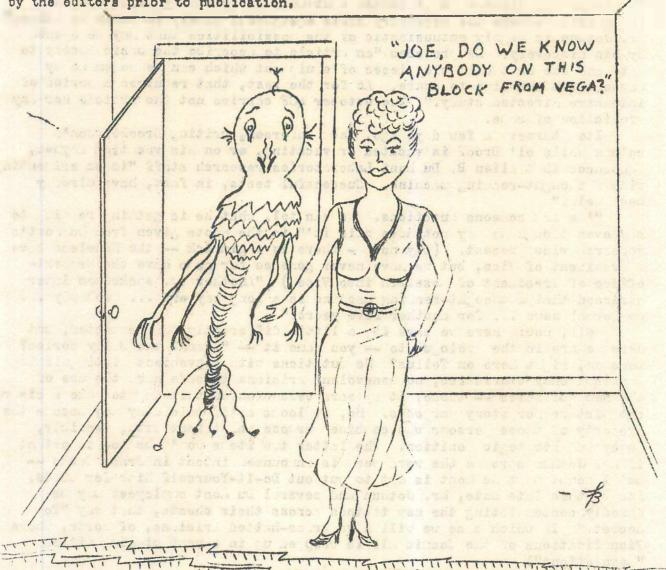
a question raised as to whether this might not have been intended as a satire. "The Man in the Ice Box" by Paul W. Fairman, (Rating - D) is not even on a par with Fairban's usual low standard. An old idea, not badly written, but somewhat corney on the whole.

"They Sent a Boy" by C.H. Thames is the second of what started out to be a fairly good series about the immortal entity who changes periodically from one body to another. Unfortunately this story does not measure up to the first.

"Let's Do It Again" by Ivar Jorgensen (Rating - E) will probably be considered cuto by some people. But I thought that the author tried to be just a little bit too cute. In my opinion the author lost track of some of the basic constituents of a short story, rendering the result into a pretty sorry mess of corn. With more skillful handling it might have been better.

The ratings on the above stories constitute a personal opinion of Clan Stapledoff (Letter ratings in Austin's scale) and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors of this issue of the ORY, except as may have been changed

by the editors prior to publication.



THE CHITTETH CHILLIANT BASKETBALLS HAD BEEN MEANT TO FLY, WOULD HAVE PROVIDED THEM WITH WINGS"

## ESPecially Fo. YOU

## by Pierpont holocaust

Item one: J.C editorializes Septemberly, predicting the imminent development of "a 'spy-ray machine' or a 'clairvoyance' mechine" -- or "the result of some type of mental training " "It makes no difference; it is the effect that we're interested in." He then discusses the conse wences of "Loss of Frivacy of Action" by such means, the changes in our lives when although actions could not be concealed, their motivation right be.

Item two: "Brass Tacks" in the same issue corries a letter from T. .

Jothun outlining how the experience of edd physical and mental effects
while working with microwave equipment leads to develor theory and proctive of an aratus—i. ed telepathy. He states that training is necessary
for effective use of his apparatus, and continues "if sufficient interest
he are sed in sincere and telepathy aside equipment, namely in their headbone.

Are will possess the necessary basic equipment, namely in their headbone.

Are Jothun is highly enthusiastic of the possibilities that may be opened
by his discovery. He proposes "an article to describe the basic bheory to
hate and one or two simple lices of equipment which can be no sensue by
anyone with the time to spare. As for the rest, that requires a period of
intensive cirected study." The October all carries not the article nor any
prediction of same.

Item three: A few days ago, Jack Anterson, writing Brooke.rson's column while of Drook is vacated or vacating, or on his vacation saybow, amounces that Allen B. Du Mont Laboratories research staff "is enjarimenting with a thought-reading machine. Successful tests, in fact, have already been held."

"I he ask someone questions. He can tell what he is getting reading to say even through he may not have said it'" is the quote given from Du hont's research vice present. (Cay now - there is a gimulack -- the Nameless have a President of Vice, but we have never gone so far as to have the separate office of President of Hesearch into Vice!) "Another ... spokesman later stressed that a throught-reading machine is a long way off ... probably ... no formal news ... for another five years."

ell, now: here we have it; a little differently than expected, but here de are in the prologue to -- you name it -- "Slan"? the Blay series? Lensher, right here on Tellus? No mutations with convenient distinguishing drysical characteristics, no benevolent Arisians to safeguera the use of the new bilities -- those, it appears were visuful-thinking to make a clear-cut picture for story purposes. No, it looks as if tele atmy may become the property of those persons who combine pur ose and telent with, possibly, oney and strategic osition. The latter two items won't be too important if the Jothum spreads the word per is amnounced intent in Brass Tucks -- but I doubt that Bu hont is apt to put out Do-It-Yourself Mits for 33.49. And by this late date, Mr. Jothum and several Bu hont employees may be dezedly contemplating the new tattoos across their chests, that say "Top decret." In which case we will have brass-hatted Arisians, of sorts, whose Visualizations of the Josmic All is wrapped up in a neat binding titled "Legulations"!

Barring the latter contingency for discussion ar oses, we have here the possibility that you and I, and EVERYBORY ELDE, including that mosy old Mrs. shoozits down the block (I don't mean that nice Mrs. shoozits of course -- I mean that old Mrs. S. shoozits with all those dam youling cuts) has a fair chance to dig in and come up with clairvoyant and telepathic ability, a aget-assisted or otherwise. That is this going to mean to you, and what do you intend to do about it?

Tell, maybe you would just like to ignore the whole thing. So the nice salesamn with what you thin is a hearing-aid sells you so rething you really wint to not now you are tied up with big healthy exprents for the next five years, because that "hearing-aid" ctually clued him in to just what to say to sell you AMYTHING. So, now, what do you intend to do about it?

Or maybe the whole neighborhood is snickering because the kics nextdoor cranker up their deday's TP set outside your window while you were having a worry-session and told the whole farshim elt neighborhood your most SHALEFUL secrets. So, NOJ, what do you intend to do about it?

Or possibly your boss got to wondering if yo really sent it when you laughed so hard at all his jokes, and set the gadget up with a rickup under your desk. So, now, after you find another job, what so you intend to do about it?

Or you're a single man, and can't get a date anymore because all the girls' parents are giving you a TP interview before their daughter, can go out with you. OYYY!

I don't think this is going to be so much fun, being on the outside of this deal. It would be a lot nicer to be on the inside. Depending, of course, on your personal tastes.

I would imagine that snooping on people's thoughts would get very, very monotonous in a short while. People are pretty such white after the first Lozen. Also, nobody with a reasonably healthy set of ethics is going to be able to use telepathy for unfair financial advantage without repercussions on personal well-being. Only the very immature of all ages could be a continuing problem by snooping and sniping. The basic advantages of the never abilities would **iskely** be self-defense and improved communication.

You reaction, now, depends a lot on your personal feeling as to just what telepathy will be: a sort of telephone without sound, rectically sharing the other person's every thought, the ability to "probe into the sine of another" for beyond the surface or conccious thoughts, or persons only the experience of thinking and feeling, with the trained ability to notice that these thoughts and feelings are included up from someone else in their than originating in yourself, and increased receptivity to such outside stimuli.

Your reaction when the phenomena do become wides read will depend a lot on now aiffere t the actuality is from what you expected. I cummo for sure, either.

Maybe it boils town to this: having telepathy would not be such a big deal in itself, but the lack of it, in a society containing telepaths, could be pretty miserable.





PLOWING THE FIELD-

Prozine Reviews
by
Renfrew Pemberton

This paragraph is for all you wonderful fans who went wight out and bought lot of prozines, just as I told you the last couple of CRY well, folks, we did our best, but there weren't enough of us. Oh, sad, sad day - no more Planet! What will Weber do now? In fact, what will we do now! (Planet used to print our letters.) Well, never mind, all you loyal cultivators of the field, we tried. We will continue to support the prozines that merit support (and print our letters), and never fear, ye faithful -- PLANET WILL RISE AGAIN!

This paragraph is for all you slackers who GOOFED: well, I tole you an' I tole you -- go out and buy some prozines, I tole you -- help keep these poor prozines in business, I tole you -- THAT'S what I tole you! And what came of it?? Look over the previous paragraph, so I can save stencil space, but you keep a respectful silence while you do it. And don't forget, there's a lot of atonement to be done before you can walk in the sun, square abreast of all us staunch Planet supporters.

This is the time to start. There are only two pulps left in the field. Startling, recently the leader of a group producing 25 issues per year, will probably run a grade or so higher than Lowndes' SFQ, but in the present circumstances I cannot recommend discrimination. Go on, you loyal fen, buy the both of them. If you have to get snooty, get so with a publisher who can take it.

Like Ziff-Davis, for instance. This house of partial fannish ill-repute is like Ol' Man River -- come hell, high water, drought, famine, or Richard S. Shaver, it just keeps Rollin' Along, carrying with it assorted debris under the blurb "world's leading science fiction magazine". This blurb is about as bubbly an old crock as is to be found in todays market. With the apparent demise of Spaceways, Ziff-Davis stands almost alone as publishing money that knows little and cares less about science fiction as such, but is a bearcat on circulation gimmicks. I call your attention to the November Amazing. The lead novel "Beyond the Steel Wall" by James Ira Kendahl, outstanding for unintentional humor, is painstakingly written-down to the level of the novice sex fiend. It is at its questionable best when read aloud, slowly and with malice. I heroically refrain from quoting this story in these pages, mainly to avoid prosecution under the copyright laws. The rest of the issue is just fair, probably because Browne still has material left over from before the recent Swing to Action. It would be well to leave this magazine alone for awhile, along with its coffin-and-ekeleton-covered companion, Fantastic, in the simple hope of a drop in circulation which could possibly influence HB to go back to stories on a moderately higher level. This is doubtful,



PLOWING THE FIELD (continuation)

however -- Browne and Palmer both state that all-time circulation records were set by the Shaver Mystery, when ZD set out in all sincerity to round up every screwball in the country with 25¢ to spend, going to the extreme of printing letters from obviously "disturbed" persons who complained that the neighbors didn't believe the writers heard voices that told them the world was coming to an end, a week from Michaelmas. And the editor would respond, "That's just fine, bush wou just keep right on listenin' to those li'l ol' voices and buyin' this li'l ol' magazine -- and don't worry; those nasty ol' neighbors will get THEIRS one of these days". With this sort of background experience, I'm afraid Ziff-Davis are apt to be pretty set in their ways. Ch well, at least you'll save money.

be pretty set in their ways. Ch well, at least you'll save money.

Maybe the above sounds a little too bitter, but I really resent the defamation

of good science-fiction by the claimed commercial success of this crud.

Let's get on to happier aspects, so that I can digest my dinner. But first let's have one minute of respectful silence in memory of poor old Planet, and in

sympathy with the anguish of Wally Weber.

"IF" came up with the best issue in too long, for October. There are seven stories, of which at least four would do credit to Galaxy. There is a religious stf number by Charles Beaumont with Boucher would do well to read, as it is in a framework which he could accept but escapes the platitudinous quality of the replicious stories printed by Boucher himself. There are only three "formula" stories in the issue, and these not trite by any means. A good average for any magazine.

The September Galaxy is the usual unmonotonously high quality, but I'm glad to see the end of "Preferred Risk", an overlong serial that shines like a brave but feeble little candle against the floodlight brilliance of previous Galaxy serials by such as Bester, Simak, and Asimov. McCann was just out of his league. Gold should have farmed this one out, and brought McCann up to the majors after a little more experience. That's what happens when you run a contest, though, unless you can just forget and ignore it, as another publisher (guess who?) has done on

occasion. Still, the story is not bad; it's just subpar for Galaxy.

The cover of the September aSF is superior to the story illustrated. Jack Vance tries to write his idea of an Astounding-type story and it is noticeably inferior to a normal Vance-type story. For me it rates a C/ by the device of substituting the name of Connstalk Underwood for Jack Vance. By this means, the story becomes simply a technically well-done piece with no character, instead of a major lapse by an author who knows much, much better. The short stories in this issue are well above par, and the Russell serial, though marking a little time in this installment, carries interest. But WHEN will JWC get around to cutting heavily and with a cold eye, to avoid the dragging that has become in recent years a hallmark of aSF serials?? Ah well, with the late boom and all, possibly the man has been thoroughly hard-up for material, of suitable quality.

The September F&SF carries nine stories, of which four are reprints. Although this issue rates fairly high with the Pembertons, our previous advice still holds — if you are an occasional F&SF buyer, look for the "All New Stories" label on the cover — these issues are much more worthwhile than the reprint-loaded editions, which, you will note, do NOT carry any such admission as "40% reprints, per U.S. Bureau of Literature Standards". Boucher should find himself another coeditor. McComas apparently helped the magazine to stay out of the rut of Boucher's highly individual (i.e., not especially shared by me) tastes in fantasy

and science-fiction.

Fantastic Universe for October runs a little low for this one-time challenger of the Big Two-and-a Half. Most of the stories read well almost to the end, and then leave us with a vague sense of having been cheated, because the ending falls a little flat. An exception to this is "Pink Fluff" by Craig Rice (Big Name -get this, you peasants -- BIG NAME), which doesn't promise much anywhere along the line; if you are cheated, you did it yourself by expecting anything of interest. It looks as if Margulies should get an editor whose name he isn't ashamed to print, and start a letter column -- letter columns may get juvenile but they add life.

PLOWING THE FIELD (continuation)

By gooly, we get to give a good plug to a minor-leaguer here. Lowndes'
"Science Fiction Stories" (now claimed as the "ORIGINAL" despite the fact that
this incarnation began about two years ago as a oneshot pro without volume number
or date) leads with a good novel for the September issue, which would spark for
Fantastic Universe or If or fit into the palmy days of Startling or TWS. Gordon
R. Dickson thus authors two good ones in a row in this magazine. The short stories
are average-good.

Last time around we gave "Other Worlds" a plug on the basis of a change of editorial tune by Rap. His September issue validates — here are five stories with very, very little triteness. Palmer has definitely left the action—GNLY school, the "characters" who are large lumps of muscle and cliches, to HB of ZD. Oddly enough his lack of funds contributes to better reading — Rap openly admite he can't always pay off his authors on time, so the bignames drop him from their routes and he has to use new names. Some lack of polish to the stories, but this to me is more pleasant than the professional touch used to rivet a "new" twist onto the same old tired plotlines.

Palmer is so broke that he is reprinting covers, front and aft. Several correspondents took him bitterly to task for this. Why? If it is OK for Boucher to put out frequent issues containing up to half reprinted story material, why is it so awful for Palmer, scrabbling near the bottom of the financial barrell, to reprint artwork? Personally, I think it would be OK for him to print up a slick page entirely blank except for identification and price, if that's all he can afford. Besides, I liked the December 1952 cover when he first used it, and I like it this time, too. Anyhow, OW is now definitely worth the buy-and-read, and any guy who can admit he goofed and wants to try again, deserves support.

No comment on Fantastic, Imagination, Spaceways (which may have saved us the trouble, by folding), Fate, or Mystic. We don't read 'em, and certainly we can't

expect anybody else to do so on our recommendation (?) if we won't.

We have the POGO PEEKABOOK and even the most hardened Pogophobe, we feel, will find here one of the best sequences ever printed in cartoon form. "The Account of the Wooful Frog" wherein Chicken Little attempts to direct the strip's "tads" in a production of the old poem "A Frog He Would A-wooing Go", has more real warm-type humor than we've seen for some while.

The second 25¢ MAD seems slightly letdownish from the first, including page count. Still a unique bit of reading, though, even with the former imitators of MAD COMICS now switching to imitation of the new version. CRAZY, MAN, CRAZY, subtitled From Here to Insanity takes a try at everything it can crib from MAD plus a few that MAD wouldn't stoop for, and never gets off the ground. The writers do not have the touch; despite occasional chuckles, the overall effect is dull. A thing called COCKEYED CONFIDENT IAL is in about the same boat. Weak puns and touch-tag with the postal regulations, mostly. Both of these jobs seem to be based on the assumption that if it doesn't make very good sense, it must be FUNNY. Sorry, boys, it isn't. Kurzman and Co. have something that can't be counterfeited by simply cribbing the name-distortion pun routine and putting in a Christine feature.

And now, now that we are not held down by the limitations of our subject matter, we can get to the crucial, breathtaking matters that are dear to our hearts (sure we're slen). We can tell you so-long for this month and go break out a beer.

#### (LAST MINUTE PLOWING)

As Weber and Toskey roll up their sleeves to turn the crank, here's the Word on the Latest:

Galaxy, October: top-flight for any magazine, any year. Sheckley, Wallace, Evelyn Smith, Cordwainer Smith, Tenn, and Stephen Tall. C. Smith's "Game of Rat and Dragon" is outstanding even to appetites whetted by his only other published story "Scanners live in Vain".

October aSF: good material, but one of those four-title issues, including the end of Russell's serial, rated fourth in the issue with us although good

12)

(LAST MINUTE PLOWING) (concluded)

enough to rate well in weaker competition. Russell didn't have much to say in this story and he took too long to say it. We've complained before of JWC's acceptance of overly-padded offerings, and there wasn't enough to this variation of the parasitic intelligence theme to justify three long installments. The ending was apparently riveted on for people who don't like the hero left lonesome. Francis Donovan's fine lead novel, "The Short Life" would have been better off illustrated by someone who had at some time or other seen a dog. I kept waiting for the appearance of the ET animal, as there were two other illos showing the dog AS a dog. Somebody took pi y on the reader on page I ny putting the dog's name over Rogers' Thing.

November Fantastic Universe: good cover on a good issue, much better than the last two. Sturgeon, Rob't F. Young, John Wyndham shine. Merwin still wishfulthinks the Saucers saving humanity, and Richard Stockham once again saves the race from dat ol' debbil TV, with hypnotic attachments. With ten titles for John however.

a couple of moderate bloopers don't hurt much.

The two Lowndes offerings showed up for November: SFQ, the pulp, is head and shoulders above SFS, the digest size. It is unique that five writers should simultaneously submit stories with so little point and decisiveness, and that the editor should foist them all onto one issue of the same magazine. Even Simak lets a well-written forty pages bog down into vagueness and lack of point at the end. SFQ, on the other hand, has five of the medium-better items, with only one refugee from EFS, a fluff by St. Clair. A two-pager by S.S. Boren should have Boucher frothing a little at having missed it for his own. Lee Priestly tries for the "How Mature Can You Get?" award and comes close (this is not a plug, exactly).

The Fall Startling is a Back-to-the-Golden-Days issue: moderately good lead novel topped by the novelette and by all but one of the seven shorts. Stay with Startling, friends; Standard seems to be out to prove that the pulps are not dead,

and they have a point this time.

The Last Word: every now and then some character defende the declining quality of his magazine by backhanding fandom to wit -- "fans want a little closed world; they don't want the general public reading their private literature; they want to set themselves above the rest of the human race". Maybe it's a little more like this, fellows: we don't mind the general public reading stf at all, at all, but we do object violently to having the whole stf field watered down to the general public taste to attain this end. Science-fiction may just have busted the boom because it tried to bridge the gap between good stf and the public taste, and boys, it just won't stretch. You're lucky it didn't break off at both ends instead of just one Sure, boy-meets-girl on Andromeda, but if boy-meets-girl is the big deal and Andromeda just a stageprop, the general reader can find it more to his taste in other publications, and the stf fan won't bother, either. And after all, if the fan does want his own little reading world -- he's paying for it, isn't he? He'll keep on paying for it if he gets his money's worth, too; but the last two years show that he won't support, indefinitely, a publisher's attempt to sell to basically un-sf types by printing un-stf stories. Your move.



One of the functions of the CRY is to warn the NAMELESS of meeting times and places. In order that the absentees should not have it too soft, however, we have a treatmerous of printing the notorious and diabolical

MINUTES

Burnett

of the

by: R.

RECENT MEETINGS

Toskey

135th meeting: August 18, 1955 A.D.

The meeting was opened at the ordinary time by the president of the club, we present goes by the name of Rose Stark. There was some dispute at the outset of which meeting this was, but the question was finally settled satisfactorily nobody knew for sure. Somebody called for the minutes to be read, but the second wiggled out of this boring and odious task by explaining that the minutes have in the hands of Victor Stredicke who had not as yet published them in the Cr.

A short discussion on flying saucers was started by the mention of friend of Rose Stark whose friend's friend knew someone who was acquainted tit the circle around one of the author's of current books dealing with the little men in flying saucers.

Wally Weber was called upon to give a review of the review of Sinisterra printed in the current issue of Amazing Stories. The secretary responded by quoting as much of it from memory as he thought would add to his own personal egoboo.

Ted Ross gave a short account of the latest science fiction TV show, which

apparently confused him and everyone present in an amusing way.

The rest of the meeting time was taken up b" idle chatter and in the consumption of copious quantities of goodies.

136th meeting: September 1, 1955

The meeting got under way rather belatedly as the president finally decided that we were gathered together here for the purpose of conducting a meeting. The minutes were called for, but the secretary again wiggled out of reading them, as usual, by complaining that the minutes were in the hands of the Cry publishers. He explained that he has been using this excuse in order to save him the trouble of reading them, and to save the members the trouble of having to listen to them.

The question of purpose was brought forward by F.M. Busby. He inquired as to what purpose this club had, if any, and if there was such a purpose that it be immediately eliminated, since a purpose usually entails work. Nobody seemed to have any specific ideas on the subject until Dick Nulsen entered the room and expounded a few well chosen sentences carefully calculated to confuse everybody.

Ted Ross gave his usual report on the science fiction TV show, the current offering of which was adjudged a rather poor excuse for what as supposed to be an

adult SF program.

The president, Rose Stark, began a discussion of a new look on Space Medicine, discussing the effects of free-fall on the burn, body, and group discussion ran hot for a time.

F.M. Busby discussed the new Fantastic Uriters briefly, and the meeting started to break up as three new members were introduced. It broke up completely when Mr. Gonser declared that coffee, tea, and cookies were ready for injection into our various digestive systems.

137th meeting: September 15th, 1955

At the official meeting opening time, 8:00, hardly anyone was present, so the meeting was not opened officially. It was not long, however, before people began arriving in droves, but the president remained conspicuously absent. During the ensuing melee, pictures and other crud brought back from the Clevention were circulated among the members, and for a considerable time, general bedlam reigned.

TO DATE, THERE IS NO KNOWN A TO' I BATCHEONS -

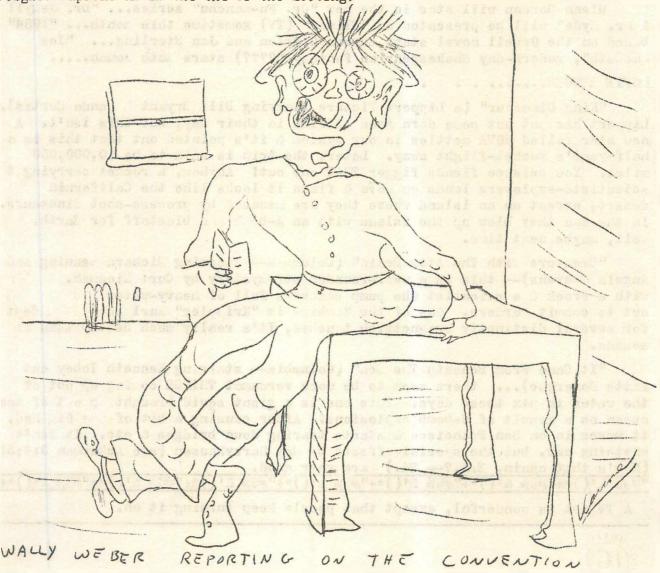
(MINUTES) (concluded)

Finally the president put in an appearance, and in a short time began pounding the official bone for order. After pounding for a considerable length of time she was able to make her voice heard. She apologized profusely for having to interrupt the members from their gaiety, and begged forgiveness for her temerity in doing so. But she thought that perhaps she might be forgiven if she pointed out that possibly the congregation might benefit if Wally Weber were to address the group and give a description of events as they occurred at the convention. He was the only member of the group who had attended. This served to quiet down the members considerably except for one stupid idiot who called for the minutes to be read. The secretary that the minutes were out of his hands and were in the process of being published.

Not orthologist another stupid idiot moved that the minutes be not read. In spite of the fact that the minutes could not be read in any case, the motion was passed.

The meeting was finally turned over to Wally Weber who proceeded, with the help of the program booklet, to describe the Clevention as seen through his four eyes. This affair wasted most of the meeting time quite effectively, and for some weird reason, everyone enjoyed this part of the meeting tremendously. Toward the close of the description of day by day Convention events, Wally Weber was rudely interrupted by Wally Gonser in a very rude fashion by announcing that refreshments were ready. Wally Weber, thus rudely interrupted, was unable to finish his report as he was drowned out by the ensuing rush of the chowhounds and once again bedlam

reigned supreme until the end of the meeting.



(5)

# by Eldon K. Everett

TV DEP'T.....

Sol Lesser is planning on putting out a "TARZAN" TV film show next fall .... & Consolidated is planning a "SPACE HIDERS" TV series. Hoo BOY!

The "Science-Fiction Theater" series which most (??? - Ed.) of the Nameless Ones have been touting so highly is really rolling. Among the stories scheduled for release in the future months are "Elixir of Life" with John Abbott, with a plot similar to Rog Phillips "Involuntary Immortals"...
"The orld Below" with Gene Barry & marguerite Chap an about a strange city beneath the sea... "Eyes of the Panther" starring Basil Lathbone, about the discovery of a null-gravity metal in an Egyptian tomb... "Dead Storage" which revolves around the thawing of a baby marmoth (that's a real elephantine one)... & "The Strange People at Fecos" with Arthur Franz, about none other than flying saucers... I think you'll all agree outright that this is the best stf show on TV.

"Bonnie Buchan" on TV is played by hary Jean Moss. Not that it's stf, but somebody asked me at the June 23rd meeting.

When Gordon will star in the new "Dr. Fu-Manchu" series... "Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde" will be presented on "Climax" (TV) sometime this month... "1984" based on the Orwell novel stars Edmond O'Brien and Jan Sterling... "Joe MacDeth", modern-day Shakespearian fantasy (????) stars buth doman....

MOVIE REVUES......

"King Dinosaur" (a Lippert Ficture starring Bill Bryant A Landa Curtis).. Lippert has put out some darn good stfilms in their day, but this isn't. A new star called NOVA settles in our system & it's pointed out that this is a half-year's rocket-flight away. Later, the trip is said to be 10,000,000 miles. You science fiends figger THAT one out! Anyhow, a rocket carrying 4 scientists-explorers lands on hove & finds it looks like the California desert, except on an island where they are menaced by process-shot dinosaurs. In the end they blow up the island with an A-bomb and blastoff for Earth. Well, maybe next time.

"Creature With The Atom Brain" (Columbia -- starring Michard Denning and Angela Stevens) -- this is a well-rounded strongstery by Curt Siodmak, a ling with a crook & a scientist who pump cadavers full of heavy-water as an out to commit murders. One of the Zambias is "Krippler" Karl bare beept for several distinctly Bragnettish touches, It's really much better than it sounds.

A TV set is wonderful, except that people keep turning it on.



# S - F R E P O R T: August, 1955 Average Ratings of S-F Magazines

	414 A + ME	, 1000	<u></u>	20 or o. 1 masacration
	ASTOUNDING July, 1954 (53:5)			GALAXY Aug., 1955 (10:5)
R	Hunting Lodge, nt (Garrett)		04	Flat-Eyed Monster, nt (Tenn)
	Pyramid, nt (Abernathy)			Country Estate, nt (Galouye)
	Disturber, ss (Marks)			Whiskaboom, ss (Arkin)
				A Gift From Earth, ss (Banister)
	In the Beginning, ss (Klass)			
В	Question & Answer (20f2)(Anderson)			Twink, ss (Sturgeon)
- /	<u>ASTOUNDING</u> Aug., 1955 (55:6)		В	Preferred Risk (3of4) (McCann)
	Call Him Dead (lof3) (Russell)		~ /	GALAXY NOVELS #22
	Victory, nt (del Rey)		D/	Killer to Come, nov (Merwin)
	Judgment Day, ss (de Camp)			IMAGINATION Dec., 1954 (5:12)
	Pagan, ss (Budrys)		E	Revolt of t.Outworlds, nva(Lesser)
В	Feeding Time, ss (Gunn)		D	And All t.Girls Were Nude, ss(Magruder)
	FANTASTIC UNIVERSE Aug., 1955(4:1)			Strange Eden, ss (Dick)
	Epidemic on Venus, nt (Clinton)		E	Vegans Were Curious, ss (Marks)
В	Free Will, sss (Stivens)		D	Miracle of Dan O'Shaughnessy, ss(Hunter)
C	Operation Triplan, ss(Reynolds)		F	Fish Fry, sss (Marmor)
C	Fresh Pastures, ss(Radcliffe)			IMAGINATION April, 1955 (6:4)
C-	Advantages Are Tremendous, ss (Casewi	it)	D	Hunting License, nt (McConnell)
	A New World, ss (RR Smith)			Highways in Hiding (20f4)(GO Smith)
	Good Husband, sss (Ev Smith)			A Matter of Ethics, ss(Winterbotham)
	Escape Mechanism, ss (Sellings)			Voyage of Vanishing Men, ss (Mullen)
	Grand Rounds, ss (Nourse)			Albatross, ss (Reynolds)
	Homesick Lane, ss(Arkawy&Henig)			IMAGINATION May, 1955 (6:5)
	Crazy Mixed-Up Planet, nt (Fritch)		C/	Flight Perilous! nt (Noll)
	Homecoming, ss (Haggard)		В	Highways in Hiding (3of4) (GO Smith)
	FANTASTIC UNIVERSE Sept., 1955(4:2)		D	Moonfall, ss (Chandler)
C/	Cartels Jungle, nt (Cox)			Pleasure Was Ours, ss (R Russell)
	Long Voyage, ss (Jacobi)		D/	Moonlight and Robots, ss (Dunham)
E	Mission From Space, ss(Maine)			IMAGINATION June, 1955 (6:6)
B-	Houlihan's Equation, ss (Sheldon)		C-	Wanted: One Sane Man, nt (Robinson)
	Doorway, sss (Ev Smith)			Highways in Hiding (4of4) (GO Smith)
	Undiscovered Country, ss(Budrys)			Problem Planet, ss (Winterbotham)
C-	Rescue Squad, ss (O'Hara)		C-	Hood Maker, ss (Dick)
E/	Operation Earthworm, ss(Archibald)		C-	Martian, ss (Silverberg)
C/	Hoofer, ss (Miller)			IMAGINATIVE TALES Sept., 1954 #1
C/	Sun Hunters, ss (Hensley)		D	Toffee, nov (Myers)
	FANTASY & S.F. Aug., 1955 (9:2)			IMAGINATIVE TALES Nov., 1954 #2
В	Two-Handed Engine, s nt(Moore&Kuttn	ier)	D≠	Toffee Takes a Trip, nva (Myers)
C	Last Prophet, ss (Clingerman)		D	Toffee Haunts a Ghost, nva (Myers)
C	Cause, ss (Arr)			IMAGINATIVE TALES July, 1955 #6
C	Our First Death, ss (Dickson)		C-	The Big Binge, nov (Bloch)
В	Strange Children, ss (Holding)		E	So Very Dark, nt (Galouye)
C-	Chirp Me a Story, sss (Ottum)			LONDON MYSTERY #16 (Feb., 1953)
B	Inside Straight, s nt(Anderson)			(also, 7 non-fant., 3 non-fiction)
B-	Tiddlywink Warriors, s nt (Anderson	1 &c	В	Too Nuch Secrecy, sss (D Hill)
	Dickson)		В	Lady on the Grey, ss (Collier)
B-	Vanishing American, ss (Beaumont)		B/	Brighton Monster, ss (Kersh)
В	Nellthu, sss (Boucher)		C	Shipshape Shilling: His Latest
- 1	FUTURE Oct., 1954 (5:3)			Adventure, juvss (L Clopet)
	On Such As These, nt (Cox)			LONDON MYSTERY Sum., 1954(#19, 11/53)
	Dead on Departure, ss (Lesser)		_	At the Heart of It, ss (M Harrison)
	Meddler, ss (Dick)		В	Fairy on t.Christmas Tree, ss(AM Peake)
	Despite All Valor, ss (Budrys)		44	Col. Chinstrap's Ghost Story, sss(B Stuart)
_	Crime Therapist, ss (Bradley)		C D	October the Nineteenth, ss (B Carter)
	Conventional Ending, sss(Cogswell)		E/	Could There? sss (D Hill)
ענ	Silent Colony, sss(Silverberg)			(also, 5 non-fant., 2 non-fiction)

LONDON MYSTERY Fall, 1954(#20, 2/54) LONDON MYSTERY #24 (Feb., 1955) (also, 7 non-fant., 1 non-fiction) (also, 5 non-fant., 1 non-fiction) B- House Down the Lane, ss(J Pepper) Sea Shroud, ss (FE Smith) B- Suffer a Witch, ss (P Shaffer) G- Devil Weeps, sss (I McLeod) B/ Cardillo's Shadow, ss (SJ Bounds) Devil in Mayfair, ss (L Day) B The Cave, ss (F McDermott) Gr Lady of Glengarrion, ss (A Stuart) C The Green Tiger, sss (R Sinclair) She Never Lets You Go, ss(S Palmer) LONDON MYSTERY #21 (May, 1954) B Myself When Young, ss (P Partigon) (also, 7 non-fant., 2 non-fiction) B A Walk By Moonlight, ss (CD Heriot) B- Murder in Oils, ss (M Dunstone) OTHER WORLDS July, 1955 #12 (#33) B Strange Holiday, ss (L Belhaven) 0/ I'll Tell by Big Brother, ss(Palmer) B- Truth of the Matter, ss (R Sinclair) C Coward, ss (Power) B/ Footsteps in the Snow, ss(M Marquis) C/ Narkeeta, nva (Martin) C Oneself Outside, ss (J Comly) C≠ Snakerdworp, ss (Causey) C/ Beautiful Helen! ss (G Yon) B Where t. Buffalo Roam, ss (Bloch) B With Possession, ss (G Davies) OTHER WORLDS Sept., 1955 #13(#34) LONDON MYSTERY #22 (Aug., 1954) B- Eighth Day, nt (Nuttall) (also, 8 non-fant., 1 non-fiction) D≠ Politician, s nt (Rowson) B- Those That Hunt By Night, ss(FE Smith) C/ Proof-Load, ss (Damler) C/ Grimley's Mishap, ss (MP O'Conner) C- Man in the Moons, ss (Binder) C Dak Bungalow Mystery, ss(J Codrington) Dog Who Wanted to Go Home, ss(Sargent) B Four O'Clock, ss (G Gowler) PLANET Summer, 1955 (6:11) C- Out of t. Iron Womb! nov (Anderson)s nt B- Terror That Walked By Night, ss(L Day) A Spider, Spider, ss (F Gonner) B- Last Call From Sector 9G, nov(Brackett) B/ One Hand in t.Grave, sss(D Doubtfire) C≠ Once a Starman, nt(Hensley) LONDON MYSTERY #23 (Nov., 1954) D Image of Splendor, as (Kella) D- Brides of Ool, ss (MA Cummings) (also, 8 non-fant.) C Flesh and Blood, ss (R Sinclair) Dust Unto Dust, ss (Hinckley) C/ Alien Equivalent, ss (RR Smith) C/ Italian Room, ss (JS Anderson) WEIRD TALES July, 1954 (46:3) B Devil Doll, ss (FE Smith) Survivor, nt (Lovecraft & Derleth) C/ Bird's-Eye Maple, ss (CD Heriot) B Mirror in 12A, ss (J Edgar) E More Than a Shadow, ss (Quick) C The Sphinx, ss (M Spurway) D Never Stop to Pat a Kitten, ss(deFord) B- All in the Day's Work, ss(P Pardigon) C/ The Sin Eater, nt (Pendarves) D/ Green Huntsman, ss (Gibbons) A Black Sunday, ss (J Forbes-Robertson) LONDON MYSTERY #25 June, 1955 Tree of Life, ss (Ernst) (also, 6 non-fant., 2 non-fiction) Guardian, ss (Suprement) C/ Passing of a God, s nt (Whitehead) B/ Good Dog, sss (G Gowler) C/ Off the Map, ss (Dolphin) C/ Slave Detective: Case of the Honey WEIRD TALES Sept., 1954 (46:4) Cake, ss (W Nichols) B No Company at Corry Keep, ss(A Stuart) Spawn of Darkness, s nt (Shaw) Dorgen, ss (Pickett) B Night Watch, sss (BC Fisk) A Tomb in Nalacor, ss(Marti-Ibanez) C/ A Game of Chess, ss (JW Chance) Dark Man, nt (Howard) A Underground People, sss (R Timperley) B- Peat Smoke, ss (K Philip) Imitation Demon, ss (R Kuttner) B- De Brignac's Lady, 1 nt (Mashburn) B Mirror, ss (S Palmer) C/ Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary, ss(JJ Bolton) (listed incorrectly as "Washbarn")

S-F REPORT consists of the average ratings of s-f magazines by DA Austin, WN Austin, RH Drummond, W Drummond, FM Busby, E Busby, RD Keller, R Stark, B Toskey, W Weber, and FH McKinnis. Compiled by WN Austin. Ratings welcomed from other interested readers. (8/11/55)

B Tree in the Square, ss (JS Anderson)

# Ratings

- A Excellent
- B Very Good
- C Good
- D Neutral
- E Below Average
- F Rather Poor
- G Poor