

# S-F TIMES

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY"

18th YEAR OF PUBLICATION

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THE S-F NEWSPAPER

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TEN CENTS

## "MONSTER ISSUES" MUST SELL OR "SUPER S-F" FOLDS

NEW YORK, 27 April, (CNS) - Mr. W. W. Scott, editor of Super-Science Fiction, informed this newspaper today that the life of Super-Science Fiction depends on how well the special "monster" issues go over. At the present time "The Second Special Monster Issue" is on the stands. In the works are two more #3 Monster, & #4 Monster issues. #4 will be dated October 1959. If by the time the October 1959 issue of Super-Science Fiction comes out and there is no indication that the "monster" issues are a success then the magazine will fold. We asked Mr. Scott if there was a chance of reverting the magazine to straight science-fiction if the "monster" issues fail. Mr. Scott stated that they would not revert to straight science-fiction but kill the magazine as the straight science-fiction issues were losing money. Mr. Scott went on to state that Super-Science Fiction sales went down with the shooting into space of the Russian and American satellites. The only hope for the continuation of the magazine is that the "monster" issues are a success. In that case of course the policy of the magazine will continue to be "monster science-fiction".

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### THE COSMIC REPORTER

----- by Arthur Jean Cox

On Thursday, March 5th, the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society held a special old timers get-together, or "Nostalgia Night", on its 1,125th meeting. There were more than thirty persons present, including such older old timers as Dale Hart, Walt Liebscher, Bill Crawford (former editor and publisher of Marvel Tales, Fantasy Book, etc.), Forrest J Ackerman, Walt Daugherty; and such younger old - timers as Kenneth Bonnell, Len and Ann Moffatt, Bill Cox and myself---none of them any longer regular attendees at the meetings, with the exception of the perennial Forrest. Daugherty was the speaker, retailing anecdotes, mainly humorous, of the old days and old fans, and showing old photographs on his magic lantern so as to match faces with the reputations. The club, which now meets in the home of Zeke Leppin in west Los Angeles, apparently has some twelve or fifteen regular members, mostly younger fans. Jerry Stier is director, Bjo Wells treasurer and Ted Johnstone secretary. Charles Burbee, once the club's Second Most Deadly Enemy, has been a frequent, and popular, visitor.

It is reported that Hammer Films, in England, is planning a new production of Robert Louis Stevenson's novella "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde". It will be the fourth time that the story has been filmed. I recently saw the earliest production (1920) starring John Barrymore, at the Silent Movie theatre in Los Angeles. It had many wonderful bits of acting, and some good direction, but on the whole was static and dull. Good Mr. Jekyll was too stiff and unpleasant, and Bad Mr. Hyde was too humorless, for either to be sympathetic. I haven't seen the second filming of the story (Paramount, 1932), featuring Frederick March, but it must be one of the most



highly-praised movie ever made. It's hard to see, though, how it could be much better than the excellent but much-slighted third version (MGM, 1938), starring Spencer Tracy and Ingrid Bergman -- a masterpiece of comedy, if not of horror. It's my guess that Hammer Films will play the comic possibilities in the story even more. Unfortunately, it's not likely that they'll get for the title roles the one English actor who belongs in the same company with Barrymore, March and Tracy: Alec Guinness.

Kris Neville has completed a 70,000 word science-fiction novel, an expansion of Earth Alert, which originally appeared in Imagination. To everyone's surprise, he has not yet been able to sell the novelization of his popular story, Bettyann.

### THE SCIENCE-FICTION RECORD - - - - - /by Frank R. Prieto, Jr./

#### THE FOLLOWING SCIENCE/FANTASY MAGAZINES APPEARED IN THE U.S. DURING FEBRUARY:

N A M E	DATE	PRICE	PAGES	TYPE	DATE ON STANDS	SCHEDULE
Galaxy Magazine	April	50¢	196	Digest	Feb. 3, 1959	Bi-Monthly
Future Science Fiction	April	35¢	130	Digest	Feb. 3, 1959	Bi-Monthly
Amazing S-F Stories	March	35¢	146	Digest	Feb. 10, 1959	Monthly
Astounding Science Fiction*	March	35¢	162	Digest	Feb. 13, 1959	Monthly
Fantastic	March	35¢	130	Digest	Feb. 13, 1959	Monthly
Fantasy & Science Fiction	April	40¢	130	Digest	Feb. 25, 1959	Monthly

\*one non-science-fiction story in this issue.

NOT S/F BUT OF INTEREST: Fate, March; Short Stories For Men\*\*, April; Science World-1st Feb.; Science Digest\*\*\*, March; Search, April; and Science World, 2nd Feb.

\*\*first large-size issue and new title (formerly Short Stories).

\*\*\*this magazine and Popular Mechanics has been purchased by the Hearst Magazine Group.

#### THE FOLLOWING SCIENCE/FANTASY MAGAZINES APPEARED IN THE U.S. DURING MARCH:

Satellite Science Fiction	April	35¢	64	L-S	March 3, 1959	Monthly
Science Fiction Stories	May	35¢	130	Digest	March 5, 1959	Bi-Monthly*
Fantastic Universe S-F	May	35¢	128	Digest	March 8, 1959	Bi-Monthly
Astounding Science Fiction	April	35¢	162	Digest	March 10, 1959	Monthly
Amazing S-F Stories	April	35¢	146	Digest	March 10, 1959	Monthly
Super-Science Fiction	June	35¢	128	Digest	March 14, 1959	Bi-Monthly
Fantastic	April	35¢	130	Digest	March 19, 1959	Monthly
FANTASY & Science Fiction	May	40¢	130	Digest	March 23, 1959	Monthly

\*The listed 10 times a year, the mag is now a bi-monthly.

NOT S/F BUT OF INTEREST: Space Age-May, Fate-April, Science Digest-April, Short Stories For Men-June, and Space Journal-May.

During February 1959, six science/fantasy magazines came out. All were digest-size, cost \$2.30 and contained a total of 894 pages.

During March 1959, 8 science/fantasy magazines came out. 7 were digests costing \$2.50 and containing 954 pages. 1 was large-size costing 35¢ and containing 64 pages for a total of \$2.85 and 1,018 pages.

### THE TIME STREAM - - - - - /by J. Harry Vincent/

Robert Lowndes informed us that his new style line covers will have more color in

The DETENTION DIRECTORS present:

HUGO NOMINATION BALLOTS

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The announcement and presentation of "Hugo" awards has always been a major feature of the World Science Fiction Conventions. These awards, named in honor of Hugo Gernsback the founder of "Amazing Stories", are given for achievements in and contributions to the Science Fiction field and do represent considerable honor to the awardees.

The problem of selecting the award winners is not a simple one. The Detention committee has discussed previous policies and procedures and has decided to revise these in hopes of making the awards more meaningful and more representative of fandom's and the general readers opinion.

The basic problem is that, in most of the award catagories, a great many persons and their work are eligible, so many that a simple blank ballot of the convention membership before or at the convention could result in an award being given on the basis of 3 or 4 votes for a specific item. Obviously, nominations must be made before an actual vote can be taken and some form of elimination is essential.

We do not believe that any group smaller than the whole of fandom can produce a truly representative list of nominations and, of course, the same group must be allowed upon the nominations. Nothing less could be fair to the persons and publications involved.

In the hope of making the "Hugo" awards more representative of the best judgement of ALL of fandom we urge everyone, convention members and non-members alike, to send us their nominations. Up to three in each category will be accepted from each person.

In most cases five to ten nominations, depending upon the response and subject, will be listed on the ballot. The nominees, of course, will be the most frequently named.

The HUGO AWARD catagories will be:

BEST NOVEL:

Any science fiction or fantasy novel, appearing for the first time as a hard cover book, a paper bound book (original or reprint ) appearing as a full length magazine novel, appearing a full length serial in a magazine. Books must have been published in 1958, magazine s must bear an issue date of 1958, and in the case of serials, one or more parts must bear a 1958.

BEST NOVELETTE:

Any Science Fiction or Fantasy story of medium length ("novella", "novelette", or "short novel") published in a magazine bearing a 1958 date, or published for the 1st time in a hard cover or paperbound collection or anthology bearing a 1958 copyright.

BEST SHORT STORY:

Any Science Fiction or Fantasy story too short to include in the "novelette" category, which appeared for the first time in a magazine or paper-bound, hard cover—book bearing a 1958 date or copyright.

BEST PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE:

Any magazine, primarily Science Fiction and/or Fantasy, that published one or more issues bearing a 1958 date.

BEST AMATEUR MAGAZINE:

Any magazine edited by fans which published at least one issue during 1958.



**BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST:**

Any artist whose work has appeared during 1958 as magazine illustrations in the Science Fiction-Fantasy field, or who has been published in or on a hard cover or paper bound book bearing a 1958 copyright date.

**MOST PROMISING NEW AUTHOR:**

Any writer who first gained prominence during the 1958 calendar year.  
(Note: No award in this category will be given if response is poor.)

**BEST SCIENCE FICTION OR FANTASY MOVIE:**

Any movie, new or re-run, American or Foreign, that saw general release during 1958.

(Note: No award in this category will be given if response is poor.)

It will be noted that the use of the 1958 calendar year (or issue dating in the case of magazines) as the period to be covered by these awards is a departure from the previous custom. This perhaps is the most radical of the changes made, and we made it with some reluctance—not only because it is a break with tradition—but because this period overlaps last year's period of awards given at the convention in Los Angeles. We feel this change is necessary, however, to allow time for both nominations and a vote before the Con convenes in September. We also feel that by referring to a full calendar, (or issue date) year the indefinite position of bound books can be clarified by reference to publishing, or copyright date included in almost all such books.

We feel an award should not be given twice for the same accomplishment. The stories which won the category nominations and awards at last year's Solacon will not be eligible. However, the same writers are eligible on the basis of another story published in the same year 1958. We feel that the categories of "Best Professional Magazine"; "Best Amateur Publication", and "Best Artist" could conceivably receive the award in consecutive years since it is given for continued excellence, rather than a specific achievement.

Please fill in the following nomination ballot and mail it to:  
"DETENTION" 12011 Kilbourne Street, Detroit 13, Michigan, USA.

BEST NOVEL

BEST NOVELETTE

BEST SHORT STORY

BEST PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE

BEST PROFESSIONAL

BEST STF OR FANTASY MOV.

MOST PROMISING NEW AUTHOR

BEST AMATEUR MAGAZINE

All Nominations must  
postmarked not later  
than:  
May 15<sup>th</sup>, 1959.

You are not required to join the convention to nominate and vote for your choice, all nominations and votes will be given an honest count without regard to whether the person writing has sent in his membership fee or not! We would, however, like to point out that this convention is being run by a non-profit organization, whose major source of income is the \$2.00 fee charged all persons joining. From this we must provide all convention benefits. Persons who do not attend the convention will still receive all benefits, as well as the satisfaction of having personally helping to promote the convention. The procedure is simple—just enclose the two dollars with your ballot. The convention committee will see that you receive the full value for your money.

the future on his two science-fiction magazines: Science Fiction Stories and Future Science Fiction. Altho t h e y will continue to be line drawings, he can now use three color on his covers. T h e aim is to make the magazines more outstanding on the newsstands. Serials are out in Science Fiction Stories until further notice. The use of serials showed no increase in sales, so they have been dropped. There just wasn't any great enthusiasm for the serials.

Larry Shaw's monster magazines have both folded. W i t h his science-fiction magazines also gone, Larry is now left with only his two auto magazines.

Was happy to see Gold and Quinn continue I f as similar to how Quinn was putting it out. The only real apparent difference is the poorer paper and this we can overlook. I miss the departments tho and hope that G & G can revive them in the near future. Interior illustrations in this first G & G issue are very good, as was the cover. Stories, in my opinion, are average.

Have you noticed that the Science Fiction Book Club ads have been dropped from the science-fiction magazines and have been appearing i n current science-fiction pocket books. Could it be that the Science Fiction Book Club feeld that the s-f magazines are done for and that the pocket books are taking their place? Many s-f personalities feel that pocket books are the coming successors to the s-f mags and point to Pohl's Ballantine Star pocket books as an example of what may be the s-f "mag" of the future. Could be?

STATE OF FANDOM

by Lane Stannard

## THE DETENTION

The 17th World Science Fiction Convention, the Detention, will be held in Detroit, Michigan on September 5, 6 & 7, 1959. The dues this year will be \$2.00 payable to Jim Broderick, treasurer, 12011 Kilbourne Street, Detroit 13, Michigan. The boys and gals putting on the convention could use your dues right now. They have been paying the usual bills that running a world convention brings in right along and while all bills to date have been payed in full; new and bigger ones are on the way such as the making of the "Hugo" awards, and these bills must be met. I would suggest that if you want to join in the biggest fan affair of the year, do so now by mailing in your \$2.

We have been investigating the goings on of this convention and have come up with some mighty interesting and very pleasing data. Mr. Howard DeVore of the Convention Committee has supplied most of the data and we pass it on to you.

This year the Convention Committee is incorporated as the "Seventeenth World Science Fiction Convention Committee, Inc." The convention itself is not incorporated, only the committee, and they are responsible for producing the convention. The Incorporation ceases to exist on March 2nd, 1960. The members of the Inc. are: Fred Prophet, Roger Sims, Chairmen; Mary Young, Secretary; J i m Broderick, Treasurer; George Young, Public Relations; Howard DeVore, Dean McLaughlin, Publicity; and Bill Richardt, Publications. T h e y filed incorporation papers on Oct. 16, 1958, but with minor changes required by law, etc., the inc. was not approved until March 2, 1959. People joining the convention are NOT inc. They feel that they are personally respsible for the con, and adding other members could only lead to confusion, with no gain to be expected. Persons joining the con cannot be held responsible for debts, etc. They are paying what amounts to an attendance fee, which is used to finance the convention.

We questioned the committee on profits (if any) and how such profits would be donated. We were quite satisfied with the answer: All profits from the con will be donated to worthy fannish projects. The majority would certainly go to the next convention committee, with possible small donations to TAFF, or similar organizations. The detroit committee will not be active in any group that recieves a do-



nation! They promise that "NO MONEY WILL BE RETAINED BY DETROIT FANS!".

There has been no policy decision on whether the attending fans will decide who gets the profits. It is likely they will not know exactly how much is made, but that they should be able to estimate it by the final day and will likely suggest to the audience that a certain amount be donated to a specific group for a specific purpose and ask the audience's approval. Any general disapproval would mean that the committee would offer an alternate plan. This might prove the quickest method, and we think it is quite satisfactory.

The incorporation is non-profit! State law requires that the committee present a detailed financial report, and consequently the committee intends to dispose of all profits (if any).

Full details on the Hugo Awards and how they will be arrived at this year will be found in the two pages supplied by the Convention Committee and enclosed with this issue. We find this plan about the best yet presented by any convention committee and about as fair as any. We urge all readers of Science-Fiction Times to take advantage of it and send in their nominations to the "Best" categories. On the ballot (page 2 of the enclosure) you'll find on the second row of listings: "Best Professional....." This should read "Best Professional ARTIST". You're on your own --fill it in and mail as soon as you can. While there is a May 15th '59 deadline on the ballots, the final counting will be held as long as possible after that date, to count as many ballots as possible.

Latest news on the program is that Sam Moskowitz will be on the "Collector's" panel, a position he can more than well fill. Sam's collection is about the best in the world. Harlan Ellison will appear on the Fan to Pro panel. Harlan is now working as assistant editor to "Rogue". By the way Rogue, edited and published by ex-science-fiction editor Bill Hamling has just increased pages, added delightful full color girly pictures and upped the price from 35¢ to 50¢.

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