

# JULY 1960 "FANTASTIC" WILL HAVE FIVE AUTHOR "ROUND-ROBIN" STORY

JULY ISSUE TO CONTAIN 146 PAGES

NEW YORK, 21 April, (CNS) - The July 1960 issue of Fantastic Science Fiction Stories will be a most unusual issue. It will contain a five author "Round-Robin" story, and this one issue will contain 146 pages.

Announced Cele Goldsmith, editor of Fantastic: "The July issue of Fantastic features a literary experiment guaranteed to be the delight of s-f fans far and wide. Five top writers combine their talents to produce one "Round-Robin" story entitled; "The Covenant".

"We gave the boys a cover design that was not connected with anything in particular. Poul Anderson started the ball rolling by creating the characters and situations which were to be picked up and expanded upon by Isaac Asimov, Robert Sheckley, Murray Leinster and the whole thing is finally tied together in bang-up fashion by Robert Bloch.

"This is an opportunity to read an exciting story AND a chance to see how five of the world's finest s-f authors, writing each in his own style, manage to develop one plot."

This should prove to be a most interesting issue, and a delightful story.

Readers and fans of science/fantasy are more and more getting interested in the Ziff-Davis twins since Cele Goldsmith and Norman M. Lobsenz became the editors. Improvements have been on a steady pace, and, we suspect, with much more interesting news still coming.

(Cover reproduction on page 3)

## INSIDE SCIENCE-FICTION FANDOM

(formerly "State Of Fandom")

by Robert A. Madle

I told Jimmy Taurasi sometime back that I would do a short column for him on about a monthly basis. Unfortunately, I have been tied up with considerable traveling plus moving -- and fandom had to take a backseat for awhile. However, the situation is getting back to normal and, for what it is worth, here is my first effort for Science-Fiction Times in this new series.

Enclosed with this issue of S-F T is a Transatlantic Fan Fund ballot. I believe most of you know what TAFF is, so I shant dwell on that. This time there are three fine candidates comprising the slate, any one of whom would make a fine representative at the PITTCON. Read the



"biographies" carefully and, if you're not sure who is the better candidate, well -- talk it over with your fan friends. If you're still not sure, remember that it is not necessary for you to vote in order to contribute money! (Need I indicate that the reverse on this is certainly not the case?)

One thing is certain: if a TAFFman is going to leave England and arrive at the PITTCON this year it is necessary for much more money to be collected than has been collected thus far. It should be pointed out that, originally, this campaign was to have taken us into 1961. However, because of the great success of the TAFF campaigns during the preceding two years, it was decided by the two Administrators (Ron Bennett over there and RAM over here) that we would make a valiant effort to bring someone over for the PITTCON. However, although we made the decision, the final decision will be fandom's. So, whether you select a candidate or not -- SEND MONEY! (Also need I mention that, while the minimum for voting privileges is 50¢, it is so much easier and convenient to slip a \$1 bill in the envelope with the ballot?)

Last year's TAFF winner, as most of you know, was S-FT's own correspondent, Donald E. Ford. As I write this, Don is sojourning in England following the London Convention which was held over the Easter weekend. As a matter of fact, I just received a card from Don which says: "Bob: your address book working out swell! Don." Below are such statements as, "Come back, Bob! We miss you. Fran! "Hoot Mon! Ethel". "Do you remember? I do! Ella Parker." Other signatures are "Daphne", and "Penelope Fandergaste." Always the kidder, that Don! Anyway, he certainly can disrupt a happy household.

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OUT OF THE PAST and like that department: The current (second) issue of Otto Binder's Space World contains a letter from Clifford Kornoelje. How many of you remember the pseudonym Kornoelje built up into one of the most famous fan of all time? In fact, for many, many years the two best known fans in America (and the world) were Forrest J Ackerman and -- Jack Darrow!

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IT'S A STRANGE WORLD DEPARTMENT: S-F

clubs are not too prevalent. However, I have discovered a club (New World Science Fiction Club) in the 5000 block of Aspen Hill Road. I happen to live at 4500 Aspen Hill Road! (Dig that new address, by the way.) It is composed of a bunch of high school lads -- but they're hep on s-f. I have an invite to visit them and discuss s-f as she was used to be done. The city that goes with the above address is Rockville, Maryland. Please note, as most of my mail is still coming to Alexandria, Virginia.

#### S-F MOVIES, RADIO & TV

by W. R. Cole

#### TV ON REVIEW

In sharp contrast to the numbers of magazines that have folded in recent months is the presence in the motion picture and television fields of good stories based on the science-fiction and several supposed science-fact themes.

On TV, for example, we have three new programs. Namely, ALCOA PRESENTS, a series based upon the unusual and sometimes supernatural theme; MAN INTO SPACE, a series offered to give the viewer an idea of the problems of travel into space and space explorations, and finally Rod Serling's THE TWILIGHT ZONE, a rare combination of offbeat fantasy and sometimes science-fiction stories.

As a science-fiction devotee and part-time critic and reviewer, these three run the gamut of different perspectives of reality. ALCOA PRESENTS has at various times presented what they consider true stories showing cases of mental telepathy, haunted house and precognition for example. There has been times when this writer has been unable to agree with the ideas presented but we have come away with the thought that there are many unexplainable incidents that cannot be pure logic.

MAN INTO SPACE is a program that should be put into a rocket and shoved into space we think it is so bad. Actually this program should, in reality, be the answer to every science-fiction fan's idea of a good s-f program. After  
(Continued on page 4, column 1)



COVERS IN THE NEWS

by Herman Von Tokken





S-F MOVIES, RADIO & TV  
(Continued from page 2, column 2)

all, the series does show exploration of the moon as well as other planets in the solar system. Going one step further, the program even gives thanks to the US Air Force and the Dept. of Defense for their cooperation and technical advice. If this program is an example of what film companies do with expert advice, then why ignore it? Perhaps the aforementioned agencies give Ziv Television Productions, the company that produces the series, a six year old child as their advisor. As an old-time student of astronomy, we understand that the moon has no atmosphere. Therefore how does sound travel on the moon? Practically every week we see and hear spaceships landing on the moon. This makes sense? To us it doesn't. We also see our expedition members walk around with photographic equipment as if they were on earth. As a photographer, we know that special care has to be taken of cameras in the Arctic Zone where the bitter cold has had a tendency to freeze up the working mechanism of cameras. In the tropics just the reverse is true. At times temperatures are so hot films have a tendency to overheat and buckle in the camera. However, in MAN INTO SPACE our characters just whip out a camera and start taking pictures. We would certainly like to know just how this is done. At the same time, we also understand that the moon has a lighter gravitational force than ours on earth. With such a lesser force, explorers can cover long distances in shorter times by use of a few healthy jumps. Yet there has been occasions where a member of the expedition does not have enough oxygen to get back to the ship. How ridiculous can you get. This series is enough to win the booby prize for technical errors yet it still remains on the air.

Finally we come to Rod Serling's THE TWILIGHT ZONE. Here we have a brilliant writer that has formed his own company, Cuyuwaga Productions, and has transformed his knowledge into a series of offbeat stories. As the producer of the series, and as a writer, he has control over the scripts that are presented on the air. Rarely has a writer

such control over a series. Two writers that are well-known in science-fiction, namely Ricard Matheson and Charles Beaumont, are regular contributors to this program. There has been times when the talents of these two and Mr. Serling have been combined to present excellent stories. An interesting side note to this series was the recent results of the TV Guide Poll. As far as we know, this is the first time that a program of this type has wound up as a nominee among the best half hour series produced on television. Even though it did not win the final award it does show that THE TWILIGHT ZONE does have a tremendous popularity among television viewers. Just what it has to offer would take a close critical study to answer. The production end of this series is darn good. The stories are good even though there have been a few times when Mr. Serling has left the ending hanging in mid air. Why leave the viewer dangling? End the story and get it over with. However, no one is perfect and this series, while the best we have ever seen, is not perfect either. But who wants perfection. We hope that science-fiction fans will remember this series in the forthcoming World Convention in Pittsburgh. THE TWILIGHT ZONE deserves a Hugo award and we certainly recommend they win one.

PITTCON NEWS

by Dirce Archer, Chairman PITTCON

The second Progress Report is complete and will be distributed in May. Included with it will be the final ballot for the Hugo Awards.

A balanced program of both fan and professional events is in the final stages of preparation. Bob Pavlat will be moderator of a panel entitled "The Science Fiction Fan Club, Form and Function". The Chicago fans will present the play, "Requiem for a Fake Fan". Don Ford, TAFF representative to England, will give an account of his trip. Lynn Hickman will preside over the "Fanzine Editors Panel". Philip Jose Farmer will talk on "Is the Science Fiction Fan a Victorian?" The title of James Blish's speech is "A Question of Content". By

the way, Blish has broken into the Ziff-Davis twins and thus rendered obsolete a portion of the write-up about him in the first Progress Report. Earl Kemp has lined up what we feel will be one of the stellar events at the convention but we'll tease you by keeping it secret a while longer.

Bjo Wells is heading the Fan Art Exhibit, an event unique to the PITTCON, which should amply demonstrate the artistic talents developed in science-fiction fandom.

Along with the above will be the

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traditional convention events - auction, masquerade, Hugo Awards, banquet, etc.

The PITTCON Committee has as its single aim to provide an interesting, entertaining, and enjoyable 18th World Science Fiction Convention. It needs the cooperation and assistance of All science-fiction adherents. Above all, your presence at the convention is needed to make it complete.

GENERAL NEWS: We have just heard that Damon Knight is the principal speaker at Eastern Michigan University's annual Book Fair, July 14-15.

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## THE SCIENCE-FICTION MAGAZINE RECORD

by W. R. Cole

### SCIENCE-FICTION & FANTASY MAGAZINES PUBLISHED IN THE U.S. DURING MARCH 1960:

During a recent conversation with one of your editors, namely Jim Taurasi, this writer commented that since we took over this column magazines have gone by the wayside left and right. The fact that those that have folded, with one or two exceptions, were nothing that ranked in the good magazine class, does not add anything to the fact. Is it possible that we have some power to cause the magazines to depart? Something to think about!

The latest to temporarily "cease publication" is Bob Lowndes' magazines, Future Science Fiction and Original Science Fiction Stories. No one seems to know why these two magazines hung on as long as they did. Even now, the publisher states that the magazines have not folded but just temporarily ceased publication pending a possible change in distribution. Well, let's just wait and

see.

Along with the above two suspensions, we understand that Great American Publications has folded Fear and that New Worlds (USRE) will follow shortly. If there were any two magazines that the field could do without, it was these two. At least they will shortly stop taking up space on the newsstands.

With the suspension and termination of four magazines, we are now left with only six magazines to read. What comes next? We think that before the World Convention in Pittsburgh, Galaxy's sister magazine, If Science Fiction, and possibly Fantastic Science Fiction Stories will be the next to depart from this world. As each month succeeding month passes, there are less and less magazines to report on. But that's the way life is. In any event, here is our listing for the month of March.

NAME	Date	Price	Pages	Schedule
Amazing Science Fiction Stories	Apr 1960	35¢	146	Monthly
Astounding (Analog) Science Fact & Fiction	Apr 1960	50¢	178	Monthly
Fantastic Science Fiction Stories	Apr 1960	35¢	130	Monthly
Fantasy & Science Fiction	Apr 1960	40¢	130	Monthly
If Science Fiction	May 1960	35¢	130	Bi-Monthly
Original Science Fiction Stories	May 1960	35¢	130	Bi-Monthly
New Worlds Science Fiction (USRE)	May 1960	35¢	130	Monthly

During the month of March, 7 science/fantasy magazines were released. They were all digest-size costing \$3.00 and contained 974 pages. Well, that's all for now. See you next month.



# The London Eastercon

BY Sture Sedolin  
(editor of the Swedish Edition  
of Science-Fiction Times)

(EDITORIAL NOTE: This is a second report on the British "Eastercon" giving more details on some items than the earlier one published in issue #336a.)

LONDON, 15-17 April, (CNS) - The Eastercon, the 2nd British Science-Fiction Con held under the auspices of the British Science Fiction Association (BSFA), was held in London WCL, Kingsley Hotel, during April 15-17. About 60 fans from all over England were present, as well as a few outside fans, including your reporter. The con was intended to be held at the Sanringham, but 2 days before the con, the Sanringham Hotel cancelled the booking, so Con-Secy Ella Parker found the Kingsley for us.

Fan Guest of Honor, Don Ford, TAFF-winner, arrived in London about 1 week before the con, and attended various parties, notably was one held at Ella Parker's place on the 12th of April when the "non-existing" Alan Dodd turned up.

The official program started at 2 P.M. Saturday afternoon with an opening speech by Dr. A. Weir. After it, Guest of Honor, Ted Carnell (editor of New Worlds, SF Adventures & Science Fantasy) introduced Don Ford, who also gave a short speech.

Then, Eric Jones conducted the TAFF Candidates Quiz with Sandy Sanderson, Mal Ashworth & Eric Bentcliffe as victims. After this very interesting program (which I taped in full), Ken Slater conducted the First Auction.

Shortly before Ted Carnell's speech of science-fiction, New York State fan, Dave Kyle was introduced. He was on a business trip in England and had decided to visit the con. Carnell's speech was mostly about his s-f magazines, and he told us the startling fact that New Worlds was built up on stories rejected by U. S. s-f magazines.

In the evening Don Ford showed us some of his color-slides, including shots of various World and Midwestcons as well

as "normal" pictures of some of USA's larger cities & s-f magazine covers. The fancy-dress party, held after this, suffered from poor attendance.

First on the Sunday program was BSFA's business meeting. New directors elected were: Brian Aldiss, president, Ira Shorrocks, chairman, Ella Parker, secy, and for the third time - Archie Mercer as Treas. The BSFA will from now on publish a monthly news-letter & the club journal (VECTOR) quarterly. Editor for both publications is Jin Groves. BSFA members voted for KETTERING as place for next year's s-f con.

The afternoon started with a program called "This IS Your Fan Life". Following this, Dr. Weir gave an interesting speech on Karel Capek - Master Of the Robots. Another Auction followed, conducted by Ron Bennett who sold items for TAFF. Ron did a much better job than Ken Slater, and managed to sell one of Brian Lewis New Worlds covers to a German fan for 70/-. Rare items as early astoundings, original manuscripts, etc., went for about 5/- each.

In the evening we watched the average s-f film "The Day The Earth Stood Still", and then some of Dave Kyle's confilms.

Most programs had about 35, 40 fans present, but Don Ford's slide-show had over 60 fans present. The poor attendance may be due to the last minute Hotel switch.

Don Ford spent the remainder of the week after the con visiting various s-f clubs around England, and he'll leave for France after that.

## SCIENCE-FICTION FORECASTS

Coming Up Next In The Pros

AMAZING S-F STORIES - July 1960:

Serial (Conclusion) ...AND ALL THE STARS A STAGE by James Blish. Novelet: L IS FOR LASH by William F. Temple. Short-Stories: NOBLE REDMAN by J. F. Bone, PENANCE DAY IN MODERAN by David R. Bunch MEMBERSHIP DRIVE by Murray F. Yaco, and ENOUGH TIME by Damon Knight. Article: A NEW LOOK AT SPACE by Arthur C. Clarke.

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION - July 1960:

OH, I'LL TAKE THE HIGH ROAD by Stephen Barr, THE SIMIAN PROBLEM by Hollis Alpert, THE BURNING by Theodore R. Cogswell, THINGS by Zanna Henderson, IT IS NOT MY FAULT by A. H. Z. Carr, FERDINAND BEGHOOT: XXVIII, A L L IN GOOD TIME by Miriam Allen deFord, THE LAST DREAM by Gordon R. Dickson, Science: BEYOND PLUTO by Asaac Asimov, Books: LEVEL 7 by Damon Knight, FAIR TRADE by Avram Davidson, and TO THE TOMBAUGH STATION (long novelet) by Wilson Tucker. Cover by Mel Hunter - "Moon Landscape". This is a wrap-around cover taken in full front and back covers. Prints of this has been advertised a short while ago, but there have been some changes made before acceptance by F&SF. It is a beautiful cover.

#### THE SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CLUB

The July selection is "Level 7" by Mordecai Roshwald. Members edition, only \$1, Publisher's edition: \$3.75.

The August selection is "The World Of Clifford Simak" by Clifford Simak, a selection of 12 Simak stories. Club members edition \$1.00, Publisher's edition: \$3.50.

#### NOTES TO THE EDITOR

by Our Readers

Street & Smith Publications, Inc.  
New York 22, New York  
April 11, 1960

Dear Jimmy:

That computation of the cost-per-word of the various science-fiction magazines which appeared in a recent Fantasy-Times has, I think, one slight flaw.

It rather reminds me of a computation I saw some years ago that showed that, cubic foot for cubic foot, the cheapest of all commercially available metals was metallic sodium. (The computation was perfectly correct; iron is cheaper per ton, but almost ten times as dense as sodium.)

Somehow, though, despite its cheapness per cubic foot, sodium has never succeeded in replacing more expensive metals in wide, general use.

Regards,  
John W. Campbell, Jr.

(check, quality is always the answer, in my opinion. In science-fiction, we let the World Conventions decide on this by their Hugo Awards, but we thought that item by Ed Meskys very interesting, as did our readers. Your letter does bring forth another interesting point that most fans and readers are debating right now: the change of Astounding to Analog. We haven't been Fantasy-Times since 1957, but many persons (like yourself) still call us that. As we've stated before in these pages: "Is it wise to throw away a name that has been in use for 30 years?" Personally we'll still take Astounding instead of Analog anyday. -the editors)

#### SCIENCE-FICTION BOOK REVIEWS

by James V. Taurasi, Sr.

THE FANTASTIC UNIVERSE OMNIBUS, edited by Hans Stefan Santesson, Prentice-Hall, Inc., N.Y., 270 pages, \$3.95.

If you will disregard the introductions by Lester del Rey and Santesson, and change the cover blurb to read "Brilliant Fantasy....." instead of science-fiction you'll enjoy this book. The introductions tend to brain-wash the meaning of the term "science-fiction" into something that it isn't namely a combination of fantasy, weird & science-fiction. Hans tried weakly to white-wash the use of occult junk in his former magazine Fantastic Universe.

The stories, ranging from pure fantasy, thru the weird, and into (in spots) science-fiction are about the best that have appeared during the years 1956-59 in Fantastic Universe. We enjoyed them again very much, and highly recommend the selections.

It's a good anthology that shows a good cross-section of what the best in the magazine was. Put it on your shelves.

THE ORGANIZATION MAD, edited by William M. Gaines, Signet Books, N.Y., #S-1795, 192 pages, 35¢.

Another pocket-book with material taken from America's maddest mag, MAD. You'll enjoy it, as most s-f fans do MAD. Get it.



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But urge you to vote and send in donations of at least 50¢ to:  
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COSMIC LIBRARY, #2, "Science Fiction Market Survey 1956" by Sam Moskowitz, 25¢ Science-Fiction Times, Inc.; P. O. Box 115, Solvay Branch, Syracuse 9, N.Y.

WANTED

Information as to whereabouts of Robert Howard - Lovecraft correspondence needed for research. Glenn Lord, Box 775, Pasadena, Texas.

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# SPEAKING OF SHAPES

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Getting down to bare facts, you are in really sad shape if you are trying to go it alone in your enjoyment of Science-Fiction and Fantasy-Fiction. It's just not human nature.

Man is a social creature. He must join with others of similar interests if he is to really enjoy any hobby.

Having your own little circle of fan friends is all to the good. Likewise, it is a smart move to join a local fan club ... or even an international one devoted to your own specialized phase of fanac.

But these aren't the *whole answer*. You need the mental stimulation of a larger group which covers all phases of fanac: writing, publishing, collecting, reading, corresponding, etc.

Only in this way can you get the width of viewpoint which you need to really enjoy your own fanac.

There is just one organization today which fulfills this requirement. This is the *National Fantasy Fan Federation*.

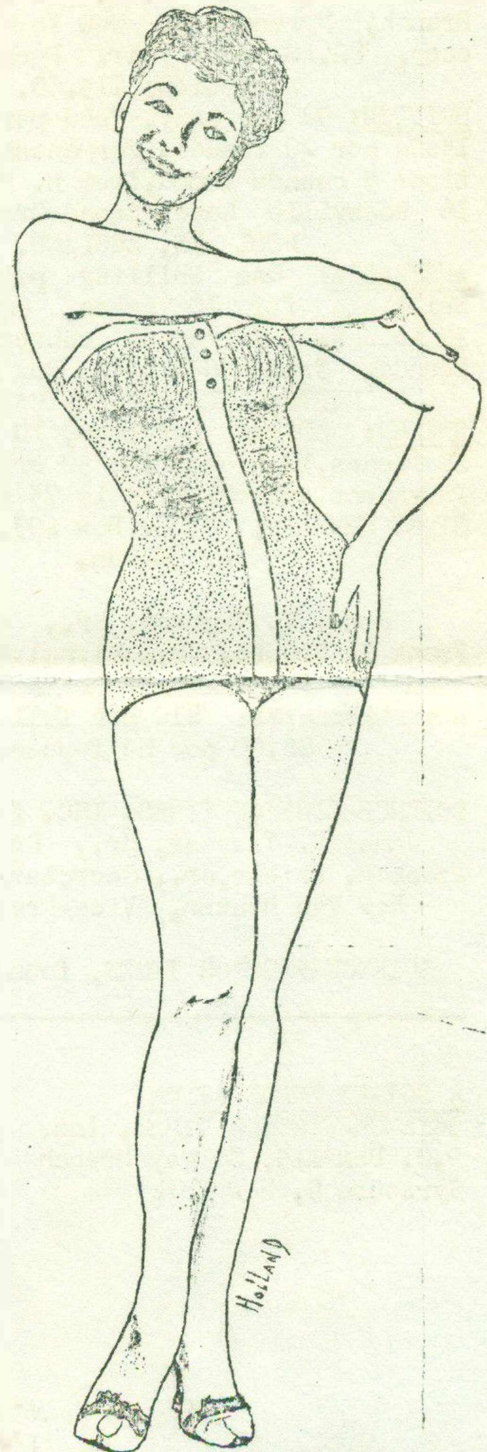
We can't claim that we have members all over the Universe -- not yet anyhow, although we do have plans to send a few application blanks along with the first man-carrying space rocket. If there are intelligent beings on any of the planets visited, we'll have them in the NFFF!

In the meantime, we can offer you the opportunity of associating with members whose viewpoints, at least, are as broad as the Universe.

If the shape-of-things-to-come in your future is to bring you the greatest and most lasting enjoyment, it must include membership in the NFFF.

For information write the secretary:  
Janie Lamb, Route 1, Heiskell, Tenn.

National Fantasy Fan Federation





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