

Science-Fiction Times

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY!"

Vol. 15 - No. 19

SECOND SEPTEMBER 1960 ISSUE

(No. 346) 10¢

SEATTLE IN 1961!

THE 18th World Science Fiction Convention voted Seattle for the next, 19th World Science Fiction Convention, THE SEACON. It will be held over the Labor Day Holidays of 1961. The SEACON will be produced by the Seattle Science Fiction Club, Inc., President of which is Jerry Frahm. The Convention Committee consists of Jerry Frahm and Wally Weber as Co-chairmen, and Jim Webbert, F. M. Busby and Wally Gonser as Committee Members. Registration Rates for this convention will be: North America, North of Panama, \$2 plus \$1 if you attend. All others \$1, plus \$2 when you attend. Approximately 150 joined up at the Pittcon. All checks, money-Orders should be made out to Wally Weber. Address is: F. M. Busby, 2852 14th Avenue W., Seattle 99, Washington. The time to join is now.

THIS ISSUE WAS EDITED AND PUBLISHED AT THE PITCON

PITTCON FAMILIES

by Belle C. Dietz

We introduce a new column to Science-Fiction Times, a Social column, which we think you will find most interesting. This first column is done at the PITTCON future columns will be called plain FAN-FAMILIES.

-the editor.

The youngest con attendee at the PITTCON is Michael Evan Shaw, the cute 2 month-old son of Larry & Noreen Shaw, who are starting the young'un off in the right direction early. However, Noreen thinks exposure to fannish influence should be done in easy stages so Mike went off to Cleveland with Noreen's mother for the duration. Hope the early-exposure develops, Larry & Noreen!

Ed Bäefeldt, Chicago fan, tells us that he's slated to go the altar way this coming spring. The lady is Kathleen Ramsey, of London, a war-bride-widow, and Ed will acquire along with her a family of 2 kids, boy 17 and girl 15. He'll turn them all into fans yet, he predicts.

I hear that Frank Belknap Long has already gone past his I-dos although he's been keeping it a deep dark secret. Frank told us he was planning to make an announcement at the PITTCON and introduce his lady but I haven't seen him at all. Anyway, congratulations, you fake bachelor, you!

Newlyweds at the con: Judy and Dave MacDonald, who were married 4 months ago on April 9; Joy and Sandy Sanderson (the newliest), married 2 months ago on June 25, and a double tie—Roger and Mabel Sims and Rosemary and Richard Hickey, all married in December last.

The National Fantasy Fan Ferretation is sporting some new welcome-alis this year. Not only could you find a quiet corner in its hospitality room to hold a fannish discussion but you could drink coffee and munch on cookies, supplied free and plentifully to all. And, if that fannish chit-chat makes you burn with the publishing fever, there's a hand-operated mimeo lurking in the background. The N3F made hospitality its middle name.

Whenever fans talk about a hotel going out of its way to make them welcome they should include the Pittsburgh Penn. Sheraton. To my amazement I found spread on the marquee outside the statement "Fandom Is Just A Hobby" flanked on either side by SALUTE TO PITTCON. Of course they had to leave 1 word out of the slogan (to clean it up) but what a chest-puffer nevertheless.

One sight at the Pittcon Costume Ball that was so worth seeing some of the guys got up real close so as not to miss anything was Sylvia White attired in a bikini with a transparent flounce added around her hips. With her model's figure and her long flowing golden hair, Sylvia made every other gal look angular by comparison. The only thing I didn't get was her announcement of her costume's name, to wit: "G. M. CARR".

We wish to thank George Nims Raybin, Belle and Frank Dietz, The Sandersons, Sam Moskowitz, Don Ford, Forrest J Ackerman and the many, many others that made these issues possible. —the editor

AT PRESS TIME

PITTCON CITY, 5 September, (CNS) - The newspapers here have published a few accounts of the Convention, as usual very juvenile and mostly presenting wrong news. Pictures were also present.

We found after we arrived here that we had no flash for our camera, so Walt Cole has been shooting pictures for us that we'll try to get in time for the next issue.

Auction prices are quite high at this convention, which is very good for the Convention Committee and it looks from here that it will go in the black.

Our thanks for the NFFF Hospitality Room, we used it, in the early hours of the morning, for black coffee as an aid in publishing these issues. Most of them were edited and published around 3:30 in the morning. Fandom should be very pleased with an organization like the NFFF.

More news of the Convention in our next issue.

SEATTLE IN 1961

The Science Fiction Newspaper

Science-Fiction Times

"The 'World Of Tomorrow Today!'"

THE PITTCON EDITION

Vol. A1 - No. 1

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 1960

(Published Daily)

ACKERMAN EDITS NEW BRITISH WEIRD FICTION MAGAZINE

"A BOOK OF WEIRD TALES" OUT IN ENGLAND

PITTCON CITY, 2 September, (CNS) - Forrest J Ackerman announced this morning from his room at the Penn-Sheraton Hotel that he is "Associate Editor" of a new British weird fiction magazine, "A Book Of Weird Tales". The first issue is already on sale in England and is a "One Shot". If it goes over it will become a regular publication. All the stories were selected by Forry and all but one is a reprint. Ackerman states that the magazine will publish new stories if it continues. The magazine is digest size, 128 pages and sells for 2/6 (35¢ USA). It carries no inside illustrations, and a design-type cover. The British editor is Cliff Lawton. Veevers and Hensman

Ltd. is the publisher. The magazine can be obtained from our British Agent.

The stories reprinted are: "The Curse of Amen-Ra" by Victor Rousseau, "The Terror From Transylvania" by Dr.acula, "The Dead Walk Softly" by Seawell Peaslee Wright; "Second Chance" by L. Major Reynolds, "The Hunters From Beyond" by Clark Ashton Smith, and "Chained To A Bed of Roses" by Jack Bechdolt. These are reprinted from Ghost Stories, Strange Tales (once a companion magazine to As-tounding Stories under Clayton), Malcom's and Ackerman's own Famous Monsters. The contents page also gives credit to Unknown Worlds, but no reprint from this magazine appears.

The one new story is "The Wild One" by Marion Zimmer Bradley.

We wish Ackerman the best of luck

EDITED AND PUBLISHED AT THE PITTCON

The Pittcon Edition
SCIENCE - FICTION TIMES

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Published daily at The Penn-Sheraton Hotel during the 18th World Science-Fiction Convention (THE PITTCON) by SCIENCE - FICTION TIMES, INC.

James V. Taurasi, Sr., Editor

on his latest magazine, both England and the United States can use a good weird magazine.

AT THE PITTCON

FRIDAY, 2 September, (CNS) - The Science Fiction Times Caravan started from New York yesterday morning in the "Times" Station Wagon driven by Frank R. Prieto, with editor James V. Taurasi, Legal Advisor George Nims Raybin and Jay Klein along as driving instructors, our new Rex-Rotary, typewriters and supplies, plus necessary clothing. We arrived at the Hotel at 12 midnight and quickly set-up the Science-Fiction Times editorial and printing office in room 584. From here we plan to publish each day one issue of Science-Fiction Times, Pittcon Edition. All these issues will be bound together to make up issue #346, Second September 1960 issue of Science-Fiction Times.

Among the first we met on arrival was Forrest J Ackerman, who presented us with the news of his new weird magazine (see page 1). Right after that we met and talked with John W. and Mrs. Campbell.

There was still quite a bit of work to be done with issue #345, our 19th anniversary issue.

This morning additional work was done on the issue and then stamped and brought to the nearby Post Office and mailed.

We inspected the Fan's Art Room, well advertised in numerous fan and pro publications and examined many of the

art work done by fan artists and was really impressed with the high quality of work presented, many showing more talent than many professional artists.

This art exhibit is an excellent idea. It may introduce many of these young artists into the professional field. The field could well use some of these talented boys and girls.

Tonight the Registration will begin and tomorrow the Convention will start officially.

Today we had the honor of meeting the "monster maker", James Warren, publisher of Famous Monster which Forry edits.

On Wednesday night, August 31, we attended a large party in honor of Eric Bentcliffe, the TAFF Representative of British Fandom to the Pittcon, at the new home of Frank and Belle Dietz. This party was given by two New York Science Fiction clubs, The Lunarians and The Futurians. Approx 60 New York fans were present talking and enjoying science-fiction and science-fiction fandom. Among those there were Joy and Sandy Sanderson recently in from England. Larry Shaw informed us that he no longer edits the auto mags of his company, but is now assigned to the company's Gun magazine. He sadly informed us that there was no change in his company's position of reviving either Infinity or Science Fiction Adventures. You'll remember that in 1956 when science-fiction magazines had hit a static low for a time, it was Larry's mag Infinity that broke the ice and brought forth a mild boom. The party was entertaining and the refreshments overflowing. Frank and Belle Dietz should be complimented on a real bang-up party and house warming.

If all goes right we expect to have convention pictures in our next regular issue (First October, #347). We have a Polaroid Camera and an electronic stencil will be cut as soon as Frank Prieto returns back home to Syracuse where our special stencils are cut. That will be our first test of a picture stencil.

Our second annual, the 1958 edition of THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK is now ready and for sale at \$1.00 a copy. 50 pages of s-f history of the year 1957.

The Pittcon Edition

S-F Times Daily

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY!"

Vol. A1 - No. 2

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 1960

(Published Daily)

MOSKOWITZ STATES "AMAZING" WILL REPRINT FROM EARLY ISSUES

PITTCON CITY, 3 September, (CNS) - Sam Moskowitz announced to the Pittcon audience today that Amazing Stories would in the very near future reprint some of the early classics from its back issues. Sam Moskowitz is doing the selection of these stories which must be 20 years old or older, be good enough to stand along the modern stories and be outstanding. Sam will do a 500 word introduction to the stories picked, and where possible the original illustration to the story will also be reprinted. It is felt that in reprinting the old stories, modern readers would also be interested in seeing what the old-time art work looked like.

So far Sam has picked the following stories to be reprinted:

THE LAST MACHINE by John Beynon Harris.

THE LAST EVOLUTION by John W. Campbell, Jr.

UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN by David H. Keller, M. D., and:

THE MAN WHO SAW THE FUTURE by Edmond Hamilton.

Each story picked will be done with a reason in mind, and why it was picked will be explained, etc., in Sam's introduction to each story.

There is a good possibility that Amazing Stories will celebrate its 35th Anniversary issue, April 1961, in grand style with selected classics of novelet

length being reprinted and a good chance of a Paul back cover. This Paul back cover is to celebrate the fact that Frank R. Paul did the first cover for Amazing. It will probably be the one Frank R. Paul did for a wedding present when Chris and Sam were married. Chris showed a colored slide of this painting during Sam's talk on Collector's Panel part of the Pittcon Program. If these plans go through, Amazing will add pages for this one issue.

BUDRY'S SHORT NOVEL COMING IN DECEMBER 1960 "FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION"

PITTCON CITY, 3 September, (CNS) - Bob Mills, editor of Fantasy & Science Fiction, announced today that the December issue of his magazine will contain a short novel of 35,000 words, ROGUE MOON by Algis Budrys. The cover of this issue (not illustrating any story) will be by Mel Hunter.

PITTCON

THE FIRST DAY - Saturday September 3:

In the morning, registration was continued, the display rooms were opened up, and the sales room was opened for business. Outstanding in the sales room was

the Famous Monster table, where copies of Famous Monster & their new magazine-Help! (a MAD type mag) were passed out. Editor Ackerman, Publisher Jim Warren, and a scantily clad gal did the honors.

The official program opened at approx. 1:00 P.M. with Chairman Dirce Archer giving the welcome speech and introducing the hard working committee. Then Bob Hyde, Secretary read the rules under which the Convention will operate.

This was followed by Science-Fiction's Who's Who where famous s-f personalities were introduced. Sam Moskowitz did the introducing replacing Dr. C. L. Barrett who took a short leave of the convention to be at the wedding of his son. Sam introduced the following with the proper back ground information: rs. Dirce Archer, James Blish, L. Sprague de Camp, Fred Pohl, Hal Clement, Randall Garrett, Robert Silverberg, Isaac Asimov, Hans Santesson, Forrest J Ackerman, Eric Bentcliffe, Jay & Sandy Sanderson and Mrs. E. E. Smith.

At this point Ed Wood announced that newsmen wanted to take photos of some of the famous s-f authors. A score of authors left the hall for this purpose.

Sam Moskowitz continued giving the news of Amazing Stories (see page 1).

At 1:50 P.M. the now famous Auction Bloch took place. Ed Wood introduced the affair, with Isaac Asimov MCing with his famous sense of humor and Sam Moskowitz auctioneering: Amidst gales of laughter the following well-known s-f personalities were sold. The deal was that the buyer would have one hour of the person's time:

1. L. Sprague de Camp sold for \$25 to Florht Gibson.
2. Hal Clement, \$12 to Dr. Mary Martin.
3. Randy Garrett, \$7.29 to Bruce Hennstell.
4. Dr. E.E. Smith, \$8 to Ricky Brooks.
5. Willy Ley (Willy was not in the Hall at the time, so Lu Tabakow stood in for him, but it was Ley's hour they bought), \$15.00 to Andrew Meek.
6. Judith Merrill, \$15.00 - Jack Barr.
7. It took four fans, David and Muriel Stein, John Gould and Eric Delson to buy Isaac Asimov for \$16.50.

All the money taken in will go to the TAFF Fund. Don Ford collected \$99 from the Auction Bloch for TAFF. Hal Clement gave a most interesting talk "Interstellar Stage-Setting" about setting up the background and plot details for interspace stories.

Forrest J Ackerman and Sam Moskowitz comprised the Science-Fiction Collector Panel with Forry telling of rare items, and Sam dealing mostly with collecting Dime Novels, well illustrated with colored slides by Chris Moskowitz.

The last item on the afternoon program was an auction with Harlan Ellison as Auctioneer.

After the dinner intermission, the Grand Costume Ball was held with some of the most outlandish and ingenious costumes ever seen at a s-f convention. Dr. C. L. Barrett acted as MC. After long and careful judging (The Judges were Dick Eney, Phyllis Economou, and Ray Smith) the winners were:

Most original -- Bjo

Most Monstrous -- Stu Hoffman

Most Beautiful -- Earl Kemp

Most Bizarre -- George Heap

Most humorous -- Virginia and Steve Schultheis

Grand Prize was won by Bjo

After the Awards those still in costumes were TVed by the local CBS TV-Station to be presented over the air locally on Tuesday morning between 7 & 8 AM, Sept. 6, 1960.

As this issue goes to press, the Ball Room is ringing to the songs of the Misfit Gless Club. Other like entertainment will carry on into the night.

We were told that among the Hugo winners will be a Hugo for papa Hugo Gernsback, the father of magazine science-fiction. It seems that with Hugos named after him none have ever been presented to him. This convention will now see to it that the man who made all this possible gets one at last.

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James V. Taurasi, editor

The Pittecon Edition

S·F Times Daily

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY!"

Vol. A1 - No. 3

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 1960

(Published Daily)

SEATTLE IN 1961!

"CRY OF THE NAMELESS"
EMSH, TWILIGHT ZONE,
KEYES, "F&SF" HEINLEIN,
& GERSBACK WIN "HUGÓS"

"BIG HEART AWARD" IN
HONOR OF E.E.EVANS
WON BY SAM MOSKOWITZ

\$125 FOR ONE ITEM
TAKEN IN AT AUCTION

PITTCON CITY, 4 September, (CNS) - The second day of the Pittcon started out with meetings of the "Fellowship Of The Ring" with Ted Johnstone as chairman, and the "Interplanetary Exploration Society" with Hans Santesson as chairman, both were in the nature of organization.

At 1:15 PM, the symposium of "Who Killed Science Fiction?" with Earl Kemp and Ted Cogswell as MCs, and John W. Campbell (editor), Avram Davison (author) Martin Greenberg (publisher) and Bruce Pelz (as Fan) in the panel. All agreed that s-f is not dead, but merely Wounded. Campbell said that the hard core of s-f fans had killed s-f because they are opposed to change. S-f has not lost its Sense of Wonder, the fans have. S-f has to change or it's dead. Davidson said s-f has a future; this is just a lull in the battle. There wasn't any boom in the 50s as he sells more now than during the so called "boom". Greenberg said that Astounding is just publishing psionics stories, F&SF is "cute", mags should publish all types of stories as they did in the 30s and 40s. S-f is just trying to find its niche. Bruce Pelz said fandom is not dead, that movies, TV, etc., cannot kill s-f. He also said it's not true that fanmags ignore s-f, most have something about s-f in their issues.

The talk by Harlan Ellison on mainstream s-f in the Sophisticated men's Mags came next. With the death of s-f mags, some authors have gone into the men's mag field where they sell cornball sf plots for 10¢ a word, bringing s-f to a larger audience. He predicts we'll see more men's mags with more s-f in them in the future.

2:35 P.M.: "Changing Trends In S-F Art", a panel composed of John W. Campbell Jr., Ed Emsh and Sam Moskowitz as moderator. Chris Moskowitz showed slides of s-f covers from 1903 to the present before the panel began. Emsh said that s-f art gives more freedom to and attract s more newcomers to magazine illustrating. Campbell discussed the different ways he gets covers and pointed up the difficulties of reproducing covers. Some wonderful covers could not be used because they could not be reproduced.

A play "Purple Pastures" was presented by LASFS & CHIA. Willy Ley gave one of his excellent talks on "Existence Doubtful: The Natural History of Some

Unknowns".

At an excellent Banquet with Asimov at his humorous best as Toastmaster, Don Ford and Eric Bentcliffe TAFMen gave thanks for sending them to Cons here and in England. James Blish gave an unusually interesting talk and the "Hugos" were awarded. The Best Fanmag went to Cry Of The Nameless, Best Artist to Emsh, Drama to "The Twilight Zone", Short Story to "Flowers For Algernon" by David Heyes, Best Pro Mag to Fantasy & Science Fiction, and Best Novel to "Starship Trooper" by Robert A. Heinlein. A special "Hugo" Award was given to Hugo Gernsback for being the Father Of Magazine-Science-Fiction and making all this possible. Ackerman awarded "The Big Heart Award" in honor of E. E. Evans to Sam Moskowitz for being outstanding fan of the year.

The business meeting with L. Sprague de Camp as chairman, passed a change in Registration rates to \$2 in North American (All North America North of Panama), and \$1 outside, plus an extra \$1 & \$2 when you attend. The Rocket Ship Awards Design was accepted as Standard for the "Hugo" Awards and Thanks was given to Ben Jason it's designer. Categories of the Awards was given to a Committee to be chosen by the present Convention Chairman to study and report at next Convention. Nominations for "Hugos" by fandom at large and actual final votes by paid members only was also passed. All action on changing the date of Conventions were tabled. Mail balloting for future Convention sites was also tabled. SEATTLE WAS VOTED AS THE 1961 CONVENTION SITE UNANIMOUSLY. No other city entered a bid.

As we go to press the Auction is in full swing with \$125 being paid by Dr. Mary Martin for the manuscript, globe & two Orbit models used by Hal Clements in his speech. \$101 was paid by Leo Rdd Klein for an original manuscript by Jose Farmer.

More news on the auction and Monday September 5 Convention doings in our regular issue #347.

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OUT AT LAST!

1958 EDITION OF THE SCIENCE FICTION YEAR BOOK

Covers the complete science-fiction year of 1957 with articles by:
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Robert A. Madle, Dan McPhail, and a special article by SAM MOSKOWITZ.

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