

S-F Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

No 336

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SECOND APRIL 1960 ISSUE

STILL ONLY 10¢

THE COSMIC REPORTER

by J. Harry Vincent

Why is it that while most science-fiction magazines no longer carry Book Club Ads on their back and inside back covers Saturn Web Detective Stories still does? The current issue of Web, once Saturn Science Fiction, dated June carries the old familiar ad from the Science Fiction Book Club. It has been doing this for over the last years, ever since it quit being a science-fiction magazine????????

We were more than pleased with the current issue of Fantastic Science Fiction Stories. The editors should be proud of this issue. What makes it outstanding? The May 1960 issue is the first issue to carry the famous Sam Moskowitz series of articles that began in Satellite Science Fiction. That along with the special Lovecraft story, "The Challenge From Beyond" reprinted from Fantasy Magazine adds charm to the magazine. Sam's article on Lovecraft, as his articles usually are, is top notch. I enjoyed them both, and believe me I don't care for Lovecraft's fiction. Cele Goldsmith and Norman M. Lobsenz should be praised for obtaining this series from Sam. They are the type of articles that we can never get enough of.

Keep your eyes on the Ziff-Davis twins, they're going places.

I. L. Jacobs, who keeps us well informed on science-fiction magazines South of the border, has mailed to us the November 1959 issue of Rojinegro, an Argentinian adventure magazine. This issue contains "Al Otro Lado Del Espacio" (Another Land Of Space), a short novel by S. M. Tenneshaw. It has a two page interior illustration showing Saturn and

rocket ships, and a full colored cover showing the same with an addition of a man in space suit. Announced in the issue is the fact that the December '59 issue will contain "Guerra En El Monte" (War of the World) an original by Harry F. Olmsted. Quite interesting.

Look for some mighty excellent covers by Mel Hunter on Galaxy Magazine in the very near future. We understand that Galaxy has obtained three, and that they all are outstanding. Also Emsh's famous four-armed Santa Clases will be on the cover of Galaxy around Xmas time.

Our congratulations to The National Fantasy Fan Federation (NFFF) on its 19th birthday this April. A good organization for all science-fiction fans and readers. Nineteen years marks a record for any national science-fiction club in the United States. Along with TAFF, the FAPA and the World Science Fiction Conventions, it proves that science-fiction fandom is here to stay.

Don Ford sent by TAFF and our editor of the Swedish edition of Science-fiction Times are now in London covering the British fandom's Easter Con.

In this issue you'll note the TAFF contest blank, which all of us on the Science-Fiction Times staff recommend. YOU'LL note that you are suppose to send in your vote to Robert A. Madle. Please note that his new address is: 4500 Aspen Hill Road, Rochville, Maryland. Vote and send in your blank today.

If you think today's lack of science-fiction magazines is tough, just remember back to the Summer of 1936. Vonder Stories had just folded. Tech's Amazing Stories was slowing dying; only Trenaine's Astounding was alive and vigorous. It looked like the slow end of the field. Then came 1938 and the beginning of the big boom. Will it repeat?

SWEDISH SCIENCE-FICTION NEWS

by Sture Sedolin

The first Swedish bi-monthly Galaxy is out -- slightly delayed. The editors did a wonderful job, a "book" of almost 200 pages with many top-names in it... The cover is from the February 1955 U.S. Galaxy, and the contents are: Editorial by Henrik Rabe, CHAIN OF SOI-MAND by Stephen Arr, HALLUCINATION ORBIT by J. T. McIntosh, CONDITIONALLY HUMAN by Walter Miller Jr, SURFACE TENSION by James Blish; Swedish short story by Borje Crona, SHIPPING CLERK by William Morrison, THE SENTIMENTALISTS by Murray Leinster, and COLONY by Philip Dick. As you probably have noticed, the Swedish edition isn't at all reprinting the U.S. edition issue after issue (as the Finnish edition did), the editors are trying to give Swedish readers "the best from the U. S. Galaxy". A new thing is that every issue of the Swedish Galaxy now has a "theme", theme this issue: "Mutations", referring to the Blish-Arr & Miller stories they had. Next issue will have the Planet Mars as "theme", and stories by Isaac Asimov, Bob Sheckley, etc. are promised. The next (April) issue may also have an article about Swedish fandom and fanzines. --- The March issue of Hapna! will probably have the next installment of Karl Orre's fan mag column. If there is enough interest yours truly will review foreign fan mags in a coming issue of Hapna!

One reporter from the Swedish Radio Corp. was in Los Angeles last September and visited among others Ray Bradbury, and will have a program of (probably) half an hour about Bradbury. We've eagerly awaiting. For the moment there are no science-fiction programs on the Swedish radio. Up to 1958 we had a weekly "horror" program, with some Lovecrafts, Bradburys, Kuttners stories on it. --- Newly issued from a Swedish publishing house is "Stora Skrackboken" (The Big Book of Horror), which includes stories by Ray Bradbury, Ted Sturgeon, Henry Kuttner, HPL, and others... Unfortunately it costs about \$6.00 in hard cover edition, which may be a little too expensive.

The Japanese science-fiction film, "The Mysterians" is now out in Sweden. The Stockholm dailies called it "The greatest science-fiction film ever made" too.... Odd isn't it, here in Sweden usually most science-fiction films get a two-line review, classified as "junk".

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

by Our Readers

Opelika, Alabama
March 22, 1960

Greetings James:

Ed Wood's review of "1959 In ScienceFiction" was most interesting tho I can't agree with every point he made on the subject. Personally I like the Ziff-Davis Publications Fantastic and Amazing. He termed their cover illos as sloppy looking. I disagree heartily there. What have the other mags shown on cover illos? Astounding never had any outstanding covers in '59 and the change of the name makes the mag read something like Junior Scientific American Magazine. Lowndes is at the bottom of the heap and I see nothing to prevent his mags from folding before the year is out unless he installs a fanzine column or else lengthens his lettercol making Future and Original readers' mags once again rather adzines. Fantastic Universe was making great strides with her new format and I really enjoyed the mag, now it has folded. It's really a shame. I hate to see any s-f mag fold. But back to the art. Lowndes' had the lousiest art last year. Fantasy & SF had some good covers by Mel Hunter but no one else did anything outstanding. H. L. Gold's mags had good interior illos, but only mediocre covers. FU had some good covers in the new format. The Ziff-Davis pubs had more imagination and coloration in their covers than any mag on the stands last year. The first mag I ever bought was Amazing. I was attracted by its cover while none of the other mags had any outstanding covers.

The forecast for '60 looks pretty good with three new mags appearing in the states to offset FU's folding. I hope the three will all have success and still be publishing when the toll for

1960 in SF is taken.

S-F Times is a great source of news for the active and inactive science-fiction fan. May you have 19 more years of publishing. You can always count on me to renew my sub as long as you supply me with top news. I don't care if you come out several weeks late at times.

Best.

Billy Joe PLOTT

(Many thanks for your excellent letter. Ed Wood's annual review is not intended as the last word on what's what, but as a guide on what science-fiction in magazine form did the past year. But Ed has been reading the stuff for quite a while and you can just about bank on his opinions. We really enjoyed his last column and had ourselves a time comparing his opinions with our own. The only "new" s-f mag in the States this year, so far, has been New Worlds. Poorly handled, and a very cold mag, it will fold shortly. Fear and Shock are not science-fiction, but fantasy-weirds. Of the two Fear will fold with its second issue. 1960 is off to a very bad start.

We try to get the issues of S-F Times out as fast as we can, but sometimes it's delayed in the mails and two issues have to be mailed out together. The issues are edited and published in College Point, New York and mailed to our mailing office in Syracuse, New York where it is mailed to our readers. Delays happen between College Point and Syracuse.

-the editor)

Brooklyn 30, N.Y.
March 15, 1960

Mr. Henry Scharf
Great American Publications, Inc.
270 Madison Ave.
New York 16, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Scharf:

This letter is being written in the hope that I might be able to obtain payment for a series of pictures that appeared in Fantastic Universe.

As several months has passed since the pictures were published, and six months since the pictures were originally turned over to Great American Publications, I feel that sufficient time has passed to enable your company to make payment of \$37.50 that is due.

I believe that I have had considerable patience and that my patience is just about up. I must insist that your company forward me a check by the 30th of March or I shall be forced to take other steps to obtain the money that is due.

A copy of this letter is being forwarded to SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES with instructions to release the contents for publication if I authorize them to do so. I hope this will not be necessary since adverse publicity will not do anyone any good. I am certain that as a business man you understand the purpose of maintaining good relations.

I hope that I have your cooperation in the above matter.

Very truly yours,
W. R. Cole.

(It is always sad when we have to publish letters of this type. It simply doesn't do the field any good. We are most happy that it does not happen very often these days. Mr. Cole informed us by phone on Monday, April 4, that he had not been paid and asked us to publish the letter. We feel that authors, artists etc must be paid according to what ever arrangement they have made with the publishers. We hope to be able to report in the very near future that it has been settled.

-the editor)

Pittsburgh 36, Pa.
11 April 1960

Dear Jimmy:

This letter concerns "1958 & 1959 In Science Fiction". A few errors have inadvertently crept in and I think they should be corrected. That way the reader can see that we do make a few mistakes every now and then. First in S-F Times #309 2nd Feb 1959 the # of issues of FLYING SAUCERS appearing in 1958 was 5 not 4 and the total should be (33) and not (32). Now in S-F Times #330 1st Jan 1960 page 3 NEBULA SCIENCE FICTION there seems to be only 4 issues published in 1959 and the magazine ended with issue #41 not #42 as reported in S-F Times #323 2nd Sept 1959. Also item 13 on the same page SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURES 7 issues appeared bearing a 1959 date and the total should be (12) instead of (11).

The book NEW MAPS OF HELL by Kings-

ley Amis is an excellent survey of science-fiction and certainly will help the field. He's bit behind in some of his facts (after a l l it has been a while since GALAXY MAGAZINE was GALAXY SCIENCE FICTION) but he knows the field and has some sympathy for it. We need more like him. Yet he has the snobbery of the mainstream critic who refuses to accept merit when found in science-fiction magazines. It has to be hardbound or found in some "slick". This hankering after respectability is a disease. Let us have good science - fiction (sans psi, dianetics, Shaver, etc, etc.) and the respectability will come of its own accord. Science-fiction should go its own way perfecting itself without fawning on

the critics. If the critics are unable to recognize the considerable merits of the best science-fiction, it is their loss, not ours.

I think the science-fiction reader should show some pride in the field. True we hate that which is bad in science-fiction but we are proud of our best and that best shall and will endure.

Ed Wood

(Thanks for the corrections. We agree 100% with your comments on science-fiction and the critics. Yes by all means let's be proud of the best in our field, didn't we all become fans because we enjoyed science-fiction? -the editor)

JOIN THE PITCON

THE SCIENCE-FICTION POCKET BOOK RECORD

by Frank R. Prieto, Jr.

SCIENCE/FANTASY POCKET BOOKS OUT IN THE UNITED STATES DURING MARCH 1960:

NAME & AUTHOR	NO.	PRICE	PAGES	ON STANDS	COMPANY
THE MOUSE THAT ROARED by Leonard Wibberly	A-198	50¢	152	Mar. 1	Bantam Books
TALES TO BE TOLD IN THE DARK edited by Basil Davenport	380K	35¢	159	Mar. 3	Ballantine
NIGHT RIDE & OTHER STORIES by Charles Beaumont	A-2087	35¢	184	Mar. 3	Bantan Books
WORLD WITHOUT WOMEN by Day Keene and Leonard Fruyn	S975	35¢	176	Mar. 8	Gold Medal
ALAS BABYLON by Pat Frank	F2054	50¢	279	Mar. 10	Bantan Books
THE SOUND OF HIS HORN by Sarban	377K	35¢	125	Mar. 21	Ballantine
THE MAN WHO DISAPPEARED by Edgar Bohle	1013	25¢	159	Mar. 25	Dell Books
GET OUT OF MY SKY selected by Leo Margulies	S362	35¢	176	Mar. 25	Crest Books
THE ALIENS by Murray Leinster	G410	35¢	144	Mar. 25	Berkley Med.
WORLD OF THE MASTERMINDS by Robert Moore Williams, and TO THE END OF TIME & OTHER STORIES by Robert Moore Williams	D427	35¢	108	Mar. 25	Ace Books
ISLANDS IN THE SKY by Arthur C. Clarke	S1769	35¢	127	Mar. 28	Signet Books
VISIT TO A SMALL PLANET by Gore Vidal	S1788	35¢	127	Mar. 30	Signet Books

During March 1960, 12 science/fantasy pocket books came out. They cost \$4.40 and contained 2,064 pages.

SCIENCE-FICTION FORECASTS

Coming Up Next In The Pros

FANTASTIC S-F STORIES - June 1960:

Novelets: T H E MIRROR by Alan E.

Nourse, and NO END OF TIME by Phyllis Gotlieb. Short-stories: SIDE EFFECT by Joseph D. Laven, THE FIFTIETH YEAR OF APRIL by Arthur Porges, DRIVE OUT OF MIND by Dan Morgan, and DAVID'S DADDY by Rosel George Brown. Feature article: OLAF STAPLEDON: "COSMIC PHILOSOPHER" by Sam

MAL ASHWORTH If you suddenly stop and ask yourself what makes fandom worth while the short answer is some wonderful people and some fine writing. It's amazing how often Mal Ashworth figures in both lists, since he hasn't been as prolific as some. But in our morass of mimeography it's worth that counts, and there nobody tops Mal. Whether it's the fabulous issues of Bem, or the effervescence of his later more informal fanzines, or the warmth of the classic MY FIRST REAL CONVENTION, or the good-humoured satire of THE DASHCON REPORT in Hyphen or any of his other many columns or articles or even just a hilarious letter, everything Mal does is not just brilliant but likeable, because that's the kind of person he is. A reader of science fiction as long as he can remember, an active fan since the days of Quandry, universally liked in Britain and by scores of American fans through FAPA, he would worthily represent the best in British fandom.

Nominated by: Walt Willis, Arthur Thomson, John Roles, Larry Shaw, F.M. Busby.

ERIC BENTCLIFFE Eric Bentcliffe will make an excellent TAFF candidate in 1960, for many reasons. Among them are his long background in fandom both in publishing and actifanning, editorship of TRIODE, SPACE-TIMES, WALDO, The Space-Times Checklist and Songs From Space anthology plus numerous articles and letters throughout fandom. These all spell actifan. On the Convention side, Eric has been on the Committee of several British Conventions, participated in programme items, and worked before and behind the scenes on many others. As first Secretary of the BSFA, Eric did more than anyone else to enlarge the Association and set the stage for the 1959 Birmingham Convention. An ex-Chairman of the Manchester Group, an Ex-Chairman of the Liverpool SFS, CMA member, Eric is also a member of the rare fannish order of Knights of St. Fantasy. The social party side is another of Eric's strong points and of course very important in a delegate: he can get on his hind legs and address an audience.

Nominated by: Terry Jeeves, Norman Shorrocks, Eric Jones, Bob Pavlat, Phyllis Economou.

H.P. (SANDY) SANDERSON Long involved in British fanactivity, Sandy started as a leading light and Convention organiser for the N.S.F.C: perpetrated one of fandom's greatest hoaxes by creating "Joan W. Carr" and FEMIZINE: is founder member and treasurer of both OMPA and the SF Club of London and member of LC: edits one of the Top Ten fanzines, the scintillating APOURHETA: is ex-FAPA (100 pages in his first year!), dropped for AP's sake: is able to report in vivid "Strawberry Ice/Inchmerry Fan Diary" style, with tape and cine record! Finally, he's a coffee-addict - no British fan could be a better choice!!

(100)

Nominated by: Joy K. Clarke, Sid Birchby, Dean Grennell, Bob Tucker, Ethel Lindsay.

B'n'F Press

TRANSATLANTIC FAN FUND (TAFF) VOTING FORM

Candidates

MAL ASHWORTH

ERIC BENTCLIFFE

H.P.(SANDY) SANDERSON

All candidates have signed a statement to the effect that if elected, God willing, they will travel to the Convention. Should the winner be unable to go because of reasons beyond his control, the second will be offered the opportunity and then the third, provided he obtains 25% of the votes. If no-one goes or if there is not sufficient money, the cash on hand will be held over until 1961.

Details of voting are kept secret.

Reproductions of this form are authorised (in fact, encouraged) provided an exact copy is made.

No proxy votes are allowed. Each voting fan must sign his own ballot paper.

Votes must be mailed to reach Ron Bennett, 7 Southway, Arthurs Avenue, Harrogate, Yorkshire, England no later than 15 June 1960.

Please write below your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice of a candidate to be sent to the 18th Worth Science Fiction Convention to be held in Pittsburgh, USA in September 1960.

First Choice.....

Second Choice.....

Third Choice.....

Note: Your first choice will receive 3 points, your second 2 points and your 3rd one point. You may vote for any one candidate once only. If you wish you may leave blank third and/or second places. Under no circumstance will more than 3 points be allowed any one candidate on any one ballot. Write in votes permitted.

To be eligible to vote you must contribute a minimum of 2/6d (50¢) to the Fund and have been active in fandom prior to November 1959. Contributions in excess of 50¢ or 2/6d gratefully accepted. If you are not a fan known to the Administration, please give here the name and address of a fan or science fiction club to whom or which reference may be made.....

.....

Persons outside Great Britain may send money and ballots to either Ron Bennett or to Robert Madle, 672 Ripley Street, Brookville, Alexandria, Virginia, USA.

I enclose/have sent to you/Bob Madle the sum of.....as a contribution to the Fund. (Note that money paid for raffle tickets and special fanzines etc. does not count)

Name.

Address

.

(Paid Advertisement)

BELLE & FRANK DIETZ SUPPORT SANDY SANDERSON FOR TAFF

(But urge you to vote and send in your donations of at least 50¢ to Robert Madle, 4500 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville, Maryland, or Ron Bennett, 7 Southway, Actons Avenue, Harrogate, Yorkshire England, (2/6 in England).

Moskowitz.

SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURES (British) #14
Complete short novel: OF EARTH FORE-
TOLD by Kenneth Bulmer. Short-stories:
GRIT by E. C. Tubb, and IVORY AND APES
by Clifford C. Reed. Excellent cover by
Brian Lewis.

STATE OF FANDOM

by Lane Stannard

THE PITTNIK

The Pittnik is a big, comfortable bus especially chartered by members of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society (PSFS) to take you to Pittsburgh, right to the floor of the Penn-Sheraton, the Convention Hotel, and to bring you back again, Tuesday, Sept. 6, at about 6 P.M.

It's the only way to travel, to and from the great 18th World Convention in fantastic fan fashion!

There'll be MUSIC, REFRESHMENTS, FUN all the way. A free gift to every rider plus flowers for the ladies. A L L F O R

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The Pittnik will probably start from, and return to, the Transportation Building in Philadelphia's Penn Center. In a few minutes we'll be rolling along the Expressway, then onto the Pennsylvania Turnpike. We'll make at least one rest-stop on the way, then go right on to the hotel. Spend the trip talking to your fan friends, or just get yourself warmed up for a weekend of fan fun.

This will be a chance to plan that Convention stunt, and travel with a bus load of only science/fantasy fans.

Any time you want to reserve yourself a seat on this never-to-be-forgotten excursion, send: YOUR NAME, YOUR ADDRESS, YOUR PHONE NUMBER and a \$5.00 deposit (by Check or Money-Order) to Hal Lynch or George Heap, 5 South 18th St., Philadelphia 3, Pa.

BUT ACT NOW! Your complete fare must be in their hands on or before August 1, 1960. On that date, if they've received insufficient riders, all funds will be returned.

This is not only for Philly fans, but for anyone who wants to go along. Get to Philly your own way and then PITTNIK!

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Maine.

WORLD CON

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OF 1960, THE PITTCON, the 1960 World Sci-
ence-fiction Convention, to be held in
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days. Only \$2.00 makes you a member.
When you re-subscribe to the "Times" just
add an extra \$2 for the PITTCON and we
will see to it that they'll get it.

WANTED

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si, Sr., 18-36 129th Street, College
Point 56, New York.