

Vol. 16 - No. 3

FIRST FEBRUARY 1961 ISSUE

(#355) 10¢

H.C.GOLD JAN HOSPITAL FRED POHL TAKES OVER TEMPORARILY

NEW YORK, 8 January, (CNS) - Galaxy Magazine and If Science Fiction's publisher Robert M. Guinn, announced today that his editor H. L. Gold was in a New York Hospital and that Frederik Pohl has takened over the duties of editor until further notice.

Mr. Guinn stated: "I a m sorry to have to announce the illness of Horace Gold, editor of Galaxy and If. Horace was involved in an automobile accident last year which resulted in a series of illnesses. H is condition did not improve at home, and so last week he became hospitalized. Although it is too early to tell much about the duration of his stay, it appears that it will be a matter of some months in any event.

For the time being, Galaxy and If will be continued as before, except that the editorial duties will be assumed on

a temporary basis by Frederik Pohl. If you have been accustomed to submitting manuscripts directly to Horace Gold at his home, they should now be sent directly to: Frederik Pohl, 386 West Front Street, Red Bank, New Jersey.

"Any personal messages for Horace can be addressed to his office (421 Hudson Street, New York 14, New York), and it will be forwarded.

"I hope within the next few weeks to know more about how long Horace's leave of absence will have to continue, and look forward to his full recovery and return as soon as possible."

Science-Fiction Times wishes Horace speedy recovery and return to his two magazines.

JOIN THE SeaCon

ESFA TO CELEBRATE 35th ANNIVERSARY OF "AMAZING STORIES"

AWARD TO BE PRESENTED TO "AMAZING STORIES" AT MARCH MEETING

GOLDSMITH, LOBSENX, GERNSBACH, DEL REY, PAUL, BINDER AND OTHERS TO BE PRESENT

NEVARK, New Jersey, & January, (CNS) - At an expanded March 1961 meeting of the Eastern Science Fiction Association (ESFA), that organization will present a special award to Amazing Stories on the occasion of Amazing's 35th anniversary. The March meeting will be held at the YMCA Main Hall, 600 Broad Street, Newark New Jersey (one block North of the Public Service Bus Terminal) on Sunday, March 12, 1961, at 2:00 P.M.

On hand to receive the award will be Cele Goldsmith, Editor and Norm Lobsenz, Editorial Director of Amazing Stories and its companion magazine Fantastic. Feature of the ceremonies will be "A History of Amazing Stories", narrated by Sam Moskowitz and illustrated by full colored slides giving the enthralling career of the World's First Science Fiction Periodical.

Hugo Gernsback has agreed to appear at the meeting. He will also be presented with a plaque for founding the publication.

Among the special guests will be Frank R. Paul, dean of science-fiction illustrators; Lester del Rey, one of the modern standouts in science-fiction; Otto Binder, editor of the fact magazine Space World, whose first story was purchased by Amazing Stories and dozens of other famous figures in the science-fiction world, come to do homage to Amazing Stories. Also many real surprises.

The ESFA has gained a distinguished record for its continous activities over

the past 16 years. This is the first time in the club's history that the membership has voted to present any special award.

This event is open to readers of Amazing Stories and science-fiction and a large hall has been rented to accomodate well wishers. Requests for information should be addressed to the Club's Secretary Les Mayer, 33 Stein Avenue, Wa lington, New Jersey.

SCIENCE-FICTION FAN MAGAZINES_

by Edmund R. Meskys

NEW FRONTIERS #3, August 1960, 56 digest sized pages, photo-offset, published irregularly (2 or 3 times a year), 30¢ a copy, 4 for \$1, contribution, published letter, or trade by "Terra House", P. O. Box 336, Berkeley I, Calif.

New Frontiers, a fan mag devoted to serious discussion of science-fiction, isedited by Norman Metcalf. (It is he who is responsible for the compiling of the second volume of "Don Day's" Index of S-F Magazines.) The magazine originally claimed a quarterly schedule, but this was found to be impossible to maintain so it is now realistically announced as "irregular".

Its first issue was of fair to midly quality but it has rapidly increased
both in size (from an initial 32 pages)
and quality, so that it can now be considered to be among the best fan mags.
This is the first issue to take full advantage of the potentialities of the
photo-offset process and has excellent

art by George Barr, Tom Walker, Morris Scott Dollens and Bjo Trimble and imaginative feature headings by Ted White.

This issue contains three articles and a number • f features (books, fan mags and movie reviews, a letter column. and a very short editorial). The best article by far is "Good Science Fiction - Where Is It?" by Damon Knight. plea for vivid and realistic writing was first given as a speech at the 17th World Science Fiction Convention (Detention) in 1959.

The other articles are a preprint of Anthony Boucher's introduction to the Book "The Science Fictional Sherlock Holmes", and an advertisement for Arkham House by August Derleth which updates some of the information in last year's chapbook, "Arkham House, The First 20 Both of these articles and all of the features were, however, interest-

The first two issues contained articles by Poul Anderson, Mark Clifton, Stanton A. Coblentz, L. Sprauge de Camp, E. Everett Evans, Bob Olsen, Jr., and others. In these issues the features took up a much smaller portion of the magazine and all of the material appeared exclusively in this magazine.

Manuscripts on hand for future issues include "So You Want To Write S-F, Huh?" by Marion Zimmer Bradley, "A Question of Content" by James Blish (based on his Pittcon speech, which was mentioned in my last column), "Monsters & Monster Lovers" by Fritz Leiber, "Plotting and Writing Unscience Fiction" by Bob (Wilson) Tucker, The Faustus Tradition in The Early Science-Fiction Story" by Leland Saprio, and four other articles plus some book and movie reviews.

This magazine is well worth the price charged, especially since (due to photographuc reduction) each small page holds as many words as a standard one. In fact, it was recently pointed out to me that you get more words for your money here than in some professional science-fiction magazines.

Also worthy of your attention is Fantasy Collector, published for the last three years at about six-week intervals by George Bibby, 714 Pleasant St., Roseville, Calif. @ 10¢, 12/\$ (with special First Class & even Airmail rates). This magazine is devoted almost exclusively to Ads and hardly an issue goes by that doesn't have several bargains. But he warned that almost 1/3 of the ads are devoted to comic book/sheet collectors. The only non-advertising matter in this 24 page magazine are a 1 page editorial and a frequent on e page column discussing the plots and readability of rare books. For collectors, this magazine is indispensable.

Reviewed next time: "Speculative Review"

FANITIES

by Belle C. Dietz

Joy and Sandy Sanderson, British fan emigrees to the U.S. and publishers of-Apporheta, a fan mag which placed high in fan reader polls, now have their own apartment in the Bronx (New York). Their new address is Apt. 4I, 2805 University Avenue, Bronx 68, N. Y., effective immediately. They had been staying with us Dietzes while they acclimated themselves to things American.

From a reading of Xero, a fan mag published by Pat and Dick Lupoff, N.Y. fans, I note that they have the impression that The Lunarians, a N. Y. s-f club to which this writer, as well as both of the editors of S-F Times, belongs have interminable business meetings. This is not the first time I have heard such a statement and I am moved to set forth the facts, ma'am. The Lunarians maintain complete records of all business meetings and in going over these I found that the average business portion of the meetings for the four-year existence of the club is about 71 minutes. This includes the longest meetings which were held in the first year, when Dave Kyle was president. If you take an average of only the last three years, when the gavel was wielded by Frank Dietz, the length of the business session drops to 45 minutes. The rest of

the time, beginning with 6 P.N. and ending somewhere around midnight, is utilized for general gabfesting. I am unaware of the statistics of other fanclubs about the country but if the secretaries of any would care to oblige, we can compare notes. In any event, people like the Lupoffs who are convinced that The Lunarians are terrible bores with interminable business meetings are hereby invited to attend a Lunarian meeting and make certain of their facts by personal experience. Second-hand information is generally unsatisfactory and frequently inaccurate.

The N. Y. Futurian Society, which has lost so many members to the lure of the California climate in the past year, has The itself succumbed, I understand. small most active group which comprised its core has withdrawn to form a new club, The Fanoclasts, meeting at the Lupoffs' home. So far, it is still small (consisting of Sylvia & Ted White, Jock Root, Noreen & Larry Shaw, Barbara & Bob Silverberg and one or two others) with friendly, social aims. It would appear to be a much more welcome addition to New York Fandom . t h a n the unlamented Futurians.

SeaCon NEWS

AIRCONDITIONED HOTEL WITH SWIMMING POOL OBTAINED FOR 1961 WORLD CONVENTION

by F M Busby

SEATTLE, Washington, 8 January, (CNS) -Latest SeaCon news is that we finally have the Con-site hotel cinched, and it's what you might call a fabulous setup. Hyatt House is newly-built (1960) and offers features that are simply not available elsewhere. All rooms are large (suitable for multiple - occupancy), soundproofed, airconditioned, with bath and free radio and TV. The place is laid out in large two-story wings (don't waste half the Con waiting for elevators -- not this year!) surrounding a central court with a heated outdoor swimming pool. Drive in and take advantage of all-free parking: no garage fees.or tips every time you want to use your car. Fly

in, and Hyatt House provides free transportation to and from the airport. The Hyatt House coffee shop stays open 24 hours a day every day; its prices are dead-even with the equivalent facilities of the competing hotels, and the quality of the food is such that we go there when we want to treat ourselves to a really good lunch or dinner. Just one thing -- always order less than think you want, because you get more than you expect. A sandwich is a full lunch, and a lunch-snack order fills me to the dinner mark. The menu is loaded with "side orders" that make perfectlygood snacks in themselves. The dining room is a slightly-deluxe edition of the coffee shop, both for prices and for quantities; I'm a coffee-shop type myself, but heartier trenchmen will certainly dig the dinning room with the proper implements.

John W. Campbell h as accepted a spot on the SeaCon program; he will help spark the proceedings by appearing on (or with, or possibly against) a panel format. With Mr. Campbell's controversy—stirring abilities in mind. The SeaCon Committee h as in mind to assemble as durable—and—knowledgeable panel as possible, for the best enjoyment of the participants and audience both.

JOIN THE 19th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CON-VENTION (The SeaCon). \$2 will bring you "Progress Reports," and "Program Booklet" \$1 more if you attend. Over the Laborday Holidays of 1961, at Seattle, Washington. SeaCon; Seattle S-F Club, Inc., P. O. Box 1365, Broadway Branch, Seattle 2, Washington.

SCIENCE-FICTION FORECASTS

Coming Up Next In The Pros

FANTASTIC - March 1961

Novelets: THE BIG BLOW-UP by Daniel F. Galouye, and RANDOM WHOICE by Randall Garrett. Short Stories: NIGHT CALLER by Jack Sharkey, TEMTATION by Ida Helmer, and LAST ZERO by David R. Bunch, Serial WORLDS OF THE IMPERIUM by Keith Laumer - (Part two of three parts). Features:

EDITORIAL, and ACCORDING TO YOU.

SCIENCE FANTASY - No. 45

Short Movel: THE MAP COUNTRY by Kenneth Bulmer, Novelette: STUDIO 5, THE STARS by J. G. Ballard, and Studies In Science Fiction: #10 FITZ-JAMES O'BRIEN by Sam-Moskowitz. Excellent cover by Lewis.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE - #356 THE ANNUAL S-F MAGAZINE REPORT

"1960 IN SCIENCE FICTION" by Edward Wood

Complete in one issue. Read what Edward Wood thinks of the magazines published last year. This report covers all the U. S. s-f magazines, and the three British s/f magazines published by Nova. It is the finest annual report we have yet publi shed.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE - #356

5th ANNUAL "LUNACON" WILL BE HELD : SUNDAY APRIL 9, 1961

The New York Science Fiction Soceity, Inc. (The Lunarians) will hold their 5th Annual LunaCon on Sunday, April 9, 1961 at 213 West 53rd Street in Manhattan, (New York City, N.Y.). The program will commence at 1:00 P.M. sharp, probably with the showing of the Pittsburgh Convention films. Guest of Honor will be Willy Ley, who will be presented with a plaque. Participating in the program will be such s-f notables as Lester del Rey, Harlan Ellison, Robert Guinn, Hans Stefan Santesson, Sam and Chris Moskowitz and Ted White. Featured on the program will be two debates, one on the theme "Is S-F Going Bankrupt?" and the other on the sociological implications of Heinlein's "Starship Trooper". Sam Moskowitz will do a run-down on Lou Sennrins and the Dime Novels and their effect on science-fiction, illustrated with colored slides. The Lunarians will have their usual coffee-break during the conference with coffee and muffins being served to all attendees free of charge. Admission is \$1.00 payable at the door and all are welcome to attend.

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THE COSMIC REPORTER

by J. Harry Vincent

Robert Guinn reports that there actually isn't any set schedule for his Galaxy (Sex) Novels, and that is why some issues seem to be delayed. There are two scheduled to appear around the end of February 1961. They are called "Sin In Space" (a reprint of "Marschild") and an original, "The Male Response".

Fantastic's improvement program goes up another notch starting with the May 1961 issue. Starting with this issue, they will reprint "limited circulated" classics. The first will be "Garden of Fear" by Robert E. Howard, and in the June issue will be "The Relic" (probably under a new title) by Eric Frank Russell, reprinted from the April 1947 issue of the British s/f magazine Fantasy. Like the reprints in Amazing, they will be selected and introduced by Sam Moskowitz.

Amazing also gets it's share of continued improvements: Frank Tinsley, on ce the excellent cover & interior artistfor Street & Smith's Bill Barnes is doing an illustrated fact series starting in the June Amazing Stories under the general title of "Man In Space".

SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES
(formerly "Fantasy-Times")
"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

EDITORIAL OFFICE: 18-36 129th Street, College Point 56, New York.

Published twice-a-month. by SCIENCE-FIC-TION TIMES, INC., P. O. Box 115, Solvay James V. Branch, Syracuse 9, New York. Taurasi, Sr., President; Frank R. Prieto, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer; and Ray Van Houten, Vice-President. 10¢ per copy, \$2.40 per year. Permanent Subscription: Science-Fiction Times will be \$15.00. mailed to you First-Class Mail for \$1.00 a year extra in the United States only. BRITISH: 9d per copy, 7s6d per 10 issues 15s0d per 20 issues; Permanent Subscription: 3 Pounds 10s0d, from H. M. JOHNSON, 16 Rockville Road, Broad Green, LIVER-POOL . 14, ENGLAND.

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James V. Taurasi, Sr., editor; Frank R. Prieto, Jr., production and circulation manager.

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SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, INC.
P.O. Box 115, Solvay Branch
Syracuse 9, New York

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