

SCIENCE FICTION TIMES

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DEC. 1967

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P.O. BOX 216 SYRACUSE, N.Y. 13209

NEW ADVENTURE MAGAZINE

FROM LOWNDES

Health Knowledge, Inc. has issued a new magazine, World Wide Adventure, edited by Robert Lowndes. The magazine features action stories of every variety, from all times and places. The stories are all new, not reprint, in the style of the old Bluebook and Argosy. At the present time the magazine is available on a single copy basis only. The first issue is out now and the second will be published in the near future. Copies are available at 50¢ each from Health Knowledge, Inc., Dept. SFT449, 119 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10003.

'AFTER THE RAIN'

CLOSES ON BROADWAY

"After The Rain," a hit on the London stage, closed Saturday, Dec. 2, after a run of only 64 performances.

Adapted by John Bowen from his novel and starring Alec McCowen, it was the season's first critically successful Broadway play (see SFT #448 Nov. for opening announcement). Despite the favorable reactions, the play appeared poorly attended by the public. It was, however, unlike the usual Broadway play -- the action took place continuously in a University Lecture Hall two hundred years after the Rain of 1969 - and took some time before one became fully absorbed in the play.

The production was budgeted at \$125,000 and cost \$85,000 to open.

FRED POHL REVEALS LOSSES ON MAGAZINES

Phila., Nov. 11 - Frederik Pohl, editor of the Galaxy magazines, announced at the 1967 Philcon figures on the losses suffered by Galaxy Publishing Co. on their former magazines, Beyond, Worlds of Tomorrow, and Galaxy Novels.

Beyond, published for ten issues between 1953 and 1955, showed a loss of \$40,000 over the two years of publication.

Worlds of Tomorrow, which saw 23 issues between April 1963 and May 1967, produced a loss of \$15,000 during its production.

Galaxy Novels, of which thirty five were published between 1950 and 1958, showed a loss of \$30,000 during the period.

SCIENCE FICTION TIMES

TO GO OFFSET

With January 1968, issue 450, SFT will be published by offset and in a new size of 7 by 10 inches. For the present SFT will contain at least 12 pages per issue with more to be added later. The change in method of reproduction will enable the staff to present more and better features in the magazine.

There will be no change in the subscription price, but advertising rates will change to reflect the new method of publication. The new ad rates will be \$10 for a full page, \$5 for half page, and \$3 for quarter page. These rates are for camera-ready copy only. Copy requiring preparation

for camera will cost extra.

At the same time SFT has a new address to which all editorial material should be sent (letters, contributions, changes of address ads, etc.). The new editorial address is: Box 559 Morris Heights Station, Bronx, N.Y. 10453

Subscriptions, both new and renewal, and advertising queries should be addressed to the publisher, Frank R. Prieto Jr., Box 216, Syracuse, N.Y. 13209.

OBITUARY NOTES

Edison Marshall

Edison Marshall, novelist, died on October 29 at the age of 73. He was a prolific writer and turned out many fantasy stories for the pulps. His first story was written in 1915, the last in 1964. Examples are: Dian of the Lost Land (1935), Ogden's Strange Story (1934), The Stolen God (1936)

George Salter

George Salter died on October 31, age 70. He began to design book jackets for Simon & Schuster in 1935, and worked for many publishers during his career. He designed the entire layout for The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction, and did numerous covers for the magazine. The last cover he did appeared on the February 1966 issue. His last published work was the dust wrapper on The Thirty-First Floor (Knopf, 1967). Mr. Salter taught at Cooper Union, Columbia and NYU, and designed the trade marks for Lincoln Center, the 20th Century Fund, and others.

Aaron A. Wyn

A.A. Wyn, president and publisher of Ace Books, died November 3, age 69. He began book publishing in 1945. In 1952 his company began publishing paperbacks under the Ace imprint. In 1956 Wyn sold hardcover rights and contracts to Hill & Wang, and thereafter concentrated on the Ace paperback program.

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BRASS...

Because of our change to off-set, we will have a new deadline beginning with the next issue. To be included in an issue, material must be received by the third Saturday of the preceding month. For example, deadline for the January issue is December 16.

Please be sure to note the changed editorial address. Subs go to Syracuse, everything else to the Bronx.

PLANE CHARTERED FOR BAYCON

A chartered flight has been arranged for next fall's world convention. This is an American Airlines DC-9, leaving Buffalo, N.Y. on Tuesday August 27 and returning on September 3. Cost for the round trip is \$150. For info write to: Peter Gill, 18 Glen Manor Drive, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

FRED POHL SPEAKS

Popular speaker, Fred Pohl, was a guest at All Souls Unitarian Church, Manhattan, on Sunday afternoon, December 3. His topic: Morality for the Space Age.

PHILADELPHIA SCIENCE FICTION CONFERENCE

With a theme of 'Two Years to the Moon,' the Philcon this year developed an interesting topic into a very successful conference. Held over the weekend of Nov. 11 and 12, at the Hotel Sylvania in Philadelphia, the conference drew an attendance of 168 from the entire northeast area.

The conference opened Saturday afternoon with James Blish, Jay Klein, Alexei Panshin, and Robert Silverberg on a panel moderated by J. B. Post. The discussion centered around their recollections of the attitudes and opinions to science fiction and space travel at the time they started reading science fiction.

Frederik Pohl spoke next, describing his visit earlier that week to see the Saturn V launch, and commenting on the problems of publishing science fiction magazines.

Another panel discussion completed the program, in which Hal Clement, L. Sprague De Camp, and Lester Del Rey discussed the possibilities of life on other worlds.

Sunday's program began with James Blish, Edward Dong, Tom Purdom, and Roger Zelazny together in a discussion of the science fiction writers' ideas on space travel.

Willy Ley was scheduled next on the program, however due to the two day delay in the Saturn V launching, he was unable to attend, and Hal Clement substituted for him. He discussed the current projects of mapping the Moon and presented the NASA films of Ranger 8 and 9 photographs.

This was the end of the planned program for the Philcon, however at this time Lester Del Rey was invited to speak about the current plans for the first interstellar voyage, as discussed at the Conference on Planetology and Space Mission Planning (announced SFT Nov. 1967).

STAR TREK MISCELLANY

The December issue of Popular Science contains the article, "TV 'TV's Star Trek: How They Mix Science Fact With Science Fiction'". It points out that Star Trek is the only science fiction series ever to have the advice and cooperation of NASA, and extensive contacts with scientists across the country. And not only that, some of Star Trek's sets and devices have been used as models for actual working projects.

Another article, in TV Guide, November 18, by Leslie Raddatz, is titled, "Star Trek Wins the Ricky Schwartz Award" (and incidentally gets the cover illustration). This article gives some examples of the show's wide popularity, in addition to scientific information similar to that in Popular Science.

According to Variety, Gene Roddenberry's contract with Paramount TV has been renegotiated to permit him to work simultaneously with other projects. He is now in negotiations.

Star Trek toys by Remco include: Rocket pistol, Astro buzz ray gun; Astro rocket plane, and Astro helmet. Ray Plastics sells a Rapid fire tracer gun with jet discs.

BONESTELL EXHIBITION

The Hayden Planetarium in New York now has on display 39 paintings by Chesley Bonestell. The paintings, worth \$225,000, were loaned to the Planetarium by the International Space Museum and Gallery. They will remain on display until late January.

Mr. Bonestell has created innumerable astronomical paintings, including one done of the surface of Mars by direct observation through Mount Wilson's 100" telescope. He has also illustrated several books including The Exploration of Mars, Conquest of Space, and Beyond the Solar System. Mr. Bonestell, now 81, lives in Berkeley, California.

MAGAZINE REPORT:

FAMOUS SCIENCE FICTION STARTLING MYSTERY STORIES

Beginning with Winter #5 of Famous Science Fiction and Winter #7 of Startling Mystery Stories, both magazines, edited by Robert Lowndes, have gone from single copy basis on the newsstands to permanent status of being available for subscription by mail. The sub rate is the same for both magazines: \$2.50 for 6 issues in the U.S., Canada and Pan American Union; Foreign \$3.00; Single copy 50¢.

Address for subscriptions is:
119 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y.
10003.

At the present time Mr. Lowndes has three science fiction/fantasy magazines under his editorship. They are Famous Science Fiction, quarterly; Startling Mystery Stories, quarterly; and Magazine of Horror, bi-monthly. All three magazines are predominantly reprint. Both Magazine of Horror and Startling Mystery Stories feature Weird Tales material and Famous Science Fiction features Tales of Wonder. (Prieto)

FIRST SALE FOR KLEIN

Jay Kay Klein has sold his first science fiction story. The story, "On Conquered Earth", appears in the December issue of Worlds of If.

DOUBLEDAY SF

Larry Ashmead has been appointed department head in charge of science fiction and Crime Club at Doubleday. He joined the company in 1960 as an assistant editor in the science department.

SF/FANTASY NIELSEN RATINGS

A recent issue of Variety gave the following ratings of programs of interest to fans:

Bewitched 37.9
I Dream of Jeannie 29.5
Lost in Space 28.8
Invaders 25.6
Star Trek 24.8

NESFA FOUNDED

The New England Science Fiction Association came into existence on October 8, 1967 with the adoption of a Constitution and ByLaws. NESFA is the first broad-based non-collegiate fan group in the New England area for many years. It will serve as a center for fans in New England. In addition to holding the annual New England Region SF Convention (Boskone), NESFA also publishes an official fanzine -- "The Proper Boskonian", a club newsletter -- "Instant Message", and a convention newsletter -- "Helmuth". The other usual fannish activities will also be encouraged. Present officers are:

President - Anthony Lewis
Vice-president - David Vanderwerf

Clerk - Susan Hereford
Treasurer - Linda Rosenstein
Editor - Cory Seidman

People living outside the greater Boston area and all sf organizations can obtain all publications by becoming subscribing or affiliate members respectively. Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at homes of the members. Write to the Clerk for details: Susan Hereford, 67 Toxteth St., Brookline, Mass. 02146.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

- 3 - ESFA Meeting, at YM-YWCA, 600 Broad St., Newark, N.J., at 3pm
- 5 - OSFiC party. For info write Peter Gill, 18 Glen Meadow Road Toronto, Ontario.
- 8 - FISTFA Meeting, at apt. of Mike McInerney, 250 W.16th St., Apt.5FW, N.Y., N.Y.
- 10 - NESFA meeting, at home of member. Write Susan Hereford, 67 Toxteth St., Brookline, Mass 02146 for info.
- 16 - Lunarians Christmas party, at apt. of F. Dietz, 1750 Walton Ave., Bronx, N.Y. (phone: TR8-8082) Guests of members and out of town fans. 8 pm.

- 16 - Cleveland sf, comics, and movie fan club meeting, at W. 100th & Detroit in Community Activity Bldg, 8pm.
22 - FISTFA Meeting, see above.
31 - OSFiC Meeting, see above.

January 1968

- 5 - FISTFA Meeting, see above.
7 - ESFA Meeting, see above.
14- NESFA Meeting, see above.
19- FISTFA Meeting, see above.
20- Lunarian Meeting, see above.
28- NESFA Meeting, see above.
28- OSFiC Meeting, see above.

February

- 9-11 - Balticonference, at the Holiday Inn, Baltimore, Md.

March

- 23-24 - Boskone V, Statler-Hilton, Boston. GoH Larry Niven. Reg. fee \$2.00. For info: Paul Galvin, 219 Harvard St., Cambridge, Mass. 02139.
30-31 - Marcon 3, Holiday Inn East, 4801 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43217. Fred Pohl GoH.

April

- 19-21 - Lunacon/Eastercon, at the Park-Sheraton Hotel, New York. Don Wollheim GoH.

Meetings held every week:

Cincinnati Fantasy Group - Sat. at homes of various members. For info write to Lou Tabakow, 3953 St. Johns Terr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45236.

Fellowship of the Purple Tongue - Sat. at the home of Phil Harrell 3021 Tait Terr., Norfolk, Va., at 2pm (phone 853-1259)

LASFS - Thurs. at 8pm in the Silverlake Playground, Silverlake Blvd. & Van Pelt St., Los Angeles, Calif.

MITSFs - Fri. at 5pm in Room 1-236 MIT, Cambridge, Mass. Trip to Chinatown for dinner after the meeting.

NEW PAPERBACKS

- Aldiss, Brian W. Who Can Replace A Man? New American Library. 60¢
Anderson, Chester. Butterfly Kid (orig) Pyramid X1730. 60¢
Anderson, Poul. Ensign Flandry. Lancer. 60¢
Baum, L. F. Wizard of Oz. Avon 60¢
Baum, L. F. Wizard of Oz. Scholastic Book Service. 50¢
Bernard, Rafe. Army of the Undead (orig., from The Invaders program) Pyramid R1711. 50¢
Blish, James. They Shall Have Stars (reissue; orig. title: Year 2018) Avon V2216. 60¢
Brackett, Leigh. Big Jump. Ace G683. 50¢
Bulmer, Kenneth. Cycle of Nemesis (orig) Ace G680. 50¢
Butler, William. Butterfly Revolution. Ballantine U6099. 75¢
Campbell, John W. Jr., ed. ASTOUNDING Science Fiction Anthology. Berkley X1490. 60¢
Carr, Terry, ed. New Worlds of Fantasy. Ace A12. 75¢
Carter, Lin. Thongor Against the Gods. Paperback Library 52-586 50¢
Conklin, Groff, ed. Five Unearthly Visions (reissue) Fawcett Gold Medal D1868. 50¢
Cooper, Edmund. All Fool's Day. Berkley. 60¢
Cooper, Edmund. Transit. Lancer. 60¢
Davenport, Leonard. Man of Double Deed. Berkley X1491. 60¢
Ellison, Harlan. From the Land of Fear (orig) Belmont B60-069. 60¢
Geston, Mark S. Lords of the Starship. Ace G673. 50¢
Greenfield, Irving A. Waters of Death. Lancer 73-672. 60¢
Haggard, H. Rider. The Return of She; Ayesha. Lancer 74-899. 75¢
Hamilton, Edmond. Battle for the Stars (reissue) Paperback Library 52-609. 50¢
Herbert, Frank. The Dragon in the Sea (reissue) Avon S290. 60¢

Howard, Hayden. The Eskimo Invasion. Ballantine U6112. 75¢

Howard, Robert E., L. Sprague De Camp, and Lin Carter. Conan. (v.5 of the complete Conan) Lancer 73-685. 60¢

Hoyle, Fred, and John Elliot. Andromeda Breakthrough. Fawcett Crest R1080. 60¢

Jakes, John. Brak the Barbarian. Banner Books. 60¢

Jones, Neil R. Twin Worlds (Prof Jameson Space Adventure #4. orig.) Ace G681. 50¢

Kelley, Leo F. The Counterfeits. Belmont B50-797. 50¢

Knight, Damon. Turning On. Ace G677. 50¢

Lupoff, Richard A. One Million Centuries. Lancer 74-892. 75¢

Mason, Douglas R. Eight Against Utopia (orig. title: From Carthage Then I Came) Paperback Library 52-599. 50¢

Moorcock, Michael. The Jewel In the Skull. Lancer 73-688.

Moorcock, Michael. The Wrecks of Time / Emil Petaja. Tramontane (orig) Ace H36. 60¢

Mundy, Talbot. Helene. Avon. 60¢

Mundy, Talbot. Om: the Secret of Ahsor Valley. Avon V2212. 75¢

Neville, Kris. Special Delivery / Dave Van Arnam. Star Gladiator Belmont B50-788. 50¢

Norman, John. Outlaws of Gor (orig) Ballantine U6072. 75¢

Norton, Andre. Moon of the Three Rings. Ace H33. 60¢

Pangborn, Edgar. Judgment of Eve Dell 4292. 50¢

Platt, Charles. Garbage World. Berkley Medallion X1470. 60¢

Reynolds, Mack. After Some Tomorrow. Belmont B50-795. 50¢

Reynolds, Mack. Computer War / E. C. Tubb. Death Is A Dream. Ace H34. 60¢

Robeson, Kenneth. The Secret in the Sky (Doc Savage) Bantam F3533. 50¢

Saxon, Peter. Scream and Scream Again. Paperback Library Black Magic Novel of Terror 52-598. 50¢

Shaw, Bob. Night Walk (orig) Banner B60-110. 60¢

Sheckley, Robert. Untouched by Human Hands (reissue) Ballantine Bal-Hi U2855. 50¢

Wayman, Tony Russell. World of the Sleeper. Ace H21. 60¢

Wheatley, Dennis. The Devil Rides Out. Bantam S35491. 75¢

Wheatley, Dennis. The Satanist. Bantam S3550. 75¢

White, James. Secret Visitors. Ace. 50¢

NEW HARDCOVERS

Arch, E. L. The Man With Three Eyes. Avalon. \$3.50.

Asimov, Isaac. Mars (juv. non-fiction) Follett. \$1.00.

Blish, James. Welcome to Mars (juv., orig. title: The Hour Before Earthrise) Putnam. \$3.75

Bounds, Sydney J. The Robot Brains. Arcadia. \$3.50.

Burroughs, Edgar Rice. I Am A Barbarian. ERB, Inc. \$6.00.

Christopher, John. The White Mountains (juv) Macmillan. \$4.25

Cooper, Edmund. A Far Sunset. Walker. \$3.95.

Davenport, Basil. Famous Monster Tales. Van Nostrand. \$4.75.

Ellison, Harlan, ed. Dangerous Visions. Doubleday. \$6.95.

Gamow, George. Mr. Tompkins in Paperback (Mr. Tompkins in Wonderland; Mr. Tompkins Explores the Atom) Cambridge Univ. Pr. \$4.50.

Harrison, Harry. The Technicolor Time Machine. Doubleday. \$3.95

Kelvin, Norman. E.M. Forster (non-fiction) Southern Illinois University Press. \$4.95

Lewis, C.S. Out of the Silent Planet (large print ed.) Macmillan. \$6.95.

McWilliams, Carey. Ambrose Bierce a Biography (reprint) Archon \$12.00

Merril, Judith, ed. SF: The Best of the Best (selected from Years Best S-F 1955-1960) Delacorte Press, \$6.50

Resnick, Michael. Goddess of Ganymede. Grant. \$4.00.

Sheldon, Lee. Doomed Planet. Avalon. \$3.50.

Shirley, George E. A World Beyond. Vantage. \$2.50.
 Silverberg, Robert. Planet of Death (juv) Holt, Rinehart & Winston. \$2.95.
 Toro, Pel. Frozen Planet. Arcadia. \$3.50.
 Wier, Ester. The Space Hut (juv) Stackpole. \$3.95.
 Zelazny, Roger. Lord of Light. Doubleday. \$4.95.

JANUARY ACE RELEASES

Dick, Philip K. Eye in the Sky. H39. 60¢
 Leiber, Fritz. The Swords of Lankmar. H38. 60¢
 Simak, Clifford. Why Call Them Back From Heaven? H42. 60¢
 Tubb, E.C. C.O.D. Mars / John Rackham, Alien Sea. H40. 60¢
 Vance, Jack. Planet of Adventure #1: City of the Chasch. G688. 50¢
 Verne, Jules. The City in the Sahara. H43. 60¢
 Verne, Jules. Into the Niger Bend. H41. 60¢

REVIEWES

THE PICTS, by Isabel Henderson. Praeger. 228 p (65 photos, 32 line drawings, 8 maps) \$7.50.

When readers of heroic fantasy tales or readers of swords-&-sorcery tales (if indeed there is a difference) hear the name "Pict" they conjure up to the mind's eye the short, squat folk created by Robert E. Howard in his many tales. Miss (?) Henderson's book is at this moment (0905 hours 11/17/67) the book on the Picts. She draws on the many earlier books written about this mysterious folk and is forced to conclude that we know very little about them. Using the annals of neighboring peoples the history can be traced roughly but we don't even know for sure what language they spoke. If the author dwells at great length upon Pictish art,

it is because this is all we really have left. A book to be glanced through by readers of s-f as are all the "Ancient Peoples and Places" series titles. (J.B. Post)

THE WEREWOLF PRINCIPLE, by Clifford Simak. Putnam. 216 p. \$3.95

Andrew Blake is discovered in deep space in a survival capsule. Upon being revived he has no memory of himself and only a general memory of an Earth 200 years in the past. Blake soon discovers that he is one of two androids designed to be protean (high-class word meaning he can change shape) in contacts with aliens. The problem was after becoming an alien he could never quite be completely "human" again -- the alien personality was always with him. He is three minds in one body, an ever shifting body with one shape human, one shape vaguely like a wolf, and one cone-thing shape. Until the obvious, contrived, inevitable, and disappointing end the story moves rapidly and is loaded with everything I like in s-f. (J.B. Post)

THE DEVIL RIDES OUT, by Dennis Wheatley. Bantam S3549. 75¢. 310p

The Devil Rides Out concerns a group of Satanists in a London far more sinister than any envisioned by Sax Rohmer. They are seeking the Talisman of Set, a sign of power through which the Horsemen of the Apocalypse can be unleashed on the world. However, to accomplish this they need Simon Aron to participate in their ceremonies to Satan, a situation which the Duke Richleau and Rex Van Ryn try to prevent. The story races along at breakneck speed, one terrifying scene after another, culminating in a fantastic battle on an astral plane between the Duke and Mocata, the satanical leader.

Wheatley is a master of terror and his skilled hand is apparent throughout -- enough to raise the hackles on one's neck and to hasten one to turn on all the lights lest some dark horror lurks in the shadows... (Richard Brisson)

THE WORLD SWAPPERS, by John Brunner. Ace G649. 50¢. 153 p.

The World Swappers is a reissue of one of Brunner's "original" novels which he used to turn out at a laxative-like pace in the early days of his career. It's a politicking spacer about Said Counce (mysterious superman) and Bassett (industrial tycoon) fighting for the "control of the worlds". A typical forgettable space-opera which still manages to entertain and at the same time make one thankful that Brunner cut his teeth on such works to become the craftsman he is today. (Richard Brisson)

BEYOND IMAGINATION!

On S-F and Fantasy Collections
Reviews & comments by W. R. Cole

In the beginning was the word, and the word took form into what we know as imaginative literature.

Imaginative literature then becomes two separate categories that we know as science fiction and fantasy fiction. The basic differences are great but can be summarized quickly.

The fantasy story has little if any basis for credibility and is usually pure imagination. Fantasy fiction is classified, erroneously at times, in the same vein with fairy tales. Science fiction, on the other hand, is based on plausible scientific facts.

Admittedly, the above are loose outlines of these two branches of literature but they will suffice for this review.

NEW WORLDS OF FANTASY

Edited by Terry Carr

Ace Books A-12. 75¢ 253 p.
15 stories. November 1967

Terry Carr has been an s-f fan for at least a decade and a professional writer for half of that period. He is now the SF Specials Editor of Ace Books and has certainly shown a world of talent.

This collection ranks among the best that we have seen in a long time.

With one exception, the stories in this anthology were all published since 1961. These stories are not the old type of fantasy, but modern fantasy which does not cover the old cliches of ghosts, witches, etc. This collection contains imagination, originality and fresh writing as well as a new cover by Kelly Freas.

Fantasy Fiction has never obtained the degree of success (?) s-f has received. Very little good fantasy is available today and this collection is a must for both new-comers as well as old time fantasy fans.

In our current technologically oriented society, the possibility of the fantasy story re-gaining the popularity and following it once had is quite possible. At least NEW WORLDS OF FANTASY is a fresh start.

###

Our sub-title "On S-F Anthologies" is no longer applicable. As a new feature we are expanding our reviews to cover both s-f and fantasy anthologies as well as author collections. Therefore, we have reviewed NEW WORLDS OF FANTASY as well as a new collection of stories by Lloyd Biggle.

###

THE RULE OF THE DOOR and Other
Fanciful Regulations.

9 stories by Lloyd Biggle Jr.
Doubleday 1967 \$3.95 205 p.

If there was an organization that required an applicant to be a good writer, but underrated, the name of Lloyd Biggle Jr. would most certainly be on or near the top of the list.

Lloyd Biggle has been writing science fiction for over twelve years and certainly has been one of s-f's most underrated authors. This new collection from Doubleday should prove that.

THE RULE OF THE DOOR, etc. is Biggle's fifth book and represented are stories that have one thing in common: a rule or regulation exists in the various settings and in each story this is either bypassed or ignored.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

The stories are well written and the topics vary from an alien being who attempts to sabotage the earth by trading, of all things, old shoelaces in exchange for new laces that supposedly will last indefinitely to a 20th century car salesman that ends up in the 23rd century where the art of selling is unknown and handled through hypnosis.

Six of the nine stories date back to 1957 and 1958 and only one has ever appeared outside of the magazines, as far as we can determine.

\$3.95 is a small price to pay for a well-balanced collection and certainly is recommended for a change of pace.

FOR SALE: Back issues of Monsters, Creatures, Spacemen, Mad & Cracked Magazines. All bargain priced. Dick Hendrickson, 249 Sheridan Ave. So., Minneapolis, Minn. 55405.

SCIENTIFANTASY SPECIALIST: Back issue magazines and books. Free catalog. Gerry de la Ree, 75 Wyckoff, Wyckoff, N.J. 07481.

TANSTAAFL BUTTONS FOR SALE: We have a new shipment. While they last, 25¢ each, plus 5¢ per order for postage. Postage stamps accepted for amounts under \$1.00. Send orders to SFT, Box 216, Syracuse, N.Y. 13209.



VALINORIAN TIMES

Ed Meskys, Editor

#1 December 1967

TWO NEW TOLKIEN BOOKS TO BE PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER

Early in November, a little later than intended, the Houghton Mifflin Co. issued The Road Goes Ever On, a song cycle by J. R. R. Tolkien and Donald Swann (\$3.95). Donald Swann set to music the words of six poems from Lord of the Rings and one from The Adventures of Tom Bombadil.

These poems are "The Road Goes Ever On," "Upon the Hearth the Fire is Red," "In the Willow-meads of Tasarinan", "In Western Lands", "Namārie", "I Sit Beside the Fire" and "Errantry". The fifth is in Sindarin and was performed by Swann when he toured the United States and Canada with "At the Drop of Another Hat" last year. (It is not in the record album of that show for that was taken from the performances in England which didn't include "Namārie". The seven songs form a cycle which should be sung without interruption.

The book contains the seven songs with music for piano for all and guitar chording for five, and notes by Tolkien on the ancient history of Middle-earth, Sindarin, Tengwar, and the religion of Middle-earth. These are mostly in the form of an annotated word-for-word translation of "Namārie" and "A Elbereth Gilthoniel". There is also a foreward by Donald Swann.

The book is a very beautiful production printed in two colors on large tan pages. The dust-jacket has the two Sindarin poems written by Tolkien in the Tengwar mode, and each page is embellished with two lines from the poems running across the top and bottom.

Caedmon Records has issued a companion LP, "Poems And Songs of Mid-

dle-earth" (#TC-1231; \$5.95) but I haven't yet heard it. One side has William Elvin singing the cycle while the other has Prof. Tolkien reading some other poems from Tom Bombadil.

The other new Tolkien book is "Smith of Wootton Major" (Nov. 24th, \$1.95). This very small (paperback sized, 62 pgs) children's fantasy is a cross between Farmer Giles of Ham and Leaf by Niggle. It is set in Medieval England and is the story of a man who is given the power and wanderlust to explore the land of Faery and often leaves his family for long periods of time to make these pilgrimages. It is interesting, but as Marsha Brown points out in her review for NIEKAS it is really a plot outline and not a story. It should have been about twice as long.

TOLKIEN WORKS IN PROGRESS

Dick Plotz, former Thain of the Tolkien Society of America, visited Prof. Tolkien this past summer and reports excruciatingly slow progress on three new Middle-earth works, with the publication of the first of these several years off. These are The Silmarillion, which tells of Morgoth's rebellion during the First Age of Middle-earth, A Man And His Wife, a narrative poem dealing with life in Numenor, and The Akallabeth, dealing with the downfall of Numenor. All of these take place, of course, thousands of years before Lord of the Rings. Professor Tolkien had also started a sequel to LotR, The New Shadow, but abandoned that project several years ago.

TOLKIEN SOCIETY OF AMERICA NEWS

At a meeting held in Brooklyn, on September 2nd, I took office as

Thain. The founding Thain, Dick Plotz, had to resign because of pressures of schoolwork, but is keeping his hand in the Society by retaining the office of Mayor. The third officer of the Society is Bob Foster, historian.

The TSA has just published a newsletter, THE GREEN DRAGON, which gives news of the Society and of matters related to Tolkien.

Both publications of the Tolkien Society of America, THE GREEN DRAGON and THE TOLKIEN JOURNAL, will appear on an irregular schedule, Membership, costing \$2.00, lasts as long as it takes to publish four issues of the TJ and includes all issues of the DRAGON published during that period. Copies of the DRAGON, which also contains information about the society and its activities, are available for 10¢. However, neither subscriptions to the DRAGON alone nor advance orders for the next issue will be accepted.

The TSA has some 40 chapters scattered around the country and even a few overseas. Lists of these chapters and reports on their activities are published in the DRAGON.

The Society will have a large meeting in New York City at the Hotel Picadilly (227 West 45th St.) on Friday, December 29th, at 8:00 pm. The doors will open early and after the lengthy program there will be further opportunity for attendees to mingle and chat informally.

Other major meetings are being tentatively planned for cities such as Boston, Chicago and Oakland during the coming year.

People interested in joining the TSA should write to Tolkien Society of America, Belknap College, Center Harbor, New Hampshire 03226.

DUST JACKETS TO FIT PAPERBACK EDITION AVAILABLE

Many fans have disliked the covers on both paperback editions of Lord of the Rings so Diana L. Paxson of Berkeley drew a set of 4 black & white dust-jackets to fit the books. These have been published by and are available from me for \$1.00 per set plus

.10 for each mailing tube used. Write to me at Center Harbor, New Hampshire 03226.

NEW HOBBIT HUDDLE IN THE WORKS

A formal literary conference on Tolkien and his works, and related writers, will be held on the Belknap College campus in the fall of 1968. The exact dates remain to be selected. This will be the second Tolkien Conference to be held by an academic institution, tho there have been several members and short courses. The first was held by Mankato State College in Minnesota a little over a year ago. Proceedings have been published but I do not know whether copies are available, and if so on what basis. More news of this will be published in future issues of VALINORIAN TIMES and TSA publications.

NEWS OF OTHER HEROIC FANTASY

Ballantine Books has thus far reprinted two of E. R. Eddison's Mercury novels, The Worm Ouroboros and Mistress of Mistresses. The third, the very rare Fish Dinner in Memison, is scheduled for February 1968. Ballantine is currently negotiating for rights to publish the fourth and last of the Mercury books, The Mizentian Gate. If Mizentian Gate is published it will come out in about a year after negotiations are completed. After considering the matter they have decided not to re-issue Eddison's other two fantasies, Eqil's Saga and Styborg the Strong.

Mervyn Peake's trilogy, Titus Groan, Gormenghast and Titus Alone, were just re-issued by Weybright & Talley of New York for \$7.50, \$7.50 and \$5.00. These books were published in co-operation with Ballantine which owned the rights and will release them in paperback form next fall. The plates were made by Ballantine and the W&T edition is photo-offset from the page proofs. However, the two publishers disagreed as to how the numerous interior illustrations by Peake himself should be treated and these will differ in the two editions. The

people at W&T felt that they would be set off best if they were printed quite small in the center of an otherwise blank page, while those at Ballantine feel that this loses too much of the fine detail so they will print them as large as the page permits. Also, those at Ballantine feel they will do better justice to Peake's paintings used for the covers.

Alan Garner has two new books out in England, The Old Man of Mow and The Owl Service. His The Weirdestone of Brisingamen was published by Ace Books about a year ago, but thus far its sequel, The Moon of Gamorath is only available in hardcover here. In England it has been paperbacked by Puffin. His other novel, Elidor, is only available in hardcover in England.

Nicholas Stuart Gray has written a number of exceptional fantasies. Among his best (in my opinion, at least) are the collection Mainly In Moonlight, and the novels The Stone Cage and Down in the Cellar. These were all published in England, and only the collection has been issued here. Unfortunately, two of the best stories have been omitted from the American re-print. One of his early novels, long out of print, has just been re-issued. This is Over The Hills to Babylon.

PROFESSOR CLYDE S. KILBY REPORTS...

Dr. Kilby, chairman of the English Dept. at Wheaton College in Illinois, is the author of a book about C. S. Lewis (The Christian World of C. S. Lewis), was a personal friend of Lewis', and knows Tolkien well. He had spent the summer of 1966 with Tolkien helping him speed completion of The Silmarillion. He recently said in a letter:

You may be interested to know that I spoke to over 300 students and teachers at the University of Wisconsin in September, an enthusiastic group, on Prof. Tolkien -- a sort of Tolkien-up-to-date speech discussing recent publications, my experience with Tolkien in the summer of 1966 and briefly in '64, why I think people are reading him, old

and young alike, etc. The next night I spoke to some 40-45 people in Chicago, again a really enthusiastic group. I expect to spend almost a week at Gordon College, near Boston, in February talking Tolkien.

THE PUBLISHERS PLEAD

The TSA has received complaints from Prof. Tolkien's publishers about a large number of requests he has been receiving requesting him to autograph his books. Handling these puts a great strain on him and this further delays The Silmarillion.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Shortly before press time of VALINORIAN TIMES, the December issue of REDBOOK was released containing Tolkien's Smith of Wootton Major.

A comparison between REDBOOK and the Houghton Mifflin book indicates that the REDBOOK version is excerpts from the book and not a new Tolkien story. The REDBOOK version is illustrated by Milton Glaser.

Both The Tolkien Reader and "The Hobbit" have been selling extremely well, according to figures released by Ballantine.

Since both books were released, an average of 100,000 copies per month have sold. In September, Ballantine reports sales of over 380,000.

"The Hobbit" has printed over 1,000,000 copies through 17 printings.

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