

SCIENCE FICTION NEWS LETTER

is no longer among the living. We imagine this to be sad news indeed to the many, many thousands of eager fans and book collectors, writers and editors, who snatched up each issue as it rolled from the press. Also the less than four hundred actual people who received it regularly.

The suspension of NEWS LETTER was not caused by the paper shortage, the dearth of adequate writing talent, the lack of good fiction, an acute underproduction of printing ink, or the potato famine in Iran. NEWS LETTER threw in the towel simply because it was a heavily-losing proposition and when the publisher lost his fat, plush job, it became more important to feed his family than to publish.

Professional editors please copy the frankness.

The last issue to be published was number 29, dated Summer 1953. At that time, paid circulation had gone down to less than two hundred, while total circulation barely reached four hundred. Despite this, printing and mailing costs remained fixed at about \$75 per issue. The conclusion to be reached from this is plain.

There is an excellent periodical available to all science fiction book readers and collectors, and we have no hesitation in recommending to you the:

SCIENCE FICTION ADVERTISER, 1745 Kenneth Road, Glendale 1, California.

A dollar will fetch you a long-term subscription to that rewarding journal, and you might take note that it does not depend on subscribers alone for a healthy life. We have been invited to join its staff, and in the future the magazine will carry a department entitled "Science Fiction News Letter," as well as book reviews by yours truly. We hope to meet you there.

Our subscribers will be refunded the money due them in cash or stamps, as fast as possible. Bear with us, as we have never cheated more than a few hundred people in our life. And thank you very much for the past support. NEWS LETTER managed to struggle along for almost eight years in one format or another, and we must admit it was a merry do. The next time some enterprising amateur wants to try it, we suggest he have a sock-full of the necessary.

Best,

Bob Tucker

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