

#10 L M B E R 24 August 1946 10
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78 For one of the local papers, Prof. Selby Maxwell, a Chicago scientist personally known by Paul Klingbiel who sends in this clipping, predicts weather for a week in advance by certain unorthodox means. He says that near Aug 27 & Sep 9 there will be two violent meetings of hot and cold air masses. Both of these meetings will "bear watching", he says. WE will be watching, Prof. Maxwell. (This prediction was printed in the Milwaukee Sentinel for Aug. 18.)

79 LATEST ARRIVALS: ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE now in the bookstores. Edited by Raymond J. Healy and J. Francis McComas, neither of whom I've heard but both professing s-f hobby-interest, and published by Random House at \$2.95. The jacket is very nice in banded blue with a stream of yellow, impressionistic space ships angling across the path of a conventional orange job. The contents has been previously published somewhere else, so I won't take space for that, except to mention a few of my favorites included. First, "Quietus" by Ross Rocklynne, a story I voted first place the year it appeared; then "Who Goes There" by Don Stuart. The book is thick- 997 pages. MERCURY #11 from Telis Streiff, but new editor Tom Jewett is taking over with #12. They tell how a comic book article refers to 'uranium expert John Campbell'. FANTASY ILLUSTRATED from Bob Stein. This issue #2 much improved, though still lacking carefulness in layout and typing. Some very unusual Ditto effects are achieved. Included is a technocratic thesis delivered in typical crack pot style; I say, style, the content might be okay after analysis semantically. A powerful though brash bit of poetry by Andy Mayer concludes the non-pictorial part except for several pages of editorial remarks. THE KAY-LAR TRADER #5 from K. Martin Carlson. Besides the usual fan swaps and sales there are two fan histories: Telis Streiff and Harley Sachs. Running for Directorate of NFFF are listed Sandy Kadet, Rick Sneary, Telis Streiff, Les Croutch, & K.L. Carlson. For Vice-Pres is named Walter A. Coslet. Kay-Lar sends a card that all who intend to run for office in the fall election had better contact Dale Tarr or Carlson right away. THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN, Vol 5 No 5, from Rothman. He's looking for someone to spell him on the NFFF organ. And still no complete report of the Pacificcon! Rothman says merely: "Much as I would like to give a complete account of the convention here, time and space do not allow." Maybe I could get Robert Bloch to write a report for EBER.

80- CAPSULE REVIEW: THE LAST EGYPTIAN, anonymous, Edward
G. & Co., 1908. The line back to the true ancient Pharaohs has been secretly kept alive even to mummification and burial but the final son uses their hidden store of super-treasure to finance his adventures. He misuses a curse stone and brings death upon himself. The full facts of the cave are given, but in the end no one is left alive who knows its secret. --- credit Walter A. Coslet.

81- Just received from R.L. Farnsworth an autographed 8x10 photo of himself holding a machine cast of some purpose. (Please note his advertisement on page 3 above the Beowulf Poll summary.) On Bob's wall are photos of the moon, Mars, Saturn, and Jupiter in addition to a painting of an upended rocketship on the moon with Terra hanging in the sky above. As for Bob himself he appears to be fairly young (about 35 I'd guess) with intense eyes under heavy eyebrows. His jaw is determined, and it looks like he will get to the moon if anyone can. Two vice-presidents' names have a familiar ring: Keith Buchanan and Frank McCourt. Do you know them?

82 DOUBT #15: refer to Embereport #8: Eric Frank Russell describes some odd footprints seen on a snow covered hill in Belgium. "Unfortunately the prints weren't as dramatic as Gould's -- they didn't run for miles over several counties, and they didn't hop across rooftops. I remain firmly convinced that to me has been vouchsafed a sight of a typical piece of Fortean and that I've seen the inexplicable. But I wished I'd been able to photograph them as Smythe did those prints of the Abominable Snowmen in the Himalayas." Two questions: who is Gould and what were the prints he saw? And who is Smythe, and is he the major Klingbiel wrote about in Embereport #8?

83-Al Lopez has a nice comment about a Miss Martinelli's letter in the Oct. AMAZING. It seems that she has seen a rocket ship while observing weird events taking place around Mt. Shasta. She's definite that it was a space ship because she's so familiar with meteors and has seen Halley's Comet twice! Lopez says: "I doubt all she says because she insisted she was very careful and analytical in her knowledge and observations, yet she has seen Halley's Comet twice. We will ignore the fact that the last two visits of Halley's Comet were supposed to be 1835 and 1910 which would make this woman close to 120 years old, and still hiking around Mt. Shasta. Shades of Methusalem." Lopez also mentions the deep resonant booming sound often heard in the Finger Lakes section of New York state which has never been satisfactorily explained. "Could it be Deros beating on their chests and boasting?" Lopez asks. (Where have you got your tongue, Al?)

84- I quote a portion of a letter from R.S. Richardson, the astronomer and Astounding article writer: "I think science-fiction fans could exert considerable influence at this time in requesting articles on new developments in science as opposed to gadgets, etc. McGraw-Hill hoped to ~~make this a magazine which would rival LIFE in circulation and be a leader in popular science.~~ Their policy is still rather uncertain, and if a lot of people wrote in now their comments would probably get very serious consideration." As far as I know only Rothman has written them along this suggestion, except for two letters by myself. Let's deluge the magazine SCIENCE ILLUSTRATED with our side of the fence on which they appear to be shaking.

85- Some news of interest from R.S. Richardson: "Dr. Bernard Lyot of the Pic du Midi Observatory located high in the Pyrenees mountains in southern France exhibited some of his photographs taken there while visiting in Pasadena on August 14. He showed photographs of Mars, the moon, Jupiter, Saturn, and motion pictures of the solar prominences and the corona taken in full daylight. Dr. Lyot was the first to devise a coronagraph that enabled him to photograph the corona without an eclipse. In the clear air of the Pic du Midi he has been able to make drawings of markings on the moons of Jupiter and photographs indicating positions of the Martian canals. He has largely eliminated the troublesome effects of plate grain by printing several different negatives of Mars, for example, on top of one another. In this way, the graininess is smoothed out and the real thing is intensified. His motion pictures of the prominences speeded up 600 times show them writhing and squirming on the edge of the sun like live things. Curiously enough, most of the material is going down into the sun apparently out of nowhere instead of up.

86- From now on items about Chinese mice stay in EMBER. Writes George Tullis: "that night, after telling my wife about Chinese mice, according to a dream I had the Chinese had developed a cheese industry, because I dreamed that I received in a box a pound of cheddar-like cheese, wrapped in yellow cellophane with Chinese writing on the label."

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2 H.P. Lovecraft	298	2 Lawrence	158	2 FFM	236
3 A.E. Van Vogt	281	3 Paul	115	3 Weird	137
4 Henry Kuttne-Padgett	225	4 Bok	90	4 Startling	121
5 Robert Heinlein	223	5 Schneeman	36	5 Planet	101
6 Stanley G. Weinbaum	218	6 Rogers	35	(goes to 10)	
7 E.E. Smith	159	7 Dolgov	30		
8 John Campbell-Stuart	129	8 Orban	24	FANS	Pts.
9 L. Sprague de Camp	111	9 Clyde	23	1 Kennedy	283
10 John Taine	87	Leydenfrost	23	2 Ackerman	278
11 C.A. Smith	84	(goes to 14)		3 Tucker	258
12 H.G. Wells	81			4 Spear	190
13 Isaac Asimov	79	FANZINES	Pts.	5 Laney	178
14 Edgar Rice Burroughs	78	1 Vampire	422	6 Moskowitz	176
15 Murray Leinster	75	2 Fantasy Comm'T'r	295	7 de la Ree	170
16 Robert Bloch	74	3 Shangri L'Aff're	270	8 Dunkelbarga	157
17 Edmond Hamilton	70	4 Scientificist	234	9 E.E. Evans	109
18 Ross Rocklynne	59	5 The Acolyte	210	10 Sealess	82
Claf Stapledon	59	(goes to 21)		11 Rothman	66
20 Algernon Blackwood	56			12 Burbee	65
(goes up to 38)				(goes to 25)	

SHORT STORIES

- 1 A Martian Odyssey
 - 2 Twilight
 - 3 The Outsider
 - 4 Micocosmic God
 - 5 Mimsey Wee the Borogoves
 - 6 And He Built a Crooked House
 - 7 The Wendigo
 - 8 The Colour out of Space
 - 9 It
 - 10 Rats in the Walls
- Environment
Universe
(goes to 15)

NOVELS

- 1 Slan
 - 2 Dwellers in the Mirage
 - 3 The New Adam
 - The Moon Pool
 - The Ship of Ishtar
 - 6 Final Blackout
 - 7 Beyond This Horizon
 - 8 The Black Flame
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 - 10 The Gray Lensman
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(goes to 18)



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34- NEW ARRIVALS: DOUBT, The Fortean Society Magazine, #15; APES, GIANTS, AND MAN, by Franz Weidenreich, 1946, University of Chicago Press; LEBOWITZ, #10, a magazine put out by Telis Streiff; T////////, #1, being mailed at this moment by Donn Brazier. DOUBT is chuck full of interesting and thought provoking items, a great many of them sent in by Eric F. Russell, the "Minister of the Future" man. The cover shows some mysterious footprints; what made them? I think I'll take it down to the museum and let the zoologists ponder over the tracks. There are some interesting sallies about the recent radar contact with the moon. A definition of STUDY is given as "the process of finding out which questions have no answers." Korzybski comes in for some overdue praise, for Thayer (editor of DOUBT) admits that previously he had said that "an essentially simple subject was being perverted, obfuscated and purposefully made difficult, for the chief reason of providing an income for Korzybski." E. Hoffman Price even contributes several columns on the subject of translators and their errors. Weidenreich's book is the selection of the Scientific Book Club for this month. It is not a popularly written book, but comprises 5 lectures the author gave at the U. of Calif in 1945.

35- Have you written SCIENCE ILLUSTRATED yet to comment on Groff Conklin's article "The Science in Science Fiction"? I did and got a reply four days after writing to them; they end their little note: "We hope you and your readers enjoy future issues." (I had sent them a copy of JUBER in which their magazine was praised.) I have hopes that this zine will give us, if not the fiction we like, the type of science articles the general run of science-fiction fan will like.

36- Jim Kepner writes: "Maybe Toward Tomorrow won't fold, although I'm being lean on promises for the nonce. If there is another issue, it will contain some reviews of EARTH COULD BE FAIR, by Van Passen, SISTER CARRIE and THE BULWARK by Dreiser, the writings of John Strachey, and sundry other books, probably none of them fantasy. Also some fiction strictly realistic, and articles including one on the Women of the Ku Klux Klan, and perhaps one on a possible atom-bombing of NYC. Chief shortages at the moment are artwork, poetry, and some really concrete plans for the future of the magazine."

37- AETIUS AND VIRGINIA by Trevelyan, Putnam, 1933 NYC-- Lady educates an ape to human intelligence, various consequences. (Credit Robert Stein.) JURGEN by James Branch Cabell, McBride 1919 -- Jurgen, main character, puts in good word for Satan; as reward, Satan gives him ability to travel in various worlds of dreams and mythology. J has many interesting and erotic adventures...and I mean erotic, tho not in the vulgar form. (Credit Stein) Do we have any more capsule reviews, either old or new? If so, send them in.

38- A LIGHTS OUT program series is being revived at 8PM CST on Saturday night over NBC. The one tonite is just beginning-- I hear the word ZOLBI -- pardon me while I listen. I heard all but the finish, because at that time Nanek called on the phone. She has not submitted anything recently to either the pros or fmz.

39- The picture story in the August CORONET is called "By Rocket to Mars in 18 Days"; with brief text and nine colored shots thru the spaceship port the trip proves very interesting. The paintings are by Chesley Bonestell, artist and astronomer. The date predicted for this trip is 1986.

40- ANKILAL HOUSE bulletin just received says that the Hodgson omnibus is now being delivered, and that Howard's SKULLFACE soon will be. JUBEE and THE EYE AND THE FINGER are now out of print. Foreign editions are mentioned: French, Spanish, England, and Australia.

#5..... E H B E R 27 July 1946

((Published weekly at 1329 N. 33rd Street, Milwaukee 8, Wisconsin))

* Donn Brazier determines your priority on the circulation list by the postage-money, acknowledgements and requests, or Embereports that you might possibly send him..... *

32- Nicholas Carr reports a radio show entitled "Fifth Horseman", heard on NBC network Thursday nights at 9:30 PM-CDT. "It describes various aspects of atomic energy," he writes, "the last being the reactions of a man to the Atomic Age. On Aug. 1 the program is sub-titled 'Crisis', probably the threat of atomic war."

33- "Closer within my own personal experience comes a weird adventure, and a phenomenon open to no such suspicions of fraud as those just related, which befell a friend who is a Brahmin, an erudite scholar, and a deep student of the ancient Tantric magic of India, Mr. Vishnu Karandikar, of Poona. While we were engaged in certain archaeological investigations at the temple of Old Mahableshwar in 1934 we discovered a very rare object, a small image of the ancient goddess Gayatri, with four faces. The priest flatly declared that we would not be able to get a photograph of it-- he said I should not, in any case, not being a Brahmin -- unless certain magical rites were performed first, since the mantra of Gayatri is the most powerful known to Tantric students. Partly because he wanted to see what would happen, and partly because, having lived long in London, he has an extremely sceptical outlook, Mr. Karandikar went to turn the image, which is only some three feet high, in order to get it into a more favorable light for his picture. Though easy to handle, as regards bulk and size, it absolutely refused to move, even by our joint efforts, and when Mr. Karandikar tried again, alone, he received from some invisible force a violent blow across the left hand, which raised a weal and broke a thick gold ring he was wearing.

"In addition to this, when he still persisted in his efforts to get a photograph of the image without performing puja, every plate of the subject came out clearly as a picture of the wall against which the image stood, but with no idol visible on it, though camera and plates were all in perfect order, and the rest of the batch of plates had already given perfect pictures of other objects and buildings around the temple. My own luck, with an equally good camera and plates, was no better; so finally my Brahmin friend did perform the ancient magical incantations prescribed by the temple priest, and was able to photograph the image, and a very evil thing it is to look upon. I too made another attempt, after the ceremonies, but could get nothing but a blurred outline of the idol, though the wall behind was sharp. Another queer experience on this expedition was that Mr. Karandikar was also unable, until puja had been performed and offerings made, to get a picture of the entrance to the lair of the sacred cobra on Mahableshwar Hill, at which snake hole the priests daily make offerings of eggs." (pps. 139-140 of INDIAN UNDERWORLD by Paul Dare - 1940)

Paul Klingbiel, who sent in the preceding ELDER REPORT, says: "Dare is not a champion of Indian Yoga etc., etc., in fact he debunked quite a bit of it in his book. As you can see from the opening sentences of the quote, he isn't a sucker. Previous stories he had related which were open to question concerned bleeding statues, one even menstruates every four to six weeks. The suspicious part of it is that no outsider can stand guard in the temple and thus spot trickery. Therefore I didn't bother quoting those particular stories."