

Thatcher

— SERVING FANDOM —

Fortnightly

Price 6d.

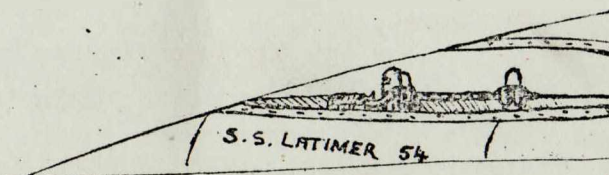
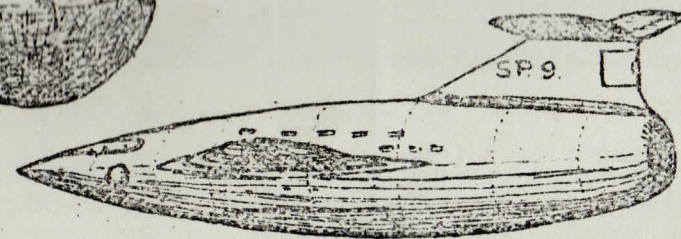
ETHERLINE

THE LATEST IN
SCIENCE FICTION

HEADLINES:

ISSUE
NO. 39
4/11/54
++++++

BRE FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION SUSPENDED.....
AUTHOR LISTING : Stanley G. WEINBAUM.....
WHO IS M. E. PATCHETT ?.....
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MALIAN PRESS.....
MELBOURNE GROUP LIBRARY LISTING.....
OVERSEAS NEWS.....FILM NEWS.....
BOOK AND MAGAZINE REVIEWS.....



AN AFPA PUBLICATION

NEW
AUSSIE
PROMING
*
*
SEE
PAGE
SIXTEEN

Published fortnightly by AMATEUR FANTASY PUBLICATIONS OF AUSTRALIA and edited by Ian J. Crozier, production by Mervyn R. Binns. All material for publication to be forwarded to 6 Bramerton Road, Caulfield, S.E.8, Victoria, Australia. All Subscriptions to AFPA, 4 Myrtle Grove, Preston, Victoria.

Subscription rates as follows:—

Australia: 15/- per 26 issues; 7/6 per 13 issues.
U.K.: 12/- per 26 issues; 6/- per 13 issues.
U.S.A.: \$2 per 26 issues; \$1 per 13 issues.

AFPA is a non-profit making organisation devoted to the service of the science fiction fan. President: R. J. McCubbin; Secretary/Treasurer: Mervyn R. Binns; Publisher: Ian Crozier; Art Director: Keith McLelland; Chief Reviewer: Tony Santos.

U.S. AGENT,
West Coast:

J. BEN STARK,
290 Kenyon Ave.,
Berkeley 4,
Calif., U.S.A.

U.S. AGENT,
East Coast:

JOHN HITCHCOCK,
15 Arbutus St.,
Baltimore 28,
Md., U.S.A.

U.K.-CONTINENTAL
AGENT:

SLATER, K. F., K. F. Slater,
Riverside,
South Brink,
Wimborb, Cambs., Syston, Leics.,
EXGLAND
United Kingdom

PRINTED
MATTER
ONLY

To.....

“ETHERLINE”

P A N D O M ' S W A I T I N G F O R I T ! ! !

W H A T ? ? ? ?

THE FOURTH AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION TO BE
HELD IN SYDNEY ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
MARCH 18th AND 19th 1955

TALKS, ORIGINAL DRAMATIC PRESENTATIONS, DISPLAYS,
FANCY DRESS BALL, SHORT STORY CONTEST.

REGISTRATION FEE: 10/- Aust., 8/- Stg., \$1.00 TO :
David Cohen, Box 4940, G.P.O., Sydney. Aust.

Other particulars from: A. Haddon, Box 56 Redfern, N.S.W.

S Y D N E Y F A N S ! ! ! ! !

For the best night of your life, attend the weekly meetings
of the Sydney Science Fiction Group, held on the 3rd Floor of the
Sydney Bridge Club, Post Office Chambers, 333 George St, Sydney .

Every reader of science fiction and fantasy is invited to
join the discerning Sydney fan on any Thursday evening after 7.30

There is plenty to interest all.

Chess, talk - in abundance - a large library, supper.

Of Course,

You buy your Science Fiction at

McKay's ! ! !

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

AUTHOR STORY LISTING

No. 1. STANLEY G. WEINBAUM

Compiled by DONALD H. TUCK.

+ + + +

Particular coding is given herewith whilst Anthology
Coding (always preceded by A) is given in the master listing. All
other abbreviations are in common use, or else are in my HANDBOOK
OF SCIENCE FICTION.

BOOKS:

- B1 THE DARK OTHER (Fantasy Pub. Co.: Los Angeles 1950 256
J-Arfstrom \$ 3.00).
- B2 THE NEW ADAM (Ziff Davis: Chicago 1939 262 \$ 2.00).

COLLECTIONS.

- C1 THE BLACK FLAME (Fantasy P: Reading 1948 240 \$ 3.00).
C of 2s: (story numbers) 6, 2.
- C2 DAWN OF FLAME (Weinbaum Memorial Volume) (Conrad H. Rupp-
ert: New York 1936 313 \$ 2.50). Now a Collector's
item.
C of 7s: 10, 11, 9, 18, 25, 1, 6.
- C3 A MARTIAN ODESSY & OTHERS (Fantasy P: Reading 1949 289
\$ 3.00).
C of 12s: 11, 24, 1, 10, 25, 8, 15, 17, 13, 9, 14, 4
- C4 THE RED PERI (Fantasy Publishing CO: Los Angeles 1952 \$3)
C of 8s: 22, 20, 18, 16, 3, 21, 7, 9.

OTHERS

- O1 PARASITE PLANET Australia P (Whitman P: Sydney nd 6d)

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

STORIES

- ^a Written under pseudonym 'John Jessel'
^b Collaboration with Ralph Milne Farley
^c with (sister) Helen Weinbaum

1. Adaptive Ultimate, The. nv ASF Nov'35^a, C2, C3, AC3^a
2. Black Flame, The. n SS Jan'39, FSM Spr'52, C1
3. Brink of Infinity, The. s TWS Dec'36, SS Mar'48, C4
4. Circle of Zero, The. s. TWS Aug'36, SS Sep'47, C3
5. Dark Other, The. n. B1, AF1
6. Dawn of Flame, The. n. TWS Jun'39, FSM Spr'52, C1, C2
7. Flight on Titan .s. (see also 'A Man, a Maid.....')
ASF Jan'35, C4
3. Ideal, The. s. WS Sep'35, SS Jun'43, FSM Spr'50.
9. Lotus Eaters, The. nv. ASF Apr'35, C2, C3, AB15
10. Mad Moon, The. nv. ASF Dec'35, C2, C3
- Man, a Maid, and Saturn's Temptation, A. (retitling of 7.)
AFR # 15
11. Martian Odessy, A. s. WS Jul'34, SS Nov'39, C2, C3, AF7, AP4
12. New Adam, The. n. B2, sr2, AS Feb'43
13. Parasite Planet, The. nv. ASF Feb'35, C3, 01, AF6
14. Planet of Doubt, The. nv. ASF Oct'35, C3.
15. Point of View, The. s. WS Feb'36, SS Spr'44, C3
16. Proteus Island. nv. ASF Aug'36, C4.
17. Pygmalion's Spectacles. s. WS Jun'35, SS May'39, C3.
18. Red Peri, The. nv. ASF Nov'35, C2, C4.
19. Redemption Cairn. nv. ASF Mar'36, C4
20. Revolution of 1950^b. n. sr2, AS Oct'38, C4
21. Shifting Seas^b. nv. AS Apr'37, C4
22. Smothered Seas^b. nv. ASF Jan'36, C4
23. Tidal Moon^c. s. TWS Dec'38
24. Valley of Dreams. s. WS Nov'34, SS May'40, C3, AF7
25. Worlds of If, The. s. WS Aug'35, SS Mar'41, Fg Dec'46, C2, C3

Connected Stories or Series (in order listed)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 'Hammond, Ham ' series | 13, 9, 14.. |
| 'Manderpootz, Professor' series | 25, 8, 15. |
| 'Margaret of Urbs' series | 6, 2. |
| 'Tweerl' series | 11, 24. |

Donald H. Tuck.

Next issue will present John W. Campbell, Jnr.

MANY FACETED WOMAN

An item of interest was pointed out to me recently in a copy of WOMANS DAY, the national woman's magazine. It concerned one Mary Elwyn Patchett, who, it turns out, is M.E. Patchett, the science fiction author who writes the very good juvenile books.

Mrs. Patchett explained that she wrote under the initials only because ' would any schoolboy take to his heart a thrilling tale about crash-landing on the moon if it were written by someone called Mary ?'

Mrs. Patchett is a member of the British Interplanetary Society, and has her stories checked before publication.

Apart from science fiction, she also writes westerns detective and romance novels under one name or another, but she is devoted to science fiction.

Landing on the Moon ? Her tip is about the end of the century.

Let's hope that Mrs. Patchett graduates from the juvenile ranks, and joins the fine American women writers, C.L. Moore and Judith Merrill.

..... CONGRATULATIONS !!

Congratulations to Malian Press !

After seeing the latest title, Henry Kuttner's REMEMBER TOMORROW, I feel we must congratulate the publishers and that superb artist, Stanley Pitt, for the fine job they are doing.

All except one or two titles that they have published in the last 2½ years have been top grade stf, and the cover in each case would have done credit to any overseas promag, which is more than we can say for the other two Australian promags, POPULAR and FUTURE, whose only claim to fame (and that only in the last issue of FUTURE) is that they are encouraging Australian authors. The stories published in these two magazines up to date are in the main apparent rejects from PLANET.

So far I have had two volumes of the Malian Press items bound, and I look forward to many more in the future.

Mervyn R. Binns.

FANMAG REVIEWS

ATLANTIS, A Journal of Research. (Editor: Egerton Sykes, Markham House Press, Ltd., 31 King's Rd., London, S.W.3. 2/3 copy or 40 c)

A mixture of Biblical and mythical 'history' and dealing with Atlantis, Lemuria, Demonology and similar items. Solid blocks of nebulous theory. Not my dish - others may be interested.

URANUS - Flying Saucers and Space Travel. (Editor: E. Biddle. Another Markham House release at 1/9 stg or 35 c.) Hypnotist sends entranced woman on trip in Flying Saucer. This sets the tempo. Inside cover is an ad for lecture by George Adamski.

Bob McCubbin

FILM SECTION

New films completed in the States include the following: THE GLASS SLIPPER, a fantasy starring Leslie Caron and Michael Wilding, technicolor, musical, MGM production.

CONQUEST OF SPACE starring Walter Brooke and Eric Fleming, produced by George Pal and directed by Byron Haskin. A Paramount production.

TOBOR THE GREAT starring Charles Drake, Karin Booth and Billy Chapman, produced by Goldstone / Sholem.

GOG starring Herbert Marshall and Richard Egan, a Tors/Carlson A Men production.

THE NEANDERTHAL MAN, with Robert Shayne and Doris Merrick.

THIS ISLAND EARTH starring Jeff Morrow and Faith Domergue, a technicolor wide screen production.

SUPERMAN IN EARTH, SUPERMAN FLIES AGAIN, SUPERMAN IN PERIL and SUPERMAN AND THE JUNGLE DEVIL, a 'Tarzan' type, with George Reeves, Noel Neville and Jack Larsen, produced by W. Ellsworth and directed by T. Carr. I hope they don't last like the Tarzan series.

Leon Stone.

=====

THE ROCKET MAN A Warner Bros production starring George Winslow, Charles Coburn and Spring Byington.

This film has nothing to do with stf really, only the appearance of a 'real' spaceman links it with the genre.

Young hero is presented with a ray gun by above-mentioned SM, and told to use it for good only. YH then goes all over town doing good with said SG. It looks as if this is a dip at the US television serials. Don't go unless you have a complimentary ticket.

Mervyn Binns.

MELBOURNE LIBRARY LIST

PART I

Part 1. Paper and hard cover books.

Author	Title	No.	Type
Berry, Brian	The Venom Seekers	109	pb
	Return to Earth		pb
	The Stars are Ours	214	pb
	Born in Captivity	165	Bb
	From What Far Star	84 - 216	pb
	And The Stars Remain	207	pb
	Dread Visitor	210	pb
Brown, Fredric	Space on my Hands	183	pb
	What Mad Universe	138	Bb
Bruuoughs, E.R.	Carson of Venus)		
	Lost on Venus)	140	Bpb
	Princess of Mars)		
	Thuvia Maid of Mars	1	Bb
Bulmer, H.K.	Cybernetic Controller	205	pb
	Encounter in Space	211	pb
	Galactic Intrigue	218	ph
	Empire in Chaos	221	pb
	Space Salvage	212	pb
Bester, Alfred	The Demolished Man	419	Bb
Bleiler & Diltz	Man of Space & Time	156	Bb
	Best Sci Stories 2	95	Eb
	Best Sci Stories 1	115	Eb
Burke, J.F.	Twilight of Reason	226	pb
Bond, Nelson	The Monster	341	Mp
Benyon, John	Stowaway to Mars	435	Nn

Abbreviations: pb= Pocket Book; Bb= Bound Book, Nn= Nova Novel
Mp= Malian Press

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

BOOK REVIEWS

THE STARMEN Leigh Brackett. Museum Press, London, from McGills at 10/9

An Earthman finds that he belongs to the only race that can travel between the stars. He is taken to Llydris, and accepted. He assists a party that wants the mutation process made available to all races. This is a good story of vast distances and great conceptions. You cannot afford to miss this one.

Bob McCubbin

.....

WEST OF THE SUN Edgar Pangborn Robert Hale, London. McGills at 10/9

Two women and four men from Earth land on the planet Lucifer. They reconcile the two races, giant and dwarf, and establish a civilization. The second expedition is marooned by a madman. The whole book is slanted toward racial tolerance, but the writing is so good that the propaganda is almost unnoticeable. Recommended reading.

Bob McCubbin

POCKET BOOK REVIEW

THE MANTIS (Vargo Statten) from McGills at 2/3

The 'UnMan' idea from Astounding, the creation of numerous duplicates of one human being has been used again and again, but from the opposite political slant. Readable - but only just.

Bob McCubbin

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

Overseas News

The latest magazine to cease publication is the BRE of FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION. According to Mellinont Press, it has been 'temporarily suspended with the September No. 12 issue'.

Further particulars of THE LONG WAY BACK by Margot Bennett, announced in an earlier issue, have been received. Publishers are The Bodley Head, and is due for publication in November at 10/6 stg. Story is of small expedition sent to find if there is any truth in the legend that Man still exists in Great Britain. Time period is some centuries after the world has been devastated by atomic warfare.

Next pocket books out from PINNACLE are two more Burroughs titles, MASTER MIND OF MARS and PELLUCIDOR, the first due for publication November 22nd, the second January 10th.

New books out include FLYING SAUCERS FROM MARS by C. Allingham from F. Muller Ltd. on October 11th at 10/6; WORLDS OF TOMORROW edited by August Derleth from Weidenfeld & Nicholson on October 16th at 9/6 ; a new edition of two of Well's famous books, IN THE DAYS OF THE COMET and THE SLEEPER AWAKES, both from Collins at 5/- on October 8th; DOUBLE IN SPACE by Fletcher Pratt from T.V.Boardman on October 22nd at 9/6; PATTERN OF SHADOWS by J. F. Burke from Museum Press on October 20th at 7/6, and the firm of Hutchinson have announced the early publication of Keyholes FLYING SAUCERS FROM OUTER SPACE. No details as yet.

Sydney fan Dave Cohen has resigned from the position of Australian representative, and until Ken Slater is in a position to appoint a new one, deal direct with O.F.

I
J
C

ARE YOU PLANNING TO BRING OUT A FANZINE OR
SIMILAR PUBLICATION ????????

If so, the contact AFPA PUBLICATIONS immediately for a quote. You will find it very reasonable, and stencils are cut if required. Illustrations are reproduced faithfully at small extra cost.

An efficient distribution service is also available if required at a small charge.

AFPA PUBLICATIONS,
6 Bramerton Road,
Caulfield, S.E.8.,
Vic. Australia

OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF
OF OPERATION FANTAST... OF
OF THE LARGEST ORGANIZATION OF IT'S OF
OF KIND IN THE WORLD, CATERING OF
OF TO SCIENCE FICTION FANS ALL OVER OF
OF THE WORLD. ALL AUSTRALIAN OF
OF ENQUIRIES TO :- OF
OF DAVID COHEN, OF
OF Box 4940, OF
OF G.P.O. Sydney, N.S.W. OF
OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF OF

I WILL EXCHANGE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING :-

US EDITIONS.

ASTOUNDING: Jan, Feb, Mar, May, July, Aug, Sep, 1952

May, June, Aug, Oct, Nov, Dec, 1951

Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June, July, 1953

GALAXY: Dec, 1950; July, Mar, 1951; July, Mar, 1952.

MAG OF F & SF: Sep, Oct 1952; Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, Aug, Sep, Oct, Dec, 1953; Jan, Feb, 1954.

WONDER STORIES: July, 1934; May, 1935; Nov, 1933; Dec, 1950; Dec, 1937; Dec, 1939.

STARTLING: Jan, May, 1951; Jan, June, July, Sep, Oct, 1952 Jan, 1940; Jan, 1954.

WONDER STORY ANNUAL: 1952

FANTASTIC STORY Winter 1951.

FANTASTIC Vol 1, No. 2

IF July, 1952; Mar, 1953, July, 1954

IMAGINATION: July 1952; Jan, 1952; Aug, July, 1953.

OTHER WORLDS: Jan, June, July, Aug, 1952

BRITISH EDITIONS Any two of these

SPACE Vol 1, Nos. 1, 2, 4 & 5; Vol 2, No. 1

GALAXY Nos. 3, 8, & 11

ASTOUNDING: Mar, June, 1950; Feb, Apr, June, Oct, 1951;

Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec, 1952

Feb, June, Apr, Aug, Oct, 1953

FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MAGAZINES US Editions

ASTOUNDING: 1940 to 1946. Any. Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Dec, 1947; Jan, June, 1948; May, 1950; Feb, 1951; Oct, Nov, 1953.

GALAXY: Oct, 1950; Oct, Dec, 1952; Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June, July, Sep, Oct, Nov, 1953.

GALAXY NOVELS: 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18.

BEYOND. Vol. 1, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

MAG of F & SF. Vol 1. any. Vol. 2. 1, 2, 4, 6.

FANTASTIC: Vol 1. 2, 3, 4, 5.

UNKNOWN WORLDS. Any.

John O'Shaughnessy, 'Berrycourt Flats', Olive St. Albury.

183 Elizabeth Street,
Victoria....

MCGILLS

Melbourne, C.1
Australia

NEWSAGENCY

TECHNICAL BOOKS, LATEST NOVELS, MAGAZINES, PAPERS, STATIONERY, SUBSCRIPTIONS

MAGAZINES:

ASTOUNDING	September	2/3	AMAZING	5	2/6
BEYOND	1 & 2	1/6	FANTASTIC	1 to 5	2/6
FANTASY & STF	9, 10, 11, 12	2/6	IF	9 & 10	2/6
GALAXY	14, 16 & 17	2/3	PLANET	12	1/3
NEW WORLDS	25, 26 & 27	2/6	WEIRD TALES	3 & 4	2/3
SCIENCE FANTASY	9 & 10	2/6	NEBULA	10	2/3
FUTURE	5	1/6	AUTHENTIC	48	2/-
POPULAR	5	1/6			

BOOKS:

THE CLOCK STRIKES THIRTEEN	Brean	13/3
1st ASTOUNDING ANTHOLOGY	Campbell	12/-
THE DEMOLISHED MAN	Bester	12/-
STAR SCIENCE FICTION	Pohl	11/6
PROJECT JUPITER	Brown	11/6
THE LONG LOUD SILENCE	Tucker	10/9
THE ROBOT & THE MAN	Greenberg	12/-
DRAGON'S ISLAND	Williamson	12/-
INVASION FROM SPACE	MacKenzie	8/3
HOLE IN HEAVEN	Fawcett	10/6
THE STARMEN	Brackett	10/9
LUCKY STARR & PIRATES OF ASTEROIDS	French	10/6
PRIZE STORIES OF SPACE & TIME	Wollheim	13/3

POCKET BOOKS:

NO PLACE LIKE EARTH	Garnell	3/-
THE SANDS OF MARS	Clarke	3/-
THE BIG LIE	Barlish	3/-
WAY OF THE GODS	Brunner	9d
REMEMBER TOMORROW	Brunner	9d
SPACE ON MY HANDS	Brown	3/-
THE HAND OF HAVOC	Grey	2/3
THE MULAT-MEN	Statten	2/3

THE MELBOURNE SCIENCE FICTION GROUP invites all those interested persons to attend its weekly meetings held each Thursday evening at 8 PM at the Oddfellows Hall, Latrobe Street, Melbourne.

A large library is available at a small fee, and social evenings are held at frequent intervals. Films are screened at regular dates. Chess players welcome.

All visitors are made welcome.

REMEMBER,

Keep

Thursday

Night

Free !!!!!

THE BIG EVENT IN NINETEEN FIFTY SIX !!!!

OVERSHADOWING THE OLYMPIC GAMES !

THE OLYMICON 1956

TO BE HELD IN MELBOURNE IN

NOVEMBER, 1956.

FULL DETAILS TO BE RELEASED SOON !!!!!

DON'T FORGET, MELBOURNE IN '56

Olympicon 1956

MAGAZINE REVIEWS

FUTURE SCIENCE FICTION 5

McGill's @ 1/6

This issue contains stories by our Australian authors, Norma Hemming, F. B. Bryning and John A. Vile. Norma has AS WE WERE - a thing that has outwaited two civilizations waits beneath a ruined city in the Pacific, and changes Mankind. Good effort, Norma. PASS THE OXYGEN - Frank explains what to do when a landslide cracks the walls and lets your air loose on the Moon. Very good. In THE LONG SLEEP, John tells how a few Sydneyites sleep a thousand years and wake to find that Sydney is peopled by subhumans (how unusual !), so they go back to sleep again. Well written.

The other two stories are THE IMMORTAL by Ross Rocklynne, and WAR OF NERVES by A. E. Van Vogt, is taken from VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE. Blue Diamond are to be congratulated on this issue.

Bob McCubbin

SCIENCE FANTASY 10.

The line up for this issue reads a bit like a cross section of 'Who's Who in British SF', and the contents naturally are quite good.

J. T. McIntosh's FIVE INTO FOUR, which, while not his best, is an interesting story of the compressing of five personalities into four bodies.

BITTER SWEET by E. C. Tubb is a short about a forgotten hero, and in similar semi-tragic vein are ZONE OF YOUTH by Martin Jordan and DARK SUMMER by Francis Raver, and STONE AND CRYSTAL by John Ashcroft.

All these give varying but morbid views of the future. In UNBORN OF EARTH, Les Cole tells how alien attempts to destroy Earth are foiled - by other aliens, who

want Earth strong enough to attack the first, so both will be destroyed.

other time travel twist.

John Wyndham's CHRONOCLASM is an-

Tony Santos

.....
POPULAR SCIENCE FICTION 5. McGills @ 1/6

Ray Starzl return from the dead with THE WORLD TUBE MURDERS, Poul Anderson supplies some HONORABLE ENEMIES, Jim Harmon - a US fanzine columnist - has the NON COMBAT - ENT, James Causey is the author of INFERIORITY, and R. D. Locke has IRON MIKE.

A good selection, and well worth the money, but why, oh why, couldn't we have some Aussie originals in this one too?

Bob McCubbin

.....
FATE Vol. 1, No. 1. BRE dated November 1954. Price in England 1/-...

This is not science fiction, but is designed for those on the fringe. It deals with astrology, flying saucers, hypnotic control, yoga and various other beliefs and superstitions. The next issue will feature an article on Dianetics. You will find Chester S. Geier, Dr. Rhine and John Carnell in this issue. It should be of some interest to QUESTION MARK readers.

Bob McCubbin

=====

LATE NEWS: Consolidated Press have announced the publication of a new SF magazine. Titled SCIENCE & FANTASY FICTION, it will be priced at 2/- . Format is unknown, but it will either be similar to the lamented ORBIT, or if it is a reprint of F&SF, it will be similar to ELLERY QUINN. I hope it is the latter.

The publishing dates in various cities are:

MELBOURNE 25/11/54

SYDNEY 19/11/54

BRISBANE 25/11/54

ADELAIDE 23/11/54

Melbourne Report

21/10/54

There were 14 present - McCubbin in the chair.

Arrangements are in hand for 2 visits to the Observatory on Monday the 1st, and Wednesday the 3rd Nov. If you are interested, contact Bob McCubbin at WB 3739 .

The library is feeling the draught a little. The regular members have read all the material, and the flood of BRs is keeping everyone poor and busy.

There was no auction, but some chess was played.

ARMAK

=====

28/10/54.

A very quiet night was spent - only 8 being present. No auction was held, and chess was king, with a clean sweep going to Tony Santos.

ARMAK

SCIENCE FANTASY

=====

Nova Publications have announced that from the next issue, No. 11, SCIENCE FANTASY will have a new look. Price will be 2/- stg., and the mag. will have board covers.

NEW WORLDS will continue unchanged, and the Nova Novels will come as advertised.

In appearance, SCIENCE FANTASY will resemble the American PERMA BOOKS, or the UK MERMAIDS.

Pages will remain the same, and the present policy of no advertisements will remain. This was one feature which I think more magazines should follow.

IJC

BOOK REVIEW

STAR SCIENCE FICTION STORIES edited by Frederick Pohl, published by T. V. Boardman, London at 10/6 A., from McGills.

This is a collection of 15 stories which had never before been published, and all are by top liners.

COUNTRY DOCTOR (William Morrison). G.P. assists at accouchement of a star-beast. DOMINOES (C.M. Kornbluth). Borker visits future, and creates Wall St. panic with what he learns there. IDEALIST (Lester del Rey). What would you do if you were the last man alive in an armed Space station? THE NIGHT HE CRIED (Fritz Leiber). Brilliant satire on Mickey Spillane. CONTRA-PTION (Clifford Simak). Johnny finds a machine that fulfils wishes. THE CHRONOCLASM (John Wyndham). What would you do if your 25 times great grand noice came back in time to marry you? THE DESERTER, (William Tenn). Galactic enemies meet and find they both hate war mongers. THE MAN WITH ENGLISH (H. L. Gold). Nerve switches create shaos for switchee. SO PROUDLY WE HAIL (Judith Merrill). Pilot's take-off blast incinerates mind-changing wife. A SCENT OF SARSAP-ARILLA (Ray Bradbury). How to leave the present for the past.

NOBODY HERE BUT..... (Isaac Asimov). A calculating machine develops an ego. THE LAST WEAPON (Robert Sheekley). 3 men find the ultimate weapon on Mars - and then there are none. A WILD SURMISE (Kuttner and Moore). A real switcheroo between psychiatrists in different dimensions. THE JOURNEY (Murray Leinster). Spaceman's first voyage - and romance. THE NINE BILLION NAMES OF GOD. (A.C. Clarke). The end of the world comes when the Dalai Lama gets a computer to help with his religion.

This book can be highly recommended, even to other readers. Some of the material has since been published in magazine or book form.

Bob McCubbin.

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE

TRADING SECTION

Leon Stone, 28 Elgin St., Gordon, NSW., wants SLANT Nos. 1,3,5. Offers two US promags for each.

Mr. G. F. Horn, Bundalaguah via Sale, Vic. wants BRE GALAXY 13

J. Eyre, 50 Wilcox., Preston, Vic, is in need of BRE ASTOUNDINGS, prior to December, except February, 1950.

V. Morton, 24 Lucerne St., Ashburton, Vic, wants FANTASTIC STORY MAGAZINE Vol 4, No. 1; THRILLING WONDER STORIES BRE 3,4,5,6,7,8,9; GALAXY NOVEL 2; TWO COMPLETE SCIENCE ADVENTURE BOOKS 9,10,11,12,13.

Bob McCubbin, 90 Lilydale Grove, Hawthorn East, Vic. wants ASTOUNDING US Dec 48, Aug, Sep, Oct 45.

BRE ASTOUNDING March 1941

US GALAXY March 1953

GALAXY NOVELS 13, 15, 16, 19, 20.

BRE PLANET 5

BRE STARTLING 7, 8, 9.

Mervyn R. Binns, 4 Myrtle Grove, Preston Vic, has Conklin's OMNIBUS OF SCIENCE FICTION US edition in mint condition for 25/-; BEST SCIENCE FICTION STORIES 1951 and 1952 US editions, at £ 1 each in mint condition also.

Hurry, these'll be rushed!

SEND

YOUR

WANTS TO

ETHERLINE

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

Reprinted by courtesy of the RHODOMAGNETIC DIGEST

The Perils Of Completism

Bob Silverberg

COMPLETIST: n, Lat. In reference to a rare and vanishing species of fan (Homo Superior); often connected with various other forms of insanity at the same time.

As long as there have been sfans, there have been completists. As long as there is an attic, there will always be a Coswal. 'Completist' is applied, with a scornful smirk, to the fellow who believes he MUST have every bit of science fiction issued. This takes various forms. One of the most unusual complete collections is that of Milt Rothman's collection of conventions attended. Other fans have narrowed their field down to collecting all Golden Atom stories, etc. By far the least sane of the lot is the Complete Completist.

This fraternity has numbered, at various times, such luminaries as Jack Darrow, Sam Moskowitz, Forrest Ackerman, and 1951's chief offender, Walter Coslet. Not only does this species attempt to collect all prozines ever issued ---- from 1923 to date, this totals some 75 titles and 3000 issues ---- but goes in for anything remotely fantastic; such as a 1932 SATURDAY EVENING POST story in which the family maid quotes 4 lines of Edgar Allan Poe's 'Raven'. This breed attempts also to corral all issues of all fanzines, dating back to 1930, including some 2000 titles and just about the same number of issues. Certain wicked fans have been known to turn out one shots in limited editions, in order to see a completist over a barrel; other equally nefarious publishers have issued titles solely for the completist trade.

Since fantasy branches widely, the average completist will find himself chasing down prozines, which aren't too hard to obtain for a price; fanzines, which are usually unobtainable for any price; issues of ARGOSY (this pulp appeared

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

once a week for forty years, averaging twenty fantasy issues a year, adding 800 more on the pile); BLUE BOOK (monthly for thirty years with at least 200 fantasy issues); ALL-STORY; CAVALIER; ARGOSY-ALL-STORY; POPULAR; GOLDEN DAYS; BRITISH ARGOSY; and so on.

The list drifts off into dreary immensities when the completist decides to corral also all articles pertaining to fantasy (cf. Coswal's STEPCARD, which faithfully records all such items); completists have bombarded the sf radio programs for old scripts, but these have not been forthcoming; other completists fill bookshelves with the different reprints of MARS IN HEAVEN and the Bonestell pix from CONQUEST OF SPACE.

Then --- oh, pity, pity him --- the sf comic completist. These vary. Some try to keep track of the four or five regular sf comics now published, while others wander back along the ageless corridors of time in search of copies of BRICK BRADFORD, FLASH GORDON BUCK ROGERS and the like, plus issues of the various MARVEL and WONDER comics put out by the prumag companies themselves. (Also include PLANET comics 1942-49).

Triply accursed is the fan who hooks up with a British fan, for the tantalizing offers dangling from Anglo-Saxon dollar-shy paws are rarely turned down. This introduces the completist to a brand new world --- British fantasy.

This field includes 5 bona fide prozines, plus regular editions, in different format, of American prozines. Add to this the endless stream of British paperbacks, mostly John Russell Fearn, and such early items as SCOOPS, SCIENCE FICTION, FANTASY, TALES OF WONDER, plus the short lived 1946 efforts, and the completist has a virgin field awaiting him.

Then he turns to the Canadian field, which consists of Leslie Croutch --- the same Croutch who threw a horrid appellation of 'completist' at Bob Silverberg once. Canadian editions included SCIENCE FICTION, STARTLING, THRILLING WONDER, SUPER SCIENCE, ASTONISHING, UNCANNY and EERIE TALES. These last three are so rare that, as Les Croutch says, "I know many American completists who will sell their souls for copies".

No wonder completists who have these mags are like that.....

Still in the first happy flush of completism, the collector acquires some issues of SHORT STORIES,

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

and GOLDEN FLEECE containing fantasy. He follows this with a complete file of Fantasy Press blurbs and reprinted Hannes Bok book-jackets.

We now find our happy little completist sitting comfortably in his two room apartment. On his right side is a 10ft pile of prozines; by accident his dentures fell out just before he put them there, so they are under the June 1928 issue of AMAZING, and he can't think of any way to get them out without disturbing the pile. As a result, he has neither smiled or eaten since he dropped them.

Space has reared its ugly head; the completist unless he has a Coswaline attic, very quickly finds storage a problem. His room is filled with his 3000 prozines in various states of disrepair, he no longer uses a bed, but instead sleeps on a 6ft pile of Palmer AMAZINGS. He finds this a little rougher.

In the closets are the 2000 fanzines. Since there is no space for clothing, the completist is rarely seen on the streets. In the refrigerator are kept the copies of MARVEL for various reasons. The kitchen contains the 1100 British items; various other foreign publications, are usually located in the bathtub, in which there are shelves. It is not used for bathing any more. This is another reason why the completist rarely leaves his house.

The wall is lined with original paintings. The floor is lined with clippings. The completist is lined.....

The unfortunate completist, no longer having any storage space, finds shortly that the 26 new prozines every month are too much for him, so he does not buy WONDER STORY ANNUAL thereby saving valuable space. Since the average ceiling is 10ft., and since the average completist has an 8ft pile of fanzines covering his floor, he is usually found lying prone just underneath the ceiling. Some completists have been known to remain in this position for years, without stirring except to blow the dust away. He wonders who Heinlein is. The reason for this is that the top fanzine on the pile has an article on Heinlein. He has forgotten who Heinlein is, and the prozine files are 8ft below.

Thus I've painted a rocky picture of completism. It's dangerous, expensive, unsanitary, unhealthy and somewhat insane. Am I a completist? Hell yes. Come on in, the water's fine.

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

U M B R A ! ! ! !

The Freshest fanzine ever !!!!

ARTICLES.....

FICTION.....

POETRY.....

REVIEWS.....

Each page in a different color !!!!!!!!!!!

Take out a subscription to UMBRA, and you'll never regret it.

Subscriptions to :- Ian J. Crozier,
6 Bramerton Rd.,
Caulfield, S.E.8.,
Vic. Aust.

1/- per copy.....3 for 2/6

BOOK BINDING BY EXPERTS

To complete your science fiction collection, you must have it bound by an expert. To do this, contact DON LATIMER at Rear of 646 Bell St., Pascoe Vale Sth.

Victoria, Phone FL 2752

and get a sample range of bindings shown to you.

All are finished in gold blocking, and range from solid leather to imitation leathercloth.

Don't forget, contact

DON LATIMER AT ONCE

for a quote

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL