

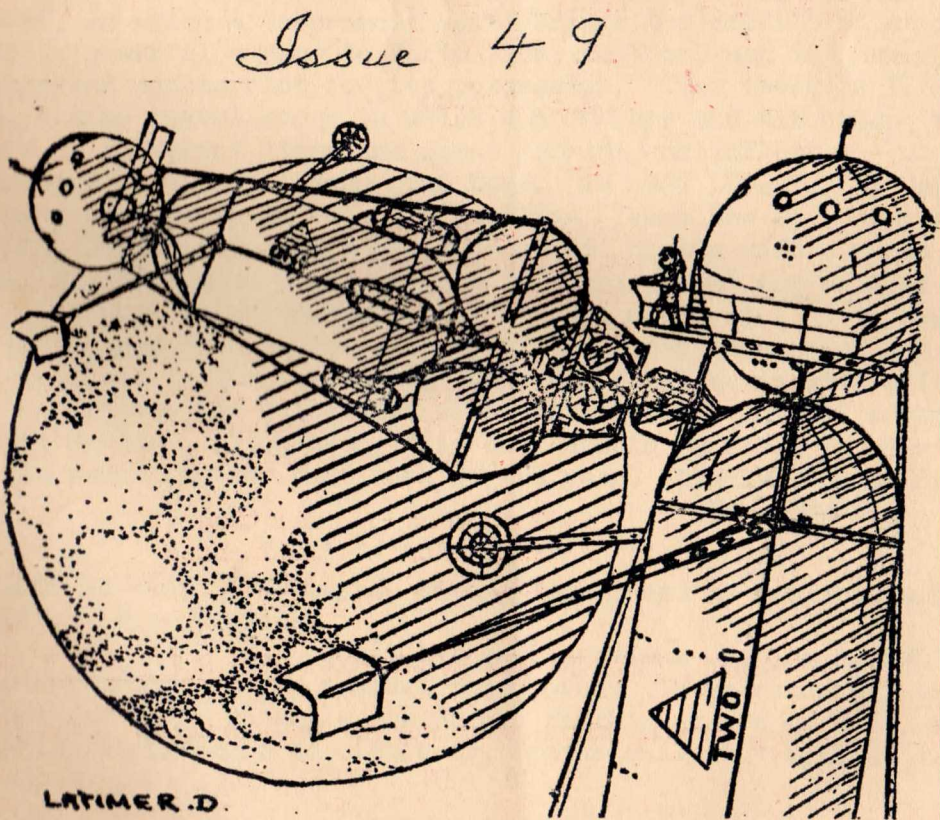
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AN AFPA PUBLICATION

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C U I N F I F T Y S I X

# Book Reviews

ASSIGNMENT IN ETERNITY by Robert A. Heinlein, published by Museum Press, London, priced at 12/-.

A group of four stories, the first of which is GULF, in which a Government agent brings the details of an incredibly powerful weapon to Earth from the Moon, and is enmeshed in plot and counterplot for its possession. Then there is ELSE--WHEN, a time travel story in which a professor and his class all go off to different 'time-and-space' worlds and influence - or are influenced by - them. None come home. In LOST LEGACY, a group who have been studying the psi faculties, learn how to use the complete brain, and find themselves on Mt. Shasta with a group of adepts who have been wondering how to counter Evil for millenia. The new recruits, of course, show them how to do it ! I was rather pleased to have the mystery of the disappearance of Ambrose Bierce solved ! The last story JERRY WAS A MAN deals with a legal battle to class the euthanasia of an artificially mutated anthropoid as murder. Altogether, this book should go close to winning the IFA award for the best book of the year. Highly recommended.

Bob McCubbin

THE MOON RAIDERS by Sydney J. Bounds, published by Foulsham's, UK, at 10/9. From McGills.

Don't let your previous opinion of SJB as an author prejudice you against this novel. It is readable, though not far above juvenile standard. Earth's stores of U235 and valuable metals begin to disappear, mysteriously. A British S.S.



man and his American counterpart - a whistleworthy wench - begin investigation. Yep, it's Batman (or Batmen) in person, teleporting themselves and their loot. The intrepid couple are shanghaied to the moon, and return with an ultimatum. The Raiders from Space wipe Paris out with a H Bomb - then Earth fights back - a loony idea! You can take it from there! Readable.

Bob McCubbin

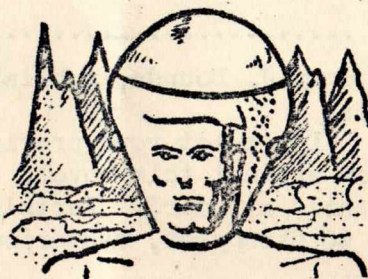
.....

**TIMELINER** by Charles Eric Maine, published by Hodder & Stoughton, London, at 13/3. Available from McGills.

Hugh Macklin is engaged on an experimental study involving 'dimensional quadrature'. His wife, Lydia, is involved with one of his colleagues. Macklin is trying out the experimental model with a minimum current, when his guilty colleague gives him the full voltage. Macklin dies, but his ego goes on into the future time, into body after body, though always one associated with a future incarnation of Lydia (this is a weakness - there is no effort to explain Lydia's reincarnation). We see future civilizations and their wars, until finally he appears in a civilization that recognises him as a psycho-temporal parasite, a timeliner, and takes steps to abate the nuisance. The story ends with a neat twist - a real Mobius effect. The yarn is well written, though the intercepts planned to show 'Lydia's' attitude are inclined to mar the continuity. Altogether, a novel that can be recommended.

Bob McCubbin

.....



## OVERSEAS NEWS

American plans are first up this issue. Out on February 11th was WAR WITH THE NEWTS by Karel Capek, from Bantam Giant at 35c; THE LONG WAY BACK by Margot Bennett, from Coward McCann at \$ 3.50, on Feb. 26th; THE OLD DIE RICH by Horace L. Gold, from Crown in February at \$ 3.00; FEW WERE LEFT by Harold Rein from John Day on March 17th at \$ 3.50; a reissue of William Sloane's THE EDGE OF RUNNING WATER from Dodd Mead at \$ 3.00; A WAY HOME, a collection of 11 short stories by Theodore Sturgeon, from Funk & Wagnells at \$ 3.50; WHO GOES THERE? by J. W. Campbell from Dell at 35c in April; EARTHLIGHT by Arthur C. Clarke, from Ballantine at 35 c and \$ 2.75 on February 19th; ALL ABOUT THE FUTURE edited by M. Greenberg from Gnome at \$ 3.50 on February 15th; ESCAPE TO NOWHERE by David Karp (alias ONE) from Lion Books at 35c on February 5th; THE CHAOS FIGHTERS by Robert M. Williams, from Ace Books at 25c on February 5th; TEEN AGE SCIENCE FICTION STORIES edited by R. M. Elam from Grossett at \$ 1.25 on December 11th.

Another juvenile in TREACHERY IN OUTER SPACE by Carey Rockwell from Grossett at 95c; THE BODY SNATCHER, by Jack Finney from Dell at 25c; THE MAN WHO SOLD THE MOON by Bob Heinlein at \$ 3.00, a re-issue from Shasta; REVOLT IN 2100 by Bob Heinlein from Shasta at \$ 3.50; COSTIGANS NEEDLE by Jerry Sohl at 25c from Bantam; GOLDEN APPLES OF THE SUN by Ray Bradbury, from Bantam at 35c; THE STARS ARE OURS by Andre Norton from World, at \$ 2.75; ROCKETS AND SPACE SHIPS by Harry Hollinson, illustrated by Leslie, Butler and Bayly, from Soccer Assocs, at 60c; BULLARD OF THE SPACE PATROL by Malcolm Jameson, due from World on August 15th, 1955 at \$ 1.00; KING JULIEN by Tom Gatch from Vantage Press at \$ 2.75, on August 28th, 1955; an Ace Double out in December 54 THE REBELLIOUS STARS (The Stars Like Dust) by Asimov and AN EARTH GONE MAD by Roger Dee at 35c; EXPLORATION OF THE MOON by Arthur C. Clarke from Harper at \$ 2.50 on March 30th; WANDERERS UPON EARTH, by Jack Finnegan, from Harper at \$ 3.50 on June 22nd; THE FLYING



SAUCER CONSPIRACY by Donald Keyhoe, from Henry Holt at \$ 3.50, in May; THE TWO TOWERS by J. R. R. Tolkien, the second volume in the Rings saga, from Houghton Mofflin at \$ 5.00 in April; INQUIRY INTO SCIENCE FICTION by Basil Davenport, from Longmans Green in April, at \$ 2.25; EXPLORING MARS by R. S. Richardson, from McGraw Hill at \$ 4.00; ROCKET AGE MAN by Lloyd Mallan, from Messner in April, at \$ 4.95; THE ROCKET PIONEERS by B. Williams and S. Epstein, at \$ 3.75, from Messner in April; an unusual item in SWITCH ON THE NIGHT, by Ray Bradbury, a juvenile, from Pantheon in March at \$ 2.50; THE PRENTICE BOOK ABOUT SPACE TRAVEL by William Temple, on May 2, from Prentice Hall at \$ 2.75; THE PRENTICE HALL BOOK ON THE STARS, by H. P. Wilkins at \$ 2.75 from Prentice Hall on May 2, the last two appear to be the two books which came out from Mullers in London.

EARTHMAN, COME HOME by James Blish, from Putnam & Co., on February 11th at \$ 3.50; TIMELINER by Charles Eric Maine from Rinehart at \$ 2.75 in March; POINT ULTIMATE by Jerry Sohl, from Rinehart at \$ 2.75, in June; DARK CARNIVAL by Ray Bradbury, from Ballantines at 35c and \$ 2.00, on March 14; LIGHTS IN THE SKY ARE STARS by Fredric Brown from Bantam at 35c on January 29th; TYRANTS OF TIME by L. A. Eshbach, from Fantasy Press at \$ 3.00, on January 29th; SPACE CAPTIVES OF THE GOLDEN MEN by M. E. Patchett, a juvenile from Bobbs Merrill in February at \$ 2.50; THE PLANET MAPPERS by E. Everett Evans, a juvenile from Dodds Mead on January 10th, at \$ 2.50; VENUS BOY by Lee Sutton, a juvenile from Lothrop Lee, in May at \$ 2.50; THE ANT MEN by Eric North, a juvenile from Winston, in April at \$ 2.00; THE COMPLETE BOOK ON SPACE TRAVEL illustrated by Finlay, from World at \$ 4.95; THIRD FROM THE SUN, a selection from Born of Man and Woman by Richard Matheson, from Bantam at 25c on February 12th; THE MOUSE THAT ROARED by L. Webberly from Little Brown at \$ 3.50 on February 12th.

The CBS network presented a revival of Ray Bradbury's ZERO HOUR on April 5th.

Latest Ace Double is ONE AGAINST ETERNITY (The Weapon Makers) by Van Vogt and THE OTHER SIDE OF HERE (dressed up version of Incredible Invasion, ASF serial 1936) by Murray Leinster.

Trent Book Co., who have the BRE rights to ACE DOUBLES, announce that they don't have any plans at present to bring out SF titles.

On the British front, AND THE ANTS CAME by R. L. Fynn, is due from Hamilton at 6/-; STAR SCIENCE FICTION 2 edited by F. Pohl is due from Boardmans in May; CATEGORY PHOENIX edited by Bleiler & Dikty came from Bodley Head on March 5th; ADVENTURES IN DIMENSION edited by Groff Conklin came from Grayson & Grayson on April 4th; SEEDS OF LIFE by John Taine from Rich & Cowan on March 14th; GATEWAY TO THE STARS edited by John Carnell from Museum Press on March 23rd; HERO'S WALK by Robert Crane from Cresset Press on February 28th; NINE TALES OF SPACE & TIME edited by Raymond Healy from Weidenfeld & Nicholson on February 26th; a new edition of CREATURE OF THE BLACK LAGOON by Vargo Statten from Dragon Press on February 25th at 6/-; BRIGHT PHOENIX by Harold Mead from Michael Joseph on March 21st; THE MAN WHO DIDN'T FLY by Margot Bennett from Eyre & Spottiswoode in July; WHITE AUGUST by John Boland from Michael Joseph in May; THE YEAR OF THE COMET by John Christopher from Michael Joseph on 21st March.

Fontana Books have re-issued 20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA by Jules Verne at 3/6.

SPACEWAY has re-appeared in the U.S.A now titled SPACEWAY SCIENCEFICTION, but judging by the contents, editor Crawford has gone completely mad. The February issue contains articles by the current American 'prophet', Criswell, and A. E. Van Vogt on Dianetics.

The March issue of ACE DOUBLE BOOKS was A MAN OBSESSED by Alan E. Nourse and THE LAST PLANET by Andre Norton, upcoming in April is THE GALACTIC BREED (The Starmen) by Leigh Brackett and CONQUEST OF THE SPACE SEA by Robert Moore Williams, in May we have THE BIG JUMP by Leigh Brackett and QUIZ - MASTER TAKE ALL by Philip K. Dick.

UNIVERSE SCIENCE FICTION has changed title back to OTHER WORLDS with the May issue. This magazine has had more titles than a dog has fleas.

IJC



Columbia Film Corporation are after the rights to George Orwell's 1984.

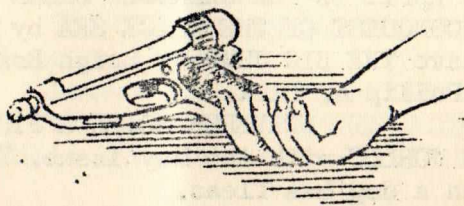
A new 3D process will be tried out on the new film RETURN OF THE CREATURE, upcoming from Universal. This is the 3rd film on the Creature. Maybe in the near future, we shall see the Son, the Daughter, etc.

Columbia are handling the British SF film, THE ISLAND. Star is Jack Hawkins, with Peter Grenville directing. It will start after Hawkin's present commitment, THE PRISONER, is in the cans.

Another British film, THE QUATERMASS EXPERIMENTS has obtained the co-operation of the Army and Air Ministries. Film is now in the final recording stage. It stars Brian Donlevy, Jack Warner and Margia Dean.

Production will start in April of THE ATTACK OF THE FLYING SAUCERS, an original screenplay, directed by Sam Katz - man, for Columbia. Curt Siodmak did the screenplay.

IJC



# AUTHOR STORY LISTING

No. 9. Horace B. Fyfe.

Compiled by Donald H. Tuck.

## STORIES

1 as Andrew McDuff

2 with F. H. Hauser

\* not in BRE

- |     |                                      |                          |
|-----|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.  | Afterthought. s                      | FF Jan'51, AB13          |
| 2.  | Bluff-Stained Transaction. s         | ASF Mar'52               |
| 3.  | Bureau of Slick Tricks. nv           | ASF Dec'48, AT14         |
| 4.  | Calling World-4 of Kithgol. nv       | PS Jan'52                |
| 5.  | Compleat Collector, The. s           | FF Jan'53                |
| 6.  | Compromise. s                        | ASF Dec'50               |
| 7.  | Confidence. s                        | FF Sep'52                |
| 8.  | Conformity Expected. s               | ASF Mar'50               |
| 9.  | Envoy, Her, The. s                   | PS Mar'51                |
| 10. | Exile. s                             | SSF Feb'53               |
| 11. | Experimentum Crucis <sup>1</sup> . s | ASF Mar'51               |
| 12. | Extra-Secret Agent. nv               | SFQ May'52               |
| 13. | Fast Passage. nv                     | OW Jan'53                |
| 14. | Hold That Comet. s <sup>2</sup>      | AsS Dec'40               |
| 15. | Implode and Peddle. nv               | ASF Nov'51, AS16         |
| 16. | In Value Deceived.                   | ASF Nov'50, AP7X, AS20   |
| 17. | Irresistable Weapon. s               | If Jul'53                |
| 18. | Key Decision. s                      | ASF May'51               |
| 19. | Knowledge is Power. nv               | DSF Dec'52               |
| 20. | Koenigshaufen's Curve. s             | FM Aug'53                |
| 21. | Let There Be Light. s                | IF Nov'52, AC3           |
| 22. | Locked Out. s                        | ASF Feb'40, ASFs 10, AM2 |
| 23. | Luna Escapade. s                     | OSF ≠ 2                  |



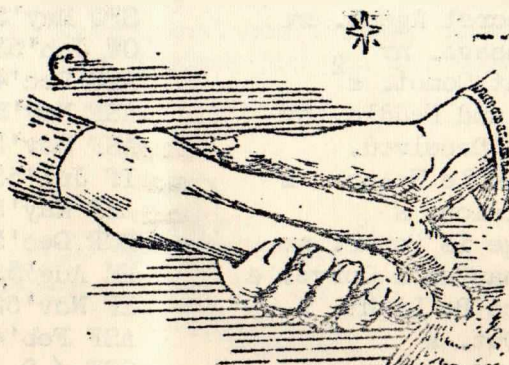
24.	Manners of the Age. s	GS Mar'52, AO1, AS24
25.	Moonwalk. nv	SSF Nov'52, ASFs 13, AS15
26.	Open Invitation. s	PS May'51
27.	Protected Species. s	ASF Mar'51
28.	Ransom. s	MF Feb'52, AB3
29.	Romance. s	FF Mar'53
30.	Sinecure 6. s	ASF Jan'47
31.	Special Jobbery. nv	ASF Sep'49
32.	Spy Scare. s	ASF Sep'50
33.	Star-Linked. s	ASF Feb'52, AS16
34.	Temporary Keeper. nv	TWS Jan'51
35.	Thinking Machine. nv	ASF Oct'51
36.	This World Must Die !. nv	FF Sep'51, FSF ≠ 4
37.	Time Limit. s	FSM Win'52
38.	Welcome Strangers !. s	ASF Aug'54
39.	Well-Oiled Machine, The. s	MF Dec'50, AS4
40.	Yes, Sir !. s	SS Sep'51

#### Connected Stories (in order named)

'Bureau of Slick Tricks'

3, 31, 6, 15

Next Author :Theodore Sturgeon



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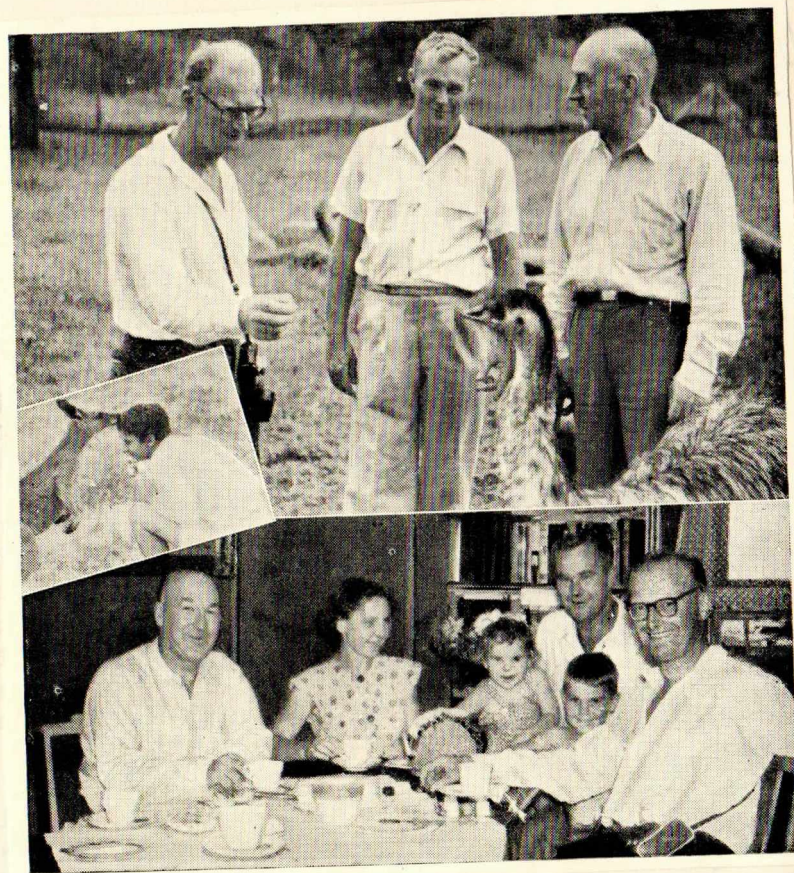
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Caves of Steel	Azimov	11/6
Conan the Conqueror	Howard	11/6
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Comeplete Book of Outer Space		17/-
Flying Saucer From Mars	Allingham	13/3
Guide to the Planets	Moore	31/6
More Than Human	Sturgeon	15/6
Pattern of Shadows	Burke	9/6
Project Jupiter	Brown	11/6
Star S F 1	Pohl	11/6
This Island Earth	Jones	11/6









Top: Arthur Clarke extends the hand of friendship to native Australian. With him are Charles Mustchin (centre) and Frank Bryning.

Below: Afternoon tea at Mustchin's. From left, Frank Bryning, Mrs. Mustchin, Margaret, Charles and Hunter Mustchin, Arthur Clarke.

Inset: Tender interlude, featuring Mike Wilson and friend.

Mike and Don went in with acqualungs, and Arthur with a snorkel. Both sides of the breakwater were thoroughly explored. The water was very clear, and despite the rain and the overcast sky, the seeing was good.

After some time, Don Johnston invited Frank Bryning to try an aqualung dive. Wearing Mike Wilson's extra-long flippers and Don's face-mask and aqualung, and assisted by three strong men, Frank picked a laborious way over the rocks like an aged Martian in Earth gravity for the first time. But once in the water, he claims, Frank began to experience the next best thing to weightlessness in free fall. Balanced and weighted so as to eliminate the tendency to either sink or rise in the water, the slightest movement of flippers or arms produced a gentle, drifting motion in any direction and apparently unaffected by gravity.

Entranced by the colourful silent world beneath the water, and the seductive, restful blue distances, Frank, finding his breathing working well, was about to surface and report, and ask for more, when Mike Wilson glided alongside him in his distinctive yellow outfit. Mike pointed downwards to the beautiful blue.....

Thereafter, neither Mike nor Frank were seen for about fifteen minutes by those on shore. After about seven minutes, Arthur Clarke, considering 'that too much air for even two divers' was bubbling up from a particular spot, went in to investigate. Mike and Frank were sitting on the bottom, a rock in each lap, in about fifteen feet of water, Frank wasting his air, but very evidently still breathing!

When Mike and Frank did come up together after fifteen minutes, Frank was wearing Mike's yellow outfit and Mike wore Frank's, to the astonishment of Don Johnston, Charles Mustchin and other onlookers. Mike was grinning like mad at having put one over. He had successfully conducted a pupil by means of hand signals and without previous warning or preparation through the ritual of underwater exchange of breathing equipment first time down. According to the underwater fraternity, you



try that only after your pupil has accumulated about five hours experience under water. 'But Mike Wilson is the kind of guy who'll try anything once!' said Frank.

Not sure yet whether he was just a guinea pig or the bright boy of the class, Frank wants another look around down there without wasting time on changing equipment. He claims that someone owes him five hours of it. And it is a fact that the following weekend, with newly-purchased face mask, schnorkel and flippers, he was seen making like a submarine, in the placid and somewhat murky waters of Manly (Qld), on Moreton Bay, where he lives. Another SF fan who has fallen for the lure of Cousteau's "Silent World".

Then the rains came down in earnest. Clarke Wilson, Mustchin and Bryning stayed inside with Mustchin's library, browsing, talking, drinking tea, turning up Letters to the Editor, in old AMAZINGs written by youthful Arthur Clarkes, John Gregors & others. Charles Mustchin's famous collection of SF magazines did not once fail to yield what was sought in the way of some remembered story or letter of many years ago. During these hours, too, Arthur Clarke's new 90,000 word novel THE STARS AND THE CITY, in manuscript, was sampled and discussed.

Monday morning kept on raining and the journey into Brisbane was delayed until the afternoon, when the weather cleared somewhat. Two-thirds of the way to Brisbane the road, which had been covered by water at several points earlier, went completely out of sight beneath a lake of flood waters five or more feet deep. So back to Mustchin's for another night went the visitors, to comment politely on the 'Sunshine state'.

Next morning the rain abated and despite dire predictions about the road, they set off again, for Arthur and Mike had business appointments to keep in Brisbane, and Frank was anxious to get back to work (he said). There were three water crossings, in the last of which the car stalled and water came over the floor, causing a rush to rescue photographic equipment. All hands had to get out and, wading knee deep, push the car to dry land.

Luckily the car dried out and started after

about ten minutes, and by noon three rather bedraggled and disreputable looking wayfarers presented themselves at the Hotel Canberra and found it hard to convince the booking clerks of their respectability.

However, after a clean-up and a quick lunch at the Rainbow Cafe (originally discovered by Bill Veney, & for a long time the meeting place of the Group in Brisbane), a busy afternoon was spent by Arthur and Mike making contacts, and by Frank working hard at keeping away from the office.

Dinner that night was at the Brynings, Mrs. B. having had a dinner all ready the night before, but she was fully appeased by the justice done to this one.

WARREGO

## A COMPETITION . . . .

The Editor and management of ETHERLINE would like you, the reader, to select the ten authors who will, in your opinion, be the top authors in the coming decade.

The system of judging will be to allot 10 points to the first on your list, so on down to 1 point to the last author, and a tally made to decide on the rating.

To the reader who has the list nearest the final rating, a prize of one year's Subscription to ETHERLINE will be awarded, while to the second nearest, a half yearly sub. will be given.

The competition will run for 6 issues commencing with this issue, and the results will be announced in the seventh issue.

So get your entries in NOW !!!!



# MAGAZINE REVIEWS

## POPULAR SCIENCE FICTION 6.

The cover illustrates THE SQUARE PEG, done by a shy artist, or perhaps the publisher forgot to ask his name. It's not bad, but very reminiscent of TWS.

THE INSUBORDINATE by Sam Sackett. It's cheaper to haul frozen air from Pluto than make it on Earth. THE DREAMER, by Jim Harmon. Old SF fan gets ride into space. Poor.

THE VISCOUS CIRCLE by A. Bertram Chandler. Closed time cycle, only this time, in a space ship. Fair. THE SQUARE PEG by Louis Moore. He kept asking the wrong why.

This is my first job on this mag since the first issue. It doesn't impress much.

Jack Keating.

## FUTURE SCIENCE FICTION 6.

Cover illustrates lead story. No artist. Fair. JOURNEY TO THE HOTLANDS by Joe Hensley. King sized amoeba is tribal God. Poor. LITTLE JOE LOVES YOU, by Robert D. Locke. Space missile with mind of its own. Not bad. I NEED YOU by Les and Es Cole. An example of the working of mass hysteria. The best in the issue.

THE TWAIN SHALL MEET by D. C. McDonald. ET investigators on moon, and get surprised. Fair.

Both this and the former mag are filled with fan authors. They are not bad, but why not put the artists in, they're not as bad as all that.

Jack Keating

## NEW WORLDS 32

Cover by Quinn from PRISONER IN THE SKULL shows Lunar landscape. Is not up to his usual standard.

## THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

GOMEZ by C. M. Kornbluth - mathematical genius cum dishwasher builds better bombs. Fair. SOLE SURVIVOR by S. J. Bounds - he found himself a ship, couldn't handle alien controls, finally got help - from an alien ship! Not bad.

THE BLACK SPOT by H. K. Bulmer - a new way to commit murder. Rather neat. SCHOOL FOR BEGINNERS by E. C. Tubb - this plot could fit a lot of present day people. Fair.

PRISONER IN THE SKULL by Charles Dye. It finishes on a good note, and on the whole was quite readable, & the best serial apart from WILD TALENT this magazine has run.

This issue is down on the usual standard, but is climbing back. Articles as usual finish it.

Jack Keating

## FANTASTIC BRE 8.

This is the last BRE we will see for a long time, which event reduces your reviewer to tears !!!!

The cover is well printed. There are two funnies. One - WATER CURE by John Toland concerns levitation and such. The other - THE COURTSHIP OF 53 SHOTL 9G by Niall Wilde is a time travel yarn in Bog Irish. Rather good.

Robert Moore William's THE SPIDERY PLED PIPERS is a reasonable tale, as is THE APPOINTMENT by Raymond Stark.

There are two other stories - OPERATION DEEAY by Walt Sheldon (not in US edition) and THE VICAR OF SKEL-ETON COVE by Lawrence Chandler. Fair would be a charitable description.

Tony Santos

## FATE March 1955.

Another mixed grill - this time served in a different dish. The cover has become a plain colour, with a contents listed on it. This rather spoils the mag, and will affect sales, I think, as an illustration helps a hell of a lot.

## THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

There are articles on Telepathy, Flying Saucers, Incas, Atlantis, Psychic Experiences, and factual accounts of mysterious happenings. Altogether, a lot of unusual ingredients, combined into an appetising collation by Chef James Leigh.

Roger McHugh.

#### AUTHENTIC SCIENCE FICTION 54.

Cover by Davis continues the exploration of our Solar System, proving that it's the stars or nothing. Good.

THE LESSER BREED by Dan Morgan - a new twist on androids. Fair. MAN IN A MAZE by W. F. Temple - he got caught in his own trap. Fair. NONENTITY by E. C. Tubb - detective story in space. Poor.

DEATH WISH by Eric Wilding - a rather gruesome extrapolation of present day facts make a good story.

The second of the new supplements is well done, and interesting, as are the articles.

This issue is a considerable improvement on the last few. Good thing, too.

Jack Keating.

#### ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION March 1955.

Van Dongen on the cover this month with a fine illustration to Poul Anderson's THE BIG RAIN. The story is quite good, but seems to lack something - the characters appear to suffer from mixed motives.

THE DEVIANT by Everett B. Cole shows that life among the savages can be irksome to a civilized person. Walter L. Kleine's TRAINING AID is fair only. THE CONNERS by Edward Peattie shows how far an anti-science complex can take us.

The Clifton and Riley serial THEY'D RATHER BE RIGHT is now becoming very interesting. Now the military are after Bossy.

An article JOVE INTERVENES by R. S. Richardson winds up this, the poorest issue for some time.

Tony Santos.

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