

Etherline.

Science Fiction Journal.

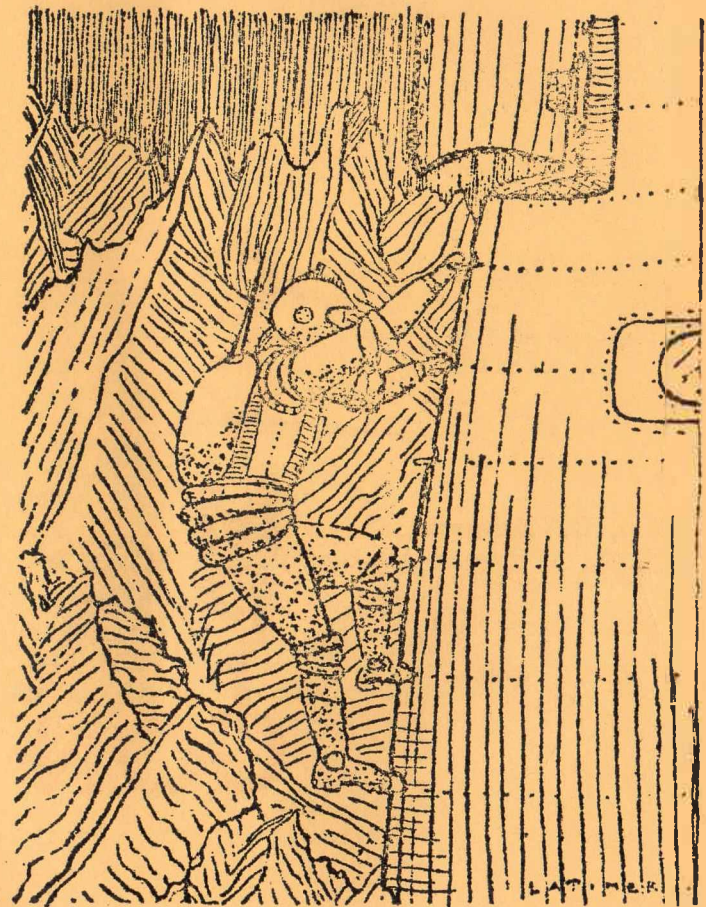
FEATURING...

FILM NEWS
+ REVIEWS
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ISSUE No. 69

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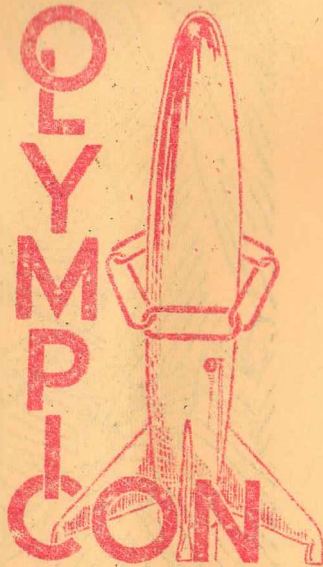
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December

8th and
9th,
1956.

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IS
AN
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MUST
NOT
MISS



News by courtesy of Leon Stone, Forry Ackerman and
VARIETY

A new film, highlighting a monster 30 stories (400 ft) high that bites railroad trains in half, destroys cities with a flick of its tail, reaches into the sky to crush airplanes in flight, was privately previewed for exhibitors by Joe Levine of RELEASEE PICTURES in Boston on February 17th.

More than \$ 50,000 will be spent to ballyhoo indie production, GODZILLA (King of the Sea Beasts), starring Raymond Burr. A new film company, Trans World Releasing Corporation has been set up to release the horror thriller, as the first of a coming list of SF films.

GODZILLA was filmed partly in Hollywood and partly in Japan, with new lensing techniques. A reported 194 theatres have booked it in the New England area alone.

All exhibs who saw the film, agreed that the beast was the most loathesome sight they had ever seen, and signed up at once to show it !

.....
20th CENTURY FOX released
THRESHOLD OF SPACE in March. Filmed starred the late John Hodiak.
.....

First full length French feature of animated and live actors will be made in Paris by Jean

Image, based on Jules Verne's TRIP TO THE MOON.
.....

The upcoming British SF film QUAT -
ERMALASS EXPERIMENT, will be released in Australia by IFD Distribu-
tors, possibly under its American title of SHOCK !! Speaking of
this film, its young author, Nigel Kneale, who currently has the
sequel, QUATERMALASS II running over the BBC TV, won the 1950 Som-
erset Maugham award for short stories with his collection, TOMATO
CAIN, published in New York. He first came into prominence as the
scripter of George Orwell's 1984, which shocked Britain two years
ago.

QUATERMALASS II is currently being
filmed, and should be ready by October this year.
.....

Trade magazines are of the opinion
that the Walter Wanger production of Jack Finney's INVASION OF
THE BODY SNATCHERS is one of the best SF films to date.
.....

According to producer William Bloom
the trend at the moment is towards 'science-factual' films, rather
than SF. He points out the upcoming THRESHOLD OF SPACE from 20th
Century, the story of 'space surgeon' John Paul Stapp, William
Holden's TOWARD THE UNKNOWN, Pine-Thomas-Shane's BAIL OUT AT 43,
000, Walt Disney's MAN AND SPACE, and the untitled big-budgetter
in the pot at MGM. He said that the British show, THE SOUND BAR-
RIER showed that heavy scientific facts could be made into excit-
ing film fare.
.....

The W. Lee Wilder show, MANFISH, rel-
eased through United Artists, received a bad review from the trade
papers, being panned in the main for a weak story. Stars John
Bromfield, Lon Chaney and Victor Jory, the story was written by
Myles Wilder, screenplay by Joel Murcott, based on Edgar Allan
Poe's THE GOLD BUG and TELLTALE HEART.
.....

The Ziv TV series, SCIENCE
FICTION THEATRE is still going strong and getting more popular
day by day. 39 new shows are under production at the moment, in
charge of Ivan Tors.
.....

Leslie Norman, director of
THE NIGHT MY NUMBER CAME UP, and producer of THE CRUEL SEA, is
in charge of the upcoming Exclusive X - THE UNKNOWN, starring
Dean Jagger. Anthony Hinds is producing.
.....

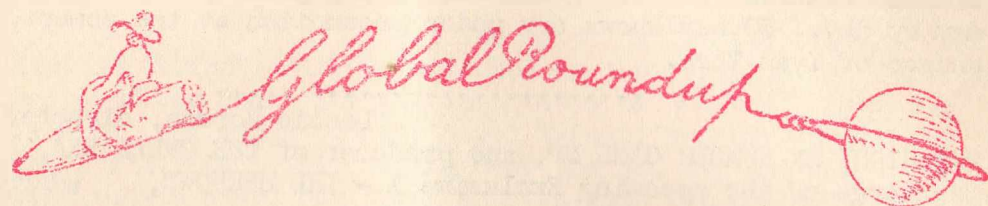
Something apparently made
in the back yard, as no-one has ever heard of it, was recently
screened in London. Titled MONSTER FROM THE OCEAN FLOOR, it
stars Anne Kimball and Stuart Wade - underwater girl diver dis-
cover lair of monster, which is killed by boy-friend skin diver.
Gaaaah !
.....

Call him metamorph : Paul
Blaisdell will be a brain-thing, tree-man and she-creature for a
series of forthcoming scientifilms, and in addition create a mu-
tant canine.
.....

Hollywood has evinced int-
erest in Edmond Hamilton's PIGMY ISLAND, Wilson Tucker's WILD T-
ALENT, and a 15,000 word original by Ib Melchior, THE SLEEPER.
.....

David (Dark Dominion) Dun-
can has scripted H. G. Well's THE TIME MACHINE for George Pal ,
and Pal told Forrest Ackerman: 'It is a masterful job - true to
the original, and a better adaption than WAR OF THE WORLDS.'
.....

Curt Siodmak has turned an
original into Universal-International, THE MAN WHO COULD NOT DIE.
.....



The leading U.K. SF book publishers to my mind, at anyrate, are Michael Joseph Ltd. They have just released their list for 1956. Already out are *TIME TRANSFER*, a collection of shorts by Arthur Sellings, and *CHRISTMAS EVE*, a novel by C. M. Kornbluth, the first at 12/6 stg, the second at 10/6 stg.

After these two come *THE SEEDS OF TIME*, a novel by John Wyndham at 12/6 stg, *THE DEATH OF GRASS*, a novel by John Christopher at 12/6 stg., *NO REFUGE*, a novel by John Bolland, at 12/6 stg., *OF ALL POSSIBLE WORLDS*, a collection by William Tenn at 12/6 stg., and finally a new author, John Mantley with *THE TWENTY SEVENTH DAY*. This title was sold for filming before publication. Also coming is an as yet untitled novel by Harold Mead. The two latter will be 12/6 stg.

.....

From Forry Ackerman, we learn that all attendance records were broken at the 8th Annual FANQUET Convention held recently. Forry was Master of Ceremonies, and introduced such celebrities as Evelyn Gold, Bob Olsen, Winona McClintic, Rick Sneyary, Ib Melchior and Ed. M. Clinton Jr. Helen Urban, author of 'The Finer Breed', 'To Serve Ma'am', and a recently completed 113,000 word novel, presented a prepared speech on 'Fantasy Thinking'.

At midnight, approximately one-third of the crowd went into a special preview of *ON THE THRESHOLD OF SPACE* and all were very favourably impressed.....

Tetsu Yano, Japan's No. 1 fan, has an SF comedy, *SINGING STONE ON PLANET OTANKONAS*, produced on radio, won a prize of 20,000 yen.....

A newcomer to the field, Barry P. Miller, has made his first sale, and an impressive one, a 40000 worder titled *TRI-INFINITY*..... Frank Quattrocchi has sold his look at the future, *SEA LEGS*, to radio..... Watch the men's slick, 'Escapade', for an unusual sci-fi yarn by Ed. M. Clinton, *PUZZLE BOX*, and an equally unusual fantasy yarn by Len Pruyn, *THE THIRSTY MAN*..... Seventy two year old pioneer SF author, Bob Olsen, was recently interviewed on the radio programme, 'MEET A CELEBRITY', emanating from Hollywood.....

From John Carnell, we learn that the Easter Convention held at Kettering attracted about 100 attendees most of whom arrived on Good Friday morning. Official business started at 11.00 AM Saturday, with introductions, followed from 12 noon to 1.00 PM with a most astonishing and highly successful hypnotic session, where a hypnotist had as many as nine subjects under control at the same time. Visiting American attending were David Kyle (chairman of this year's World Con in New York) and Richard Wilson, author, both of New York; Larry Shaw, editor of *INFINITY*, on honeymoon trip with wife Lee (nee Hoffman), topline US fanette; and Ellis Mills from Ohio, now stationed in Germany in the US forces. Other visitors were Anne Steul from Germany and Jan Jansen from Antwerp - she is getting up a Convention to coincide with the Belgium Trade Fair of 1958. It looks as if we all will be going to Antwerp in 1958 !

Outstanding item of the afternoon session was a 50 minute recorded play put on by the Liverpool S.F. Society, which was a satire titled *LAST AND FIRST FEN*. This was brilliantly depicted, and went through a hypothetical presecution of fandom from the early Egyptian days to the discovery of America by Columbus.

Main item on Sunday was a discussion on the 1957 London Convention, confirming London's bid at New York this year and an interesting resume by David Kyle of the organizational requirements for putting on a World Con, and what New York will be doing this year.

Innumerable parties were carrying on

from time to time in hotel rooms, and one would have to have been a schizo to have attended them all.

All in all, a very good time was had by all those attending.

.....
From Eyre & Spottiswoode will come the Eric Frank Russell collection, DEEP SPACE in April, while Museum Press will present a French translation, THE TREMBLING TOWER by Claude Yelnick in June.

.....
Upcoming GALAXY NOVELS will be 26 CHESS - BOARD PLANET by Lewis Padgett and 27 TARNISHED UTOPIA by Malcolm Jameson.

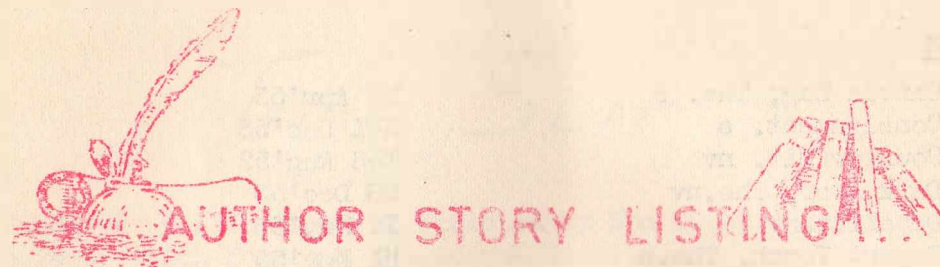
.....
British film QUATERMASS EXPERIMENT, which was to be titled SHOCK in America, has suffered a name change even before release. It will now be called CREEPING UNKNOWN, and will be released by United Artists.

.....
Mr. Frank Ross, author of SPACE SHIPS AND SPACE TRAVEL, has made the granny of all bloomers. In para. 3, page 127 of the Museum Press edition, he states

"Their speed is incredible; approximately that at which light travels, 186,000 miles per second. That is twice as fast as the speed of a bullet leaving the muzzle of a UNITED STATES Army rifle....."

That is the best I've heard for a long, long time. I must admit that the Yanks are good, but I didn't think they were that good. ! I suggest to the NATO armies to adopt the US Army rifle, instead of worrying about the new FN job.

.....
C U IN FIFTY SIX



Number

Alan

Twenty

E.

Nine

Nourse.

Next Author :

Robert S.
Richardson

Compiled by Donald H. Tuck

Although not prolific, most of this author's work are of note, the best known being NIGHTMARE BROTHER. Was Vice-president of Chamberlain Press which appears to have ceased after producing one book, Richard Matheson's BORN OF MAN AND WOMAN.

BOOK Juvenile

J1 TROUBLE ON TITAN (Winston: Phil. 1954 208 \$ 2.00)

POCKET BOOK

P1 A MAN OBSESSED (Ace D 96: N.Y. 1955 127 35c) with THE LAST PLANET (Andre Norton)

STORIES

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Canvas Bag, The. s | MF Apr'55 |
| 2. | Consignment. s | SFA Dec'53 |
| 3. | Counterfeit. nv | TWS Aug'52 |
| 4. | Dark Door, The.nv | GS Dec'53 |
| 5. | Derelict.nv | If May'53 |
| 6. | Expert Touch, The.s | MF Nov'55 |
| 7. | Family Resemblance.s | ASF Apr'53, AS37 |
| 8. | Fifty Fourth of July, The.nv | I Mar'54 |
| 9. | Final Barrier.s | FF Sep'52 |
| 10. | Grand Round.s | FU Aug'55 |
| 11. | Heir Apparent.s | I Oct'53 |
| 12. | High Threshold.s | ASF Mar'51, AO1, AS24 |
| 13. | Image of the Gods, The.s | OSF # 4 |
| 14. | In Sheep's Clothing.s | FSM Nov'52 |
| 15. | Infinite Intruder.nv | SSF Jul'53 |
| 16. | Journey for the Brave.s | I Apr'54 |
| 17. | Letter of the Law.s | If Jan'54 |
| 18. | Link, The.s | If Jun'54 |
| 19. | Love Thy Vamp.s | MF Apr'52 |
| 20. | Man Obsessed, A.n | P1 |
| 21. | Marley's Chain.s | If Sep'52 |
| 22. | Meeting of the Board.s | If Oct'55 |
| 23. | My Friend Bobby.s | OSF # 3 |
| 24. | Nightmare Brother.nv | ASF Feb'53, AS17, AS35 |
| 25. | Ounce of Cure, An. s | IT Nov'55 |
| 26. | Peacemaker.s | SFA Feb'53 |
| 27. | Q-B-B. nv | OW Dec'52 |
| 28. | Sixty Year Extension.nv | PS May'54 |
| 29. | Symptomaticus Medicus.s | USF Sep'54 |
| 30. | Tiger by the Tail.s | GS Nov'51, AS3, AS8 |
| 31. | Trouble on Titan.n | J1 |
| 32. | Universe Between, The.nv | ASF Sep'51 |
| 33. | Wanderlust.s | I Oct'52 |

.....
 Connected Stories. : 12 & 32.

TIME SLIP

Produced by Alec Snowden, directed by Ken Hughes, starring Gene Nelson, Faith Domergue and Joseph Tomelty.

Although the amount of science in this film is almost negligible, what there is doesn't sound too incredible. The characters are more important in this case than scientific gimmicks. A significant point about the showing was that I didn't hear anyone laughing in the wrong places. That's quite a feat for a SF film !

The plot was only equal to a B or C class movie, but was, on the whole, handled very well. Each situation was used to its best advantage.

Briefly, the story is : A badly wounded man who resembles a physicist working on transmutation of tungsten, arrives at hospital. During the operation, he dies, but recovers within seven and one half seconds from a shot of adrenalin. When he recovers, they realise that in some way his brain has been affected by his long association with radio active metals, and during his clinical death, it continued to function when his heart stopped.

After an injection is given to bring him back to normal, hero and police learn that an imposter is about to blow up the atomic pile. In the usual fashion, crooks are captured, girl is rescued, but in this case, scientists prevent explosion without hero's help.

Worth seeing, but don't make a special trip.

Mervyn Binns.

MELBOURNE S.F. GROUP REPORT

The preparations for the Olympicon are proceeding steadily and satisfactorily.

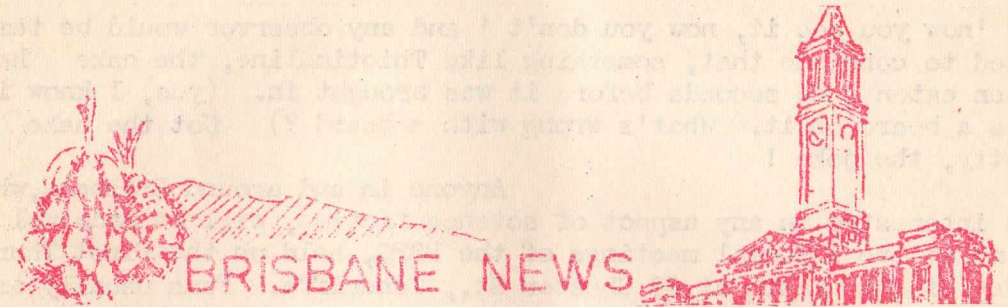
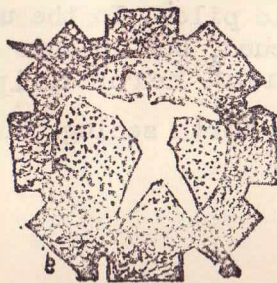
We were pleased to welcome Sgt. Bob Smith, on his return to Melbourne from Japan. Bill Packer, Harry Williams, and Joan Day also made reappearances after long absences.

The members who made the Canberra trek have now quite recovered.

There will be some interesting items auctioned at the next few meetings, when Bob Smith gets his boxes out of the clutches of the Army and interstate carriers.

Some of our members are changing jobs and addresses. Best of luck to them in their new quarters.

ARMIAK



Eleven fans came along to this meeting of the BSFG. Present were George and Betty Tafe, Frank Bryning, Rick Day, Reg and Val Urquhart, Iris Girvan, Mike Barry, John Gurney, Ken Quinlem and Fred Drennan. John Adams was conspicuous by his absence.

Frank Bryning, who until now had handled most of the Brisbane news reports, decided that he had been hogging all the fun and that he would be only too pleased to allow his fellow members a chance to display their literary ability. The frantic enthusiasm which followed this announcement had to be seen to be believed (joke). Finally, names were drawn from a hat and a list compiled (hat by courtesy of Mr. Bryning).

Attention and interest was drawn to the fact that two of Frank's latest stories are now appearing. ON THE AVERAGE in 'Fantastic Universe' and PLACE OF THE THROWING STICK in 'New Worlds'. It was decided later that, when 'Astounding' buys a story from Frank, the BSFG will stage a feast comparing favourably with those of ancient Rome.

Early in the evening, John Gurney and Mike Barry retired to the chess table and for most of the time only an occasional hoot or gurgle was heard from them.

Rick Day produced some OLYMPICON information.

Topics of discussion included architecture, anti-gravity, mutations and taxation.

To round the meeting off, Betty and Iris produced tea and coffee, followed by cake, which was a case

of 'now you see it, now you don't ' and any observer would be tempted to conclude that, something like Thiotimoline, the cake had been eaten some seconds before it was brought in. (yes, I know it has a beard on it. What's wrong with a beard ?) Not the cake , Betty, the joke !

Anyone in and around Brisbane, who is interested in any aspect of science fiction, will be made welcome at the informal meetings of the BSFG, held on the first Thursday of each month at 68 Chester St., Teneriffe. Fans usually arrive here any time from 7.30 PM on.

Warrego

Illustration
By



Ken
McIntyre

The Melbourne Science Fiction Group

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Book Reviews



Earthman, Come Home

JAMES BLISH

Published by Faber & Faber Ltd.,
available from McGills at 15/6.

In this, James Blish has collected his Okie stories, and tied them together skilfully. The introduction is a two page social history of Earth, and gives a convincing picture of why, when, and where the anti-gravity spin-dizzies were invented, whole cities took off like itinerant laborers, to journey through Space becoming planet bound only long enough to replenish store rooms and treasuries, then taking off again - often just one jump ahead of Earth's Space Police. There are criminal cities too, to add to the excitement. Amalfi is the Mayor of New York - - an Okie city now - - and the story deals with his efforts to bring

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

his aging city and immortal companions, to a safe and successful haven. This is the second item this week which has aroused my enthusiasm - an enthusiasm which has become rather jaded of late by the spate of rather juvenile material offering.

Definitely an A, and recommended

Bob McCubbin

.....

MEN, MARTIANS AND MACHINES by Eric Frank Russell, published by Dennis Dobson, London, available from McGills at 12/-. .

This collection of four stories from ASTOUNDING, is the best item of its kind to hit the bookstands this year. JAY SCORE is a tremendous more-than-human robot, built as a space pilot. He (or it) becomes second pilot on an exploratory ship, and the four stories are four adventures.

JAY SCORE deals with a cometary swing around the sun; MECHANISTRA is the schemozzle caused by humans on a completely mechanised planet; SYMETIOTICA, the trouble the same humans get into on a planet where all life - animal and vegetable - is integrated or mutually dependent. The last story is the weakest, because it is too reminiscent of Weinbaum's Dream Devils in 'A Martian Odyssey'. Titled MESMERICA, it deals with the struggle with entities, like tangled black ropes, that are complete hypnotists. Mandrake is an amateur to them!

The only weaknesses are the lack of a contents table and story titling on each page. These aids to reading enjoyment are minor omissions, though. I have bought this one myself, as an aid to the enjoyable re-reading of four A class stories.

Bob McCubbin

.....

ONE IN THREE HUNDRED by J. T. McIntosh, published by Museum Press, London, available from McGills at 13/3

It is a pleasure to see this group of stories from F & SF arranged in book form. Briefly, the

Earth is due to be done to a crisp by an increase in solar radiation, and 1/500 of the population can be evacuated to Mars.

Lieutenant Easson has to select his lifeboat's quota of ten from a small town, creating many human episodes. In space, only 1/1000 of the lifeboats can win through - our hero in the short end, of course - and land on Mars, where they have a bitter struggle to survive, and find that they have brought one too many - a mad financier with delusions of grandeur.

In this third section, the sharp characterisation on 'One in 300' and 'One in 1000' becomes rather fuzzy, but the story carries the weak characters. J. T. McI can be complimented on a workmanlike job, one that can be thoroughly recommended to the reader.

Bob McCubbin

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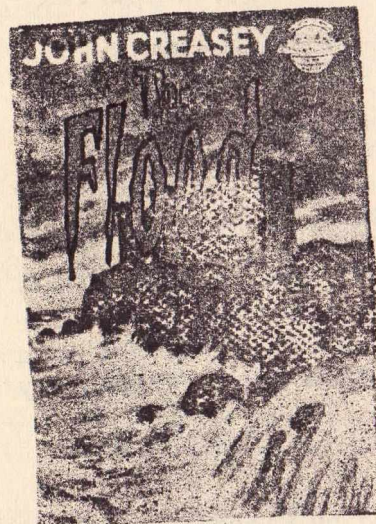
CHRISTMAS EVE by C. M. Kornbluth, published by Michael Joseph, London, available from McGills at 13/3, proof copy from publishers.

These MJ's are getting better all the time - and they started off very well. In this one, USA (and the rest of the world) are conquered and occupied by Russia and China, who halve USA along the Mississippi. From my experience with BCOF, I would say that Kornbluth is well versed in occupation procedure - and the way it can degenerate in some instances.

Billy Justin (ex G.I.), farmer, is an unwilling assistant of the underground movement, and finally becomes entrusted with the location MOMSE, a larger, bomb carrying MOUSE. He has great difficulty in finding enthusiasm, electronic equipment and trained personnel, but finally, after years of occupation, starvation and near slavery MOMSE is ready for launching. As a diversion, an uprising is organised (This is one of the nest pieces of writing in the book). Momse, successfully launched, puts teeth into an ultimatum to Russia and China and the occupation is reversed.

Highly recommended.

Bob McCubbin



John Creasey THE FLOOD

Published by
Hodder & Stoughton,
London, available at 13/3.
from McGills.

In this, Dr. Palfrey and some others tangle with a mad millionaire scientist, and his aide, just a mad scientist. Great floods have occurred in extraordinary places, and a 8 tentacle creature is found to be responsible. On bursting, each causes a great volume of water to be released. Woburn, a local, is persuaded by Palfrey to get into Ronoch Castle, where Davos, the millionaire, is breeding the OCTI. Woburn and Eve Davos fall in love, and then realise that Davos plans another Eden - he has a two-by-two zoo, and a 'perfect' mate for Eve. This Adam turns out to be a S.S. agent, and finishes as panther food. After a couple of violent deaths, Woburn finds the remedy - Davos and his off-sider are finished off - and the final scene is a bit of baby-sitting.

I would describe this as 'fringe' science fiction. Quite readable, but not one to be re-read often. I rate it B.

Bob McCubbin

.....

TIME TRANSFER, a collection of stories by Arthur Sellings, published by Michael Joseph Ltd., London, available from McGills at 15/6. Proof copy from publishers.

They are as follows: THE WORDLESS ONES - telepathic male ET's teach women to be telepaths; THE AWAKENING - this one was lost in space for mine; SOLILOQUY - reverie in an A bomb shelter, then life begins anew; ESCAPE MECHANISM - psychiat -

rist's patient has 4th dimensional twitches; JUKEBOX - the day goes round and round (see Aldiss' story NOT FOR AN AGE in AD2500) CATEGORICAL IMPERATIVE - bassoon player invents new job; PENTAGRAM - only one in five can do it, and the wrong one gets the chance; THE PROXIES - there are more ways of killing a pig than choking it with cream; FROM UP THERE - lost alien finds a home; A START IN LIFE - robot nursemaids; TIME TRANSFER - send your aged into the future to meet the oldest inhabitant; THE HAUNTING phantom from the future shifts us on to a different time track; CONTROL ROOM - aliens get a wrong idea from fun parlor; THE AGE OF KINDNESS - a hunchback finally gets things straight; THE FIGMENT - he didn't believe it, but it turns the tables on him; and THE TRANSFER - aliens discover the balance of the sexes.

I think that you will like this collection - I know that I did.

Bob McCubbin

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THE BEST SCIENCE FICTION STORIES 5th series, edited by Bleiler & Dikty, published by Grayson & Grayson, London, available at 13/3 from McGills.

This anthology contains ten of the best stories to appear in 1954, rating as follows: D.F. by Jack Vance - man's inhumanity to --? (B); THE BIG HOLIDAY, Fritz Leiber - just a marshmallow world, Leiber's worst in years (D); THE COLLECTORS - C. G. Dewey and Max Dancey - who collects coins and people? (B); WONDER CHILD - Joseph Shallit - a frighteningly precocious child. (A); THE SOWER DOES NOT REAP - Walter M. Miller - bringing air to Mars (A); THE MODEL OF A JUDGE - William B. Morrison - a robot cake tester is human (B); THE LAST DAY - Richard Matheson - another slant on the title (A); LOT - Ward Moore - getting rid of the homesick (B); YANKEE EXODUS - Ruth Goldsmith - extra terrestrial poultry farmers (A); WHAT THIN PARTITIONS - M. Clifton and A. Apostolides - pentagon produces poltergeists (A);

Rating 5A4B1D - a worthwhile anthology in the usual B&D fashion. Recommended.

Bob McCubbin.

MAGAZINE

Reviews

SCIENCE FICTION

Monthly

No. 8

2/-

The lead story SIMPSON by Philip La-
tham runs to page 54 - which is 54 pages too long. A prime stink-
er. HOMECOMING by Irving Cox Jr. has the peaceful aliens who do
not know why they are attacked plot. Poor.

Jack Vance's WHEN THE FIVE MOON RISE
is another stinker. Bert Chandler's SHADOW BEFORE is fair, and is
a new idea. NIGHT ON HORSEBACK a three page item, by Winston K.
Marks rates best in the issue - an amusing piece of whimsy.

This issue is the worst to date and
the only consolation to be drawn from this is that it should pick
up. It certainly can't go much further down.

Tony Santos.

NEW WORLDS
SCIENCE FICTION

No. 45. 3/-

Cover by Terry shows the Quinn infl-
uence which is a recommendation.

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

F.G. Rayer's HYPERANT has every thing but the story lacks a
lot. While Duncan Lamont's UNCONVENTIONAL DUSTBIN got the lot -
for a while - then brought it back; any one want to buy a poten-
tially radio active Island?

EMERGENCY CALL - Alan Guthrie is
another space wreck yarn about - no air and months away from Mars
but he has a novel solution. Glad to see that Frank Bryning made
the good mag with his PLACE OF THE THROWING STICK (Woomera to the
uninformed) about one of the better aboriginal legends brought up
to date.

Kenneth Bulmer's SMALLEST ALLY
sure stopped the super aliens in fine style. In FLAIR, Keith Wo-
odcott presents a brand new idea for some of the other blokes to
borrow, and he does it very well.

As usual John Newman's article
is thought provoking.

A rather good issue with no re-
ally outstanding story, just a lot of good ones.

Jack Keating.

FATE

April 1956.

1/6

There is a change in format this
issue - instead of the flat spine, glued - we have the rounded
spine showing staples (a cheaper job). This issue - features
Hugh Gaitskell, Psychic Healing, Mayas, Firewalking, Control of
Mental Energy, Dr. Rhine, Strange Seeing, Apparitions.

Bob McCubbin

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

Galaxy

SCIENCE FICTION

No. 36 2/9.

Some of us have often wished to have one of the attributes of Emsh's Santa Claus. BRIGHTSIDE CROSSING by Alan E. Nourse is quite a fair story but its ineffective ending spoils the illusion. In Lester del Rey's THE DWINDLING YEARS are used to a good purpose. JUNIOR according to Robert Abernathy is a typical teenage hot-rod - underseas.

THE GRAVITY BUSINESS by James E. Gunn is a somewhat peculiar one. The principals tend to be rather weighed down. Robert Sheckley's THE BODY poses a difficult question - how does one distinguish between human and animal characteristics. This rates the best in the issue.

THE SNARE by Richard R. Smith shows how a human mind can outwit a machine. The conclusion of THE TIES OF EARTH by James H. Schmitz is certainly packed with action, but if you watch the wheels within wheels for overlong, you become a bit dizzy.

Tony Santos

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NEBULA

No. 16. 2/10

Cover by James Rattigan is rather meniscent of Davis in his 'Into Space' series in the mag that has slipped lately. Good.

Malchin was really DYING TO LIVE in Ted Tubb's short. I've read similar plot, but where.....? Good. ALWAYS by Robert Silverberg - no thanks, not even for a little while. Brrrrr....fine chiller.

E. R. James really had Slade Barri more in HOT WATER, but he met a sympathetic super. Fair to midd -

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

ling. Bob Shaw's BARRIER TO YESTERDAY is a nice piece of sociology, as is THE MORON by John Seabright in a rather gloomy way.

FRONTIER ENCOUNTER by S. J. Bounds is another past meeting yarn. Fair.

Forry J. waxes rather caustic about the new crop of scifilms, with only one worth seeing for technical effects only.

Thomson's back cover maintains the standard of a rather fine issue.

Jack Keating.

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Fantasy and Science Fiction

Aust. Edition No. 6 2/-

The first story in this issue is SHADOWS OF WINGS by Elizabeth Sanxay Holding and shows how completely the average person trusts in scientists to overcome unusual occurrences.

Robert Barr wrote a story 60 years ago, which tells convincingly of an accepted nuisance, the London fog, becoming a terrible killer in THE DOOM OF LONDON. Though few of us realize it, there are still schools of witchcraft to which hopeful parents send their sometimes reluctant young. THE ACCOUNTANT by Robert Sheckley tells us of one.

CARELESS LOVE by Albert Compton Friberg tells of the triumph of love over difficulties in this amusing romance of two computers. In the interesting LYSENKO MAZE by David Grinnell, Lysenko is reinstated.

Randall Garrett presents Professor George Featherby, who has used the entire sources of his universe to propel himself into another space-time continuum in INFINITE RESOURCES. Uncle Alfred, whose head is referred to in the title of this amusing tale, AN OLD FASHIONED POKER FOR MY UNCLE'S

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

HEAD, was a man of habit according to author Margot Bennett, until one rainy day. The final episode of STAR LUMINOX by Robert A. Heinlein completes a fair issue.

Marjorie Santos

Science-Fantasy

No. 17. 3/-

Cover by Quinn from the lead story, and as usual, is good. NON STOP by Brian W. Aldiss is very similar to Ted Tubb's 'Star Ship' in NEW WORLDS recently, but with a different ending. Not bad.

BROOF NEGATIVE by Staines - so there is a Santa Claus? In CONNECTION COMPLETED Judith Merrill does her usual fine job in dealing with a new idea for telepathy. John Mantley's UNCLE CLEM AND THE MARTIANS is a fine way to teach elementary physics.

Alan Barclay's poor LOVEY really got himself into trouble with the ET's. THE BIGGEST GAME by Keith Woodcott ends in a rather funny way with the hunter being hunted.

TO TOUCH THE STARS by Joseph Slotkin is a fine piece of fantasy with a chiller ending. Good job plot-wise in SYLLABUS by Len Shaw. THE MAN WHO PLAYED THE BLUES by John Brunner is yet one more of John's excellent fantasies.

I would like to see a collection of the last author between hard covers.

Jack Keating

Astounding SCIENCE FICTION

BRE March 1956 2/3

A brilliant cover by Emsch graces this issue. In THE SHORT LIFE by Francis Donovan, we find our alien who made one mistake. James E. Gunn's NEW BLOOD was quite good - the donor was an average type with only one peculiarity - he was immortal.

The finish of CALL HIM DEAD by Eric Frank Russell is a good one. It looks a natural for book publication.

A good issue.

Tony Santos

Authentic

No. 66. 2/6

Cover by Ken Woodhouse represents the inside of a working planetarium. Fair only.

THE OLD FIRM by H. K. Bulmer - if you've got a problem planet we can solve same. Fair. WHEN HE DIED by Anthony Blake - he came back 65 years to help his Dad die. Not bad. Ken Wainwright has a very good story in SLEEVE OF CARE and I'm glad to see that Ted Tubb has another of his series of Mars in.

There's a good idea to stop jet jockies going nuts in John Brunner's NUISANCE VALUE. My FIRST IMPRESSION of Frank Winnard's yarn was that it was a Sheckley, but then I looked again at the sting in the tail. Very good.

THE CREEP is the conclusion of a yarn which I thought was complete in the last issue. That's

how good the first part was ! Of the articles, the one on the workings of a planetarium was the most interesting.

I will be interested to see how Ted Tubb goes on this magazine, giving him a few issues to settle in.

Jack Keating.

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SCIENCE FICTION Monthly

No. 9. 2/-

After panning the last issue it is a pleasure to report that this one is considerably improved. The cover illustration, whilst not noteworthy, is a step forward.

THE LAST PLUNGE by S. J. Sackett is a fair adventure yarn set on Uranus which, but for the locale, belongs in WIDE WORLD.

Stephen Marlowe in ES PERCIPE uses some rather wild logic to prove a number of points. Fair

DEADLINE SUNDAY by Daniel F. Gouye is one of the bright spots in this issue. What to do when your children decide to leave home for good - all children everywhere.

Irving Cox Jr. in THE PIONEER has kids with a flock of extra talents taking over the Earth. A fair story.

NO GUN TO THE VICTOR by Theodore Cogswell was written some time ago and is rather a grim piece of writing, but rates good.

A fair issue and I hope the improvement continues.

Tony Santos.

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Cover by DON LATIMER.....Interiors by Dick Jenssen

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