

COMPLIMENTARY FANTASY-NEWS

the weekly science fiction newspaper.

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 4

JANUARY 14, 1940

WHOLE NUMBER 32

6 'NEW YORKER' REPORTER AT QSFL

STF RARITIES TO BE RAFFLED OFF
AT EVERY MEETING

ASTONISHING STORIES REVIEWED

(Exclusive) Members were arriving in droves at this month's Queens Science Fiction League Meeting, but apparently there were to be NO CELEBRITIES! It could readily be discerned the attendance would hit over 25, including such prominents as Julius Schwartz, Sam Moskowitz, James V. Taurasi, William S. Sykora, Mario Racic, Jr., Thomas Hoguet, Robert Studley, Hyman Tiger, Abe Cshinsky, Robert G. Thompson, Scott Feldman, newlywed, with his bride of a week, A. Lincoff and sister, M. Moroff, Allen Moss, several visitors, and a liberal slice of the Ladies Auxiliary. A Horrendous Fact was becoming evident! There would be no celebrities! The expected Miss Gnaedinger of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES had not shown up, and others usually regular in attendance were kept away by circumstance (it did not rain). Finally, when all had become reconciled to the fact that there would be no celebrities and bravely faced a barren program, a knock sounded on the door, and there stood---two women! Julius Schwartz introduced them as Miss Canfield, a reporter from the nationally known, famous, NEW YORKER magazine, and a friend of hers.

QUIZZED FOR POSSIBLE NEW YORKER ITEM

After the usual formalities, Miss Canfield was allowed to fire away any questions she wished to be answered by any of the fans present. She got the fan mag angle, organization, (Cont'd P. 6, Col. 1

TALES OF WONDER MAY SUSPEND

(Exclusive) Latest reports, direct from England and from unimpeachable sources, indicate that TALES OF WONDER, one of the best liked and most famed of British fantasy publications, will soon suspend publication. The next issue (no. 9) may be the last.

No definite decision has been arrived at as yet, but until then no new manuscripts are being accepted. It is possible, though improbable that the mag may continue, but the decision not to accept new stories stands, and will hold until further notice.

Walter Gillings, himself is carrying on with his regular job at present, but expect the time will come when he will be called up for service of some sort.

FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES EDITOR INVITED TO NEXT QSFL MEETING

Miss Mary Gnaedinger, editor of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES, will be invited, formally, to attend the February Queens Science Fiction League Meeting soon by a Fantasy-News Reporter, to discuss her new mag FFM, which has become so extremely popular.

An exclusive communication from Miss Gnaedinger's office states that the new story in the Mar. issue, out Feb. 7, will be "Bomb From Beranga" by Harry Walton. Finlay's cover decoration will appear on this issue which will also feature the first instalment of Hall and Flint's "The Blind Spot." Watch for it!

FANTASY NEWS is published every week by the FANTASY NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY at 31-51 41st Street, Long Island City, N.Y.

Editor: Will Sykora

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Rates: 3 issues 10¢, 9 issues 30¢, 30 issues \$1.00, 52 issues (1 year) \$1.50. (NO STAMPS PLEASE)

 BOOST S C I E N C E F I C T I O N

EDITORIAL by Will Sykora.

At a recent meeting of the Queens Science Fiction League, two editors of professional sf mags were present. They were Mort Weisinger of Standard Publications, and Charlie Hornig, Of Blue Ribbon Pubs. The result was an extremely interesting discussion of the pulp publishing field, which was not only enlightening to the fans present at the meeting, but also served to bring out several evils of this game of sufficient importance to warrant an investigation by a special committee of NEW FANDOM. Apparently when two or more pro editors get together, something of value and real interest to the fan world is sure to crop up.

Intigued with the possibilities of this idea, we called up John Campbell, Jr. of Astounding on Friday afternoon and breached it to him. Although he did not exactly bite off the mouthpiece of the transmitter with enthusiasm, nevertheless it seemed to us that he thought the idea was not without some merits. This telephone conversation with Mr. Campbell will be followed by a few more, and it is not the remotest possibility that this newspaper may be able to cock up a NEW YORK SCIENCE FICTION CONFERENCE at which some decent discussion of the science fiction field may be held, without the annoying influence of petty fan arguments.

It is to be hoped that the readers of Fantasy-News will stand back of this project one hundred per cent, and that those of us who reside in the city or vicinity will not fail to be there.

FAN MAG REVIEW by Harry Warner, Jr. STARBUST: Mar. 1940. 22 lg, professionally printed pp, illustrated.

One of the finest fan mags since Marvel Tales. Contributors include deCamp, Farley, Williams, Hornig, and Jameson. An absolute must for all fans. 20¢ from 2609 Argyle St. Chicago, Illinois.

VOICE OF THE IMAGI-NATION: Dec. '39. 14 lg, mimeod pp. Letters from prominent fans; well worth reading. 10¢ from Box 6475, Los Angeles, Calif.

LE ZOMBIE: Jan. 13, 1940. 6 lg, mimeod pp. Good reproduction, very swell cover by Damon Knight, fan news and excerpts from ill-fated Nova. 3 for 10¢ from Box 260, Bloomington, Illinois.

 VOICE OF FANDOM by our readers.

Paterson, N.J. Congratulations on acquiring the greatest newspaper in the world. Ray Van Houten.

Scranton, Pa. I'm just typing a few words to tell you that you really have something good in FANTASY NEWS. Ray J. Sienkiewicz. Minneapolis, Minn. I am enclosing fifty cents for a fifteen-issue subscription to FANTASY NEWS to begin with the current issue. I'm sorry I had to quit subscribing for a while but what must be, muss be.

Anyway, I'm glad to be back.

Samuel D. Russell. Columbus, O. I am enclosing a short review of Binder's excellent story in ARGOSY, "Lords of Creation". I have headed it as a column for FN, written by the readers of FN. What do you think of the idea? It would include only reviews of outstanding stories from non-science-fiction mags. It could appear whenever you had the material and from all the hundred readers of FN should cover the field pretty thoroughly.

Sf is certainly blooming. So darn much that I have difficulty in keeping up. Weren't you surprised at ASTONISHING STORIES. Some of the stories, but the readers' dep't sounds nutty. It will not see a second issue is my guess. T. S. Gardner. Chicago, Ill. Was sorry to hear that Jimmy had to give up FN, but am confident it will prosper well under your hands. Bill Hamling. (C.p.3 Col.1)

SCIENTIFICOMICS by Will Sykora.

No less than five new sci comic mags hit the New York stands this week. They are: ROCKET COMICS, MIRACLE COMICS, PRIZE COMICS, MYSTIC COMICS, and TARGET COMICS. The scientific cartoons in these are as follows: ROCKET COMICS-"Rocket Riley", "The Electro Man"; MIRACLE COMICS-"Sky Wizard", "Dash Dixon, Man Of Might", "Blanda, the Jungle Queen"; PRIZE COMICS-"Power Nelson, Man Of the Future", "Jupiter, the Master Magician"; MYSTIC COMICS-"Flexo, the Rubber Man-drawn by Jack Binder, "The Blue Blaze", Zephyr Jones and His Rocket Ship," "The Three X's", "The Deep Sea Demon", "Dakor, the Magician", "Dynamic Man"; TARGET COMICS-"Manowar, the White Streak", "Calling 2R", "The Maskless Axeman".

TARGET is published by TARGET COMICS, 525 West 52nd St. N.Y.C. TIMELY PUBS, 330 W. 42nd St. N.Y.C. puts out MYSTIC. PRIZE is put together by FEATURE PUBS, Inc., 1270 Sixth Ave, N.Y.C. HILLMAN-CURL, Inc. publish MIRACLE at Dunellen, N.J. with offices at 11 E. 44th St, N.Y.C. and ROCKET is put out also by HILLMAN-CURL. All these mags sell at 10¢ each.

VOICE OF FANDOM-Continued.

Storrs, Conn. I'm really disgusted by the "Christmas Card" which was sent you. I hope you learn who was the perpetrator of such a vile act. The pervert who did that should be jailed!

Congratulations, late though they are, on your editorship of FN. Long may she survive under your capable helm.

Lou Kuslan,
New York, N.Y. (A letter from a prominent fan who desires to remain anonymous.) Received the new FANTASY NEWS and sympathize with you on that "Hi-Ho" joke. Perhaps you recall the time several years ago when the so-called Schwartz-Wollhiem-Sykora feud was on? Well, this mysterious Hi-Ho sent me a couple of cards. If you know any persons or persons present in these two cities at that time, these cards may serve as a valuable clue. They are enclosed. (Cont'd next col.)

SCIENTIFILMS by Mario Racic, Jr.

Paramount is making a film called "Destiny", starring Basil Rathbone. Several years back there was a fantastic film by this same name, dealing with the supernatural. Is this a remake?

"The Invisible Man Returns", newest sci film, opens at the RIALTO, New York's fantasy theatre, B'way and 42nd St. on Jan. 16th.

The February issue of SCREEN GUIDE devotes two full pages to scenes from the Hal Roach prehistory, "1,000,000 B.C."

The latest issue of HOLLYWOOD (Feb) has a scene from "The Invisible Man Returns", showing Vincent Price all bandaged up to cover up his invisibility. An early issue of this same magazine will have a full account of the prehistoric research done on "1,000,000 B.C."

LOCAL REVIVALS: The TRANS-LUX Theatre on Lexington Ave. and 52nd St. will revive the old Karloff mystery-thriller (1932) "The Old Dark House" on Jan. 16 & 17.

A typographical error in our last issue should have read that "The Bluebird" will open at the HOLLYWOOD Theatre for a two-a-day show. The run will last indefinitely, and not only two days.

VOICE OF FANDOM Continued.

but please return when you are through with them.

Cleveland, O. Best of luck with FN. Jack Miske.

Hollywood, Calif. I sure think that was a low-life trick, that "Christmas" card, and hope you catch its perpetrator. R. Royal.

WILL SYKORA OFFERS \$25.00 REWARD!!!!!!

The staff of Fantasy News is hot on the trail of the pervert who sent Will Sykora an obscene "Christmas" card on Christmas Eve from Brooklyn, N.Y. Hand written on the card was: "Here is something else to screw your friends with"---Hi-Ho. \$25.00 reward will be paid to the person or persons supplying exact information as to the identity of the sender of this card. Address all information % of FANTASY NEWS.

THE TIME STREAM by Sam Moskowitz

As is well known, Will Garth is a house name of STANDARD PUBLICATIONS, used whenever one author has two stories in the same number. Probably a dozen authors have masqueraded under that name. However, probably the best yarn under STANDARD'S favorite by-line was "Hands Across the Void" in the Dec. 1938 issue of THRILLING WONDER STORIES. That particular story, believe it or else, was written by Henry Kuttner!... Scott Feldman, popular Queens SFL member, showed up at the latest meeting with, glory be, a life companion... At unknown intervals, Mort Weisinger holds what is called "plot night". Under the weird mantle of darkness which night flings over the Jersey Moor, Julius Schwartz and some author sneak over to Mort's abode in North Bergen, and after mysterious and unknown rites, emerge with a plot for another super-epic by Binder or other prominent stf author... Facts have been nefariously ferreted out by your reporter indicating, not at all conclusively, but very strongly that two fans will shortly crash the pro field--one as editor, the other as author... Dr. C. I. Barrett enthusiastic fan mag collector of Bellefontaine, Indiana, hopes to be able to get into New York this June in time for the final QSFL meeting... From Charlie Hornig we learn also that Fred Shroyer has again been troubled with the wandering itch and left Fort Wayne, Ind. Dec. 23 for presumably Mexico. This conflicts with statements recently published that he will participate actively in the newly organized "Moon Struck Publications" another fan publishing group.

ACE STF FROM NON-STF MAGS No. 1.

"Lords Of Creation", by Jack Binder
Reviewed by Thos. S. Gardner.

ARGOSY (Six parts) starting Sep. 23

During the depression Binder appeared in the stf field with the usual stf technique--today that technique has been polished and developed into one of the outstanding writers of the world of (con.next co.

BLUE RIBBON NEWS by Charlie Hornig.

BLUE RIBBON PUBLICATIONS has changed printers. The next issues of SCIENCE FICTION and FUTURE FICTION will appear with an entirely new type set-up, carrying more wordage per page. SCIENCE FICTION'S page content will be reduced to 112. FUTURE FICTION outsold SCIENCE FICTION with its first issue.

The next issues of BR PUBS will carry readers' departments 12 pages in length! The "Fantasy Fan" department will be expanded to four pages, possibly more permanently. Taurasi's "Fantasy Times" will be set up in newspaper style, three columns, six point type. Among the items the first edition contains are reviews of all stf conventions ever held, write-ups for various fan mags, radio and movie items, practically everything that FANTASY NEWS contains outside of info about other pro mags. Hornig says the column will be expanded. The second edition is already in preparation and will probably be submitted this week.

For future numbers of SCIENCE FICTION, Hornig announces "Mad Virus" by Paul Edmonds, as well as a great line-up of yarns by Nelson S. Bond, Amelia Reynolds Long, Henry J. Kostkos, Neil R. Jones, and Duane W. Rimel. For future FUTURE FICTIONS material is on hand from Ross Rocklynne, Leslie F. Stone, Isaac Asimov and others.

After affairs are definitely straightened in the East, Charlie will definitely head for Los Angeles and in the not-too-distant future. He may reside there permanently and edit his mags via long distance.

There is no basis to the rumors that he will edit PLANET STORIES.

Charlie is writing the continuity for four comic strips in two projected all-stf Gernsback comic mags.

science fiction. Binder has emphasized plot, smooth writing and above all character development. "Lords Of Creation" is one of the best stf stories ARGOSY has published in quite a while. (P.5, Col.1)

NEWS FROM OVERSEAS by C. S. Youd.

In the last few days surprising confirmation of previous reports anent British fans and pacificism has been received. R. G. Medhurst, the newly active London fan and Cambridge undergraduate, states that he intends to face the Tribunal as a Conscientious Objector when the time comes, and Leslie Heald says that Ron Holmes (who now does at least 1/2 the work on SFR) has also decided to face said Tribunal. This brings the number of "prominent" British fans known to be pacificist up to ten. It is unlikely that many more than that number could be named who are militarists.

A card has just been received from Bill Temple, announcing his removal (with wife) to Wembley Dec. 29th. Arthur C. C. staying at War Office until called up for service. There's an end of London fandom for the duration!

ROAMING ROUND ROCHESTER, L. Farsaci.

At the last meeting of the Rochester Astronomy Club, Jan. 5th, the first of the year, there was shown the film, "Exploring the Universe" (also shown at the WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION). The current meet, Jan. 8th, 8:15 P.M. also at the Prince St. Campus, had as guest speaker, Dr. Earl C. Slipher of the Lowell Observatory at Flagstaff, Ariz, where the planet Pluto was discovered, who spoke on the planets, particularly Mars, as observed in South Africa in 1939. Your correspondant, L.B.F. is also signed up for a talk at the next meeting, which will be on scientific fantasy, with readings from his own work and his poetry now gathered in a volume called "The Morning Star and Others".

ACE STIF Continued.

The story has an ordinary beginning the main character survives by suspended animation into the future-- then things begin to happen. Instead of a great and advanced civilization only a feudal overlord system regiments the world. The efforts of man (Cont'd p. 6, Col. 2)

SEEING PALMER by W. Lawrence Hamling.

Ray Palmer, editor of AMAZING STORIES, recently rejected a novel by Edgar Rice Burroughs! To quote Ray: "Burroughs is slumping. This latest novel, to put it bluntly, is lousy. I could not accept it." This, incidentally, is not the novel by Burroughs to appear soon in THRILLING ADVENTURES.

Here is the line-up for the April AMAZING:

"Fish Men Of Venus", by David Wright O'Brien; a 12,000 word novelet; "The Black World" (conclusion), by A. R. Steber, a chapter of 15,000 words; "The War Of the Scientists", another 12,000 worder by John Russel Fearn; "The Case Of the Murdered Savants", by Thornton Ayre, 12,000 words; "Revolt Of the Ants", by Milton Kaletsky, a 5,000 word short; and "When the Ice Terror Came", by Jack West, 7,000 wds.

The line-up for the April FANTASTIC ADVENTURES is as follows:

"Blue Tropics, a 9,000 word yarn by James Norman; "The Land Of the Wooden Men, by John Broome, a 12,000 worder; "The Wizard Of Baseball", by Milton Kaletsky, totaling 8,000 words; Norris Tapley's Sixth Sense by Ed Earl Repp, an 8500 word story; "Worlds At War", by Bradner Buckner, an 11,000 word novelet; "The Man the World Forgot", by John York Cabot, a 4100 word short; "The Madness Of Lancelot Biggs", by Nelson S. Bond; and to wind up, "Land Of Ice", by Robert Bloch, a short of 4500 words.

ZIFF-DAVIS gave a Christmas party for their employees, and Ray Palmer was running around the place with a mistletoe ardently conferring upon the weaker sex of the ZIFF-DAVIS organization, such affections as were appropriate. Dave Vern stood off to one side, a glass of (?) in his hand, saying --"Ray's all right--" The girls did not shie away from Ray, either...and there were a lot. Oh, you s-f romeo!

Ray is recruiting a host of Chicago writers. (Note line-up) Ray says Chicago writers are among the best.....

I'll see you soon Till then, I'll be seeing you with Palmer.

QUEENS SFL MEETING CONT'D FROM P.1.
 prominent fans, fans' favorite and most disliked authors, conventions, even complete dope on fan feuds! She claims she is going to use it all, and boy oh boy, gosh oh wow, that article ought to smoke up the pages of the NEW YORKER when and if it appears.

AMATEUR STFILM AGAIN REVIEWED.

Will Sykora and Herb Goudket had brought along with them an itemized expense account of necessities in producing the chapters' own sci-entifilm. The total would run between \$100 and \$130. Goudket emphasized that money was the main object. Material and willing aid could easily be procured. No methods have as yet been worked out for obtaining the necessary cash and that is the next angle. Will Sykora read some old scenarios written for the proposed ISA film, that never actually materialized, and a committee was appointed to reread and choose the best of these for productions. Members were invited to submit their own ideas.

ASTONISHING STORIES REVIEWED.

PLANET STORIES was scheduled for review, but was discarded in favor of ASTONISHING STORIES when it was learned that more members had read the latter. Stories were reviewed by Moskowitz, Tiger, Sykora and others. Best liked were those of Polton Cross and Lee Gregor. Most heartily disliked was "Elephant Planet". Final rating for the entire mag was "poor plus". The general consensus was that tho most of the plots seemed original, they could not overcome the extremely poor literary quality.

RAFFLES TO BECOME REGULAR FEATURE.

Will Sykora, head of the program committee, announced that regular raffles would become a monthly feature of the meetings. The prize were a complete set of "New Fandom" three rare issues of "The International Observer", three rare copies of Science Wonder Stories, and a set of World Convention mags. The winners were Tom Hogue, Bob Studley, Frances Alberti, Hyman Tiger. The women of the Ladies Auxiliary made the drawings. (Cont. next col

QUEENS SFL MEETING Cont'd.

This section of the program again was complete success.

MOVIE PARTY DELAYED.

A movie party planned the Sunday after this meeting to celebrate ASTOUNDING'S tenth anniversary was postponed because no suitable stf-films were on display in N.Y. "The Invisible Man Returns" will probably be the film finally chosen.

For the first time in months the meeting was graced by benevolent weather. It is hoped the next meet will reach new heights. Average attendance now rarely falls below 25, often is above 30. If possible, why not attend this miniature convention. No one ever regretted it.

ACE STF Cont' d.

From the past to bring back freedom and civilization are very absorbing. It is written so well that it appears real and the events are very natural and could easily happen. Even the psychology of the contrasting undermen and overlords is well worked out--the overlord lady with which the man from the past falls in love cannot forget her lordship, even after the hero has conquered the overlords and stormed her city with ancient weapons from New York's future and Europe's ancient Maginot Lines. Don't begin to read this novel unless you have the time to finish at one sitting. It is very human and the action moves swiftly with a background of hope, despair, nobility of character, and the grand finale is all anyone could wish. Binder scores again to justify his serious work as outstanding. The non stf mags have an advantage on the regulars as they can demand smooth writing and character development. In the stf field only ASTOUNDING & UNKNOWN have tended in that direction. Binder's novel should be printed as a book, tho back issues of ARGOSY may still be obtained. No reader of stf should fail to read this outstanding novel of the year in non stf mags.

WHAT AM I OFFERED??? FOR FIRST ISSUE OF WEIRD TALES. Write: JULIUS UNDER, Fantasy Fiction Field, 1349 50th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y.