

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 15

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1940

WHOLE NUMBER 120

TALBOT MUNDY, FAMOUS AUTHOR, DIES!

Talbot Mundy, well-known adventure writer and, on occasions, pseudo-science author, has passed on. Mundy had reached a position of great prominence before his demise, and was recognized as one of America's finest narrators of romantic adventure.

TATNE'S "GREEN FIRE" PRODUCED!

John Taine's great novel of the near destruction of the Earth by atomic disintegration has been adapted and produced as a play. Leo Margulies, Negus of STANDARD'S group of mags, recently picked up a copy of the play in (of all places) a second hand book shop! The play has been produced several times in the better amateur theatrical circles, usually by college groups. It was produced by a school in Pasadena, California.

ODD ITEMS by FN Reporters.

Fanfare, published by Art Widner and the members of the Cambridge, Mass. Stranger Club, will be out next Sunday, Oct 13. (aw)

Thos. S. Gardner, popular fan and author, has had a research article published in the Journal of the American Chemical Society in collaboration with M. L. Wolfrom as part of his work in the Chemistry Lab at Ohio State University. (wss)

John J. Ricci of Brooklyn, N.Y. is starting the Brooklyn Science Fiction League. He has five members, one of whom is a reporter for the New York Herald Tribune. (ao)

Models of prehistoric monsters were on sale at the Alchemist Corner of the Pastorama exhibit at the N.Y. World's Fair. (ao)

A five minute total eclipse of the sun took place on Oct 1, visible in Southern Hemisphere. (ao)

H.L. GOLD & OSCAR J. FRIEND ARE OFFICE EMPLOYEES OF STANDARD PUBLS.

H.L. Gold and Oscar J. Friend who have been doing so many cover yarns for THRILLING WONDER STORIES lately are now revealed to be regular staff employees of STANDARD Publications. A cover, ordered at the last minute, will come in and no story on file will fit it. Either Friend or Gold are then quickly drafted to create a yarn about the cover in double-quick time. The results have been truly remarkable.

Leo Margulies, STANDARD'S genial chief, also revealed that Mort Weisinger does not do the lion's share of the work on the various mags. He claims that about ten fellows in the office share the labor and that the result is what we view in the fantasy books published by STANDARD. Stories must be O.K'd. by at least three readers before acceptance, and none of the novels are accepted without the author first submitting and having accepted an outline by Margulies himself.

TWS will shortly pursue an entirely new policy. The lead novel will be put up in front of the book in standard ten point type instead of the usual eight. The length will be increased from 20,000 to 30,000 words. Novelets will no longer be accepted, and after those on hand are used up, only the long novel and several shorts will see print.

WATER PIRATE MYSTERY SOLVED!

Graph Waldeyer, well known sf fan, has received a check for his yarn "Beings Like These", which will appear in the Jan SUPERSCIENCE under the pseudonym of E.A. Grosser.

FANTASY NEWS is published every week by William S. Sykora.
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 B O O S T S C I E N C E F I C T I O N

EDITORIAL by Will Sykora.

In issue No. 115, we said: "In order to keep on printing FANTASY NEWS it would be necessary to charge 10¢ per copy, 3 issues for 25¢." If we return to mimeoing, as we have, the subscription rates will remain the same as before. We also said that the choice would be left entirely up to our readers. Therefore a postal card for balloting purposes has been sent to every subscriber with the following questions:

1. Will you pay 10¢ per copy, 3 for 25¢, for a printed FANTASY NEWS?
- Or 2. Will you continue to support FANTASY NEWS, even though mimeod, at the usual low subscription rate?

NOTE: All old subs will be continued at the low rate.

Please send in these postals as soon as possible. If you wish to write a letter giving your views and suggestions, do not hesitate to do so, and if of sufficient general interest, it will be published in these columns.

Readers, please so not lose sight of the fact that issues will occasionally be printed. Whenever any very special news breaks, or whenever our advertising income warrants the extra expenditure, an issue of FN will be printed. At the same time we are working on a plan whereby a large magazine section will be added to the paper bi-monthly, which will bring the page content up to as many as ten pages. All this will be done without any increase in the subscription rates.

Please let us have your suggestions. We need news items, reviews, ads, and above all subs.

ACE SCIENCE FICTION No. 2

by Thos. S. Gardner.

Review of "Vandals Of the Sky" by John Murray Reynolds.

A well worn plot, but well written! Mars and Earth are united and peaceful until an invading body brings unpleasant visitors whose sole aim seems to be steal atmospheres and enslave both planets' peoples. Dan Dryden, head of Moon Excursions, Inc., unexpectedly leads the fight against the invaders, and wins with ancient weapons, bombs. All the subtle points of Fantasy are worked in, invisibility, ray guns, villains, and traitors to the planets to make a rousing tale of the future. You'll like his girl friend, Jean, who slings a wicked bomb in the final battle, incidentally. Although not a must yarn, no true lover of Fantasy should miss Reynolds' work. Don't look for anything astounding or great, just an interesting science fiction story that won't let you stop until it is finished.

"Vandals Of the Sky" is featured in the March issue of FIVE NOVELS MONTHLY. The cover is good in spite of the fact it has no direct connection with the story except the central figure. The background shows the artist did not read the yarn.

If one is willing to go to the past, the tale by David Allan Ross, "Viking Vengeance" is excellent as pure adventure. It is interesting to note that the old Viking customs are well portrayed in this story. It is in the same issue as the above.

The mag is well worth your 20¢.

 FANTASY IN ARGOSY

If you like fine fantasy, the current series of shorts by H. Bedford Jones will suit your fancy. The latest is titled, "Ruby Of France". Looking into the heart of this ruby, you will be transported into medieval Provence.

"Saturns On Saturn" by Otis Adelbert Kline and E. Hoffman Price is in its second part. This five part science fiction serial is up to the usual high ARGOSY standard.

These yarns are in the Nov 9 issue.