

NEWS
WHILE
IT'S
HOT!

FANTASY-NEWS

the science fiction weekly newspaper.

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WHOLE NUMBER 124

'COMET' USHERS IN NEW STF ERA

TREMAINE KEEPS PROMISES

F. Orlin Tremaine, a "regular guy" if there ever was one, has kept his promise to give newcomers a chance in COMET, his new magazine and his statement that COMET will soon lead the field has been no idle boast.

The second issue will be dated January, and includes Frank Belknap Long, John Victor Peterson, Frank Edward Arnold, Eando Binder, Harl Vincent, and Stanton A. Coblentz.. Sam Moskowitz, ace reporter for FANTASY NEWS, will have a novelet, "The Way Back" also in this issue. Peterson's yarn will be "The Lightning's Course", a novelet. He also has a short story called "A Lie On the Beam" in the third issue.

COMET No. 3 bids fair to begin a new era in STF. Ross Rocklynne's "The Immortal" stands out like a beacon. It has the spell of "Twilight", the originality of "Strange City", and the potency of "Old Faithful". "The Star Of Dreams" by that peer of the pros, Jack Williamson, runs a close second. The old favorites are flocking to COMET in a surge to make the third issue a real classic.

Thos. S. Gardner has clicked with "A Cosmic Tragedy", a short-short of about 1800 words, to be illustrated by Jimmy Taurasi.

John Giunta will illustrate Peterson's yarn and a short-short. Michel Miranda will have a drawing in the second number.

Ray Van Houten, Secretary of NEW FANDOM has sold his first short to Mr. Tremaine.

Other newcomers are John L. Chapman, Robert W. Lowndes, and H.L. Nichols. Two British fans, Frank Edward Arnold, and Charnock Walshy make their American debut.

STF AUTHOR MISSING!!!

P. B. MAXON, AUTHOR OF "WALTZ OF DEATH", PAGED ON RADIO BROADCAST!

In a sensational presentation at 9:30 P.M. on Saturday, Oct 12, 1940 over station WOR (Mutual Network) on David Elman's new radio program, "Contact", the whereabouts of P.B. Maxon, author of "The Waltz Of Death" was requested of the radio audience. Ed Bodin, literary agent and author of the book, "Scare Me", published by the Orlin Tremaine Publishing Co., made the request. He told the unusual story of an ex-newspaper reporter, unemployed, who had sent him a mystery yarn which, he thought, though not particularly exceptional, might nevertheless thrill many readers. Mr. Bodin explained that this mystery story was one of the finest he had ever read, and that he had submitted it to a contest being held by LIBERTY Magazine at the time. It won an honorable mention. On the strength of this, it was sold to WONDER STORIES. It was published in three parts in the May, Jun, and Jul 1935 issues.

A check in full payment was mailed to the author to each of three addresses at which he was known to have lived, and at each address the letter containing the check was returned unclaimed.

Ed Bodin is extremely anxious to contact Mr. Maxon. The agent has just arranged the sale of book rights to the novel, and honestly believes that it will be a best-seller.

If any reader knows (Page 2)

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.

NOTICE TO FAN MAG EDITORS!

Since the publication of the very first science fiction fan magazine, the Science Correspondence Club Organ-The Comet, in May 1930, to this day, there has been a long felt need for cooperation of some sort between the various science-fiction fan mags and the fan field. An association of some kind composed of the editors of the stf subscription fan mags is greatly to be desired. Cooperative advertising, a clearing house of acceptable material, some sort of standard to live up to in our publications, all of these and more could be set up by an organization whose membership would be open only to the editors and publishers of stf fan mags that are sold on a subscription basis.

FANTASY NEWS welcomes editorial comment on this suggestion. Editors of fan mags, let us know your reactions to this idea in your own editorial columns. At the same time, the columns of FN stand open to any interested fan mag editor who wishes to air his views here.

It is high time that we fans who publish fan mags got together on some sort of business basis, not to make a profit, but to investigate our field with a view to improving our publications and making some effort to discover if our magazines can ever be placed on some sort of pay as you go policy, so that instead of a haphazard distribution, we will see the products of our fascinating hobby go into really interested hands.

ACE SCIENCE FICTION No. 2.

by Thos. S. Gardner.

Review of "Minions Of Mars" by William Gray Beyer.

Readers of ARGOSY will remember Beyer's, "Minions Of the Moon" with Mark Nevin, a relic of the "dim past", our era, having been made immortal by the wacky Omega, the last living representative of the Moon Peoples, and also his lovely companion, Nona, who shares his immortality. The first story, "Minions Of the Moon" is quite good fantasy; but the second is more of an adventure story.

Mark loses his memory temporarily during a storm at sea by being struck over the head. He falls overboard and sims to England; not the England of today, but a strangely changed England of the Future that has a feudal set-up with all the trimmings. Injustice runs riot in the land, and Mark finds himself in a nice revolution in trying to bring good government and justice to the people. Omega, as usual, has his screwy personality spread throughout the yarn.

As a good adventure story, "Minions Of Mars" is swell, as fantasy, well, -allusions to fantasy are about all. However, anyone who has had the privilege of reading the first story will welcome the second and hope for a third. The yarn started in the Jan 13, 1940 ARGOSY.

NO PHILLY CONFERENCE THIS YEAR

Persistent and insistent rumors emanating from Philadelphia have it that due to internal dissension and the absence of the guiding hand of Milton A. Rothman, the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society will not hold its annual conference this year. It is to be hoped that these rumors are false, and that anxiously awaited word from the Philly fans will soon be to hand.

MAXON MISSING! Cont'd: the present whereabouts of Mr. Maxon, please write to "Contact", c/o Sta. WOR, New York, N.Y. and kindly say you saw this in FANTASY NEWS.

MORE MOS. OF FN THAN ANY OTHER FAN MAG!