

ASTOUNDING IN SLICK FORMAT (?)

—N. Y. Times

REVIVAL OF UNKNOWN 'UNLIKELY'

According to a report in the New York Times, Astounding Science Fiction, the only Street and Smith pulp that did not fold recently, may be changed to a large size slick.

Neither the New York nor the New Jersey offices of S & S would confirm this report, however.

Henry W. Ralston, Vice President and Secretary and Catherine Tarrant, secretary to Editor John W. Campbell Jr. said that the magazine will remain "as is," and that no change is contemplated at present. It was impossible to reach Mr. Campbell who is away on a business trip.

Mr. Ralston also stated that the Unknown Worlds anthology "did not do well" and that the revival of Unknown Worlds is "very unlikely." Circulation figures for the one-shot reprint were unobtainable, although the New Jersey office reported "distribution difficulties."

GARDNER LENGTHENS LIFE OF FRUIT FLIES

Thomas S. Gardner Ph.D., foremost gerontologist, has succeeded in increasing the life span of fruit flies by more than 45%.

This has been accomplished by his discovery that pantothenic acid is the active agent in the royal jelly of the honeybee that enables the queen to live six times as long as the workers. By combining this agent with other factors of the vitamin B complex, Dr. Gardner has made fruit flies live nearly half again as long as they normally would.

If this formula would do the same for humanity, a man who would normally expect to live to the age of 70, would actually die at the age of 102, and get a 32 year extra lease on life.

World Convention News

At least one new precedent will be set by the Convention Committee at the Seventh World Science Fiction Convention to be held in Cincinnati this year on the Labor Day Week End.

Two auctions are to be held, one of items donated by the pro mags and book publishers, and the other for fans who may wish to finance part of their convention expenses by sale of privately owned materials. 20% of receipts from the latter will go to the convention committee as a commission to help defray convention costs.

FANTASY ARTISANS PLAN CONSTITUTION

Franklin M. Dietz Jr. of Long Island, President of the Fantasy Artisans Club, a group of fan mag illustrators, is currently one of a committee who plan to frame a constitution and set of by-laws for the organization. Faced with the problem of writing such a document for essentially a correspondence club, Mr. Dietz has appealed for suggestions. Fans who want to help may address Mr. Dietz in care of this newspaper.

Easter Greetings to all our friends and readers from The Staff of Fantasy News.

QUEENS SFL SOCIAL TAKES PLACE TODAY

A boldly lettered sign stating "The Poor Fan's Hickory Grill—No Snobs Allowed" will greet the members and friends of the Queens Science Fiction League at their first social get-together since before World War II.

The shindig will take place today at the club room in Long Island City immediately after a short business session.

Hot dogs, (frankfurters, to you, dear reader), rolls, soda, cake and coffee will be the staples served up by the Ladies' Auxiliary headed by Marion Popper, Evelyn Harrison, Rick-

EWEN WHYTE CLICKS WITH FIRST YARN IN JULY WEIRD TALES, TITLE: "THE MASHER"

VINCENT NAPOLI SCORES WITH SIX INTERIORS

Ewen Whyte, whose first yarn in Weird Tales will be a novelet in the July issue titled "The Masher," will make his debut in a line-up which includes such

Awards Committee Meets Next Week

The Fantasy Awards Committee, Raymond J. Van Houten, Correspondent, will convene its organizational meeting Sunday, April 24, at 1:00 P.M., at the Alexander Hamilton Hotel, Market and Church Streets, Paterson, N. J. Delegates are expected to arrive at 11:00 A. M. to view the material Mr. Van Houten has assembled.

The Committee Correspondent will deliver the opening address. Addresses by the delegates will follow.

The delegates will then undertake to set up machinery for conducting the affairs of the Committee. The agenda will be decided upon and will include such items as the physical make-up of the Committee, methods of financing, method of election and tenure of office of committeemen, and determination of the method of making the awards.

A selection committee will then be elected to choose a certain number of stories to be
(Continued on page two)

masters of the macabre as Fredric Brown, Stanton A. Coblenz, Fritz Leiber Jr., Robert Bloch, and Seabury Quinn. The issue will hit the stands on May Day with a cover by Matt Fox.

Brown will have a long novelet called "Come and Go Mad," about the uncertainty of separating the sane from the insane. Coblenz's yarn will be a short titled "The Ubiquitous Professor Karr," a weird crime story. Leiber's contribution will be an stf piece titled "In the X-Ray." Bloch's item has a slick twist about graveyard flowers and why they are put there titled "Floral Tribute." Quinn's ms. is a weird horror legend of the Florida Bayous, "Dark O' the Moon."

H. Russell Wakefield will be represented with a yarn reminiscent of the Lovecraft ocean mythos titled "From the Vasty Deep." Another stf-like short will be Stephen Grendon's "The Blue Spectacles."

The blurb for the Russell Branch gem, "How Strange My Love," says: "If two people represent the opposite poles of emotional intensity, what happens, pray tell, in the middle."

Harold Lawlor's bit of theology will be called "The Previous Incarnation."

Vincent Napoli, illustrator, has clicked in a big way with six interiors for the Whyte, Wakefield, Branch, Leiber, Lawlor, and Quinn stories. Lamont Buchanan, Associate Editor, says that Napoli's drawings were so good that he simply could not turn them down, although it is WT policy not to feature one artist more than another.

Dolgov illustrates Brown's long tale as well as Grendon's short. Fox will decorate Coblenz's yarn, and Johnny Giunta clicks again with a drawing for Bloch's funeral piece.

ey Slavin, and Frances Sykora. "It may not be fancy," say the girls, "but there will be plenty."

For those with more fastidious stomachs, arrangements will be made to provide a more substantial meal, (at a price, of course.)

The affair will have its serious aspect, too, in that it will be an attempt to revive the old custom of holding a "meeting-after-the-meeting," which used to take place back in '34 at the local soda spa after Branch meetings of the International Cosmos Science Club.

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Boost Science Fiction

EDITORIAL

By Frances Alberti

We would like to make it very clear that the purpose of this newspaper is to advance science fiction.

In our opinion, science fiction advances when the number of pro mags and their circulations increase, when the number of fans in organized fandom increases and they become more active, when the word rate, payment for illustrations, and editors' salaries increase, when more books are sold by the semi-pro publishers, and, in general, when a concerted effort is made by fans and pros to involve large sections of readers and the public in the discussion and reading of science fiction.

Boosting science fiction, not ego-boo, was our aim in 1938. In 1949 it is still the same.

Van Houten to Print New 'Fantasy Times' Flag

Raymond Van Houten has made arrangements to print the cut of a new flag (title head) for Fantasy Times. The cut, made while Ray and James V. Taurasi were issuing the mag in France, will be printed on mimeograph paper which will be used for covers for the fan mag.

BRITISH LORDS SCORE ANTI-VIVISECTION

In 1947 the British House of Lords, in its capacity as the supreme court of England, denied anti-vivisection societies there a tax-exempt status and held that they were "detrimental to the public interests."

VOICE OF FANDOM

The following letter was received from Fred Baker, formerly of Boykins, Va. and now at Hollywood in Florida, erstwhile editor of "The Iconoclast."

Dear Will,

A lot of water has gone over the dam since I wrote to you many moons ago. Many stf mag issues have come and gone, many a fan has died or disappeared, and many a viewpoint has changed with the times, especially my own.

Seems to me I hazily remember a discussion with you back in Baltimore which brought out the fact that you were a dyed in the wool stf fan, not really a fantasy fan like most and I admired you for it in my youthful fashion. Seems like now I am one of the degenerates myself, that is a fantasy fan, or as of late, more accurately a reader. I can't get enthused any more.

Astounding seems to have gone into the stratosphere of technical development, and Amazing the other way with no good mags in between, although I see SSS is back. I don't suppose this is any great tragedy though as there already is more good stf and fantasy written than I'll ever be able to read.

The book field has improved wonderfully in everything except price. Now that they publish it, I neither have time nor money. I guess I'll stick to Weird Tales and the Avon Fantasy Reader.

Since I saw you last, I went to an Army College, did a stretch of occupation duty in Korea with the RA, acquired a wife, (not in Korea), got out, landed a job with local PO as a part time postman and entered University of Miami to major in business management.

My last contact with fandom was in basic when I saw Harry Jenkins. You are the first guy I've honored with a missive with the exception of Raymond Washington since I got out. (Say, where the hell is he, he never answered).

Anyway, here's a buck for a sub to FN and how's about dropping me a line, huh? You can't be much busier than I am, theenk?? —Always, Fred.

Science Service Privilege Card in Second Quanta From Washington S. F. A.

The second issue of Quanta official organ of the Washington (D.C.) Science Fiction Association, includes a circular and privilege card entitling readers to a cut rate subscription to Science News Letter by enrolling them as Science Service Associates.

Associates receive the SNL at a saving and are placed on the roster as being interested in the dissemination of accurate scientific knowledge. They also are given priority in receiving experimental kits and other material issued in limited quantity.

Quanta No. 2 is a 24 page neatly mimeod fan mag with blue printed covers.

Featured on the cover is an artist's conception of General Electric's atom-smashing synchro-cyclotron.

Miles Davis is Quanta's Editor, assisted by Richard Eney, Ralph Moritz, and Franklin Kerkhof. Robert Briggs is in charge of art.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

(Continued from page one) published in book form under some such title as "Prize Fantasy Stories for 19—."

The main idea of the Awards Committee is that all of organized fandom and all the professional publishers will jointly choose an annual anthology of truly "best" stories.

Delegates so far are Jay Klein and Will Sykora for the Queens SFL, Bob Rosen for this newspaper, Sam Moskowitz for ESFA, Alex Osheroff and Allan Howard for the New Orleans group, and Jimmy Taurasi for Popular Publications.

Melvin J. Schmidt
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 Mount Vernon, Ind.

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'Wizard of Oz' Revived

Old friends return to the Mayfair theatre, New York, where "The Wizard of Oz" will be the Easter holiday feature. Starring in the Technicolor fantasy are Judy Garland, Jack Haley, and Ray Bolger.

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