

More

S A N D S
O F T I M E

The footprints herewith are engraved for posterity by Ted Carnell. Your only chance of hitting the target is to shoot a line to; 17 Burwash Road S.E.18.

No 3

March 1942

HIT PARADE
OF 1941

RATINGS FOR THE best 10 yarns in ASF for 1941 are beginning to appear in "Brass Tacks" with the February issue. We think its a smart idea to try out a little gallup and have a pohl of our own -- that is, with your co-operation, Edward Elmer. So we'd like you to send us your favourite ten yarns in ASF 1941 (to the above address and not to Leeds), on a postal will do if you're that rushed. American fans and British hibernators please ignore.

For the fans who have only been able to obtain the reprint issues, please send in your votes, and mark the top "Reprint." That, at least, will give us something to go by that will be a little different from other polls. Votes should be in by April 20th for inclusion in the May SANDS. In the April issue we will give our best ten, having had a short leave to look up the filing system.

ONE OF THE BEST stf Quiz ed us in the May 1941 issue

PSEUDONYMS

Contests has just reached us in the May 1941 issue of FAN-ATIC, a New Jersey pub opened by Charles Beling. From the Question and Answer columns the following pseudonyms are revealed, which we re-publish for your further confusion.

- Chan Corbett = Schachner.
- Gordon A. Giles = Eando Binder.
- A. R. Steber = Ray Palmer.
- Yvonne Eclair = Harry Bates.
- Bradner Buckner = Ed Earl Repp.
- Tom Erwin Regis = Mort Weisinger.
- Polton Cross = Thornton Ayre.
- Anthony Gilmore = Desmond Hall & Harry Bates (as if you din' know).
- Calvin Peregoy = Thomas McClary.
- Derwin Lesser = Charles Hornig.
- Clyde Crane Campbell = H. L. Gold.
- John Jessel = Stanley Weinbaum.
- Norman Bean = Edgar Rice Burroughs.
- S. D. Gottesman = Cyril Kornbluth.
- Kelvin Kent = Henry Kuttner.
- Paul Edmonds = Henry Kuttner.
- Amy Worth = Dr. David H. Keller.
- David V. Reed = Dave Vern.
- Ray King = Ray Cummings.
- John Bristol = Jack Speer.

So now you know. In our next issue we will include another list of names that we know are also pseudonyms (from our cathedral-like archives). At long last the news has been released in USA, so we might as well tell you that both Anson MacDonald and Lyle Munroe are pseudonyms of Robert Heinlein.

THE GARGLE of the Sphinx

DEAR BILL!

comes to us in a cryptic message from Will Temple, scribbled, incidentally, on the bottom of a letter to somebody else, and chivvied round the country until it reached Devonshire. He squibbed: "Why don't you marry 'Bob' Heinlein?" Which was truly a beautiful thought, children. It didn't exactly surprise us, though -- this seeming sarcasm from the Great Drain. We rather expected many more such lullabies - after all, we have rather used the floods on Bob lately, and we intended fading out such remarks as from the last issue. But, William, you prompt us to render one more little crack. . .

SANDS OF TIME

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. . . ASF reader Vincent Scullin, writing in the Feb "Brass Tacks" lists his 10 best 1941 yarns. 1. "Methuselah's Children." - Heinlein 2. "The Microcosmic God" - Sturgeon. 3. "The Stolen Dormouse," - de Camp. 4. "Nightfall" - Asimov. 5. "Sixth Column" - MacDonald. 6. "Logic Of Empire," - Heinlein. 7. "Universe," - Heinlein. 8. "Jurisdiction," - Schachner. 9. "Solution Unsatisfactory," - MacDonald. 10. "Common Sense," - Heinlein. !!!!!!

H'm -- are we in the wrong then? If Heinlein can walk off with six out of the best ten yarns in a reader's opinion, maybe we are a better judge than Will thinks -- considering that he doesn't read ASF now!

JUST AS WE HAD finished ourselves on that masterpiece sheet, slap comes the usual bubble-burster from Doug Webster presuming that we had derived the title from the story. Much correspondence flowed until it dawned on us that he referred to P. S. Miller's "Sands of Time," which we had entirely forgotten, mainly because the yarn wasn't even average. No, MacWebster, the title came from S&S -- maybe we were too subtle.

DEFLATE HERE

congratulating our - of a title for this

We should also like to inform our readers that Doug is the only Scotsman we have yet met that lives up to the lie that Scots are tight-fisted. We swop an envelope with him which has been re-scaled with labels so many times that it costs $3\frac{1}{2}d$ to mail -- or rather, it did! We stripped it down to the base recently (without finding any of the original envelope at all).

THE SANDS OF TIME trickle bring us once again to that might or blight of "Doc" Smith. As "Second Stage Lensmen" comes to a smashing galactic close, we lean back in the Captain's favourite chair, and await with pleasure the vitriol and roses that will pour forth.

SKYLARKS

down the hour-glass and old familiar topic of the

2E Smith has our personal admiration for the mightiness of his stories, even if we fail to allow him top marks for his efforts. At least he does present a standard of writing and plot formation which is always high -- the rest of the criticism is entirely the readers' viewpoint, according to whether their brains grasp any of the magnitude Smith works in. Obviously one has to get outside the smallness of Earthly measures and think BIG! We have yet to read his latest effort, which will be taken at one gulp on that next leave, and we hope to give our opinion in the next SANDS. In the meantime, here are a few cracks from the Feb "Brass Tacks," written by a Sam Salent of Brooklyn, New York. . .

"How can you dare to print the drivel that is the work of Dr. Smith in a top-flight magazine such as yours? Not that his writing is so bad -- personally I think it is surpassed only by Heinlein -- but his plots -- or should I say plot -- can surpass only that of the opera. . . some authors at least vary their formulas a little, but Smith does not even do that. . . Smith, to me, represents the last of a valiant but doomed race -- the writers of the Buck Rogers-Flash Gordon school." What do you think about it and him?

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