

Science-Fiction Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Vol. 13 - No. 288 - 17th Year Of Publication

FIRST FEBRUARY 1958 ISSUE

STILL ONLY TEN CENTS

AN ERA ENDS

'SCIENCE FICTION
QUARTERLY' FOLDS'AMAZING' & 'FANTASTIC'
CHANGE NAMES

Tragedy Of 1958

by Forrest J Ackerman

Los Angeles, 6 February, (CNS) - We saw it happen but we couldn't believe it. None of us wanted to believe it. None of us so close ever quite will.



Henry Kuttner

Twenty-four hours after the incredible funeral of Henry Kuttner the feeling persists with me that this is one of the s-f catastrophes of all time, the greatest tragedy in the field since the too young death of Stanley Weinbaum. Kuttner was in his early 40s.

We here on the West Coast are probably most effected by personal involvement, altho we know he had lived at times past in the East, and is known and respected all over the world. We are blurred by his sudden death. As I drove Ray Bradbury to the funeral, Ray's admiration, grief and gratitude for Henry Kuttner overflowed. Kuttner was immensely generous, he said, in helping him when he was a beginning writer. On the phone, it was the same with Leigh Brackett: she expressed her early great in-

(concluded on page 3, column 3)

WEIRD & HORROR INVADE "FANTASTIC"

New York, 12 February, (CNS) - Historic changes are taking place at Ziff-Davis. After 32 years of using the name Amazing Stories, Amazing will change its name. With the current, March issue, you'll note that it bears the name "Amazing" on the spine; "Amazing Science Fiction" on the cover and "Amazing Stories" on the contents page. Next issue will bear the name "Amazing Science Fiction", and the May issue will bear the final new name, "AMAZING SCIENCE FICTION STORIES". This last one will be the mag's new title.

Why all these changes? It was decided first to change it to plain "Amazing", but at the last minute, it was decided to call it "Amazing Science Fiction". BUT -- the new TV Program based on the stories from Amazing will use the name "Amazing Stories" -- so the final change was brought about and it'll be "AMAZING SCIENCE FICTION STORIES".

Fantastic will also have a change of title -- plus a change of type of contents. The current issue is called plain "Fantastic", but with the June issue it'll be "FANTASTIC FACT & FICTION". The new type of contents will be that the mag will now publish mostly fantasy stories. It'll also publish some science-fiction, light fantasy, heavy weird and horror

(concluded on page 4, column 1)

New York, 10 February, (CNS) - Today an important era in the science-fiction field came to an end, when Robert W. Lowndes announced that Science-Fiction Quarterly had folded with its current February 1958 (Vol. 5 - No. 4) issue. The pulp-size era in science-fiction began with the January 1930, No. 1, of Astounding Stories of Super Science. Before that all s-f mags had been large size (approx. 8½" x 11"). It was also Astounding that started the digest-size during the last war. While there may be some pulp-size mags of s-f in the future, the era is over. The digest-size is now the only size, but far from the final size. A new size will take its place in the future, as many editors and publishers are now stating that they can not get proper display with the digest-size. This was also the reason why many editors gave up the pulp size in the past and why Science Fiction Quarterly folded. What will the new size be in the future no one can now tell, but it may be the old large size. The pulp era brought out some of the finest in magazine s-f, and many consider it the "golden-age" of s-f.

Science Fiction Quarterly started its post-war life with the May 1951 (vol. 1 - No. 1) issue. Then it contained 132 pages and sold for 25¢. It ended with still 132 pages, but 35¢. I had cut pages in the past to retain the 25¢ price and was the last 25¢ s-f mag on the market before it upped its price. I never missed or skipped an issue in its seven years of life, and was one of the few s-f mags to bear the word "Quarterly" as part of its title.

Columbia is left with two

(concluded on page 4, column 1)

INTERNATIONAL SECTION

THE GERMAN CON

by Julian Parr

The First German Science Fiction Convention was held September 14 - 16, 1957 in the Trades Union Hall of Bad Homburg, a health resort near Frankfurt. Over 200 persons attended: - 184 of the 730 paid-up members of the Science-Fiction Club Deutschlands (including strong delegations from Berlin, Austria and Switzerland); and a number of guests - wives and parents of members, and representatives of three German publishing firms: Pabel, Weiss and Bevin. Foreign guests of honor included Forrest J Ackerman (SFCF Hon. President, holding membership card No. 8), together with two US femme-fans Mary & Valerie; Frederick Trophat & George Nims Raybin (officers of the World S-F Society); Sylvia K. Margulies of Satellite Science Fiction (who had an opportunity for discussions with Pabel & Weiss); Erwin Scudla (President of the Utopia Club Austria); and Greg & Jim Benford (editors of the fan mag Void).

The main item on the programme was the annual general meeting of the SFCF, which had just entered its third year of existence. For the first time members were to be given the opportunity of electing officers (for the next three-year period), and a riotous battle was expected. A few weeks before the Con the long standing disagreement between Chairman Walter Ernsting and Vice-Chairman Hein Bingenheimer had suddenly entered a critical stage when Ernsting used the Club organ, ANDROMeda, to accuse Bingenheimer of disloyalty, alleging that HB had been surreptitiously supporting Ad Astra, formerly the organ of the abortive SFCF Council of Chapters (which only four of the Club's fifteen Chapters had ever joined) and now mouthpiece of a small but vociferous opposition group of SFCF members. This group (nominally led by starry-eyed young intellectual Wolfgang Jeschke but in fact dominated by an arrogant teenage demagogue Peter Noga) condemned Ernsting as a Pabel stooge and called for a "neutral" Club. However, only 13 members signed the "Manifesto" they issued shortly before the Con, calling for an independent "Working Party For Real SF", while numerous Chapters and individual members, tired of their carping and disgusted by Noga's insolence, had submitted motions to expel the ringleaders. In Andro #12 Ernsting asked for a vote of confidence in his policy of collaboration with Pabel (& thus obtaining

publicity and recruits thru the Utopia mags, reduced Utopia subs for members, etc.). The voting slip bore merely the two names Ernsting and Bingenheimer; of more than 400 members who voted, about 95% had supported Ernsting.

The old executive met on the evening before the general meeting and at the cost of much heated argument persuaded the antagonists to agree on a compromise: Ernsting was to become a figure-head President, relinquishing editorship of Andro to a new Secretary-Treasurer Wolf Detlef Rohr, author-fan; Bingenheimer was to resign from the executive & devote himself entirely to his SFCF Book Service. The two signed retractions which they read at the general meeting on Sunday, and then sealed the rapprochement by shaking hands. The relieved members applauded wildly, then approved the suggested reorganization (with the exception of Walt Spiegl, who was replaced by author-fan Karl H. Scheer as advisor). Forry Ackerman was re-elected (unopposed) as Hon. President; your correspondent as Foreign Correspondent. The opposition group's proposal for a "Working Party" was adopted on condition that up-and-coming and very progressive author-fan Baron Jesco van Puttkamer (and not Peter Noga) should join Wolfgang Jeschke on the editorial board of Ad Astra, which was thus recognized as an SFCF organ to be distributed by the Club. The motions to expel Noga were postponed to give him a chance to declare his willingness to co-operate with the newly-elected executive. The audit committee's report on Club finances was accepted, and the SFCF sub was fixed at DM 9 (\$2.15 in the US or 15/3d in England), per year.

The three-day programme included a report on the World Con by Rainer Eisfeld (leader of the Bonn Chapter); talks on Development of the SFCF (Ernsting), "SF Publishing" (a Pabel manager), "SF Writing" (Puttkamer), History of Astronomy (Heide), and "The 4th-Dimensional Space-Time Continuum" (Fritz). A High-Spot was Ackerman's presentation of the "Hugo" prizes for the best German SF in 1955 & 1956, both to "Clark Darlton" (Ernsting). There was a long informal discussion period and an auction of film stills, books, cover paintings and a collection of fan mags donated by the Benford twins, who were about to leave for the States. Each morning a film was shown: "Conquest Of Space", "War Of The Worlds" & "Shock" (Quartermass Experiment). On Monday afternoon there was a Bus tour to the nearby Saalburg, a restored Roman Fort & Museum. The whole of the Con programme was free to members; costs ran up to about DM 900 (\$215.00 or 76 Pounds), met by the auction proceeds (about DM 400), a Pabel donation (DM 200), the rest

coming from Club funds. The Hall was decorated by displays of pictures, models, etc., prepared by the Frankfurt Chapter; Ernst Richter presented a magnificent 7-foot model photon rocket; and the Berlin Chapter made the mark by having a real live robot wandering around selling their own fan mag, "Terra".

No doubt the proceedings sound rather dry and sercon to fannish readers, but, considering the circumstances - the serious split and the first SFCF election - I think this could not be avoided. As a first effort the event deserves praise (it was organized by Bingenheimer); it was certainly a valuable step towards creating a real fandom in Germany. And since the present executive is in office for three years, the next two Cons should prove more peaceful occasions.

1957 IN SCIENCE FICTION

by Thomas S. Gardner

In Four Parts - PART TWO

● IF, six issues. A very good year for this magazine. The covers and make-up are good, and the stories are usually good. Clarke's "Ultimate Melody" is in the old theme of a gadget type story that is quite good. Silverberg's "Hidden Talent" is well done. In fact among the three recent contenders for the newer authors, Silverberg, Ellison, and Garrett, I believe that Silverberg is leading the field. Biggle's "The Tunesmith" is quite interesting from the sociological standpoint. Phillips' "Captain Peabody" comes up with a good answer in answering pecking order -- under unusual conditions! The question does one always have to determine pecking order even if the one on top is boss? Theoretically? Fisher's "The Birds and the Bees" is a scream. A bitter, bitter story, in some ways is Phillips, "Game Preserve". Glad to see Phillips return to science-fiction.

● THE FIRST WORLD OF IF, 1 issue. Excellent selections from the past years of If.

● FANTASTIC SCIENCE FICTION, 12 issues. I am sorry to say that very few stories are worth reading. Costello's "The Breeder" is a grim story, and a cut above the usual in Fantastic. Unfortunately the stories in this magazine have only the slightest passing interest to a reader.

● AMAZING STORIES, 12 issues. Slightly better stories than Fantastic, but still of a low order. The cartoons in Amazing and Fantastic are excellent, and that may pay you to buy them! Piper's "The Edge of the Knife" was sup-

pose to be a controversial story -- and fell flat! The editor mentioned that two other editors rejected it as being too hot to handle -- they were just being smart! The October flying saucer issue was a distinct flop -- heard anywhere one wanted to listen. The question in my mind is, can anything improve these two magazines?

● **DREAM WORLD**, 3 issues. This magazine had the perfect title -- and I have assumed would have sold on that basis alone. I think that the stories are trite, and that may have injured sales. Anyway the last issue is dated August 1957.

● **AMAZING STORIES SCIENCE FICTION NOVEL**, one issue. "20 Million Miles to Earth". This novel seems to be Jerry-written, the hurried job is too apparent. No matter if it had been made into a motion picture, does a magazine have no more credibility rating than the movies?

● **SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURES**, seven issues. Good to fair adventure stories, no pretense at being great, but most can be read at a rapid rate with pleasure. Galouye's "Gulliver Planet" is adventure contrasting microcosm with macrocosm, the later being man. Improbable, but has points of good plotting. A peculiar story is Silverberg's "Spawn of the Deadly Sea" -- not credible in some ways, and full of thud and blunder in other ways. Jergenson's "This World Must Die!" raises an ethical problem that may well become real some day -- of course the final answer is that any world that arbitrarily destroys another world will, and must eventually, be destroyed in toto by the other worlds inhabited by intelligent beings of any kind. Does Silverberg pick his own titles? If so he has a good knack that is not always found among writers. Jorgenson (House name I have been told by several who say they are in the know) has a story "Thunder Over Starhaven" which is in the tradition of the old Planet Stories.

● **SATELLITE SCIENCE FICTION**, six ISSUES. Not a bad magazine at all. The stories are well balanced, and most of the long novels quite interesting to read. The special articles by Moskowitz (two) have been very good, and should be continued. Christopher's "Year Of The Comet" was quite a story in many ways, but was weak in picturing ultimates that may not develop such as complete decadence; & inspired, noble people in another land! Such contrasts are usually special grades of fertilizer. I was disappointed in Vance's "The Languages Of Pao." I moved too slowly. Perhaps I was disappointed as I know Vance can do better. (continued next issue)

SIXTEENTH WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

SOLACON

RICHARD MATHESON
To Be Guest Of Honor

by Len Moffatt

South Gate, 8 February, (CNS) - Richard Matheson ("Born Of Man And Woman", "Shrinking Man", "I Am Legend", etc.) has accepted our invitation to be Guest Of Honor at the Solacon!

He has just finished "I Am Legend" -- to be filmed soon. He lives here in Los Angeles and we are proud and happy to be able to present one of our West Coast sci-fi and fantasy writers as our Guest Of Honor.

We are, of course, expecting a number of writers and editors

from all over the country (and from overseas, we hope!) And will work as many as possible (and as are willing) into the program. As soon as we have any definite commitments from any of these we'll let you know.

Naturally, at this early date, our program schedule is not entirely "Jelled". There will be the "standard" or traditional items like the banquet (with menus within everyone's price range), the Masquerade Ball, The Auction and we hope to have a couple of innovations to entertain the visiting fans and pros.

Will send you more details as soon as available.



SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES BOOK REVIEWS

by Gerry de la Ree

CHILDREN OF THE ATOM, by Wilmar H. Shiras. Avon Publications, Inc., 1958. 192 pp., 35¢.

Avon is to be congratulated for placing before a vast reading audience a science-fiction novel with the universal appeal of Mrs. Shiras' Children of the Atom. This is a reprint of the 1953 Gnome Press hard-cover edition, which was based on material originally presented in Astounding Science Fiction in 1948, 1949, and 1950.

It seems hard to believe that it has been 10 years since "In Hiding", the first segment of this novel, appeared in ASF. It is a testimony to the story, however, that we recall it vividly even today.

Suffice to say, Children of the Atom is best of the mutant children theme stories produced in the science-fiction field. It is a fine reading experience that can be appreciated by those who consider themselves fantasy fan as well as by those who normally turn up their noses at the mere mention of science-fiction.

NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS ON PAGE 4

SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES' BOO-BOOS

First Jan. '58 issue should have read: Vol. 13 - No. 286. Second Jan. '58 issue should have read: Vol. 13 - No. 287. Some issues back we referred to Saturn as Satan in Prieto's "S-F Record". We are deeply sorry! -eds

TRAGEDY OF 1958

(concluded from page 1, column 1)

debtedness to Henry Kuttner.

Less than 48 hours after his wife, Catherine Moore Kuttner, found him dead in bed of an unpredictable heart attack, Kuttner's final services were held. Present at the last rites were Arthur K. Barnes, his one-time collaborator; Edmond Hamilton and wife, Leigh Brackett; Richard Matheson, AE van Vogt, Charles Beaumont, William Campbell Gault, E. Everett Evans, Larry Maddock, Stuart Palmer, Evelyn Paige, William Nolan, G. Gordon Dewey, Russ Hodgkins, Jim Moonsey, Fred Shroyer, Ray Bradbury, myself and sorrowing friends outside the circle of writers. Everywhere the reaction was the same; how incredible, how unfortunate.

Henry Kuttner was a modest man who shunned publicity. He would not let me honor him, as I felt I should, in the "Masters Of Fantasy" feature I conducted many years ago in Famous Fantastic Mysteries. He (and his bereaved wife), with characteristic reserve, recently turned down the invitation to be Guest Of Honor at this year's coming World Science Fiction Convention. There are pages of praise that I personally feel are due Henry Kuttner, but in deference to his personality and the wishes of his wife at this time I will simply close by saying:

Thank you, Henry Kuttner, as a fan, for the years of wonderful reading pleasure you gave me, and will continue to give me; as a man, I will miss you the rest of my life; and to you, dear gentle devoted and unique Catherine: everything that can comfort. *photo courtesy of Sam Moskowitz.

"S-F QUARTERLY" FOLDS

(concluded from page 1, column 3)

S-F mag., the recently gone monthly Science-Fiction Stories and the bi-monthly Future Science Fiction. Columbia published a pre-war s-f magazine titled Science-Fiction Quarterly, numbered 1 thru 10, but it has no connection with the one just folded.

"AMAZING" & "FANTASTIC"

(concluded from page 1, column 2)

stories. While a good part of the magazine will contain fiction, there will also be fact articles in the mag. Some of these articles will be fact horror articles.

Department-wise there will be some changes in the two mags. Both will continue a "Readers' Column", but Amazing will drop all other columns with possible the "Book Review" column. "The Space Club" column will go to Fantastic with possible changes. Amazing dropped the fan-mag review column quite a while back.

SCIENCE FICTION FORECASTS

Coming Up Next In The Pros

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION, May 1958: THE PRIZE OR PERIL by

Robert Shekley, THINGS by Theodore R. Cogswell, GORILLA SUIT by John Shepley, UP THE CLOSE AND DOWN THE STAIR by Avren Davidson, A MATTER OF TECHNIQUE by Fordon R. Dickson, THE DUEL by John Vateek, THE SCIENCE STAGE (a dept.) by William Morrison, OVER THE RIVER TO WHAT'S-HER-NAME'S HOUSE by Will Stanton, HAVE YOUR HATREDS READY by Brian W. Aldiss, ...AND CURIOUSER by Ron Goulart, RECOMMENDED READING (a dept.) by Anthony Boucher, RUMP-TITTY-TITTY-TUM-TAH-TEE by Fritz Leiber, IN MEMORIAM: HENRY KUTTNER (verse) by Karen Anderson. Cover painting by Emsh, illustrating "The Prize of Peril".

AT PRESS TIME

College Point, 22 February, (CNS)

Starting 1 June 1958, the price of a PERMANENT SUBSCRIPTION to Science-Fiction Times will be \$15.00 instead of \$10.00.

Ziff-Davis Publications has moved their complete editorial office to 1 Park Ave., New York 16 New York.

Today the LAST available copy of THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK was mailed out! NO MORE COPIES ARE AVAILABLE--DO NOT ORDER! 1958 EDITION READY AROUND JULY!

S-F TIMES CLASSIFIED ADS

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FANTASTIC NOVELS, A Check List, Compiled by Roger Dard. Foreword by August Derleth, 12 pages, printed. 35¢ from James V. Taurasi, 18-36 129th St., College Point 56 New York. (NO STAMPS PLEASE!)

SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES

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BACK ISSUES OF FANTASY-TIMES AND SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES FOR SALE! SPECIAL SALE - ONLY 10¢ EACH, 1st alternate as some are very limited. First come first served! 11-92-93-128-136-137&137a-139-140-141 - 142-143-145-146-147-148-149-150-151 - 152-153-154-155-156-157-158 - 159-160-161-162-163-164-166-168 - 169-170-171-172-173-175-176-177 - 178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185 - 186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193 - 194-195-196-197-198-199-201-202 - 203-204-205-206-207-209-210-211 - 212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219 - 220-222-223-225-226-227-229-230 - 231-232-233-235-236-239-240-242 - 243-244-246-247-248-251-252-256 - 257-258-259-262-263-264-265-266 - 267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-276-277. FANDOM HOUSE, INC., Frank Prieto, Jr., R. D. #1, Kirk Ave., Warners, New York.

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WANTED

WANTED: These magazines were lost in recent flood of S-F Times collection: AMAZING STORIES: March 1930, Dec. 1928, April 1936, Feb. 1936, Dec. 1935, Oct. 1935, Dec. 1934, Nov. 1934. PLANET STORIES: Summer 1944 and Spring 1944. Must be in good condition with full front and back covers. FANDOM HOUSE INC., P. O. Box 184, Flushing 52, New York.

WANTED: SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY BOOKS PUBLISHED BEFORE 1945; FIRST EDITIONS OF BURROUGHS, H. R. HAGGARD, GEORGE GRIFFITH; ARKHAM HOUSE, etc., etc. Gerry de la Ree, 277 Howland Ave., River Edge, N.J.



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