

Science-Fiction Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

BEGINNING OUR 18th YEAR - No. 299

FIRST SEPTEMBER 1958 ISSUE

TEN CENTS PER COPY

'SATELLITE' GOES MONTHLY AND LARGE SIZE

DETROIT WINS '59 SITE
"FANTASY & SF" WINS "HUGO"
SOLACON WITHDRAWS FROM WSFS

by Arthur Jean Cox, and
Bill Blackbeard

SOUTH GATE, Calif, 1 Sept, (CNS) - What started out to be the Sixteenth Annual Convention of the World Science Fiction Society, Inc., ended here today after its committee took the action of divorcing it from the parent body.

Attendance at the most popular sessions ran between 300 and 500 persons.

Among those attending were: Guest of Honor Richard Matheson, E. E. Smith, Poul Anderson, S. J. Byrne, E. E. Evans, John W. Campbell, Jr., Anthony Boucher, Chas. Beaumont, Ray Russell, editor of PLAYBOY, Robert Bloch, Jerome Bixby, Rog Phillips, Rory Faulkner, Forrest J. Ackerman, Sam Moskowitz, Morris S. Doleans, Don Day, Chas. Burbee, Ed Wood, Ray Bradbury, A. E. van Vogt, Chas. D. Hornig, Sylvia Jacobs, Mari Wolf, Thelma Hamm, Gotthard Gunther, Guy Gifford, Arch Oboler, Fritz Lieber, Mark Clifton, Bob Silverberg and Ed Clinton.

Highlights of the program, which was lauded by most attendees as one of the best ever presented at a big s-f con, included:

Masquerade Ball, with a great

variety of clever and beautiful costumes. Winners of prizes were Frances Light, Joe and Roberta Gibson, Frank and Belle Dietz and Roger Sims, Eleanor Turner, Karen Anderson and Jon Lackey. Other outstanding costumes were worn by Honey Wood, Trina Castelli, Dottie Faulkner, Jerry Stein and Stuart Hoffman.

The Banquet, with Anthony Boucher as toastmaster, and speakers Forrest J. Ackerman, Robert Bloch, Richard Matheson, Britisher Ron Bennett, this year's TAFP representative, and New Zealander Mike Hinge. Awards were presented to Walter A. Willis (most outstanding "actifan"), Avram Davidson (best short story: "Or All The Seas With Oysters"), Kelly Freas (best artist), "Incredible Shrinking Man" (best movie), MAG OF FANTASY & S-F (best magazine), and Fritz Lieber (best novel: "The Big Time").

The "Auction Bloch", at which one hour of the time of famous s-f personalities were sold to the highest bidders for the benefit of TAFP. The personalities were: Anthony Boucher, Fritz Lieber, E. E. Evans, Robert Bloch, Chas. Beaumont, E. E. Smith and Richard Matheson.

"This Is Fanorama", colored slides of s-f and fantasy art by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Moskowitz, with

NEW YORK, 3 September, (CNS) - For the first time since Hugo Gernsback came back into the field with the large-size Science-Fiction Plus in 1953, a science-fiction magazine will be published large-size, 8 1/2" x 11".

Satellite Science Fiction, published by Leo Margulies will go large size with the February 1959 issue. Another happy news is that with this issue, Satellite will also go monthly.

Stated Mr. Margulies: "We can't think of a change better calculated to get science-fiction out of its swaddling clothes as a major entertainment attraction."

Alex Schomburg has been selected to do the February cover. Satellite in its large size will contain 64 pages and still sell for 35¢.

This will be the third s-f mag since World War II to try the large size. Fantastic Science Fiction was the first in 1952, Science-Fiction Plus in 1953, and now Satellite. Amazing almost went large size in 1950, but nothing came of it.

We sincerely wish Satellite success in breaching the digest barrier.

narration by Sam.

The showing of two short films "Born Of Man and Woman" adapted from the story by Dick Matheson, and "Hi, Grandma", which was a pilot film for a T-V series made by Arch Oboler.

Other events were: address of welcome by Leland R. Weaver, mayor of South Gate, Calif., as part of

the opening ceremonies, "Forrest-murmurings" by Forry Ackerman, Pro Reports by Anthony Boucher and John W. Campbell, Jr., a speech by Ray Bradbury, presenting of awards by the NFFF, the auction of various art work and original manuscripts, a panel discussion on the subject of "SF- A Dead Issue?", a lecture on "The Future Of Ceramic" by P. D. Johnson, Sc.D., a fan panel entitled "Suddenly, It's 1959", and a "business session".

At the business session, Detroit won the site of the 1959 con over Chicago by a vote of 125 to 45.

A resolution dissolving the WSPS, Inc., was read by Bill Donaho, and passed by voice vote.

During the business session Chairwoman Anna Sinclair Moffatt declared that business was being conducted under the auspices of the Solacon and not the WSPS, Inc.

Detroit accepted designation as the '59 Con site under this understanding.

An abrupt move to adjourn, made by Mrs. Moffatt, was greeted with much applause and quickly passed.

THE COSMIC REPORTER

by Arthur Jean Cox

SOLACON DOINGS

Honorable Leland R. Weaver, Mayor of South Gate made an arrangement with the Mayor of Los Angeles whereby the Alexandria Hotel and a hundred fifty feet in every direction would be considered temporarily an official part of the City of South Gate -- so that the Convention would really be taking place in South Gate in '58! South Gate is a suburb of Los Angeles.

Anthony Boucher, ex-editor of Fantasy And Science Fiction speaking the first day, commented on the fact that "the dirty pros had stayed away" and said that he thought this was going to be "the purest convention ever held". He reminded the convention that he spoke as an ex-editor, but said that he wasn't sure that this had been an entirely good year in science-fiction. He said that there were many good stories being written but that the number of magazines in the field were so great that they were being spread too thinly. He said, "Today, we're not in the fortunate position that John (Campbell) was in during the early forties when his was the only good magazine in the field and any good story written was automatically sent to him. Today, that's something we can dream about -- but it's only a dream."

Miss Djinna Faine was the winner of the International Tea Drinking Contest held Friday Afternoon, August 29th. She drank 23 cups, which is supposed to be only one short of the world record. Art Hayes, a Canadian fan, also drank 23 cups, but took longer to do it, so

lost. Ron Bennett, the English fan brought over by Taff, managed to drink only 13 cups thus destroying a grand old reputation.

This was a fine Convention. I've been to two previous ones, and this was the best of all three. Other persons I've spoken to, and who have been to more, have agreed and even volunteered that this was one of the good ones.

The Convention Committee showed good judgement in almost everything, particularly in the selection of the hotel.

The best things on the program was (1) Sam Moskowitz's history of science-fiction cover art, (2) The banquet, particularly, Anthony Boucher's toast-mastering and Robert Bloch's speechmaking, (3) the auction of authors, (4) The costume ball and parade, (5) The Fashion show, (6) Arch Oboler's speech and television film. (not in order of preference.)

The only disappointment was the decisions of the judges of the Costume Ball.

A few interesting facts: (1) This is probably the only convention in fan history in which not one single scheduled event was dropped from the program. Three or four were added! (2) The Con is in the black. It made money.

Editorial Note: There were the elections of Directors of the WSPS, INC.?

THE COSMIC AGE

by Bill Blackbeard

SOLACON HIGH & LOWLIGHTS

On Wednesday, August 27, a number of fans, including a few out-of-staters, had arranged a scenic trip to nearby Disneyland and took it with reported great enjoyment.

On Thursday, August 28, an open, informal meeting of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society was held at the fabulous home of Forrest J. Ackerman. Color slides of Morris S. Dollens space-cape paintings were shown, general fan talk was indulged in and a look-see of Ackerman's collection completed the program. About 150 persons attended.

During "The Pro Reports" session the first day Boucher stated that: in his opinion, poor distribution cuts 50% of most s-f magazine's real sales potential. At the same session John W. Campbell, Jr. flatly announced that he didn't like the stories Astounding was publishing. Didn't like them at all. But -- that's all there is. What creates a situation like this? What's wrong with the field today? So far as Astounding is concerned, he said, it lies in the lack of new ideas among the competent writers, as well as in the lack of new blood in the field of Asimov-Heinlein-Sturgeon caliber. The old pros are still keeping the field alive, but with tired, worn-out ideas. In the rest, he said,

"F&SF" Finally Makes It

NEW YORK, 5 September, (CNS) - For the first time since "Hugos" for the best pro mag have been issued at World Conventions, Astounding failed to get first place. In the past it was always Astounding, with perhaps Galaxy or F&SF second. (The first was split even between Galaxy & Astounding) but this time it was cut and dry with Fantasy & Science Fiction getting it!

So -- up to now, Galaxy has won it once (with Astounding), Astounding has won it a number of times, and Fantasy & Science Fiction has won once.

In the British field, only last year was an award given to a British magazine, and that was won by New Worlds, with Nebula coming in second.

THE 1958 WESTERCON

by Arthur Jean Cox

LOS ANGELES, 1 September, (CNS) - "Fashions Of The Future", the first item on the program was a 90 minute item in starting. Patti Kirkin, Nicole Ruperts, Sylvia Hirahara, Bjo Wells, Jill Turnhard, Jack Barbour, Eleanor Turner, Dick Daniels, Mary Ellen Belle, Alex Brockman, Eva Kann, and Nancy Crockett all appeared in thrilling and many daring future costumes. The men's costumes were, for the most part, based upon drawings and cover paintings by "Hugo" winning Kelly Freas. The women's costumes were designed by Bjo Wells and "constructed" by Zona Atherton. Rosemary Hall, Bell Dietz, Roberta-Gibson and Barbara Silverberg were also partly responsible for putting on the show. Robert Bloch did the announcing.

CBS-TV took movies and photos of the costumes appeared next morning in the Los Angeles Times.

A panel discussion, "The Lystrata Theme In Modern Science Fiction", with Mark Clifton moderating, and panel of Sylvia Jacobs, Thelma Harun, Mari Wolf and Monette Cummings, a 11 s-f authors, was next.

A play "Alice In Thrilling (continued on page 3, column 1)

several Astounding authors had literally predicted the future, especially in atomic physics. But, quote he, authors are trying to live with the laurels of this past prophecy about their slothful brows, instead of forging into new fields of prognostication -- such as psi! The rest of Campbell's speech was on psi, a thing he has done also at New York and London's World Con. He concluded by saying that, unlike other magazines, Astounding had lost no circulation but that he didn't want to just hold his own, he wanted to forge ahead and keep building Astounding.

**New Doc Smith Novel
"Pure Sex & Psionics"**
—according to author

by Bill Blackboard

LOS ANGELES, 30 August, (CNS)—Ten years in the conceiving, five in the writing, E. E. Smith's new 75,000-word novel, "The Girl With The Green Hair", is described by the author in an exclusive interview with Science-Fiction Times as a "complete departure" from anything he has written before. A distilled concentrate of "sex and psionics", the novel deals frankly and graphically with a number of unusually (for science-fiction) intricate and intimate sex and personality tangles, some of which have delectable comic overtones. The novel's psionic concept, which Smith says is wholly new to s-f, speedily develops cosmic ramifications, and leads to a series of splendid space battles, which are sharply unlike anything Smith has done in the past. In short, the novel rings fresh switches on almost everything: sex, space travel, personality conflict, psionics, galactic battle — even the shape of the universe itself!

Smith's original psionic idea for the novel dates back to 1948, and was greatly strengthened and shaped by the four Gunther articles that appeared in Astounding a number of years ago. The novel, with which E. E. Evans was affiliated in certain writing stages, will be hitting the major s-f markets soon. It will almost certainly be a major topic of conversation at the upcoming 1959 convention in Detroit.

**LEGAL OFFICER
& DIRECTORS
RESIGN FROM
WSFS, INC.**

NEW YORK, 5 September, (CNS)— It was confirmed today that George N. Raybin, Legal Officer of the World Science Fiction Society, Inc. resigned at the Solacon. A list of Directors Belle Dietz and James V. Taurasi have sent in their resignations. It is believed that E. E. Evans has also resigned, but this last has not been confirmed. All resigned in protest to the weird handling of the WSFS at the Solacon.

Frank Dietz has retained his position as Recorder of the WSFS. WESTERCON (continued from page 2) "Wonderland", written by and starring Karen Anderson (as Alice), and among others: Anthony Boucher, E. E. Smith, Robert Silverberg was presented. It was a humorous far-

(continued on page 3, column 3)

**MOSKOWITZ ON
RADIO**

LOS ANGELES, 30 August, (CNS) — Sam Moskowitz was on Radio Station KLAC with four members of the American Astronautical Association, a federation of 10 Rocket Societies. The program was on for one hour (7:00 to 8:00 P.M.) and was on Space Travel. Sam was the only s-f fan on it and did over half of the talking, most of it about science-fiction. The M.C. was James McNameera.

**"NEBULA" GETS
A U.S. EDITION**

NEW YORK, 1 August, (CNS) — On a number of United States stands appeared this week the first edition of the US Edition of the British magazine Nebula. While the circulation is somewhat limited, it marks the first time in the history of science-fiction that a British magazine has had an American edition.

The edition is the same one printed in Great Britain, but with certain small changes. For example: the first US edition is number 30. In Great Britain this is the May issue and the cover bears the British price of 2/-. In the US it bears the September 1958 date and the 35¢ price. On the contents page where the May date appears, this has been cut out. Outside of this the issues are the same.

Nebula appears monthly both in Great Britain and the U.S.

**"VANGUARD" SLIPS
FROM ORBIT**

NEW YORK, 25 August, (CNS) — When the actual final figures came in, Vanguard's distributor found that their estimate of 60% sales were not quite so, the mag having sold approximately only 41% of its print order of 104,000. While this is still put the sales of the last issue just in the black, it was too close to the "breaking even" point that the owners are having trouble getting together enough money to publish a second issue.

At this time the firm needs \$1,000.00 more to get the second issue under way. James Blish, the editor, states that Vanguard will probably not be continued.

As for the proposed second issue: a 11 material is bought, cover (by Emsch) is done and so are the inside illustrations, but none of this material has gone to the printers — and now will not go until (or if) enough money is obtained.

"F&SF" Tries 40¢

NEW YORK, 25 August, (CNS) — Fantasy And Science Fiction may be the first science-fiction magazine to break out of the 35¢ price and enter into the 40¢ bracket.

The 9th Anniversary issue of Fantasy & Science Fiction, October

1958, has a number of copies out, in certain sections of the United States with a 40¢ price tag on them. These are test copies. Reports on how many 40¢ sold in these areas — against previous reports on number of 35¢ers sold will

determine whether the magazine will go up in price or not.

If the 40¢ers sell good and F&SF jumps price, it is a good bet that in a short time most of the other mags will also jump prices.

There have been 50¢ mags in the past, some were large-size thick quarterlies, and remember that Fantastic Universe started life as a 196 page 50¢ mag. Numerous editors and publishers have been talking for years now that a 50¢ price is the right one for an average 128 page s-f mag, digest-size. Perhaps this 40¢ try is just the beginning.

Copies of F&SF with the 40¢ price are wanted by Science-Fiction Times for the files.

WESTERCON (continued from col. 1) ce, patterned after "Alice In Wonderland".

The business session elected Seattle (49 votes) over San Diego (24 votes) for the 1959 Westercon. Guy Gifford spoke on "What To Do With a Space Hut", and the program ended with John W. Campbell speaking on his new science organization.

**FREAS WINS
4th "HUGO"**

NEW YORK, 5 September, (CNS) — The news that Frank Kelly Freas has again won a "Hugo" for his excellent art work for the science-fiction and fantasy magazines, was a happy one and it again proves that the man is one of the best artists the field has ever seen. This is his fourth "Hugo" that he has won, Philadelphia, Cleveland, New York, and now Los Angeles. Quite a collection. No other artist in the field has even come close to this well-earned record.

Copies of the first issue can be obtained by sending 35¢ to: Vanguard Science Fiction, 50 Overlook Terrace, New York 33, N.Y.



Science-Fiction Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Winner 1955 and 1957

"S-F Achievement Awards"

Published twice-a-month by SCIENCE FICTION TIMES, INC., P. O. Box 184 Flushing 52, New York.

10¢ per copy, \$2 for 20 issues, or \$2.40 per year.

PERMANENT SUBSCRIPTION: \$15.00.

BRITISH: 9d per copy, 7s6d per 10 issues, 15s0d per 20 issues, PER-

MANENT SUBSCRIPTION: 3 pounds 10s, from H. M. JOHNSON, 16 Rockville Road, Broad Green, LIVERPOOL 14, ENGLAND.

AUSTRALIA: One Shilling per copy, Ten Shillings for 10 issues, One Pound for 20 issues. PERMANENT

SUBSCRIPTION: 5 Pounds, from ROGER DARD, Box S1387, GPO PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

James V. Taurasi, Sr., Ray Van Houten, and Frank R. Prieto, Jr., Editors and Publishers.

ADVERTISEMENTS: \$25 per full page, \$15 per half page; and \$8 per Quarter Page.

SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES, INC.

(Founded 1937 - Incorporated 1957)

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS HAVE BEEN DROPPED FROM THIS ISSUE TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE "CONVENTION REPORT". THEY WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT ISSUE. -eds

SCIENCE FICTION FORECASTS

Coming Up Next In The Pros

UNITED STATES

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION

The contents of the November, 1958 issue contains: A DIFFERENT PURPOSE by Kem Bennett, AIR SPACE VIOLATED by P. M. Hubbard, BE-TITCHED by Michael Fessier, FERDINAND FEGHOOT II by Grendel Briar-ton, SCIENCE: (feature) "Dust Of Ages" by Isaac Asimov, CRITICAL ANGLE by A. Bertram Chandler, OR THE GRASSES GROW by Avram Davidso. WILDCAT (novelet) by Poul Anderson BOOKS: (dent.) RECOMMENDED READING by Anthony Boucher, BEANS by Jack Williamson, MR. MILTON'S GIFT by Robert Arthur, PELT by Carol Emshwiller, FOR THE VOYAGERS by Starr Nelson, FOR ANALYSIS by P. Schuyler Miller, and NINE YARDS OF OTHER CLOTH by Hanly Wade Wellman. Cover by John Peterson, Jr.

GALAXY MAGAZINE

The December 1958 issue contains: 1 Novella: JOIN NOW by Finn O'Donovan. 1 Novelet: ULLEARD'S RETREAT by Jack Vance, 2 Short Stories: NIGHTMARE WITH ZEPPELINS by Frederik Pohl and C. M. Kornbluth, and THE NUMBER OF THE BEAST by Fritz Leiber. Book-Length Novel: (conclusion) TIME KILLER by Robert Heckley. Science Department: FOR YOUR INFORMATION, "The Strange Planet Next Door" by Willy Ley. Features: EDITOR'S PAGE by H. L. Gold, and GALAXY'S FIVE STAR SHELF by Floyd C. Gale. Cover by GAUGHAN illustrating, in fanciful fash-

ion, THE STRANGE PLANET NEXT DOOR as the area above the mud storms may be explored and perhaps cultivated centuries from now.

THE SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CLUB

The November selection is SPACE-POWER by Donald Cox & Michael Stoiko. \$1.69 to members (regular ed: \$4.50). The December selection is THE THIRD GALAXY READER, edited by H. L. Gold. \$1.00 to members (regular edition \$3.95).

BRITISH by Ted Carnell

LONDON, 22 August, (CNS) - The new style cover design being used on New Worlds has proved overwhelmingly popular with both readers and distributors, and we intend retaining this design for the time being, possible for good. At least the next five months' covers have been designed this way.

The September New Worlds (#75) commences a two part serial "Equator" by Brian W. Aldiss with its action centred in Sumatra, where the United Nations have granted territory to Earth's first visiting aliens.

The issue also contains the final John Wyndham story in the 'Troon' series - "Space Is A Province Of Brazil". Other stories are "Morgan's Galatea" by C. C. Reed, "Trainee For Mars" by Harry Harrison and "Life Hutch" by Harlan Ellison, plus a red hot article in the 'Outward Bound' series by Kenneth Johns, entitled "Shots At The Moon". This article is so typical (It gives both the American and Russian ideas on rocket observation of the Moon at close quarters) that if the American attempt on August 17th had been success-

ful, the article would have been out-of-date before published.

Coming in future issues: the October issue (#76) contains two feature novelettes - "Trouble With Emily" another of James White's 'Sector General' stories of the gigantic hospital in deep space and a particularly dazzling story "Life Plan" by new writer Colin Kapp which gives a brand new approach to the superman theory.

November will see the beginning of Lan Wright's three-part serial "A Man Called Destiny", which will be published shortly in New York by Ace Books. This issue will also contain a four page article on the 16th World Science Fiction Convention in Los Angeles, written by TAFF winner Ron Bennett, and copies will doubtless be in New York by October 1st, long before any other reports, with the possible exception of Science-Fiction Times.

Science Fantasy #31 published on September 8th has a short novel by Kenneth Bulmer "The Bones Of Shoshun" and features amongst the other stories Theodore Sturgeon's brilliant "The Graveyard Reader" (from which Brian Lewis has taken the cover painting) recently published in Ballantine's pocket book of the same title.

Science Fantasy #32 (November 15th) will contain "City Of The Tiger" a new long John Brunner fantasy, and a novelette "Ladies' Man" by up and coming London writer Robert Presslie.

Science Fiction Adventures #5 (October 10) will feature "The Starcombers" by Edmond Hamilton, "Vengeance Of The Space Armadas" by Calvin M. Knox and "This World Must Die" by Ivar Jorgenson.

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Post Office Box 184, Flushing 52, New York