

Science-Fiction Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

18th Year - #305a

FIRST DECEMBER 1958 ISSUE

FREE WITH ISSUE #305

Ackerman Is 42

LA, 25 Nov, (CNS) - The Statistics are now in on the 3-nite blowout at the Ackermansion.

Fri 21 Nov: 55 fan & pros arrived & left between 7:30pm & 3:45 in the morning, including Ray Bradbury, Fritz Leiber, Kris Neville, Helen Urban, Rick Sneary, Ron Elik, Terry Carr, Larry Maddock and Morrie Dollens.

Sat 22 Nov: Duration, 7pm til 6am. Present: 60 persons. Jerry Bixby, Ib Melchior, Anais Nin, Geo Fields, Alex Gordon, Martin Varno, Thad Swift, Dale Hart, Silaki Ali Hassen, Trina, Ernie Wheatley, Arthur K. Barnes, among the celebrators.

Sun 23 Nov: 45 party participants from 7-3, including AE van Vogt, E. Mayne Hull, Gene Hunter, Albert Nuetzell, Jill Vuerhard and Morton Grady Zimmerman.

Tri-nite party hostesses: Bjo and Djinn Faine.

Bill Rotsler & Bjo spontaneously drew 3 birthday cards each 40' long for all around the house.

Total attendance: 160.

The Occasion: Forry Ackerman was 42.

The aftermath: 24 Nov 58, the actual birthday (Mon): 4e spent most of it in bed recuperating, dragged his fagged ectoplasm out in the evening to a preview of HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL.

"Vicarian" Author Passes

by Forry Ackerman

One of the commonest books in any fan's collection must be The Vicarian, for it has been available for years now as a remaindered item, jam (jacket and mint) at about \$1 a copy. Yet there was a time, when it was new, in 1926, that it was a runaway bestseller for a sci-fi novel. If I recall correctly, something like 15,000 copies were originally sold. I

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"F & SF" UPS PRICE TO 40¢

8 STORIES IN APRIL "GALAXY"

by H. L. Gold

NEW YORK, 3 December, (CNS) - And here's another lineup of the giant new 196-page Galaxy, showing how much a huge literary hanger like ours can house without a but of crowding, and the immense flexibility there is in arranging the furniture.

This issue, for instance, holds a novella and two novelets of pretty much regulation length - but five short stories, all of them full size, and an expanded editorial that's more of a letter column than anything else! The nice, comfortable old Galaxy would have burst apart, and so would any competitor now on the market.

The next issue, June, will be built around a Pohl short novel that had to sit in his workshop uncompleted because it wouldn't fit any regular magazine. As soon as the 196-page Galaxy became a reality, I gave him the go-ahead - and the result is a powerful cornerstone for still another exciting combination of lengths and themes.

Mail? We're getting it as voluminously and enthusiastically as in 1950, and subs are inside almost every letter!

The April 1959 issue of Galaxy Magazine contains: Novella: THE CITY OF FORCE by Daniel F. Galouye. Novelets: KINGSLAYER by J. T. McIntosh, THE MAN IN THE MAILBAG by Gordon R. Dickson, Short Stories: SECURITY PLAN by Joseph Farrell, THE BITTEREST PILL by Frederik Pohl, LOVE CALLED THIS THING by Avram Davidson and Laura Goforth, THE SWEEPER OF LORAY by Robert Sheckley, WHEN THE PEOPLE FELL by Cordwainer Smith. Science Department: FOR YOUR INFORMATION - "The Atlantic Missile Range" - by Willy Ley, and Features: EDITOR'S PAGE, GALAXY'S FIVE STAR SHELF by Floyd C. Gale. The cover is by WOOD showing a full house beats togetherness.

NEW YORK, 5 December, (CNS) - With the February 1949 issue of Fantasy and Science Fiction, the price per copy will be upped from 35¢ to 40¢. The number of pages, size, etc., will remain the same.

Thus Fantasy & Science Fiction becomes the first science-fiction magazine to break away from the 35¢ price, and leave the magazine as it was.

Recently Galaxy Magazine also upped their price, but they added pages and went bi-monthly. F&SF will remain a monthly.

The February Fantasy & Science Fiction will feature a Bone-stell cover and stories by Damon Knight, Judith Merrill, and Joel Townsley Rogers.

For the last few months F&SF has been experimenting with a 40¢ price in different areas of the United States.

THE TIME STREAM

by J. Harry Vincent

With the prices of science-fiction magazines going up, etc., we took a hard look at the field to see exactly what we're paying. Under the old Galaxy price of 35¢ and 144 pages, it cost you \$0.0024 a page. With the new 196 page, 50¢ price, it costs you \$0.0025 a page. Fantasy & Science Fiction with 130 pages and 35¢ costs you \$0.0026 a page. With the new price of 40¢ and still 130 pages, it will cost you \$0.0030 a page. Astounding under its present price of 35¢ for 162 pages costs you \$0.0021 per page. In the early 50s when you got 160 pages for 25¢ it cost you only \$0.0016 a page. All prices listed are actually plus a small fraction.

Galaxy is the only science-fiction magazine that counts the inside back cover and back cover as pages?????

If Fantasy & Science Fiction do put out a 50¢ Anniversary October 1959 issue, it'll probably - only contain 162 pages.

The only magazine carrying ads for

The Science Fiction Book Club is a detective magazine, Saturn ~~Mag~~ Detective Stories, formerly a s-f MAG.

Isaac Asimov's latest story, to appear in the March 1959 issue of Amazing Stories, along with the first story he ever had published, will be titled "Anniversary" and actually be a sequel to that first story.

L. Sprague de Camp's historical novel, AN ELEPHANT FOR ARISTOTLE, published last April by Doubleday, has received the annual award of the Athenaeum of Philadelphia for being the best work of fiction, published during 1958, and written by a resident of Philadelphia and its environs. They'll award de Camp a medal next April 15th.

Harry Harrison has just arrived in New York from an extended stay in Italy and other European countries. He'll stay in New York for about six months and then take off again. Mrs. Harrison is expecting her second child. Science-Fiction Times, Inc. has contracted Harry for articles on his recent trips for the 1958 Science Fiction Annual still in the works and also for the proposed 1959 edition.

Harry will have a letter on current vs. past fandoms in the March issue of Fantastic Universe.

George Mims Haybin, well-known NY s-f fan and Attorney At Law has joined forces with Charles K. Vogel Co. and now offer a complete Insurance Service.

The New Republic has announced that one of the winners in its essay contest on contemporary American literature is Philadelphia s-f fan and author Thomas E. Purdom. Tom Purdom, whose s-f stories have been published in Infinity, Fantastic Universe, and Satellite, entitled his essay "In Praise of Science Fiction". Tom's friends in Philadelphia Science Fiction Society are eagerly awaiting the appearance of the essay in a forthcoming issue of the New Republic, but so far no definite issue for its appearance has been set. The award of \$100.00 was one of ten given for essays on contemporary literature and on drama, films, radio and TV.

Latest news on The World Science Fiction Society, Inc. is the following from the New York Law Journal for Monday November 17, 1958, page 12, SUPREME COURT - SPECIAL TERM, Part I, Mr. Justice Sappell: "World Science Fiction Soc'y, Inc., v. Kyle - Motion for leave to withdraw a attorney for the plaintiff is granted. The defendant is without standing to oppose the motion on the merits and because of the lack of proof of the service of the answering affidavit. Settle order."

Advertise in Science-Fiction Times

INTERNATIONAL SECTION

AUSTRALIA

by Roger Dard

PAPERBACKS: THE MARS MONOPOLY: Jerry Sohl, No. 216 of "Satellite Series". Jubilee Publications, Sydney. 35¢ (the US price is given on the cover), digest-size and 130 pages.

YEAR 3097 by R. de Witt Miller and Anna Hunger, No. 215 of the "Satellite Series". Price, number of pages and publisher, same as above.

MAGAZINES: SHORT STORIES, November 1958, Magazine Enterprises, Sydney. Digest-size, 114 pages, and 2/- (about 25¢). Contents include "The Jar" by Ray Bradbury.

COMICS: TARZAN OF THE APES, No. 59 New Century Press, Sydney. 26 pages, 1/- (about a dime).

SUPACOMIC, No. 1, K.G. Murray Publishing Co., Sydney. 100 pages 2/- . A large (100 page) comic-book all dealing with the adventures of Superman.

GIGANTIC ANNUAL, K. G. Murray Publishing Co., Sydney. 292 pages 5/- (about 50¢). Rather a fabulous item this - advertised as the "Biggest Comic Ever Printed", it is as bulky as the old-time Ziff-Davis pulps. Most material is fantastic.

CANADA

by Roger Dard

STAR WEEKLY MAGAZINE, 80 King Street, N., Toronto 1, Ontario, Canada, 15¢. "Canada 100 Years From Now" by Emile Schurmacher. A long article on Gernsback and his predictions - that were accurate. Photo of Gernsback and full page colored illustration by James Simpkins. July 5, 1958 issue.

October 11, 1958 issue: "Will November Uncover Martians And Flying Saucers?" by Donald E. Keyhole. Typical Sunday feature article, illustrated with front cover painting, one interior color illustration and some photographs.

THE SCIENCE-FICTION RECORD

by Frank R. Prieto, Jr.

SCIENCE/FANTASY MAGS OUT OCTOBER: There were 7 science/fantasy mags out in the United States during the month of October. All were digest-size, costing a total of \$2.45 and containing a total of 944 pages.

They were: FUTURE SF (Dec.), ASTOUNDING SF (Nov.), SATELLITE SF (Dec.), If SF (Dec.), FANTASY & SF (Dec.), GALAXY MAGAZINE (Dec.),** and FANTASTIC (Nov.). Each cost 35¢ and range in pages from 120 to 162.

*Last digest-size, next issue large size and monthly.

**Last 144 page, 35¢ issue, next

"VICARION" AUTHOR PASSES

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hugely enjoyed it when I read it sometime in the early 30s, and the popular ASF yarn by T.L. Sherred, "E For Effort", was no surprise to me in '47, for Gardner Hunting's novel had explored the basic theme. Hunting was a mild, kindly, alert and vigorous old gentleman when I last saw him about 2 years ago. He died of undisclosed cause on 21 Nov., '58 at the age of 86 in the town of Burbank, Calif., nearby to LA. He had been reporter, ad man, editor of newspapers and magazines... playwright ("The Cave Of The Bottomless Pool", 1909), novelist and film executive. Chas Beaumont and I at one time collaborated on a pilot script for a possible TV series based on THE VICARION. Mr Hunting had commercially revised the novel as NAKED YESTERDAYS or THE SCARLET EYE, but the manuscript was lost. So long, oldtimer, FJA

issue 196 pages, bi-monthly and 50¢.

SCIENCE/FANTASY MAGS OUT NOVEMBER: There were also 7 science/fantasy mags out in the United States during November. All were digest-size costing a total of \$2.45 and containing a total of 958 pages.

They were: NEBULA SF (Dec.), SCIENCE FICTION STORIES (Jan.), ASTOUNDING SF (Dec.), AMAZING SF STORIES (Dec.), FANTASTIC UNIVERSE SF (Jan.)***, FANTASTIC (Dec.), and FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION (Jan.). ***1st bimonthly issue, see Science-Fiction Times #302.

MONSTER MAG NEWS

by William S. Sykora

LONG ISLAND CITY, 9 December (CNS) - The February 1959 issue of World Famous Creatures will have three pages of weird cartoons by Joseph Howard Krucher. It will also feature a picture (photo) of Krucher impersonating Bela Lugosi. Krucher once did this impersonation at a meeting of the Queens Science Fiction League. He was a personal friend of Lugosi. He also is a personal friend of Baron Herr von Tvardovsky who played the title role in the "Cabinet of Dr. Caligari". Those who have seen Krucher's weird oil paintings say they surpass by far anything that has ever been published. He has a TV project in the planning stage and is now approaching telecasters with a view toward getting it on the air.

SCIENCE-FICTION TIMES

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