

NEWS LETTER

THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY

Early in July was announced the newest fantasy fiction magazine to grace the news-stands---grace rather than "hit the stands" because the newcomer promises a slicker and higher quality than heretofore available.

Anthony Boucher, newspaper critic and the author of many detective novels, and J. Francis McComas, co-editor of a successful science-fiction anthology, are the editors of the new magazine scheduled to appear the second week of September, priced at 35¢. "The Magazine of FANTASY: a selection of the best stories of fantasy & horror, both old and new," will be published by Lawrence Spivak, publisher of AMERICAN MERCURY, ELLERY QUEEN'S MYSTERY MAGAZINE, and etc.

Volume 1, number 1 is a trial issue and will contain reprints by Perceval Landon, Fitz-James O'Brien, Guy Endore, Richard Sale and Oliver Onions---none of which is currently available elsewhere. New material in the initial issue is by Cleve Cartmill, Philip MacDonald, Theodore Sturgeon, H.H. Holmes, Stuart Palmer and Winona McClintic. If the issue is successful the magazine will appear quarterly at first, attempting bi-monthly publication later. A policy of 50/50 new & reprinted material is planned, using both fantasy and science-fiction.

Boucher states FANTASY will resemble EQMM in price, format and editorial policy, attempting to do for the fantasy field what Ellery Queen has done for the detective story: create a fresh, new market of high literary standards, untrapped by formula, open to every kind of work providing it is well done and well written. He is interested in digging up obscure lost classics and discovering valuable new authors, samples of both to be displayed in the first issue.

On the editors: Nick McComas (working with Raymond J. Healy) co-edited ADVENTURES IN TIME & SPACE, the giant 1946 science-fiction anthology from Random House. Tony Boucher, New York TIMES mystery critic and conductor of science-fiction and detective story review columns in California papers, penned in 1941 a science-fiction whodunnit involving fantasy fans and writers, ROCKET TO THE MORGUE.

Redd Boggs

The hat trick...
The tides of TIME...

(With this column, Boggs joins News Letter as a regular contributor. His opinions are not necessarily those of this publication.)

Ten years ago this summer Astounding Science-Fiction pulled a hat-trick that has never been equaled by any s-f magazine before or since. In its July, August & Sept. 1939 issues, aSF presented first stories by AE van Vogt (Black Destroyer), Isaac Asimov (Trends), Robert Heinlein (Life Line), and Theodore Sturgeon (Ether Breather). It would be difficult to name four other authors who contributed more to the magazine's tremendous success during the next several years.



The golden age this quartette helped create in 1939 to 43 ended in the midwar years when three had ceased contributing "for the duration" and the fourth had become a hack to keep editor Campbell supplied with passable stories. Despite the boom it has enjoyed because of "atomic age" publicity, aSF has never been the same. Although van Vogt, Asimov, and Sturgeon are back as regular contributors and Heinlein slated to return, the quality of its fiction steadily decreases.

The magazine's current short-coming is neatly pointed up in Edward Grendon's "Trip One" in the July 1949 issue. One can forgive the author for failing to provide a scene where members of the projected first Mars expedition are told they won't make the trip--- but who can sanction his omission of the high point, the climatic scene in which the crew put their heads together and come up with a solution to the fatal problem? Surely the author commits a fiction-writing boner of the first rank as he summarizes the whole dramatic conference in three colorless paragraphs!

We are told that aSF, 1949, is terrifically popular with technicians and Oak Ridge scientists, who read the magazine for extrapolations on
(continued on page six)

BNL Bulletin Board

News of the
Seventh Annual
Science-fiction
Convention

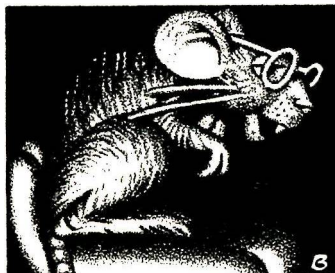
Hotel Metropole
Cincinnati, Ohio
Sept. 3, 4, 5.

Chairman Charles Tanner reported in late July that over 200 memberships had been sold, and stated that 25 or more professionals and semi-professionals would be in attendance, including Arthur J. Burks, Hannes Bok, Jack Williamson, Robert Bloch, Fletcher Pratt, Fritz Lieber jr, EE Smith, Ted Carnell, DH Keller, LA Eshbach, Theo. Sturgeon, George O. Smith, and HL Gold.

OTHER WORLDS, the new science-fiction magazine edited by Robert Webster (Clark Publishing Co, 139 N. Clark st, Chicago), will have sample copies of its first issue (dated November) at the convention. Cover on this issue is the "snake-mother" type.

THE ANTIQUARIAN BOOKMAN (a national magazine for booksellers) is reprinting the convention program on the back cover of its Labor Day issue, and running inside a Ted Dikty article reviewing the 1949 science-fiction field. Also included will be the fantasy publishers' picture printed here in our February ('49) issue.

Old time fan and writer, Emil Petaja (579 Bridgeway, Sausalito, Calif.) has been commissioned by Hannes Bok to make and sell photos of unpublished Bok originals; Petaja, a coppersmith of sorts, also makes for sale Bok "mouses" (the artist's trademark) of sculptured copper, size about 6x6 inches. Purchasers have a choice of 3 mice or about a dozen unpublished paintings.



The 341st (!) issue of Fanews Magazine (Walt Dunkleberger, 1443 S. 4th ave, Fargo, N.D.) dedicates itself to H.G. Wells with a pic on the cover and reprinted article from Silver Screen on the inside. Meanwhile, the previous 340th issue is a collector's item, after being yanked from the mail and 1800 copies destroyed. Action was taken after disagreement on subject matter in the booklet between Towner Laney (F.A.P.A. editor), Cynthia Carey, (author of subject matter) and Dr D.H. Keller (the subject of the subject matter). Subsequently Carey & Keller cleared the booklet, but damage was done.

The Nat'l Fantasy Fan Federation & the Fantasy Foundation together have begun compiling a "Fan Directory". If you fail to receive a questionnaire, write to Len Moffat, 6766 Hannon st, Bell Gardens, Calif.
SURPRISE: FJ Ackerman finally got married!

BOOK SHOP

PEACE, MY DAUGHTERS by Shirley Barker
(Crown Publishers, New York City, 1949, \$3)

An interesting, fast moving novel of witch-ridden Salem in the 17th century; the plot follows Remember Winster, a good wife and churchwoman, and the pursuit of her by the devil in the person of a shoemaker, one John Horne.

The lady could have stopped the trials and tribulations that swept like wildfire thru Salem--but then she, too, was caught. Suspects were thrown into the sea: if they floated, they were witches--if they sank, they were not. -MEW

INVASION FROM MARS (Interplanetary Stories)
Selected by Orson Welles. (Dell Books, New York City, 1949. 25¢)

None but a dope would pass up this big bargain: Welles, Koch, Heinlein, Bradbury, Boucher, Leinster, Brown, Bond, Asimov, and Sturgeon. Not their best, but good enough. Among the contents is the radio script that produced the 1938 interplanetary war scare, and Heinlein's Sat-Eve-Post story. -CH

A T O M S K by Carmichael Smith
(Duell, Sloan & Pearce, NYC, 1949, \$2.50)

A combination detective, science and spy thriller recounting the search for the secret underground city of Atomsk, where the Russians brewed their atomic misery. In some ways it will remind you of Leinster's "The Murder of the USA" (Crown, 1946.)

The detective fans in the house will enjoy it but the scienceers will find the sabotaging of the atomic city a little too slick, too pat to swallow without salt. -BT

SEVEN OUT OF TIME by Arthur Leo Zagat
Illustrated by Hannes Bok. (Fantasy Press, P.O. Box 159, Reading, Penna. 1949. \$3.)

Dipping into the old Argosy files of ten years ago, Fantasy Press offers an sf adventure which ranked high in reader popularity when the yarn first appeared. Time has not dulled this time-traveling novel.

Investigating the disappearance of a lovely girl, John March is snatched from his age and place into something else quite different; he finds her and the five others who lend the book its title--- the Prophet Elijah, King Arthur, Francois Villon, an Archduke of Tuscany, and the Lost Dauphin.

Fascinating illustrations and chapter headings by Bok enhance the volume. -BT

NO PLACE TO HIDE by David Bradley
(Bantam Books, New York City, 1949, 25¢.)

Non-fiction, this is a day-by-day account of the atom bomb tests at Bikini, told by a medical safety monitor. Recommended for your education. -CH

BOOKS AND WRITERS

Fredric Brown's zany *Startling Stories* novel of last year, *WHAT MAD UNIVERSE?*, is getting book publication this October. Possibly the most popular SS novel of 1948, it has been expanded with new material and will be published by Dutton & Co. (NYC) at \$2.50. Brown has authored several mystery novels at the same house.

The second book from the new Merlin Press (507 Fifth Ave, NYC) has 25 yarns under the title, *MY BEST SCIENCE FICTION STORY*, and again is edited by Leo Margulies and Oscar J. Friend. Line-up as follows: *Robot Al-76 Goes Astray* (Azimov), *Grief of Bagdad* (AK Barnes), *Teacher From Mars* (Binder), *Almost Human* (Bloch), *Zero Hour* (Bradbury), *Blindness* (Campbell), *Nothing Sirius* (Brown), *The Hibited Men* (de Camp), *Visiting Yokel* (Cartmill), *The Thing in the Pond* (Ernst), *The Inn Outside the World* (Hamilton), *Wanderer of Time* (Fearn), *Green Hills of Earth* (Heinlein), *Don't Look Now* (Kuttner), *The Professor Was a Thief* (Hubbard), *The Lost Race* (Leinster), *Doctor Grimshaw's Sanitarium* (Pratt), *The House of Rising Winds* (F.B. Long jr), *The Carriers* (Merwin jr), *The Uncharted Isle* (CA Smith), *Thunder and Roses* (Sturgeon), *The Ultimate Catalyst* (Taine), *Project Space Ship* (van Vogt), *Space Station #1* (Wellman), and *Star Bright* (Williamson). Ready this fall, at \$3.95.

Incorrectly listed last issue as being edited by Joseph Margolies, *Merlin's FROM OFF THIS WORLD*, containing 18 Hall of Fame classics, will be ready by convention time. Although it had not yet appeared on July 5th, the issue of *Startling Stories* sold on that date ran a review of it. Leo Margulies and Oscar J. Friend edited it.

THE WORLD BELOW (S. Fowler Wright) is available from Shasta Publishers (5525 S. Blackstone, Chicago, 37). Other Shasta books due soon are *SIDeways in Time* (Leinster) on August 31st, *THE MAN WHO SOLD THE MOON* (Heinlein) about Nov. 15th, and the *GUIDE TO IMAGINATIVE LITERATURE* early in 1950.

Fell's five volumes listed here last issue are the beginning of "Fell's Science-Fiction Library" with Leinster, Long, Friend and Hamilton signed up for one novel annually. The Bleiler-Dikty S-F anthology, due Aug 15, will have a \$5000 advertising campaign.

Frederick



Notes: Heinlein's *SPACE CADET* to be published in Norwegian. Nelson Bond yarns regularly appearing in Danish and downunder in Australia. Enger & Piller's *THE WORLD AFLAME* (Dial, 1947), a Russian-American war story of 1950 was translated into Japanese. Tucker's mystery novels going into British, Norwegian and Argentine editions. Keller's *SOLITARY HUNTERS* and *THE ABYSS* to get book publication in Italy. Bradbury yarns being translated into Swedish, and Ackerman's *ATOMIC ERROR* going into Spanish.

The Saturday Review of Literature for May 28 ran a three-page article (about 3500 words) on the state of science-fiction, under the title "The S-F Phenomenon in Literature." Written by Claire Holcomb, freelance reporter and former Manhattan Project staffer, the survey presents an accurate, sympathetic picture to the outsider of s-f yesterday and today.

The article tells of the visit of military intelligence men to Editor Campbell's door in 1944 after his magazine printed Cartmill's "Deadline," an atomic bomb story. Campbell struggled to convince them that Cartmill did not have a secret pipeline into Manhattan Project, and that *ASTOUNDING* should not be censored. He won, although stacks of the March, 1944 issue were bought up and hidden away. The history of science-fiction is traced from the 17th century, up through Verne, Wells, Kipling, Butler and Huxley to William Tenn, Robt. Heinlein, Isaac Asimov, Poul Anderson, Don Stuart, J.J. Coupling (who is John R. Pierce, a Bell Telephone engineer), and van Vogt. Six pulps come in for mention, likewise the fantasy publishing houses, fans, fanzines and conventions.

The article will be reprinted in *READER'S DIGEST*, probably in the September or October issue, author Holcomb advises News Letter. Worth buying!

AND STILL THE DELUGE:

Max Ehrlich's novel of doom on Earth, *THE BIG EYE*, due from Doubleday next month. Isaac Asimov's *GROW OLD ALONG WITH ME* (watch for a title change) will be ready in January. Ray Bradbury will have two in print from the same company next year: *FIRE AND FROST* (new novel), and *THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES* (an anthology). Tentatively scheduled by Doubleday is Judith Merrill's *THIS, MY HOME*, a tale of a housewife undergoing an A-bomb raid.



Hannes Bok
-courtesy
Fantasy Press

Simon and Schuster is readying Will (Jack Williamson) Stewart's *SEETEE SHOCK* for early spring. Jim Williams (of Prime Press, Philadelphia) has taken over distribution of New Era's *THE SOLITARY HUNTERS* by DH Keller.

Fantasy Press (Reading, Penna.) have announced the following for this year: *THE INCREDIBLE PLANET* (Campbell), *FIRST LENS MAN* (Smith), *MASTERS OF TIME* (vanVogt). Next year will see this line-up: *THE BRIDGE OF LIGHT* (Verrill), *THE COMETEERS* (Williamson), and *GENUS HOMO* (de Camp & Miller).

The *BOOKSHOP NEWS* (300,000 circulation to bookstores) will devote its Aug issue to science-fiction and fantasy including scores of reviews, Bleiler & Dikty's Fell anthology on the front cover, and a special article on s-f by Will Jenkins inside.

The November issue of *ASTOUNDING* is astounding.

FAN MAGAZINES: 1949

A science-fiction or fantasy fan magazine is comparable to a movie or baseball fan magazine---in reverse. While the movie book is professionally published to glorify the film stars for their fan-readers, the fantasy fan magazine is cranked out by hot-rod amateurs to praise and lambast every science-fictional or fantastic subject that falls before their gaze--sometimes even including their readers, other fantasy fans. Most such magazines are mimeographed, some are hektographed, a few planographed, and a very few are printed.

Fan magazines are now 19 years old; the first, a club organ published by a New York fan group and named THE PLANET, appeared in July 1930. In 1932 the first non-affiliated, subscription mag was born, also in New York, and called THE TIME TRAVELLER; it was quickly followed by the SCIENCE FICTION DIGEST. After that, the deluge. Beginning about 1935 at least 10 new titles arrived annually, and by 1940 it was near 100 a year--although few survive to celebrate their first anniversary. While the early arrivals devoted their ink to news and features of magazines and authors, latecomers tackled everything from mathematics to humor to amateur fiction to each other's personalities and lives. Only a few today still publish news.

Somewhere along the line publishers and readers alike adopted the term "fanzine" to replace "fan magazine," and "prozine" to indicate the professional pulp fantasy magazines. The new names stuck. In 1937 a group of fanzine publishers formed a Fantasy Amateur Press association, similar to many other amateur journalism clubs then and now in existence. Hoary old-timer among fanzines is FANTASY-TIMES, born in 1941, which just published its 85th issue; another is LE ZOMBIE, with 62 numbers in eight years of life. Elsewhere in this issue is news of FANEWS MAGAZINE, with 341 issues.

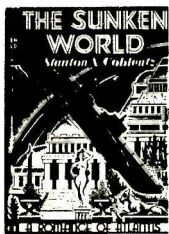
High spots in fanzine publishing are: the FANCYCLOPEDIA (by Jack Speer, 1944), a mammoth project providing historic information on all fantasy fandom up to its date; THE FANTASY FAN (by Charles Hornig, 1933-35), which earned its publisher a professional editing job; FANTASY COMMENTATOR (by Dr. Langley Searles, 1943--), a scholarly review of fantastic literature; SPACEWAYS (by Harry Warner Jr, 1938-42), probably the most readable and interesting long-run fanzine known; and the IMAGI-INDEX (by Franklin Brady and A. Ross Kuntz, 1941), a complete index to the entire contents of all the science-fiction magazines (USA and England) published from 1926 through 1938.

The following list of 1949 fanzines includes only those available for purchase; restricted-circulation sheets "for members only" are omitted. Magazines marked with an asterisk (*) are quality products for the collector or connoisseur.

title .. periodicity .. price ... publisher

ALIEN CULTURE, irregular, 15¢. Jim Leary, 4718 Forest Hills road, Rockford, Ill.
 AMTORIAN, THE, irregular, no price. Wallace Shore, Box 1565, Billings, Montana.
 ASTEROID X, irregular, 10¢. Jim Harmon, 427 East 8th st, Mount Carmel, Ill.
 BLACK SKULL, THE, quarterly, 10¢. Arthur Tate, 917 Park ave, St. Louis, 4, Mo.
 BLOOMINGTON NEWS LETTER, bi-monthly, free. Bob Tucker, Box 260, Bloomington, Ill.
 BURROUGH'S BULLETIN, irregular, 5¢. Vernell Coriell, 1100 Western ave, Peoria, Ill.
 DAWN, bi-monthly, 10¢. Lester Fried, 2050 Midland ave, Louisville, 4, Kentucky.
 * FANSCIENT, THE, quarterly, 25¢. Don Day, 3435 N.E. 38th ave, Portland, Oregon.
 FANTASY ADVERTISER, bi-monthly, 10¢. Gus Wilmoth, 1503 1/2 12th ave, Los Angeles
 * FANTASY COMMENTATOR, quarterly, 25¢. A.L. Searles, 7 E. 235th st, New York City.
 * FANTASY REVIEW, bi-monthly, 25¢. Walter Gillings, 115 Wanstead Park Road, Ilford, Essex, England.
 FANTASY NEWS, weekly, 10¢. Will Sykora, Box 4 Steinway Sta., Long Island City.
 FANTASY TIMES, bi-weekly, 10¢. James Taurasi, 137-03 32nd ave, Flushing, N.Y.
 FINAL WAR, THE, booklet, 75¢. Perri Press, P.O. Box 5007, Portland, 13, Oregon.
 * FINLAY FOLIO, THE, one only, \$1. Leslie Hudson, Roseland, Virginia.
 GLOM, quarterly, ??¢. F.J. Ackerman, 236 1/2 N. New Hampshire, Hollywood, 4, Calif.
 * GORGON, THE, quarterly, 20¢. Stan Mullen, 4930 Grove st, Denver, 11, Colorado.
 LIGHT, irregular, no price. Les Croutch, Box 121, Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada.
 * LOVECRAFT COLLECTOR, THE, irregular, no price. Ray H. Zorn, Troy Grove, Ill.
 LUNA, (no data), Robert Johnson, 811 9th street, Greeley, Colorado.
 MACRO PRESS, THE, (no data). The Macro Press, Bethalto, Illinois.
 MUTANT, bi-monthly, 10¢. C.S. Metchette, 3551 King st, Windsor, Ontario.
 NO GREATER DREAM, booklet, 75¢. Tom Carter, 817 Starling ave, Martinsville, Va.
 ONE FAN'S OPINION, irregular, ??¢. Lee D. Quinn, P.O. Box 1199, Grand Central Station, New York City, 17.
 OPERATION FANTAST, bi-monthly, free. Joyce & Ken Slater, Riverside, South Brink, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, England.
 OUTLANDER, THE, irregular, 10¢. Freddie Hershey, 6335 King ave, Bell, Calif.
 * PAN DEMOS, bi-monthly, 25¢. Donald Kunde, Apt #208, 1165 Grant st, Denver, Colo.
 PEON, bi-monthly, 10¢. Charles Lee Riddle, 2116 Edsall Court, Alameda, Calif.
 PHILCON MEMORY BOOK, booklet, \$1. Martin Carlson, 1028 S. 3rd, Moorhead, Minn.
 POLARIS, bi-monthly, 5¢. Dan Mulcahy, 4170 Utah street, St. Louis, Missouri.
 QUANTA, irregular, 10¢. Miles Davis, Box 7595, Franklin Sta., Washington, D.C.
 ROCKET NEWS LETTER, monthly, 15¢. Vincent Story, 5747 University ave, Chicago.
 SCIENCE FANTASY NEWS, bi-monthly, no price. Vincent Clarke, 16 Wendover Way, Welling, Kent, England.
 SCIENCE-FICTION BOOKMAN, bi-monthly, ??¢. Roy Loan jr, 1746 Columbia Road N.W., Washington, 9, D.C.

(continued on page 6)



FANTASY Publishing Co., Inc. -

8318-20 Avalon Boulevard
Los Angeles, 3, California

(Second in a series of articles surveying the fantasy publishing firms.)

F. P. C. I. actually began life in the summer of 1945 when most of the contents of a projected magazine, FANTASY BOOK, was set up in type. The shortage of paper among other things postponed publication of that first issue until November, 1947; meanwhile the company a year earlier had incorporated under the laws of California. Five issues of FANTASY BOOK have appeared, the latest a month ago. The magazine is pocket-sized and sells at a quarter.

Reticent about the personnel of the company, Marvin Neumann named only himself as production manager, and gave credit to Forrest J Ackerman for valuable assistance contributed. Inquisitive persons desiring to know the names of other members could doubtless check incorporation papers at the California capitol.

F.P.C.I. released their first book in March, 1948, and a second edition of that same title in February 1949. Each volume has a limited edition of 1000 to 3000 copies. A total of ten titles have been published to date, and six others are tabbed for early printing.

The line-up and now in print:

OUT OF THE UNKNOWN (1st edition, 1948, 2nd edition, 1949) by AE van Vogt and E. Mayne Hull. Three-color cover by Roy Hunt; 141pp; \$3. Six tales of Unknown-ish fantasy.

PEOPLE OF THE COMET (1948) by Austin Hall. 3-color cover by Jack Gaughan; 131pp; \$2. Old-school interplanetary adventure.

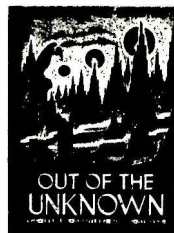
THE SUNKEN WORLD (1st edition, 1948, 2nd edition, 1949) by Stanton A. Coblentz. 3-color cover by Roy Hunt; 184pp; \$3. Down to sunken Atlantis via submarine.

DEATH'S DEPUTY (1948) by L. Ron Hubbard. 3-color cover by Lou Goldstone; 167pp; \$2. The deputy is accursed and cannot die.

THE RADIO MAN (1948) by Ralph Milne Farley. 3-color cover by Jack Gaughan; 177pp; \$2. High adventure on Venus (from Argosy mag.)

THE WORKS OF M.P. SHIEL (1948) by Reynolds Morse. 3-color cover from a painting by Salvadore Dali, with detail work by Jack Gaughan; 170pp; \$6. Bibliography limited to one thousand numbered copies.

THE COSMIC GEODES (1949) by John Taine. 3-color cover by Lou Goldstone; 179pp; \$3. A secret to save Earth's civilization.



PLANETS OF ADVENTURE (1949) by Basil Wells. 3-color cover by Jack Gaughan; 280pp; \$3. Fifteen action stories, Earth & elsewhere.

TRITON (and The Battle of the Wizards) (1949) by L. Ron Hubbard. 4-color cover by Benulis; ?-pp; \$3. Deep-sea fantasy.

WORLDS OF WONDER (1949) by Olaf Stapledon. 3-color cover by Neil Austin; ?-pp; \$3. Contains 3 stories: The Flames, Death Into Life, and Old Man in a New World.

Neumann states that F.P.C.I. will offer these six during 1949 and 1950:

THE RADIUM POOL (\$3) by Ed Earl Repp; THE OMNIBUS OF TIME (\$3.50) by Ralph Milne Farley---having 17 time-traveling yarns and a post-mortem on them; AFTER 12,000 YEARS (\$3) by Stanton Coblentz; THE KINGSLAYER (& others), (\$3) by L. Ron Hubbard; THE UNDESIRE PRINCESS (\$3) by L. Sprague de Camp---from Unknown and THE RAT RACE by Jay Franklin, which was first published as a serial in Colliers.

In addition, Murray Leinster stated here last issue he had sold his 1930 Astounding serial, MURDER MADNESS, to F.P.C.I.

what's going on

NO ROOM for irate letters from readers pointing out errors in our last edition, but at least we can correct the mistakes: MURDER MADNESS was not the first serial run in Astounding, but the third. Rousseau's THE BEETLE HORDE was first, Ray Cumming's BRIGANDS OF THE MOON was second.

The Bok "Cactus Woman" on page 2 was reprinted from the Gnome Press Calendar, but it also appeared in THE FOX WOMAN. Bok retains the copyright.

L. Ron Hubbard, not Robt. Heinlein, had his SLAVES OF SLEEP translated into Dutch. We pretend we do these little things just to keep you mentally alert.

Also pushed out of this issue were advertising displays by The House of Stone, and Niel DeJack. The advertisers always get it in the neck.

OTHER NEWS: Charles Burbee has moved to 7429 Riverton ave, Sun Valley, Calif.

The Nat'l Fantasy Fan Federation has made a proposal in its club bulletin that the NFFF members choose future convention sites by mail, replacing the yearly bids now made from the convention floor. Board chairman Rick Sneary of the same club now vacationing in Arizona.

Melvin Korshak (of Shasta Publishers) was responsible for that full-page TIME science-fiction article, after a 3-hour phone interview with editors.

T H Carter (Martinsville, Va.) pubbing a collection of Keller's "Amy Worth" yarns, to follow Kennedy's NO GREATER DREAM.

And watch the November Astounding!

REDD BOGGS:

their own particular field. Such a remark as this is almost invariably uttered in answer to any criticism. Are we to infer that technicians and scientists don't give a damn about human interest, are they interested only in ideas and scientific doubletalk? I don't believe it.

A yarn like "Trip One" shrieks for human interest, for colorful characterizations and plot twists where it can be utilized. In such a story it would be better to have old stock protagonists characterized in the old pulp style than to have action performed by characters we don't know. A little bit of ham, some melodrama, wouldn't be any more difficult to stomach than the fact that, in "Trip One," the crew figured out the solution over coffee and sandwiches after the scientists had spent ten years studying the problem.

It seems to this writer that a SF fiction would be more interesting to technician and casual reader alike if Campbell solicited scripts from men who are fiction writers first, and technologists on the side, rather than the other way around. In this summer of 1949, Astounding is ripe for another hat-trick.

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To those of us who think s-f is the only truly worthwhile branch of fantasy, a squib in a Julius Unger book advertisement came as a satisfyingly candid admission of the other side of the controversy. This is Unger's description of A CENTURY OF GHOST STORIES, offered for sale: "43 stories by Masters of the Occult and Wind ..."

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"Scientifiction's fans, mostly boys of 16 to 20, are the jitterbugs of the pulp magazines. Publishers soon discovered an odd fact about their readers: they are exceptionally articulate. Most of these magazines have letter columns in which readers appraise stories. Sample: "Gosh! Wow! Boy-o-boy! and so forth. Yesiree, yesiree, it's the greatest in the land and the best that's on the stand, and I do mean Thrilling Wonder Stories, and especially that great, magnificent, glorious, most thrilling June issue of the mosta of the besta of science-fiction magazines ..."

Thus TIME surveyed the field on July 10, 1939. Almost ten years later, on May 30, 1949, TIME reviewed Weinbaum's A MARTIAN ODYSSEY and said of the "rabid fans" who support fantasy's publishing houses: "Readers of science-fiction include a special cult which specializes in collecting the classics and faithfully supports the worthy publishing ventures. Several publishers estimate that from 30% to 40% of their readers are professional men, some of them scientists who read the stories for relaxation but with a sharp eye for scientific errors ..."

Your homework assignment is this: was the change in TIME's attitude due to the fact that TIME has become more tolerant of jitterbugs in the interim, or that fandom has actually grown up?

FANZINES, 1949:

- *SCIENTIFANTASY, quarterly, 20¢. Grossman & Kroll, 1031 W. 18th, Des Moines, Ia.
- SHADOWLAND, (no data). S.J. Martinez, 1830 E. 15th st, Tulsa, 4, Oklahoma.
- SHANGRI-LA, every 6 weeks, 15¢. FJ Acker - man, 236½ N. Hampshire, Hollywood Cal.
- SOUTHERN FANDOM, irregular, 10¢. Lionel Innman, Rte 1, Ripley, Tennessee.
- SPACETEER (recently folded). Lin Carter, 173½ S. Newark, St. Petersburg, Fla.
- SPACEWARP, monthly, 15¢. Arthur H. Rapp, 2120 Bay st, Saginaw, Michigan.
- SPATIUM, irregular, 10¢. Ronald Stone, Box 61, Clinton, New York
- SPEARHEAD, irregular, 10¢. Tom Carter, 817 Starling ave, Martinsville, Virginia.
- STF TRADER, monthly, 5¢. J.T. Oliver, 712 32nd street, Columbus, Georgia.
- SYDNEY FUTURIAN (recently folded). Vol 1 Molesworth, 160 Beech st., Coogee, Sydney, Australia.
- * TORCON REPORT, booklet, 50¢. Ned McKeown, 1398 Mt. Pleasant Road, Toronto, Ont.
- TRITON (recently folded), R.H. Woodman & Ed Cox, 4 Spring st, Lubec, Maine.
- VITON, bi-monthly, 10¢. Rosco E. Wright, 146 E. 12th ave, Eugene, Oregon.
- WILD HAIR, irregular, 15¢. Charles Burbee, 7429 Riverton ave, Sun Valley, Calif.
- WONDER, bi-monthly, no price. Mike Tealby, 8 Burfield ave, Loughborough, Leics., England.

-- addenda --

* UNTITLED: received just at press time was a 144 page index of science-fiction, edited by William Evans and published by Robert Peterson, 1308 S. Vine st, Denver Colorado. It bore neither title nor price. Similar in scope and ambition to the IMAGI-INDEX mentioned earlier, this index details the contents of 26 s-f magazines (and combinations of magazines) published from 1926 through 1948, giving in each instance the title, author, illustrator, length, date, and kind of story.

* THE FANNUAL: obtainable in the near future at \$1, from Forrest J Ackerman, Box 6151 (Metro Station), Los Angeles 55, Calif., will be a 150-paged fan annual. In five sections, the annual intends to survey the s-f fan-scene of today: Events of the Year, Fans & Fanzines, Fan Organizations, Fantasy Books, and 1 more. The Fantasy Foundation, underwriters of the project, solicit your cash support.

Lionel Innman (Rte 1, Ripley, Tenn.) is seeking a partial or complete set of "Le Zombie" preparatory to publishing a 200-page humor anthology. If you have same, write first.

Having reached the bitter end, you are faced with a decision: if you desire the next issue, write for it (no charge). If you do not want it, file this under "W".

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