

# *Etherline.*

## *Science Fiction Journal.*

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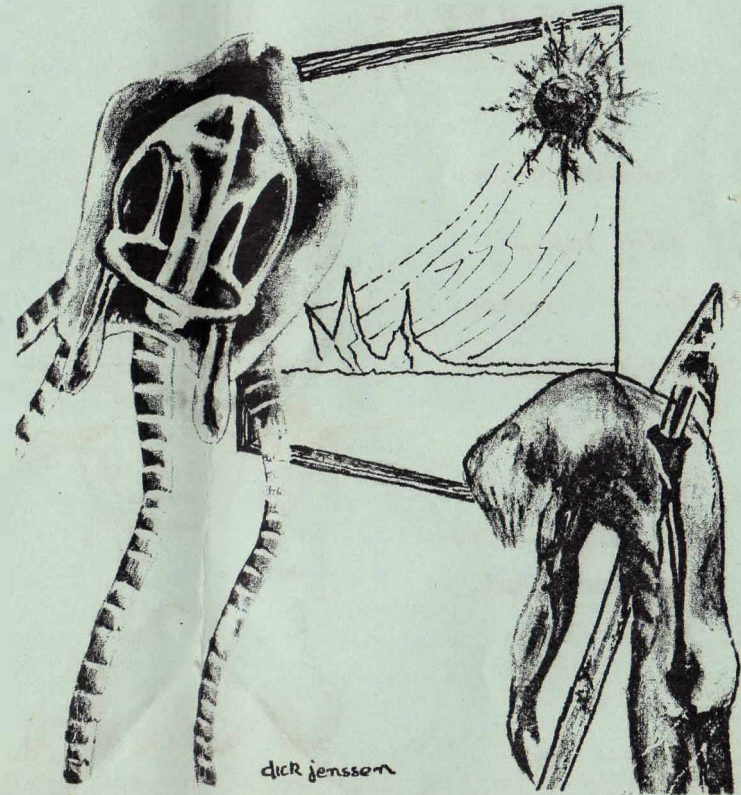
"MEET ERIC  
NORTH  
AUST. S.F.  
AUTHOR"

By  
FRANK BRYNING

AUTHOR STORY  
LISTING

SCI FI  
FLASHES

MURKY YON



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ISSUE No. **65**

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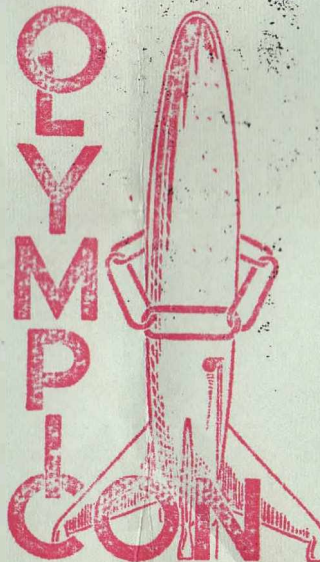
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THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

# MEET ERIC NORTH AUSTRALIAN S.F. AUTHOR

by Frank Bryning

Publication of THE SECOND SPHERE in the SUN NEWS-PICTORIAL, Melbourne, between December 16 1955 and January 20, 1956, will have brought the name of Eric North before Victoria's SF fans, as well as many thousands of newspaper readers.

In April, 1955, the John C. Winston Company, Philadelphia, published THE ANT MEN - a science fantasy novel, also by Eric North. There is also a paper-covered Italian edition published by Mondatori Editore, Rome. I saw a copy of the Winston edition when I was in Melbourne at the beginning of September last year, and had the pleasure of meeting the author.

'Eric North', already listed in Don Tuck's exhaustive and meticulous HANDBOOK OF SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY, is a pseudonym of an Australian author of long-established eminence in the field of Australian literature. His novels of Australian life on the land and in the bush, and his articles and short stories, written under his real name, Bernard Cronin, have long since earned him an enviable standing in Australian letters.

Here is what WHO'S WHO IN AUSTRALIA says of him :

" CRONIN, Bernard Charles, Author: Son of Charles F. Cronin of Acton, London, Eng.; b. Mar 13, 1884., Ealing, Eng.; ed. The Grange, South Yarra, Surrey Coll., Surrey Hills, Melb., and Dookie Agric. Coll., Vic.; Fink Scholarship 1900; Dux and Gold Medallist 1901; Diploma Agric. Educ. 1901; cattle raising and farming until 1913

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL



founded Derelicts Club, Melb. in conjunction with Gertrude Hart, 1920; from it later inaugurated the Socy. of Aus. Authors, Pres. 1927-34; founded Quill Club, Melbourne, 1935; publications, THE COASTLANDERS, 1918; TIMBER WOLVES, 1920; BLUFF STAKES, 1922; SALVAGE, 1923; RED DAWSON, WHITE GOLD, 1927; DRAGON FLY, TREASURE OF THE TROPICS, 1928; BRACKEN, 1929; BUSHRANGING SIL-HOUETTES (in conj. with Arthur Russell) 1932; THE SOW'S EAR, 1933; VALLEY OF STARS (pseu. Wallace Dixon) 1935; DEATH RIDES THE DESERT (pseu. Dennis Adair), 1938; Monograph HOW RUNS THE ROAD?, 1948; THE ANT MEN (pseu. Eric North), 1955; A CHIP ON MY SHOULDER (pseu. Eric North), 1956; contributed to Braille Libraries, Manchester and Dublin, novels and short stories; recreations, gardening, conversation; address, 27 Moorhouse St., East Camberwell, Melb. Vic.'

(CHIP ON MY SHOULDER, a murder mystery novel -- not SF -- has just been published in England and USA, and is due in Australian bookshops).

From that list of publications there is an important omission (from a SF standpoint, at least). The novel TOAD, published about 1930 by Hodder & Stoughton, is not mentioned. TOAD is a science fantasy about a man who could set water afire by dropping in it a small but potent pellet. It was originally serialised in Melbourne HERALD (1924) as THE GREEN FLAME, and it appeared later under that title in the American ARGOSY (1939) and in A. MERITT'S FANTASY (1950).

Another Cronin-North science fantasy, THE SATYR was serialised in the Melbourne HERALD in 1924, and later appeared in ARGOSY (1938) and FANTASY NOVELS (1950), under the title of THREE AGAINST THE STARS.

It is a fine testimony to the industry and meticulousness of Don Tuck that, in his HANDBOOK he has on record the following references to Eric North-Bernard Cronin :

Pseudonym Listing: No. 205 -- North, Eric -- Cronin, Bernard. Main Listing : 'North, Eric -- better known pn of Bernard Cronin, recent r: THREE AGAINST THE STARS (o.A 1938, FN May'50), THE GREEN FLAME, (A 1939, AMF Jul'50)."

(Magazine titles given above will permit expansion of Don Tuck's codes).

Other fantasy and science fantasy items by Cronin have been published here and there in Australian periodicals before he was particularly interested in, or perhaps, aware of science fiction/fantasy as a specialised market. For example, THE BULLETIN years ago published his THE DAEMON OF SAUCER FLAT, THE MAN WITH TWO VOICES, THE COLOURS OF WRIGGLY BUBBLE THE FIRST OF THE MONTH and others, mostly with a humorous twist.

'I have always loved the bizarre and the fantastic,' he testifies. 'Imagination is based on experience; fancy is not ..... I like the freedom of fancy --- of fantasy..... It is a fact that you can make a thing credible simply by believing, insisting, that it is credible.....'

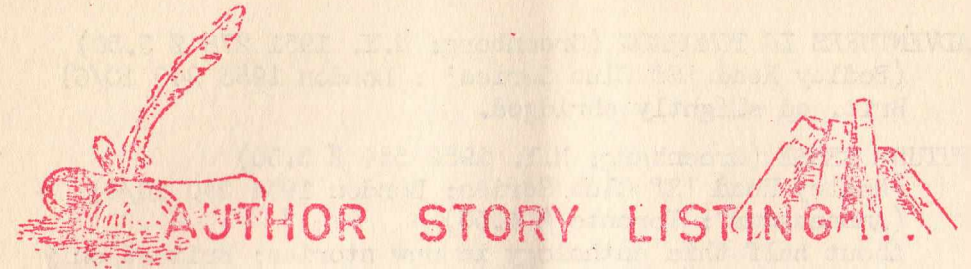
In general, Cronin-North is on the side of fantasy, rather than of close adherence to Gernsback's 'extrapolation of known scientific concepts', and water tight argumentation of theoretical 'super science'. He holds that the evidence supports the reality of the lost Atlantis -- and generously presented me with much of the evidence in the form of his own valued copy of the classic ATLANTIS, by Ignatius Donnelly, for which I shall always be grateful. He is zestful in reading and writing about adventures in space and in other spheres of existence, but is sceptical of our being permitted to travel beyond our natural element -- the atmosphere of Earth. He is inclined to accept flying saucers as real -- but they are not likely to be from any planet we know. More probably, he thinks, they are from another sphere or plane of existence -- vide THE SECOND SPHERE.

Bernard Cronin is a hearty and genial host, and an amiable conversationalist. Sitting back in an armchair, a lock of luxuriant grey hair falling over his forehead, a good humoured smile relaxing his rather rugged countenance, a cigarette smouldering in his gesturing hand, he could be taken for a retired farmer turned philosopher. But his philosophy goes deeper than the homespun precepts of one who merely distills a collection of wholesome principles from a lifetime of preoccupation with the soil. I would say that his philosophy does have those very qualities - but with them are the freedom and breadth of interest, the tolerance, and the maturity of one who has seen life through the eyes of others, as well as his own. He has 'read the books....' He knows there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamed of in either science or science fantasy. Above all, his outlook is as fresh and modern and as forward-looking as any science-fictioneer's should be.

I doubt whether Bernard Cronin could be brought into any sustained participation in SF fan-activity. He is somewhat diffident about his role and his significance as a SF author. He is fully conscious of his standing in the broad field of Australian literature, and of his commitments there. But 'I have no pretensions whatever in the SF field.....' he says. 'SF, so far as I have manifested it myself, is just another form of imaginative writing which I enjoy doing for its own sake..... I don't want to raise the 'horse laff' among you blokes. However, I've a fairly tough hide, and can take it.....'

Pretensions or not, Bernard Cronin-Eric North has some significance in the SF field - and especially in Australia. Most particularly, since he lives in Melbourne, where the Olympicon -- Fifth Australian Science Fiction Convention -- is to be held at the end of this year, it is hoped that delegates, fans and visitors will have the opportunity of meeting him there, and, perhaps, hearing from him. I have his assurance that he is tough enough to take it. I would like to assure him that he will be very welcome, and that, if he cares to dish it out, we can take it too!

Frank Bryning.



No. 25.

KENDALL FOSTER CROSSEN

Compiled by

Donald H. Tuck.

Formerly a radio writer and newspaper man, this author often writes for the detective market. Most of his science fiction writings have appeared in the Standard prozines besides which he has compiled two anthologies, in one of which he incorporated half new stories.

#### COLLECTION

- C1 ONCE UPON A STAR (Holt: N.Y 1953 237 \$ 2.95)(Clarke Irwin  
Toronto : \$ 3.75. )  
C of 4 Manning Draco stories : 15, 22, 20, 5.

#### POCKET BOOKS

- P1 YEAR OF CONSENT (Dell 32 : N.Y. 1954 224 25c)

#### ANTHOLOGIES

Contd.



- AA2 ADVENTURES IN TOMORROW (Greenberg: N.Y. 1951 278 \$ 3.50)  
(Bodley Head 'Sf Club Series' : London 1953 240 10/6)  
Brit. ed slightly abridged.
- AF8 FUTURE TENSE (Greenberg: N.Y. 1952 354 \$ 3.50)  
(Bodley Head 'Sf Club Series: London 1954 240 10/6)  
(Ambassador : Toronto \$ 4.50)  
About half this anthology is new stories; Brit ed only  
7 of original 14 stories.

STORIES

- |                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Agile Algolian, The.nv         | TWS Win'54      |
| 2. Ambassadors from Venus, The.nv | PS Mar'52, AB1  |
| 3. Assignment to Aldebaran. nv    | TWS Feb'53      |
| 4. Boy Who Cried Wolf 359, The.s  | AS Feb'51       |
| 5. Caphian Caper, The.nv          | TWS Dec'52, C1  |
| 6. Closed Door, The.s             | AS Aug/Sep'53   |
| 7. Get Along Little Unicorn.nv    | SpS Dec'52      |
| 8. Girl Next Door, The.nv         | FSM Nov'52      |
| 9. Gnome's Gniess, The.nv         | SS May'52       |
| 10. Halos, Inc.n                  | SS Apr'53       |
| 11. His Head in the Clouds.nv     | SS Jan'54       |
| 12. Hour of the Mortals, The.nv   | SS Aug'52       |
| 13. Last Touch of Venus, The.s    | AS Apr'51       |
| 14. Love that Air !.nv            | SS Dec'52       |
| 15. Merakian Miracle, The.nv      | TWS Oct'51, C1  |
| 16. Mission to Mizar.nv           | TWS Dec'53      |
| 17. My Old Venusian Home.s        | SS Jan'53       |
| 18. Passport to Pax.n             | SS Jul'52       |
| 19. Plague.nv                     | SFA Mar'54      |
| 20. Polluxian Pretender, The.nv   | TWS Oct'52, C1  |
| 21. Public Enemy.s                | DSF Dec'52      |
| 22. Regal Rigelian, The.nv        | TWS Feb'52, C1  |
| 23. Restricted Clientele.s        | TWS Feb'51, AA2 |
| 24. Things of Distinction.s       | SS Mar'52, AF8  |
| 25. Whistle Stop in Space.n       | TWS Aug'53      |
| 26. Year of Consent.n             | P1              |
- Connected Stories : 'Manning Draco' series 15, 22, 20, 5, 16, 1

# SCI-FI FLASHES

from... Forrest J. Ackerman...

Among the possibilities of the near future is one that Mario Lanza may star in a remake of the famous Lon Chaney starrer, THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA.....On the subject of Chaney, there could be a life story of him before long with James Cagney in the lead role..... Basil Rathbone, the 'Sherlock Holmes' of movies, is in for a spooky role in THE BLACK SLEEP, while THE GHOST OF DRURY LANE is rumored to have been made in England.

George Pal will essay a TV sci-fi series in the near future, as will Al Zimkalist, under the title of TALES OF THE UNKNOWN, while William James will enter the field with SCIENCE FICTION FILMMAKER'S PRESENT.

Films already completed and awaiting release are : THE BRAIN MACHINE, INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS, INVASION BY FLYING SAUCERS, NINETEEN EIGHTY FOUR, FORBIDDEN PLANET, FLAME GIRLS FROM SPACE, TIMESLIP, ON THE THRESHOLD OF SPACE, THE GAMMA PEOPLE, THE INDESTRUCTIBLE MAN, BRIDE OF THE MONSTER and WORLD WITHOUT END.

A few pungent comments on one of the above are in order. Originally released to a few houses as BRIDE OF THE ATOM, the title was changed after a few weeks to BRIDE OF THE MONSTER. Whatever title this appears under in your city, and especially if coupled with a little gem titled THE PHANTOM FROM 10,000 LEAGUES, run, don't walk, in the opposite direction, as fast as you can.

Anent the afore mentioned PHANTOM FROM TEN THOUSAND LEAGUES, one question immediately came to the mind after viewing it 'Was this trip really necessary?'. My answer is a decided NO! The PHANTOM, a large variety of alligator, dwells beneath the surface of the Pacific, conveniently adjacent to Hollywood. Close by the monster, there's a deposit of uranium, which an errant scientist has given a shot of his discovery, HEF (Hydro Energy Force). The irritated uranium is annoyed by this, and promptly gives out a shaft of lethal light in protest. After several people are killed for no apparent reason, the uranium, monster and scientist are all blown up by a cut from a newsreel on the Bikini tests. Not before time, either!

It's apparent that the insects are taking over! After the phenomenal success of TARANTULA, a wave of films featuring the rampaging insect are planned. THE DEADLY MANTIS, THE ANT MAN (with Artist turned actor Paul Blaisdell creating and operating), CREATURE FROM GREEN HELL (super wasp), and Ivan Tor's upcoming THE INSECT STORY.

Forrest J. Ackerman.

## OUR COVER

The cover on this issue is, to be frank, an experiment. The original drawing, by Dick Jenssen, is an excellent example of color illustration, with the 'BEM' having a delicate green body and blue 'interior', while the victim is a light brown with yellow overtones, and the blood is, naturally, red. The sun in the background is a vivid red, and the balance of the illo is in normal black and white.

The experiment noted above, is to see whether this type of color illo will come out on an electronic stencil, in shading and definite 'body'. I certainly hope so. IJC.



Peter Jefferson, 41 Mary St., Longuerville NSW wants US GALAXY Oct 50 to Dec 51, US ASTOUNDING pre 52, US. UNKNOWNs, US F&SF pre 55, BRE ASTOUNDING pre 49 and any BRE UNKNOWN and AVON READERS.

For good condition copies, he will pay cash or trade current and back issue US magazines and PB's.

Leon Stone, 28 Elgin St., Gordon, NSW has need of SLANT 1 & 3. Will trade 2 prozines for each.

John Gurney, 46 MacDonald St., Norman Park Brisbane, Queensland, wants BRE ASTOUNDING as under:

Vol. 5. No. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 9

Vol. 6. No. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 10

Vol. 7. No. 1

Mr. E. Simm, 412 Collins St., Melbourne, Vic. wants the 3 US ASTOUNDINGs containing ICEWORLD by Clement.

Bob McCubbin, 90 Lilydale Grove, Hawthorn East, Vic. wants AUTHENTIC 46 in good condition.



Chas Mustchin, Miles St., Coolangatta, Q'land  
wants : US F&SF. Jan, Feb, May, Jun, Aug, Sep, Oct, 1953

May, Nov. 1954.

Any 1949, 1950, 1951.

US. IF Feb. Mar 54.

Has for exchange US IF. Jul 54, Sep 54, Oct 54  
F&SF. Feb, Apr 52; GALAXY Sep, Oct 52; TWS Feb 51, Oct 39; START -  
LING Jun 52; AMAZING Feb 37.

3/10840, Sgt. R. P. Smith, Brit Com Amenities  
Unit, Cinema Sec, Kure, Japan, BAPO 5. has for sale the following  
items :

HC edition of AWAY AND BEYOND by Van Vogt at  
20/-; PB's STAR SHORT NOVELS, THE EXPLORERS by Kornbluth, FAR AND  
AWAY by Boucher, SCIENCE FICTION THINKING MACHINES and TAKEOFF by  
Kornbluth at 3/- each. US F&SF Dec 54, Jan, Mar, Apr, Jun, Jul 55  
at 3/- each. All prices post paid. Postal Money Order only.

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## THE MURKY YON-

Sidelights of American Fandom by Alan C. Elms.

PROJECT VANGUARD is now the official name for the USA's earth satellite program. Along with the vanguard satellite comes the vanguard of a probable flood of space - travel - slanted advertisements, in not only the science publications but also the news and general-circulation magazines. A good percentage of the ads are largely intelligent and conservative, but they are not of the annoying 'This is not science fiction, but FACT' breed.

From TIME of October 24 comes the first faint warning of the trend, an advertisement with a Jules Verne touch: 'Pan Am will fly you around the world for only \$ 135 .00 down,....20 monthly payments of \$ 73.' A week later there is a Bonestellian painting of a sleek rocket ship zooming around among assorted cratered moons and ringed planets, and the Message: 'The future is now . The Automation desk figuring machine is here..... We refer to the new Monroe-Matic calculator.'

In another week...egad ! A picture of Willy Ley and a von Braun rocket model ! (No copies of GALAXY are in sight !) The headline on the ad reads : 'Fuels for the Stratosphere....and beyond ! Willy Ley, Famous Rocket Expert, ' and the message : 'During my lecture tours, I visit a large number of oil company laboratories. Each time I find oil scientists vitally interested in the fuels of tomorrow. In fact, our discussion automatically seems to turn to fuels for all kinds of rockets - for rocket propelled aircraft - and finally for space going craft!' There follows an explanation of the qualities nec-

THE LEADING SCIENCE FICTION JOURNAL

essary for the ideal rocket fuel - including the rather strange and unexplained statement, 'It must not be too light because lots of fuel weight in the tank is essential' -- and an eulogism of American Oilmen. We are informed that the Message is 'one of a series of reports by outstanding Americans who were invited to examine the job being done by the US oil industry,' and that the ad. is paid for by the American Petroleum Institute of New York. Willy Ley - an outstanding American! Ah, yes.....!

Three weeks later, on November 28, TIME and other national magazines feature another full page ad, this time by Martin of Baltimore, an aircraft corporation which seems to have dropped the word 'Aircraft' from its title lately. This advertisement shows two circles of the same size, the moon and a silver dollar, and the headline, 'Which do you want?' 'Money or the Moon' continues the text. 'It was reaching for the moon which resulted in the development of one of the most dynamic engineering team operations in the whole new world of flight systems development. Most of the people who served on that team are young and moving ahead in rapid style. Do you know what's happening at Martin? ... and what tomorrow may hold for you there in the fields of aircraft, missiles, rocketry, nuclear power and space vehicle development?' Space vehicle development.....and the omission of the word 'Aircraft' out of the company name. An intriguing development.....

In the same issue of TIME is another full page ad., by Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation of New York. There is a color painting of a gigantic hand reaching into space, toward the moon, and the head appropriately reads, 'Reaching for the moon.' The Message asks: 'Who dares call anything impossible today? Not when research scientists are constantly seeking and finding new wonders to improve the way you live....AND THE MOON? The work of Union Carbide scientists in new metals such as titanium, in rocket fuels, and in the beneficial uses of atomic energy, is helping man reach in that direction, too.' The advertising agencies are nearing pure poetry now.....

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, the most intelligent of

the lay magazines, is also getting its share of advertisements. In the November issue there are several of interest: The Electronic Computer division of Remington Rand inserts a picture of a Collier's type baby satellite, and the heading 'Launching Tomorrow's Satellite' and the Message: 'When the first man-made satellite is launched on its orbit around the earth, it will owe its existence to the thousands of missiles which have preceded it, and to the careful analysis of their patterns of flight. The Univac Scientific of Remington Rand has speeded up this effort immeasurably, handling flight analyses for the nation's guided missile program.' Another as shows a silver rocket heading for space on a cloud of smoke, and under it are the words, 'Mister Engineer, the way is UP ... when you join the Bendix radio engineering team!' There is a full ad from Pratt & Whitney for a 'Project Engineer, who can assume full responsibility for developing controls for a nuclear-powered aircraft engine.', and yet another that says, 'An invitation to join the Aircraft Nuclear Propulsion Field: The next step in the application of nuclear power-aircraft propulsion -- offers both professional challenge and opportunities for personal achievement at General Electric' and in the December issue Pratt & Whitney expands to two thirds of a page and: 'Engineers to develop a nuclear powered aircraft engine.' A simple help-wanted ad, that brings the question,

'After nuclear power aircraft, what?'

But the best advertisement is yet to be. In the December 12 TIME, Martin of Baltimore, builders of the Viking rocket series, buys two pages and waxes poetic, with a picture of the Earth with direction arrows circling around, & the heading: THE SHOT THAT WILL BE SEEN AROUND THE WORLD. 'The big count-down has begun. In something less than 6,000 working hours, a voice will toll off the final seconds to a zero count that will commence the greatest adventure of our time. 'That zero count will launch ESV VANGUARD - the Earth Satellite Vehicle that will take its place in history as man's first exploratory step in the conquest of the final frontier - space itself.... One day soon, in the hour before sunrise, as men the



world over train their binoculars upon a brilliant point of light in the sky, they well may reflect upon the universality of man's faith in the infinite future of man.

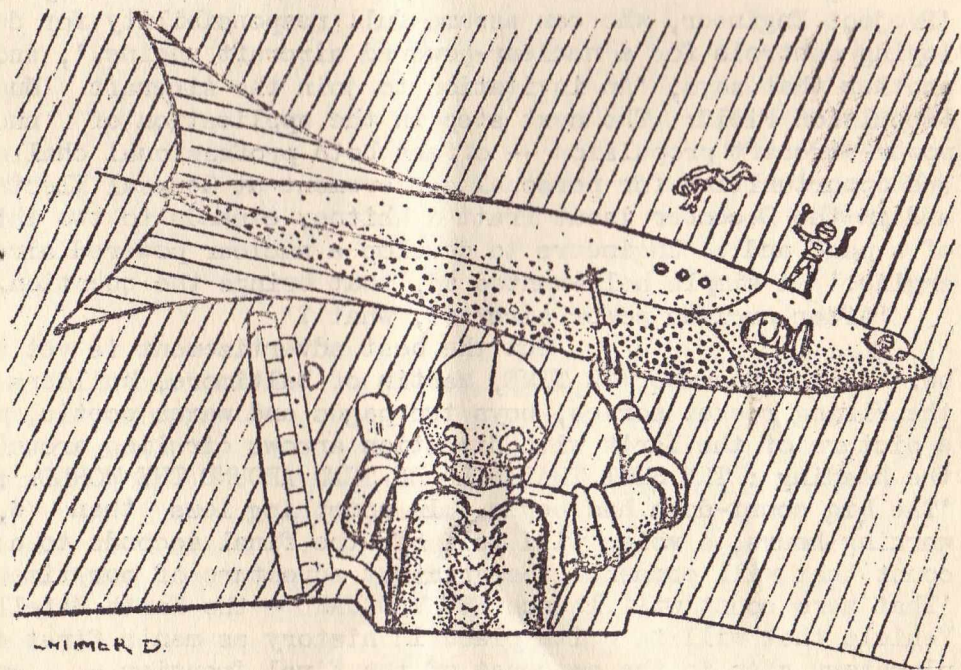
'It should be an immense moment in history, and we are extremely proud of our responsibility in helping to bring it about.'

Yes, the big count-down has begun....and at last the big corporations are turning their corporate eyes to space.

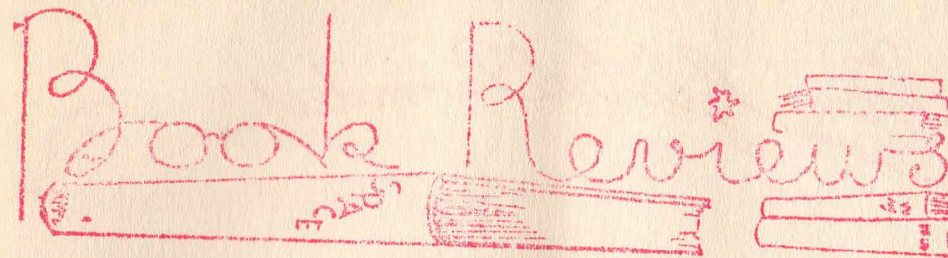
Perhaps we'll get there yet.

Alan Elms.

.....



CHIMER D.



TIME AND AGAIN by Clifford D. Simak, published by Wm. Heinemann Ltd., obtainable at McGills at 15/6.

This story was originally published as a serial in GALAXY under the title of TIME QUARRY. Asher Sutton has been sent out on a mission of discovery to Cygni 61. He returns in a non-human form, with a symbiotic abstraction in his mind. He writes a book THIS IS DESTINY saying that no life form is ever alone. This causes a rising among the androids, and leads to a conflict fought through space and time.

It will need at least two readings but I can recommend it highly.

Bob McCubbin

.....

COSTIGAN'S NEEDLE by Jerry Sohl, published by Grayson & Grayson and available at McGills at 12/9.

This is Sohl's best effort, and shows evidence of careful planning. Dr. Costigan invents his 'Needle' so called because it is space ship shaped, but with a hole thru the base. Anything living placed in the Needle's eye disappear. When a full sized Needle is built, the first volunteer disappears - minus clothes and dental fillings - and so do four strong policemen who go looking for him.

The resulting furore brings a religious fanatic into the picture, and he promptly sends a block of the city into the alternate world by fusing the machine.

Really worth reading.

Bob McCubbin





New books out in UK, and available in Melbourne shortly are : PORTALS OF TOMORROW edited by August Derleth, from Cassell at 12/6 stg.; STORIES FOR TOMORROW edited by William Sloane from Eyre & Spottiswoode at 18/- stg.; BEST SCIENCE FICTION NOVELS 2 edited by Bleiler & Dikty from Grayson at 10/6 s.

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New books out in the States include a collection of shorts by Chad Oliver, ANOTHER KIND, from Ballantine at 35c.; THE LONG TOMORROW by Leigh Brackett from Doubleday at \$2.95.; a PB edition of Aldous Huxley's BRAVE NEW WORLD from Bantam, at 35c.; THE CAVES OF STEEL by Isaac Asimov from Signet at 35c.; INVADERS OF EARTH edited by Groff Conklin from Pocket Books at 25c THIS FORTRESS WORLD by James E. Gunn from Gnome Press at \$ 3.00 .; THE MAN WHO UPSET THE UNIVERSE by Isaac Asimov from Ace at 35c.

Books due out in the near future include : THE FORBIDDEN PLANET from Bantam; RACES & PEOPLE by Asimov, from Abelard-Schuman; ROCKET MAN by Correy from Holt; UTOPIA 1976 by Ernst from Rinehart.

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#### AUTHOR STORY LISTING Series.

The next author to be featured in this series will be MURRAY LEINSTER - and it's quite a large one.

Also featured will be a listing to date giving authors and issue numbers of ETHERLINE in which they have appeared.

IJC



## Authentic SCIENCE FICTION 63

The cover is apparently by two artists - GORDON on the Cover and STOWE inside. While well illustrated, it is extremely dull.

Lead Story THE LADY AND THE BULL by J. T. McIntosh is part 1 of a 2 part serial - planetary colonists to be abandoned by the home world, but they don't want to be. Fair so far.

THE SHELL GAME by Ted Tubb has a poor con man getting conned. Poor. RONDO IN TIME by Martin Jordan has a composer finding he is a genius in the future. Poor.

COME TO PRESTONWELL by Ken Bilmer tells of a new way to colonise. Fair. UNWANTED EDEN by E. Wilding - shipwrecked travellers can't even perpetuate the species because they've been sterilized by the blow-up of the ship. Fair.

WEDDING BELLS FOR SYLVIA by Len Shaw adds a new twist on plagiarism - fair.

Usual articles with a rather good one on Silicones. The mag is still low standard, but hoping to see an improvement under Ted Tubb next month.

Jack Keating.



## *Astounding* SCIENCE FICTION

BRE January 1956. 2/3.

The rather grim cover by Kelly Freas illustrates the new serial by Eric Frank Russell, CALL HIM DEAD, which starts off very well indeed.

JUDGMENT DAY by L. Sprague de Camp tell us not to bully our schoolfellows - they may be in a position to destroy the earth one day. Lester del Rey's VICTORY is space opera but very well done indeed. PAGAN by Algis Budrys shows that we are always ready to give advice, but it's a different matter when it comes to following the course advocated.

James Blish's ONE SHOT tells of an ex-gambler who found something better than running for congress.

FEEDING TIME by James E. Gunn shows us one of the more unusual difficulties under which psychiatrists are working.

Tony Santos.

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## SCIENCE FICTION Monthly No. 6 2/-

The cover this issue was unfortunately reprinted from COSMOS.

THE PROXY HEAD by Robert Bloch concerns an alien robot on earth. Fair. WITH INTENT TO KILL by John Jakes does not belong in this magazine. Gunman's revolver dislikes killing. Poor.

Carl Jacobi's THE GENTLEMAN IS AN EPWA tells of a colonial officer who seeks to outwit his robot assistant. Fair. OUTSIDE IN THE SAND by Evan Hunter tells of an all too human Martian monster. Good.

Larry Harris combines SF and fantasy in EXPATRIATE which concerns the science of the gnomes. Amusing. VISITOR FROM NOWHERE by B. Traven is described as 'a strange story of the ancient Aztecs'. Anyone reading this story and understanding why it was written or printed, please advise me. I'd like to know!

This issue rather poor.

Tony Santos.

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## *Fantasy and Science Fiction*

Aust. Edition No. 5. 2/-

A good cover and a very fair issue. The most outstanding stories being MISS PRINKS by Gordon R. Dickson and VISITOR FROM VENUS by T. S. Watt. Each tells of a simple people who have great events in their lives.

TIME PAYMENT by Michael Shaara is a time machine story with a difference.

How to swim like a fish was demonstrated by an odd little man in FISH STORY by Leslie Charteris.

Peculiar inkstains which can't be removed in REVIEW COPY by Anthony Boucher.

MOUSETRAP is a tale of revenge by Andre Norton.

The third instalment of STAR LUM-MOX by Robert Heinlein, MINT, IN D/J by Ruth Laura Wainwright, WARRIOR IN DARKNESS by Levi Crow and a short novelet by Robert Abernathy, HEIRS APPARENT complete this interesting issue.

Marjorie E. Santos.

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# NEW WORLDS SCIENCE FICTION

No. 43

3/-.

Cover by Quinn illustrates RED ALERT. I can't place the incident in the story, by James White, which is a rather unusual yarn about the evacuation of Earth before the sun goes into nova. Good.

HOST AGE by John Brunner is a somewhat involved story of an invasion of men from the future who spread the genus of a disease in our time so that they will be immune and defeat ET invaders. Fair only. THE HOT POTATOE by Alan Barclay is another of his Jocko series about a booby trapped space ship and how it's investigated. Fair.

THE PENSIONERS by Alan Guthrie is another story of immortality thru the complete regeneration of all cells in the body including the brain. Fair. MAGIC TOUCH by Duncan Lamont is how to develop an anti-gravity device, but nobody finds out. A story very reminiscent of Robert Sheckley. Good.

John Newman is very interesting as usual, in an article on bacteria. Interiors by White and Quinn are all good. Surprised to hear that this mag is rocky - perhaps it is because it is consistently printing high quality yarn, which don't come cheap.

A good issue.

Jack Keating.

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