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the sciencefiction weekly newspaper

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WHOLE NUMBER 85

JAMES V. TAURASI TO CONDUCT SCIENCE FICTION LEAGUE!

FANTASY-NEWS' FORMER EDITOR PLANS TO MAKE S.F.L. A 100% FAN SOCIETY!!!

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL BE MADE

UP OF ACTIVE STAFANS AND AUTHORS

In a telephone conversation with Mort Weisinger, editor of THRILLING WONDER STORIES, on Monday Jan. 29th, James V. Taurasi, former editor of FANTASY NEWS, got the O.K. to go ahead and start work on a full page SFL department to start soon in TWS. The entire SCIENCE FICTION LEAGUE business, news of chapters, reports of meetings, stf tests, and other activites will be handled entirely by Taurasi, who said in a recent interview, "I promise to make the SFL a real fan society." The SFL department will be a full page, double column, six point type, and will be conducted somewhat differently from Jim's "Fantasy Times" page in FUTURE FICTION. Taurasi's aims to revive the SFL and make it as active as in the days when WONDER was a Gernsback mag and Hornig was running the SFL.

An entirely new board of directors will be appointed from among the active fans and authors of the day. Of course, no one who already serves on any other professional fan club office would be eligible.

Jimmy appeals to all SCIENCE FICTION LEAGUE CHAPTERS to send their minutes and a report of their activities direct to him, and also asks for suggestions from any members of the SFL as to how best to run the club. He welcomes cooperation.

GIRL REPORTERS INTERVIEW EDITOR OF FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES

On Friday, Feb. 2nd, Frances Sykora and Frances Alberti, two Fantasy-News Girl Reporters interviewed Mary Gnaedinger, editor of FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES, and presented her with a formal invitation to attend today's meeting of the QUEENS SCIENCE FICTION LEAGUE. Miss Gnaedinger was extremely surprised to see two feminine fans, and said she determined now more than ever to join the QSFL especially since she would not be the only lady member present.

FFM's charming editor stated that she appreciated the work the various fan mags have done to publicize FFM, and she thanks them one and all for the many valuable suggestions they have made.

The cover for the March issue is by Finlay. The proof copy was shown to the reporters. The design is "U" shaped, with a girl on the right, and a small castle in the left foreground against a background of trees. Phillip M. Fisher's "Devil Of the Western Sea" will be the new story in the April issue. Coblentz's "Fire Gas" will be another story slated for publication soon, a fine satire. Frank L. Pollock's "Finis", (1904); England's "Darkness & Dawn"; and Merrit's "Dragon Glass" out soon.

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Editor: Will Sykora

Associates: Jimmy Taurasi, Sam Moskowitz, Mario Racio, Jr.

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----- B O O T S C I E N C E F I C T I O N -----

EDITORIAL by Will Sykora.

In this issue of FANTASY NEWS may be seen the results of our plea for news of fan societies made in a recent editorial. At the time of writing this, two local clubs have submitted items concerning their activities. They are the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society and the Cincinnati Science Fiction League. Both are headed by very active fans, well known to science fiction fandom.

Still to be heard from are the Baltimore Science Fiction League, Chicago Science Fiction League, Illini Fantasy Fictioneers, Los Angeles Science Fiction League, and other fan clubs in Washington, D.C.; Comanche, Okla; Dallas, Texas; and many others. We have discovered that many of these clubs have been carrying on meetings, both formal and informal, but for some reason have not realized the interest aroused in their activities by the recent upswing of fan activity following the great NEW YORK WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION held last year. We again make a strong appeal this issue for news of meetings and activities of all fan clubs. If your activities are considered of interest to the science fiction fan world and IF THEY TEND TO POPULARIZE science fiction, they will surely be published.

Fan clubs are hereby urged to appoint some one of their members as official publicity representative. When your O.P.R. presents authentic news of your club and states that he represents it, he will be made a regular FANTASY NEWS REPORTER, be given a press card, and encouraged to contribute regularly to the columns of FANTASY NEWS

FAN MAG REVIEW By Harry Warner, Jr.
SCIENCE-FANTASY REVIEW: Jan. 1940.

Four pp of fan gossip and pro news, mimeod, lg size, 8 issues for one shilling. 14, Henley Ave., Litherland, Liverpool, 21, England.

LE VOMBITEUR: Nos. 25 and 27. Each 2 lg, mimeod pp. Mainly satire. Price completely problematical. 2574 Bedford Ave, Brooklyn, N.Y.

----- O D D I T E M S by FN REPORTERS. -----

SCRIBNER'S COMMENTATOR, a non-stf mag is featuring a future stf story. It is laid in 1960 and concerns the future of the present European war. Many interesting notes such as the death of Hitler, and the assassination of Stalin are contained. Though not the super sciencefiction type of tale, it is really of interest. This story is in the current issue now on the stands. (fl)

SPACEWAYS, a leading science fiction fan mag, published by Harry Warner, Jr. 303 Bryan Place, Hagerstown, Md, will be published in two weeks or thereabouts. (wss)

James V. Taurasi, former editor of Fantasy-News, is engaged to be married to Miss Rose Alberti, sister of Frances Alberti who is engaged to Will Sykora, present FN editor. Both sisters are members of the QUEENS SCIENCE FICTION LADIES' AUXILIARY. (js)

THE FEMININE FAN, a Pink Ribbon Publication, and fandom's only all-girl science fiction fan mag, is now going to press. This mag will be UNIQUE in that every stitch of work on it has been done by girls only including stencil typing and mimeograph work. (rz)

THE SHADOW magazine is s-f, about a scientist who discovers a drug which ages a person in a few minutes. He sends them to the morgue in a taxi. They die of old age en route. (bs)

----- S C I E N T I F I C by Bob Studley. -----

Two of three Arch Oboler's plays were stf last week. One, "The Day the Sun Exploded" was about the end of the earth; the other, "The Laughing Man", was about a man living in the future, who had just read a history of the 20th Century, and thought how silly we were having so many wars.

THE TIME STREAM by Sam Moskowitz.

Unable to find President Foley of SHORT STORIES, Inc. in, your reporter gleaned from his secretary that the reason given by the company for the dropping of Farnsworth Wright from WT is the latter's ill health. They claim he was unable to continue in his former capacity. FN will attempt to obtain a personal interview with Mr. Wright to learn his side of the story...The title of a new novel by Eando Binder coming up in STARTLING STORIES is "Seven Steps In Time", which Mort Weisinger claims to be something unusual...The Secretary over at MARVEL TALES office believes that MT may be continued, though nothing is definite as yet. If it is continued it will return to its science policy in preference to sex which was a decided flop. MARVEL has been tentatively promising a possible surprise to the fan world shortly...We wish to take space to applaud the publishers of ASTOUNDING, UNKNOWN, and THRILLING WONDER STORIES, for enlarging the type size in their mags and in the novel section of TWS... Another pro mag may follow suit shortly...James D. Tillman announces "Le Werewolf", a humorous printed supplement to Le Zombie...Ray Van Houten will shortly spring something BIG!...Ray has completed 16 printed pages of "Tesseract Annual", and will mail it as soon as he finishes 14 more mimeographed pages. Work has been progressing slowly because of limited funds...Peter Duncan has returned to fandom to the extent of writing some articles of praise and constructive criticism of science fiction. He says he has reformed! "The Rocket" is a newly contemplated fan mag by Dougherty of Los Angeles to be as big as S-F Fandom!... The March 1940 issue of AMAZING MYSTERY FUNNIES contains a one page feature "They Started It-Fantastic Fiction" reviewing the lives of Poe, Verne, and Doyle. May have been done by Giunta, though unsigned... SUBSCRIBE TO FANTASY NEWS, the SCIENCE FICTION WEEKLY NEWSPAPER. Never missed an issue in over a year and a half. Presenting sf news while it's hot! Subscribe now!!

STFAN CLUB ACTIVITIES.

Dale Tarr reports that the regular weekly meeting of the Cincinnati, O. SFL was held Friday, Jan 26 from 7:30 to 12:00 P.M. Kay Benton, on second attendance became a member, and fourth author on the rolls. Letter from absentee member Nelson S. Bond read. Bond reports big doings in the near future. Latest FANTASY NEWS and LeZ were read and one of Ross Rocklynne's latest mss. Ross has sold "Unguh Made a Fire" to ASTOUNDING, and will have a yarn in the second issue of PLANET as will Bond.

New officers elected were: Charles R. Tanner, Dir; Dale Tarr, Sec'y; and Ross Rocklynne, Kay Benton, and Ronald Howes on Activity Committee. Growth of chapter was discussed and the usual informal scientific and metaphysical discussions were indulged.

John V. Baltadonis, Secretary of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society reports that the club is perking up. They have 12 registered members and still growing. Their goal is to have 15 live-wire members before the Chicago Convention. Some come from as far as Upper Darby, and Radnor. On their rolls are: A.M. Phillips, Baltadonis, Madle, Agnew, Train, Bert, Quinn, Larsen, Whiteside, Newton, Young, and Lavanios, all active and well-known. Ten at a meeting is the record so far. Besides holding bi-weekly meetings, the PSFS issues "The PSFS News", sponsors the annual Philadelphia Science Fiction Conference, and other fascinating projects. The officers are: President: Robert A. Madle; Secretary: John V. Baltadonis; Treasurer: John Agnew. The program committee consists of Phillips, Train and Baltadonis.

The addresses of the above societies are: CINCINNATI SCIENCE FICTION LEAGUE, Dale Tarr, Sec'y, 816 Elm St, Cincinnati, Ohio; and The PHILADELPHIA SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY, J. V. Baltadonis, Sec'y, 1700 Frankford Ave, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FAN SOCIETIES!!!

SCIENTIRADIO by Millie Taurasi.

The Radio Build program (WJZ-8:30 P.M.) on Saturday, Feb. 3, presented two short supernatural fantasy plays, "Going Home", and "Moon Road".

The American Museum of Natural History present four astronomical programs this month: Feb. 2, "Morning and Evening Stars"; Feb. 9, "Crux-the Southern Cross"; Feb. 16, "Gemini-the Twins", Feb. 23, "Cancer-the Crab", over the Columbia network at 4:15 P.M.

The Hayden Planetarium program is broadcast every Saturday morning over the Mutual Broadcasting company's network at 11:00 A.M. Children in the audience participate.

MORE ODD ITEMS by FN Reporters.

The novel in the May UNKNOWN FANTASY FICTION will be a collaboration by L. Sprague deCamp and Fletcher Pratt. L. Ron Hubbard is now working on a new novel for the same mag. (jt)

LIFE magazine for Jan. 29th has many pictures of the Moon, taken through earth's largest telescopes. (mr)

The SATURDAY EVENING POST for Feb. 3rd, has an excellent article on Orson Welles and his "Martian Invasion" called "How To Raise a Child." (wss)

The Fantasy Amateur Press Association will not issue a Winter Mailing, but will combine the Winter and Spring mailings. James V. Taurasi, former Sec'y-Treas. will turn over all records in his possession to Robert A. Madle, present incumbent, this week. (mar)

BLUE RIBBON BOOKS, Inc. publish several of the weird books mentioned in Lovecraft's "Supernatural Horror In Literature". (wcl)

CLICK'S CARTOON ANNUAL has several scientific cartoons concerning as well as weird bits. (wcl)

Jack Binder has done beautiful oil painting especially for Jack Darrow, illustrating a scene from Clark Ashton Smith's "City Of the Singing Flame". (wcl)

Obtainable at Walgreen's book departments are "Land Under England" and "The Undying Monster" (next col.)

SCIENTIFILMS by Mario Racio, Jr.

"Dr. Cyclops", the latest in the fantasy film cycle, opens in NYC the first week in March at the PARAMOUNT. It tells the technicolor story of a scientist who reduces humans to a fifth of their natural size. Promises to be a real treat on the style of "The Devil Doll".

Pedro de Cordova, who played one of the "devil dolls", will next be seen in the supernatural film, "Earthbound".

LOCAL REVIVALS: "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde", (1932), stfilm with Frederick March and Miriam Hopkins at the ARDEN, Columbus Ave. and 103rd St, NYC, Feb. 6th and 7th.

"The Clairvoyant", (1935) with Claude (Invisible Man) Rains, and Fay Wray, at the GRANADA, 72nd St. between 1st and 2nd Aves, Feb. 9, 10.

First notice of a new British censorship ban was received by Arthur Lubin, director of UNIVERSAL'S unique Boris Karloff-Bela Lugosi horror picture, "Black Friday". Sounding sirens in sound pictures will be strictly censored. The siren will be changed to a clamorous bell.

Also playing locally are:- "The Blue Bird", "The Invisible Man Returns", "Return Of Dr. X", and "Pinocchio".

MORE ODD ITEMS by FN Reporters.

The latter is captioned "A tale of the fifth Dimension." The fifth dimension is supposed to surround the fourth and explain the supernatural. Full of suspense and terrific climax, recommended to fantasy lovers. (wcl)

BEG PARDON. Nelson S. Bond has written in to finally set right the story about his agents appearing recently in Fantasy-News. He says his agents are Sanders and Conroy, of New York, and that he has never been represented by Otis Adelbert Kline. He enclosed a sub to FN.

Bob Studley writes in to correct a faux pas in a recent FN concerning the authorship of "Lords Of Creation". It was written by Otto (Endo) Binder, and not by his brother Jack. (Thx for corrections-Ed.)