

NEWS
WHILE
IT'S
HOT!

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(SPECIAL FOUR PAGE ISSUE)

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WHOLE NUMBER 169

SOUTHERN STF ODYSSEY

SPECIAL TO FN by Fred Baker.

Baker Meets Earle Barr Hanson.

Cache Of Old Stf Mags Discovered.

RAYMOND WASHINGTON INTERVIEWED

After finally getting repairs done (paint and roof) in Miami, I am back in good ole Virginny. The book dealer I ran across who knows Earle Barr Hanson claimed to have much more than he did have. After careful inspection, I found a miscellaneous run of ASTOUNDINGS running from 1930 to '41. There were 97 copies in all and he stuck me for 25 bucks. All the rest were Ziff-Davis AMAZINGS and duplicates of '41 ASTOUNDINGS. The other store I visited had only recent mags, tho there were several good stf books by Taine, Weinbaum, Rockwood, etc. They had had some very excellent old mags, but I think Hanson keeps him pretty well cleaned out. He is a regular customer and friend of the proprietor.

The place where I got the ASTOUNDINGS had an almost complete collection of Blackwood and several other minor stf books, rare but high in price.

Now about this chap Hanson. You really should know him as he is a real oldie in the fan field, tho he is not so well known. He bought the first copy of AMAZING when it first came out, and used to excerpt SCIENCE & INVENTION under Gernsback. He has copies of really old fan mags like Science Fiction Digest. His collection according to Unger is the largest in the South, and I can well believe that from what I saw. His fmz collection would make a new fan turn green with envy as it not only is large, but I see his pro mag collection, very select and rare. All his stuff is in good condition, and I think that the stuff he (next column.)

WALTER SULLIVAN IS DEAD!

It is with the deepest regret that we report the death in action of Walter Sullivan of Bristow, Okla. son of Mrs. Jessy M. Sullivan.

On September 1st, we received the following letter from Mrs. Sullivan.

"I am writing to tell you that my son, Walter, was killed in service on May 28th of this year. Since he was quite well known among readers of Science Fiction publications, I thought you might like to carry this as a news item in your magazine or paper.

"He was a radio operator with the Army Air Transport Command and had been flying "the hump" from India to China since October 1943. He was killed in an airplane crash, but we have no further details."

Yours very truly
Signed: Mrs. Jessy M. Sullivan.

Walt was a member of the QUINCY SCIENCE FICTION LEAGUE and of NEW FANDOM as well as of other stfan organizations.

SOUTHERN ODYSSEY Cont'd: has missed in the last ten years is not worth having.

He knows most of the old fans by previous correspondence, but the only one he regularly writes to is Forry Ackerman.

His occupation is organist, musical director and head of the musical department of Radio Station WIOD, Miami, Florida's most powerful station during the day. He also has his own program on which he appears and plays, known as "The Singing Keyboard". At night he is manager of several musical units at local night clubs.

Physically speaking, he is very tall, rather handsome, and well-dressed. He is between 40 and 45 years old. His hair is dark brown and curly, and he (Cont'd, P201)

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

EDITORIAL by Will Sykora.

No eulogy would do justice to Walter Sullivan. His death leaves a gap in the fan world which his friends will always find empty. It will become a niche in Fandom's Hall Of Fame to the everlasting memory of a modest fan.

SOUTHERN STF ODYSSEY Cont'd: wears a trim moustache.

The first time I saw him, he was extremely nice to me. He postponed auditioning a singer for 3/4 of an hour just so we could fangab. The second time I saw him he took me out to his home and met his family, looked over his collection, et.

His other two hobbies are collecting classic musical records, and dime novels. He says there is a dime novel fandom, too.

He has large files of bound ARGOSY dating back earlier than 1890, and also some stf dime novels of early date. When I left, I was loaded up with a bunch of mags so I could hardly carry them. Most of the pros were Canadians, and there were several firsts in the bunch.

Another thing he gave me was Taurasi's bound copy of the first volume of FANTASY NEWS, and some loose issues I did not have.

Incidentally he was once President of the Dixie Fan Federation, and instrumental in founding it with Gilbert and Jenkins.

Now you know "about this chap, Hanson". All you have to do is group this together, rewrite it into article form, and you have a pretty good fanbiography of Earle Barr Hanson. (Ed. Note: This whole article is printed (next Col.)

FAN MAG REVIEW by Harry Warner, Jr.
Shangri-L'Affaires: August, 637 1/2
S. Bixel, Los Angeles. Unusually large issue, continuing publication's steady improvement since Charles Burbee assumed permanent editorship, and concentrating on but not confined to Los Angeles and California fan doings.

Le Zombie: July. Box 260, Bloomington, Ill. Tucker has another ferment, and LeZ continues, a blast at profiteering fan dealers the standout article. Service fan list shows that almost 100 of the "physically incapable, mentally escapist" members of fandom now serving their nation.

Fan Mag Editors! If you will send copies of your fm to Harry Warner, Jr., 303 Bryan Place, Hagerstown, Md. he will review them regularly in his column.

SOUTHERN ODYSSEY Cont'd: practically verbatim from a letter from Fred Baker dated September 2, 1944)

Now to go on to Raym Washington, and I shall try to be a trifle briefer. I reached Jacksonville Wednesday morning, and after comparing train schedules found Live Oak was on the Seaboard and I would make excellent connections on my return. Raym had previously been telegraphed that I was coming so I expected him to meet me. I arrived to find no Raym. After I had waited 10 minutes, I decided as I had less than five hours I better start hunting him.

I asked the agent and he said he had never heard of Hamilton St. I then unsuccessfully hunted Raym's Uncle's grocery store. After wandering for 3/4 of an hour, and meeting numerous people who knew Raym and also how to give muddled directions to his house, I finally located 117, which was exactly two blocks from the station. (There were some queer hick farmers in black felt hats who answered yes to everything. They told me five separate streets were Hamilton.)

Well, to my disappointment, I was informed Raym was somewhere downtown. I started back to hunt him, when Raym popped up and announced that he awaited (Page 4, Col 2)

SUNSPOTS REVIVED!

"Sunspots is back" writes Ger-
aux de la Ree in his editorial for
his revived fan mag from Westwood,
N.J. "After two years in the grave
fandom's black sheep has returned to
to haunt its readers", says Editor
Gerry in an editorial titled, "Back
From the Grave".

The latest number is dated
September 1944, Volume 6, Number 3,
Whole Number 24 (erroneously Volume
5 on the cover). Distribution is
free to contributors, commentators,
and other friends.

The front cover, a drawing by
Van Splawn, shows a monster un-
masked. The issue contains 16 pa-
ges, including covers and a supple-
ment consisting of pages 5 and 6 of
Beowulf giving the results of the
stf poll conducted last winter.

Outstanding in the issue are
"Ramblings On the Dovercon" by G.
de la Ree, "This Could Happen" by
Jack Witt (on a national fan soci-
ety), and a fine checklist of vam-
pire literature both English and
Foreign.

IN THE SERVICELetters From Servicemen

Somewhere In Alaska
Aug 25, 1944

Dear Will;

It was good to hear from you
again....and as for calling your-
self the world's worst correspond-
ent, I could dispute with you for
that honor. I know, I have been
tardy about answering your letter,
but believe me I have been mighty
busy up here on (censored) island.

Fandom - and all the word im-
plies - all that seems so far away
these days. It seems years and
years ago....more like a vague
dream. Even those famous misunder-
standings we had with Daw and the
rest. When I think of the bitter
feelings in those days, I am sur-
prised that I can think of the var-
ious characters of the other side
without the slightest trace of ran-
cour. Time is a mellowing influ-
ence. I doubt that I will ever
know those old (next column) -

HOWARD COLLECTION TO BE AN OMNIBUS!Latest Figures On ARKHAM HOUSE
Remainders

SPECIAL TO FN by August Derleth.

The Robert E. Howard collec-
tion will be an omnibus, will be
entitled: "Skull Face and Others",
and will sell at \$5.00 the copy.

Henry S. Whitehead's collec-
tion, "Jumbee and Other Uncanny
Tales", has begun distribution, the
official publication is September
25th. All advance orders have
been filled.

"The Case Of Charles Dexter
Ward" is considered one of Howard
Philips Lovecraft's finest pieces.
It was out for WEIRD TALES, and
appeared complete only in the
Second Lovecraft Volume, "Beyond
the Wall Of Sleep".

Latest figures on old titles
from ARKHAM HOUSE are as follows:
"Someone In the Dark"-Derleth, 29
copies left. "Beyond the Wall Of
Sleep"-Lovecraft, 81 copies left.
"Dark Odyssey"-Wandrei, (poems),
86 copies left. It can be pointed
out that the amount of remainders
was overestimated when the ad was
inserted in WEIRD TALES November
issue, so that the figures there
are exaggerated, as they will ap-
pear September 1st. From the
above, it may be seen that more
copies have been sold than it was
thought would be when the ad was
written.

IN THE SERVICE Cont'd: days again
....or for that matter, if any of
us, even the most die-hard, will
live thru similar experiences. It
is just impossible.

We were the pioneers of our
field....We struck out across for-
bidding wastelands, we had our
border feuds, we set up thriving
communities. I'm afraid, that like
many of the old pioneers, we have
reached our Pacific Ocean, and can-
not blaze any more trails. Those
days are gone forever.

Boy- Old Moskowitz could write
along these lines for a few pages!
No, Will, I've been out of it too
long, and it would (Cont'd P.4, Col.1)

IN THE SERVICE Cont'd: be too much of a struggle to recapture the fervor of yesteryear. And, after this war, I have too much to do to make much of a struggle.

I still get a pleasant feeling when I think of the old days, and glance thru the old collection of fan mags (though I haven't the chance to do that for a long while now). Yes, although the hecto jobs were necessarily small in circulation, I did like their colorful appearance more than the mimeos.

Agnew is down in the South Pacific somewhere....just where I don't know. But he says he doesn't have it too tough down there.

The war news for the past couple of weeks has been great! I hope it continues that way. Who knows?....maybe this war will be over before I ever thought it could be. You see, I always adopted a rather pessimistic outlook concerning the progress of the war. Always expecting the worst. Even so, I can't see getting back to sublime civilian life for a couple years yet. Japan will take some time, and then the demobilization will be slow. But I hope I am very mistaken.

Time to leave now.

Sincerely
Jack

(Sgt John V. Baltadonis)

Davis, Calif.
Aug 27, 1944

Dear Will;

Your letter reached me through a lengthy series of forwardings. It is some time since I was at Oregon State College. Since then I have been at Camp Adair, Oregon; Fort Lewis, Washington; Camp Kohler, Calif.; and finally this place. It is a good thing you didn't wait a few more weeks. I'd be back in Kohler, and probably out to Camp Crowder, Missouri, by then. I get around.

You ask about the FAPA. We just had an election, and I don't know who is secretary at the moment. He's the one you write to in order to get on the waiting list. And believe me, there is some (next Col)

SOUTHERN STE ODYSSEY Cont'd: my arrival on the midnight train instead of the noon train and had given up hope of seeing me. I had lunch with him downtown and met Mrs. Washington. Raym then had to rush back to school and by the time he returned it was only an hour before train time. We used that hour to the best advantage for fan gab.

I found Raym is an intelligent quiet type of person, with a love for drawing and poetry, at which he is pretty good, in addition to his fan activities.

I do not think that he is taken in by all the nonsense of the Cosmic Circle as some fans believe. He is very sincere and conservative. All in all, I found he was a pretty swell guy and regretted I could not take advantage of his hospitable offer to stay over a day or two.

IN THE SERVICE Cont'd: waiting list. We raised the membership from 50 to 65, but the waiting list just grew bigger. What we did as a result was to amend the constitution so that more activity is required to remain a member. That should weed out some of the inactive ones or else make the mailings bigger. If they get any bigger, than they are now, it will be a problem finding envelopes to put them in, not to mention finding the time to read all of it.

At the moment I am finishing up my course here at the Signal Corps School. I have completed the book learning, and tonight I go out for a week in the field to practice setting up radio stations. I'm supposed to be a radio repair man, specializing in certain radio relay setups which are used as a link between two telephone systems. It is very interesting stuff, and about as decent a job as you can find in the Army.

I must get my pack ready now, so I'll have to close.

Yours

Milt

(Cpl Milton A. Rothman)

CHRISTMAS IS COMING AND SO IS OUR
S E M I - A N N U A L N U M B E R
WATCH FOR THE BIG SURPRISE ISSUE!!!