

# Fantasy Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Vol. 10 - No. 231

Second September 1955 Issue

Ten Cents

SHAW'S new s-f mag  
INFINITY Science Fiction  
out in mid-september  
35¢, digest & 128 pages

New York, NY, 15 August, (CNS) - Larry Shaw announced today that his new science-fiction magazine will be called Infinity Science Fiction, will be 128 pages, digest-size, trimmed edges, 35¢, and bi-monthly. The first issue will be dated November 1955 and will be on the stands about mid-September.

The first issue will contain: two novelets: "The Sickness" by William Tenn, and "Phantom Deal" by Ford McCormack. The short stories scheduled are: "The Star" by Arthur C. Clarke, "King Of The Hill" by James Blish, "Have Tux, Will Travel" by Robert Bloch, "Kid Stuff" by Winston Marks, and "Placebo" by David Mason. Departments will be: "Editorial", "Infinity's Choice" book reviews by Damon Knight, and "Fanfare". "Fanfare" is a fan column in which, each issue, a story or article from a fan magazine will be reprinted. In this issue "The Siren Of Saturn" by Dave Jenrette from the fan mag Merlin, published by Lee Anne Tremper.

Cover is by Art Editor Robert Engle, who also does interior illustrations along with Fuller Griffiph, John Giunta and Manny Stallman.

## Bulletin

AMBLEST, WISC., 7 AUGUST, (CNS) - RAY PALMER REPORTED TODAY THAT HIS MAGAZINE, OTHER WORLDS, WILL GO LARGE SIZE (6" x 9") WITH THE NEXT, NOVEMBER ISSUE. THIS ISSUE SHOULD BE ON THE NEWSSTANDS IN SEPTEMBER. THE MAGAZINE WILL CONTAIN 98 PAGES, TRIMMED EDGES AND 35¢. THE NEW SIZE WILL ADD ABOUT 30,000 WORDS TO THE TEXT. IT WILL HAVE COLORED FRONT AND BACK COVERS.

Robert Engle and Fuller Griffiph are new to science-fiction, while John Giunta is well known to the field. Manny Stallman is also new to the field but has for years co-illustrated the DC-Superman comic magazine Big Town with John Giunta.

A short story by Harlon Ellison was originally scheduled for the first issue, but was squeezed out and will appear in the second issue.

The magazine is being published by  
(concluded on page 4, column 1)



NOTES TO THE EDITOR

by Our Readers

FIRST STEP INTO SPACE

Street & Smith Publications, Inc.  
304 E. 45th Street  
New York 17, N.Y.  
August 11, 1955

Dear Mr. Von Houten:

I don't see that any particular statement from the science-fiction editors is called for by the satellite project announcement. Our job, over the last quarter century, has been discussing the probable technical advances Man would make, and the probable consequences of such advances.

A number of items have come up in the last dozen years to demonstrate that we've been doing our job consistently and well. A man has a reason to crow over an unexpected and difficult-to-achieve triumph. But when he has merely done what was expected of him in the first place...

Naturally, it's a satisfaction to get the confirmation. But who among the science-fictioners was actually surprised by the announcement? For the last half-dozen years the only item missing from the news-release has been the date line.

Sincerely,

John W. Campbell, Jr.  
Editor, Astounding Science Fiction

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GOLD AND PALMER

August 5, 1955

Dear J & R,

ROUND 2: They come out of their corners. Ray is waiting but Horace is off swinging at some empty air in the other corner. He beats wildly in the wrong direction and seems a little leery about moving in for some close sparring. There's a wild haymaker and Gold falls flat on his face.

I give round 2 to Rap on a default. More fun!

Tee hee and stuff,  
Dick Ellington

4109 E. Waverly,  
Tucson, Arizona,  
August 8, 1955.

Dear Editors

I agree with you on the Circulation fight, you just reported what Palmer said, you didn't say if it was true or not. Personally, I think it's a little silly, but it is fun to sit back and watch the pros feud a little. I don't see why it should make so much different to Gold. If he's got the best circulation why should he care what RAP says?

Don't let 'em get you down - someones on your side at least.

Sincerely,

Neal F. Wilgus

Route No. 4

Trenton, Tennessee

August 7, 1955

Dear Sirs:

As Dick Ellington points out, it is very laughable, after all these years of fan feuds, to see two pros up in arms at each other. However, and I think that anyone can see my point, scroning your enemy is the worst possible thing to do. Not only does it reek of that "I'm better than you are" feeling, but it also makes you wonder if maybe Mr. Gold isn't doing near as well as everyone seems to think he is.

Understand, I like Galaxy, but I also like Rap. I like the fiction put out by Gold, and can see no reason why RAP shouldn't call it s-f. I can also see no reason for the error RAP made when he said that Galaxy had dropped thirty-two pages. But that leaves no reason for Gold and Hensley to scron RAP's taunts, and his invite to a contest.

Mr. Gold, to put it bluntly, has chickened out. Maybe he doesn't feel that mature men, both high in the field of science-fiction publishing, should lower themselves to fighting over circulation figures.

I do. If Mr. Gold doesn't, then let him say so. But let us have no more of this, "I'm bigger than you are, so don't try and out do me". Science-fiction is back to the small time, so why not have a little fun with it?

RAP may have printed some awful fiction, and he may have pulled off some of the best (or worst, if you look at it differently) hoaxes in the field of s-f, but I admire the man and his  
(concluded on page 4, column 1)



# AMAZING'S

## 30th anniversary issue

### 260 pages & 50¢

New York, NY, 18 August, (CNS) - Howard Browne, editor of Amazing Stories, announced today that present plans call for a super 260 pages 30th Anniversary issue of Amazing Stories. This April 1956 issue will cost 50¢ and will contain "Amazing Classics"; reprints from the pages of Amazing from 1926 t h r u 1945. No selections have yet been made. The issue will b e digest size, a s the regular issues, and the issue af- ter (May 1956) will return to regular - size (130 pages) and 35¢.

Mr. Browne stated t h a t he had plans at present to show modern s-f artists the original illustrations to the stories selected for reprint and then let them do their own modern version of the illustrations.

More details of this super issue, in future issues of Fantasy-Times, as they are released.

#### "FANTASY-TIMES" TOP COLUMN

##### THE COSMIC REPORTER

by Arthur Jean Cox

#### T H E E I G H T A N N U A L W E S T C O A S T S C I E N C E - F I C T I O N . C O N F E R E N C E

Los Angeles, 3 July, (CNS) - The Eight Annual West Coast Science Fiction Conference, being held a t the Commodore Hotel in Los Angeles, July 3rd and 4th -- is t h e most expensive convention I've ever attended.

Like most science-fiction conventions, it costs one dollar to register. That's standard. But the first item on the program is a luncheon, costing an additional \$2.25. Forrest J Ackerman's  
(continued on page 4, column 2)

## AMERICAN NEWS STRIKE CUTS OFF S-F MAGS FROM NY-NJ AREA

New York, NY, 18 August, (CNS) - With the strike of delivery men of the American News in the New York, New Jersey area, many science-fiction readers have been left without current issues of some science-fiction magazines.

First to be hit by this strike has been the current (September) issue of Galaxy Science Fiction, and #24 of Galaxy Novel. Both were out on September 11, but not here.

A call to Galaxy supplied us with the news that copies will be available at the main newsstands at Grand Central Station, and Penn. Station, plus also the lower level of Penn. Station, or the Long Island R.R. section of it.

Copies 'm a y also be obtained by going to the main office of Galaxy, or by mailing them 35¢ for a copy. About 300 copies of the September Galaxy has already been sold at the main office of Galaxy.

Among the magazines that will not appear in New York/New Jersey area, if the strike continues, will be Amazing Stories, Fantastic, Fantastic Universe, Science Fiction Stories, Science Fiction Quarterly and other Columbia publications, Startling Stories, Imagination, Imaginative Tales, and others.

WE CAN NOT READ MINDS!. If you move, it would help us to know your new address. Send it to us, as soon as you can. -eds



"INFINITY SCIENCE FICTION"  
(concluded from page 1, column 2)

Erwin Stein under the company name of Magnum Publishing Co., 47 East 44th St. New York, NY. Larry Shaw will also edit a detective magazine for them called Suspect Detective Stories. Of the stories in the first issue, two will be by science-fiction authors Jerry Bixby and William Tenn, tho they will not, of course be science-fiction. John Giunta will also illustrate for this magazine.

NOTES TO THE EDITOR  
(concluded from page 2, column 2)

fighting spirit. I hate to see him looked down by anyone. Granted, Mr. Gold may have published/edited more magazines, and sold more fiction than RAP, but he doesn't seem to have that fighting spirit that has kept RAP around through thick and thin for so long.

Mr. Gold, if you are so much better than RAP at the editing game, then beat him his own way. Do it through figures and facts, rather than slurs and taunts. To me, it is a put-up or shut-up deal.

What are you going to do, Mr. Gold?

Sincerely,  
James H. Lewis

\* \* \*

FROM GERMANY'S "UTOPIA" EDITOR

Wahnerheide (Rhld.)  
Block B 7  
Germany  
June 20, 1955

Dear Mr. Taurasi, dear Mr. Van Houten:

First I have to thank you for the excellent FANTASY TIMES twice a month. I must confess, it is the shortest-but in any case the best fan-publication I ever received. Reading it you know what's going on in the world of Science Fiction.

Thank you too for publishing German SF-News, given you by my friend Forry Ackerman, best helper a world of misunderstanding over here in Germany. But I may tell you, that after the "Bomb-Censor-Con" the situation here is quite different. People begins to speak and discuss about Science Fiction -and soon (I hope) to found the SCIENCE FICTION CLUB GERMANY.

UTOPIA will become better and bet-

ter every issue and I am able now to buy American authors, I will publish Siodmak, Heinlein, MacIsaac, Gallun, Raymond Jones and Rocklynne. (And some others!)

There is only one, maybe two, German SF-authors in the moment worth speaking of: Clark Darlton (penname) and Van Doornick. Darlton wrote: UFO AM NACHTHIMEL, KEIN MORGEN FUR DIE ERDE, DER NEUE WAGEN and - very soon - : DER MAIN, DER DIE ZUKUNFT STAHL. Van Doornick wrote: DIE GROSSE MAMMUTHOHLIE. (All in UTOPIA).

I hope to find still other authors, till now unknown.

The best for you - and thanks again!

Regards to the fans in U.S.A. from  
yours truly,

Walter Ernsting

{Thank you for your kind letter. We are always more than happy to help out any science-fiction movement that needs help. We are overjoyed that this time our small help was successful. You have two excellent magazines and we wish you the best of luck with them in the future. Our only regret is that we cannot read or understand German, and so cannot really enjoy the.. All success with your German S-F Club, may the coming German s-f fandom miss all the pitfalls that have been holding back American s-f fandom. -the eds)

THE COSMIC REPORTER  
(continued from page 3, column 1)

annual talk on the state of science-fiction is featured. This is followed, a couple of hours later, by a panel discussion on some unannounced subject by three Los Angeles fans. And that is followed, some three hours later, by a banquet - costing an additional \$3.75! The Guest of Honor, R. S. Richardson, speaks then, as does A. E. van Vogt, Ray Bradbury, and Anthony Boucher; also there is a showing of "Captain Fathom", a movie made by Curt Siodmak "and a short sci-fi comedy by Lou Place."

In other words, in order to see everything you have to put out an extra six dollars! In order to hear a single professional science-fiction writer speak, you have to put out \$3.75! The only thing your dollar entitles you to  
(concluded on page 7, column 1)



by Stephen J. Takacs

NEW SCIENCE/FANTASY BOOKS RECEIVED

INSIDE THE SPACE SHIRTS by George Adamski (non-fiction), Abelard-Shuman, NY, \$5.50.

STAR GUARD by Andre Norton, Harcourt Brace & Co., \$3.00.

COME AROUND AMERICA by Jack Williamson and THE PARADOX MEN by Charles L. Harness (both in one book), Ace Novels, NY, 35¢.

SCIENCE FICTION THINKING MACHINES edited by Groff Conklin, Bantam Books, NY, 25¢.

FAR A N D AWAY by Anthony Boucher, Ballantine Books, NY, 55¢.

SALAMANDERS & OTHER WONDERS by Willy Ley, (non-fiction), The Viking Press, NY, \$3.95.

FANTASY-TIMES BOOK REVIEWS

by Bill Blackbeard

GALAXY OF GHOULS, edited by Judith Merril, Lion Library, 1955, 192pp., 35¢.

Another phenomenal Merril anthology is out, once more in paper covers and priced for everyone's purse. As usual, it is hard to find a single story in this collection that is anything less than excellent; to a great extent, this is due to Miss Merril's willingness to use any good story for her anthologies, regardless of its previous appearance in another collection. Highlights this time are Bradbury's "Homecoming", Simak's "Desertion", Tann's "Child's Play" Boucher's "The Ambassadors", Lieber's - but there's no point in listing the entire table of contents; every one is first rate.

Miss Merril has contributed a pithy paragraph of introduction to each story the majority of which, as the title indicates, are fantasy. The only drawback to the book is the cover, by someone named B. Thomas: It is, to say the least, singularly revolting.

A note of amusement: in the credits, Robert Sheckly's "Proof of the Padding" is stated to have been "orig-

by Donald E. Ford

MAD, September 1955:

No longer a comic, MAD is out in its 2nd issue of the new slick. Among other articles in this issue is one by Bernard Shir Cliff, editor of Ballantine Books. I like this whole issue very much.

LIFE, TIME, August 8, 1955:

Both mags feature comments & drawings on the announcement that the U. S. is going ahead with an artificial satellite program.

THE SCIENCE FICTION NEWSSCOPE

conducted by J. Harry Vincent

Editor H. L. Gold of Galaxy gives us some mighty interesting information on the serial "Gladiator-At-Law" by Frederick Pohl and C. M. Kornbluth. He stated that he enjoyed the book version better, but at the time the story was being whipped into shape for Galaxy, the ending bothered him and the authors. They each wrote an ending twice, all of which was unsatisfactory to Gold. The authors then worked together on a fifth ending. By this time none of the three could see straight anymore, so this last ending was used. Months later when the magazines with the serial was seen, the boys could see what was wrong and a whole new ending was written for the book. In our opinion a much more natural and suitable ending.

Knowing the reason for the sharp ending, we reread that part of the story and I'll be damned, if the novel didn't seem like it had been cut by editor Gold. Perhaps a little more time and care taken with important serials would make for better reading in the future. -James V. Taurasi, Sr.

(continued on page 6, column 2)

inally published in Astounding Science Fiction." We are then told that the story is "copyright 1952 by Galaxy Publishing Corp." J. L. C. meet H.W. G., Jr...



by Forrest J Ackerman

FAR AND AWAY the best pocketbook news of the day is that Tony Boucher is being Bullamined with eleven of his best. Collection will be titled--"Far and Away". Willis Kingsley Wing was the tenpercenter who set the deal... This another Gold Medal for Richard Matheson (and his agent, Harry Altshuler): the coffers of a 13 concerned should be swelled by Dick's new sci-fantasy novel The Shrinking Man... Three other agents want him but Oscar Friend's got him: lucky Robert Bloch, always "in" with the middlemen.

What a cast they've assembled in England for the filming of "1984": Sir Ralph Richardson (the immortal Bass of THINGS TO COME), Michael Redgrave (ventriloquist of the classic "Dead of Night"), Edmond O'Brien as leading man, and opposite him Jan Sterling, herself reportedly a sci-fi fame... Frank Quattrocchi (Ackerman client, he) is doing the original script for scientifilm about giantism, Daughter of the Atom, after which a cinemassignment in England looms: a story about Atlantis!

Ross Rocklynne, Bert Campbell, Fox B. Holden and I will be in the first issue of the new German quarterly, which will feature a striking original painting by Albert Nuetzell. Nuetzell will also do a future Other Worlds cover, and Palmer has taken two by Paul Blaisdell. "Number Nine" by Cleve Cartmill will be translated and reprinted in a quality mundane mag in Germany, and Charles Harness' Authentic hit, "The Rose", will be republished in Sweden?

E. Loring (Larry) Ware, Secretary of LASFS, has made a first sale to England.

RAYMOND F. JONES (Meredith Agency client, he) made three teevee appearances in connexion with the opening of his THIS ISLAND EARTH in Salt Lake City. Jack Granara at Universal tells me the Studio is delighted with the business the picture's doing, and hopes TARANTULA will be as well received. How about Jones' RENAISSANCE as sci-fi film fare???

Mari Wolf, Al Coppel, Bill Nolan,

Charlie Beaumont and Len Pryor are all sports car enthusiasts and racers. Mari recently took an evening off from her second novel and jettied her blood-red Jaguar from Southern California back to Chicago to chat with Bill Hamling. Low flying planes clocked her at 125mph.

AE van Vogt was voted most popular author of the year by the readers of Hapna in Sweden... Andre Norton's THE STARS ARE OURS will be published in two parts in Germany... The NYPost has purchased "The Twilight Years" by Kirk and Garen Drussai for reprinting from IF in their Week-End science fiction section... Charles Beaumont on flying trip back East with John Tomerlin, seeing the editors and beating off the agents (I gave him the stick). Charlie has collaborated with Tomerlin, Matheson, Chad Oliver, Bill Nolan, and his wife, Helen. With Helen he has produced young son Christopher--not for sale.

Marion Zimmer Bradley recently made a speech on s.f. to the sixth grade of her local school (Rochester, Tex)... Irving Cox Jr teaches at a Jr Hi in Southern Cal... Dwight V. Swain, who teaches commercial writing at an Oklahoma University, is sojourning in Socal till Sept.

Fifteen thousand sci-fantasy books and magazines in my home, and after a recent till-dawn party attended by 40 I find somebody swiped my entire set of Playboy!-Eja

#### THE SCIENCE FICTION NEWSSCOPE (continued from page 5, column 2)

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The most interesting new phase in fiction publication recently has been the "Triple Nickel Books" for boys and girls. Digest size and selling for 15¢ they make ideal reading for the young-teenager. Thinking this an ideal setting for much needed science-fiction in that field we wrote to editor Woody-Gelman asking if he planned a series of science-fiction juveniles.

Answered Mr. Gelman on August 9th, "We most certainly appreciate your interest. While we do not plan science-fiction immediately, eventually we will carry a series. ....I personally, have always been interested in Science Fiction and to this day I retain my boy-

(Cont. on p 8, Col 1)



THE COSMIC REPORTER  
(concluded from page 4, column 2)

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attend, on this first day of the convention, is the half-hour panel discussion! (1:00 P.M.)

The attendance of this Conference is disappointing. I am told that some nine hundred invitations were mailed out, but only an estimated sixty persons have shown up. Some of those who did arrive by late afternoon are Ray Bradbury, Anthony Boucher, A. E. van Vogt, Ross Rocklynne, Lou Goldstone, Clyde Beck, Les Cole, Kris Neville and, naturally, Forrest J Ackerman. R. S. Richardson still hadn't put in his appearance when I left, shortly before the banquet. Most of the faces are familiar.

The panel discussion featured Ed M. Clinton, Jr., Dave Fox and Erh Koenigsberg. The exact subject under discussion was rather vague. Clinton complained about the "recious" and "slick" tone of most current science-fiction and recommended a closer attention to story. Fox deplored the lack of a sense of wonder in most modern science-fiction and said that most of the good science-fiction now being published was appearing in book form without prior magazine publication. Erh Koenigsberg confined his criticisms to the June, 1955 Galaxy, which he called "The All-Fantasy issue of Galaxy".

During the Question-and-Answer period following the discussion, Anthony Boucher, the only editor present, arose and earnestly urged the fans to write letters to editors, even to editors who didn't have letter columns. "You mustn't think", he said, "that your letters are not just as welcomed to the magazines which Horace Gold and I edit as they are to those which have letter columns. Your letters are the only way we have of knowing what you like".

At this point, someone (who looked and sounded like a San Francisco fan) arose and asked Mr. Boucher if he thought letters would help Galaxy. Replying with great tact, Boucher said that he thought letters would help any magazine.

There was a short business period, during which Oakland was elected the

site of next year's Westercon. Les Cole, a well-known San Francisco fan, tried to work up interest in a "Relaxicon" (or "Burpicon", as some of the younger fans call it), a convention without a formal program, without officers and so on, which would meet once a year at some resort solely for the purpose of letting fans get together "and have a good time". His appeal didn't meet with much enthusiasm. Although most of those present raised their hands when asked if they were "interested", no one seemed willing to do much about it. Cole and Harney Bernard, of Los Angeles, were commissioned to report at next year's Westercon on the progress of the idea. Cole sponsored the same project a couple of years ago, without success.

This Westercon, by the way, was not put on by the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, but by a new group -- the Chesley Donovan Science Fiction Foundation, which seems to be composed mostly of a half dozen boys from the Santa Monica area. It's the only science-fiction club I know of which is named after one of its members.

(6:00 P.M.)

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(July 4th, 1955) The art exhibit here contains some brilliant paintings and photographs which are unfortunately dulled by familiarity. With a few exceptions, all the paintings have been present at previous conventions. There is one new-comer whose work is rather striking: Ron Cobb, but the best examples of his drawings are to be found in the program booklet, not on the walls of the art room.

The auction also follows a familiar pattern, under the traditional and capable leadership of auctioneer Walter J. Daugherty: a great many black-and-white illustrations, a few paintings, a few manuscripts, only small amounts being bid for them, most of that by the younger fans. (12:30 P.M.)

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That's all there is -- aside from a presentation by Ivan Tors of some Science Fiction Theatre (television) films, and the ballet.

This certainly is a skimpy Westercon with a 2 hr. gap between every item. It could have been a one day affair.



FANTASY - TIMES  
"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Published twice-a-month by FANDOM HOUSE

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Advertisements: \$5 full page, \$3 per half page.

James V. Taurasi, Sr., & Ray Van Houten  
Editors and Publishers.

A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION!

S-F NEWSSCOPE (Cont from p 6, Col 2)  
hood collection of Amazing Stories from 1926 and 1927."

At present the "Triple Nickel Books" publish detective, mystery and western juveniles; and we hope that "eventually" will be in the very near future. The field needs good juveniles especially at 15¢ a copy.

FANDOM HOUSE

Publishers of "Fantasy-Times"

P. O. Box 2331

Paterson 23, New Jersey, USA

The father of Science Fiction Magazines Hugo Gernsback, is now vacationing in Europe and will be back home sometime in September.

Ken & Pamela Bulmer, representing England at the coming 13th World Science Fiction Convention in Cleveland, arrived in Baltimore, Md., August 6, where they were met by: John Hitchcock, John Magnus & Bob Pavlat. They called Don Ford long distance & were told that Larry Shaw had made plans to drive down from NYC to pick them up & drive them back to NYC, where they'll stay at the apt. of Dave Kyle. It is understood that they will make the Bid to grab the 1956 Convention for London.

It is our understanding that New York Fandom will also make a strong bid for the 1956 Convention. New York Fandom, which started the whole thing in 1939, hasn't for the last 16 years been able to make a successful bid to bring the big deal of science-fiction back to the Empire City.

Editor and Publisher of Fantasy-Times, Ray Van Houten, will be driving the FANDOM HOUSE auto to the convention to cover it for this paper. With him will go Bill Blackbeard, book reviewer and Mr. & Mrs. Ron Smith, editors and publishers of Inside. Among those helping to cover the convention for Fantasy Times will be Mr. Science Fiction (Forry Ackerman), Don Ford and others.



Franklin M Dietz Jr . ft-245  
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