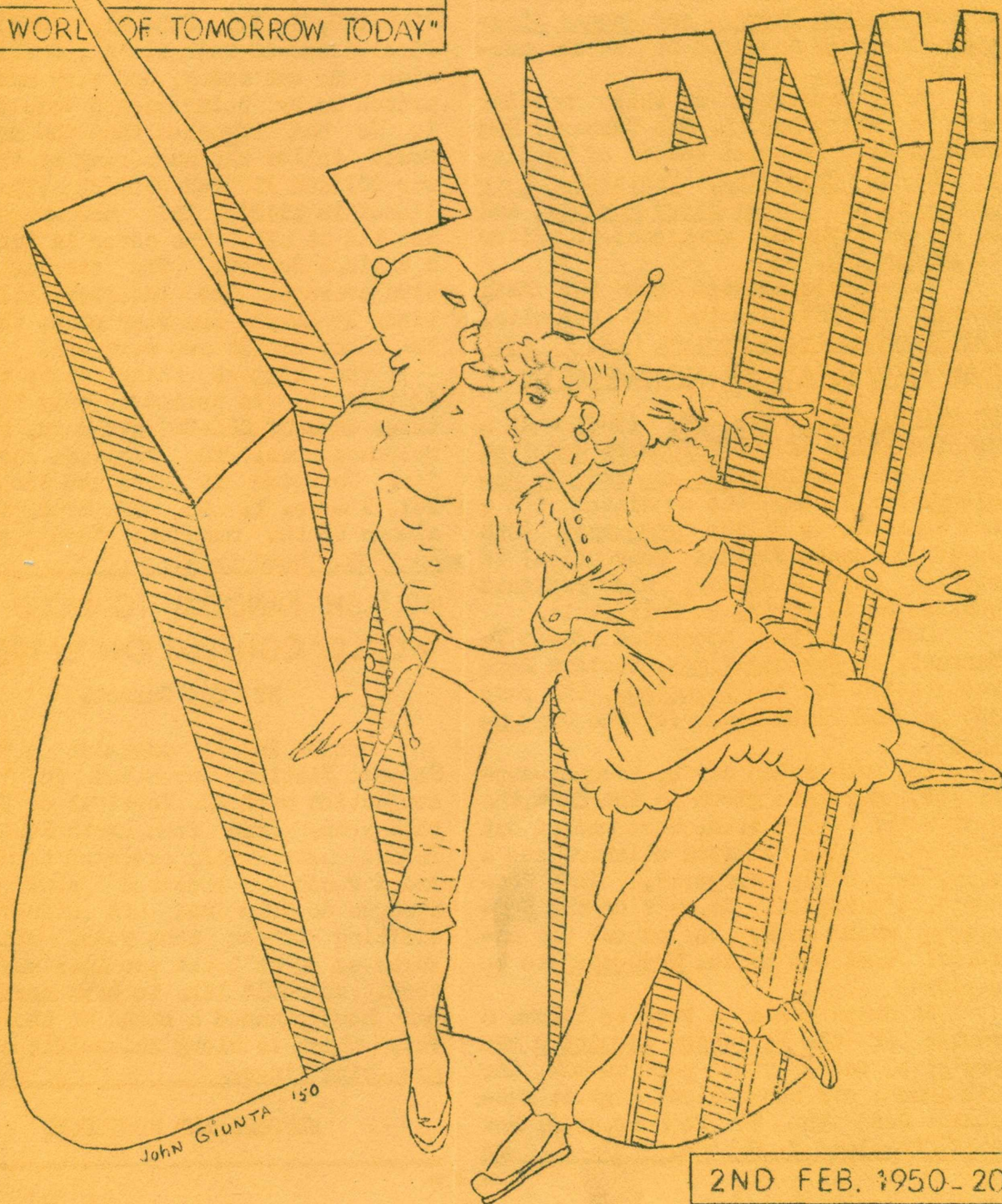


FANTASY TIMES

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY"



2ND FEB. 1950 - 20¢

GERNSBACK AT THE ESFA

NEWARK, N.J., Feb. 26, (CNS) - The Eastern Science Fiction Association announced today that Hugo Gernsback, the father of pulp science-fiction will be the feature speaker at their regular March meeting, held on March 5, 1950. This will be the first time that the founder, and former editor and publisher of Amazing Stories and Wonder Stories, has ever appeared at a science-fiction group.

Other speakers at this meeting will be Willy Ley, L. Ron Hubbard, Sam Merwin, Jr., (present editor of Thrilling Wonder, Startling, Fantastic Story Quarterly and Wonder Story Annual), and L. Jerome Stanton, ex-associate editor of Astounding.

Persons interested in the Esfa should contact Director Sam Moskowitz, 127 Shephard Ave., Newark, N.J. -jvt

DAY NEW HEAD OF NORWESCON

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 27, (CNS) - At a joint meeting of the Norwescon Committee and the Portland Science Fantasy Society, Don B. Day was appointed the new chairman of the Norwescon (8th World Science Fiction Convention) to replace Jack de Courcy, who resigned because he is moving to California.

Don Day has appointed James V. Taurasi, of Fantasy-Times, Eastern Representative for the Norwescon, the same job he had last year for the Convention.

The membership cards, a super-super job, your name glows in the dark, the best we've ever seen, were mailed out last week, plus numerous stickers and a very, very silly "report". This "report", I'm afraid, doesn't do the Norwescon much good. We expect the material sent out by the Norwescon to be serious.

It only takes a buck to become a member of the Norwescon Committee and you'll be doing your part to make the 8th annual stf convention a great success. Send the \$1 to Norwescon, Box 8517, Portland 7, Oregon. -ls

FUTURE IS OUT

FLUSHING, N. Y., Feb. 21, (CNS) - The first issue of Columbia's new stf magazine came out today, and very much surprised us by being marked Vol. 1 - No. 1. We had expected that the magazine would follow the numbering of the pre-war SCIENCE FICTION STORIES (last published in 1943). This new magazine is not bad at all. The cover is fair with a typical Bergey. The stories are above average. The interior illustrations by Murphy are very good, those by the other artist are very bad.

The biggest thing about the mag is that it is priced at only 15¢. In these days of 25¢-35¢ stf mags, this is welcomed news. The magazine should go far. We wish it does and the marked Vol. 1 - No. 1, in our mind, it will always be the magazine Hornig started in 1959. Good luck. -jvt

BRITISH FANDOM TO HOLD "WORLD" CONVENTION IN 1951

BY Ted Carnell

London is to organize a "World" Science Fiction Convention in 1951 in conjunction with the Festival of Britain that year. Fans from both Sweden and France are already expected to attend, and I recently received news that Sprague de Camp and his wife will be visiting London that year, which assures us of at least two American visitors. We would like to have more. The BIS have planned a stand at the Festival, which is along scientific and engineering lines.

SUPPORT THE NORWESCON

100TH ISSUE

FANTASY-TIMES

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Vol. 5 - No. 4

New York — 2nd February 1950

Whole Number 100

PALMER TO PUBLISH NEW SCIENCE FICTION PULP

IMAGINATION COMING OUT SOON

by Arthur Jean Cox

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 16 (CNS) — It was announced today that a companion magazine to Clark's (Ray Palmer's publishing company) Other Worlds would be issued in the near future. Title of the magazine is Imagination — suggested to the editor by the title of the old Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society's magazine of the same name.

Not much is known of the magazine at this date but it is suspected that it will be similar in format to Other Worlds and Fate. Cover of the first issue will feature a story by Kris Neville.

THINGS ARE LOOKING-UP

DESTINATION MOON COVER FOR ASTOUNDING

by Forrest J Ackerman

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 22 (Special to F-T) (CNS) — A technicolor still from DESTINATION MOON will constitute the cover of a forthcoming Astounding Science Fiction — and Heinlein will do a fictionized version of the film for the inside! A new rocket-to-the-moon film began production today (Washington's Birthday) and I will probably be cover-
(continued on page 4)

PRO-FANQUET FETES JEAN COX

by Weaver Wright

Thirty-seven fangelenos turned out on Saturday evening, 18 Feb 50, to toast Arthur Jean Cox, Fantasy-Times West Coast reporter, as the LASFS fan most successful in '49 in his professional efforts. His 3000 word article, "Linguistics and Time", will soon be published by Campbell, and it was revealed at the banquet that he has crashed the new prestige market, MAGAZINE OF PSY & SF, with "The Twilight Planet". Boucher & McComas are also excited over his latest submission, "The Question".

Walter Daugherty chairmanned the After Dinner speeches, introducing such local pro's present as AE van Vogt, Kris Neville, E. Mayne Hull, L. Major Reynolds, Henderson Stark, RSRichardson and Philip Latham. Latham spoke on the singular joy that comes at the time of one's first acceptance, and on some of the interesting reactions to his "Aphrodite Project"; van Vogt had a few cautionary words to say about the character of the LASFS and how professional successes should not overshadow its fannish raison d'être.

Forrest Ackerman, a fan who in between fanning seems to find a little

time for agenting, had several announcements of interest to make to the group. He revealed that L. Major Reynolds would have "Flood" in a future Magazine of Fantasy; that E. Everett Evans and AE van Vogt would be present in the first issue of IMAGINATION with "Little Miss Ignorance" and "Automaton" respectively, and that Kris Neville will cop the cover of the first issue; that "Operation Almost" by Evans and "Dear Pen Pal" by van Vogt have been bought for OUT OF THIS WORLD ADVENTURES and that Jack Erman will be in future issues of OTHER WORLDS and AMAZING STORIES.

E. Everett Evans, who won the honor banquet last year, toasted the incoming winner, after which Cox made a highly amusing speech consisting of several different versions of how he became an author. Text of his talk will be published in full in a future issue of Shangri-A, the club organ.

THINGS ARE LOOKING—UP.
(continued from page 3).

ing it for Other Worlds. However, F-T readers may count on some choice advance tidbits. Title is: NONE COME BACK.

OUR FABULOUS BRADBURY

"I think you are going to have to inaugurate a special department just for Keeping Up with Bradbury," Forry Lockman tells us. "He has just phoned me of his sale to Collier's of a science fiction story called 'The Fox in the Forest'. He'll have two tales in THE BEST OF SCIENCE FICTION 1950. He will be represented in a Swedish anthology with 'The Earth Men'. In January he made 13 sales to the tune of \$4,000!"

If this issue is stamped "Subscription Has Expired", please resubscribe as soon as possible, as we print to our mailing list and you may miss a copy.
—the editor

The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

A. E. van Vogt's "War of Nerves" in the May Other Worlds is one of his "Black Destroyer Series" which will be published in book form in the near future by Simon and Schuster as "The Voyage of the Space Ship Beagle"; at least, it's one version of the one which will be printed in book form. Actually, "The--Beagle" is a novel rather than a series of short stories.

The first ten thousand words of "The Wizard of Linn" by AEvV were submitted previously to Campbell as a novelette; ASF's editor considered it wisest to run together.

Murray Leinster's "First Contact" in radio script form was read before the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society February 16th. Sorry it did not meet with the same high approval as Williamson's "With Folded Hands", but this was largely because of minor elements; e.g.: the alien ship was "shaped like a saucer", etc. And: "Turn five degrees north" — this in intergalactic space..

The March issue of Coronet contains a 24 page layout of Chesley Bonestell, entitled "Mr. Smith Goes to Venus". All original paintings — beautiful!

Coronet will publish Ray Bradbury's story "Mars is Heaven"; it was learned recently that the same will be published in Esquire — making six times the story has been sold: First, to Planet, then it was included in two anthologies (one of them "The Best Science Fiction of 1949"), then to CBS — it will be broadcast back east — and now to these two magazines.

Here is a partial list of Bradbury's recent sales:

Mars is Heaven	<u>CBS</u>
Mars is Heaven	<u>Esquire</u>
Mars is Heaven	<u>Coronet</u>
The Fox in the Wood	<u>Colliers</u>
(3 part serial)	<u>Colliers</u>
The Veldt	<u>Satevepost</u>

(continued on page 24)

HUGO GERNSBACK

BY DAVID H. KELLER M.D.

In the spring of 1926 a new magazine appeared on the news stands of New York. This was Vol. 1 - No. 1 of AMAZING STORIES, the Magazine Of Scientifiction. It was described in two short but vitally important sentences; Extravagant Fiction Of Today ---- Cold Fact Tomorrow. The editor was Hugo Gernsback and the managing editor Dr. T. O'Connor Slaone.

At that time Gernsback was by no means unknown in the magazine field. He was publishing SCIENCE AND INVENTION, RADIO NEWS*, RADIO REVIEW and RADIO INTERNATIONAL. For some years he had included an occasional science-fiction story** in his other magazines and now decided that there was sufficient interest in such fiction to justify a magazine devoted entirely to this form of literature.

The first number showed that Gernsback considered Jules Verne, H. G. Wells, Edgar Poe and George Allen England were representative of the best of science-fiction writers. For a few numbers the magazine contained little but reprints of these authors. However it was not long before works of new authors were printed and Bob Olsen, Dr. Milos J. Brorer, Captain S. P. Meek, Stanton A. Coblentz and David H. Keller, M. D. appeared in competition with Verne, Wells and Poe.

Late in 1927 Gernsback issued the first number of AMAZING STORIES QUARTERLY, which followed closely the editorial policy set for AMAZING STORIES. Later he published SCIENCE WONDER STORIES, AIR WONDER STORIES***, AMAZING DETECTIVE TALES and WONDER STORIES.

In these magazines Gernsback introduced science-fiction to the youth

*Still being published today.

**Usually illustrated by Frank R. Paul.

WHEN we decided to celebrate our 100th issue of FANTASY-TIMES with a special issue, we could think of no one better suited for a lead article, than the father of the science-fiction magazines, HUGO GERNSBACK. To write such an article there is no one better informed than Col. David H. Keller. The two always go together in our mind. Gernsback introduced Keller to the readers of scientifiction and Keller did more than his share in making those Gernsback magazines a success. Our thanks to both these gentlemen for making it possible to have scientifiction fandom today. -ed

of America. He encouraged the readers to write letters for publication, to organize science-fiction societies, and to express their desires for more stories by their favorite authors in future issues. He offered substantial prizes for the best science letters. In addition he encouraged young authors and helped them find new plots and novel forms of development. While he constantly kept in mind that many of his readers had what he called, "The twelve year old mind" he stressed this mildly to his authors and felt that while a story should be written simply it should carry an effort to educate the average reader.

His relation to authors was in the main pleasant. If he liked a story he bought it and published it as written, making few editorial changes in their manuscripts except to correct

***AIR WONDER and SCIENCE WONDER were combined after one year, and became WONDER STORIES which is still being published today as THRILLING WONDER STORIES.

scientific inaccuracies. In this he was able aided by Dr. Sloane who had the unusual combination of brilliant-scientific mind and charming personality.

From the first he realized that the illustration of the tales was important. Covers and text were illustrated, often by Paul. Looking over the early issues of these magazines it is interesting to see how science was stressed and sex neglected. The sex appeal was a facet of science-fiction literature largely missing both in text and illustration of the early Gernsback magazines.

AMAZING STORIES was a success from the first. Shortly after its appearance Gernsback was offered a million dollars for his four magazines. While this offer was made in the lush days of publication it shows the hold such literature had on the public.

When I first met Gernsback in New York he impressed me as a polished cosmopolitan rather than the usual chauvinistic American. Tall, brunette, energetic, he seemed, in spite of quiet mannerisms, to have a boundless reservoir of energy to be used in editorial or financial emergencies. He always took home with him a brief case filled with manuscripts which he read in bed between the hours of 11 PM and 2 AM. He rarely allowed social engagements to interfere with his editorial work.

Gernsback was a better conversationalist than a correspondent. His mind was constantly active in the formation of new plots. If he had devoted his entire time to writing instead of publishing he might have become a noted author. I recall many conversations with him in automobile, office and home and these always gave me new ideas for future stories. Once, while driving with him, he told me of the annoyance caused by poor clerical help and after that talk I wrote "Stenographer's Hands". He frequently expressed the thought that cities like New York would die simply because of overgrowth ---- as the gigantic pro-

historic animals had, and I used his thought in tales like "The White City". He introduced me to Materlink and suggested that I incorporate the science of insects in future stories which suggestion I followed in "The Human Termites" and "The Solitary Hunters".

He was a genial host, in his moments of relaxation, told interesting tales of his boyhood in Europe. At the age of fourteen he wired a convent in Luxemburg, his home city, so the Mother Superior could ring for her subordinates when she desired their presence. This convent was closed to men and it was necessary to secure Papal Dispensation to enter and install the electrical system.

While Gernsback was always hunting for new authors, and, finding them, continued to use their work, he was never sanguine of their sustained ability to write well. He told me that he felt most writers had only one good story and, once that was written, could write nothing more that was worth while. When, after accepting my "Revolt Of The Pedestrians", he explained that he felt that I would never write another story, but sent me a contract for twelve more just to make certain that, if I did write more, I would not be able to sell to other magazines. There is every reason to believe that he was as much surprised as I was to find that I was an exception to his rule of one-story-authors.

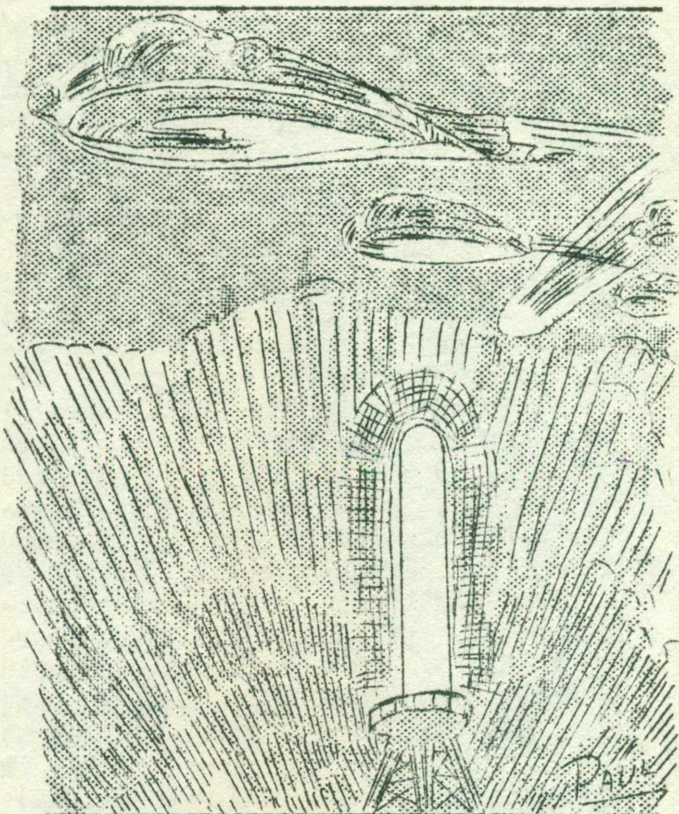
Never content with what he was doing and constantly feeling the desire to invade new fields of publication Gernsback decided to present medicine in a popular form that could be understood by the average man. This led to his publishing YOUR BODY, POPULAR MEDICINE, SEXOLOGY and THE SEXUAL EDUCATION SERIES. In these he continued his former policy of encouraging the readers to write letters suggesting new subjects and ask for information. These letters, many of which were published, became an important part of the magazines.

It is certain that, had it been possible for him to do so, Gernsback

would have preferred to continue as a science-fiction publisher. Had he continued with AMAZING STORIES he would have made it as much of a success, over the years, as Farnsworth Wright made of WEIRD TALES. Unfortunately competition forced him to abandon science-fiction and when he did this, the world lost the service of a genius in this type of publication. He blazed the trail which later publishers followed to the gold-fields of success. But, as long as science-fiction is read, the student of such literature can never forget the man who first introduced it to America.

The End

Editorial note: Hugo Gernsback is still editing and publishing today. His two magazines, leaders in their fields, are RADIO ELECTRONICS (formerly RADIO CRAFT) and SEXOLOGY.



OTHER WORLDS SCIENCE STORIES

MY MAG ONE YEAR FROM NOW

BY RAY PALMER

ANY editor who can tell you what his mag will be one year from now just isn't a good editor! He's in a rut, if he can foresee what it'll be like. He's already hackneyed, and ought to go back to ditch-digging. I don't know what OTHER WORLDS will be like!

However, I can give you a few ideas I've got cooking around in my skull, and you may be able to deduce the probable course of the magazine, and even predict its status in a year.

First, I tried to express myself

clearly at the "Cinvention". I said I'd give the readers the magazine they asked for -- and asked them to ask me for something they felt they'd like to see in OTHER WORLDS. A lot of you have asked me for things. I've given you every one of them. I might list a few: 1. Trimmed edges (maybe not important, but makes the magazine easy to handle, and being unable to turn the next page without a lot of fumbling around always annoyed me.) 2. A size easy to handle, yet sacrificing no part of the content. OTHER WORLDS' content is exactly that

of any other larger-sized sf mag of the same number of pages (160). 3. Better stories. By better, you meant in regard to writing, treatment, plotting, etc. and especially, better editing. Better editing meant (to me) doing what I wanted to do with the viewpoint of a fan and reader, and not with the viewpoint of whether or not my boss would like it. Actually, that hasn't changed, except for bosses --- the reader is now the boss, and I try to select stories "he" will like. I cater to him. 4. The best authors obtainable. Up to now we've obtained quite a few, such as van Vogt, Bradbury, Hesse, Stuart Byrne, Raymond Jones, Eric Frank Russell, William F. Temple, John Beynon, and (quite modestly) myself. (If you didn't like "Doorway to Hell", "The Vengeance of Martin Brand", "The Test Tube Girl", etc. then I'm no good). You must admit that's not bad for three months in business (at this writing - Dec. 14). We'll get every good writer, provided he writes a story. We've paid better rates than AMAZING ever paid, or maybe ASTOUNDING, to get some of them. Ask Forrie Ackerman about that -- he's the agent who gets some of them for us. Forrie is working with us in a way that would lift your eyebrows, if you think we ever had bad blood between us. 5. Little things like putting the name of the artist at the bottom of each illustration so that you know who did it; putting the number of words in each story on the contents page; reinstating the practice of a "personals" column; fan news column; a sensible readers' column; carefully selected fillers; readable type. 6. We've gone out and either gotten or arranged to get, such artists as Paul, Bok, Jones, Finley, Smith, Krupa, Kohn, McCauley, Brundage. 7. We've made it a policy to give fan artists a break. We'll have fan art in every issue --- and it's good art, too! 8. We've given fan writers every possible break. Take E. E. Evans for instance. We bought that story, and did a lot of writing on it to show Evans what he could do to become a more frequently selling

Back in the early 1930s, when many of us didn't know science-fiction existed, Ray Palmer was publishing fan mags with such fans as Mort Weisinger, Julius Schwartz and the then sf movie expert, Forrest J Ackerman. Their fan mag, FANTASY MAGAZINE, is always used as a gauge to measure all the other fan mags by. ~~Since~~ those days in the early 1930s, Ray became an sf author and then in 1938 took over the oldest professional mag of sf AMAZING STORIES. For 11 years he edited this pro mag and only a few months ago resigned and became a publisher in his own right. Today he edits OTHER WORLDS, which is really beginning to climb the stairs to success. The fans have always found Ray, willing to cooperate with them. It is a pleasure to have him here celebrating our 100th issue with us.

-ed

author. 9. We threw out the silly idea of not mentioning competitors. Even if the competitor sells an extra copy, we'll notify you if we think they have a good yarn coming up. Let's see the other boys grow up, too! The fans are grown up, and it's time the publishers realized it's the fan's quarter they're after. (In our case it's 35¢ we're after, and for a darn good reason. Think we're trying to milk you out of an extra dime? Heck no! Wait'll you see what we do with that dime! We'll pay rates authors never heard of before. We'll add to the magazine everything we can, to make it tops. Take, for instance, back cover paintings? Remember the feature AMAZING ditched because it cost too much? and ads paid revenue? Exactly, it cost too much. So, we think the fans will be willing to pay a dime more to get what they really want. I'd pay a dime more for a magazine that could afford to give me what I wanted. More pages? Sure, as soon as that dime grows. It grows every time we get a new reader. In plain unvarnished words, we're going to turn that dime right back to you. It isn't

so we can make more money. We don't care if we don't make a dime, other than our salary. We are putting out this mag because we are fans, and love science-fiction, and we've sat around twelve years eating our hearts out because we didn't dare do it the way we thought it should be done, for fear of being dumped out in the street with the remark: "your blue ink is drooping". Besides, what's the sense in making a million dollars, just to pay it out in taxes. We prefer to polish up the product, not the office. To heck with the carpets on the floor, and the panels on the walls, and the leather on the seats. We've been accused by the fans for twelve years of "making money" and with truth. But not for ourselves. People who don't even know what science-fiction is got the profit. And the fans got a sales talk, and little else. There was no trying new things, as soon as the old paid off. Don't dare change a thing, so long as the profits stay up there. Maybe if we tried a new type of story, we'd guess wrong, and down sales would

tumble -- and after all, sales are the thing, aren't it? (How's that for grammar -- you'd have to correct it, because an editor wasn't suppose to pal around with his readers or even crack a joke.) Don't get the idea we're griping. A publisher's magazine is his property, and you have no right, as his employee, to meddle with it, even if you think you've got a hot idea. But now, the magazine is our property, and we intend to do with it what we want. If you don't believe us, drop around to our office, and talk to Bea Mahaffey, who is a Ciney fan we hired to help us make fools out of ourselves for the sake of the readers. She's a smart girl, and she's a fan, and she knows what pleases her and other fans. You can thank her for stories like "Dear Devil" by Eric Frank Russell, and "Mahaffey's Mystery" by Frank Patton.)

What's OTHER WORLDS going to be one year from now?

That's easy. It's going to be your magazine. And mine. And Bea's.

The End

CONGRATULATIONS TO FANTASY-TIMES ON ITS 100th ISSUE

BY THOMAS S. GARDNER

Thomas S. Gardner has been an active fan and author from the early days of fandom. He has had stories reprinted in Startling Stories' "Hall Of Fame", in England's Tales of Wonder and in 1949, his first story, "The Last Woman" was reprinted in an anthology. He is probably better known in the field of science than in science-fiction. He started working with us back in the days of Fantasy-News. During the war he served as "domestic editor" on the staff of the "Continental Edition" of Fantasy-Times that was published in France. He became science editor of Fantasy-Times with the

October 6th, 1946 issue; a position he still holds today. His "19-- In Science Fiction", an annual review of pro mags has become a tradition of fandom.

-ed

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to write a short article commemorating the one hundred issue of Fantasy-Times. There is no one in the fan world who has been more persevering, and infallible than James V. Taurasi. When one considers the years of editing and mimeographing Fantasy-News* and Fantasy-Times on his

* Founded June 26, 1938 by Taurasi.

amazed at the terrific intensity of purpose and interest maintained by JVT. If any one ever deserved a medal for fan news it is he.

When I look at Vol. 1 - No. 1 of Fantasy-Times, dated September 1941, I am appalled at the changes in the world. The first issue headlines that Tremaine quits as editor of Comet, and that Norton became the new editor of Astonishing and Super Science. The amazing thing is that Fred Pohl left the editorial chair, but is today doing a regular book review column for Super Science. Another news item was that Stirring Science Stories and Cosmic Stories were suspended for the Summer. The last issue of Cosmic Science Fiction is dated July 1941, and the last issue of Stirring Science Stories, March 1942. This is in line with the last issue of Super Science, May 1943, and Astonishing, April 1943. The shortage of paper had begun to take their toll! The war was in full swing by the end of these publications. To go back a bit, the last issue of Comet is also July 1941. To-date only Super Science has been revived! I am more and more amazed at no attempt to revive the older titles!

The world has moved swiftly. Rocketry from a crack-pot fringe of enthusiasts has become one of the most outstanding engineering fields in the world with hundreds of millions of dollars being spent on research and development each year and Nuclear physics from a laboratory curiosity to the most powerful source of energy existent on a firm scientific and engineering basis with simply oodles of money being used for its growth. General Semantics which had piddled along for years suddenly bloomed as the outstanding methodology of the century in strong competition with symbolic logic and mathematics, but in the broader fields inclusive of the two other mental disciplines. The new science of Cybernetics was born and the science-fiction plot of the mechanical brain became a looming reality with such outstanding men as Bush calmly discussing it as a future probability.

Antibiotics grew from a lab. agar plate to the most amazing and powerful tool ever discovered for fighting gram negative and gram positive bacteria, some viruses, the rickettsia, and even the amoebic infections. The sulfa field also expanded. The science of gerontology began to develop and the new science of gerontotherapeutics was born. Hope was offered for a doubled human, healthy life span was advanced on sound and fundamental scientific work. Jet propulsion became commonplace. At the time of the first issue of Fantasy-Times what did the word jet propulsion even mean to all but about a hundred people in the world? The periodic table was extended with artificial elements, Microwaves became practical with the VT or proximity fuse and radar. Radar waves were bounced off the moon, and the U. S. government announced plans for a space satellite for the earth!

In no time in all human history has science-fiction become fact as such a rate. One could go on for pages and not exhaust the developments in all fields of human endeavor except in government and international relations. Why? Is it because that government and international relationships is the only known fields that do not require their men to be intelligent, educated, trained, nor even more than slightly motile? In any other field the man or woman working must have some qualifications. The pinheads have even cried that education has failed due to the political bungles evident. Why not stop to think that before education can fail it must first be tried!

In 1941 Astounding led the field. Today it still leads the field. Startling and Thrilling Wonder were rather poor in 1941, but today under Sam Merwin they are approaching Campbell's efforts in Astounding. Very little change has occurred in the standings of Fantastic Novels, Famous Fantastic Mysteries, Amazing Stories, Punch Stories, or Fantastic Adventures. Why? Simple. Each magazine fulfills a need for its type of stories. As long as there is so little competition in each

Dear Reader:

We are interested at this time in obtaining your preferences of material which has appeared in FANTASY-TIMES. We would like to know which types of news are of the greatest service to most of our readers, and which regular FANTASY-TIMES features please you best. Therefore, please check off in the space below your opinion of our regular features and the various fields of news we cover.

<u>Type Of News</u>	yes	so-so	no	<u>Regular Features</u>	yes	so-so	no
Books				Cosmic Reporter			
Pro Mags				Other Side Of Pond			
Fan News				Fantasy Films, Radio & Television			
Movies, Radio & Television				Fantasy Forecasts			
Foreign				Book Notes			
Personalities				State Of Fandom			
				Cover Illustration			

bracket there is very little incentive to change either for the better or the worse.

It would have been nice for the companion news sheet, Fantasy-News, to have been able to keep up publication schedules, along with Fantasy-Times. However the success of Fantasy-Times is due to aiming at a goal that can be achieved. Sykora aimed so high that

one man and his family simply could not achieve his goal. Consequently we can only mourn for Fantasy-News, meanwhile enjoy and appreciate the top science-fiction news sheet in the world, Fantasy-Times. Long may it continue to be tops, and I personally feel sure that as long as Taurasi runs it, it will.

The End

World Of Tomorrow Today

BY F. ORLIN TREMAINE

THE world today is living in the pre-dawn of a tomorrow for which the trails were opened by Pioneers. In the trail of the pioneers come the first settlers, bold men who are not afraid of new frontiers. Each of these men has to be strong in his own right for he has to lay his own individual foundation for sustenance, shelter, and protection against unknown dangers. He must provide his own ingenious methods of transport.

Following these early settlers come the multitudes who wait until all has been made safe, the dangers mitigated, the natural hazards conquered.

This plan of development holds true in every phase of life, whether we discuss new lands, the air, the universe, or literature.

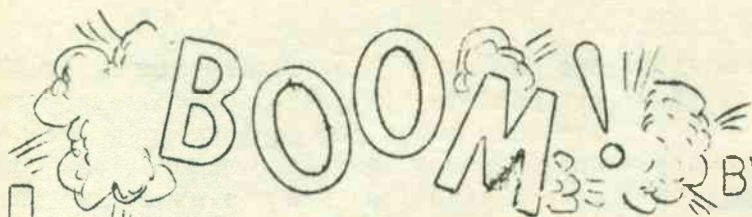
It is fitting that Fantasy-Times should celebrate its centennial issue at this particular moment when science is achieving much of what was foreseen as fact in science-fiction a decade and a half ago.

Hugo Gernsback was undoubtedly the pioneer-explorer in the modern, popular field of science-fiction. A few of us may lay claim to being among the settlers. I believe we can safely call the years 1933-37 the first golden age of science-fiction. It came alive in these years and laid a foundation for much of its present popularity as a story medium. But, more important, the

Mr. Tremaine is well-known as the ex-editor of Astounding. The man who took over Astounding after the Clayton smash-up and built it up from the last of the field to the number-one mag of science-fiction. He drove the other two magazines to the wall. They never recovered and sold out to other companies. Once Mr. Tremaine made Astounding top-mag it never lost that position. He proved he could do it again when he became editor of Comet. With a poor paying company, a bi-monthly magazine, poor paper, etc., etc., he proved in five issues that he was the editor of the science-fiction field. Had the magazine lasted longer than five issues, Astounding would have had to fight for its very life. It is an honor to have such a man as Mr. Tremaine with us celebrating our 100th issue. -ed

individual enthusiasm of its supporting fans has not lessened. I have had reason to be proud of the large number of young men whose interest has been maintained while they became substantial citizens, moving into the current of modern life without confusion because they know what was coming in the scientific field.

Science-fiction has enabled many of us, who have followed it through the
(continued on page 15)



BY ALVIN R. BROWN

In the past four years since the war, science fiction and fantasy have enjoyed a boom the end of which is not yet in sight. A wealth of material has appeared between boards and a rash of new magazines has hit the stands. The situation is somewhat analagous to that of the halcyon days from 1939 to the middle of 1943 when at one time, twenty-three different magazines were on the stands. It was also at this time that Arkham House began publishing, the forerunner of the hard cover boom. This boom period lasted for about four and a half years before being regrettably brought to a swift demise by the shortages imposed by the war.

We are again in the midst of a boom, only more so. New magazines have appeared and will continue to appear, while the older magazines are becoming more mature and more firmly entrenched. In the book field, many small publishing houses have appeared, reprinting in the main old pulp classics. To top it all off, major book publishing houses have begun to publish science fiction with some regularity, and the promise for the future is for more and more science fiction to appear between boards.

The magazine field can be broken up in the following manner*: those twenty years old or more, including "Amazing Stories", "Astounding Science Fiction", "Thrilling Wonder Stories" and "Weird Tales"; those ten years

old or more, including "Fantastic Adventures", "Startling Stories", "Planet Stories" and "Famous Fantastic Mysteries"; those five years old or more, including "Super Science Stories", and "Fantastic Novels" **; and those under five years old, including "A. Merritt's Fantasy Magazine", "Avon Fantasy Reader", "Other Worlds" and "Magazine Of Fantasy".

I have broken up the magazine field for the purpose of prediction and discussion. By way of prediction, in the twenty-year grouping, I feel safe in saying that AS, WT and TWS will continue to be with us. However, in the case of ASF, I can't make any decent prediction. Street & Smith has dropped all their other pulps and ASF doesn't have a terrific circulation. Perhaps in the future, another publisher will take this magazine over, but I believe that ASF will, in one way or another, continue to be published although possibly with a change in policy.

In the ten-year grouping, an easy prediction can be made, namely, that they all will continue to exist for at least another five years, probably longer, although "Planet Stories" may change policy in order to continue publication.

In the five-year grouping, conditions will remain static, since FN has a wealth of material to draw from and SSS has a definite place on the stands.

The final classification,

* Only magazines being published at the time of writing are included.

** This classification is arbitrary, and includes magazines discontinued before and during the war and recently revived.

under five years, is difficult, since in all but one case, they are in a state of flux because of their newness. But to climb further cut on the limb, AMEM will last only as long as Merrittales are around since it duplicates FN. Look for a combination of FN and AMEM in about three years. "Avon Fantasy Reader" is here to stay in its present form. OW will develop rapidly but watch for a price change in the next two years. "Magazine Of Fantasy" will continue but with more emphasis on science fiction, and here also watch for a price change.

Now to the book field and a few generalities. Science fiction between covers will continue on the upswing for another four or five years, and then there will be a leveling off or possibly a drop in activity by the big houses. A price drop by the limited edition houses is in the offing, as witness Gnome Press' price cut. More and more original manuscripts will appear between boards rather than the extended reprint policy in force today, especially by the major publishers, like Simon & Schuster and E. P. Dutton.

I have neglected to mention the pocket books, and from present indications, I predict that the field as a whole will issue sf and fantasy in large quantities, including original material, in line with the hard cover publishers.

To indulge in a few observations over the whole field, more pulp magazines will be issued in the future, both reprint and new-type; particularly in the sf vein, reminiscent of the days prior to the war. Books and pktbooks will appear in greater quantities and will be pushed by the publishers to replace the detective story as the number one field of regular consumption by the reading public. I repeat, the upswing will last for five years and then will level off or possibly drop somewhat.

At the risk of sounding dogmatic, science fiction and fantasy are here to stay and they will become a bright star on the publishing horizon.

Author's Note: The above predictions, etc., represent my opinion, and not necessarily that of any of the editors of FANTASY-TIMES.

TRIM YOUR OWN

BY J. RUSSELL MARS

Basically, I am in harmonious sympathy with the writers of the many letters appearing in today's readers' columns which request, demand, cajole and otherwise mention trimmed edges.

Collectors value these smooth edges, not only for looks, but also for their preservative effect on the magazine.

However, since none of these letters have had the slightest effect on the edges of the maga-

zines in question, I finally devised a method of trimming the edges of my collection myself, a system which not only brings all the advantages of ready-trimming, but does a finer-looking job.

So, if you would like to add years to the life of every mag in your collection, follow these simple directions on how to trim your own.

The materials needed are cheap and only one has to be

built by you.

The first requirement is a good knife, of the type shown in Fig. 1. It must have a straight cutting edge and be of a good grade of steel so that it will take a keen edge. The one illustrated is known as a shoemaker's knife.

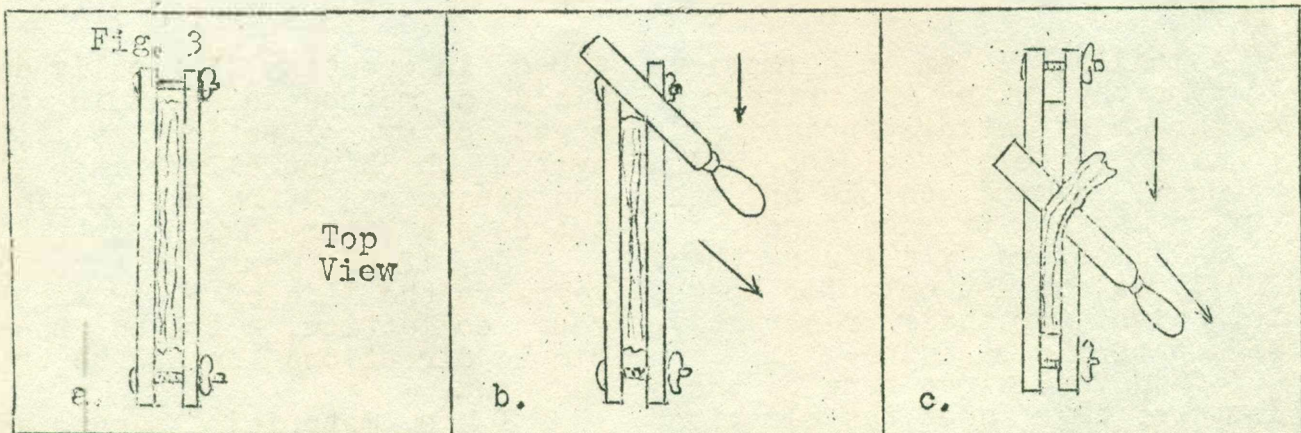
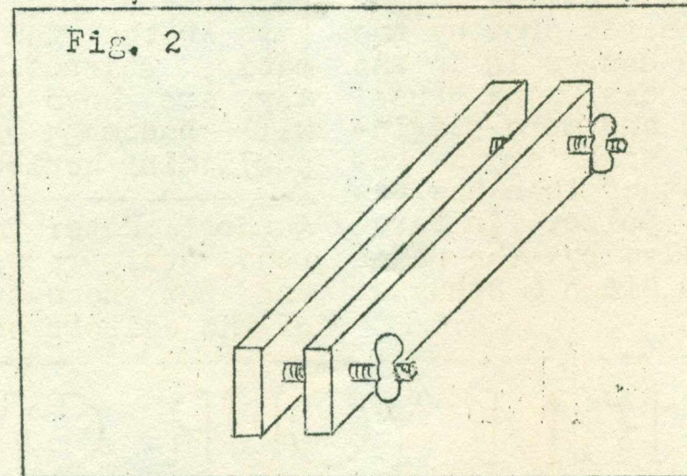
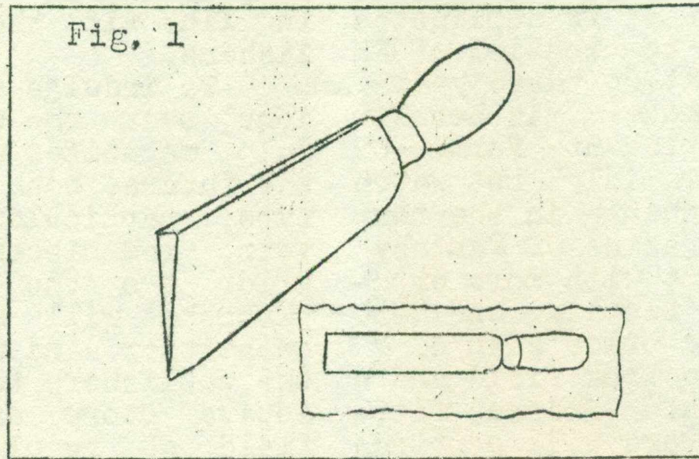
Fig. 2 is the press, so-called because it is used to compress the pages of the magazine to be trimmed, which is the part you must build. It is made from two pieces of strong wood three-quarters to one inch thick depending on what is most easily available. At least one long edge of each piece must be true. Trim with a plane if necessary. Then, twelve inches apart and centered from the sides drill two $\frac{1}{4}$ " holes in each board.

quarter - inch carriage bolts six inches long. Carriage bolts are round - headed, and have a small square shank just below the head. If you have chosen your wood wisely, it will be possible to bang the bolts in the wood so that the heads are flush with the surface, the shanks forcing their way into the wood without splitting it. If you think the wood you have chosen won't stand this treatment, it

will be necessary for you to chisel out small sockets to receive the bolt-shanks. The purpose is to keep the bolts from turning in their holes when the nuts are drawn up on the other end.

Then put on the other piece of wood. Over each bolt end slip a big flat washer, and next put

Into these holes, insert a wing nut on each bolt. Make sure you have both true edges to-



gether.

You are now ready to begin trimming.

Clamp a magazine in the press by placing it between the boards and drawing up tight on the wing nuts. The portion to be trimmed away should now be sticking up past the two true edges of the press. Sharpen your knife, and with even strokes back and forth cut away the rough edges. Then use a piece of fine sandpaper to smooth away the knife marks.

For your first few tries, use a mag that will not be missed if anything goes wrong. No matter how sharp your knife is, it will not trim more than one mag before resharpening. A pocket hone, fine grit, is a handy tool for you to have.

Don't be in a hurry! It takes practise to be able to handle a knife for fine work such as this. In time you will be able to trim one of your priceless collector's items in about ten minutes and be proud of the result.

A heavy coat of wax on the guide edges of the press will make the work easier.

The End

THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY (continued from page 11)

years, to maintain an untroubled poise in what is too often referred to as a "troubled world". And as newer generations grow up within the circle of our fictional forecasts of things to come they learn to feel the serenity which comes from knowledge.

The mysterious doors of nature's secrets are being opened to us one after another in real life, and the population at large finds these revelations a little terrifying. But to those of us who rode jet-spaceships to the planets in our stories many years ago, there is no surprise in the actuality of jet-planes. To those of us who have lived through inter-planetary wars in our reading there is no particular reason for surprise at the coming of the H-

bomb.

The kinship of interest among science-fiction fans is a bond like a common language. Nowhere, outside of our own particular group, can we talk as freely about the things which will happen tomorrow -- just as, fifteen years ago we were discussing scientific expectancies which today are actualities.

I am proud to have played a part in the development of science-fiction, not so much because it meant editing a magazine as because it enabled me to become a part of one of the most imaginative and worthwhile groups of people now inhabiting the earth -- the science fiction fans -- the settlers who lay the foundations for the future.

The End

OUT OF THE PAST

PAGES 16, 17, 18 & 19 of this 100th issue look crude, almost out of place, in our modern Fantasy-Times. But, they are Fantasy - Times. War-time Fantasy-Times, from the year 1944. At that time, Sam Moskowitz was just out of the Army and editor, James V. Taurasi was still in but stationed near home, was the publisher.

These stencils were typed by Sam for issue No. 11, July 1944, and the cover was for the Sept. 1944 (No. 13), both issues never came out at the time. They did come out years later, but with new material and new stencils.

Moskowitz found these stencils after six years and we thought you'd be interested in seeing them. These old stencils are battered and torn and very dry. We have not changed them a bit, we even left the old page numbers on them. Except for the new page number at the bottom, they are as they were when they were typed in 1944. -ods

3rd Anniversary Issue

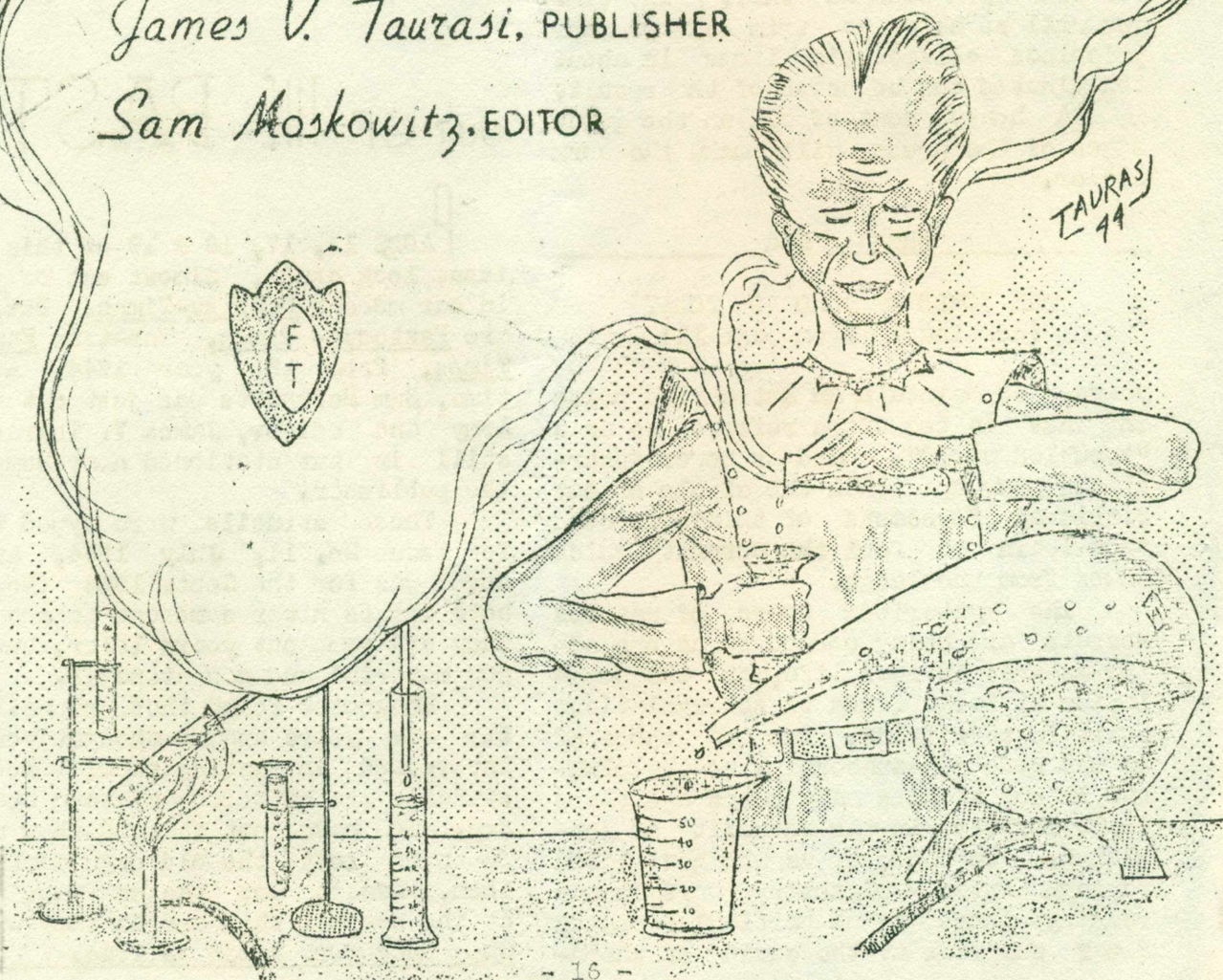
FANTASY-TIMES

September 1944

No. 13

James V. Taurasi, PUBLISHER

Sam Moskowitz, EDITOR



THE TIME STREAM by Sam MoskowitzTHE TRICKLE BECOMES A TORRENT

The trickle of fine fantasy books and pocket books which started with August W. Derleth's *OUTSIDERS & OTHERS* by H. P. Lovecraft, and was swelled at first slowly and then with increasing momentum by such volumes as *THE POCKET BOOK OF SCIENCE FICTION*, *SEVEN FOOTPRINTS TO SATAN*, *BURN, WITCH, BURN*, *CREEP, SHADOW, CREEP*, *THE MOON POOL*, *THE HEIRD SHADOW OVER INNSMOUTH*, *OUT OF THIS WORLD*, *SOMEONE IN THE DARK*, *OUT OF TIME AND SPACE*, *BEYOND THE WALL OF SLEEP*, *GREAT TALES OF TERROR AND SUPERNATURAL*, *CREEPS BY NIGHT*, *BEST GHOST STORIES OF M. R. JAMES*, etc.

And coming up are *MARGINALIA* by H. P. Lovecraft, *LOST WORLDS* by Clark Ashton Smith, three volumes in the *SLEEP NO MORE!* trilogy to be edited by Derleth, *JUMBEE & OTHERS* by Henry S. Whitehead, *THE EYE AND THE FINGER* by Donald Wandrei, and contemplated other volumes by H. P. Lovecraft, Robert Bloch, August W. Derleth, A. Merritt, William Hope Hodgson, etc., etc. and others announced in *THE COSMIC REPORTER* this issue.

Pleased as I am by the entire thing, and eager to read the proposed volumes as soon as they appear, my mind still cannot help hearkening back to former days, when such a flood of book fantasy was undreamed of; yet when intrepid pioneers were doing their best to make it come true.

No, folks, booklet and book fantasy is no new thing. It is something that numerous people have tried time and again and in different ways, yet never caught on. Those publishers, authors and fans who years back attempted to popularize fantasy in the book as well as the magazine field are forgotten by most today. Forgotten because they failed. But I have always looked at it differently. I have always said, they did not fail, the science fiction and fantasy fans failed them. They gave the best that was in them, but received no support.

Today there rests only upon shelves and in the minds of a few old time comprehensive collectors those first attempts to lift science-fantasy out of pulp designation. You would laugh at some of those efforts. You may question my right to place them on the same plane with volumes published today. But because they did not have fine modern presses, rich or at least adequate backers, or cloth covers is no criterion of their worth. They were the pioneers. Pioneers usually wear rags.

Among the first efforts in the booklet line of science fiction was *AMAZING STORIES* premium *THE VANGUARD OF VENUS* by Landell Bartlett issued in 1928 as a subscription incentive. The story itself was poor, but just try and find a copy today. I wish I had one.

Hugo Gernsback made a mighty effort to place science fiction in pamphlet and semi-book form. He issued ~~THE~~ SCIENCE FICTION SERIES which it is claimed sold poorly, yet Gernsback issued 18 of them before giving up the ghost. The early numbers must have sold well enough to give him hope, the last group are still for sale by Thrilling Wonder Stories and are worth the trouble of collecting.

SCIENCE FICTION CLASSICS, also by Gernsback could have been a wonderful thing for the fans if it had received any support. Gernsback envisioned a whole series of paper bound books comprised solely of old time science fiction stories. Can you evaluate the eventual worth of such a collection. What mighty classics might have been brought you; what anthologies issued had this series succeeded. BETWEEN WORLDS by Garrett Smith was the only title this library issued. As late as 1938 hundreds of copies could still be purchased at 10 cents apiece in book shops in the New York area. Any day now a publisher will issue SCIENCE FICTION CLASSICS (conjecture) in pocket book form and end up with a tidy profit. But old Gernsy couldn't get a rise out of us when he thought up the idea.

Now the amateurs took over. When Gernsback sold only a few thousand it meant failure. But if an amateur publisher could sell a few thousand it would mean sensational success. So the boys who put out THE TIME TRAVELER, SCIENCE FICTION DIGEST & FANTASY MAGAZINE issued a series of pamphlets. THE CAVEMEN OF VENUS by Allen Glasser, THE PRICE OF PEACE by Mortimer Weisinger, WOLF HOLLOW BUBBLES by David H. Keller, M. D. and THRU THE DRAGON GLASS by A. Merritt printed in clean, large type on fine slick paper. These pamphlets sold at the tremendous sums of 5 & 10 cents apiece. How did they sell? Well Connie Ruppert who printed them still has hundreds of copies of Merritt's tale published at a time when it was the only edition in print in the entire world, and he couldn't sell enough copies at 10 cents per to raise a smile!

Seigel and Shuster who now do the Superman strip used to issue a fan magazine titled SCIENCE FICTION? They thought they'd try a little pamphlet publishing. They published GUESTS OF THE EARTH by Jerome Seigel mimeographed. They needed only a hundred sales to call themselves a success. They never published a second!

However the Swanson Book Company dealers in science fiction thought that the idea was good so they paid Schuster and Seigel to mimeograph an old tale from WEIRD TALES, THE METAL GIANTS by Edmond Hamilton. Swanson eventually got rid of them. But he didn't sell them, he gave them away to his customers.

The most juvenile attempt of this sort was a hektographed four-paged leaflet done by Wilson Shepherd of Cakman, Alabama, I WAS A PASSENGER IN MY OWN BODY by Captain North. The only thing that can be said for this is that you'd have a helluva time finding a copy.

No doubt you've heard of William H. Crawford who issued those fantastically fine amateur pubs MARVEL TALES & UNUSUAL TALES. Well, he had some damn good ideas for publication. His first was a pamphlet

containing the WHITE SYBIL by Clark Ashton Smith and MEN OF AVALON by David H. Keller, M. D. Forty pages on good quality paper. I think he heated his house with what he had left of them. But the boy had guts, he didn't give up. He issued a book titled MARS MOUNTAIN by Eugene George Key. This contained two other tales in addition to the title yarn. The stories were no great shakes, but the thing was a book, a printed book with a hard cover and a cover jacket and illustrations. And Crawford talked of books to come by Edward E. Smith, Ph. D., C. L. Moore and others. But apparently fans thought 35 cents a little steep for Crawford didn't sell very many copies of his book. A few years later he screwed up courage and finances enough to print the hitherto unpublished H. P. Lovecraft long novelette, THE SHADOW OVER INNSMOUTH in book form, with slick paper, a hard cover, a number of illustrations and a book jacket. He asked a dollar for it. Had great hopes. Several years later he was moaning something about scarcely having sold a hundred copies. I wonder what the pocket book is selling?

THE FUTILE PRESS, publishers of the once renowned SCIENCE FICTION CRITIC, began publishing little volumes back in 1938. The first was titled HAMMER & TONGS, and it was the reprinting of a department by Clyde F. Beck which had run previously in the CRITIC and was generally regarded as having been rather well done. Sales of this volume are unknown. Shortly afterward FUTILE PRESS issued a similar book of CLARK ASHTON SMITH'S between paste board covers titled NERO & OTHER POEMS selected from Smith's volume THE STAR TRELLER & OTHERS. Both volumes sold for 25 cents, and the Smith volume contained a long appreciation of Clark Ashton Smith and a soon-to-be-published poem autographed by Smith as an extra insert. A while later COMMONPLACE BOOK by H. P. Lovecraft was issued by the FUTILE PRESS at one dollar a copy. I bought my copy six months after the date of issuance. It stated: "75 copies of this book have been printed, this is No. 59" So it couldn't have been a best seller. Shortly afterward Claire P. Beck made his sensational tour across the country and the FUTILE PRESS folded up.

COMET PUBLICATIONS run by fan John V. Baltadonis issued a hektographed booklet entitled THE BRAIN by Oswald Train and was a reprint of stories Train had previously published in some Pennsy paper. There were colored illustrations every few pages. The booklet only sold for a dime, and the hektograph couldn't produce more than fifty copies, but another one was never forthcoming.

More recently THE BIZARRE SERIES of Millheim, Penna. issued THREE LINES OF OLD FRENCH by A. Merritt in nifty brochure style at a time when the story was available nowhere else. It sold for 25 cents a copy and mention was made of it in THRILLING WONDER STORIES. Sales are unknown, but at the time of the Nycon, sent a dozen copies to be auctioned and spoke as if there were plenty more where those came from. K. Russell Miller died in September, 1939 and Richard Frank carried on THE BIZARRE SERIES by publishing THE THING IN THE CELLAR by David H. Keller, M. D., a magnificent horror story along with Keller's biography two previously unpublished poems and the authors autograph. We do not know how it sold but we never heard and complaints of writers cramp from Doc Keller nor did we ever receive a copy of the third in the series for which we sent a perfectly good quarter, THE CANCER MACHINE by Eando Binder.

They call it...

THE MOST INTERESTING FANTASY MAGAZINE IN THE WORLD

(even if you can't read it)

Los Cuentos FANTASTICOS

the south of the border stefzine

LOS CUENTOS FANTASTICOS is a regular printed prozine, not a fanzine.

Certain issues are musts for Merritt, Lovecraft and Burroughs fans. I have a few featuring the following:

MERRITT: "Los Pobladores del Abismo" (also has original stories by EEEvans and Gustav Meyrink, and fan art by Grossman, Hunt, Daugherty and McNutt) 50¢

EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS: "La Resurreccion de Jimber-Jaw". In the same issue "El Vidrio de los Dragones" by A. MERRITT, and — not to be overlooked — Sam Moskowitz' "El Senador Omnipotente". Illustrations by Joe Gibson, Roy Hunt, and Virgil Finlay. Cover by Edd Cartier. 75¢

LOVECARFT: "Aire Frio". In the same issue, original stories by EEEvans and Jean Cox, plus Sturgeon's famous "El Dios Microcosmico". 60¢

HEINLEIN & VAN VOGT in Spanish! "La Casa Descabellada" y "El Destructor Negro". 50¢

BRADBURY: "Los Guardianes del Oceano" with original illustration by McNutt. Original fiction by Len Moffatt and EEEvans. Artwork by Austin, Berry, Arfstrom, Goldstone and Kroll. 50¢

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Los Cuentos

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FANTASTICOS

LOS CUENTOS FANTASTICOS



A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE OF FFM & FN

BY MARY GNAEDINGER

AS we work pretty close to the deadline on our fantasy books, in spite of the fact that Munsey classics are at hand, it is hard to make a forecast of anything but the very near future. The general set-up is as follows:

For Fantastic Novels it is planned to give a few stories in the more modern phase of the Munsey output. One of these is already announced in the magazine, "Three Against the Stars" by Eric North, which is appearing in the May issue, together with "Time's Dawn" by B. Wallis, and "A Priest of Quiche" by Francis James, both from the period around 1920; and "Mr. Primrose Goes to the Devil" by William P. Templeton, from the period of the lead novel. In the July issue we shall publish "Earth's Last Citadel" by C. L. Moore and Henry Kuttner, which appeared in the Argosy after its purchase by Popular Publications. This is a comparatively short novel, and with it will be "Death's Secret" by J. L. Schoolcraft, and "The Son of the Red God" by Paul L. Anderson — two novelettes from the earlier period of Munsey classics. It is possible that the issue after that will contain "Polaris and the Goddess Glorian" by Charles B. Stilson, but that is not definitely decided. The same policy of mixing older and new classics will continue.

As for Famous Fantastic Mysteries, the June issue will feature "The Adventures of Wyndham Smith" by S. Fowler Wright, but the short stories are dependent upon the way the space falls.

THERE is little to tell about Mary Gnaedinger that is not already known. She is the pioneer of the fantasy reprint field. She has been editor in this field for over ten years and any editor that can stay there for ten or more years must be a good editor. She has the honor of being the only staff editor to go along with the mag, when it was sold. Usually a new editor is given the job by the new publisher. The fans actually like her as the editor of the best readers' column published today. She has been most helpful in turning over her readers' column to any fan that wanted to use it for help in obtaining this or that. She has been very helpful to Fantasy Times and that we appreciate and will never forget. —ed

A number of excellent stories are ready for the issues to follow, but just how they will fit into the various issues it is hard to say now. Among them will be two short stories by Lovecraft, illustrated by Bok.

Several covers are being done by Saunders. One for "Three Against the Stars" and one for "Adventures of Wyndham Smith". Lawrence is doing the black and whites for the latter, and Finlay has done the pictures for the first mentioned. "Time's Dawn" is illustrated by Frank R. Paul, "A Priest of Quiche" by Peter Poulton, and "Mr. Primrose Goes to the Devil" by Lawrence. Bok and Finlay will be evident in the var-

ious short stories to come in the near future. Finlay illustrates "Earth's Last Citadel" and "Death's Secret", the latter an Egyptian story, and "The Son of the Red God" will be done by Lawrence. It is probable that Frank R. Paul will do the next Polaris story.

The future of Famous Fantastic Mysteries seems brighter than ever, as readers continue to suggest many fine books which turn out upon reading to be excellent. The future of Fantastic Novels is to bring along the Munsey classics as fast as mechanically poss-

ible, and everyone knows there is plenty of fine and glamorous story material there.

We have already thanked our advisors on FFM in the editorial columns. These friends are all still at work helping to make it a top notch magazine, and since that writing, a number of others have volunteered new information.

As Saunders has been very well received by the readers, it is possible that he will paint a number of covers.

The End

BOOK REVIEW

Pebble In Your Eye

A thumbnose Sketch of the new Asimov Book by Weaver Wright

Other worlds? Dr Isaac Asimov's got a million of 'em — 200 million populated planets, to be exact, in his new novel from Doubleday (\$2.50, 223 pgs.) PEBBLE IN THE SKY. But he bobbles his pebble.

In approximately 101,950 AD (or, to be technical, 827 of the Galactic Era) when a volume of several million cubic light-years has to be encompassed to take a census, a Chicago tailor from today, meeting up with Arvarden, an archeologist from the Sirian sector, and Effret Shekt, inventor of the Synapsifier, thwarts an Earth plot involving a bad boy named Balkis and others intent on murdering the 500 quadrillion people of the Empire. Do you follow me? Then you are headed for the nearest ice-pack, which is what I applied to my whirling head after completing this encervating novel. Dr Asimov will no doubt head for me with an ice-pick for panning his brain-child.

Of course everyone can't write with the scope of Drs Stapledon or Smith, but I have come to expect more from Asimov's imagination than a world of 100,000 years hence with only about a hundred years' difference about it (aside from the fact that 4 teeth have

dropped out of man's head and his appendix has atrophied to an inch and a half). Sorry I can't hand out a trophy for atrophy of ingenuity or superfluity of snafuism. "Pebble in the Sky" got stuck in my throat — I couldn't swallow it. Not recommendable unless your digestion for a carload of confusion is excellent.

Correction: Or unless you are a checker fan: A hundred thousand years hence our hero plays a game over four pages.

The End

For Sale

E. R. Burroughs, "The Moon Maid. No d/w. Fairly good condition. \$2. Van Vogt, "The Weapon Makers", with d/w, mint condition, \$30.00. Complete Merritt Pocket Book Collection. Rare as a group. "The Ship of Ishtar" (1945); "The Face in the Abyss" (1945); "Dwellers in the Mirage (1944); "Burn Witch Burn" (1942); "The Moon Pool" (1944); "The Metal Monster" (1946); The Fox Women Anthology (1949); All for \$10.00. No singles sold. Condition, excellent to fair. All with their covers. Dates refer to Avon or pocket book publication dates.

Thomas S. Gardner
155 Jackson Ave.
Rutherford, New Jersey

VIA PULLMAN TO PORTLAND

BY BOB TUCKER

WE now figure on seven uninter-
rupted nights of poker, beer, fanning,
chasing women up and down the aisles,
helping Ollie Saari write stories,
drawing BEMs on the walls, and reading
(if you want to read), plus two days
and nights visiting the idiot tribes of
Los Angeles, plus another five days or
so in Portland. After that we'll cut
our throats and end it all.

The Great Plan was hatched aboard
the train, coming back from the Cincin-
nati Convention. Canada's John Millard
and Ned McKeown wanted to join our
party next August when we set sail for
Portland. A couple of other kibitzers
in the crowd wanted to do likewise, and
in no time at all a dozen people spoke
up and raised their hands. Millard nam-
ed it "Via Pullman To Portland", and I
was elected honorable man-of-all-work
to see about the details.

After contacting a railway agent,
I discovered that "Tourist Pullmans"
could be had at considerable savings
under the standard pullman rate, and I
also found that a round trip by way of
Los Angeles would cost us only fifteen
dollars extra. That's how the wicked
city of the Angels came into the pic-
ture and that's why the club members
there will suffer next summer from the
darndest invasion they've ever witness-
ed. They deserve the fate.

Getting down to cases, the details
we have worked out with the rail agent
are these; we are scheduled to leave
Chicago at Saturday noon, August 26th.
If we have collected a carload (28 per-
sons), we get the entire Pullman to our-
selves; but if we have less than a load
then we are bunked together but must of
course share the car with the common
herd, the peasants, I feel sorry for
them. And about Monday noon the fan-

BOB TUCKER: What follower of Science-
fiction hasn't heard of him? Remember
way, way back in the 1935s? Remember
the "Staple War"? You do? Then you
know Bob Tucker. He's the boy who
wanted all pro mags to be bound without
staples. You say that that's too far
back for you? Mmmm, have you heard
of Wilson Tucker, the mystery writer?
Yea, the guy who wrote "The Chinese
Doll" (now in pocket book, 25¢ form).
You have, well that's the same Bob Tuck-
er. We like him best as editor and
publisher of "Bloomington News Letter",
oops, sorry, new name: "Science-Fic-
tion News Letter". At any rate we'd
like to be on that "Pullman To Port-
land!"

nish mob arrives in Los Angeles for a
two-day stop-over.

Wednesday night we again board the
train for Portland, arriving there Fri-
day morning, the meanwhile picking up a
few Los Angeles fans for the occasion.
(Meaning those who were dead drunk and
failed to get off the train before it
pulled out.) After the Convention,
along about Tuesday or Wednesday or
Thursday of the following week (When-
ever the hell we feel like it), we head
back for Chicago and arrive on Saturday
September 9th. Two weeks in all. And
we make a circle tour like this at a
cheap rate because of the freakish fare
situation.

The ordinary round-trip from Chi-
cago to Portland and back runs about
\$129 to \$136, depending upon the sleep-
ing accommodations wanted, but if you
desire to stop over at any westcoast
city and come home by a different
route, they add on a small charge for

sleeping accommodations between the two western cities. Coming back by a different route is free. Accordingly, we figured our costs as follows, traveling from Chicago to Los Angeles to Portland to Chicago:

To make the entire trip in a lower berth, \$151. In an upper berth, \$139. If Congress gets around to cutting off the excise taxes, deduct 15% from the above figures. And there you have it - "via Pullman to Portland".

Three people from Canada and nine from the States are itching to go and have signed on the dotted line; with from six to ten others who think they may make it but will not know until early in the summer.

How many will resign from fandom afterwards?

The End

THE COSMIC REPORTER (continued from page 4)

The Illustrated Man Esquire
Away in the Middle of the Air

Other Worlds
The Screaming Woman Flair

Forrest J Ackerman will have a permanent column in Other Worlds: "News of the month". Will be something like R. Phillips' "The Club House", except that it will cover a wider variety of subjects.

AETV tells me that four months ago, Theodore Sturgeon was given the go-ahead on a science-fiction TV show, a big network wanted him to do, but no news on it as yet, it ought to be good.

1949 IN SCIENCE FICTION

by Thomas S. Gardner

PART IV -- Thrilling Wonder Stories

TWS has had a very good year. The majority of the stories were fairly good with some excellent ones thrown in as frosting on the cake. Morwin is keeping up the good work.

February 1949: Van Vogt's "The Wea-

pon Shops of Isher" was very much appreciated. I would like to see more stories regarding the weapon shops. I still do not care for the Orig Prem stories of Miller. An excellent classic is Morwin's "The Carriers". This story is bitter, hard, and realistic. Read it, and weep. It has been true for every form of life man has come into contact to a lesser degree. This is the ultimate of man's menace to other forms.

April 1949: The lead novel, Loomis' "The Ultimate Planet" is a hard, and realistic story without sentiment. Every now and then such a story goes over well. I like this one, but the illustrations have no relation to the story. Hamilton's "Alien Earth" is well written and very thought stimulating. Brackett's "Quest of the Starhope" is interesting, and Phillips' "Quite Logical" should have been longer.

June 1949: I have always had a weakness for washbucking stories at times. So Brackett's "Sea - Kings of Mars" is corny in spots, but I enjoyed it. An excellent story is Jones' "The Alien Machine". Don't miss it for it is logically developed. For a little humor try Leinster's "The Life-Work of Prof. Muntz".

August 1949: Frankly I don't care for the lilliput type stories, even if Leinster's "Fury from Lilliput" is fast moving and fairly good. However Clarke's "Lion of Comarro" more than makes up for it, with a very good twisty type of tale by MacDonald. "Amphistion" for dessert. Then, believe it or not, van Vogt writes a different, and too damn true type of story, "Project Spaceship". A good Bradbury, "The Naming of Names" will be read with interest, especially in the light of an accelerated Lysenko type of environmental conditioning, and moulding. A good story, but sad to relate, 'taint true, fellows. Just fiction.

October 1949: I especially recommend West's "The Lure of Polaris" for the sociological values in the story. Bradbury's "Kaleidoscope" is not fiction,

(continued on page 28)

FANTASY FILMS, RADIO & TELEVISION

by Lester Mayer, Jr

Here's a partial list of some movies which are currently scheduled or under consideration in Hollywood:

"When Worlds Collide" by Baumer and Wylie. This one is definite; the sequel will follow if the first is a success. Rip Van Ronkle, who wrote the screen play for "Destination Moon" will work on this for the same producer, George Pal. Van Ronkle says: "The field of science-fiction offers a rich source of material for movie-makers --- most of it stuff of high adventure. I'm talking about adult-level stories not comic supplement science. Naturally, the first emphasis must be on entertainment, but there's no room here for hokum. You can't fool the public one time and expect them to believe you the next".

"Plague" by Rene Lafayette (According to L. Ron Hubbard).

"Slam!", among others, is being considered by Fritz Lang.

"The Kid From Mars" by Oscar J. Friend is being considered for Danny Kaye.

An independent producer is discussing remake rights of "Lost Horizon" with Columbia, as a musical for Jack Benny.

"Waldo" and "Magic, Inc" are possibilities.

"No Place To Hide" will be made by MGM.

Several members of the Los Angeles Science Fiction Society recently took "A Trip Through Outer Space". This was at the Griffith Planetarium in Hollywood which has previously shown "Trip To The Moon" and "Trip To The

Frozen Planets". These trips consist of the audience pretending that the circular auditorium is the viewing room of a spaceship. Looking upward and outward, they see the heavenly body they are visiting enlarging in the sky. Astronomical photographs are used. "Trip Through Outer Space" was a trip to three neighboring galaxies.

In April, "A Trip To Mars" will be shown.

(Thanks for the foregoing items to Arthur Jean Cox).

The French film makers are in again with another fantasy, this one called "Rita". A man is running away with a married woman when her husband catches them. He murders the husband and is sentenced to die. He pleads with his priest for another life. By a strange juggling of fate, this comes about. But circumstances repeat themselves, and he is soon back in a cell again, condemned for stabbing the husband of his true love.

The magazine section of the New York Sunday Mirror for 12 Feb 1950 carried an article, "Life On The Moon?". It was illustrated with scenes from the forthcoming movie, "Destination Moon". From the few scenes shown, it looks as if the picture will be well worth seeing.

At a science-fiction conclave held recently in NY, I saw the old silent picture, "The Lost World". Based on A. Conan Doyle's novel of the same name, it tells of a trip made by Professor Challenger and a party of explorers to a plateau deep in the South American jungle, for the purpose of verifying a report of living prehistoric monsters. The report is true, and the explorers have a hard time of it, fighting not

(Continued On Page 26)

only the monsters but also a primitive tribe of cave people.

They escape with a live dinosaur which they bring back to London. It runs amok, causing much horror, before coming to its end in the River Thames.

"The Lost World" is interesting, not only because of the subject matter, but also as an example of the first attempts at animation on the screen. While decidedly inferior to "King Kong" in this respect, it is still pretty effective.

"Destination Moon" will be released this summer. An article on this movie will appear in the July, 1950, issue of "Astounding SCIENCE FICTION". The cover, a genuine Kodachrome, will probably illustrate the article.

Well, it was bound to happen sometime! Universal-International will produce a technicolor fantasy called "Desert Hawk"; Yvonne De Carlo, as Scheherezade, will be pursued by Sinbad, Aladdin and Omar Khayyam. Sinbad and Aladdin will be a couple of confidence men.

The Feb 13th issue of News-week Magazine has a very interesting article on Walt Disney. It emphasizes the work and difficulties connected with his pictures. The cover is illustrated with a scene from "Cinderella".

"Mark Of The Gorilla" is the third in the series of Jungle Jim pictures. In this one, a gang of thieves masquerade as gorillas in order to scare the natives away from their fortune in gold. Johnny Weissmuller stars.

Incidentally, due to the publicity he received from being chosen outstanding swimmer of the

FANTASY FORECASTS

What's Next In The Pro Mags

FANTASTIC NOVELS

Issue dated May, 1950, will be on sale 24 March 1950.

"Three Against The Stars" by Eric North will be the lead novel, and will be illustrated by Finlay.

There will be three short stories: "A Priest Of Quiche" by Francis James, illustrated by Poulton; "From Time's Dawn" by B. Wallis, illustrated by Paul, and "Mr. Primrose Goes To The Devil" by William F. Templeton, illustrated by Lawrence.

Sam Moskowitz will continue his "Fantasy Book Reviews".

Cover will be by Norman Saunders, illustrating the lead novel.

FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES

The June, 1950, issue of this magazine will be on sale 26 April 1950.

Lead novel, illustrated by Lawrence, will be "The Adventure Of Wyndham Smith" by S. Fowler Wright. Cover by Norman Saunders will also illustrate this yarn.

Other material, as yet not decided upon, will be included.

(Concluded On Page 27)

RAYMOND J. VAN HOUTEN

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past fifty years, Columbia will film the life of Johnny Weissmuller. Johnny will portray himself.

BOOK NOTES

by J. Russell Mars

Due about this time is Murray Leinster's book, "Sidewise In Time", from Shasta of Chicago.

The Doubleday people of NY have jumped into science-fiction with both feet. Following on the heels of "Pebble In The Sky" by Isaac Asimov (a new story priced at \$2.50), they are issuing "Waldo" and "Magic, Inc." by Robert A. Heinlein, also at \$2.50. And speaking of Heinlein, the first of his "future history" series is due about now from Shasta. The Heinlein books seem to be coming thick and fast this last month or two.

Just out on the newsstands is an anthology by Groff Conklin entitled "The Science-Fiction Galaxy". Priced at 35¢, it is published by Permabooks (Garden City Publishing Co. of Long Island, N. Y.) and contains 12 stories in 242 pages. The book is designed for new readers of s-f, but will appeal to some fans.

From MacMillan Co. of NY comes "The Flying Saucers" by Bernard Newman, a new novel priced at \$2.50. Most fans will probably rate this one as fair to poor.

The next book from Simon & Schuster will be "See-Tee Shock" by Will Stewart. \$2.50. This will be good for new readers, but not for old hands. Due soon.

FANTASY FORECASTS

(Concluded From Page 26)

AMAZING STORIES

June issue, on sale 7 April, will feature "Goddess Of The Volcano" by Craig Browning, illustr-

ated by Julian S. Krupa. Novellettes will be "World Without Men" by Robert Moore Williams and "If You Were Me" by Rog Phillips, illustrated by Henry E. Sharp.

Shorts will be "The Island Out Of Space" by August Derleth, "My Brother's Keeper" by Alfred Coppel, "Read It And Weep" by Peter Worth, "Tower Of Babel" by Robert Abernathy, "The Cloves Of Gino" by P. F. Costello, "Time Of My Life" by Gerald Vance and "The Moon Pirates" by F. M. Deegan.

The shorts will be illustrated by J. W. Tillotson, L. R. Summers, E. B. Swiatek and Krupa.

The usual features and selection of short subjects will be included.

FANTASTIC ADVENTURES

"The Mental Assassins" by Greg Conrad will be the featured story in the May, 1950, issue of "FANTASTIC ADVENTURES", on sale 17 March.

There will be three novellettes: "Vanguard Of The Lost" by John D. MacDonald, illustrated by Julian S. Krupa; "The Remarkable Flirgleflip" by William Tenn, illustrated by Leo Ramon Summers; and "Birds Of A Feather" by Lester Barclay, illustrated by Henry Sharpe.

Short stories will be "Elementals Of Jedar" by Geoff St. Raymond, illustrated by Rod Ruth; "Fido" by Mack Reynolds, illustrated by Krupa; "Spawn Of Darkness" by Craig Browning, illustrated by Edmund Swiatek; and "The Trumpet" by J. J. Allerton, illustrated by Rod Ruth.

Articles and features will be: "Teleported Invasion" by Carter T. Wainwright, "The Grav-Dancers" by H. R. Stanton, "The Monsters" by Leslie Phelps, and "The Readers' Page".

Cover will be by H. J. Blumefeld, illustrating the featured story.

100th Issue
FANTASY-TIMES
"The World Of Tomorrow Today"

Vol.5-No.4 2nd Feb, 1950 Whole No.100

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Cover by John Giunta.

A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION

249 IN SCIENCE FICTION
(continued from page 24)

in a way, but a preview of future history. Grim, hard, and realistic. All the stories are worth your time.

December 1949: Blish's "Let the Finder Beware" is another good story of extra-powers of the mind. Most of us like them. Jones' "The Shroud of Secrecy" is not quite as good as his first story in this series, "The Alien Machine". However I am looking forward to the next one in the series. Mr.

Jones has left too many problems unsolved. We must have the answers. Bradbury's "A Blade of Grass" is well worth reading and thinking over. It is too humanly true, and too unhumanly untrue in its logic.

In TWS, the best short of the year is Jones' "The Alien Machine", with Morwin's "The Carriers" running a close second. The best novel is either Blish's "Let the Finder Beware", or van Vogt's "Weapon Shops of Isher". Both are good — for different reasons.

Thomas S. Gardner will review the 1949 issues of Startling Stories in the next issue of Fantasy-Times. —od

SCIENTICOMICS

by Lane Stannard

A science-fiction fan has send in to us a copy of the latest stf comic magazine, Weird Science, in which he has some work. It is marked issue No. 12, May-June 1950 and is published by Fablos Publishing Co., 225 Lafayette St., New York 12, N.Y. 10¢ a copy. This is the finest stf comic now on the stands, and in spite of the regular loud comic cover, etc., the stories are way above average. They are of the type one would find in the regular pulp stf magazine. Mr. Harry Harrison, who mailed us the copy, did the second story in the book, "Dream of Doom", which has a most unusual and new plot. We recommend it to you. It is a must. Copies are now on your news stand. This company is also publishing a "weird" companion comic magazine, The Haunt of Fear, which seems to be interesting. We'll review a copy as soon as it is obtainable. Thank you, Mr. Harrison, for sending us a copy for review.

Another new fantasy comic magazine is A Feature Presentation, which presents full-length weird comics. Issue No. 5, April 1950, features "The Black Tarantula". Not bad for a comic, but very low grade for the average fan. At your news stand for 10¢.

THE ACKERMAN FANTASY AGENCY

congratulates

FANTASY - TIMES

on its

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and takes this opportunity to acquaint its readers
with a few interesting behind-the-scenes facts:

CHARLES L. HARNISS has just joined the Ackerman clients...

A.E. VAN VOGT'S "Enchanted Village" has just been sold to Other Worlds.

HENDERSON STARK debuts in #3 Magazine of Fantasy...

RAYMOND F. JONES has agreed to write 25,000 words a month for the
Ackerman Agency...

ARTHUR JEAN COX article coming up in Astounding Science Fiction...

WARD MOORE has entrusted world translation rights of his book, "Green-
er Than You Think", to the AFA...

WEAVER WRIGHT'S "Hollywood on the Moon" will appear in Amazing...

DR W. OLAF STAPLEDON'S "Other Worlds" will be featured in a forth-
coming issue of Fate...

E. EVERETT EVAN'S "Operation Almost" will appear in the first issue
of a new magazine...

DAVID GRINNELL'S "Top Secret" will see print in a future Fantasy and
Science Fiction...

JOHN BEYNON'S "The Living Lies" is scheduled for Other Worlds...

KRIS NEVILLE'S "Forbidden Fruit" will be in a Volume 1 Number 1...

JACK WILLIAMSON, WM. TEMPLE, MURRAY LEINSTER, DR. KELLER and many
others have recently earned money thru

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