FANTASY TIMES

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY"

1st March 1950 - 10#

E. R. BURROUGHS IS DEAD AT 74

reported by James V. Taurasi

TARZANA, Calif., March 19, (CNS) - Edgar Rice Burroughs, creator of Tarzan, John Carter and numerous other fantasy characters died today at his Encino home at the age of 74.

The fantasy author had been ill for three months, had just finished eating breakfast a n d was reading a newspaper when dead came. His two sons, John and Hulbert and his daughter, Joan, were at his bedside.

Mr. Burroughs had been confined to a wheelchair for several years by a series of heart attacks. He died of a heart ailment.

The Tarzan pictures will go on, as Sol Lesser, the producer, had recently negotiated a contract with Mr. Burroughs for fifteen pictures to be produced over the next ten years. It is estimated that over 140,000,000 persons saw each Tarzan picture.

At the time of his death, Hr. Burroughs had about fifteen Tarzan and other adventure tales started but uncompleted. It is not known at this writing if his books will be continued. His many books had been translated into 56

languages and had sold 35,000,000 copies. A good number of them are still obtainable in \$1.00 reprint editions. Most of them published by his own firm Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc.

Mr. Burroughs started writing at the age of 35 and his first novel appeared in 1912. He sold "Under the Moon of Mars" under the pen name of "Normal Bean" to Munsey in 1912, for \$400. This id obtainable today as "A Princess of Mars", his first book of the Martian series. His last book to be published was "Tarzan and the Foreign Legion" in 1947. This book was illustrated by his son, John Coleman Burroughs. At h is best, Burroughs, wrote more than 9,000 words a day.

His first Tarzan novel was published in 1914.

During the war he was a war correspondent, but returned home after being invalided out of the Pacific.

His Tarzan adventures are being continued in the daily comic strip and in the comic magazine, <u>Tarzan</u>, published bi-monthly by Dell. He will be missed by all science-fiction fandom.

LASFS APPROVES RECORDING OF 1ST NBC RADIO SHOW

Los Angeles, 9 March --- The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Sciety received a preview this evening of the first program that will appear on the "Out Of This World" series which NBC radio will handle. The story was Jack Williamson's With Folded Hands..."

What was heard was a recording. A company official was present to receive the reactions of the audience so that, perhaps, various items might be corrected before it was presented over the

air.

Although the presentation was generally well-liked, there was one general criticism, that being that the narrator apparently felt that all this was very similar to the Inner Sanctum, and was very Raymondish and jocularly sinister. That's to be changed, we were told by Mr. Lewis, the NPC official. There were a few other criticisms of the sound effects.

The next stories in line are Oscar J. Friend's The Kid From Mars and Murray Leinster's

"First Contact".

Mr. Lewis said that the eastern bosses had heard the recording and were very enthusiastic, but had not yet decided when the series would start.

AJCom

The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Com

Anthony Doucher recently gave a talk before the "Little Men's Marching And Chowder Society" of Berkeley, Cal., a science - fiction growth attached to the student body of the U. of C. in some vague way. Interesting items he mentioned were: that the Mac Of F & SF is over - stocked, having received some 2,000 MSs, but that there was a dearth of

BOOK NOTES

by J. Russell Mars

We understand that the old science - fiction classic "Ralph 124042" will be published by Fred erick Fell of MY in about a month. The price should be about \$2.50.

Hugo Gernsback wrote it.

The latest book from Prime Press of Philadelphia is George O. Smith's "Homad". A two-color jacket surrounds a book of 286 pp. which retails for 3. The jacket states "Homad is not great literature". Homad is just a novel aimed at your amusement..."

Martin Greenberg's long-awaited Gnome Press offering, Men Against The Stars, is now ready. This 52.95 book has one of the finest formats and jackets (Edd Cartier) that we have seen in a long time. Starting with an introduction by Willy Ley, it runs 351 pp., containing 12 stories mostly from "aSF". A very good buy for any fan.

That fine amateur literary production "Fantasy Commentator", is now being mailed by its producer. A: Langley Searles: Vol. 3, No. 4, Winter, 1949-50, is the issue at the usual price

of 25¢. Well worth it.

good science - fiction stories; that Everett Bleiler has already purchased "The Gnurrs Come From The Voodvork Out" for his BEST OF 1,950; and that he is still receiving MSs from writers who really believe that they are the first to have thought of the idea that they might be from another planet!

Mrs. Wilmar Shiras has stated that her fourth story, which she considered very good, was rejected by Campbell. The third, the current, had to be totally rewritten before acceptance.

The April, 1950, issue of (Concluded On Page 8)

2

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER SEARCHING FOR STF FILM STORY--

(Story On This Page)

FANTASY_TIMES

" THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY"

Vol. 5, No. 5 New York - Ist March 1950 Issue Whole No. 101 HUGO GERNSBACK SPEAKS AT ESFA MEETING

ORIGINATOR OF SCIENCE - FICTION TELLS STORY OF "GOOD OLD DAYS"

For the first time in the history of science fiction fandom Hugo L. Gernsback, the originator of science-fiction, was the feat-ured speaker at a fan gathering, the anniversary meeting of the Eastern Science Fiction Association, held on 5 March at Hewark.

Ir, Gernsback said that the origination of MAINZING STORIES" in April, 1926, was preceded by the serialization of his novel of the future, "Ralph 124C42", in his magazine, "Modern Electric-ity", in 1908, followed by the publication of about 200 sciencefiction stories in the famous "Electrical Experimenter". These received such good response from the readers that a magazine devoted to nothing else was suggest of the first issue of "FANTASTIC ed. The title, "Amazing Stories", STORY QUARTERLY", but still a few thought of by Mr. Gernsback him weeks later than the announced self, was settled upon after a publication date, Vol. 1, No. 1 vote of the office staff.

He stopped publishing "Amazing because he felt he was no longer getting the kind of story he thought science fiction to be. He maintains that every writer he has known, even Dr. David H. Keller, has a limit of only six dif-(Continued On Tage 7)

M-G-M READING STF BOOKS IN QUEST FOR FILM FARE

SO FAR. "NOTHING FOUND"

by Lester Mayer, Jr

New York, 22 Feb --- In an interview today, Mr. Frank McKenna, an executive in the eastern office of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, confirmed a report that MGM is now searching f o r. fantasy stories from which to make movies.

Among the titles already exemined are "Triton", "Incredible Planet", "Mightiest Machine" and "Slaves Of Sleep".

Mr. McKenna said that so far (Concluded On Page 4)

WONDER ANNUAL ON STANDS

Following close on the heels publication date, Vol. 1, No. 1 of "VONDER STORY ANNUAL" appeared on the newsstands early this month.

The lead novel, ill pages long, "Onslaught From Rigel" by Fletcher Pratt, is well and profusely illustrated by Virgil Fin-lay, and was first published by (Concluded On Page 4)

1949 IN SCIENCE FICTION

by Thomas S. Gardner

Part V -- STARTLING STORIES

S S has completed another good year, thanks to its editor, Sam Merwin; Jr. The quality of SS is high, and results in good, exciting science-fiction and fantasy. The girls on the cover are

just as exciting as ever.

Jan - Kuttner's "The Time Axis" is a fantasy-type adventure which appeals to most readers. The swashbuckling style is well-suited to real fantasy-adventure. I enjoyed Vance's "The Sub-Standard Sardines", involving the master-schemer, "Magnus Ridolph. He is cuite a character. Bitter satire runs through the entire Lafayette series, in which "Forbidden Voyage" is a classic.

Mar - I have heard all kinds of criticism about Leinster's "The Black Galaxy". Some say it is a pot-boiler, others good fantasy. I have a weakness; I enjoy most if not all of Leinster's stuff even when I know it is potboiling material. Why? Because he is one of the very few writers today who knows what to do with a menace, and in doing it, he gives good adventure fantasy and science - fiction. An outstanding story is Williams' The Sound Of Bugles". Seldom do we have the opportunity of insight into what conceivably could be alien psy-Lafayette's The Magchology. nificent Failure is excellent. Don't miss it. This series should be put into book form, but would anyone have the guts to read of mankind's stupidity for a whole book? All the stories in this issue are quite readable. You might think about Bradbury's "Marionettes, Inc."

May - This issue is a little

(Concluded On Page 8)

WONDER ANNUAL ON STANDS (Concluded From Page 3)

Gernsback Publications in 1931.

Supplementing the is famous classic are two novelettes: "The Eternal Man" by D. D. Sharp, published in 1929 and 1930, "Derelict Of Space" by William Thurmond and Ray Cummings, copyrighted in 1931; "The Moon Devils" by John Benyon Harris, published in 1934, and "The Robot Aliens" by Eando Binder, first published in 1934, are the short stories.

Cover is a moonscape by Frank R. Paul, which first appeared on Wlonder circa 1931, but with the central figure replaced by a shapely damsel. The original showed a red space-suited figure where the girl is.

"WOIDER STORY ANNUAL" is the sixth science-fiction magazine to be published by Standard since they took over "Wonder" from Hugo Gernsback in 1936. Two, "STRANGE STORIES" and "CAPTAIN FUTURE", are no longer being published.

M-G-M READING SCIENCE FICTION (Concluded From Page 3)

nothing suitable had been found. He said that they didn't especially care for heavy interplanetary stuff, but were rather looking for something with human interest.

He was particularly careful to emphasize that MCM is interested in only already - published material, and that no unpublished manuscripts will be considered. He also stated that they require no story suggestions, as their research department is now at work on the fantasy book and magazine field.

Their last batch of about a dozen books were purchased from Steve Tacaks, 4th live., NYC.

Support the NOR/ESCON. Send \$1 today to PO Box 8517, Portland 7

-4-

FANTASY FILMS, RADIO & TELEVISION

by Lester Mayer, Jr

Joseph De Blasio, producer, is looking for an American distributing outlet and a firl to star in his projected modern adaptation of Homer's "Odyssey", to be filmed in Rome. Wonder if this will interfere with Orson Welles, who plans to film the same story?

Well, at last my curiosity is satisfied. For years now I've wanted to see the early French picture, "A Trip To The Moon".

I saw it recently at the Museum Of Modern Art, and was highly disappointed. It is so crude, and filled with scientific absurdities, that the audience roared

laughing at it.

Six old scientists take a trip to the Moon in a rocket (it was pushed into its launching cradle by a dozen chorus girls). It gets there somehow, and has a head - on crash, from which our heroes emerge safely. Maturally, they don't have any trouble breathing. They are captured by an evil tribe from which they escape by pushing their rocket over a cliff. This launches it into space (?), and they arrive safely in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

It will be at least another eighteen months before the picture is again shown at the Museum.

A picture I recommend highly is Warner Bros! "Chain Lightning? It's not exactly science-fiction, as it deals with jet planes, but ten years ago it would have been called such. As treated in this film, the jet plane is the last

step before the rocket ship.

After being in production for the past six years, Walt Disney's "Cinderella" has at last been released. The story is so well-known that I won't repeat it here. The way Walt Disney presents it, though, it is perfection plus. This is a picture that will appeal to all fantasy fans.

"Rocket Ship To The Hoon" is the latest project to follow the space - ship trend in Hollywood, which was started by George Pal and "Destination Moon". This one will be filmed by Lippert Productions, with Lloyd Bridges and Osa Massen heading the cast. Kurt Neuman will direct, on location in Death Valley.

Universal - International is planning a secuel to "Francis", the successful comedy about a talking mule. No starting date is yet set.

Richard Carlson, one of the stars of the forthcoming "King Solomon's Mines", is writing a 25,000-word magazine article describing his adventures in Africa during the filming of the picture. He has many interesting stories to tell, such as the one about a witch doctor who, for five pounds, would make an entire native tribe invisible.

Colonel Bierne Loy, one of the authors of "Twelve O'Clock High", is writing an H-bomb story for Howard Hughes, who didn't want the news to leak out yet. Hughes expects to spend much money on this picture.

The delayed revival of James M. Barrie's "Peter Pan" is now announced for Easter Sunday and will have Jean Arthur and Boris Karloff as co-stars. No theater (Concluded On Page 7)

- 5 -

FANTASY FORECASTS

What's Next In The Pro Mags

ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION.

Issue dated April, 1950, will on the stands 17 March, with the first part of "The Wizard Of Linn, a two-part serial by A. E. van Vogt. Cover and interiors van for it will be done by Rogers.

Novelette will be Okie by Jomes Blish, also illustrated by

Rosers.

Short stories will be "Greed" by L. Ron Hubbard, illustrated by Brush, "The Inspector's Teeth" by L. Sprague de Camp, illustrated by Cartier, and "U-Turn" by Dun-can H. Hunro, illustrated by Or-

Articles will be the second part of "Our Turbulent Atmosphere" by Willy Ley, and "Piezoelectric-

ity" by E. L. Locke.

In regard to the Destination Moon" article and cover which "aSF" will publish soon, Mr. Campbell informs us that the article will be written by Heinlein,

A.MERRITT'S FANTASY MAGAZINE

"The Face In The Abyss" by Department for the issue the title author will be the lead novel in the issue dated June, 1950, on sale 3 May. Cover will be by Morman Saunders, and interiors by Virgil Finlay.

Novelette will be "The Green Flame by Eric Horth, illustrated

by Paul Calle!

Departments will include the readers' column and "Calling All Fantasy Fans".

THRILLING WONDER STORIES

Issue dated June, 1950, will feature Sunday Is 3,000 Years Away by Raymond F. Jones, which will probably be illustrated by Orban.

Novelettes will be "No Hiding Place" by Cleve Cartmill, illustrated on the cover by Bergey, and "Coffins To Mars" by Raymond Z. Gallun.

Short stories will be "The Reversed Man by Arthur C. Clarke, "Precognition" by Mack Reynolds, "The Strangest Bedfellows" by Wm. Morrison and The Pillows by Margaret St. Clair.

Articles and features will include "The Reader Speaks", "The Frying Pan! and "The SF Book Re-

view".

Editor Sam Merwin, Jr., says "Jones story a lulu, the Cartmill a longie that winds up the Space Salvage series, Gallun and St. Clair very good.

FANTASTIC STORY QUARTERLY

Summer, 1950, issue will feature "The Exile Of The Skies" by Richard Vaughan.

Novelettes will be "The Last Planet" by R. F. Starzl, and "The Man From Beyond" by John Benyon

Harris, both old classics.

Short stories will be The Light Bender" by Frank K. Kelly. "The Bore" a new yarn by James Blish, "AA Thief In Time" by Raymond A. Young, and a new one by Jack Williamson called The Moon And Mr. Wick".

will be Cosmic Incores ...

Editor Mervin says, "Hope gang likes this one as well as they did the first issue. The Vaughan novel should go especially well for the spper space opera it is ...

ATLAS PUBLICATIONS, LTD.

Mr. W. J. Dexter, Managing Director of Atlas Publishing & Distributing Co., Ltd., distributors of the British Reprint Editions of "aSF", "TIS", and formerly "UNKNOWN", informs us that the next BRE "astounding SCIENCE FIC-TIOH will be dated May, 1950. and is due for publication on 8th April. On the same date the sec-

(Concluded On Page 7)

-6-

Exclusive Advance Info to Fantasy Times Readers
on the Forthcoming Scientifilm ROCKETSHIP X-M...by FJAckerman

Believe it or not, Expedition Moon landed on Mars thru accident! Dr Karl Eckstrom, world's most brilliant physicist, and Bill Carrigan, were, both killed there. Dr Lisa Van Meter, Floyd Oldham and Harry Chamberlain all died when the rocket, out of fuel, crashed on Earth. I was the only one to survive the hundred million mile round trip. It could only happen to a science fiction fan.

Fresh from the sets of DESTINATION MOON, I have twice been out to Nassour Studios in the past couple weeks where Lippert Productions have rushed to completion this newest interplanetary film. It was originally known as "Journey Into the Unknown", next as "None Came Back", during shooting changed to 'Rocketship to the Moon", and is scheduled to be released as ROCKET-SHIP X-M. Filmed in 2 weeks at a cost of \$80,000, it is not nearly as ambitious an undertaking as the \$300,000 technicolor Pal job on which a couple months was spent, and the plot emphasizes less the scientific marvels and more the adventurous aspects; nevertheless, the people involved have (praise be) taken the picture seriously. While I was interviewing the star, Osa Massen, she was invited onto a television program the coming Sunday, but preferred to stay home and perfect her part for Monday. They intended to work that nite till at least 10 oiclock. The Art Director, Theo. Holsopple, took Wendayne and myself up to his workshop on the lot and showed us the many sketches made for the film, based, for scientific accuracy, on the rocket-to-the-moon article in LIFE last year. Production Mgr. Betty Sinclair referred to the Ley-Bonestell book, Conquest of Space, as "their bible." Rocket-ship "Neumann", incidentally, is 30' taller than Rocketship "Pal". Kurt Neumann (who did some of the better Tarzan films) is the director of the picture, as well as author of the original screenplay.

actors (Lloyd Bridges, John Emery, Noah Beery Jr and Hugh O'B'rien) and on Mars, it is to find it an atom-blasted planet. First the ruins of a once-proud Martian city are found--and then, Martians: huge, brown, horribly scarred Hiroshima-like survivors who have degenerated from civilized beings to cave men.

In the little room I have left, I will give you an actual quotation of dialog from the opening minutes of the picture: Dr Rudolph Fleming speaks: "Ladies and Gentlemen: Every news service and newspaper is represented here tonight, and for your cooperation in the past, when complete secrecy was vital, we are grateful. However, I must make something clear: Altho ours is not, strictly, a military project, a great deal of our research and knowledge falls within security regulations. Therefore, I must insist you reveal only such information as appears in the authorized press I'm sure we all can recall the wild tales of flying saucers -- flying discs -- spaceships, and who knows what imaginative creations. The press is to be commended for discounting such premature rumors, and so helping to minimize public apprehensions. been invited here tonight to witness an important event. You are undoubtedly familiar with our previous work in sending robot missiles into space. That phase is at an end. Tonight -- "WATCH FOR "R-X-M" 1

FAMOUS FIRSTS

In the loist issue of Fantasy Times

THE ACKERMAN FANTASY AGENCY

announces

- First issue of IMAGINATION to feature fiction by Ackerman clients AE van Vogt, Kris Neville, E. Everett Evans and Weaver Wright...
- First issue of OUT OF THIS WORLD ADVENTURES to feature fiction by Ackerman clients AE van Vogt, John & Dorothy de Courcy, Kris Neville and E. Everett Evans...
- First radioptions for Murray Leinster, Jack Williamson and AE van Vogt ("Far Centaurus") negotiated by Ackerman...
- First Charles L. Harness sale to THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION, 11000 word lead, Heritage...
- First van Vogtale to appear in MAGAZINE OF FANTASY & SCI-FIC, Process...
- First professional publication for Roger Flint Young, Stan Mullen, Arthur J. Cox, L. Major Reynolds, David Grinnell, Joe Gibson, Oscar Estes, Dale Hart, Gene Hunter, Clive Jackson, Eph Konigsberg, and others, achieved thru Ackerman Fantasy Agency...
- First Italian translation of Keller, first French translation of Temple, first French translation of Austin Hall, first South African appearance of Dr Keller, first American magazine appearance of Dr Stapledon, all arranged thru the AFA...
- First book publication of Weinbaum's DARK OTHER, Hall-Flint's BLIND SPOT, Jones' RENAISSANCE, van Vogt's MASTERS OF TIME, Pragnell's GREEN MAN OF GRAYPEC, de Camp's UNDE-SIRED PRINCESS, Coblentz' AFTER 12000 YEARS. Taine's COSMIC GEOIDS, Farley's OMNIBUS OF TIME, and many others-all Ackerman contracts...
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GERNSDACK SPEAKER AT ESFA MEETING (Continued From Page 3)

ferent stories in him, and that with the limited number of authors upon which he had to draw. he considered that he had exhausted the field.

(He admitted, however, that he knew hearly nothing about modern stf., and confessed that he hardly recognized it as the same

species of story.)

He emplained that the classic "Moon Pool" by A. Merritt was published because he was at the time hard up for stories with decent science in them!

He revealed also that when necessary he actually did use the scientific experts listed on the

title page of the old mags.

"NONDER STORIES" started out with an advance subscription of about 8,000, and 100,000 copies of the first issue were printed. He said that he had been familiar with the art - work of Frank R. Paul long before the days of "AM-AZING and had immediately recognized Paul's ability to concoct strange machines and structures.

Weinbaum is closest to being Mr. Gernaback's favorite auth-

or.

Mr. Gernaback asserted that he had no plans for re-entering the stf. field with a new magazine of his own, although his old novel, "Palph 124042", will be issued by Frederick Fell of NY within the next 60 days.

Distributed by Mr. Gernsback at the meeting was the special Christmas 1949 issue of his minimag, "QUIP", a Martian issue, complete with new Paul drawings.

FANTASY FILMS, PADIO & TELEVISION (Concluded From Page 5)

h a s so far been chosen. This will be the first production of Peter Pan since 1928.

The presentation of "Lights

FANTASY-TIMES "The World Of Tomorrow Today"

No.5 1st March 1950 No.101

James V. Taurasi, Ray Van Houten J. Russell Mars and John Giunta ADVISORY STAFF

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M. Corper and Francis R. Fears CORRESPONDENT

Forrest J Ackorman & Alvin R. Brown

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A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION

FANTASY FORECASTS (Concluded From Page 6)

ond BRE "Thrilling Wonder Stories" will appear. It will also be dated May, 1950, and thereafter they hope to publish British Editions

at regular intervals.

The British Reprint Edition "Superman Comics" will become a monthly publication with the next issue, dated April, and due for publication in mid-March.
Out (NEC, television), Monday;
6 March, 9 p. m., UNBT, Channel 4
in NY area, was "The Strange Case of John Kingman" by Murray Leinster. This was an able dramatization of the original pulp yan, with no compromise made with the science - fiction content. The real Mc Coy, and very enjoyable-Hope for more of the same com-

COSLEC REPORTER Concluded From Page 2)

disappointing, except for Lafayette's "The Incredible Destination". The lead novel, Harness' Flight Into Yesterday seems a little too adroit to maintain peak interest.

July - Clarke's "Transience" is a little gem of a story. But don't read the ending first. Smith's "Fire In The Heavens" is a good; fast-moving story. Ley!s series, "Road To Space Travel", has been good in the Mar, May and haly issues. Lafayette continues with The Unwilling Hero", Bradbury writes a good story in "The Lonely Ones". I wish he would stop writing dialogue like a play however,

Sept - Kuttner's "The Portal In The Picture" is a Merrittale type of story that is excellent. enjoyed James! "Communications". Such a situation could develop. ile is the best story in the issue.

Nov - Vampires, were-welves, Thomas 5. Cardner will review

ESQUIRE contains a n "Building Stations In Space" by John C. Ross, while the March, 1950, issue of ARGOSY features "How You'll Rocket Through Space" by Cawain Edward Pendray. This last shows a full-page picture of a space-suit very similar to the ones you'll see in "Destination Moon".

-o SUPPORT THE HORNESCON ers. Leinster's "The Other World" is a logical science-fiction explanation of the were-wolf, and has Fortean cliches on a scientific basis, It is good, fast reading. The shorts stand out, Humor, in Sprague's "Journey For One" is back, also Magnus Ridolph in Vance's "King Of Thieves". A puz-Ale story is Simals's Limiting Factor", while another of Lafayette's stories, The Emporer Of L'fayette's "Beyond The Mack Neb- The Universe", can be read with: pleasure,

For the best story in SS in 1949, Lyote for Arthur C. Clarke's chord story Transitinco

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