



Fantasy Times

The World Of Tomorrow Today!



OSA MASSEN, Star of ROCKETSHIP X-M, uses copy of famous Thea von Harbou filmed book, "The Girl in the Moon", to point out to Fantasy Times' correspondent FORREST J ACKERMAN a view of approaching planet Mars as seen from the interior of the spaceship built at Nassour Studios, Hollywood....

FANTASY-TIMES

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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Whole No. 102

FANTASY FICTION IS OUT

Coming as a complete surprise to Pandom, who is usually informed, a new pro mag has hit the stands. It's a pocket-size quarterly, Fantasy Fiction, published and edited by Curtis Mitchell of Magebooks, Inc., 420 Lexington Ave, New York 17, New York. It contains 128

pages and has a photo cover. It is somewhat like Fantasy and Science Fiction in format and size. The first issue contains mostly Munsey reprints bought from Popular Publications. The magazine is very interesting and does fill a need. Welcome to the fantasy field, Fantasy Fiction. -jvt

IMAGINATION OUT AUG. 1

EVANSTON, Ill., March 22, (CNS) - Ray Palmer of the Clark Publishing Company, informed Fantasy-Times today that the first issue of their new sf magazine, Imagination, will be dated October 1950 and be on the stands August 1st, 1950. He went on to inform us that it will be the same as Other Worlds in size, be priced at 35¢, and contain 150 pages. It will be published bi-monthly.

The line-up of the first issue will appear in a future issue of Fantasy-Times. -jvt

BRITISH PLANET ON STANDS

by Michael Corper

The first reprint (British Edition) of Planet Stories is out, containing: "Enchantress of Venus" (L. Brackett); "The Giants Return" (R. Abernathy); "Ordeal in Space" (R. Sloan); "Captain Midas" (A. Coppel, Jr.); "Signal Red" (H. Guth); and "The Wheel is Death" (R. Dee).

All the above are reprinted from the Fall 1949 issue of the American Planet Stories.

The magazine is usual pulp size, 64 pages and priced at 9d. It is published in England by Pemberton's (of Manchester) Ltd.

SUPPORT THE WORLDSCON

NEW WORLDS NO 6 IS OUT

The sixth issue of New Worlds dated Spring 1950 is out in England with an excellent selection of science-fiction stories. The magazine sells for 1/6 in England or 30¢ in America. Copies may be obtained direct from Nova Publications Ltd., 25 Stoke Newington Road, London, N, 16, England. We agree with editor Ted Carnell that New Worlds should try for their own brand of sf (The British Style) instead of copying the American type.

For a reproduction of the cover of New Worlds #6 and contents, see page 5 of the 1st January 1950 issue of Fantasy-Times. -jvt

CAPTAIN ZERO FOLDS

Fantasy-Times has been informed that with the current March 1950 (3rd) issue of Captain Zero, the magazine has folded. This magazine was of the Doc Savage type containing a long semi-fantasy-Detective novel written by G. T. Fleming-Roberts. It was published by Popular Publications, Inc.

"Who Goes There", the sensational story by Don A. Stuart, has been purchased by the movies! -Arthur Joan Cox

Coriell Talks About Edgar Rice Burroughs At Lasfs

by Arthur Jean Cox

Vernell Coriell, world's foremost authority on Edgar Rice Burroughsiana, gave a talk March 2nd before the LASFS, along with an abbreviated showing of the original picture, "Tarzan Of The Apes", starring Elmo Lincoln. Lincoln himself was supposed to be present but couldn't make it.

Mr. Coriell said that Elmo Lincoln is now under contract to tour the country with a circus, billed as "the original Tarzan". Lincoln, who is 65, will put an elephant through several paces, etc.

Next year, Mr. Coriell plans to sponsor a giant convention for ERB fans somewhere in the middle west. Many ERB films will be shown, including "The Romance Of Tarzan", starring Lincoln, and "The New Adventures Of Tarzan" starring Herman Brix.

He also revealed that in April, Sol Lesser and Lex Barker will go to Africa to film backgrounds for the new Tarzan picture --- in color! It will be a million-dollar production, the first Tarzan picture in color.

It seems that Lex Barker, who is a Burroughs fan, wants to play the real Tarzan, Lord Grey-stoke, who speaks English, French, drives a car, flies a plane, etc.

An interesting sidelight on the Tarzan series was told by Mr. Coriell when he said that the character Jane was killed off in the original version of "Tarzan Finds Son", but that such a fuss was raised by Burroughs and others that a new ending was written.

Join the "Norwescon Committee" and make the 3rd World Science Fiction Convention the best yet held. Membership is only \$1.00. Write to "Norwescon", P.O. Box 8517, Portland 7, Oregon.

FRENCH-CANADIAN STF MAG

FOLDED LAST SEPT.

Moe Diner, our Canadian reporter has just informed us that the French-Canadian science-fiction magazine, Adventures Futuristes, folded last September 1949, with its 10th issue.

This magazine was written in French, sold for 10¢ and contained 32 pages per issue.

Mr. Diner writes, "I went down to the publishers to ask them why it folded. They said it hadn't gone over very well. Most of their ordinary detective-story and western-yarn fans had complained that the stuff was too technical and abstruse; that it took a B.Sc. to understand it (a B.Sc. under the French-Canadian educational system is equal to a first or second-year B.Sc. course training under the ordinary English-speaking university scheme). So the publishers decided to discontinue it, with the faint possibility of resuming it sometime if there should be any demand (from the Montreal district, that is, where they sell most of their publications)."

British Fantastic Novels

The first British Edition of Fantastic Novels has come out in England. It is a complete reprint of the November 1949 American issue. It contains all the editorial material of the American edition; the only difference being that some of the ads have been replaced by British ads or fillers from other Popular magazines. It sells at 1/- and is published by Thorpe & Porter Ltd., Leicester, England. It contains good paper, good printing (excellent reproduction of illustrations) and trimmed edges.

-1s

Our Cover

Our cover this month is reproduced by the photo-offset process. The picture was supplied by Forrest J Ackerman.

The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

JOHN W. CAMPBELL, JR., HAS BECOME SCIENCE-FICTION EDITOR FOR THE COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM. FIRST STORY PRESENTED WILL BE BOB HEINLEIN'S "REQUIEM".

Max Erlich's "The Big Eye" has been purchased for the movies.

According to Writers' Journal, van Vogt has written a story entitled (it says here) "The Voyage of the Space Eagles". (Sometime back, Julius Unger misprinted in Weird that he had "Slam" by van Vogt. As I cracked once before: "Everyone knows "Slam" is by van Vogt!")

Ray Bradbury's other story in Colliers' will be "And Then Came Gentle Rain". He is putting the finishing touches on a 50,000 worder which, he hopes, will be ran as a serial in the magazine.

Might remark here that with Fantasy Fiction and the forthcoming Imagination, Out Of This World Adventures, and Walt Gillings' Fantasy, we already have 24 of Ackerman's prophesied 25 "by the end of the year", and March is not yet over. Who knows --- perhaps, there will be 30.

A PRE-WAR SCIENCE-FICTION MAGAZINE --- MOST LIKELY, EITHER MARVEL, COSMIC, DYNAMIC, ASTONISHING OR COMET --- IS TO BE RE-ISSUED SOON. ACKERMAN HAS RECEIVED THE "GO-AHEAD" SIGNAL FOR THE SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPTS FROM THEM; HE'S BEEN WAITING SINCE LAST NOVEMBER.

Hubert Rogers will no longer do covers for Astounding Science Fiction; the one appearing on the May issue will be his last. No, he didn't die and he wasn't fired. From what I gather, for a long time Rogers has been too busy with his "regular work" to put much time in on the cover paintings as both

he and Campbell would like. It seems that each month, they've been having deadline jitters with Rogers and so they've finally decided to give the whole thing up. Rogers, whose first cover was the very popular February '39 painting for Jack Williamson's "Crucible of Fire" has found growing disfavor among many science-fiction fans who felt that his post-war work has not measured up to his pre-war "masterpieces"; e.g., his cover for the October '39 issue of ASF showing the famous Kimbal Kinnison; this one has often been contrasted with his November '47 cover showing the same person but which is of markedly inferior quality.

Boucher and McComas of The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction has sent back a manuscript which was submitted to them by the Ackerman Authors' Agency, "The Posioner" by Charles L. Harness --- but this wasn't a rejection. They returned it because Mr. Boucher found it one of the best things ever submitted to the magazine and suggested to Ackerman that he submit it to the Ellery Queen 1950 Mystery Story Contest as it's a "true science-fiction mystery story" of high calibre. There is a possibility that it may eventually appear in TMOF&SF. Harness' Heritage will appear in an early issue of that magazine.

FLASH:

Los Angeles, Calif., March 24, (CNS) --- Vernell Coriell, publisher of The Burroughs Bulletin is going to erect a shrine to the master of fantastic adventure in Burroughs' home town, Tarzana, named after one of his fiction characters.

FLASH AT PRESS TIME

Fantasy-Times has been informed by Mr. McComas, co-editor of The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction, that that magazine will probably go bi-monthly in the next three issues! -jvt

FANTASY FORECASTS

What's Next In The Pro Mags

SUPER SCIENCE STORIES

Issue dated May 1950 will be on sale 31 March, and will feature "The Death Crystal" by George O. Smith, illustrated by Calle'.

Novelettes will be "The Long Way" by Francis L. Ashton, "The Call From Beyond" by Clifford D. Simak and "The Vanishers" by Arthur J. Burks. These stories will be illustrated by Van Dongen, Finlay and Leydenfrost.

Shorts will be "By The Stars Forgot" by MacDonald, illo Calle', "Gift Of Darkness" by Reed, illo Van Dongen, "Slave Of Eternity" by Roger Dee, illo Calle', and "Hop O' My Thumb" by Morrison, illo Lawrence.

Articles and features will be "Fandom's Corner" by James V. Taurasi, "The Science-Fictioneer" by Fred Pohl, and "Missives and Missiles". Calle' has done new headings for these departments which are very good.

Cover will be by Lawrence.

Editor Jakobbsen says "By The Stars Forgot" packs a mighty wallop in 2,000 words. It's a strong issue altogether, with a Smith novel, and novelettes by Ashton, Simak and Burks --- but we think this short-short is the story you'll remember longest".

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION

Third issue, dated Summer 1950, will be on sale 14 April.

Featured story will be "Friday The Nineteenth" by Elizabeth Sanxay Holding.

There will be ten shorts: "The War Against The Moon" by Andre Maurios(reprint), "The Hat In The Hall" by Jack Iams, "Huge Beast" by Cleve Cartmill, "Professor Pownell's Oversight" by H. R. Wakefield(reprint), "Haunt" by A. Bertram Chandler, "The Case

Of Summerfield" by W. H. Rhodes (reprint), "Born Of Man & Woman" by Richard Matheson, "Dumb Super" by Henderson Starke, "Divine Right" by Betsy Curtis and "Ounce Of Prevention" by Philip Carter.

Cover will be by George Salter.

OTHER WORLDS

"The Justice Of Martin Brand" by G. H. Irwin will be the featured story in the July 1950 issue (#5) of "OW". It will be illustrated on the cover by Malcolm Smith, and in the interior by Bill Terry.

Part 2 of 3 parts of "Colossus II" by S. J. Byrne will be presented, illustrated by Terry.

There will be four short stories: "Enchanted Village" by A. E. Van Vogt, "Atomic Error" by Forrest J. Ackerman, both illo by John Arfstrom, "Wisher Takes All" by Wm. F. Temple, illo by Hannes Bok and "Way In The Middle Of The Air" by Ray Bradbury, illo by Joe W. Tillotson.

Articles and features will be "Editorial", "Book Review" and "News Of The Month", both by Forrest J. Ackerman, "Personals" and "Letters".

Editor Ray Palmer claims that this is the best issue of OW to date, and is worried about how to equal it in the future.

The publication date of the succeeding issue is now to be included on the contents page, also the issue number as well as the volume number.

advertisement

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FANTASY FILMS, RADIO & TELEVISION

by Lester Mayer, Jr

SIGN UP FOR TRIP TO MOON -- VIA THE HAYDEN PLANETARIUM

New York, 19 March --- Yesterday I signed up for a space-ship trip to Mars. I could have chosen the moon, Jupiter or Saturn instead. I'll probably have to wait until 1975, but I'm willing.

What am I talking about? Well, here's the story. The Hayden Planetarium is showing, until 30 April, a program based on Willy Ley's book, "The Conquest Of Space". As an added gimmick, you may sign up for a space trip.

As I pushed past the turnstile, the doorman handed me an "interplanetary route-time schedule" and an "interplanetary tour reservation". After filling the latter in, I returned it at the "reservation desk", a booth flanked by placards boasting of the rival merits of the Space Ships "Lunaria" and "Saturnia". (Seriously, though, my name and address will be kept on file in the planetarium archives.)

The clerk in charge told me that the moon trip is most popular with adults, while the children prefer to travel to Mars.

The show itself is very similar to that shown at the California planetarium, described in this column a few issues back.

As an extra treat, the original paintings by Chesley Bonestell used in "The Conquest Of Space" are on display in the lobby. The only word for them is beautiful.

This is it! This is one rumor that I pray comes true. According to Danton Walker's NY-News

column, "Cecil B. DeMille is rumored planning a movie epic on atomic energy".

DeMille produces "Spectacle" pictures, large crowds, immense battles, magnificent sets, etc.; if he follows the same pattern on this one, the picture he is planning may turn out to be a super science - fiction film complete with a war of the future, life in the atomic age, space travel, and the works!

DeMille is a slow worker, and it will probably be a year or two before we know.

A recent Paramount news item was about two minutes of footage taken from a V-2 seventy - six miles above the Earth. As the rocket slowly revolved, the camera alternately showed the Earth as viewed from space and then the blackness of space itself.

The forthcoming M-G-M fantasy, "The Next Voice You Hear", has set some sort of production record. It was completed in 14 shooting days. One reason for the speed was a ten-day preshooting rehearsal. It cost about \$550,000 to bring in.

All is not calm and serene on the movie set where "Harvey" is being filmed. Mary Chase, author of the prize-winning play, is campaigning to have the 6-foot high rabbit, ordinarily invisible, shown on the screen. She thinks the final scene should show Jimmy Stewart and Harvey walking arm-in-arm out of the sanitarium. However, both Stewart and the producers say nix to the idea.

Probably the best-known mule in all America is Francis. He's the mule who talks, you know. His first picture, a hilarious comedy about how he helped to win the war, is now playing local. (Concluded On Page 6)

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

ally.

It has proven to be such a success, that there is going to be a sequel called "Francis Goes To Washington".

Probably most of you remember the caveman picture, "One Million B. C.". Another picture in the same category will soon be made by Eagle-Lion, called "Prehistoric Women". Samuel K. Abernethy and Greg Tallas wrote the story.

Burr Tillstrom, producer of the "Kukla, Fran & Ollie" T-V program, plans a new video series based on the "Wizard Of Oz" characters.

There are now two regular science - fiction programs on the air.

The first is called "2,000 Plus", and is heard on MBS radio, Wednesday evenings at 9.

"2,000 Plus" is produced by Sherman Dryer who once presented "Exploring The Unknown".

The first of the series, on March 15th, was the story of an invasion from space. The second, a great improvement in both script and delivery, was the story of how a researcher descended into the realm of the sub-microscopic to bring back alive a plague-causing virus.

The second series, which will premiere on NBC, Saturday, April 8th, at 8:30 p.m., will be called "Out Of The World".

At least the first few scripts will be adaptations of "astounding SCIENCE - FICTION" yarns.

Some confusion has resulted from a report recently published that this program will be called "Science - Fiction Theatre", with scripts by Ray Bradbury. It is

BOOK NOTES

by J. Russell Mars

Fantasy Press of Reading, Pa has released its 1950 schedule. The titles, in order of appearance, are: "Masters Of Time" (and "The Changeling") by A. E. Van Vogt, "The Bridge Of Light" by A. Hyatt Verrill; "The Cometeers" (and "One Against The Legion") by Jack Williamson; "Genus Homo" by L. Sprague de Camp & P. Schuyler Miller; "Galactic Patrol" by E.E. Smith; "The Moon Is Hell" by J.W. Campbell, Jr.; "Dreadful Sanctuary" by Eric Frank Russell. The Williamson book will be 110,000 words long. The Campbell novel is a new one and will have a companion story, "The Elder Gods", included in the book. All books will be \$3. Address is Fantasy Press, Box 159, Reading, Pa.

NEWS NOTES

FLASH: New pro sf mag being dummed in Southern California!

"Kid From Mars" being serialized in Australian newspaper; "Skylark of Space" to follow...NBC interested in Spencer Carr's Satevepostale, "Nitemare at Dawn", for Out of This World series... Sneak preview of DESTINATION MOON skedded for about mid-April...Kendell F. Crosson and Forrest J Ackerman collaborating on specialized science fiction anthology...Ray Healy planning all new anthology...Greenberg Publisher contemplating antho.

not yet clear whether this is another program, or merely an inaccurate description of "Out Of The World".

"Great To Be Alive", a musical comedy about ghosts and mortals, opens in NY on March 23rd. I'll try to review it next issue.

1949 IN SCIENCE FICTION

by Thomas S. Gardner

PART VI - Weird Tales

Unless I am greatly mistaken, I think that I can detect a slight improvement in WT. The stories seems to be written in a better style, but WT has not yet regained its height of the thirties. The covers are not very good this year. I yearn for the Brundage and other covers of 1925-40. Let us see how the stories are:

January 1949: "Four From Jehlam" by A. V. Harding is only a fair weird story. I believe that it was drawn out too much for the web of plot. E. E. Evans' "Food For Demons" was better. It is an interesting and fast moving tale of a college professor possessed by a demon who liked demon food. Read the story if you don't know what demon food is. Frank Gruber's "The Thirteenth Floor" was an excellent tale, the type that made WT famous, just as Bloch's "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" was good. You will enjoy Grendon's "Balu". How to get rid of unpleasant people in one lesson. I usually like all of Mary Elizabeth Gouselman's stories, but I did not care for "The Banan of Baladova". It didn't click. Heinlein's "Our Fair City" is a fair story reminiscent of some of E. Hamilton's stories on the same theme.

March 1949: "The Martian and the Moron" by Sturgeon is good science-fiction but it is not weird -- at least not for me. I enjoyed it however. Every now and then a writer tries to capture the real pseudo oriental atmosphere found in travelogs of many "explorers" from Tibet, and Asia. The mood has been approached in "The Will of Raminchantra" by Gohlentz. McClusky's "The Other Santa" is a sentimental piece, which is easy reading. Harding's "The Holiday" is a modern political fable done to a weird tune. Burk's "The Wizard of Bird

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A FANDOM HOUSE PUBLICATION

"in-Hand" is an attempt at applying weird and fantasy to the current crop of children's stories of the genius theme. It is not very successful.

May 1949: Harding's "The Damp Man Again" is very, very poor and should not have been published. Sheer waste of time to read it. Vengeance of a peculiar brand is dealt out in Lawlor's "The Door Beyond". A grim little story. Burk's "The Inner Man" is a wish-complex story dealing in politics. "Phoebe" by Marchie is an unusual story in that the reader is in doubt as to whom he feels sorry for, the heroine, or the villainess or who is which. Once upon a time the Jules de Grandin stories were good -- for a long time Quinn should have turned his attention to his wonderful classics such as "The Globe

of Memories", "Glamour", etc. "Vampire Kith and Kin" by Quinn is another fair to poor de Grandin story.

July 1949: This issue has the only good cover of the year. Brown's "Come and Go Mad" is a real weird and worth reading. Grendon's "The Blue Spocatolos" is interesting in that devious ways may be used to attain ones end. Robert Bloch's "Floral Tribute" can be re-read with enjoyment f o r the sophisticated intellectual. Quinn's "Dark o' the Moon" is better than average weirdism.

September 1949: Sturgeon's "One Foot in the Grave" is the best story published in WT in 1949. Don't miss it. Wythe's "Country House" is a horror story well developed. Derloth's "The Slayer and the Slain" is the best Derloth to appear in WT for some time. It is real weird and well developed. A very good little story is "The Shot-Tower Ghost" by M. E. Counselman. It has atmosphere. Harding's "The Deep Drowse" attacks the end of the world for man in a slightly different theme - and it has a lot of human interest in it. Fox saves the world in "The Rainbow Jade" in a clever manner. Quinn's "Blindman's Bluff" is worth reading. Vengeance is mine....saith....well take

your pick! Marchio's "Thiniker" is based on the old Greek philosophical theory of solipsism which was done better in A. Connell's "Dream's End", Wonder Stories, December 1935. I feel S u r e that many will like Dorothy Quick's "The Woman on the Balcony". It is a different type of ghost story.

November 1949: Harding's "The Underbody" is another attempt to capitalize on the rash of kid stories. Not too good. Quinn's "Conscience Mathoth Cowards" is another fair to poor de Grandin story. Why can't author Quinn put some effort in his de Grandin stories as he probably does on his best stuff. I want to especially recommend Arthur J. Burk's "Those Dobts Are Yours" as the second best WT story in 1949. Counselman's "The Green Window" is a good, old fashioned weird. Marchio's "Stranger at Dusk" has some elements of interest.

So passeth 1949 for WT. Some good more average, and many poor. May 19-50 be a better year.

Thomas S. Gardner will review the 19-49 issues of Super Science Stories in the next issue. -ed

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TO:

Franklin M. Dietz, Jr.
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