

Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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"ASTOUNDING" May Alter Size, Format

"UNKNOWN WORLDS" OR "ASTOUNDING SCIENCE
FICTION" ANNUAL VERY POSSIBLE IN
NEAR FUTURE

NEW YORK, July 21, (CNS) - Mr. Arthur P. Lawler, Vice-President of Street & Smith Publications, in a communication to Fantasy-Times today, scotched many of the wild rumors about Astounding Science Fiction which have recently been circulating in fandom.

Among the rumors are: 1) that ASF had been sold to its editor, John W. Campbell, Jr., and three regular contributors to the mag; 2) that ASF was to become large size and slick in the Fall; and 3) that a new Unknown Worlds Annual, dated 1951, would be forthcoming near the end of this year.

Mr. Lawler's statement is as follows:

"I am unable to ascertain how some of the rumors referred to in your letter could possibly originate. Street & Smith Publications, Inc., has not and has no intention of selling Astounding Science Fiction. It is a highly successful publication and Street & Smith has plans to make it even more successful. In this regard there have been discussions concerning an increase in the size of Astounding Science Fiction and a change in format. However, at this time no definite decision has been made."

(This information seems to be at odds, at least in part, with the an-
(continued on page 2)

IN RE: BOOKS

SHASTA

TURNUED DOWN "DIANETICS"

by Bob Tucker

This is about Dianotics. If you are one of those critics, who turn pale at the mention of the word, please don't turn pale here but read on, for this column is a sort of chronological history of the "new science", and not a treatise on how to become a clear.

In the May issue of ASF, L. Ron Hubbard had published an article about Dianotics, and editor Campbell went overboard for same. At about the same time, in April, Hermitage House brought out a four-dollar edition of the book with the same title. And the fuss started, a sort of miniature "Worlds In Collision". In Los Angeles, the traditional happy hunting ground of fads and cults, the new science made great strides and certain F-T reporters commented on same. In Berkeley, a large and semi-professional fan club gave it the works.

Meanwhile, the story behind the book is interesting.

Erle Korshak of Shasta Publishers got first chance at Dianotics, but turned it down, thereby losing a for-
(continued on page 2)

ASF MAY ALTER SIZE, FORMAT
(continued from page 1)

nouncement by editor Campbell on page 77 of the current (August) issue of Astounding. -editors)

"In answer to your last question concerning the possibility of another UNKNOWN WORLDS ANNUAL, I can only say that plans for it have not been formulated. It is very possible, however, that a n annual of Unknown Worlds or Astounding Science Fiction may be issued in the near future."

If the changes in ASF under discussion actually do take place, the mag will be the second to take such a step. Amazing Stories, published by Ziff-Davis of Chicago, having announced similar intentions in April* of this year. *see F-T, 1st April, No. 105, page 1.

SHASTA TURNED DOWN "DIANETICS"
(continued from page 1)

tuno, for the book has now sold over 25,000 copies. Korshak states the reason for his refusal was not with the contents of the volume, but because of his inability to produce it. Doubtless he is now kicking himself. The book has been reported a best-seller on both coasts; one "advertisement in the May issue of ASF pulled in 4,000 mail orders.

Doctors have decried the book as "neither a good book nor a hoax, but a harmful mixture of science and science-fiction", while other doctors have upheld it. Inadvertently, Science Fiction News Letter got into the act by publishing a Rodd Boggs column in its July issue, in which Boggs criticized Hubbard and Dianetics rather severely, and recommended the removal of editor Campbell because of it and other past articles. Next, Publisher's Weekly, a bookman's trade paper, added their three cents worth by picking up the Boggs statement, butting and twisting it slightly, and reported that News Letter was leading the attack on Dianetics. According to P. News Letter demands the ouster of Campbell because

PHILLY CONFERENCE TO BE HELD NOV. 12th

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Aug. 1st, (CNS) - Milton A. Rothman reported today that The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society has voted to hold another of its annual Science Fiction Conferences this year. The date has been set at Sunday, November 12. Mr. Rothman is the chairman of the Conference. A program of great originality and interest is promised. The first of these "Philly Conferences" was held in 1937, and except for the war years they have been held almost every year.

The place, time and program of the 1950 Philly Conference will be announced in a future issue of Fantasy-Times.

FIRST ISSUE OF IMAGINATION IS OUT

NEW YORK, July 28th, (CNS) - The first issue of Ray Palmer's second sci magazine, Imagination, came out today. It is an excellent first issue with good stories, excellent cover and fair inside illustrations. We liked the inside covers picture article on "Rocketship XM1". The cover is the best Barnes Bok has ever done. Mr. Palmer, ably aided by Managing Editor, Bea Mahaffey, should go far with this fine new fantasy magazine. -jvt

SUPPORT THE FAN-VETS!

he published the article and contributed to the book.

Recently, the Hubbard Dianetics Research Foundation of Elizabeth, N. J. is said to have gone into business with a suite of eighteen consulting rooms, comprising one entire floor of an office building. A correspondent of mine tells me that Campbell has been on the air with Dianetics, broadcasting its merits over his short-wave outfit. An article on the "new science" is scheduled for a future issue of Colliers.

Apparently everyone concerned is expounding Dianetics and making money, except Korshak; and had he been a clear he could have foreseen the landslide.

(DIANETICS, Hermitage House, New York, 1950, \$4)

KOREAN WAR DELAYS SLICK AMAZING

WILL ASF BE THE FIRST STF. SLICK?
(see page 1)

Chicago, 10 August, (CNS) - The shadow of the Korean war fell across the science - fiction publishing field this week, when Bill Hamling, managing editor of the Ziff-Davis fiction group, announced that plans to issue "AMAZING STORIES" as a large - size slick had been temporarily shelved, due to a threatened paper shortage.

Mr. Hamling was definite, however, in saying that the slick AMAZING will come out, the only question being one of time.

The possibility also exists that, when the slick AS does come out, it will be on a quarterly schedule.

The Korean situation was blamed for the change in plans, which every reader of science-fiction will receive with regret, as AS would have been the first slick magazine entirely devoted to science - fiction. Hamling stated that the answers to the questions which are holding up the change will depend upon clarification of the international situation, and some government decision on the restrictions, if any, that will be imposed on pub-

lishing.

This may be the first in a long series of cancellations and cut-backs in the publishing field in which the science-fiction pulp mags could suffer heavy casualties. The trend of recent years, during which more than fifteen newcomers to the field are now publishing or have been announced, may be reversed, and the fantasy fan might find himself swept up in a figurative "Time-eddy", and transported back to the era of the "Big Three".

The first information FANTASY - TIMES received on this development came from our ace correspondent, Arthur Jean Cox. A letter requesting details was immediately dispatched to Mr. Hamling, who replied by air-mail within a few days.

Mr. Hamling's letter arrived after the story on page 1 of this issue, concerning Street & Smith's discussions on turning "ASF" into a large - size slick, was already on stencil. No information is as yet available, therefore, on whether the threatened paper shortage will cancel these plans also.

If it does not, "ASTOUNDING" will have the honor of being the first science-fiction slick magazine ever published.

Numbers 26 & 27 Of Los Cuentos Fantasticos Are Out

JUNE (No. 26) ISSUE REPRINTS FROM
FANTASY-TIMES

The June 1950 issue of Los Cuentos Fantasticos arrived at the Fantasy-Times' office about three weeks ago. It contains 50 pages, is pulp size and has trimmed edges. The cover of this issue is by Raymon Naylor and is reprinted from the January 1948 issue of Amazing Stories. The contents include Stanley Hullen, Miquel Alvarez Acosta, Weaver Wright, William F. Temple and a reprint from the August 1948 issue of Fantasy-Times, "The Magician of Space" by James V. Taurasi. This yarn gets two of the three illustrations in the magazine. The two are by John Giunta and were the cover and inside illustration of the Taurasi yarn when it was published in Fantasy-Times. The other illustration is by Murphy illustrating "El Templo De La Rana" by Stanley Hullen.

JULY ISSUE FEATURES H. G. WELLS, EVANS,
BRADBURY AND MOSKOWITZ

The July issue of Los Cuentos Fantasticos features what appears to be an original cover by Henry M. Eichner, around which is announced the magazine's first contest. Fiction contents are by H. G. Wells, Ray Bradbury, Everett Evans and Sam Moskowitz. The Moskowitz yarn is "Man of the Stars" reprinted from the Winter 41-42 issue of Planet Stories.

Los Cuentos Fantasticos is the only sf magazine published in Spanish, and rates high as a collector's item in the United States.

L A S T C A L L

This is the last time we can ask you to join the Norwescon Committee and help make the 8th World Sff Convention the biggest and best yet held. It's only \$1. Send it to "Norwescon Committee", Box 8517, Portland 7, Oregon.

BRITISH REPRINTS

by Michael Corper

SUPER SCIENCE STORIES

No. 3 (Undated and Unnumbered)

The pages are unnumbered once again. The contents page shows the price 25/-, but the cover is marked One Shilling. Print is clear, as are the illustrations. Of the latter, the cover is by Lawrence; six inside by Bok, Calle, Finlay and Lawrence.

The issue contains: "Outpost Infinity" (R. F. Jones); "The Long Dawn" (Loomis); "The Fear Planet" (Leinster); "A Fragment of Diamond Quartz" (Cummings); and "Beyond all Weapons" (Hubbard). However, once again a story is missing from the text although shown on the contents page: "The Final Frontier" (R.M. Williams). (I went thru the book four times, to make sure). I wish, however, they would not plaster adverts throughout the text, either. All the above are reprinted from the January 1950 United States edition.

PLANET STORIES — No. 2

The second British edition of Planet Stories, just out, contains: "The Rocketeers Have Shaggy Ears" (Bennett); "Flame-Jewel of the Ancients" (Grober); "Forever and the Earth" (Bradbury); and "Madmen of Mars" (Fennel). These, plus the cover picture, are from the USA, Spring 1950 issue.

ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION — August '50

This issue contains: "The Xi Effect", (Latham); "Undesirable Alien" (McCarthy); "Gypsy" (Anderson); "Not to be Opened-" (Young); and "Ole Mother Methuselah" (Lafayette). Together with the Bonestell cover, they are from the USA January 1950 edition.

FANTASY FILMS RADIO & TV

by Lester Mayer, Jr

Twentieth Century - Fox is planning a remake of the fantasy comedy, "Heaven Can Wait", made in 1943. The story is about a man who dies and is interviewed by the devil for admittance to hell. After he reviews his "wicked" past, it is decided that it is more amusing than evil, and he is sent to heaven. The new version will be called "Meet Me In Washington Square".

Walt Disney's next project will be "Three Wishes". It is a story about leprechauns. The live-action sequences will be filmed in Ireland. In all probability, this picture is the one which was announced as "The Little People", and about which I have written several times.

At Columbia, Sam Katzman has scheduled "Thief Of Damascus", a film destined to utilize the Arabian Nights characters Ali Baba, Sinbad, Aladdin and Scheherazade, as a prospective vehicle for Jon Hall and Frances Langford.

Bob Hope and Jerry Fairbanks are dickering for film rights to "Behind The Flying Saucers", the sensational "inside" story. If it is meant as a vehicle for Hope then it will be a comedy, naturally. But if he is merely going to have a hand in producing it, it might be treated as a serious subject. This will ear watching.

M - C - M will hold the world premiere of "King Solomon's Mines" in N Y sometime in November. There is a chance that it

FANTASY FORECASTS

What's Next In The Pro Mags

FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES

"The Woman Who Couldn't Die" by Arthur Stringer, illustrated by Finlay, will be the lead novel in the October issue, on sale 25 August. Cover by De Soto.

Novelette will be "The Weigher Of Souls" by Andri Maurios, illo Lawrence.

Short will be "Nor Moon By Night" by Peter Cartur, illo Favette.

A poem, "In Plander's Wood" by M. Ludington Cain, will be illustrated by Lawrence.

might be released earlier.

The Hayden Planetarium (N Y) show, "A Trip To The Moon", will run until the end of August. It doesn't measure up, of course, to a film such as "Destination Moon" but the moon's surface as shown by the planetarium bears a remarkable similarity to the Chesley Bonestell version in the movie.

I've been told that this show is an improvement over several earlier versions.

In a personal talk with Lester Del Rey the other day, he informed me that he is negotiating with several movie studios for the sale of one or more of his stories. The most likely candidate among his works is "Nerves", but he has learned nothing definite as yet.

"Lights Out", the T-V program which has carried a lot of fantasy, resumes its weekly schedule over NBC beginning August 28 at 9 p.m.

A "Mandrake The Magician" series is being prepared for T-V, No details yet.

The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

An amusing discovery was made this evening concerning Doc Savage. A friend of mine has quite a comprehensive collection of Doc Savage magazines: this well-known pulp character was written by Lester Dent under the pseudonym of Kenneth Robeson. However, we accidentally found that the novel in Volume 1, Number 1, May 1935, appeared under the name of Kenneth Roberts. It is interesting to conjecture why this was so. It may have been a typographical error or, possibly, after using the pseudonym once the author and editors realized that it would have to be changed or modified as Kenneth Roberts was the name of a well-known historical-adventure writer. The Doc Savage novels contained many science-fiction themes. At present the novels are still being published in Argentina. The latest being "Los Hombres Moteados", No. 341 of the Hombres Audaces series. They are of course published in Spanish using the American covers and inside illustrations.

Typographical error on page 130 of the August issue of Astounding Science Fiction, in the article, "Linguistics and Time", by Arthur J. Cox: The sentence, "It does not permit expressions of similarity", should read, "—does not permit expressions of simultaneity".

The August, 1950, Argosy features an article by David A. Anderson on the need, possibility, and difficulties of building a "platform in space". It is rather well illustrated and has a full page color still from "Destination Moon" — one of the best I've seen. Movie is not given credit.

August issue of True has another article by Donald A. Keyhoe on flying saucers.

Coast Theatres, Grauman's Chinese and Los Angeles, are undertaking ambitious publicity and interesting-stimulating ideas for "Destination Moon", when the picture is released in that city. The great tower of the Chinese Theatre is going to be "converted" into a flame-poised rocket and executives are trying to obtain permission to place a rocket across and above Broadway, in front of the Los Angeles Theatre.

A. E. van Vogt just told us that he has signed a contract with Simon & Schuster under which they will publish a new, revised edition of "Slam", plus a new, previously-unpublished science-fiction novel. "Away and Beyond" will not be out until December. He is doing little work at present, due to his position as director of the California Division of the Hubbard Research Institute, but intends to get back to writing as soon as possible. He is doing no "research and little auditing" in dianetics, at the moment, but is acting as an administrator — or as he puts it, is "answering telephone calls".

Your reporter has secured a rather odd job, but a delightful one from the standpoint of an sf fan: For a week he (and a few others) will walk around Los Angeles in a spacesuit! It's a publicity "stunt" for "Destination-Moon". Should be very interesting.

The July 28th issue of Colliers has an article entitled "Hiroshima, USA" with cover painting and several interiors by Bonestell, who once again destroys New York. (According to R. S. Richardson, Bonestell takes a particular delight in doing this: He was once an architect in that city and has long had a desire to destroy what he considers its more atrocious monstrosities and colossal eye-sores.) Same issue of the magazine also has a short-short by Ray Bradbury, "The Window", non-fantasy.

The August issue of Blue Book has
(continued on page 7)

The Los Angeles major Fox West

1949 In Science Fiction

by Thomas S. Gardner

PART XI — Conclusion

After the review of each magazine, let us see what were the best stories for each magazine, without any attempt to compare the various magazines:

Amazing Stories: Phillips' "The Short Cut"**, and Hasse's "Project".

Fantastic Adventures: Phillips' "The Involuntary Immortals"**, and Brown-ing's "The Insane Robot".

Planet: St. Clair's "Garden of Evil"**, and Abernethy's "The Dead Star Rover".

Super Science Stories: St. Clair's "Dreadful Dreamer"**, and MacDonald's "Appointment for Tomorrow".

Fantastic Novels: Merritt's "Dwellers in the Mirage"**, "Seven Footprints to Satan"**, Leinster's "Red Dust"**, and Steven's "Elf Tree".

Famous Fantastic Mysteries: London's "Scarlet Plague"**, and Mason's "Black Butterflies".

Thrilling Wonder Stories: Clarke's "Alien Machine"**, Morvin's "The Carriers", Blish's "Let the Finder Beware" and van Vogt's "The Weapon Shops of Isher".

Startling Stories: Clarke's "Trans-science"**, Leinster's "The Other World" and Lafayette's "The Magnificent Failure".

Weird Tales: Bloch's "Floral Tribute"**, Gruber's "The Thirteenth Floor", Sturgeon's "One Foot and the Grave" and Bark's "These Debts are Yours".

Astounding: Anderson's "The Double Dyed Villians"**, Russell's "The Undecided", Bado's "Lost Ulysses", Schmitz's "Agent of Vega" and "The Witches of Karres".

**the best in each magazine.

Quite a collection, and variation of themes. If any reader of Fantasy-Times has a different list, why not write in and cuss me out!

The End

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and John Giunta.

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THE COSMIC REPORTER

(continued from page 6)

a booklength science-fiction novel,
"Laughter From the Stars", by Robert
Spencer Carr, author of "Morning Star"
which is being produced as a movie.

Ray Bradbury has sold the pocket
book rights to "The Martian Chronicles"
to Bantam for \$2,000.

Best story bet so far this month:
Robert Bloch's "The Shadow From the
Steeple" in the September Weird Tales.

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Latest NORWESCON News

NORWESCON CITY (Portland), Oregon, July 15, (CNS) - The site of the Norwescon has been changed at the last minute. The American Legion Hall, where it was originally to be held, is no longer available, so the new site will be the Multnomah Hotel, still in Portland, Oregon.

In spite of the late date, the Norwescon was fortunate in being able to secure the Assembly Room of the Multnomah Hotel, Portland's largest, its eight stories covering a full city block. With its 625 rooms, it will be able to accommodate all of the attendees. The rates are reasonable, running from \$8.50 up with bath.

The Multnomah Hotel has a Coffee Shop, Dining Room and cocktail bar in addition to all other facilities of a first-class hotel and is located near the center of town, in easy walking distance from the book stores and shopping district.

HOWARD BROWNE TO BE AT NORWESCON

Word was received today from Howard Browne, editor of Amazing Stories and Fantastic Adventures, that he would attend the Norwescon.

MANY EDITORS DONATE ORIGINALS

FLUSHING, N.Y., August 16, (CNS) - James V. Taurasi, Eastern Representative of the Norwescon, announced today that he has mailed to Chairman Don Day the first batch of originals from the New York editors. These include numerous inside illustrations from Jakobson of Super Science Stories, one Paul original from Marvel Science Stories and 15 Paul originals from Mary Gneadinger of Famous Fantastic Mysteries and Fantastic Novels. Mary has promised more and possibly a cover, but these will not be ready for release until August 25th. Mr. Taurasi stated that he expects some of the other New York editors will donate originals.

From Don Day we hear that Ray Palmer of Other Worlds and Imagination has donated about 50 pics, Browne has promised three covers, while Campbell has promised some interiors. All in all there should be some super originals for the fans to bid for at the auction.

Fandom House, publishers of Fantasy-Times has taken over the paying of all of Taurasi's expenses in connection with the Norwescon, as part of its donation to the World Convention.

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