

# 9th Anniversary Issue

# Fantasy-Times

VOL 5 - No 17 (113) 1ST SEPTEMBER 1950

## ARMY NOW READS STF FOR NEWS OF NEW WEAPONS -VERA CERUTTI

NEW YORK, NY, September 14, 1950 - "The large number of predictions by science-fiction writers that have come true in the last two decades has, lead both a large part of the public and the Army to look upon science-fiction as almost a blueprint for future developments", Vera Cerutti, editor-in-chief of Galaxy Science Fiction, said yesterday in an interview in her office.

This in turn has lead the Armed Forces to clamp a whole series of security regulations on the field. Because many readers first learned of the Nazi's attempts to build a huge mirror to harness solar energy and use it as a death ray during the last war from science-fiction tales and because many people first heard of some of the military uses to which the "thinking" machines, ENIAC and MANIAC, have been put in this country thru the same means, the Army now keeps a close eye on the field's printed material.

On the other hand, the widespread interest generated from these events has enabled Galaxy to get off to a flying start in its campaign for half a million readers. Galaxy has already secured a record number of entries in its kick-off "Flying Saucer" contest.

## "DOC" SMITH VISITS LASFS - ON WAY TO NORWESCON

by Arthur Jean Cox

LOS ANGELES, Calif., August 17, (GMS) - On his way to the Norwescon, Edward Elmer Smith, Ph.d., stopped in for a visit at a meeting of The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society.

"Doc" Smith stated, in regard to his future work, that he is currently working on a number of novelettes in his "Vortex Blaster" series. These stories are tied together in various ways and will, in the near future, be integrated together into a single novel. Later in the meeting, the writer intimated that he was tentatively planning what he termed "a new universe"; that is, another world similar in scope to, but different in content from, the worlds described in his "Skylark Series" and in his "Lensmen Series". In other words, he is most likely considering a series of new novels. He stated that he had absolutely no intention of doing any more in either the "Skylark" or the "Lensmen" series.

He revealed that besides some ten science-fiction novels, he is also the  
(continued on page 7)

There has been an outpouring of entries, with women surprisingly in the majority, the Galaxy editor revealed.

# It's All Yours

by H. L. Gold

**M**OST new magazines, especially in the science-fiction field, assure their readers that they are the readers' magazines and that suggestions are welcome and will be followed. The assurance, however, is hedged with unspoken reservations.


Galaxy Science Fiction offers that same assurance...but there are no reservations of any kind whatever. This is, literally and completely, your magazine. Your suggestions will be followed. Makeup, art, editorial content, everything from cover to cover, including the cover, and even the size of the magazine itself you will decide for us.

There is, in other words, nothing inflexible about Galaxy Science Fiction. Repeat, nothing. Not a single thing. A year from now, it may look entirely different, and every change will be the result of alert study of readers' wishes and willingness to put those wishes into concrete form.

Let's detail the statement and see just how inclusive it is:

\*Digest size, cover design and tone of the cover painting were determined by a poll of readers, writers, artists, and disinterested non-fans. While extensive, the survey could not possibly be exhaustive. A more complete sampling via your letters can change size, design and selection of cover illustrations.

\*Serials are book length, and all thus far ordered are scheduled for hard-cover publication...exactly as they appear here, except for minor editing differences. Do you favor full length serials, 60,000 to 90,000 words each, or would you rather have the 50,000 to 45,000 word stories that are termed novels, and sometimes even book-

 TO celebrate our 9th Anniversary, we started September 1941, we decided to ask the editor of the newest sf magazine for an article. Mr. Gold was glad to aid us by allowing us to publish "It's All Yours", which will appear as the editorial in the second issue of Galaxy Science Fiction.

We suggest that after you finish reading this article, sit down and let Mr. Gold know just what you think of his magazine. -ed

length novels, in other magazines.

\*We have arbitrarily decided upon a one third installment of the serial, two novelets, three to five short stories, and one short article as desirable balance for the magazine. Would you rather have shorter serial installments, longer novelets, fewer short stories, expanded articles? Or do you have other ideas on editorial contents and balance?

\*Are you in favor of articles at all? If so, do you prefer general subjects, briefly and interestingly treated, or technical themes written at length and in non-layman's language?

\*Does an editorial page, in your opinion, have a place in a magazine of science-fiction? What subjects, assuming you approve, should it discuss?

\*As stated in our first issue, no genuine letter department can appear until the third issue, since it takes two months to print and distribute a monthly magazine. There is no way to alter our decision not to run congratulatory or ordered letters in the first two issues, but we do plan to have a (continued on page 7)

The illustration on page 3 is a reproduction of the cover of Two Complete Science Adventure Books, a new magazine soon to be published by Fiction House. For complete details see our last issue. Reproduction is by Henry W. Chabot.



\$5<sup>00</sup>  
VALUE FOR  
25¢

Two Complete

# Science-Adventure

NO 1  
WINTER

Books

## PEBBLE in the SKY

by ISAAC ASIMOV



## The KING SLAYER

by L. RON HUBBARD

Anderson  
CHARLOT  
FOR STENCIL BY



## FANTASY FORECASTS

What's Next In The Pro Mags

### Galaxy Science Fiction

Second issue of this sky rocketing newcomer, dated November, 1950, will contain part 2 of "Time Quarry" by Clifford D. Simak.

Novelettes will be "Transfer Point" by Anthony Boucher and "Honeymoon In Hell" by Fredric Brown.

Short stories will be "Misbegotten Missionary" by Isaac Asimov, "Coming Attraction" by Fritz Leiber, "Jaywalker" by Ross Rocklynne, and possibly a short yarn by Damon Knight.

Article will be "Lands Of Yesterday" by L. Sprague de Camp.

### Planet Stories

Cover for the January 1951 issue will be by Anderson.

Lead novel will be "Witch Of The Demon Seas" by A. A. Craig (Poul Anderson), illustrated by Vestal.

Novelettes will be "Tiger By The Tail" by Poul Anderson and "Martian Nightmare" by Bryce Walton. Both yarns will be illustrated by Vestal.

Shorts will be "Out Of The Dark Nebula" by Milton L. Coe, "Safety Margin" by J. T. McIntosh, and "Task To Luna" by Alfred Coppel.

We have some preliminary information on the March 1951 issue of PS: the lineup of authors will be Ray Callun, H. B. Fyfe, Poul Anderson, Mack Reynolds, Fredric Brown, Leigh Brackett, William Tenn, and maybe Van Vogt.

With either the January or March issue, PLANET will increase price to 25¢. There will be no increase in pages according to present plans.

## FILMS, RADIO & TV

by Lester Mayer, Jr

"The Original Sin" is a German post-war allegorical fantasy based on a musical comedy called "The Apple Is Plucked". The movie is about Adam and Eve, but not the version we're accustomed to hearing about!

You'll see jet-propelled angels and heavenly news broadcasts, a barbed-wire Eden, and a devil's panorama of the 21st Century. The arch-angel will be drummed out of heaven in a ceremony calling for dress uniform and parade wings. Adam and Eve, languishing in boredom, receive CARE packages so they can amuse themselves. Eden comes fully supplied with American cigarettes and a snake which emerges as Lilith.

The whole thing sounds so damned unconventional that I've planned to see it at the first opportunity.

Over at RKO, Howard Hawks and Eddie Lasker are preparing a science-fiction story called "The Thing". It is so top-secret that not even the RKO publicity department knows what it's all about. It will be made with unknowns, because, says Lasker, "We don't want anybody in the cast that the public associates with films. It's that sort of story". Shooting, which will be done partly in Alaska, will start in October.

Well, it may be a secret to most people, but the staff of F-T recognize this as being none other than John Campbell's "Who Goes There?". We're glad to see that at last good science-fiction is coming to the screen.

According to "VARIETY", "Destination Moon" is the week's top money-maker in the Los An-



geles area with a comfortable \$51,000 gross. The same mag says that "Dimension X" will probably continue to be sponsored in the Fall because of its high rating.

"Captive Girl" is the latest Jungle Jim picture, starring Johnny Weissmuller. This picture sports something of a female Tarzan, a white girl who has a leopard for a pet. She had grown up in the jungle when her parents were sacrificed at the lagoon of the dead, a hiding-place of fabulous treasure. An evil witch-doctor; an unscrupulous treasure-hunter, and a chattering array of monkeys make up the balance of the picture, which is not fantasy.

Rembrandt Films, a US distributor of foreign films, has acquired "The Emperor's Nightingale", a Czechoslovakian full-length color feature using puppets. It is based on a Hans Christian Anderson fairy tale.

"Seven Days To Noon", a British film, is science-fiction, but it could easily turn into horrible reality. Focal point of the plot is an ultimatum, sent to the Prime Minister of England by an atom scientist, who becomes deranged because his work is being used for mankind's destruction instead of benefit.

He warns that unless atom bomb production ceases by noon seven days hence, he will blow up all of London with a bomb he has stolen. In that seven days, London becomes involved in the biggest manhunt in history. The Prime Minister broadcasts to the nation, total evacuation is ordered, and the deserted city is searched house by house.

The film has not yet been released in the US.

Charles R. Rogers, veteran

## IN RE:BOOKS

by Bob Tucker

The hardened fan will not admit that "The Man Who Lived Backward" by Malcolm Ross (Farrar, Straus, \$3.50) is time-travel or even science-fiction, because it is written more in the vein of a historical novel than s-f. It's an over-long story of a man who was born in 1940, grew up and older, and died in 1865. Some historical figures are introduced into the book, and The Man in the title meets his death attempting to save Abraham Lincoln from assassination.

Two large and worthwhile anthologies are appearing this month: Groff Conklin's "Big Book Of Science Fiction" (\$3 from Crown Publishers), and the Bleiler & Dikty second annual compilation, "The Best Science Fiction Stories --- 1950" (\$2.95 from Fredk Fell).

The Conklin volume contains 32 stories, and a lot of names that pop up in every anthology: Moore, Padgett, Leinster, Sturgeon, Russell, del Rey, Pratt, Simak, Brown, Shelton, Bradbury, Leiber, etc. Happily, it also presents some newer names: Knight, Kornbluth, MacDonald, McMorro; H. L. Gold, Alexander, Colladay, MacLean, Reynolds, Doar, De Courcy, Loomis, and others. The yarns themselves are from numerous sources --- one dates back to a 1930 SatEvePost, and one comes from the brand new "OTHER WORLDS". To my mind, this is the biggest  
(Continued on Next Page)

film producer who has been inactive for the past three years, announced he would start making pictures again in October. First feature on his new program is a thrill fantasy, "The Son Of Dr. Jekyll".



IN RE: BOOKS  
(Concluded from preceding page)

bargain of the year.

"The Best --- 1950" is a twin to the volume published last year. It contains introductions by the editors, and by Vincent Starrett, pointing out the similar paths of s-f and detective fiction.

There are thirteen yarns in the volume, two of which were published in another anthology this Spring. The names are: Kutner; Jenkins, Sturgeon, Simak; Carr, Shiras, Krepps, Bradbury, Brown, Williams, Leinster and MacDonald. Had it not been for the Conklin collection, this one could have been the best of the late Summer crop.

Fans who read "AMAZING STORIES" and "FANTASTIC ADVENTURES" regularly will probably be acquainted with a character named Lancelot Biggs. I'm not a reader and not acquainted, so I found him only mildly amusing in a collection of his stories which has been put together in book form to look like a novel: "Lancelot Biggs: Spaceman" (\$2.50, Doubleday). Biggs is an skinny, awkward character who constantly gets himself, his captain and his ship in one mess after another through fool blundering, only to save all concerned in the nick of time by pulling a scientific trick out of the hat.

#### FAN-VETS' FIRST ISSUE IS OUT

The first issue of the Fantasy Veterans Association's official organ, Fan-Vet is in the mails. This four page mimeographed magazine tells how you can join the Fan-Vets and how they plan to help all fans in the Armed Forces of the United States. You can get your copy by sending a 2¢ stamp to Secretary Ray Van Houten, 127 Spring Street (note the new address), Paterson

## BRITISH REPRINTS

by Michael Corper

### Amazing Stories

The British edition of Amazing Stories, undated and unnumbered, but the second issue in the present series, arrived the last week of August. It contains: "The Ultimate Peril" (Abernathy); "The Man From Arbutus" (Hickey); and four more stories plus nine shorter items. Front cover, illustrating a scene from "The Ultimate Peril", is by R. G. Jones. All are reprinted from the March 1950 United States edition.

### Fantastic Adventures

The British edition of Fantastic Adventures is also unnumbered and undated and also the second to appear in England in the present series. It came out at the same time that Amazing did. It features "Diana and the Golden Ring" (Tenneshaw); "Girl from Mars" (Bloch); "Detour from Tomorrow" (Phillips); "The World of the Lost" (Lohrman); and two more novelettes plus 15 shorter items. Cover is also by R. G. Jones, illustrating a scene from "Diana and the Golden Ring", all reprinted from the March 1950 US edition.

\* \* \* \*

FA has 162 pages (same as U.S. edition) while AS' pages are not numbered, but since the cover says there are 164, I guess we shall accept that as Gospel truth (the U.S. edition had 196 pages). This time, no stories have been continued on the outside back cover, and only FA has its text plastered with adverts from the USA. I, for one, cannot see the advantage of this: where, when and how would the average Englishman get Bank of England permit to spend Dollars on, say, strips to make false teeth fit; lovely pin-ups; hormones; voice training; or relief from drunkenness?

3, New Jersey. It's the duty of Fandom to help its members in the Armed Forces and this paper tells you how.



## DOC SMITH VISITS LASER (continued from page 1)

author of a western, a love story and a sports novel -- all three of which have failed to place todate. (Note: Smith was once a "cowpunch", himself, he tells us, some forty years ago. Rode horses and even carried a six-shooter.)

Smith remarked that, in the future, he'd like to see science-fiction stories which place more emphasis on characterization than those at present. He was asked if he preferred John W. Campbell as an editor or an author, and answered that he thought Campbell did a pretty good job as both. He stated, however, that he didn't like the "rut" which Astounding had gotten into the past couple of years. He felt that Campbell should publish stories besides those with sociological themes, and added, "It isn't entirely a case of sour grapes."

## IT'S ALL YOURS (continued from page 2)

department...unless our readers vote against it.

\*Should our book-review department be longer, shorter, or not at all?

\*How are we doing on inside illustrations?

\*Final and perhaps biggest point is the subject matter of our stories. We have challenged writers to present themes that could not be sold elsewhere ...themes that are too adult, too profound or revolutionary in content for other magazines to risk publishing. Should we hold to this policy or modify it to include routine science-fiction, of the duel-on-the-asteroid and alien-eater-of-life-force variety, perhaps, or hard-boiled detective and Western transplanted to other planets and other eras?

It really is your magazine. Your opinions will make it the magazine you want it to be.

-H. L. GOLD

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## FANTASY - TIMES "The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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### THE COSMIC REPORTER by Arthur Joan Cox

In the August 27th issue of Colliers, there is a story called "Thana-sphere", written by a man Vonnegut. It's a science-fiction story, of course; significant point is that it states on the cover, "New science-fiction fantasy novelette in this issue". Science-fiction is apparently beginning to have some publicity value to magazine publishers. Haven't read the story but it seems to be concerned with the discovery of an after-death never-never land beyond the stratosphere.

ADVERTISED IN FANTASY-TIMES



FANTASY-TIMES No 113

# New Stf Mag Out In Mexico

NEW YORK, NY,  
September 6,  
(JMS) - Arr-  
rived today  
from Mexico,  
a new Mexican  
semi-fantasy  
pro magazine,  
Antología, De  
Cuentos Fan-  
tásticos,  
Policiacos y  
De Misterio,  
(Antology,  
Stories of  
Fantasy, De-  
tective and  
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This new mag-  
azine (Vol 1,  
No. 1) is  
digest size,  
trimmed edges  
pulp, 98 pag-  
es and sells  
for \$1.20  
(Mexican) (a-  
bout 25¢) a  
copy. The  
first issue  
contains 3  
fantasy yarns  
out of six  
stories in  
the issue.  
Two of the  
yarns are by  
Mexican auth-  
ors and one  
by a Spanish  
author. All  
stories are  
reprints.

## ANTOLOGÍA

DE CUENTOS FANTÁSTICOS  
POLICIACOS Y DE MISTERIO

### CONTENIDO

LA TROUPE  
policiaco  
\*\*\*

BUCHOUX  
DETENIDA A JIM  
BARILETT  
policiaco  
\*\*\*

MAESE PIERRE EL  
ORGANISTA  
fantastico  
\*\*\*

ONDA CORTA  
fantastico  
\*\*\*

LA FLOR DE LA  
MUERTE  
fantastico  
\*\*\*

OJO POR OJO  
Policiaco

\$1.20

