

Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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MARVEL GOES DIGEST SIZE

by Daniel Keyes

Associate ed. of Marvel Science Stories

(A reproduction of the May Marvel cover appears on page 3 of this issue. -ed)

NEW YORK, NY, January 2nd, (CNS) - Starting with the May issue of Marvel Science Stories, which will be on sale about February 1st, the magazine will undergo a complete change from cover to cover. Some results of the new policy are, as follows:

1. The magazine will be pocket size.
2. The entire format will present more of a quality appearance, and the inside will be more dignified.
3. The stories will be better - more mature, with none of the space-opera and derring-do that is the anathema of science-fiction fans.
4. The cover will be more attractive and in keeping with the rest of the magazine, and will illustrate a story.
5. The inside illustrations are improved, and we are using more well known sf illustrators.
6. Each issue will feature a controversy by well-known writers, presenting their opinions or arguments in the field.

7. There will be no advertising.

8. There will be a contest each issue for subscribers in which the original art work (Cover oils and inside illustrations) will be awarded - dedicated to the winners by the artists - for the best title of that issue's cover.

ALL in all it will be quite a radical change, and we feel, that the new Marvel will be a credit to the fast-evolving field of science-fiction. The line-up for the next issue of Marvel, dated May 1951, will be:

LEAD NOVEL - "The Ones" by Betsy Curtis.
NOVELETTE - "Hallock's Madness" by William Tenn.

SHORT STORIES - "Second Advent" by Mark Reynolds; "The Thing" by Richard Matheson; "Golden Girl" by Jack Vance; "Polyoid" by Bryce Walton; "Captain Wyxtphlls Flying Saucer" by Arthur C. Clarke; and "Circle" by Milton Lesser.

THE DIANETICS CONTROVERSY -

"Homo Superior - Here We Come" by L. Ron Hubbard (PRO); "How To Avoid A Hole In The Head" by Theodore Sturgeon (MIDDLE); and "Superman - C.O.D.", by Lester del Rey (CON).

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The NOIACON in 1951, and NEW YORK in 1954

SCIENTIBOOKS

"The Hunter of the Dark & Other Stories" by H. P. Lovecraft, with an introduction by A. W. Derleth, is out in England at 9/6.

"The Strange Journeys of Colonel Polders" by Lord Dunsany, a brand new collection, has also just been published in England at 9/6.

"The Weapon Shops of Isher" by A. E. van Vogt will be published in June by Greenberg Publishers of New York, at \$2.50.

"Slan" by A. E. van Vogt will be reprinted by Simon & Shuster of New York in September at \$2.50.

"The Stars, Like Dust" by Isaac Asimov, currently being serialized as "Tyran" in Galaxy will be published by Doubleday in February at \$2.50.

To be published in March by Pellegrini & Gudahy at \$2.75, Fritz Lieber's "Conjure Wife".

"The Unbegotten Man" by Theodore Sturgeon, an original science-fiction novel will be published in June by Greenberg Publishers at \$2.50.

"Dragon's Island" by Jack Williamson, an original science-fiction novel, will be published by Simon & Shuster in March. This is known to the "fans" as "The Maker" which was the original title.

"Time quarry" by Clifford Simak, which was serialized in Galaxy, and was supposed to be published in book form, under the same title, has had its title changed to: "Time & Again". It'll be out from Simon & Shuster in March at \$2.50.

"The City at World's End" by Edmond Hamilton will be issued in a great-

MARVEL GOES DIGEST SIZE (continued from page 1)

Plus, departments, features, Letters, contest, etc.

THE cover is by Norman Saunders.

INSIDE illustrations by, Ames, Paul, Napoli, Harrison, and Burgos.

THAT'S the news on the change in Marvel, and we'll probably keep changing in line with the demands our readers make on us, so it would be nice to hear what the readers of your publication think of the magazine. All criticisms, comments and suggestions are welcomed.

(The address of Marvel Science Stories is Stadium Publishing Company, 350 5th Ave., New York 1, N.Y.

The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

I notice that Asimov's "Tyran", commencing in the January Galaxy seems to be a "pre-Foundation" story, that is part of the historical background but not a part of the series. In it, we meet the inventor of the "Sono-visor", an instrument present in "The Hulo". Wonder if all his stories have a single implied background.

Wonder what the serial situation is with Astounding? A few months ago, notices were appearing in writers' magazines that ASF was over-stocked on novel-length stories; but, in 1950, just before the commencement of "The Hand of Zel", there was a three-month period of serial-absence and now, according to the "In Times To Come" department, there

(continued on page 5)

ly expanded book edition by Frederick Fell of New York, in March at \$2.75.

"Dwellers In The Mirage" by A. Merritt, published by The Grandon Company of Providence, Rhode Island, came out recently with a reprinted Finlay frontispiece and a Swanson dust-wrapper. \$3.00.

"FUTURISTIC SCIENCE STORIES"

NO. 3 OUT IN ENGLAND

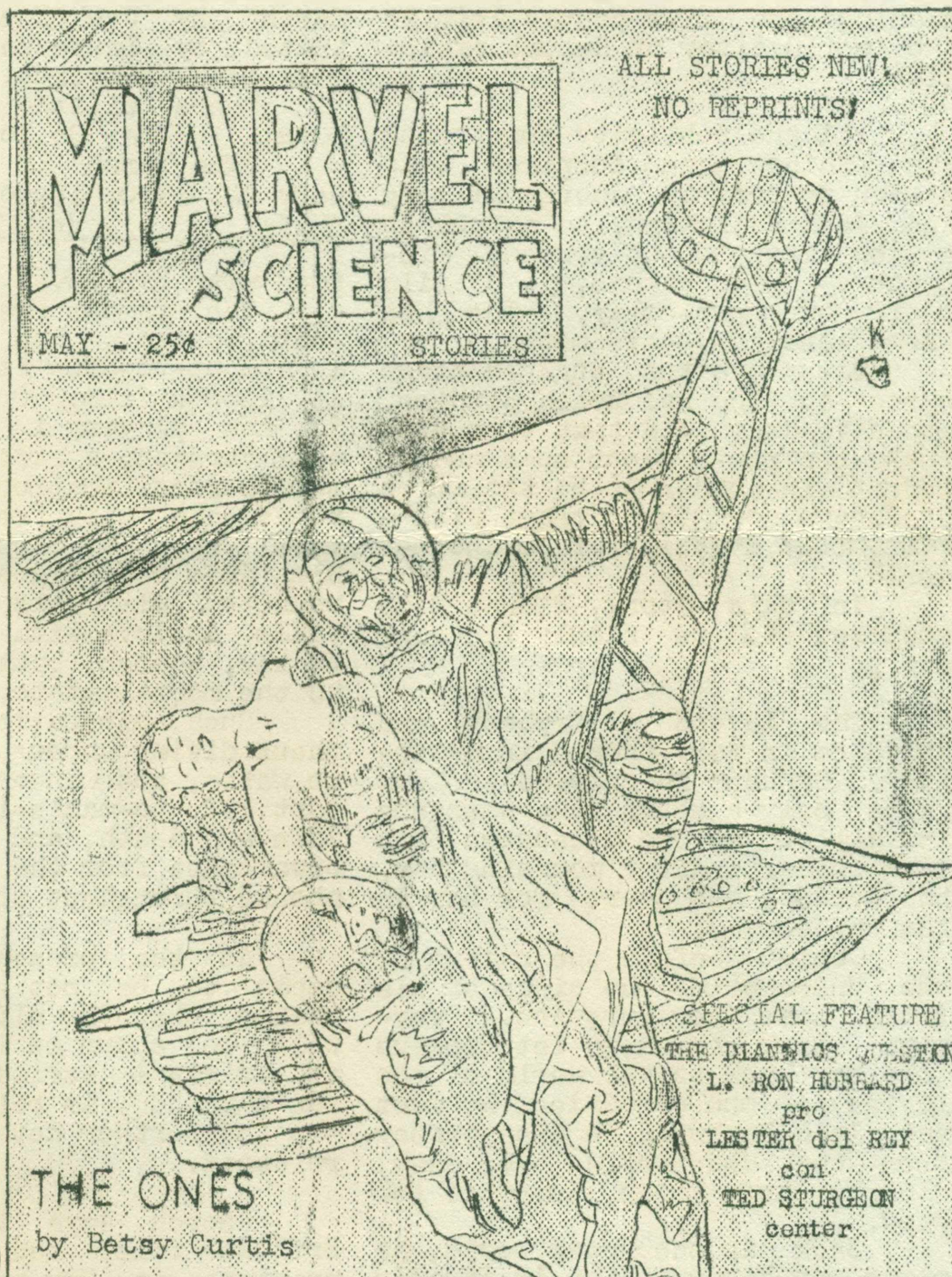
The Third issue of the British science-fiction magazine Futuristic Science Stories, is out in England. This is a pocket-sized, 128 page magazine, containing five new stories and sells for 1/6.

It contains a colored cover by Facey, but no interior illustrations. It is published irregularly by John Spencer & Co., 24 Shepherds Bush Rd., London W. 6, England.

BRITISH REPRINTS

The 4th issue of the British Edition of Startling Stories just arrived from England. It contains "The Cybernetic Brains" by Raymond F. Jones and the Captain Futuro novelette, "The Harpers Of Titan" by Edmond Hamilton, plus a Bergoy cover, all from the Sept. 1950 issue of the US Edition. Contains 64 pages; price: 9d.

COVER OF THE NEW "MARVEL"



(Cover of the May 1951 Marvel -- story on page 1)

FANTASY FILMS, RADIO & T V

by Lester Mayer, Jr

The title of Arch Obeler's next movie will be "Five" --- meaning the five people left in the world after an H-bomb explosion.

All the publicity concerning "The Thing" has inspired two screen scenarists, Aubrey Wisberg and Jack Pollexfen, to establish a new independent company, Mid-Century Productions, to film their own photoplay, "The Man From Planet X", this month.

They have engaged stage space at the Hal Roach Studios, and have announced that they will rush the picture out on a modest budget in order to be the first producers on the screen with a film about a visitor from another world.

In this story, Planet X is supposed to be slowly freezing over.

The legend of Orpheus and Eurydice is very famous in mythology. Orpheus is married to Eurydice only a short time when she is killed by the poisonous bite of a snake. After mourning her, he decides to search for her in the Underworld.

Coming before the rulers of the Underworld, he sings of his great love for Eurydice. Overcome, they agree to let Orpheus take her back to the world of the living on one condition: he must not look backward on his journey from the Underworld. He does, though, and loses Eurydice for good.

Back in the upper world, he pines for her until he is finally killed, when he is finally reun-

FANTASY FORECASTS

What's Next In The Pro Mags

Fantastic Novels

Issue dated March 1951 will be on sale 19th January, 1951.

Lead novel will be "The Torch" by Jack Bechdolt, illustrated by Lawrence. Cover will also be by Lawrence.

There will also be the Readers Column, "What Do You Think?"

"The Torch" is from the January 24, 1950, issue of "THE ARGOSY".

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ited with his love.

The famous French producer, Jean Cocteau, has brought the legend up-to-date and transformed it into a film, "Orpheus", which is now playing in New York. In this version, a strange princess, the personification of Death, takes his wife from Orpheus and then sends a messenger to lead him into Hell. Instead of being reunited with his wife, Orpheus falls in love with Death. Eventually, though, both are returned to the mortal state.

Such cinematic magic as Orpheus diving through a mirror into water, and wandering through a sort of no-man's-land between life and death, and cryptic radio broadcasts from the nether world, abound throughout the picture.

At the present time, there seems to be not the slightest chance that the old Tarzan films will be shown on T-V. However, an original series called "Tarzan's Child", is being considered but no further details have been released.

"Seven Days To Noon", a British film, had its American premiere in New York a few days before Xmas. (See F-T #113).

FANTASY FORECASTS

(continued from page 4)

You will note in the current (January 1951) issue of Fantastic Novels that "The Snake Mother" by A. Merritt, with cover and inside illustrations by Finlay, was originally scheduled for the March issue. The publication of Merritt's yarn has been delayed for a few issues and "The Torch" will run in the March 1951 issue, with "The Girl In The Golden Atom" by Ray Cummings in the May 1951 issue. Mary Gnaedinger states that there will be a couple of stories along with Cummings' story, probably "Spawn Of The Comet" by Otis Adelbert Kline, and another classic fantasy.

Watch future issues for complete details.

THE COSMIC REPORTER

(continued from page 2)

is to be no serial after "...Ze!" concludes.

I'm told that the 25,000 worder by Bradbury in the Feb. issue of Galaxy was originally written as a three-part serial for The Saturday Evening Post but was rejected by them.

Battel Loomis showed up at the LASFS Xmas party. Loomis had an article, "The Talking Hill", in the February 1937, issue of ASF and a short story in #1 Worlds Beyond. He's very serious about his writing and with his unusual Fortian-Joycean style, ought to be quite a hit. His short story, "Invasion Squad", in WB was rejected by Demon Knight when he was editor of Super Science and accepted when he was editor of the latter, at, I believe, 4¢ a word. (A great many magazines -- well, anyway, a few -- are paying what would have formerly been considered fantastic rates. I remember when van Vogt's remark, a few years ago, at a LASFS meeting that someday sf magazines would pay 5¢ a word was pooh-poohed.)

NOTE: NEW AD RATES, \$2.00 A PAGE!

FANTASY - TIMES

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THRILLS INC. NO. 8 ARRIVES

Five stories are featured in the latest (No. 8) issue of Thrills Inc. to arrive in the United States. They are: "Exile In Space" by G.C. Bleek, "Inevitable Conflict" by Ace Carter, "S.O.S. In Time" by Durham Keys, "Synthetic Alibi" by D.K. Garton and "Rebels Combine" by David Falton. The issue contains a good colored cover and improving inside illustrations, 50 pages, large size and sells in Australia for 1/-.

Issue No. 9 is out in Australia, but copies have yet to arrive in the United States.

SUPPORT THE FAN VETS

Send a 2¢ stamp to Ray Van Houten, 127 Spring St., Paterson 3, New Jersey, for a copy of the Official Organ, "FAN-VET".

The Fantasy Journal

by Lane Stannard

Avon, publishers of, Out Of This World Adventures, 10-Story Fantasy, The Avon Fantasy Reader and the two comics, Strange Worlds and Avon Fantasy Classics, have moved from 119 West 57th St. to 575 Madison Avenue, New York 22, New York.

GERNSBACK'S XMAS CARD

As is his usual custom, Hugo Gernsback, father of magazine science-fiction, put out a satire magazine for his Christmas card to his friends. This year it's a take-off on the magazine, Newsweek; Gernsback calls his, Newspeak. It follows the format of Newsweek and is dated December 25, 1966 and tells the whole history of World War III; of the coming fight with Russia and Victory for the Allies. The history is detailed and complete. We name it the finest science-fiction story of 1950. Mr. Gernsback is still tops as a story teller. The whole issue is mostly illustrated by the dean of sf artists, Frank R. Paul. A good photo of Mr. Paul appears in the issue.

FAN-VETS TO PUT ON CONVENTION-AUCTION

The Fantasy Veterans' Association announced this week that they are in the midst of making plans for a "Convention-auction" with the idea of stock-piling dollars to be used to supply fans in the Armed Forces with their favorite literature (science-fiction) when they themselves can't obtain it. The aim of the organization is to see to it that every fan in the Armed Forces of the U.S. receive at least one pro and one fan mag a month. To obtain money for this, a giant auction will be held sometime in April or May. The convention hall will be some-

place in Manhattan. Plans call for the showing of one or two good sf movies before the auction. Anyone interested in donating material for the auction should write to Fan-Vets, Ray Van Houston, Secretary, 127 Spring Street, Paterson 3, New Jersey. Enclose a 2¢ stamp and receive the latest issue of The Fan-Vet.

SCIENCE-FICTION WRITE-UP IN QUICK

Science-fiction received one of its finest write-ups under the title: "How You'll Live In The Year 2000" in the January 1st 1951 issue of Quick. In four pages, with six excellent wash drawings by Amazing Stories artists, the article tells the serious side of science-fiction. It mentions Amazing Stories and Fantastic Adventures and touches on fandom. It has been reported that Mr. Howard Browne of Amazing wrote it and a fine job he did.

AUSTRALIAN CHECKLIST ARRIVES

A copy of The Futurian Press' "A Checklist Of Australian Fantasy" arrived at the Fantasy-Times office today. It is a neat 22 page printed booklet listing Australian book fantasy up to 1937 and lists many items not in "The Checklist Of Fantastic Literature". Printed in Australia in a limited edition of 100 copies, 25 copies are on the way to be sold in New York for \$1.50 a copy. Watch Fantasy-Times for the announcement putting the 25 copies on sale.

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