

"SCIENCE FICTION FORTNIGHTLY" GOES MONTHLY
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Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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THRILLS EDITOR INTERVIEWED

"THRILLS, INC." HAS GONE SMALL SIZE

ISSUE NO. 13 OUT IN AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY, Australia, 7 June, (CMS) - In a special interview with the editor of the Australian science-fiction magazine, Thrills, Incorporated, Fantasy-Times' - correspondent Vol Molesworth was told the publishers were fully conscious of the shortcomings of the magazine; they had been faced with a number of very difficult problems to overcome, and hoped in the long run to produce a science-fiction magazine which would make an individual contribution to the field.

The editor, Mr. Alister Immes, cleared up a number of points which fans both in Australia and abroad had been debating. He said that when Thrills began publication more than eighteen months ago, it had attempted to introduce an untried form of fiction on an unknown market. It began with a sale of 2,000 copies which it has now built up to 8,000 odd per month.

"When Thrills began we had no science-fiction writers," Mr. Immes said. "We had only a team of western and detective writers, and so we had to create a formula. Not necessarily a good one, but at least a functional one, for the writing of science-fiction. This formula - the child of necessity -

was to take any story and put it forward 2,000 years, adapting plot and environment as the author went along. An example of this was "Jetwheel Jockey", which was an adaptation of the film, "The Champion".

"Combined with this problem of getting western authors to write science-fiction were material problems of printing and circulation, which for some months were really critical."

"We were also, in the early issues, hoodwinked by certain unscrupulous writers who plagiarised American science-fiction stories without our knowledge and certainly without our approval. As soon as this was pointed out by our readers, we sacked those writers."

"Our present policy is to give an author a title and an illustration and get him to write a story around them. This may not produce fiction of the level of Astounding, but at least it ensures an original story, as it is extremely hard to plagiarise a U.S. story to fit a new illustration."

"As Gernsback found out, we have also had to educate our readers as we went along, and although we have been far less scientific than our American cousins, this has been for the very good reason that the general reading

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ACKERMAN ABROAD

by Forrest J Ackerman

ENROUTE ALSACE-LORRAINE

(with F-T's Roving Correspondent)

FRANCE, 29 May, (CNS) - Before I left England I visited S. Fowler Wright and learned his next sf novel will be titled "Spiders' War". Also was told several interesting anecdotes which I'll relate when I return to New York City (Altho at the moment American seems light years away as we mush deeper & deeper into Darkest Yurrop). Have just spent 10 days (and what nites!) in "The City Of Lights". Paris is celebrating her 200th Birthday, and I bediently gave her a kiss (as instructed by Ray Bradbury) in the person of a little French Miss (Age 6) named Sylvia. In Paris I met 6 sfans and 3 esperantists (The latter in a Police Station). I saw George Callet's incomparable collection of French fantasy novels. I browsed thru the billion bookstalls on the left & right banks of the Seine and picked up many interesting items. I saw "Sky-lark Of Space" in French, in a newspaper and heard them Parleying Francais in the dubbed version of "Destination Lune". I was told that the "Null-A" books, "Seed Of Life", "Fury", "Greener Than You Think", "Beyond This Horizon", "Stowaway To Mars", and many others are scheduled for translation. And, I got the inside dope on plans for a French version of The Magazine Of Fantasy And Science Fiction; a magazine to be called "The Fantastic Life", and, lastly, but far from leastly, a prodigious project to produce an extremely literate, first class science-fiction fortnightly with initial circulation of 50 million! 5 stories have already been commissioned for it. Unfortunately, further details can be released at the present time only to Ackerman Fantasy Agency clients - under oath of secrecy. But for what good it will do anybody, I've discovered there are 20 (twenty) Soviet science-fiction magazines - and one in Gaelic! -Forry Ackerman

The Cosmic Reporter

by Arthur Jean Cox

The following information I pass on at face-value; I make no guarantees to the validity of the details -- but I do vouch for it's seriousness.

Granville Place Murphy, science-fiction reader, professional inventor, and student of such psychological systems as Orgone Psychology, General Semantics and Dianetics (he was the founder of the Los Angeles Dianetics Forum) has created a new science of mind -- "Analectics" -- which includes Dianetics as a sub-science. He is finishing a book on the subject, in collaboration with a Ph.D.-degree holder; it is my understanding that it is to be published by Heritage House, who brought out "Dianetics".

According to the Los Angeles Times, June 13, Mrs. Hubbard has finally obtained her divorce; she gets \$200.00 a month and custody of the child. I guess that'll put an end to the rather-startling rumors that the two have been reunited.

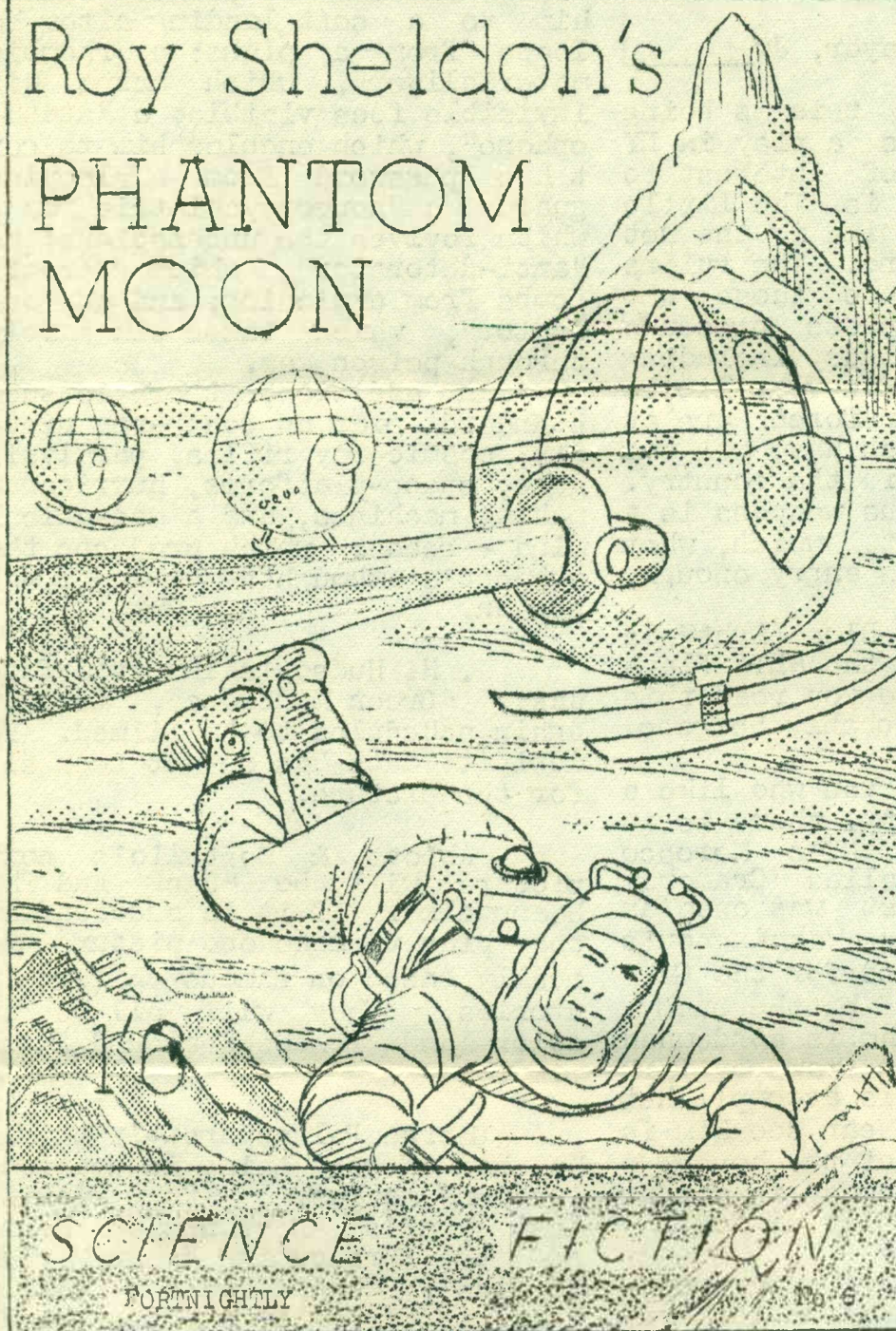
This issue of Writer's Digest informs us that Astounding's word-rates have gone up to 3¢ a word! But this buys, says the column, "New York Market Letter", pocket-book rights, as well as magazine serial rights -- "a reversal of policy, as that has not been included since September 1950". Most likely, inspired by the recent conflict with Galaxy Novel over the reprinting of "Noodle".

There's an error in van Vogt's new story in Marvel, "This Joe": Our hero, the narrator, tells us (page 80): "I pulled my collar more tightly around my ears and bent into the freezing wind". A rather remarkable feat inasmuch as he has a pressure suit on at the time. An error of a hubtler kind is the (unconscious, I believe) espousing of Lysenkoist, - oriented genetics.

(continued on page 6)

"Science Fiction Fortnightly" Goes Monthly

Roy Sheldon's PHANTOM MOON



NEW YORK, 1st June, (CNS) - With its May 1951 issue, just arrived in the U.S., Britain's Science Fiction Fortnightly goes from semi-monthly to monthly and changes its name to Science Fiction Monthly. States editor L. G. Holmes in his May editorial, "During the summer months Science Fiction Fortnightly is to become Science Fiction Monthly."

Reason - There is now such a flood of science fiction on the market that for a while it is apparent that our sales will be affected. So, until September, when we anticipate more normal conditions, we shall appear at monthly intervals only."

This magazine started out as a regular stf pocketbook, titled, "Authentic Science Fiction Series". With its 5rd issue, tho keeping the same size and format, it became a regular magazine. It added to its content an editorial, readers' column and science news notes. Published twice a month it was called S. F.

Fortnightly. With its 9th issue its a monthly, still keeping its pocketbook format and one story per issue.

Reproduction of the 6th issue Science Fiction Fortnightly cover. -reproduced on stencil by John Giunta

SUPPORT THE FAN-VETS

FANTASY FILMS RADIO & TV

by Lester Mayer, Jr

At the time this is being written, there is a play in NY which would be of interest to most of you. It is "The Little Blue Light". The time is the not too distant future. The rulers of the country are those who suppress or repress pressure groups of all kinds, including the church. There is very little freedom. Sinister forces are at work, forces which have all but seized control of the country. One of the insidious weapons is a little blue light, which, when the victim becomes angry enough, electrocutes him.

"The Little Blue Light" is being presented at the ANTA Playhouse. By the time you read this though, it will probably be gone.

For those of you who like a humorous ghost story, there is an amusing play at NY's Morosco Theatre. It's called "Gramercy Ghost". The ghost was once an officer in George Washington's army. On an errand for the General, he was killed by the enemy. As a consequence, he is condemned to haunt a house in Gramercy Park until his mission is accomplished. The only one who can see him is the present owner of the house, a young girl. The comedy is rather short, but packs a lot of fun.

A weird array of super-weapons has been devised for the movie serial based on the exploits of T-V's "Captain Video", a character of the distant future who is out to stop forces of the hostile planet "Atoma" from taking over the Earth.

To do battle with the enemy,

an army of robots, Cap Video is equipped with: a "thermograph", which tells him whether he can walk safely through flames; a "sonic air cushion", which floats him to a soft landing after he leaps from a plane; a "rhombic materializer", which makes his invisible foes visible; a "stethophone", which enables him to get the password from a sleeping guard; a "neuropsychiatric ray", which revives the unconscious; an "anti-detonator", which prevents bombs from exploding; and an "ozonator", which takes him safely through poison gas.

In addition, there is such standard gear as death-ray pistols, cosmic-ray rifles, paralysis guns, space-platforms, hurricane-making machines, and a mechanical mind-reader which projects the subject's thoughts on a T-V screen.

W. H. Hudson's immortal fantasy, "Green Mansions", is once again scheduled to be filmed. No definite date has as yet been set for the picture.

Abbott & Costello's next picture will be "Jack And The Beanstalk". If it is successful, they plan to make one picture annually based on famous children's stories. They will all be in color and released around Christmas.

George Pal apparently thinks he has a good thing in science-fiction movies. After making last year's "Destination Moon" and the forthcoming "When Worlds Collide", he has decided to film what is probably the best-known of all stf. stories --- H. G. Wells's "War Of The Worlds".

Barry Lyndon, an authority on Wells, is writing the script. One important thing the movie will probably have that the story did not is airplanes.

EDITOR OF THRILLS, INC. INTERVIEWED

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public in Australia is far less advanced, in the field of science-fiction, than is the U.S. reading public. There may be a small group of regular readers who want higher-quality S-F, but the bulk of our readers must be educated to science-fiction in slow and small doses."

"But we feel that if we plug at it hard enough and long enough we may produce something of a demand for better-quality science-fiction, and may in the process produce a distinctively Australian brand of S-F."

Mr. Innes said his company had agreements with Pembleton's*, England, and with certain U.S. publishers, under which an exchange of copyrights was obtained. He could obtain stories by U.S. staff writers easily enough, but preferred to use Australian writers and wait patiently for them to adapt themselves to what is to them a new and novel field.

"We have a long way to go," he added, "but we are trying to get there honestly."

The latest issue of Thrills, Inc. (No. 13) is just out in Sydney. It has gone small size, 5 1/2" x 8", and contains 54 pages. The cover illustration is smoother in design and reproduction than the large-size covers. The contents are "Transportation Machine" by Roy Hampton; "Suicide Satellite" by Paul Valdez; and "Jet Jetsam" by Ace Carter. Announced for the 14th issue are "The Genie From Jupiter" by Paul Valdez; "The Marauders From Mars" by Rick Harte; and "Planet Of Eternal Mists" by Ace Carter. The price has been reduced from 1/- to 8d., and now carries the statement: Price in U.S. and Canada, 15 cents. Mr. Innes told our correspondent that a small quantity of Thrills would be shipped to the U.S., A. and Canada for general sale.

*Pembleton's publishes the British edition of Thrills, Inc., but under the title of Amazing Science Stories. Two issues have so far been published, -ed

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SCIENTIBOOKS

by Stephen J. Takacs

The anthology of stories taken exclusively from the pages of Astounding Science Fiction, and edited by John W. Campbell, Jr. (announced in the October 1950 Astounding) will be published in the Spring of 1952 by Simon & Shuster, of New York.

Another new anthology has just been announced by Pellegrini & Cudahy, N. Y. called "The Outer Reaches" and edited by August W. Derleth. It will contain 17 stories selected by the authors themselves, as their "best" story. Priced at \$3.95.

L. Sprague de Camp reports, "I have just finished reading galley-proofs on "Lost Continents", so its present publication date looks like September, but you know printers. Apparently Doubleday will bring out "Rogue Queen" on schedule July 5, and Willy Ley's and my "Lands Beyond" (Rinehart) will follow some time late in the year or early next."

Two fantasy pocket-books came out the past week. "The Martian Chronicles" by Ray Bradbury (Bantam Books #886, 200pp, good cover) and a new edition of "The Ship Of Ishtar" by A. Merritt (Avon #524, 220pp, with a new cover design). Both are a must for all sf readers and both sell at 25¢ a copy.

"FANTASY-TIMES"

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THE FANTASY JOURNAL

by Lane Stannard

Palmer's "Fate Magazine" goes up in price with the next issue (August-September 1951). The new price will be 35¢ an increase of 10¢. The pages will be increased from 100 to 132.

On June 12, 1951, the de Camp family was augmented by the arrival of Gerard Beekman de Camp, 81b.

Writer's Digest, June 1951, reports that Wollheim's 10 Story Fantasy has folded. The first issue is all there is! But Wollheim's two reprint fantasy mags are doing all right. The second issue of Avon Science Fiction Reader is out. So is issue #17 of Avon Fantasy Reader. All published by Avon.

Galaxy Novel will receive a new cover and backstrap format so that it'll not be confused with Galaxy Science Fiction REPORTS Writer's Digest. Except for this the format remains the same.

THE COSMIC REPORTER

(continued from page 2)

Did anyone notice that the ending of the Simak novel, "Time And Again" is different than that of the magazine serial version. Appeared in Galaxy as, "Time Quarry", in which the romantic sub-plot was concluded happily; here it isn't.

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