

12TH YEAR.

"The World Of Tomorrow Today"

Volume 7 -- Number 24 Whole Number 169

Second December 1952 Issue

Fantasy Times

10¢

TEEN

TWO SHILLINGS

IN THIS ISSUE

FAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES returns to sunburst logo.

FANTASTIC STORY gives up circle-cover.

FUTURE and DYNAMIC get trimmed edges.

ZIFF-DAVIS news.
(see page 2)

FAN-VET news, page 3

A L S O

Arthur Jean Cox

Forrest J Ackerman

David A. Kyle

Donald E. Ford

Jakob Bleymehl

Stephen J. Takacs

Lester Mayer, Jr.

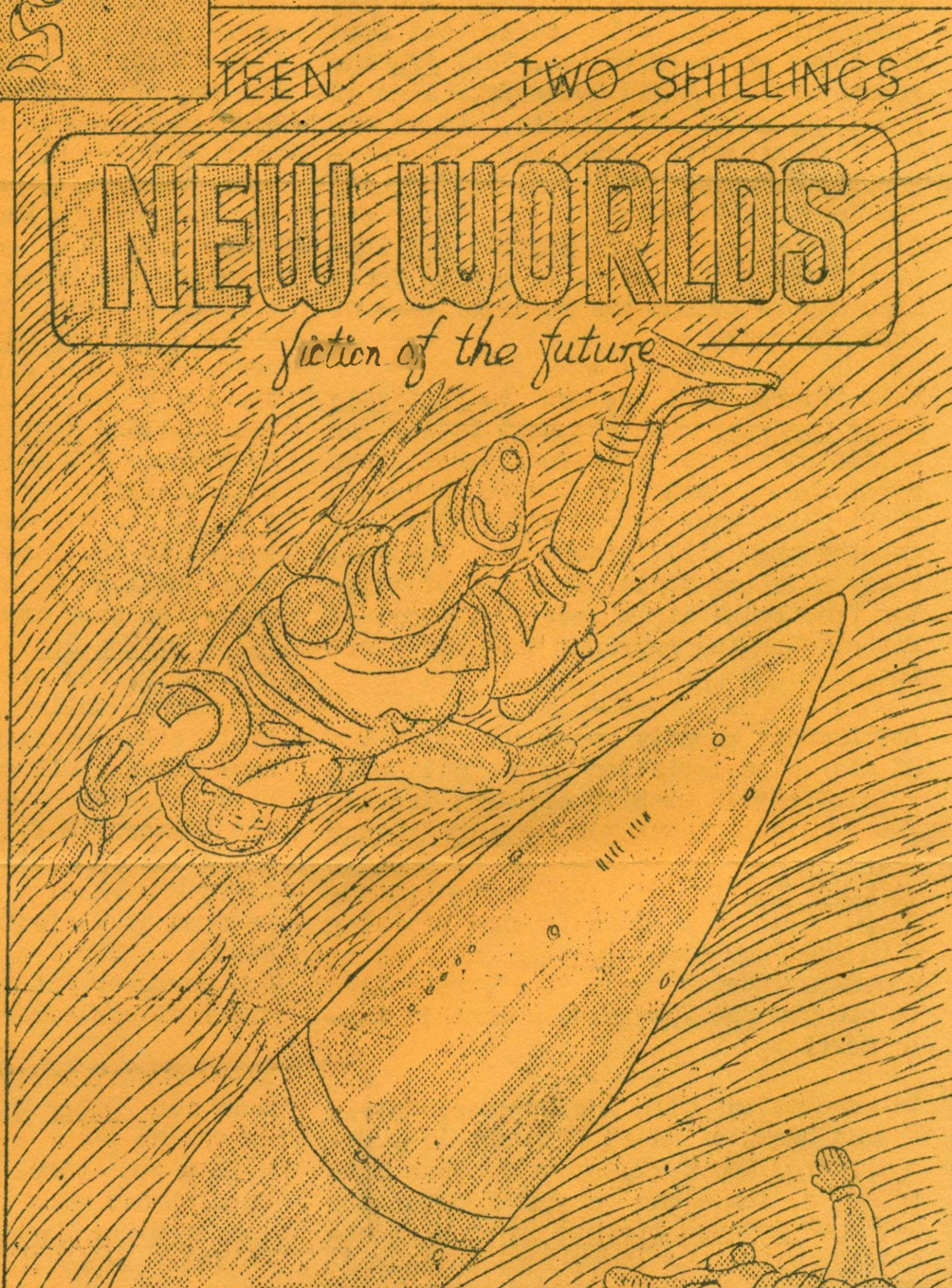
and others

FOR DETAILS ON #19

New Worlds
(see page 8).....

NEW WORLDS

fiction of the future



WORLD'S OLDEST SCIENCE-FICTION NEWSPAPER

S-F JOURNAL

by James V. Taurasi

Readers of Famous Fantastic Mysteries will receive a pleasant shock when they pick up the April 1953 issue, on the newsstands January 21st. They will see the "Queen Of The Reprint Mags" all dressed up as in days of old. The old "sunburst" logo will shine out from the cover of the magazine. Yes, FFM has returned to its old "sunburst" logo of pre-digest-size experiments. As an added attraction the cover for "The Wanderer's Necklace" by H. Rider Haggard, the lead novel in that issue, is by the old master Lawrence in his old FFM style that everyone loved. It really feels like an old friend has returned — we hope for good.

Full covers will return to Fantastic Story Magazine with the next issue. The circle paintings featured since the cover format and logo were changed a short while back proved unsatisfactory, and the mag will return to the full cover painting style. We sort of liked the "porthole" style cover; it sort of fitted with the reprints the mag carries.

Bob Lowndes proddly announces that two of his science-fiction mags will have trimmed edges with their next issues. The May 1953 issue of Future Science Fiction and the June issue of Dynamic Science Fiction will start the trimming. Also of news is that starting with the June issue Dynamic will go bi-monthly. Great news "Doc", we'd like to see you put Future on a monthly basis next!

In connection with Bob Lowndes, Calvin Thomas Beck, of 84-16 Elmhurst Ave, Elmhurst 73, New York, states that he's to do a fan-mag review column for Lowndes' Science Fiction Quarterly, starting with the May 1953 issue. He wants to do a good job and asks for help! He needs current fan mags to review and advise. We are certain that

Mr. Beck can and will do a good job for the fandom press, so why not help him by placing him on your mailing list of current and future issues of your fan mag. Also, if you have any ideas of what a true fan column should contain, ship that idea, but quick, to Mr. Beck.

Lila Shaffer has already left Ziff-Davis and will get married on schedule on January 25th. Mr. Paul W. Fairman has moved up a notch and has taken over Miss Shaffer's former job, as Managing-Editor, while Michael Kelly Kagan has been appointed to the position left vacant by Fairman, that of Assistant Editor. Naturally Howard Browne is still top man, as the Editor. As per plans, there will be one more pulp Amazing Stories, the March issue, then Amazing becomes a slick, digest-size, 35¢ mag; while Fantastic Adventures will see one more issue, the March 1953 issue, then she joins her slick-sister Fantastic. The combined Fantastic will, as mentioned before, NOT carry over any of the pulp material used in Fantastic Adventures. Not science-fiction, but of interest is the fact that Ziff-Davis will soon publish a new fiction magazine, under the same staff as their s-f mags. Tales Of The Sea will soon appear as a quarterly, 35¢ digest-size; and, Howard Browne tells me, there will probably be other magazines of fiction in the near future, all of the digest-size!

The editors of Fantasy-Times wish to thank all the editors, publishers, artists and readers who were kind enough to send us Christmas and New Year cards. They are all on display at the New York, or Paterson offices. Some are real collector's items.

We were very happy to see the announcement in Other Worlds that E. E. Smith is coming back to the s-f magazines with a new story. This is great, he's been absent much too long. While speaking of Other Worlds, our congratulations on their improvements and excellent back covers. Also glad to see Bea Mahaffey made co-editor.

COME TO THE FAN-VET CON

MARGULIES, FRIEND, PAUL, MINES, LOWNDES, BIXBY & OTHERS AT FVA CON

New York, NY, 30 Dec., (GNS) - Definite promises that, bar unforeseen circumstances, they will attend the 3rd FAN-VIII Convention next April 19th, have been given by Leo Margulies, editorial director of a new science-fantasy mag, Oscar J. Friend, science-fiction literary agent, Frank R. Paul, dean of s-f illustrators, Robert Lowndes, editor of the three Columbia s-f magazines; Sam Mines, s-f editor for Standard Magazines, and Jerry Bixby, assistant to Sam Mines on their five s-f mags. From the science-fiction comic field, Bill Gaines, publisher and Al Foldstein, editor of Weird Science and Weird Fantasy, plus some of their artists, will be there.

Many other s-f publishers, editors, authors, illustrators and other celebrities will be there.

The activities of THE FANTASY VETERANS ASSN, and plans for their convention, were given a great lift recently by the generous response of the s-f field to the organization's appeal for funds, an article on which appeared in F-T #166. They were pleasantly surprised recently to receive a check for \$100 from GALAXY Publishing Corp., Robert H. Guinn, President, for the use of the organization; \$25.00 from The Entertaining Comics Group, William Gaines, President; also a check for \$20.00 from a member who asked to remain anonymous, the same member who donated \$5 anonymously last year.

Other donations, no less welcomed and appreciated, were received from Ruth E. Morse, Jamaica, N. Y., and Eva Firestone, Upton, Wyo.

Contributions of cash and s-f mags will be gratefully received. Send to

COSMIC REPORTER

by Arthur Jean Cox

There's an amusing error in Donald E. Ford's column, "Slick S-F" in the 2nd November issue of Fantasy Times. Ford tells us that Silas M. Newton and "Dr. Gee", two of the characters behind the man who wrote "Behind The Flying Saucers", were arrested in Denver in connection with an oil fraud. He then states: "They're out on bail, awaiting trail" *---which not only rhymes but is quite true. The two gentlemen skipped out! According to The Saturday Review, December 6th, "A nationwide hunt for the two men is now in progress." The Saturday Review goes on to remark that Frank Scully, who wrote "Behind The Flying Saucers", may be called to Denver as a witness.

(*Our error, the typer slipped. -ed)

Frank Scully has an article in the December issue of Gusto, a new magazine on the stands. In the same issue with him is the old-time science fiction fan, Arthur Louis Joquel II. No connection, but Joquel is now writing a book on Flying Saucers. When asked whether it was pro- or con-, he replied in unfeigned astonishment, "Pro-, of course!"

Year's End, 1952. I won't attempt a "Ten-Best" list this year since, like most of you, I've been able to read only a portion of the science-fiction
(concluded on page 7, column 1)

Ray Van Houten, 127 Spring St., Paterson 3, New Jersey.

THE ACKERMAN REPORT

by Mr. Science Fiction

SPACE SERVICE, a surprise anthology due the 2nd week in '53, will include "Expedition Polychrome", "Spectre General", "Return Of a Legend", "Steel Brother" and "Implode & Peddle".....Speaking of impllosion, Wendayne and I were present at the birth of a scientifilm title. Actually Wendy pushed it over into reality, when the co-scripters, co-producers, director, star, and Ackermans were having lunch at the Studio, and the unsatisfactory shooting title of "A Man" (Later "Crack of Doom") was being dissected. Richard Carlson favored IM-PLOSION, which we also regarded with approval, so IMPLOSION it's to be, with yours sciencercely handling the special sci fic publicity for United Artists... Alexander Paal's in Hlywd, has invited us to a projection room screening of FOUR-SIDED TRIANGLE.....Ken Crossen informs me the Israeli version of Adventures in Tomorrow is entitled "Hayo Hayo Beotid": translation, "Once Upon the Future".....SIX TRIPS THRU SPACE & TIME, my title suggestion, is under consideration as the name of Ray Healy's next antho, which has a neat gimmick to it that I'll let Ray reveal when he's got the concerned parties lined up. One of my top boys, incidentally, has been invited to do the Intro.....Robert Donald Locke has just completed his second serial novel, "The Timeless Man"....Attention, Doc Lowndes: Your Feb '53 SFQ, 8th issue since its revival, is scarcely Vol. 1 No. 2 as misprinted on the contents page! (Don Day also note.) By the by, many an eyebrow would be lifted over the Big Name Author masquerading behind the penamo on "Shoo Fly" in the current SFQ.....Imagination just paid me a pretty penny for 2,200 words on forthcoming scientifilms. Watch for news there, as here, of Heinlein's RING AROUND THE MOON. If Fantasy-Times were still being litho'd, I could show you a foto of myself insido the rocket with the star, Wendayne and Fredric Brown chaperoning us via video!

...Harry Warner jr, one of the Big Ten Fon of yore, turns pro with my placement for him of "Cold War". Previous "Cold War"s were fought by Henry Kuttner and Kris Neville in the Oct '49 TVE and aSF....THE FATAL PLANET and PHANTOM FROM SPACE are the two latest titles in the scientifilm race. Ray Bradbury's METEOR has, Bill Nolan informs me, been changed to THE INVADERS....Chuck Harris assures me there is no truth to the rumor there will be a new weirdzine named Ghoulogy, edited by Horrors Ghouls....A flower from Martha Foley to Chad Oliver for his first-rate fantasy, "The Boy Next Door", in the June '51 F&SF. Last laff for Oliver here is that the cited story was once rejected by the field's poorest paying prozino, Fantasy Book... Watch for a cute yarn by a newcomer, "The Unproy Spray" by Joe Slotkin, in one of the Thrilling group....A remarkable series of title changes was undergone by Rory Magill's yarn in the Jan '53 IF. Titled "Wright" by the pseudonymous authoress (Dorothea Faulkner), I renamed it "With Heavy Heart". Editor Paul Fairman reported, "I am retitling your title 'The Sporting Thing'." In a later reference to me he called it "Moon on Thursday". It wound up as "The Last Gentleman"!...Chas Beaumont's "Beautiful People", in its original, longer "Beautiful Woman" version, has been signed for a new anthology of "prize science fiction".....My services have been engaged as Book Reviewer for a new sci-fantasy periodical as yet nameless..."Dominant Species" by E. Everett Evans and "It Will Grow On You" by L. Major Reynolds have been accepted by Nebula Science Fiction....Xmas checks from ScientiClaus to Lyn Venable for "Punishment Fit the Crime", Curt Casowit for "Necklace of Doom" and Albert Hornhutor for "World of Ice"...Wendayne my wife got so excited, telling about the projection room showing of ELEMENT OF FEAR to the members present at the 798th meeting of the LASFS, that she tongue-twisted herself into declaring "At the moment of impllosion I was sitting on the seat of my edge!" Gallantly covering her faux pas, her husband

(concluded on page 7, column 1)

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

From Fantasy-Times Readers

Bourey & Curl, Inc.
22 East 60th Street
New York 22, N.Y.
Dec. 17, 1952

Dear Jim--

I didn't think I'd have to drop you t h i s line, but I underestimated the power of FANTASY-TIMES--Wow! Seems everybody reads it....

What's happened is that there were some inaccurate items about me in the First November 1952 issue--and I've been busy explaining ever since. What's worse than merely annoying is that it's tended to influence my business relations unfavorably.

I know, therefore, that you'll correct the information just as soon as you can in a forthcoming issue.

Stove Takacs said: "has left Bourey & Curl." This is untrue. I have been working regularly at the editorial offices of this company since last summer, and I am still doing so. Even when I do leave there as a regular staff editor in the office, I still will be the science fiction editor connected with the firm.

Stove also said "Flight Into Yesterday" by Charles L. Harness and "Prize Science Fiction" edited by Donald A. Wollheim are the next two titles to be published. This statement indicates that Stove knows more about Bourey & Curl's science fiction line than either the publisher or the editor. As a matter of fact, "Flight" may not see publication for a long, long time because Mr. Harness is very very busy at the moment and can't do the necessary rewrite on the story. As for Don Wollheim's anthology, it can't be published until there are some standard novels published by the company as a basic list. As soon as a manuscript is picked, however, I'll be certain to let you and the FANTASY-TIMES readers know.

As I say, everybody must read the FANTASY-TIMES!

Best regards, David A. Kyle

SLICK S-F

by Donald A. Ford

Time, December 1, 1952:

Listed under "Science" is a report of progress of the Transistor. RCA has developed the following:

1. A portable battery operated TV receiver. A little larger than a portable typewriter, the only tube is the picture tube.

2. A toy piano as big as a pencil box. Has 8 keys & 2 batteries. Broadcasts through any radio. Is expected to last 5,000 hrs.

3. A phone pickup arm that broadcasts through any radio. Smaller than a package of cigarettes.

4. A portable radio...no tubes, that lasts 100 hrs. on 5 batteries.

5. A calculating machine using 66 transistors, uses 1/30 the power, has 1/8 the weight, and is 1/10 the size of the vacuum tube forerunner. Oh yes, it can do 1,000,000 counting action a second.

6. A portable PA system that has 12" speaker. Can be carried in one hand.

All of the batteries mentioned above, are supposed to be the size of a quart.

In the same section it is mentioned where a Zoo director in Germany bred ponys backwards to where they are just like their predecessors into the 100 Ago. Ho's been at it since 1928.

Esquire, January 1953:

"The Man With The Hole In His Head" by Harold Helfer. An amusing whimsy that Esquire features so often. The hole was a clean & neat hole. It was handy during the hot summer days; but had its drawbacks. On windy days it whistled. It's worth reading.

FOR SALE

The last three issues of Australia's pro mag, Thrills, Inc. #s 21, 22, & #23 are now obtainable. 25¢ each. We have a very limited supply of each... James V. Taurasi, 137-03 32nd Avenue, Flushing 54, New York.

EUROPEAN S-F

by Jakob Bleymehl

We are pleased, with this issue, to present the first of a new regular department by Jakob Bleymehl. Mr. Bleymehl will cover new developments in science-fiction in Continental Europe. —eds

GERMAN SCIENCE-FICTION NEWS

The German Publisher Karl RAUCH, Dusseldorf/Rhein, Grafenberger Allee No. 98 has edited in the last half of 1952, the first series of science-fiction books in Germany.

Till now, December 1952, four titles are available: the translations of:

"The Incredible Planet" by John W. Campbell, Jr.

"The Humanoids" by Jack Williamson.

"I, Robot" by Isaac Asimov.

And a collection of stories by Campbell, Asimov, van Vogt, Lewis Padgett, Weinbaum under the German title: "Überwindung von Raum und Zeit".

The author of "Die Stadt hinter dem Strom", Hermann KLSACK, is represented in the S. Fischer - Verlag, Frankfurt Main with another fantastic Novel: "Das grobe Netz".

The Ernst ROWOHLT-Verlag, HAMBURG published this autumn: SCHMIDT, Arno: "Schwarze Schwingen" ("Black Wings") an utopian novel, a sort of "Ragnarok", in the volume "Brands Heide" and a new volume of short stories by: Kurt KUSENBURG the German Thurber, author of the collections: "La Botella" and "Der blaue Traum".

"Die Fahrt ans Ende der Welt" is the title of a new Utopian Novel by Herbert von STEIN, published in Franz Westphal-Verlag, Wolfshagen-Schabbenitz.

FRENCH SCIENCE-FICTION NEWS

Editions Gallimard, Paris, brings a new (concluded on page 7, column 1)

SCIENTI-BOOKS

by Stephen J. Takacs

New books recently received:

"The Petrified Planet"; containing three complete science-fiction novels: "The Long View" by Fletcher Pratt; "Ullier Uprising" by H. Beam Piper; and "Daughter of Earth" by Judith Merrill. Twayne Publishers, N.Y., \$2.95.

"No Place Like Earth", edited by E. J. (Ted) Carnell, science-fiction anthology. London, T. V. Boardman, Ltd., 10/6.

"The Little Tales of Smethors" by Lord Dunsany. (26 Fantasy short stories) London, Jarrolds & Co., 10/6.

"The Complete Prof. Challenger Stories" by A. Conan Doyle. London, John Murray, 16/-.

"Rockets Beyond The Earth" by Martin Gaidan. (non-fiction); illustrated; latest rocket developments, etc. McBride, N. Y., \$4.50.

"The Currents Of Space" by Isaac Asimov. Doubleday, N.Y., \$2.75.

"The Titan & Other Stories" by P. Schuyler Miller. Fantasy Press, \$3.00.

"This Island Earth" by Raymond F. Jones. Original science-fiction novel. Shasta Publishers, \$3.00.

From PUFFIN BOOKS of England come the following pocket-sized books. These are juveniles, but definitely of interest to collectors, and are fast becoming rarities:

"Holiday Train Goes To The Moon" by Peter Hooton...baby puffin book.

"Golden Island" by Denis Clark...a fantasy of a race of golden people in the past of India. #48.

"Grimm's Fairy Tales".....just that. #52.

"My Friend, Mr. Leakey" by J. B. S. Haldane, is a collection of fantasy shorts. Some very fine. Dealing with invisibility and gins, and dragons.

"Dittas Tree" by Joan Hughes, is a fantasy of a spirit in a tree. Don't get limbed on this.

"Worzel Gummidge" by Barbara Euphan Todd...a very fine scarecrow. —RCNelson

COSMIC REPORTER

(concluded from page 3, column 2)

WHICH HAS APPEARED DURING THE YEAR. However, here are a few stories which I'd definitely recommend to anyone who hasn't read them. They're listed in the order of their appearance, not in the order by which I prefer them: "Tel-ok" by Jack Vance, Astounding Science Fiction, January; "Conditionally Human" by Walter M. Miller, Jr., Galaxy Science Fiction, February; "Dr. Komotovsky's Day" by Fritz Leiber, Galaxy, February; "Year of the Jackpot" by Robert Hoinlein, Galaxy, March; "The Lovers" by Phillip Jose Farmer, Startling Stories, August; "Noiso" by Jack Vance, Startling, August; "Big Planet" by Jack Vance, Startling, September; "The Sin of Hyacinth Peuch" by Eric Frank Russell, Fantastic, Fall; and "Bring The Jubilee" by Ward Moore, The Magazine Of Fantasy & Science Fiction, November.

THE ACKERMAN REPORT

(concluded from page 4, column 2)

SPONTANIZED: "IF MY WIFE HAS SAID ANYTHING to amuse you, she thanks you from the heart of her bottom." Little did they realize I had kept this quotation handy for just such an occasion for the past couple years. I cribbed it from that puns-drunk Britisher, Bill Tomple.

EUROPEAN SCIENCE FICTION

(concluded from page 6, column 1)

COLLECTION: "LE RAYON FANTASTIQUE" IN which are already published: "The Star Kings" by Edmond Hamilton. "Genus Homo" by Miller/Sprague de Camp. "Odd John" by Olaf Stapledon. all in French translations.

Another collection is: "Serie Anticipation".

FANTASY - COMICS

Issue #4, now out tells you in what comic mags Bradbury's stories will appear. 5¢ a copy, 6 for 25¢, stamps or coins. James V. Taurasi, 137 - 03 32nd Avenue, Flushing 54, New York...

FILMS, RADIO & TV

by Lester Mayer, Jr.

Arch Oboler revealed in an interview in The Philadelphia Inquirer that as soon as he finishes his coast to coast tour with his three dimensional "BWANA DEVIL" he will return to his Santa Monica home and start work on his new picture, which will also be 3 dem.... "Spears in the Sand". It was also revealed that he is currently working on a new play, which he also hopes to finish in the near future. Knowing the Oboler train of mind, this will very probably be a sensational piece of terror and fantasy. "Bwana Devil" is receiving much mixed reviews across country....based on a semi-fantasy dream book it is a purely adventure film.....ala "KING SOLOMON'S MINES".

-rcn

"FOUR SIDED TRIANGLE", filmed in England in three weeks, has arrived in this country, and will be released around the time of "WAR OF THE WORLDS". It would be nice for these Brothers... George Pal, and Alexander Paal to battle each other for top billings. It seems that "4 Sided Triangle" doesn't set too well with most Britians. They would much rather have had an actress like Ann Todd, play the part instead of controversial Barbara Payton, remembered for her love escapades and her very poor role in "BRIDE OF THE GORILLA" last year.

-rcn

WALT DISNEY has just released his future shooting schedule. Fantasies include "THE SLEEPING BEAUTY" for 1955 and Jules Verne's "20,000 LEAGUES UNDER THE SEA" for the same year. For 1956 he is planning only one fantasia of a sort...."HILAWATHA", which is currently playing across country as an Allied Picture production and with a live cast. Disney's production will be entirely a cartoon feature. Unfortunately "PETER PAN" has been delayed in release, but will be shown around Easter, or before. A brief preview was on Ed Morrow's TV program, Dec. 28.

FANTASY - TIMES
"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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(*on leave with the U. S. Army)

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FANTASY FORECASTS

Coming Up Next In The Pro Mags

NEW WORLDS

The January 1953, #19, of the British
New Worlds, out in England December 18,
contains: "Galactic Quest" by George
Ducan, illoed Clothier; "Alien Dust"
fourth in Tubb's Martian series, illo
Quinn; "Herpes Don't Cry" by Gordon
Kent, illo Quinn; "Chessboard" by J. F.
Burke, illo Hunter, first story from
this old-time well-known fan, now a
professional novelist; "Assisted Pass-
age" by James White, illo Hunter, first
story by one of Ireland's fan-names.
Articles: "Silicones" by John Newman;
"Chicago — Biggest Ever!" by Walt Wil-
lis, Europe's roving reporter. Cover
by Quinn, not from any story. (see re-
production on page 1).

Starting with the March issue, #20, New
Worlds will have a slightly different
logo on the heading.

BRITISH NEWS

London, 29 Nov, (CNS) - British Edi-
tion of Galaxy coming in December from
Thorpe & Porter, 128 pages, 1/6d, run-
noured to start with Vol. 1 No. 1, BRE
Space S-F coming from another London
publisher, January, 128pp, 1/6d. Both
scheduled monthly.

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