

Fantasy-Times

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FLETCHER PRATT

NEW EDITOR OF "FANTASY FICTION"

story on page 2

LARRY T SHAW

LEAVES "IF"

story on page 2

FANTASTIC UNIVERSE

CUTS PAGES & PRICE

story on page 3

DYNAMIC S-F

GOES QUARTERLY

story on page 3

IF - FANTASTIC - BEYOND

TO SEE BRITISH EDITIONS

story on page 2

WORLD'S OLDEST SCIENCE-FICTION NEWSPAPER

FLETCHER PRATT new editor of FANTASY FICTION

New York, N.Y., 6 Oct., (GNS) - Fletcher Pratt has become the new editor of Fantasy Fiction, replacing Lester del Rey. The next issue of this Magazine will be dated February 1954. This issue will feature "Ferris Wheel" by Deborah Crawford. "Ferris Wheel" was sent in not entirely to be judged for publication, but for the editor to look it over and tell how it could be improved so that it could be submitted for publication. Upon reading it Mr. Pratt found that it needed no improvement and accepted it as "is".

The current issue of Fantasy Fiction lists on the masthead as being edited by Cameron Hall. This is actually a pen-name. Del Rey did the original editing of the mag and when he left Harry Harrison finished the job and put the issue to bed.

The next issue of Science Fiction Adventures will be dated March 1954 and the fan column in it will be by Bill Venable, publisher of the fan mag "Pendulum". The column will be titled "Fan Soc" and will tell of fandom in general.

IS EARTH WORTH SAVING?

...asks prominent science fiction author in new teen-age novel

RAYMOND F. Jones, a n author well-known to science fiction fans, presents an intriguing and thought-provoking picture of Earth's civilization as men of another galaxy may see it. In his latest book, Planet Of Light, Mr. Jones asserts that in time Earth will rule the planets of our solar system.

BUT out in Deep Space, millions of light years from Earth, man may find himself a youngster among graybeards. How will these long-established civilizations of space view Earth? Will

(concluded on page 8, column 1)

LARRY SHAW leaves IF

Kingston, N.Y., 22 Sept., (GNS) - Larry T. Shaw, Associate Editor of IF, has left that post to free-lance. He can be reached, for the time being, at 1901 State St., Schenectady 4, N.Y. Shaw joined IF only months ago, leaving the editorship of Auto-Age for the job. A trade-magazine reported that he was in line for full editor of IF when it became a monthly. Latest reports indicate that IF will become a monthly with the March 1954 issue.

"BEYOND", "FANTASTIC" & "IF" TO SEE BRITISH EDITIONS

"WEIRD TALES" & "AMAZING STORIES" TO GO
DIGEST SIZE IN ENGLAND

London, England, 23 Sept., (GNS) - Thorpe & Porter, publishers of American s-f reprints in England, announced today that this Fall they will bring out the British editions of IF, Beyond and Fantastic. They further state that also this Fall, their publications of the British editions of Weird Tales and Amazing Stories will go digest size, as did their American editions.

Thorpe and Porter have been publishing the British editions of Amazing Stories and Weird Tales in pulp size for a number of years. It is to be assumed that their publication of IF

(concluded on page 8, column 2)

DYNAMIC goes quarterly

- story on this page -

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Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

15th YEAR - #187

First October 1953 Issue

Vol. 8 - No. 19 - 10¢

FANTASTIC UNIVERSE cuts pages & price

BEATRICE JONES - NEW EDITOR

New York, N.Y., 24 Sept., (CNS) - Leo Margulies announced today that with the next (Jan., '54) issue, his magazine, Fantastic Universe will cut its pages from 192 to 160 and its price from 50¢ to 35¢. No change in the type of material used will be made. This makes Fantastic Universe the first science-fantasy magazine of the post-war period to reduce its price.

It was further announced that a new editor will be at the helm, Beatrice Jones. She will replace Dave Cooke, who in turn, took over from Sam Merwin. Miss Jones worked as an editor on the old Munsey Argosy, with the Superman comic group, wrote for Paramount Pictures and was an editor on the Standard Magazine group. She will also edit The Saint Detective Magazine; said magazine will also be cut to 160 pages and 35¢ with its Jan., '54 issue.

The Jan. FU will feature among others: Poul Anderson, Albert Einstein, Philip Jose Farmer, John Victor Peterson, John Wyndham, Walt Sheldon, Philip K. Dick, Frank Belknap Long and Robert Moore Williams. This issue will mark the return to the field of John Victor Peterson with a short story "A Little Time". Peterson was an up and coming
(concluded on page 8, column 1)

"DYNAMIC" GOES QUARTERLY

NO PLANS AT PRESENT FOR 2nd ISSUE OF
"SCIENCE FICTION STORIES"

New York, N. Y., 28 Sept., (CNS) - It was announced today that Columbia's science-fiction magazine, Dynamic Science Fiction has returned to quarterly publication starting with the January 1954 issue (Vol. 1 - No. 6). It was only a year ago that the magazine was born (December 1952 issue) as a quarterly. Then with its June 1953 issue (Vol. 1 - No. 5) it went bi-monthly; now only three issues later it goes quarterly again. The magazine started out with 132 pages, with the current October '53 issue, the pages were cut to 98. The reason for the cut in pages and the cut in schedule are the same: the current science-fiction publication slump. The other two magazines published by Columbia will remain the same: Future as a bi-monthly and S-F Quarterly, as a quarterly. Both are 25¢ and 98 pages.

Robert Lowndes, editor of the three above and also editor of Columbia's fourth title Science Fiction Stories, informed us today that Science
(concluded on page 8, column 1)

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

From Fantasy-Times Readers

Scott Meredith
Literary Agency, Inc.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Taurasi:

Our client, Winston K. Marks, has brought to my attention your Ackerman issue, Volume 8 Number 15, in which, on Page 2, the Marks story, Water Water, is listed as an "anthology placement." Mr. Marks objects to this listing, and so do I, as giving the impression that Marks is an Ackerman client, and I would like to make it clear to you and to your readers that this is not the case. Mr. Marks is exclusively represented by this agency, is under exclusive contract to us, and is not and has never been an Ackerman client.

For the record, since this sort of thing has occurred before in Ackerman listings, the following is a list of our science-fiction and fantasy clients, all under exclusive contract to us: Poul Anderson, Arthur C. Clarke, Raymond F. Jones, Lester del Rey, A. Bertram Chandler, Theodore Cogswell, Gordon Dickson, Ross Rocklynne, C. S. Youd (Join Christopher), Dr. R. S. Richardson (Philip Latham), Milton Lessor, Jack Vance, Bryce Walton, Philip K. Dick, Winston K. Marks, Carl Jacobi, Evan Hunter, William F. Temple, Erik van Ikin, Ralph W. Slone (Ralph Williams), James H. Schmitz, M. C. Pease, Alfred Coppel, Irving E. Cox, Charles E. Fritch, Noel Loomis, D. M. McIlwain (Charles Eric Maine), Richard Harsten, Kenneth Wright, Robert W. Lowndes, Stephen Marlowe.

As you know, the Frederick Pohl agency is going out of business, and we are presently negotiating with a number of Mr. Pohl's former clients. I'll write you again as they join our list.

Will you kindly publish this letter and straighten out this matter? Thank you, and best wishes.

Sincerely,
SCOTT MEREDITH
President

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ALTSHULER REPORT

by Harry Altshuler

Fredric Brown has written his first science-fiction novel since WHAT MAD UNIVERSE. The new one, called LIGHTS IN THE SKY ARE STARS, will be published by E. P. Dutton in November, and is a Science Fiction Book Club selection for early next year. In many ways, his agent and publishers believe this is Fred's best and strongest novel, and certainly one of the best of modern science fiction novels. Its theme is the very heart of all s-f interest--the lure of the stars to man. Incidentally, about WHAT MAD UNIVERSE--French and Italian editions have just been scheduled, by Hachette of Paris and Mondadori of Milan respectively--and at very good prices, as such things go. Previous foreign editions of the same book include British and Dutch.

Richard Matheson's collection of his best fantasy and s-f stories, probably titled for his most notable effort, BORN OF MAN AND WOMEN, will be the number one publication of the new Chamberlain Press. As a dividend for readers, there will be two previous-unpublished-anywhere, top-flight Matheson stories in the book.

Alan E. Nourse has done a science fiction juvenile novel, TROUBLE ON TITAN, for the Winston Line.

William Campbell Gault has written a little story titled HORSE'S ASTEROID. He got the title first, the story later! Gault's THE MIGHTY DEAD, from "Fantastic Universe", has been selected for the forthcoming EDITOR'S CHOICE anthology, as has James McConnell's GARDEN OF WHITE, from "Other Worlds". Jim Blish's TESTAMENT OF ANDROS was picked by August Derleth for his next antho, which also will include a Fred Brown story, RUSTLE OF WINGS.

Alan E. Nourse's Winston s-f juvenile, TROUBLE ON TITAN, has been picked by the Junior Literary Guild for a spring selection.

Michael Shaara, back at school for an advanced degree, is working on a s-f novel which will be his thesis.

COSMIC REPORTER

by Arthur Jean Cox

Supplementing Forrie Ackerman's story about Ray Bradbury's trip to Europe in the 2nd September issue of Fantasy-Times: Bradbury will not work on the screen version of "The Martian Chronicles" immediately; instead, Houston will have him working on the script of Melville's "Moby Dick", due soon for production on Houston's schedule. On the side, Bradbury will do some work on a prospective screen treatment of his "Martian Chronicles" but it is unlikely, I understand, that the picture will be filmed before 1955 or 1956. Bradbury is in France at the moment.

John Houston is one of the greatest current figures in the movie world—perhaps the outstanding figure ("Treasure of The Sierra Madre", "Houlihan Rouge"). He is now working on a movie taking place in 18-Century Ireland. "Moby Dick" is next on his slate; Gregory Peck will star. After that it is rumored he will film "Richard III". So you can see, it'll be quite a while before he'd be able to work on "The Martian Chronicles".

Bradbury says that he is going to observe "everything" while in Europe. I expect it to have a very fortunate influence on his work. His trip to Mexico a few years back resulted in some of the best stories he's written—most notably, "The Next In Line", which describes the morbid, deteriorating effects which an 'alien environment', Mexico, has on the personality of a young woman.

Some of the younger Los Angeles fans are advocating that the 1954 Pacificcon shouldn't have a formal program at all: "just let everybody go and relax"—that is to say, drink. I predict failure for the idea. The no-formal program notion was the basis of the "Relaxicon" which was going to be held near San Francisco this year, but which failed to come off. Apparently those who were going to put it on relaxed a bit too much...

I got the impression that Ray Palmer is

FILMS, RADIO & TV

by Lester Mayer, Jr.

Eugene Sue's 1846 classic, "The Wandering Jew", will be made into a movie by 20th Century-Fox, with Gregory Peck starred. Because of previous commitments Greg won't be able to start this one before the middle of 1954.

Sam Katzman, Columbia producer, has 16 pictures lined up for his 1954 schedule, including "Lost City of the Aztecs". But Sam is a "quickie" producer which means his pictures don't usually amount to much. The best that can be said of him is that every one of his pictures has showed a profit, a record most arty producers would like to have but seldom do.

Now on view is Paramount's first 3-D cartoon, "Popoys - Ace of Spades". The short subject takes the sailor hero on to another planet for a bout with king-size donizens.

Independent producer Gabriel Pascal will film George Bernard Shaw's "Don Juan in Hell". Recently Charles Boyer and a trio of other talented actors completed a successful cross-country tour of the play.

That old and very funny movie, "The Ghost Goes West", will next see light as a stage musical, a switch from the usual routine. Marge and Gower Champion will star in it.

Thorne Smith's beloved "Topper" series is now a weekly TV program (every Friday evening in the East). Advance reports say it is very good.

editing Universe Science Fiction for the "regular" (i.e., Galaxy-Astounding-Startling) science fiction audience and Science Stories for the former readers of Other Worlds.

The Best From Startling Stories is an unusually fine science fiction anthology, I think. Every story is worth while.

BRITISH NEWS

(SCIENCE FICTION IN THE NETHERLANDS)
by Michael Corper

Here is a report on science-fiction in the Netherlands, based upon details given me by Nic. Oosterbaan, editor of Planet. Science-Fiction Aankomst: en Vereniging. (Aventuur: avontuur).

Mr. Oosterbaan tells me that s-f has not yet been accepted in Holland as a separate medium, the Dutch market being limited to about 15 million people, including the Flemish speaking population of Belgium. This makes embarkation upon something new rather risky for the general public, and Mr. Oosterbaan ascribes to this the fact that many Dutch publishers, although attracted to s-f's possibilities, prefer to await the results of their more enterprising colleagues.

Mr. Oosterbaan finds that s-f books have not been very successful, and thinks this derives from too little advertising. Because any advertising usually led to very good sales.

Books on the market, says Planet's editor - who is also a literary agent - are mainly of American origin. He gave me a list which I quote below, giving both Dutch and American titles. However, I see that the Dutch titles are not always verbal translations of the American, but I shall not bother to give those verbal translations since they serve no special purpose.

Here goes: "Tussen twee Voetstapen" (Pebbles In The Sky, Asimov); "De zonderlinge Avonturen van Lancelot Biggs, Ruimtevaarder" (Lancelot Biggs, Spaceman, Nelson Bond); "Het Reuzeroog" (The Big Eye, Ehrlich); "Het Schip van Ishtar" (The Ship of Ishtar, Merritt). These are American. There are two British titles: "De Triffids komen" (Day Of The Triffids, Wyndham); and "In het Zand van Mars" (The Sands Of Mars, Clarke).

Sold, or practically so, are: "Men Who Sold The Moon" (Heinlein), "Five Against Venus" (Latham), "Needle" (Clement), "Mists Of Dawn" (Oliver), and "Sons Of The Ocean Deep" (Walton).

Oosterbaan has come across only only two Dutch originals: "Uranium-

S-F ARTICLE IN BRITISH "ILLUSTRATED"

London, England, 12 Sept., (CNS) - This week's issue of "Illustrated" magazine carries a two-page article on science-fiction and British fandom which presents science-fiction and its devotees to this mag's millions of readers in a most favorable light.

Illustrated with pictures of prominent British s-f personalities and cover reproductions of British and US mags, the article appears in the "Science" section of the mag, and is authored by Maurice Goldsmith who was one of the speakers at the recent London Con.

Even the fan clubs, much-maligned here in the US, come in for many good words. Fans are characterized as seeking "scope for the imagination, and an idea of what could happen."

Lead photo for the piece is a conference shot of Sam Youd, Dave McIlwaine, Bill Temple, Bertram Chandler, Arthur C. Clarke and Ted Tubb. Cover repros shown are from "Science-Fantasy", "New Worlds", "Stowaway To Mars" (pb), and an old copy of "Wonder Stories".

Interested readers may secure copies from our British representative, MILGROSS BOOK SERVICE.

WORLD CONVENTION NEWS

San Francisco, Calif., 7 Oct., (CNS) - The date set for the next WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION is September 3, 4, 5 & 6 1954. The first circular has already gone out asking for the usual \$1 for membership in the Convention Committee. The Official address is: 12th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION, Box 335, Station A, Richmond 2, Calif.

koorts" (Uranium Fever), by Koort de Haan and Hans van Assumburg, a well written novel; and "Redder der Aarde" (Saviour Of Earth), by Edward Miltun, a cheaper effort, adds Oosterbaan.

(continued in the next issue)

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"FANTASTIC UNIVERSE" OUTS PRICE & PAGES
(concluded from page 5, column 1)

author in the pre-war days with stories in Astounding, Comet and others in the USA and Canada. The war and the Army cut his writing career, but now he's back again to once more make his mark in the science fiction field.

This issue of Fantastic Universe will introduce a new cover artist, Joe Richards. His style is somewhat on the "modern" side with a good combination of the surrealism and conventional s-f. This is the first cover for any publication. He is a famous marine artist and has done work in many well-known marine magazines and books.

"DYNAMIC" GOES QUARTERLY
(concluded from page 3, column 2)

Fiction Stories was published as a "one shot" and at present there are no plans for a second issue. He stated that he had received numerous letters asking for information on this, and that if any second or future issues are planned he will notify Fantasy-Times at once. All readers are urged that if they care to see future issues of Science Fiction Stories come out to write a letter to Columbia Publications, 241 Church St New York 13, N.Y.

IS EARTH WORTH SAVING?
(concluded from page 2, column 1)

Earth with its wars and strife, its dreams of colonizing and conquering space prove a threat to galactic unity and cooperation? Will other solar sys-

tems welcome Earth into their Federations, or will they see its destruction as a necessity?

These are the questions that form the basis of Planet Of Light, a sequel to Sea Of The Stars, and one of the Winsten Science Fiction Series for teenagers, edited by Cecile Matschat with Carl Carter as consultant. Based on accurate scientific knowledge, the books in this series are written by such renowned authors and scientists as Arthur C. Clarke, Chairman of the British Interplanetary Society and Philip Lathan, a specialist in solar research at Mt. Wilson and Palomar Observatories. The five new titles scheduled for publication on September 14 are: Planet Of Light by Raymond Jones, The Star Seekers by Milton Lesser, Missing Men Of Saturn by Philip Lathan, Danger: Dinosaurs by Richard Marsten, and Attack From Atlantis by Lester del Rey. Books in this series retail for \$2.00 each.

"BEYOND", "I F", & "FANTASTIC" TO SEE
BRITISH EDITIONS
(concluded from page 2, column 2)

tastic Adventures will fold.

All the above mentioned will be, of course, published digest-size, and will cost 1/6 each.

Thorpe & Porter have also been publishing the British edition of Galaxy on a monthly schedule. The latest issue #7 has cut pages from 160 to 128. The #7 has had a page cut, all material of its USA edition (May 1953) have been reprinted, tho a number of illustrations have been left out. Galaxy is now printed in Ireland instead of Holland.

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