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# Fantasy-Times

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

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## FUTURE Goes Digest-Size, Quarterly And 35¢; DYNAMIC Discontinued

"S-F QUARTERLY" REMAINS AS IS

New York, N. Y., 5 Jan., (GMS) - Future Science Fiction goes digest-size with the next issue (Vol. 5 - No. 1). In its new size it will be published quarterly, contain 130 pages and sell for 35¢ a copy. Interior illustrations will be continued as will be the departments but due to the smaller size, the departments will be shorter in length. All in all, the new format of Future, in keeping with the digest format, will be somewhat like the experimental Science Fiction Stories.

Outside of house ads, the new Future will contain no advertising.

Future began life as a 98 page 15¢ pulp, but due to increased publication costs it went up to 20¢ and finally 25¢, still keeping its pages at 98. Up to now it has been a bi-monthly. It also has a British Edition.

Dynamic Science Fiction has been discontinued for the present. The current issue on the stands is the last one. This magazine started out as a quarterly; then became a bi-monthly and only with the current issue, it went

Quarterly again.

For the time being Science Fiction Quarterly will remain as is. Editor Robert Lowndes is very interested in knowing if his readers want Science Fiction Quarterly to remain a pulp, or to also become a digest-size magazine. Write your viewpoints to him, Columbia Publications, 241 Church St., New York 13, New York.

From the encouraging reports coming in on the sales of its first issue, there is a good chance that a second issue of Science Fiction Stories might be published shortly. If it is, it will be the same size, price, etc., as the first issue.

## FRENCH S-F MAG OUT

by Michael Corper

Jan Jansen, Secretary of the Antwerp (Belgium) s-f fan club "Alpha", has sent me a copy of No. 1 of the French SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE, costing 60 French Francs. It is published from 32  
(continued on page 3, column 2)

WORLD'S OLDEST SCIENCE-FICTION NEWSPAPER



# COSMIC REPORTER

by Arthur Jean Cox

Forrest J Ackerman has been invited by Films In Review, the organ of the National Board of Review, to be its scientific critic. This means that he will have movie columns running in five periodicals; the other four are Imagination, Spaceway, Inside, and Nebula. A possible sixth column is "Science-Fiction Encores" in Science Fiction Digest.

Here is my list of the ten best science fiction stories I read during 1953 -- naturally, I did not read everything. They are listed in chronological order, not in the order by which I prefer them: "Four In One", by Damon Knight, Galaxy, March; "Mother", Phillip Jose Farmer, TWS, April; "DP", Jack Vance, The Avon SF & F Reader, April; "Death of a Sensitive", Harry Bates, SF Plus, May; "A World Well Lost", Theodore Sturgeon, Universe, June; "The Dark Room", Theo. Sturgeon, Fantastic, July-August; "A Case of Conscience", James Blish, If, September; "The Caves of Steel", Isaac Asimov, Galaxy, 3-part serial: October-December; and two original novels, both published in book form by Ballantine: "The Secret Masters" by Gerald Kersh and "Childhood's End" by Arthur C. Clark. In my estimation, 1953 was a very poor year for science-fiction: only two or three short stories comparable to the "greats" of previous years were published, and there were no outstanding novels.

Van Vogt's short-short, "Defense", is reprinted in the December-January issue of the British magazine, Lilliput.

There's an interesting article in the December 19th issue of Publisher's Weekly, "1953: Year of the Blast-off" by Stanley Kauffmann, who is an editor of Ballantine Books. The article, of course, is on Ballantine series of s-f pocketbooks -- a project which has been highly praised and financially rewarded. (I should say that the article

deals with the pocket-book science-fiction publishing in general with particular emphasis on the Ballantine Books.) Here are some stray facts on the subject picked up in this issue of Publisher's Weekly, and elsewhere: Scheduled as the January Ballantine science-fiction title was "Dark Dominion" by a new writer, David Duncan, but the publication date has been postponed until later in the year because a "major magazine" (Collier's, Forrest J Ackerman tells me) bought the story for serialization in four parts. Ballantine's science-fiction titles have been so successful that they intend, in the near future, to begin issuing two a month, rather than one. One of the new titles will be "Search the Sky", an original by Fredrick Pohl and Cyril M. Kornbluth. "Star Science Fiction Stories #2" is also due soon... "Six Great Science Fiction Short Novels", edited by Groff Conklin, will be out from Dell in February... Despite some criticism, the recent Ace-Doublebook featuring two novels by Ivan Vogt ("The World of A" and "The Universe Makers") has been such a tremendous success that the publishers intend to issue a monthly series, just as Ballantine is doing. New on the stands is a new Ace-Doublebook, "The Coming of Conan" by Robert E. Howard and "The Sword of Rhammon" by Leigh Brackett, an original. Coming up is an Eric Frank Russell double-header: "Sentinels of Space" and "The Ultimate Invaders"; this last is the title of a collection of four stories, all involving time-travel.... Permabooks will issue "City" by Clifford D. Simak.

There's a local fan named Forrest J Ackerman who's collaborating with a New York author named Donald Wollheim on a "connoisseur's choice" of science-fiction, "with some real gems of 1953". Philip Jose Farmer is improving his already excellent "Strange Compulsion" for them, I hear.

E. Everett Evans has a three-part serial starting in the fourth issue of FPCI's Spaceway. The second issue is now out and the third issue is all set up.



## S-F IN EAST EUROPE

by Jakob Bleymehl

Almost unknown, unfortunately, are the rare novels written in Eastern Europe, on s-f themes, and collectors should note them down as "desiderata" on their want lists.

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SWEDEN, to begin with, has the widely known cyklus by Selma LAGERLOF: "The Wonders of Antichrist", of course more religious legends than on the s-f side.

World-famous August STRINDBERG is the author of an almost unknown novel on the "Lost Race" theme, with his pungent satire "The Island of Happiness", reminding modern readers of the style of Ray Bradbury.

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POLAND's Nobel-Prize winner W. St REY-MONT, in all his prose a naturalist died in the wool, wrote nevertheless the s-f satire: "The Revolt" (Revolt of Animals, a precursory work to Orwells "Animal Farm") and the long story: "The Vampir".

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA---: First of all: the unforgotten Karel CAPEK, with his "Verstand Universal Robots" which gave the whole genre its name, as far as I know. His "Krakatit" the first, or one of the first novels on the Atomic Power theme, has shortly been reprinted and is again available, but whether his no less important novels: "The Absolute at Large" a story about the innate forces of God in the materia, and how they were released, and the satire "The War with the Nerts" are still known among s-f fans???

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HUNGARY's first s-f novel (as far as I know) was a cruel anticipation by Maurus JOKAI: "The Prophet of Worlds End", now an extremely rare collector's item. Frederic KARINTHY's metabiological satire, with a strong misogynic tendency: "Voyage to Capillaria", his "Voyage to Faremide", a fairy land of Music, and his story: "The Land of Thousand-Faced Souls" were really worth reprinting. Eugen SZATMARY's satire: "The Voyage to

## JOHN GARDNER, N. Y. NEWS S-F EDITOR, DEAD

New York, N. Y., 6 Jan., (CNS) - John Gardner, editor of the Sunday News' s-f comic "Beyond Mars", written by the well-known Jack Williamson and illustrated by Lee Elias, died of a heart attack on Aug. 30th, 1953. Mr. Gardner was well-known to the science-fiction fans of New York City and reported for the New York Sunday News on many of the fan conventions in the area, including the interesting report on the FANVET's 1953 convention. He was 34 years old.

### SAM MINES TO EDIT

#### TWO DETECTIVE MAGAZINES

New York, N.Y., 16 Nov. (delayed) (CNS) - Sam Mines announced today that in addition to the three science-fiction magazines he is editing for Standard, he will also edit two of their detective magazines, Triple Detective and 5 Detective Novels. Besides these, Sam has always been and continues to be the editor of Giant Western.

### FRENCH S-F MAG IS OUT

(continued from page 1, column 2)

rue de Maubeuge, Paris 9e. The magazine is rather thin (18 pages, including covers), but the covers are colourfully illustrated: the front showing two spacemen blasting away at each other on a ship's hull; the back giving a view of the two Americas as seen from a space station. The size of the edition is 22 cm. by 30 cm. The cover is by Rossignol. The contents are: "Les Ailes blanches" (The White Wings) by Bart Cassidy (novel); "Terreur sur Mars" (Terror on Mars) by Erik Ham; a Werner von Braun article on the first journey to the Moon; international science news gathered by Daniel Carion; a two-page  
(continued on page 4, column 1)

Kazzolinia" is another s-f novel that should be kept in translation and print. Authors from small nations are too quickly forgotten, if they are not represented in one of the great languages.



# FUTURAN SOCIETY OF SYDNEY

## GETS NEW CLUB ROOM

by Vol Molesworth

(We are happy to welcome back Vol Molesworth, as Australian Reporter for Fantasy-Times, and wish to thank Rex Hayer for his excellent reporting while Vol was busy elsewhere. -eds)

1953 has been a very busy year in Australian fandom, and one that has shown many results. Activities everywhere are on the upswing, several new clubs have been formed, and the future is aglow with promise.

In Sydney, the FUTURAN SOCIETY OF SYDNEY will hold its 200 meeting on January 4th. This meeting will be held in the Society's new clubrooms on the third floor of McIlraith's Chambers, 124 Oxford Street, Darlinghurst. After years of meeting in private homes, coffee inns, library premises, and finally a bridge club, the Society late this year located a large room filled with unused machinery. The machinery was removed, the walls cleaned and painted, brand new tables and chairs purchased, a permanent library cabinet built in, a small modernistic kitchenette erected, fluorescent lighting installed, and on December 3 the new clubroom was opened, with an inaugural roll-up of 43 fans, including Ted Butt, who made a trip 100 miles from Newcastle.

The new clubroom will be open to fans on Monday and Thursday nights, from 7:30 to 11 PM, and on Saturdays from 10 AM to 5 PM. Members can wander in, use the library, sit around and talk, play chess, have cups of tea, and generally enjoy each other's company three times a week.

Vol Molesworth's s-f column will appear regularly in future issues.

## FRENCH S-F MAG IS OUT

(continued from page 3, column 2)

centre-piece plan of a space station, with glossary; an illo, with explanation, of a futuristic car; a preview, by

by Michael Gorper

Authentic Science Fiction: The January, 1954 issue will contain "The Phoenix Nest" by Richard deMille, (son of Cecil B.); "21st Century Mother" by Canadian author Katherine Marcuse; "Fly By Night" by E. Everett Evans; "Kid's Game" by Frank Quattrocchi; "Consors" by J. F. Burke; and "Boogie Matrix" by Chas. Eric Maine (of Spaceways fame). It should be noted that all American stories are originals; they have not been published before. There will be 16 extra pages of features, besides book reviews on fiction and non-fiction, reviews of the film "Donovan's Brain", and letters, there will be an article on Life Forms on Other Worlds, and one on plotting in 3-D.

The February 1954 edition will carry "Hidden Shepherds" (Bryan Berry); "Aristotle" (John Christopher); "Lights of Anker-ilo" (Jon J. Doogan); "In Time of Sorrow" (an original American story by L. Prynn); and 16 extra pages of features.

Editor Campbell says that the magazine now has no set rates of payment, but offers a set sum for the 1st British Serial Rights, always higher than other British s-f magazines, sometimes going up to 10 guineas per thousand words (i.e. 3¢ plus a word).

NOTICE: The number after your name on the mailer is the number of the last issue of F-T you have coming. To avoid missing issues, please resubscribe well in advance.

André Guerber, of a H-bomb on Paris, "La Bombe H sur Paris", with an illustrated explanation of both a Russian and a USA H-Bomb. I see that "Les Ailes blanches" is to be concluded in the next issue. The mag is printed in Strasbourg, and the print is small but clear, on good paper. The cover is glossy. The interior illos are good, but I cannot find the names of the artists. By the way, I just noticed that "Les Ailes blanches" has been translated by Daniel Carion from the American, and adapted, but no USA title is given.



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## FANTASY RECORD

Compiled by JAMES V. TAURASI

(continued from the last issue)

UNITED STATES SCIENCE/FANTASY MAGAZINES:

Name of the Magazine	Date	Date On Stand	Pages	Price	Size	Schedule	Type
Imagination	Feb. '54	Dec. 24, 1953	162	35¢	dig.	MONTHLY	-----
Fantastic Universe	Mar. '54	Dec. 24, 1953	160	35¢	dig.	BI-MONTHLY	-----
Fantasy & S F	Feb. '54	Dec. 29, 1953	128	35¢	dig.	MONTHLY	-----
Weird Tales	Mar. '54	Dec. 29, 1953	128	35¢	dig.	BI-MONTHLY	-----
Planet Stories	Mar. '54	Dec. 30, 1953	112	25¢	pulp	BI-MONTHLY	-----
Future Science Fiction	Mar. '54	Dec. 30, 1953	98	25¢	pulp	BI-MONTHLY	-----

BRITISH SCIENCE/FANTASY MAGAZINES - (Reprints of US "US" - Originals "BR")

Authentic S F	No. 40	Dec. 30, 1953	144	1/6	P.B.	MONTHLY	"BR"
Fantasy & S F	Jan. '54	Dec. 30, 1953	128	1/6	dig.	MONTHLY	"US"
If	No. 2	Dec. 30, 1953	128	1/6	dig.	BI-MONTHLY	"US"
Galaxy S F	No. 9	Dec. 30, 1953	128	1/6	dig.	MONTHLY	"US"
Nebula S F	No. 6	Dec. 21, 1953	128	2/-	dig.	BI-MONTHLY	"BR"

(to be continued in the next issue)

REPORT OF THE MONTH OF DECEMBER: (United States Only)

Number of science/fantasy magazines published: 14 (11 digest and 3 pulps)

Prices: 11 digest mags at 35¢ each, 3 pulps at 25¢ each; total: \$4.60.

Number of pages: 340 pulp pages; 1,576 digest pages: total: 1,916 pages.

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