

FANTASY-TIMES

"THE WORLD OF TOMORROW TODAY!"

"World's Oldest Science-Fiction Newspaper"

13th Year - #199

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POPULAR GETS OUT OF PULP-SIZE FIELD

New York, NY, 18 May, (CNS)- Popular Publications, one of the biggest pulp magazine publishers, will soon drop all their pulps, and issue most of their titles in the large Argosy (approx 8 1/2" x 11") size. While some of the new size magazines will be slicks, most of them will have better paper, but contain the same type stories and illustrations as before, and in most cases be edited by the same editors that did the job when they were pulps.

This is an experiment. With the market what it is today, and their test in the digest field a few years ago not too successful, this change to the large size is Popular's try at reaching the public. If not successful, the mags will return to pulp size. This also does not rule out the possibility that new pulp titles will not be added in the future.

It does not mean the end of possible revival of their science/fantasy titles. Fantasy-Times has been informed that when Popular thinks that they (concluded on page 4)

SCION LTD. VOLUNTARY LIQUIDIATES

"VARGO STATTEN MAGAZINE"
TAKEN OVER BY SQUIRE & CO.

—
APRIL ISSUE SKIPPED

by Michael Corper

Wembsley, England, 7 May, (CNS) - Scion Ltd., publishers of Vargo Statten Magazine, have gone into voluntary liquidation, but the Vargo Statten Magazine will continue under Henry Squire & Co., as well as the Vargo Statten/Volsted Gridban pocket-books. Stuart Mackenzie and Brian Varley, writing in their Space Times fan mag quote V.S. editor Alistair Paterson as stating this. Squire & Co. are at 139 Borough High Street, London, S.E.1., England, and are also now proprietors of Scion Distribution Ltd. Mackenzie/Varley say further: "The passing of Scion Ltd. as publishers appears to have stemmed from (concluded on page 4)

"THE SHAVER MYSTERY" RETURNS

Amherst, Wis., 20 May (CNS) In a form letter addressed to "Shaver Mystery Club Members, Fans, and just readers of my stories", Richard S. Shaver announced today that his infamous Shaver Mystery will "once again return to print. It will appear in future issues of Palmer's Mystic. This time the Mystery will not appear in fiction form but in "factual" form.

When Ray Palmer brought out Other Worlds in 1949, he promised that The Shaver Mystery would not appear in it. The Other Worlds is now gone, Ray has kept his promise and the Mystery will appear in a non-science/fantasy magazine Mystic.

DUTCH SF MAG OUT

BY Michael Corper

Wembsley, England, 7 May, (CNS) - A new Dutch science-fiction magazine, Space Fiction, is out. It was sent to me by Belgian fan Jan Jansen. The mag costs 25 Dutch cents, and measures 13x19 cm. Publishers are at 201 Willemsparkweg, Amsterdam-Zuid, Holland. (concluded on page 4)

FANTASY BOOKS

by William Blackbeard

THE GREEN MILLENNIUM, by Fritz Leiber, Abelard Press, 1953, 256 pp, \$2.75

Many people, reviewer Damon Knight included, have been irritated with The Green Millennium largely because the novel, while retaining the lurid future setting of a number of Fritz Leiber's recent and powerful short stories, does not share with them the sardonic commentary upon possible future trends of some of our present social foibles and mores.

This is true, and I feel the book suffers accordingly. The reader expects some sort of interweaving of the themes and attitudes of the shorter pieces into the more extensive fabric of the novel, and is unquestionably disappointed when he finds the story is no more than a clever chase-suspense drama involving some eccentric and comic characters in a number of odd excursions. This book is not, alas, another Gather, Dark-Horn; the author of the Fafhrd and the Grey Mouser series has triumphed here over the author of "Coming Attraction".

Nevertheless, Leiber in an adventurous and pleasant mood is not hard to take. If the reader knows in advance that The Green Millennium is simply a frolic and a spoof, he should be able to enjoy himself heartily with this novel. He may even find

THE COSMIC REPORTER

by Arthur Jean Cox

California fan Bill Mosley committed suicide, apparently, about midnight, April 23rd, in Los Angeles. His body was found hanging in the garage. His family and friends were completely surprised: there had been no warning or indication of any kind, and he left no notes. Bill was a member of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society and, at one time, managing editor of Shangri-La. Also a camera hobbyist, he took many pictures of science-fiction fans and celebrities at local conventions and special meetings.

Kris Neville has compiled and is trying to sell an anthology of science-fiction. One of the major publishing companies rejected it, explaining that the science-fiction anthology market has completely collapsed.

The new Walt Kelly book, "The Pogo Stepmother Goose", is out and has several items of interest to science-fiction, and fantasy fans. There is a story, "The Town on the Edge of the End", which seems to be a retelling of "The Pied Piper of Hamelin" a la Lord Dunsany; and

himself excited by the mounting suspense and enveloping dangers of the last few chapters.

We'll have to be patient with the Jekyll-Leiber this time; his Hyde-facet will glower again.

Kelly also re-presents the Trial Scene from "Alice in Wonderland" -- quoting Carroll's text directly -- with an interesting pictorial interpretation. Two other stories, "Robin, the Red-Breasted Hood" and "The Cow Jumped over the Moon" are certainly fantastic. This is a must!

Hubbard's Scientology academy in Phoenix, Arizona, is now issuing Certificates of Psychoanalysis, for an additional twenty dollars, to its graduates. The school also issued Doctor of Divinity degrees. The purpose of these degrees and certificates is, quite frankly, to permit the graduates to practice Scientology in those localities and cities where it is illegal to practice Scientology. I understand that Hubbard received permission to grant the Certificates of Psychoanalysis from Freud himself; when Hubbard was in Europe, he contacted Freud's "thetan" (That's Scientology for "soul" or "spirit"), "still stuck on a Viennese spire" and that the famous doctor was quite sympathetic to his problems.

Bradbury and Houston have at last finished working on the script of "Moby Dick". Bradbury has written some 300,000 words on it.

The number after your name on the address sticker is the number of the last issue of Fantasy-Times you have coming. Resubscribe as soon as possible and thus not miss an issue.

TOY PLANETARIUM SOLD AT NY'S WANAMAKER

New York, NY, 10 May, (CHS)

A new and educational conception of the realm of stars went on view at Wanamaker's today when the Spitz Junior Planetarium made its first department store appearance. Three booths in the second floor auditorium are equipped with Junior Planetariums so you can see, marvel, operate one for yourself and see what you can do in your own home.

The Junior Planetarium will work on any ceiling in any darkened room. It is plugged into ordinary household alternating current, easily controlled by hand, shows about 40 major constellations and up to 300 stars. It is completely scientific and accurate and capable of being set for any month of the year for any part of the world.

The Planetarium is on sale in Wanamaker's toy department on the second floor for \$14.95. It was originated by Armand Spitz who has built over 100 large scale planetariums all over the United States and in South America. He has written an educational book, complete with sky charts, to go with each model.

The Spitz Junior Planetarium is sturdily constructed of plastic and can take hard use. It is 12 1/2" high, has a 7 1/2" square base, a 7" Dia. Projection Sphere, and weighs 3 pounds.

Those who live outside

BRITISH S-F NEWS

by Michael Corper

The May issue of Authentic Science Fiction contained: Lead Story: "Some Other Time" (H. Kenneth Bulmer); shorts: "Death Deferred" (H.C. Tubb), "Third Hans" (G. Mann), "Dimensional Destiny" (Graham Winslow). Articles: "All About Comets", "Medical Progress by A.D. 2000", "On Writing SF", "The Atomic Submarine" "Logic Is Fun" #1, "The Supermancon", "Sir Issac Newton". Plus the usual features.

The June issue (#46) of Authentic will have: "Saviour" (Bryan Berry), "Outside - Looking In" (Ron Elton), "Psychic Tw in" (Dan Morgan), "The Hor chants" (R. Davis), "Higher Mathematics" (M. Woodhouse) plus the usual features, and the following articles "The Hydrogen Bomb", "The Expanding Universe", "Robots", "Space Travel and the Law", "Francis Bacon", "Logic Is Fun" #2.

For July 1954 (#47), Authentic will have "Stranger in Time" (S. Gordon), "The Mutants" (R.C. Wingfield), "To Shake The Stars"

OF New York City can obtain it by mail by writing to John Wanamaker, 760 Broadway, New York 3, NY, & adding 50¢ for postage.

(Peter Green), "Robot's Gambit" (Richard Wilson), "Day of all Else" (Anthony G. Williamson), "Tryst" (W. B. Johnson); usual features and articles (titles not yet decided on).

Science Fantasy #8 is now out featuring "Tomorrow" (Tubb), "The Shimmering Tree" (Lowe), "Space Prize" (Rayer), "Once Upon A Time" (Burke), "Take A Letter" (Cutler), "Dawn Of Pease Eternal" (Ashcroft), "The Conquerors" (Wright). Cover is by Quinn, who also does interior illos, together with Hutchings, Smith, and Hunter. No. 9 will have "This Precious Stone" (Murdoch) and material by Tubb, Chandler, Hawkins, Aldiss, and Cockcroft. Nova Publications is now at 2 Arundel Street London, W.C.2, England.

PAN BOOKS are bringing out in July: "Spaceways" (Chas Eric Maine), and in August "Prelude To Space" (Arthur C. Clarke). Both pub's will cost 2/- each.

SCIENTI-- BOOKS

by Stephen J. Takacs

NEW SF BOOKS RECENTLY OUT:
"Man, Rockets & Space" by Capt. Burr W. Layson, non-fiction, E. P. Dutton Co., NY, illustrated, \$3.50
"The Sinister Researches of O. P. Ransom" by H. Macgregor, Jr., Doubleday, NY, \$2.95.

"Worlds I N Space" by Martin Caidon, non-fiction Henry Holt & Co., NY, illustrated, \$4.95.

"The Lost World" by Sir (continued on page 4)

POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

(Concluded from page 1)
can make a profit in the science-fantasy field, one or more of their titles (Famous Fantastic Mysteries, Super Science, etc) will be revived.

We have also been informed that Mary Gnaddinger, editor of Famous Fantastic Mysteries and Ejler Jakobsson, editor of Super Science Stories, are no longer connected with Popular Publications.

"VARGO STATTEN MAGAZINE"

(concluded from page 1)
the unhappy results of the sins of the fathers being visited upon their children, combined with a certain lack of vision when the new management took over. A change of name at that time would have avoided a recent prosecution for the publishing of a book whose contents were alleged to be not quite the thing to be read by Aunt Agatha. It must have been particularly galling that the book in question dated back to a previous managerial era. ---- Quite rightly they felt that the resulting situation would result in a feeling of distrust among s-f readers in particular, and the magazine readers in general. They therefore went into voluntary liquidation and the company abovementioned was formed to take over the s-f activities. We are sure that financial backing of the new firm is all that a progressive publisher needs. The next issue of the Vargo Statten Magazine will appear in May, the one-month hiatus

proving inevitable. Alis-tair Paterson tells us that at this will 'stop the hands of a few rivals who have been rubbing their hands in glee'. -- Ted Tubb, of 'Inevitable Conflict' fame, will be among the authors regularly working for this new firm."

NEW DUTCH S-F MAG IS OUT

(concluded from page 1)

Paper is the pulp type, but print is small and clear. It has 16 pages, but they are not numbered. Issue #1 has a colored cover evidently illustrating the sole story that this issue contains, "Zij zullen het nooit geloven!" (They will never believe this!), by A. M. Verheggen. This story contains an Earth pilot (American) flying a Tigerhawk plane, who is captured by flying saucers of a roving mission of Arcturians who look for space on Terra for their people whose planet, Arcturus, is becoming uninhabitable. The pilot is returned to Earth decides to help the aliens to make their homes with us, by persuading earthmen to accept them. He fears, however, as he is about to address a group of newsmen that 'they will never believe this'. -- A request on the inside backcover by the publishers wants readers to write in, making suggestions as to whether or not the pilot will be believed and, if so, what will happen. The most striking of these letters will then be published in a later issue.

The mag contains a

number of cartoons, linking Terra with other planets. -- In its editorial, it is said that future issues will contain a serial cartoon strip, but plans depend on how the mag will be received by the reading public. The publishers have the best of intentions, and will endeavour to include Dutch writers and artists.

There is also an interior illustration showing the aforementioned Tigerhawk pursued by flying saucers.

The mag is a monthly, described as containing thrilling adventures in the undiscovered stretches outside our planet, and tales about the times when our children will be great grandparents. It is a monthly for people who would like to live in the year 2054 but, after further consideration, think that 1954 is rather interesting too.

The next issue will contain a futuristic story about the first attempts to reach the moon, 'Het Land achter de Tycho'.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

(continued from page 3)

Arthur Conan Doyle, Perna Books, NY, 25¢.

"Prelude To Space" by Arthur C. Clarke, Ballantine Books, NY, 35¢ paper bound; Cloth Bound Edition Gnome Press, NY, \$2.50.

"Mission Of Gravity" by Hal Clement, Doubleday & Co NY, \$2.95.

"Revolt In 2100" by Robert A. Heinlein. The third in the "Future History Series", Shasta Publishing (concluded on page 6)

"FANTASY RECORD", compiled by Frank R. Prieto, Jr.

(continued from Fantasy-Times #196A)

OUT IN THE UNITED STATES DURING THE LAST PART OF MARCH

NAME	DATE	PRICE	PAGES	SIZE	SCHEDULE	ON STAND
Astounding SF	April	35¢	162	dig.	monthly	March
Imagination	May	35¢	128	dig.	monthly	March
Spaceway	April	35¢	160	dig.	bi-monthly	March

During March, 1954, 11 s/f mags came out. 2 pulps and 9 digests. The pulps cost a total of 50¢, while the digests \$3.15, making a total of \$3.65. The pulps contained 242 pages; the digests 1,246, making a total of 1,488 pages.

OUT IN THE UNITED STATES DURING APRIL

Astounding SF	May	35¢	162	dig.	monthly	April 5th
Galaxy SF	May	35¢	160	dig.	monthly	April 5th
Imagination	June	35¢	150	dig.	monthly	April 5th
Fantasy & SF	May	35¢	128	dig.	monthly	April 5th
Amazing Stories	July	35¢	130	dig.	bi-monthly	April 10th
If	June	35¢	120	dig.	monthly	April 10th
Spaceway	June	35¢	128	dig.	bi-monthly	April 10th
SF Adventures	May	35¢	160	dig.	bi-monthly	April 15th
Universe SF	May	35¢	150	dig.	bi-monthly	April 15th
SF Digest	V. 1 #2	35¢	160	dig.	bi-monthly	April 15th
Future SF*	June	35¢	130	dig.	bi-monthly	April 20th
Galaxy Novel	#20	35¢	128	dig.	bi-monthly	April 20th

*First digest-size issue

During April 1954, 12 s/f mags came out, all digests. Cost: \$4.20 Pages: 1,666. This is the first time that no pulps have appeared during a month.

NOT SCIENCE-FICTION, BUT OF INTEREST

Fate	May	35¢	130	dig.	monthly	March
Fate	June	35¢	130	dig.	monthly	April
Mystic	May	35¢	130	dig.	bi-monthly	April

OUT IN THE UNITED STATES SO FAR IN MAY

Fantastic	August	35¢	130	dig.	bi-monthly	May 1st
Fantastic Story	Summer	25¢	130	pulp	quarterly	May 1st
Fantastic Univ.	July	35¢	160	dig.	bi-monthly	May 1st
Fantasy & SF	June	35¢	128	dig.	monthly	May 1st
Galaxy SF	June	35¢	160	dig.	monthly	May 3rd
If	July	35¢	120	dig.	monthly	May 6th
Imagination	July	35¢	130	dig.	monthly	May 10th
Astounding SF	June	35¢	162	dig.	monthly	May 10th

(continued on page 6)

SLICK S-F

by Donald E Ford

Time, May 3rd
In SCIENCE FI
column, Willy
Ley's book, EN-
GINEERS' DREAMS
is reviewed ra-
ther extensive-
ly.

Following this, Dr. Thomas of Columbia Univ is quoted from a speech at American Rocket Society, on Earth Satellite counter measures. He says a rocket could be fired, with a war head of particlos 5,000" in diameter, on the opposite side of Earth from the satellite. It explodes where the satellite will be a few hours later on & then the particlos puncture holes in the satellite each time it makes a revolution.

Collier's May
14, 1954:

DARK DOMINION
by David Duncan,
Part IV, conclu-
sion.

Collier's May
28, 1954:

THE FAMILY
THAT WENT TO
MARS by Frederic
(cont. page 6)

FANTASY RECORD (continued from page 5)

NAME	DATE	PRICE	PAGES	SIZE	SCHEDULE	OUT
Universe SF*	July	35¢	130	dig.	bi-monthly	May 11
Orbit SF	July	35¢	130	dig.	bi-monthly	May 13
Cosmos SF & F	July	35¢	128	dig.	bi-monthly	May 13
Beyond FF	July	35¢	160	dig.	bi-monthly	May 14

*First issue to have letter column and introduce "The Club House" by Rog Phillips, a continuation of this column from Amazing Stories; plus a personal column.

SLICK S-F

(concluded from page 5)
Sinclair, illus by Freder-
ick Siebel. A short story
taking up 2 pages. It's a
top story and a little gem
of the year. By all means
get this one. A teenager
builds a "hopper" that en-
ables him to travel di-
rectly to Mars. Details
build up to climax, which
I won't give away.

AMERICAN WEEKLY, May 8:

MAN ON THE MOON by Mar-
tin Caidin, illus by Wolff.
4 drawings & brief text
from his book: WORLDS IN
SPACE, pub. by Henry Holt.

MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED

June 1954:

MIRACLES YOU'LL LIVE TO
SEE by Lester David, illus
by Frank Tinsley. An art-
icle easily deducted by
the title; however of gen-
eral interest and may be
worthwhile to a few com-
plotists.

PACMAN June 1954:

HOW COMICS HAVE GONE
MAD. An article about MAD
and its competitors. A
number of pages of re-
prints from MAD are also
featured. One interesting
note: circulation of MAD
is 750,000.

SCIENTI-BOOKS

(concluded from page 4)
lishers, Chicago, 111,
\$3.50.

"The Demolished Man" by
Alfred Bester, Signet Poc-
ket Books, NY, 25¢.

"Spider's War" by Fow-
ler Wright, original, Abe-
lard Press, NY, \$2.75.

"Gateway To Tomorrow"
edited by E. J. Carnell,
Museum Press, London, 9/6.

"The Second Conquest"
by Louis De Wohl, original
J. B. Lippincott Co., Phil-
adelphia, Pa., \$3.00.

"Look Behind You" by
Arthur J. Burks, Shroud
Publishers, Buffalo, NY,
paperbound, \$1.00

"Born Of Man And Women"
by Richard Matheson, The
Chamberlain Press, Phila,
Pa., \$3.00

"The Second Galaxy Rea-
der Of Science Fiction",

FANTASY-TIMES

James V. Taurasi
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Flushing 54, NY.

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edited by H. L. Gold,
Crown Publishers, NY, \$5.

"Lost Continents" by L.
Sprague de Camp, non-fic-
tion, The Game Press, \$5.

"Hero's Walk" by Robert
Crane, Ballantine Books,
NY, paper covered, 35¢;
cloth bound, \$2.50.

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